

Heritage Inventory

SHI Number
1910401

Item Name: **AW-09~ Emergency Radio Bunkers**

Location: **115 Wangi Road, Rathmines**

Address: 115 Wangi Road
Suburb / Nearest Town: Rathmines
Local Govt Area: Lake Macquarie
State: NSW
DUAP Region: Hunter & Central Coast
Historic region: Lower Hunter
Parish: Awaba
County: Northumberland

Other/Former Names: Remote Control Receiving Station

Area/Group/Complex: **Group ID:**

Aboