

# State Heritage Register Nomination Form

## Important notes for nominators

Before completing this form, read the *Guideline for Nominations to the State Heritage Register* \* to check whether a nomination is appropriate.

You should only nominate an item you believe to be particularly important in the context of all of NSW, beyond the local area or region.

This is because only items of *state* heritage significance are eligible for listing on the State Heritage Register.

When completing this form note that:

- It must be completed and submitted electronically.\*
- Follow the guideline\* to fill out the form accurately.
- **YELLOW sections** of this form are mandatory for your nomination to be accepted for consideration.
- **BLUE sections** of this form are recommended, but are not essential, unless otherwise indicated in the form.
- The completed form must show *how* the nominated place is *state* significant to meet the criteria for listing on the register.
- Incomplete nominations, or those with insufficient information, may not be accepted.
- A complete and accurate nomination form, with a clear assessment of state significance of the place or object, will assist in the timely consideration of your nomination.

\* Download this form and guideline at: [www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/nominating](http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/nominating)

## A. Nominated place

### 1. Name

<b>Name of place / object:</b>	Newcastle Government House and Domain
<b>Other or former name(s):</b>	Newcastle Military Barracks and Hospital, Girls' Industrial School Reformatory for Girls Lunatic Asylum for Imbeciles Hospital for the Insane Newcastle Mental Hospital Newcastle Psychiatric Centre Hunter Hospital James Fletcher Hospital

### 2. Location

<b>Street address*:</b>	72 (no.)	Watt (street name)	
	NEWCASTLE (suburb / town)		
<b>Alternate street address:</b>	(no.)	(street name)	
	(suburb / town)		
<b>Local government area:</b>	Newcastle		
<b>Land parcel(s)*:</b>	Lot 72 and Lot 15 (Lot no/s)	(section no.)	755247 (DP no.)
	Lot 7059 (Lot no/s)	(section no.)	1116454 (DP no.)
	Lot 1 (Lot no/s)	(section no.)	1069317 (DP no.)
<b>Co-ordinates*:</b>	(Latitude)	(Longitude)	(Datum)

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\*At least one of these three location details must be provided. For a movable object, enter its principal location. If the place has no street number, provide land parcels. If it has no land parcels, provide Co-ordinates and a map.

## 3. Extent of nomination

Curtilage map of nominated area:



Source of map or plan:	
Boundary description (in words):	This nomination "Newcastle Government House & Domain" includes the area currently occupied by the James Fletcher Hospital located east of the CBD of Newcastle and is bounded by Ordinance Street to the south, Newcomen Street to the west and Church Street to the north. The east boundary of the hospital is Watt street, this nomination will include Fletcher Park which is situated opposite the hospital entrance. This nomination is a 'cultural landscape' contains various permanent buildings and structures, including convict coal mines from 1814-17.

## 4. Ownership

Name of owner(s):	Hunter New England Health
Contact person:	Ms Jude Constable

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<b>Contact position:</b>	Director of Mental Health	
<b>Postal address:</b>	Hunter New England Mental Health Services PO BOX 833 (street address or postal box)	
	NEWCASTLE (suburb or town)	
	NSW (state)	2300 (post code)
<b>Phone number:</b>	Also Fletcher Park is a Public park, managed by Newcastle City Council.	
<b>Ownership explanation:</b>		

## B. Significance

### 5. Why is it important in NSW?

<b>Statement of state significance:</b>	<p>It is of State heritage significance because it has been identified as being of National significance to Australia and New South Wales (NSW Department of Commerce, CMP, 2004, 7.13). The site demonstrates Aboriginal heritage, a penal settlement from 1804, convict labour and administration and is also associated with Australia's mining heritage. The landscape is culturally important, and although there are no obvious remains as a contact site of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people, it is intrinsically linked with events and associations between these two different cultures. Corroborees were performed by Aboriginal people for Governor Macquarie at Newcastle Government House in 1818. Aboriginal people shared their culture and customs with Europeans and the performance a 'corroborrees' marks a significant event that took place there.</p> <p>The Newcastle Government House and domain landscape is highly significant as a site of colonial administration. Government House &amp; gardens were located on the area, adjoining the house was a coal shaft worked with convict labour. The nominated area has been associated with the Vinegar Hill Irish rebels who were transferred to Newcastle in 1804 when the second penal settlement was established. The Government House was built on the hillside and is associated with the many Commandants of Newcastle including Lieutenant Charles Menzies, Charles Throsby, Commandant Wallis and Major Morisset.</p> <p>Physical fabric and evidence that remain from the Macquarie period include sections of the old parsonage, two convict coal mines and possibly an adit. Macquarie's progressive ideas are reflected in the landscape; he initiated the commercial production of coal from the mines on this site and had a vision to secure a sound economy for the fledging Colony of NSW. Macquarie inspired a new landscape for the settlement of Newcastle and features of the Government House and domain are shown in many colonial artworks of the Macquarie period.</p> <p>It is from this place that coal mining begun in Australia using vertical shafts. These two early mines were worked using convict labour and</p>
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forged what become Australia's economic base, the coal industry. The landscape was a convict workplace, firstly the coal mines and gardens were worked and later the hillside was quarried to provide an area suitable to build a military barracks and parade ground. Although there have been changes to the area, there is evidence of the landscape having been cut away, shaped by convict labour. Today the area remains an open space used as a recreation ground and is commonly known as the 'oval'.

The place is of State significance because the cultural landscape provides physical evidence of the early colonial settlement of Newcastle. It has been in continuous Governmental ownership and use since 1804 and was important in the course of the establishment of the convict system in NSW, also as a secondary place of punishment. What survives are numerous buildings, relics and a landscape that shows the important changes made by convict labour, military/defence, welfare/ mental health, changes that have taken place over a 205 year period. It has a strong association with the history of mining in Australia and the historical phase of convict occupation and labour, with evidence of early methods of coal mining. The convict coal shafts are associated with the growth of coal mining in the Hunter region that continues today, with Newcastle as the largest coal port in the world.

The place has significance to the State of NSW because it has retained the physical evidence of the convict era, military and asylum phase of its use. The military barracks, former military hospital and gate house were all built in the 1840s and are intact and a tangible link relating to convict labour. "The James Fletcher Hospital site is typical of a Military Barracks site with a preserved Parade Ground and Military Barracks". (NSW Department of Commerce, 2004)

The place is also highly significant as it was the first Industrial School for Girls in NSW and later, the first hospital in NSW for "Imbeciles and idiots". The use of the entire site as a lunatic asylum is highly significant as it also represents the association with the first Superintendent of the Insane in NSW Dr Frederick Manning Norton who made a considerable contribution to the welfare of the insane and in improving mental health care in NSW. The use of the site reflecting the transitions of mental health care from the introduction of 'Regulations for the Insane' in the 1870s to the current mental health policies. The site continues to operate for the purpose of mental health care.

The place has links with Aboriginal heritage, convictism and the growth of the economy in New South Wales, inspired by Governor Macquarie.

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<b>Comparisons:</b>	<p>The place is part of the only penal settlement that transitioned into a developing a major industry (coal mining) that has significantly contributed to the economic growth of Australia, implemented by Governor Macquarie.</p> <p>While other places with similar characteristics exist, this place differs to Port Arthur and Norfolk Island as a place of secondary punishment, in that it progressed to economic and cultural transitions and is a convict "living" site.</p> <p>While other places with similar characteristics exist (Coal Mines Historic Site, Tasmania), this place shares all those characteristics and emerges from that group as an earlier example of a convict coal mine.</p> <p>It is one of the surviving examples of a place that shows technical achievement related to coal mining, quarrying and changing the landform, and that has remained relatively unchanged.</p> <p>A parallel with Victoria Barracks (Paddington, NSW) adds to the significance of Newcastle barracks (circa 1842). Victoria Barracks was built between 1841 and 1848/50 - much the same time and using similar building methods to that of the Newcastle Barracks. (Victoria Barracks Website)</p>
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## C. Description

### 6. Existing place or object

<b>Description:</b>	<p>The nominated area includes the site of the former Government House &amp; gardens from 1804-1830s (also known as the Commandant's Residence) and the military complex of buildings including the former Officer's Mess, Barracks and military hospital, dating from 1843 (still exists).</p> <p><b>Historic Convict Coal Mines &amp; Adit (1814)</b> Two convict coal mines exist on the current hospital grounds, one is approximately 20-25 metres inside the main Watt Street entrance, named Asylum Coal Shaft No. 1. No.1 shaft has been filled and sealed. Asylum Coal Shaft No.2 is in the courtyard behind the former military hospital, south west corner of the site; it is capped but not filled (Archeological Management Plan). Both of these shafts are connected to horizontal workings at the coal seam below and to drainage adits running to the nearby seaside cliffs. They are well hidden and have been covered over, however not built on. The adit is visible in the cliff at Newcastle South beach (hand-hewn), it is a horizontal shaft and has been cut into the rock face of the cliff, is an ovoid shape. The adit is located about 5 metres above the ground and approximately 1.5 tall x 0.5 mtrs wide at the top and 0.75 metres wide</p>
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at the bottom. The cliff where the adit is located is cracked, and fenced off. It is unknown as to where the adit leads to, however it does go west towards the nominated site and possibly is linked with the known vertical shafts (asylum shafts). The adit drains water from the mine by gravity, it would appear from the outside that the adit has minimal obstructions and often has water draining from it.

#### Parsonage

Recently Kirkwood House/Reception House was demolished in 2008 and an archeological excavation took place in March 2009. Remains of the old Parsonage (1819) were found, including sections of wall, a cellar and other relics as evidence of the convict period. The size of the remains (foundations) are approximately 12x10 metres. (see Image 15)

#### Compound Wall

The hospital is a walled site within an excavated quarry. The wall has enclosed the buildings on the site since the military buildings were first constructed in 1842. With exception of the northern boundary, the south, east and west sides all have walls. Originally built as a retaining wall for the excavated site, then it was later retained for privacy for patients of the mental institution from public view.

#### Landscape

The landscape of the current hospital grounds shows an exposed quarried landform on the south side, approximately 20 metres high. The exposed rock has eroded somewhat due to environmental conditions; however this landscape remains a noticeable and strong feature of the site, the quarried section that formed a wall runs the full length of the southern boundary.(see Images 14) A large expanse of the grounds was levelled to build the military barracks and parade ground. The topography was originally a gentle slope from the ocean cliffs towards what is known today as the 'The Hill'. The area is relatively underdeveloped compared with the surrounding area of the city of Newcastle.

#### Former Military Parade Ground

The parade ground remains an open parkland and grassy area that has not been hindered or interrupted with significant development (except in the case of the Shortland Clinic, which although is not built directly on the oval, does detract visually from the openness of the former military establishment). Significant vistas remain across all areas of the site because the recreation ground is in the centre of the collection of buildings.

#### Fletcher Park

This park is situated directly across the road (Watt Street) from the current James Fletcher Hospital, on the east side of the precinct. The park is bounded by a fence on the seaside and there is a steep cliff

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	<p>drop off. It has recently been landscaped by Newcastle City Council (2005) and has a path running through the middle of the park. There is also a statue of Mr James Fletcher that stands predominantly on the uphill slope, facing down to the city.</p>
<p><b>Condition of fabric and/or archaeological potential:</b></p>	<p><b>Historic Convict Coal Mines &amp; Adit (1814)</b> The site has the potential to reveal the archaeological remains of the first commercial coal mining in Australia by mine shaft (vertical shaft). Asylum Mine Shaft No.2 is in good condition; it was opened in 1987, and then resealed. Asylum Mine Shaft No.1 has been filled and capped. There has been minimal archaeological research carried out on these mine shafts. The mines were apparently begun in 1814 and were worked from 1817 and 1831. There was minimal mining in this area after this time. There is a high archaeological potential (particularly of No.2) in finding information relating to colonial mining techniques. It is suggested in the Nctle Archaeological Plan that these shafts may also be associated with other Government mines shafts on the southern side of Ordnance Street (Bowling Green shaft) and of the potential of finding relics related to the convict/Macquarie periods.</p> <p><b>Coal Adit</b> The mine adit, if confirmed to be associated with convict mining, would have a very high archaeological potential. Further research to understand how it is associated with the convict mine workings is highly recommended.</p> <p><b>Parsonage</b> A recent archeological excavation that has taken place on this site has found a significant portion of the original building (parsonage) intact. The final archaeological report is still underway, however from preliminary reports it is known that the parsonage site contained relics of high archaeological value relating to the convict period of NSW. This evidence of convict occupation and labour, highlights future archaeological potential elsewhere on the nominated site (see Image 15). A section of the wall of the parsonage has been recently demolished (June 2009), however brickwork that remains in situ includes a large portion of the foundations and a corner (south west of the parsonage building).</p> <p>A section of the original parsonage exists and this was confirmed during the demolition process and archaeological excavations have taken place (Demolition of Kirkwood House, James Fletcher Hospital. AMAC for Dept of Commerce Feb 2008). A full archaeological assessment has been undertaken (March 2009) as archaeological deposits relating to the convict era below the current footprint of Kirkwood House (and Reception House) had been found. Other relics may also be found including evidence of paths, gardens or outbuildings pertaining to the Parsonage - or simply occupational</p>

debris such as discarded bottles, broken ceramics, and if discovered this would be rare in Newcastle. The material fabric from the parsonage makes it the earliest visible fabric in Newcastle. Sub-surface examples of convict era fabric are also rare with the only known examples limited to footings well beneath the convict lumberyard surface. Examples of convict Newcastle outside the Coal River Precinct would be highly significant and rare.

#### Compound Wall

Sections of the compound wall were damaged in the June 2007 floods and after extensive assessments will be repaired sometime in the near future. There are currently supports in place to secure the collapsed section of the wall, particularly the south west corner. The foundation of the inside wall appears to be built from possibly sandstone or another type of rock, the wall runs from north to south and is relatively intact. However much of the upper sections of the wall built from brick have collapsed and is in need of repair. The Department of Commerce would likely have current heritage/archaeological reports pertaining to recent assessments on this wall. Archaeological potential is high, given that the site was 'prepared' for construction of the barracks using convict labour.(see Image 6)

#### Landscape

General condition of the landscape is good with minimal disturbance. There is a high potential that archaeological relics may be found if future investigations were to be undertaken. There is also the research potential to interpret the 'quarrying' techniques and methods used in the colonial period.

#### Former Military Parade Ground

There has been very little disturbance to this area since it was 'levelled' in the 1830s for use as a parade ground; it has remained open space and currently used as a recreation ground (see Image 9 & 13).

#### Fletcher Park

The condition of the park is reasonable good by Newcastle City Council; much of the open space has remained undisturbed, except for the garden beds on the west side (Watt Street) that were replaced in 2005. It is possible this recent work disturbed archaeological remains of the former Newcastle Government House (also known as Commandant's Residence) that used to exist on the site.

Archaeological potential is high in this area, as it is related to the earliest visually recorded built heritage in the settlement of Newcastle (1804). It is possible that relics could be found in this area, including remnants of the flagstaff and foundations of Government House and outbuildings. There is evidence of a wooden post in the park; however no research has been undertaken to investigate its provenience (could possibly be part of the old flagstaff or outbuilding/gate?).

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<p><b>Integrity / intactness:</b></p>	<p>Generally, much of the built heritage remains in good condition and adaptive reuse of many of the buildings was common in the nineteenth century. The Military Barracks is a good example of this, later used as a 'Lunatic Asylum' in 1871. "The site currently reflects a long period of evolution, as it has been adapted for a series of significant uses. Several of the main features of the military establishment remain recognizable and the overall layout reflects the original 1840s military compound. Significant buildings and landscape features from a number of different phases of its use are intact." (Rosen. Review of Items of Potential State Significance in the Newcastle City Area, 2008.</p> <p><b>Coal Mines</b> At present the heritage features of the coal mines cannot be fully ascertained until further investigations are completed, information is limited due to the lack of research undertaken. Although it is thought that shaft No.1 has been filled and sealed, mine shaft No.2 has been reported to have been capped but not filled and would offer an excellent opportunity to open up the shaft for inspection and recording. Shaft No 2 is reported to be in good condition when opened in 1987 and therefore offering the chance of research and interpretation to be done. The Shaft No.2 has the potential to demonstrate integrity and intactness if it could be opened once again and accurately recorded. It is highly likely from the limited accounts of shaft No 2 that original features may have survived, therefore restoration may be viable.</p> <p><b>Adit</b> The integrity and intactness overall of the mine adit is excellent and it has retained features. It would appear that there has been a minimal change to this item since it was established, and it is accessible (see Image 7).</p> <p><b>Parsonage</b> Although the overall building has not remained intact, there is significant surviving fabric from the original building that shows the brickwork and size of two rooms of the parsonage building. The front of the original building was demolished in the mid 1800s for the realignment of Church Street; however a significant portion of the parsonage was retained when additions were made to Reception House by Architect Walter Vernon. The convict brickwork (floor/foundations) appears to be in excellent condition (for its age), and represents building methods and techniques used in the convict era.</p>

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	<p><b>Compound Wall</b> The integrity of the compound wall is better in some sections than others. The Department of Commerce have conducted investigations reviewing the extent of storm damage to walls. There is a significant length of sandstone wall that exists on the west side of the site, behind outbuildings. The section of wall in the south west corner suffered more extensive damage than elsewhere. It is recommended that reports by Department of Commerce be reviewed by the Heritage Branch to establish archaeological and heritage significance of the wall, as well as what changes/repairs/modification to these walls have been undertaken to this item. Although sections of the compound wall has been affected by storm damaged, however significant sections have also been retained. The walls were constructed from brickwork dated at different periods, and the significant sections of the stone wall in the lower sections of the compound wall may relate to the 1830s when the site was quarried using convict labour.</p> <p><b>Landscape</b> The general landscape of the hospital site is intact and mostly undisturbed by extensive development (except in area of Thwaites Building and former Shortland Clinic). The quarried landscape remains visible. The integrity and intactness of the quarry is in excellent condition and is stable, the only obstruction to its integrity is the visual impact of the former Shortland Clinic that stands set back from the quarried wall and if demolished (as is planned) would add to the integrity of the landscape.(see Images 9 &amp; 14)</p> <p><b>Fletcher Park</b> The open park land has been landscaped and general integrity and intactness of the landscape is fair. The park reflects the early European occupation of the area (an open area not heavily built on). Although Newcastle Government House ceased to exist in the 1830s, this reduces the integrity of the place somewhat, however its overall feature as a park is significant because of the earlier position of the flagstaff and view to the ocean. The park's current namesake reflects the life of Mr James Fletcher, his statue erected in 1897 demonstrates the importance of the site. The statue stands prominent near where the former Government House once stood. The statue remains in relatively good condition.</p>
<p><b>Modifications Dates:</b></p>	<p><b>Coal Mines</b> 1814- Begun 1817-in operation 1831-ceased operation</p> <p><b>Adit</b> 1814-17? History uncertain, possibly associated to coal shafts (more research is needed).</p> <p><b>Parsonage</b></p>

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	<p>1819- Built 1886-two storey addition to parsonage (known as Kirkwood House) 1902-new Reception House built using original fabric of parsonage. 2008-Kirkwood House and Reception House demolished (parsonage left intact) 2009 June- significant remains of parsonage demolished, some remains are left in situ.</p> <p>Compound Wall 1830-40 - originally built 1840-2006 - numerous repairs and modifications 2007-09 - awaiting repairs after storm damage</p> <p>Landscape 1830s- Quarrying took place 1830-2009 - no extensive changes to landscape</p> <p>Fletcher Park 1804- Government dwelling, flagstaff and gardens 1814?-larger Government House built and flagstaff 1830s- Government House ceased to exist on the site 1850- ? 1878- 'Recreation Reserve' opened to the public. Other names include Lower Reserve and Ordnance Park.</p>
<p><b>Date you inspected the place for this description:</b></p>	<p>May 5, 2009.</p>
<p><b>Current use*:</b></p>	<p>Mental Health Services &amp; public park.</p>
<p><b>Original or former use(s)*:</b></p>	<p>Newcastle Government House and Gardens (1804-1830s) Coal Mining site (1816-31) Anglican Parsonage (1819- ?) Military Barracks 1843-51) Civil servants accommodation (1851-66) Industrial School for Girls &amp; Reformatory (1867-71) Mental Institution (1871- present day)</p>
<p><b>Further comments:</b></p>	<p>The Thwaites building, Tara Lodge and the former Shortland Clinic building are non- contributory items. However Gate House (circa 1842) is a significant heritage building related to the military phase of the hospital and contributes greatly to other building on the site. Gate House is currently not on the SHR, however the Former Military Barracks, military hospital and James Fletcher statue are on the SHR.</p>

Illustrations can be inserted as images in section J.

\* These details must be entered if you are basing the significance of the place or object on its past or present use.

## D. Historical outline

### 7. Origins and historical evolution

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<b>Years of construction*:</b>	1804 (start year)	2009 (finish year)
<b>Designer / architect*:</b>	<p>The landscape has transitioned and changed to what it is today through the management and maintenance of firstly the Colonial Government and later the NSW Government. Various Government officials have been involved since the early colonial period; however details of early architects and plans have not been found of the period 1804-1830. Francis Greenway was the Colonial architect from 1817-22 and although the parsonage was built during this time, there have been not records found indicating the designer. The likely construction of the Newcastle Government House (as seen in many colonial artworks) indicates that is was built prior to the Colony having appointed the first colonial civil architect (prior 1817). The Government in the 1840s was responsible for the construction of the military buildings, including the Military Barracks and the preparation of plans were completed by Captain George Barney the Colonial Engineer in NSW (original plans have not been located).</p> <p>As for the two convict coal shafts started in 1814, it is thought these were instigated by two convict miners Grainger and Hamilton who were sent to Newcastle in 1812 to assist in these new mines. "It is thought that this mine (Wallis shaft) was instigated as a consequence of an arrangement made by Governor Macquarie to export 154 tons of coal to Calcutta per annum in return for Bengal Rum". (O'Donnell 1969.p 69)</p>	
<b>Maker/ builder:</b>		
<b>Historical outline of place or object:</b>	<p><b>PENAL SETTLEMENT</b></p> <p>The James Fletcher Hospital site has significant associations with convictism in Australia as it was a site central to the management of convict labour, early coal mining technology and the development and growth of the Australian economy.</p> <p>The earliest European use of the site was the Commandant's Residence (also known as Government House) where the Commandant, Lieutenant Charles Menzies controlled the penal settlement. The site has remained in Government management since European occupation in 1804 to current day. The early occupation of the site is shown in a sketch by Ferdinand Bauer (1804) the flagstaff and the only small house on the area. This sketchr is the only landscape sketch Bauer did whilst in the Colony of New South Wales (Ferdinand Bauer, "Settlement of Newcastle Coloured Lithograph of Newcastle, 1804, p.368). The same location is also shown in artworks by Joseph Lycett, Walter Preston and Edward Close and these are particularly significant because they show Newcastle's Government House and gardens. Bauer's sketch also shows tents on the hillside of the nominated site.</p> <p><b>CONVICTS</b></p> <p>The first attempt of settlement in Newcastle failed in 1802 (Turner 1973) and the settlement was re-established in 1804, providing hard labour for re-offending convicts following the Irish rebellion at Vinegar Hill. Newcastle was also known as 'Kings Town' and 'Coal River' and the convicts of the Vinegar Hill uprising were sent there to work. The second settlement (1804) was</p>	

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prompted because of the prospect of coal as a vital resource for the Colony (O'Donnell 1969). After Newcastle was established as a penal settlement, it remained under Colonial administration until 1823, after this time free settlers were introduced to the settlement. Those who were sent to Newcastle endured harsh living standards, intense manual labour in the coal mines, and were under constant surveillance from those in authority (Turner 1973).

Many of the convicts after 1823 were transferred to Port Macquarie, however many convict prisoners remained in Newcastle to carry out public works projects such as the construction of Macquarie Pier. Although the penal settlement at Port Macquarie took some of the Newcastle convicts, it is often forgotten that many convict workers remained in Newcastle to complete the construction of Macquarie pier and other works until 1855. ([http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/07\\_subnav\\_01\\_2.cfm?itemid=5053900](http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/07_subnav_01_2.cfm?itemid=5053900)) Convict labour was used to build the pier, beginning in 1818 and was not completed until 1846. The military were stationed at the military barracks site and were employed to manage and supervise the work of convicts. Military accommodation has been overlooked in many studies of convict labour and supervision in Newcastle; instead much of the focus has been on the area of Nobbys headland and Fort Scratchley (Coal River Preconct). The life of military soldiers and convicts has not fully been acknowledged, or the contributions that they made to the Colony's largest early public works project (Macquarie Pier). Furthermore, the association between the former military Barracks buildings and the port initiative (the pier) is of significant importance to capital works programs of the Colonial Government, convictism and early technology in Australia.

There are two reasons as to why there was a need for the military in Newcastle, firstly it was needed for the protection of coal and secondly for the supervision of the convicts working on the pier. These two reasons are closely associated because the completion of the pier was not only to provide a safe harbour entry, but the pier was also strategically important in enhancing the efficiency of the export of coal, that ultimately provided financial rewards. The employment of convicts to construct Macquarie Pier was in the economic interest of the Colony and this nominated site was significant in supporting this progress.

"It had a small population until about 1814, with approximately 100 convicts and guards, but over the next few years it became the principal penal settlement of the Australian colonies, accommodating up to one thousand prisoners at a time." (Rosen. Review of Items of Potential State Significance in the Newcastle City Area, 2008)

## CONVICT LABOUR AND COAL

Newcastle is the birthplace of Australia's coal mining industry and the first modern coal mining undertaken in the Southern Hemisphere (Hunter 2001). Coal mining in Newcastle provided the first profit ever made in the fledgling Colony of New South Wales of "2 pounds, 5 shillings", in 1801. Newcastle and the Hunter region have bankrolled the Australian economy from its

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inception to nationhood, and continue to underpin Australia's prosperity. Convict labour was used to work mines located at Colliers Point (these were horizontal drifts) and on the hillside near Government House, the first working vertical shaft sunk for the production of coal in Australia (current James Fletcher Hospital site). One of the coal shafts is named the 'Wallis' shaft, after the Commandant of Newcastle at the time. The site is also associated with Benjamin Grainger who was sent to Newcastle in 1812 to assist in coal mining in the area, later becoming Superintendent of the coal mines at Newcastle in 1820.

The military were present in the settlement to manage the convict population and to supervise work in the mines and the construction of the Macquarie Pier. Mining on the site was primitive and labour intensive with loads of coal initially brought to the surface in baskets. A small rail system for haulage was used to take coals to the port directly downhill from the mine site to be loaded onto ships for export. Much of the export went around the world, and often traded for rum. The transport of coals to the port forged out a thoroughfare which soon became the main street of the township, George Street (later known as Watt Street). The Commandant had his residence in a prominent place at the top of this street where he was able to oversee what was happening in the settlement including work at Colliers Point and Nobbys Island. The Commandant's residence was both a place of authority, as well as a convict work place.

Convicts worked on the site until the Australian Agricultural Company was established and took over mining in Newcastle. The early mine sites were heavily mined and there is evidence of this at the cliff opposite the site's entrance.

The two convict coal mines known to exist on the James Fletcher Hospital site were later referred to as the 'Asylum Shafts' (Meehan's map). The 'Wallis' shaft is described in primary sources as being located next the Government House, "...mouth of the shaft immediately adjoins the offices of the Commandant's house" (Bigge 1822). This implies that the convict coal shaft opening was right next to Government House. The shaft is thought to have been excavated between 1814 and 1817 (Eklund 2004). Particularly interesting is the evidence that Bigge (1822 p.114-118) provides, "Twenty seven men are employed in the working of the mine, and the mouth of the shaft immediately adjoins offices of the Commandant's House".

After these mines became disused there was very little reference made to them during the 1800s. It was not until the 1900s that a mine subsidence report provided more detail about the existence of the convict mines, (Report of the Royal Commission on Earth subsidence at Newcastle 1908). In the 1940s Mr Jonathon Dixon carried out research on the site and attempted to locate the position of the first convict coal shaft by surveying an early map (Draft of the town of Newcastle 1822). Dr B W Champion (1949) also supports Dixon's location of the convict coal mines, and also added that it was sunk approximately 20 yards inside the Mental Hospital gates ('Newcastle & Hunter

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District Historical Society' 1949).

Further subsidence occurred within the hospital grounds in 1943 which revealed a convict mine shaft. This shaft is thought to be the 'Wallis Shaft' and was described as being, "... inside the gates of the hospital" (Newcastle Morning Herald & Miners' Advocate July 21, 1943). Dixon (1949 p.35) argues that the subsidence revealed both the position of the old convict mine shaft, as well as the position of the Commandant's House or Government House.

Evidence of the shaft was later covered up and is not obvious today, although it is reported to be under the roadway of the main road leading into the hospital. As already mentioned the 'Wallis shaft' is one of two 'Asylum shafts' that exists within the grounds of the James Fletcher Hospital (Archaeological Management Plan 1995), and is also shown in the Report of the Royal Commission on Earth Subsidence at Newcastle 1908. A Plan recently researched shows the position of the former Wallis Shaft inside the asylum entrance on a plan by the Colonial Architect James Barnett in 1880. ("Plan of Hospital for the Insane" labelled 'pit')

## GOVERNOR LACHLAN MACQUARIE

Lachlan Macquarie on his tour to the northern settlements in 1821 stated in his journal that he stayed at Government House in Newcastle, finding it very comfortable (Macquarie's Journal 1973. P 217). Macquarie had several visits to the Newcastle and in 1812 he stated "...immediately on my landing respecting the inspection of the settlement, I went with Mrs. M. & c. to view the coal mines..." (Macquarie's Journal p.86). The future of the coal mining industry and was important to Governor Macquarie and this is shown in his laying of the foundation stone to build the Macquarie Pier in 1818. This was a major colonial public works project that was undertaken to join the mainland with Nobbys Island and established a safe port entrance to facilitate the coal export trade. Coal was essential to the Colony's economy and Newcastle's commercial coal mines were integral to Governor Macquarie's plan to promote the Colony as self-supporting.

## ABORIGINAL AND NON-ABORIGINAL INTERACTIONS

Upon Governor Macquarie's visit to Newcastle in 1818 he recorded that he was entertained by Jack Burigon, King of the Newcastle tribe along with about forty men, women and children who performed a "Carauberie" (Corroboree) in the area at the rear of the Newcastle Government House. There are numerous colonial artworks showing Aboriginal occupation in and around the Government House site and as well as Corroborees. (See works by Edwards Close and Joseph Lycett)

## PARSONAGE

The nominated place contains what was originally the site of the Church of England parsonage erected in 1819 and home to Reverend George Augustus Middleton, Newcastle's first chaplain. (NSW Department of Commerce, 2004) Governor Macquarie noted that the parsonage was a "neat brick-built stuccoed,

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one-storied parsonage house with a verandah and all necessary out-offices, and also a kitchen garden and grazing paddock attached hereto, both enclosed with a paling” (Turner, History of the James Fletcher Hospital.p.1). Part of the original parsonage continues to exist and this adds to the story of the site. In the 1830s part of the land granted to the Church of England for a glebe was returned to the Government for building a new military barracks (Hunter 2001, 34-38).

Reception House and Kirkwood House have recently been demolished (June 2008) by a NSW Government authority to make way for the construction of a new 20-bed mental Health facility. Reception house is a direct and tangible link to the convict-built Parsonage and nearby Christ Church Cathedral buildings and a significant purpose-designed mental health facility which marked an innovation in mental health care. Kirkwood House was designed by the prominent local architect James Henderson, it was a two-storey annexe to the Parsonage. Frederick Menken’s supervised a later skillion addition. Government Architect Walter Vernon kept some of the original fabric of the old parsonage in the structure of the new additions to Kirkwood House.

## MILITARY BARRACKS & CONVICT LABOUR

“During the early 1800s Newcastle entered the coal industry and in order to protect Newcastle's precious coal resources, which were important for NSW’s economy, as well as to control the growing convict population, there was an increase in military protection at Newcastle from the 1830s...”(Rosen. Review of Items of Potential State Significance in the Newcastle City Area, 2008) The Governor visited Newcastle to lay foundation stone for the new barracks on the hill near the parsonage house in 1836 and it is these barracks with which this study is concerned. (Sydney Gazette, 1836) "Barney had recently arrived from England and was appointed Colonial Engineer in 1836. One of Barney's first tasks was to report on steps that needed to be taken in order to protect the colony from attacks by foreign vessels and he recommended that batteries and blockhouses be constructed in Sydney, Newcastle, Wollongong, Port Macquarie and Port Phillip (Australian Dictionary of Biography, Online Edition). The first projects undertaken by Barney were for the construction of new barracks at Sydney (Victoria Barracks) and Newcastle." (Rosen. Review of Items of Potential State Significance in the Newcastle City Area, 2008) (see Image 8)

The Newcastle Military Barracks were completed earlier than the Victoria Barracks at Paddington, Sydney. Although the barracks at Paddington began in 1841 and completed in 1846, was not occupied until 1848 (Australian Heritage Places Inventory). A Convict chain gang in Newcastle was employed to build the foundations for the Officers Quarters and Soldiers Barracks in 1838, as well as to create the military parade ground (Hunter River Gazette 15 January 1842) Excavation of the hillside by convict iron gang took place in 1842 so that outbuildings could be constructed. (Hunter River Gazette- 15 January 1842).

“In a letter to Lord Stanley in London, Governor Gipps stated his intention to

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start reducing troop numbers at the barracks. This was part of an overall policy in NSW aimed towards redistributing troops as a result of the cessation of convict transportation to the Colony of NSW (Department of Commerce, 2004, p. 16). Further reducing the need for a strong military presence in Newcastle was the relocation of prisoners in 1848. Only 1000 troops were to remain in NSW to protect the colony. Convicts at Newcastle were reduced in June 1848 and the 99th regiment left Newcastle (Maitland Mercury 24.6.1848), however convicts returned to Newcastle for renewed public works and a military guard returned to take up accommodation in the new barracks (1848).” (Rosen. Review of Items of Potential State Significance in the Newcastle City Area, 2008)

## LUNATIC ASYLUM

The barracks remained in use for civil service accommodation until 1867 when it became the Girls' Industrial School and later the Reformatory for Girls' until 1871.

“On September 13, 1871 the NSW Government established a 'Lunatic Asylum for Imbeciles and Idiots' at this site. It was the first asylum for imbeciles and idiots to be established in NSW (NSW Department of Health, p.39).” (Rosen. Review of Items of Potential State Significance in the Newcastle City Area, 2008) Frederick Manning was the Inspector General of the Insane and oversaw all Lunatic Asylums in NSW; he was accredited to having implemented many improvements to the site and with the introduction of moral therapy.

“He believed it crucial that those patients classified as being young, imbecilic and idiotic were separated from those classified as insane because the former annoyed other patients and were too impressionable (NSW Department of Commerce, 2004, p.24).

Newcastle was the fourth main government run asylum to be opened in NSW, the others located at Tarban Creek, Parramatta, the first being at Castle Hill, which later become a gaol (Stephen Garton, Medicine and Madness, p. 38).

“During the 1880s and 1890s, the Department of Lunacy (established 1878) under the leadership of Manning, reached a decision that young patients should be placed under the supervision of the matron, and away from the older patients. In order to enact this change, extra space was needed in both the male and female quarters. This decision coincided with an increase in patient numbers, due in part to the effects of the 1890s depression. Manning had intended to have the younger patients housed on a separate site, but the NSW Government's funding was limited due to the depression and instead additional wards were constructed. The first of these was constructed for girls in 1892 and was located on the northern end of the asylum grounds, behind the Court House. It could accommodate 24 patients. (NSW Department of Commerce, 2004, p.30).” (Rosen. Review of Items of Potential State Significance in the Newcastle City Area, 2008)

“In 1916, the name was changed to Newcastle Mental Hospital. A visit from the Deputy Inspector General of Mental Hospitals in 1918 found the newer wards of a high standard but determined that the older buildings were in poor

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condition. Such problems were addressed during the mid to late 1920s, and included improvements in bathroom facilities, the removal of single rooms in the women's section to create a spacious dining and day room and the creation of a larger space in the men's division by removing two of the single rooms. A common theme throughout the life of the asylum was community dissatisfaction with having such an institution located in the centre of the city. When an asylum was first suggested, Novocastrians were so opposed to the plan that they held a public meeting which consisted of 400 Newcastle residents at the Newcastle Court House (NSW Department of Commerce, 2004, p. 1). On 4th December 1866 the Colonial Secretary's Office notified the Bench of Magistrates in Newcastle that the proposed plan would not go ahead (NSW Department of Commerce, 2004, p.19 20). When it was suggested for a second time, a Newcastle newspaper, the Chronicle stated that it was dangerous to have insane people living in such close proximity to residents. It claimed that the use of the former barracks for this purpose was wasting valuable real estate (NSW Department of Commerce, 2004, p.22 23).

“In 1962, the hospital was renamed Newcastle Psychiatric Centre. In 1965, work commenced on a new building for outpatients which was called Shortland Clinic, on which other hospital buildings have been modeled such as at the Royal North Shore. In 1983 the name of the hospital changed to Hunter Hospital and in 1989 the name was again changed to be named the James Fletcher Hospital after James Fletcher, an important figure in Newcastle during the late 19th Century. Fletcher was responsible for improving the conditions of miners’, an example of this was his establishment of the Australian Agricultural Co.'s sick and accident fund (ADB Online).” (Rosen. Review of Items of Potential State Significance in the Newcastle City Area, 2008)

## FLETCHER PARK

Fletcher Park was formally known as Lower Reserve and Ordinance Park. Its use as a public park was promoted in 1878 after Mr Frederick Cane the Superintendent of the ‘Asylum for Imbeciles’ had undertaken to make the park more attractive by planting ornamental shrubs and trees. (Newcastle & Miners’ Advocate, 15 Jan 1878) The park was originally the site of Government House and flagstaff and is identifiable in many colonial artworks. There were numerous outbuildings to Government House and an artwork completed in 1820 (artist unknown) shows these as well as a path to the left of the building leading uphill. There are numerous other works showing the early area (see <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/archives/coalriver/pdf/hardy2006.pdf>).

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#### Artworks:

Bauer, F. (1804?) Settlement of Newcastle Coloured lithograph of Newcastle, probably traced from an original sketch in England as the time the Bonwick transcripts were available. Historical Records of NSW, vol 5, p.368.

Campbell, Sophia (1820?) Watercolour (Newcastle view of houses with windmill on hill) National Library of Australia- Pictures Catalogue. Call no.PIC R7274 LOC 8631 (the old gaol) National Library of Australia- Pictures Catalogue. Call no.PIC

Campbell, Sophia (1818?) Watercolour (Commandant's house from in front of R7276 LOC 8631.

Campbell, Sophia (1818?) Watercolour (Newcastle with Christ church Cathedral in the Distance) National Library of Australia- Pictures Catalogue. Call no.Pic-n 4564445.

Campbell, Sophia (1818?) Pencil drawing (Newcastle) National Library of Australia- Pictures Catalogue. Call no.Pic-R 7260 loc 8631.

Campbell, Sophia (date unknown) Panorama of Newcastle: watercolour drawings Dixon Library, State Library of New South Wales – Originals: PXD 576.

Government House, Newcastle, January 31st 1820. From a watercolour by an unknown artist in the Dixon Library. Sydney.  
Engraving (1886) James Fletcher Hospital site.

Lycett, Joseph. (1824) Newcastle, NSW. Pub. By J,Souter, London. National Library of Australia, Pictures Catalogue. <http://nla.gov.au/nla.pic-an7690948-v>

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Lycett, Joseph. (1818) Newcastle, NSW with distant view of Port Stephen, taken from Prospect Hill. Collection: Newcastle Region Art Gallery.

Preston, W. (1820) Print engraving from original drawing by Capt Wallis. Newcastle Hunter's River, New South Wales. Pic-an8603871

Preston, W. (Walter) Newcastle in New South Wales with a distant view of Point Stephen, taken from Prospect Hill [picture] Sydney: Published by A. West, Novr. 30, 1812. drawn by I.R. Brown; engraved by W. Preston.

Rae, John (1884) Newcastle Panorama: Photograph taken near Newcomen Street. Ref. no. PXX74 no.15 a-d.

Rae, John (1849) Newcastle Panorama: watercolour painting Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales. Ref no.

Strathallan Collector's Chest (images of Newcastle) - Dixson Library, State Library of New South Wales

#### Maps and Reports:

Map- 'Report of the Royal Commission on Earth subsidence at Newcastle 1908. Depicts Asylum Shafts, Market place shaft and Bowling Green shaft.

1822 (drawing 1935 shows shaft near Commandants House).

Meehan, (1818) Adapted from 'Plan of Newcastle' August 7 1818. Archives Office of NSW. NLD B11 253/1818/1

#### On-line Resources

Australian Heritage Places Inventory.

<http://www.heritage.gov.au/cgi-bin/ahpi/record.pl?CHL105302>

"Parragirls" website [www.parragirls.org.au](http://www.parragirls.org.au)

Commonwealth Heritage Places in NSW

[www.environment.gov.au/heritage/commonwealth/nsw](http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/commonwealth/nsw)

Victoria Barracks [http://www.awm.gov.au/units/place\\_1101.asp](http://www.awm.gov.au/units/place_1101.asp)

[http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/07\\_subnav\\_01\\_2.cfm?itemid=5053900](http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/07_subnav_01_2.cfm?itemid=5053900)

University of Newcastle's Coal River Website

<http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/archives/coalriver>

\* These details must be entered (as shown in the guideline) if you are basing the significance of the place or object on its architectural or technical qualities or its historical period of construction.

Historical maps, photographs or other illustrations that help to explain the history of the place can be inserted in section J.

## 8. Historical themes represented

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<p><b>National theme(s):</b></p> <p><i>Select one or more of 1-9.</i></p> <p><i>New line for each selected.</i></p>	<p>1. Tracing the natural evolution of Australia 3. Developing local, regional, national economies 5. Working 7. Governing 8. Developing Australia's cultural life</p>
<p><b>State theme(s):</b></p> <p><i>Select one or more for each above selected National theme 1-9.</i></p> <p><i>New line for each selected.</i></p>	<p><i>Within National themes 1-3:</i> 2. Aboriginal cultures interaction with others 2. Convict 2. Migration 3. Environment - cultural landscape 3. Industry <i>Within National themes 4-9:</i> 5. Labour 7. Defence 7. Government and administration 7. Law and order 8. Religion</p>

## E. Criteria

### 9. Assessment under Heritage Council criteria of state significance

<p><b>A. It is important in the course or pattern of the cultural or natural history of NSW.</b></p>	<p>It meets this criterion of State significance because it represents patterns of economic and social development of the early colonial period through the movement from government-controlled and convict-worked industry to the arrival of free labour and the beginnings of private enterprise.</p> <p>The place best shows how the landscape has changed over time due to the transformation of the landscape to meet a changed use of the place (military and welfare) and is expressed in a tangible way.</p> <p>The place best represents a convict penal settlement that is directly related to the beginning of Australian industry, coal mining (vertical shafts).</p> <p>The place is an exceptional example of the forced migration of convicts (Vinegar Hill rebels) and the development associated with punishment and reform and is an important stage of human history in the modern era.</p> <p>The place has a high degree of significance in regard to Australian convict heritage, particularly convict labour and the associated coal mines.</p> <p>The place is an outstanding example of the work begun by convict labour (quarrying out of landscape, laying of foundations &amp; filling of military parade ground) becoming an importance place for the Australian military and the later mental health system.</p> <p>The place is an example of early contact between Aboriginal and</p>
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	<p>European people and the Macquarie period (Governmental/Penal administration) and convictism, the place is associated with all of these themes.</p> <p>The place is of central importance to NSW and the nation in building an economy that contributed to the economic, political or social processes that formed.</p> <p>The place is an outstanding example of Australia's early position at the forefront of applied coal mining technology in the early 1800s that contributed to the nation's economic development.</p> <p>The place is highly significant culturally because of its representation in documents that exist in historical records and visual sources about the site from the early 1800s, showing the changes to the landscape. For example the place is represented on one of the panels of the nationally significant Macquarie Chest, a gift to Governor Macquarie.</p> <p>Former military buildings are closely associated with the military history of the Colony during the 1830s and 1840s as Newcastle was vital to the military strength of NSW. It demonstrates an important aspect of law and order through its history as a military barracks and the supervision required of the prisoners who remained in Newcastle to complete the Macquarie Pier. This association with Newcastle's defence history is indirectly related to aiding the growing economy and coal export of the Colony. Convicts were an important part of this accomplishment and have been forgotten in many later colonial histories in NSW (1830-40).</p> <p>The places military use is associated with the development of industry in Newcastle and the need to have a safe port entrance. Newcastle differs to other places that have a strong military history; in Newcastle there was a need to protect the coal resources of the area because it was vital to the Nation's economy.</p> <p>The James Fletcher Hospital site is unique as a coastal urban Lunatic Asylum (1871- ) and is representative of Australian Colonial asylum culture.</p>
<p><b>B. It has a strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons of importance in the cultural or natural history of NSW.</b></p>	<p>It meets this criterion of State significance because it is closely related to the vision of Governor Macquarie to promote a self supporting Colony.</p> <p>The place is a remarkable example of the transition of Australia's first industry (coal mining) that has greatly contributed to the Australian economy (its first vertical shafts) completed during the Macquarie period.</p>

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	<p>The place is closely associated with the re-offending convicts following the 1804 Irish rebellion at Vinegar Hill.</p> <p>The place is closely associated with Governor Macquarie who implemented Colonial public works projects such as the coal mining that later formed the coal industry and economic growth of the Colony.</p> <p>The place has a strong association with the Commandant's of Newcastle from 1804-23.</p> <p>The site is also associated with the Christ Church and the early colonial clergy.</p> <p>“The site is also significant at a state level due to its association with Captain George Barney, who was one of Australia's most important Colonial Engineers during the mid 19th Century. His works included the Commonwealth listed Victoria Barracks in Paddington and the design of Circular Quay.” (Rosen. Review of Items of Potential State Significance in the Newcastle City Area, 2008)</p>
<p><b>C. It is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW.</b></p>	<p>It meets this criterion of State significance because “The site has a high degree of aesthetic significance for its citing toward the top of the eastern side of the Hill area. The site has virtually remained intact since first dedicated”. (CMP)</p> <p>The place shows an early example of a Colonial public works project (Military Barracks) as well as the natural landscape formed by convict labour. “The James Fletcher Hospital site has a rare amalgamation of 1840s Military Barracks buildings, including the Parade Ground surviving in an excavated and walled site”. (NSW Department of Commerce, 2004)</p> <p>The place has significant potential to contribute new knowledge about the relationship between two cultures in the early colonial contact period; it was an important site of the interaction between Aboriginal and European people.</p> <p>Significant features of this cultural landscape including the early convict coal mines have the potential to provide new information about colonial and convict life in Australia. The immense cultural value of the place is an opportunity for further archaeological research to be conducted. In a global context, these early colonial convict coal mines are rare.</p> <p>The place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's potential to yield information that will contribute to a better</p>

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understand of the nature of construction and techniques used in the convict-era (related to the parsonage) as demonstrated in building techniques.

The place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because it will contribute to an understanding of early Australian industrial convict sites and advance our understanding of convicts as a cultural group and the contribution made by their enforced labour. Furthermore, this will also contribute to Australian historiography of both colonialism and convictism.

The place has significant potential to contribute new knowledge about Aboriginal culture, industrial heritage and convict occupation from research of existing historical records and visual sources that have not yet been analysed.

The sites configuration of the open parade/recreation ground with buildings around its circumference has been preserved throughout its life. The Parade Ground, with its open space, textures, plantings and other features, adds aesthetic value to the military buildings.

The following buildings on the James Fletcher Hospital site show technical innovation in the area of built construction methods. The surviving original fabric (circa 1842) of the Military Barracks has all been ascribed a level of EXCEPTIONAL significance as stated in the CMP. It is for this reason that the cultural landscape and other built heritage related to the military buildings that are already on the SHR (barracks and military hospital), should be placed on the SHR. The following highlight some of the fabric found to be of EXCEPTIONAL significance in the CMP:-

- The surviving original fabric of the former men's Barracks
- The surviving original fabric of the former Officer's Quarters
- The surviving original fabric of the former Guard House
- The surviving original fabric of the former military outbuildings
- Underground brick water tanks.

The Former military Barracks has EXCEPTIONAL significance in terms of the surviving original timber roof structure and lining boards and original masonry elements, as well as verandah structure and columns.

The Former Military Hospital has EXCEPTIONAL state significance due the surviving timber shingle roof and other masonry elements and HIGH level of significance in regard to the original and early timber joinery.

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<p><b>D. It has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.</b></p>	<p>It meets this criterion of State significance because the place has been in continuous use as a mental health facility since 1871 to current day. It was the only institution of its kind in NSW and therefore a broad cross section of the community including family and friends came to the institution to visit loved ones in the institutional, from various parts of the Colony.</p>
<p><b>E. It has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the cultural or natural history of NSW.</b></p>	<p>The place has significant potential to contribute new knowledge about the relationship between two cultures in the early colonial contact period, as it was an important site of the interaction between Aboriginal and European people. The place is associated with the historical event of a Corroboree that was performed for Governor Lachlan Macquarie. This can help Australians understand early Aboriginal culture.</p> <p>The place has a high degree of aesthetic value and many individuals have found creative inspiration from the landscape since 1804 and whose artistic works have documented the transformation of this unique place shaped by human intervention. (ex. Ferdinand Bauer &amp; Joseph Lycett) Further research and interpretation of these colonial artworks related the place is needed.</p> <p>The place has significant potential to reveal, through archaeological field work knowledge of Australia's early cultural history related to mining and there is the scope to reveal further information about the convict workings, particularly knowledge of convict artefacts and methods of mining.</p> <p>The former military buildings has the potential to yield information on the design of early military sites in NSW. The design, construction and materials used to construct the military compound may provide an insight into building techniques used in the 1840s. The fabric and history of the site has the potential to yield information significant for an understanding of the mental health system in NSW and its development throughout the 19th and 20th centuries (Conservation Management Plan, 2004)</p> <p>The place shows technical achievement and innovation in introducing the first coal mining (vertical shaft) in the Southern Hemisphere and marks the use of the transfer of the 'bord and pillar' coal mining techniques from across the world to Australia. The site contains the first vertical mine shafts used for commercial mining of coal in Australia, a valuable insight into the mining techniques and knowledge used in the Colony. The place offers research opportunities in the area of colonial mining.</p> <p>The place shows innovative and technical achievement related to masonry and quarrying techniques to build the military establishment,</p>

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	<p>as well as skillfulness of design in the reshaping of the landscape to construct these buildings.</p> <p>The James Fletcher Hospital site has high archaeological potential relating to the convict period (pre-1830) the site was part of the Commandant's farm from 1804 to about 1820.</p>
<p><b>F. It possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the cultural or natural history of NSW.</b></p>	<p>The place is rare in NSW because the landscape was excavated using convict labour, a landscape that remains visible today.</p> <p>The place is nationally rare because it possesses Australia's oldest surviving mining heritage (vertical shaft).</p> <p>The place is nationally rare because it possesses an intact military barracks and military hospital and parade ground, with the ground and building foundations constructed using convict labour.</p>
<p><b>G. It is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places/ environments in NSW.</b></p>	<p>It meets this criterion of State significance because "The James Fletcher Hospital site is typical of a Military Barracks site with a preserved Parade Ground and Military Barracks". (NSW Department of Commerce, 2004) It can be compared with Victoria Barracks in Sydney as it was constructed around the same time.</p> <p>The place is representative of other colonial lunatic asylums in NSW, was the first regional lunatic asylum in the Colony.</p> <p>The place reflects work of the various Government/Colonial architects.</p> <p>The place represents other penal administrations and Government House sites in NSW, and places where Governor Macquarie stayed on his visits.</p> <p>The place representative of other convict workplaces.</p>

## F. Listings

### 10. Existing heritage listings

Check one box for each of the following listings:

Listed	Not listed	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Local environmental plan (LEP) - heritage item</b> (call the local council to confirm)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Regional environmental plan (REP) - heritage item</b> (call the local council to confirm)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>LEP - Conservation area</b> (call the local council to confirm)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Draft LEP - Draft heritage item</b> (call the local council to confirm)

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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Draft LEP - Draft conservation area</b> (call the local council to confirm)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>State Heritage Register</b> (search the register at <a href="http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au">www.heritage.nsw.gov.au</a> )
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>National Trust register</b> (call the National Trust to confirm)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Aboriginal heritage information management system</b> (by Dept. of Environment & Conservation)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Royal Australian Institute of Architects Register of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Architecture</b> (call the RAlA)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>National shipwreck database</b> (search <a href="http://maritime.heritage.nsw.gov.au/public/welcome.cfm">maritime.heritage.nsw.gov.au/public/welcome.cfm</a> )
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Engineers Australia list</b> (call Engineers Australia to confirm)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>National Heritage List</b> (search Australian Heritage Database <a href="http://www.deh.gov.au/cgi-bin/ahdb/search.pl">www.deh.gov.au/cgi-bin/ahdb/search.pl</a> )
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Commonwealth Heritage List</b> (search above Australian Heritage Database)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Register of the National Estate</b> (search above Australian Heritage Database)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>NSW agency heritage and conservation section 170 register</b> (call owner or occupier Agency)
<b>Other listings:</b>		This nominated area "cultural landscape" is not listed on existing heritage listings, however the items that do have listings on the LEP and SHR are the Former Military Hospital(state), Military Barracks(state) and Fletcher statue (local)

## G. Photograph

### 11. Image 1

<b>Principal photograph of place or object:</b>	
<b>Subject of photo:</b>	Overlooking former parade ground
<b>Date of photo:</b>	June 2009
<b>Photographer:</b>	Ann Hardy
<b>Copyright holder:</b>	Ann Hardy

Include additional photographs and images in section J.

If possible, please also provide a high resolution, publication-quality copy of this image saved to disk (or as non-digital prints) with the signed hard-copy of the nomination form.

## H. Author

### 12. Primary author of this form

<b>Your name:</b>	Ms	Ann (first)	Hardy (family)
<b>Organisation:</b>	Hunter Regional Committee National Trust		
<b>Position:</b>	Secretary		
<b>Daytime phone number:</b>	0438509139		
<b>Fax number:</b>			
<b>Postal address:</b>	PO BOX 2151 (street address or postal box)		

# State Heritage Register Nomination Form

	DANGAR (suburb or town)	
	NSW (state)	2309 (post code)
<b>Email address:</b>	ann-hardy@hotmail.com	
<b>Date form completed:</b>	18 June 2009	

## 13. References used for completing this form

	Author	Title	Publisher	Repository / location	Year published
1.	Suters Architects and Planners	Newcastle CBD Archaeological Management Plan	on behalf of Newcastle City Council.	Nctle City Council-Local Studies library	1997
2.	Suters Architects and Planners	Newcastle City Wide Heritage Study	on behalf of Newcastle City Council.	Nctle City Council-Local Studies library	1997
3.	Department of Commerce	Conservation Management Plan for the James Fletcher Hospital site.	Prepared by: NSW Dept of Commerce for Hunter Health	Department of Planning-Heritage Branch	(April 2005)
4.	Comerford, J	Coal and Colonials: the founding of Australian Coal Mining Industry.	Newcastle & Sydney United Mine Workers Federation of Australia. Sydney.	State Library NSW	1997
5.	Lachlan Macquarie	Lachlan Macquarie Governor of New South Wales, Journals of His Tours in New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land 1810-1822. (1979)	Library Council of NSW, Sydney.	State Library NSW	1979
6.	Rosen, Sue and Associates Heritage Assessment and History (HAAH)	Review of Items of Potential State Significance in the Newcastle City Area, 2008. Military Hospital and Barracks (Former)		Department of Planning-Heritage Branch	2008
7.	Martin Carney & Ivana Vetta (AMAC-Archeological Management & consulting	Demolition of Kirkwood House, James Fletcher Hospital (preliminary Archeological	For Department of Commerce	Department of Planning-Heritage Branch	Feb 2008

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	group)	report)			
8.					
9.					
10.					
11.					
12.					

## 14. Signed by author

Author (sign and print name)	Dated
------------------------------	-------

## 15. Signed by copyright holder(s) of image(s)

Image copyright holder (sign and print name)	Dated
Image copyright holder (sign and print name)	Dated
Image copyright holder (sign and print name)	Dated

Signing 14 and 15 confirms the author of this form and copyright holder(s) of images give permission for the Heritage Branch to use non-confidential information and images entered in this form for any purpose related to processing the nomination. Possible uses include (but are not limited to) publication on the Heritage Branch website, newsletter, reports or other publications. The author of the form, image copyright holder(s) and photographer(s) will be acknowledged when published.

## I. Nominator

### 16. Nominator to be contacted by Heritage Branch

<b>Name:</b>	Ms	Ann (first)	Hardy (family)
<b>Organisation:</b>	Hunter Regional Committee of the National Trust NSW		
<b>Position in organisation:</b>	Secretary		
<b>Daytime phone</b>	0438509139		

# State Heritage Register Nomination Form

<b>number:</b>	
<b>Fax number:</b>	
<b>Postal address:</b>	PO BOX 2151 (street address or postal box)
	DANGAR (suburb or town)
	NSW (state) 2309 (post code)
<b>Email address:</b>	ann-hardy@hotmail.com

<b>Alternate contact name:</b>	Mr	Graham (first)	Quint (family)
<b>Position in organisation:</b>	Conservation Director		
<b>Daytime phone number:</b>	02 9258 01239		
<b>Fax number:</b>	02 9251 1110		
<b>Postal address:</b>	National Trust Centre, Observatory Hill, Sydney NSW 2000 Australia GPO Box 518, Sydney 2001		
<b>Email address:</b>	gquint@nsw.nationaltrust.org.au		

## 17. Reasons for nomination

<b>Background or reasons for nomination:</b>	<p>Recently a National Nomination was submitted to the Department of Environment, Heritage &amp; Arts to acknowledge the 'Coal River - Mulubinda Cultural Landscape' and this SHR nomination is thought to be necessary because it reflects many National themes and values.</p> <p>In June 2009 many of the services relocated from the hospital to a new campus at Waratah and the future of the site is unknown.</p>
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## 18. Form signed by nominator for submitting

Nominator (sign and print name)	Dated
---------------------------------	-------

## CHECKLIST



[Spell check your form - double click here \(or F7\)](#)

Before submitting this form, check that you have:

- completed all yellow sections, and other sections marked as essential.
- completed blue sections wherever possible.
- explained why the place or object is *state* significant in the statement of state significance.
- explained *how* one or more of the criterion has been fulfilled for listing.
- inserted photographs, maps and other illustrations as digital or scanned images.
- acknowledged all sources and references you used.
- signed and dated this form.
- obtained the nominator's and image copyright holders' signatures.
- if possible, attached a disk (or non-digital prints) for posting select image/s of high

# State Heritage Register Nomination Form



resolution, suitable for publication.

## TO SUBMIT THIS NOMINATION:

<b>Post all of the following:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. a signed hard-copy of the form;</li><li>2. an electronic copy of the completed form saved to disk (unless you prefer to email it separately); and</li><li>3. other attachments, such as high-resolution copies of photographs suitable for publication.</li></ol>	<b>Addressed to:</b> The Director Heritage Branch NSW Department of Planning Locked Bag 5020 Parramatta NSW 2124
	<b>If an electronic copy of the form is not posted, email it instead to:</b> <a href="mailto:nominations@planning.nsw.gov.au">nominations@planning.nsw.gov.au</a>

## J. Additional photographs, maps or other images

Image 2

Photograph or other image:



Subject of image:	Aerial Photo of Fletcher Park of nominated site. Armstrong plan (1830) overlaid on Google aerial image.
Date of image:	2008
Photographer or author:	Google Earth
Copyright holder:	

Image 3

# State Heritage Register Nomination Form

Photograph or other image:



<b>Subject of image:</b>	Aerial Photo of James Fletcher Hospital. South to the left, north to right.
<b>Date of image:</b>	2008
<b>Photographer or author:</b>	Google Earth 2008
<b>Copyright holder:</b>	Google Earth

# State Heritage Register Nomination Form

## Image 4

<b>Photograph or other image:</b>	
<b>Subject of image:</b>	View over former military parade ground, looking north east from the Obelisk.
<b>Date of image:</b>	10 June 2009
<b>Photographer or author:</b>	Ann Hardy
<b>Copyright holder:</b>	Ann Hardy

## Image 5

<b>Photograph or other image:</b>	
<b>Subject of image:</b>	Former military hospital and gardens
<b>Date of image:</b>	2005
<b>Photographer or author:</b>	Ann Hardy
<b>Copyright holder:</b>	Ann Hardy

# State Heritage Register Nomination Form

## Image 6

Photograph or other image:	
<b>Subject of image:</b>	Rock Wall on west boundary of hospital site, runs north -south below Newcomen Street.
<b>Date of image:</b>	5 May 2009
<b>Photographer or author:</b>	Ann Hardy
<b>Copyright holder:</b>	Ann Hardy

## Image 7

Photograph or other image:	
<b>Subject of image:</b>	Adit at Newcastle South Beach
<b>Date of image:</b>	5 May 2009
<b>Photographer or author:</b>	Ann Hardy
<b>Copyright holder:</b>	Ann Hardy

# State Heritage Register Nomination Form

## Image 8

<b>Photograph or other image:</b>	
<b>Subject of image:</b>	Former Military Barracks and military parade Ground, facing west.
<b>Date of image:</b>	2008
<b>Photographer or author:</b>	Ann Hardy
<b>Copyright holder:</b>	Ann Hardy

## Image 9

<b>Photograph or other image:</b>	
<b>Subject of image:</b>	Former Shortland Clinic and parade ground, former military hospital on the right. View to the south west.
<b>Date of image:</b>	October 2008
<b>Photographer or author:</b>	Ann Hardy
<b>Copyright holder:</b>	Ann Hardy

# State Heritage Register Nomination Form

## Image 10

Photograph or other image:	
<b>Subject of image:</b>	Gardens, Former military hospital on left, barracks additions is building on right. Photo taken looking north west, Christ Church can be seen on horizon.
<b>Date of image:</b>	
<b>Photographer or author:</b>	Ann Hardy
<b>Copyright holder:</b>	Ann Hardy

## Image 11

Photograph or other image:	
<b>Subject of image:</b>	Gate House, photo taken looking north east.
<b>Date of image:</b>	2008
<b>Photographer or author:</b>	Ann Hardy
<b>Copyright holder:</b>	Ann Hardy

# State Heritage Register Nomination Form

## Image 12

<b>Photograph or other image:</b>	
<b>Subject of image:</b>	Statue of James Fletcher in Fletcher Park, looking east to Pacific Ocean.
<b>Date of image:</b>	June 2009
<b>Photographer or author:</b>	Ann Hardy
<b>Copyright holder:</b>	Ann Hardy

## Image 13

<b>Photograph or other image:</b>	
<b>Subject of image:</b>	Military Parade ground (flat section of ground) photo taken looking east.
<b>Date of image:</b>	June 2009
<b>Photographer or author:</b>	Ann Hardy
<b>Copyright holder:</b>	Ann Hardy

# State Heritage Register Nomination Form

## Image 14



<b>Subject of image:</b>	Quarried wall on south boundary of site, image on right shows sandstone sections.
<b>Date of image:</b>	June 2009
<b>Photographer or author:</b>	Ann Hardy
<b>Copyright holder:</b>	Ann Hardy

## Image 15

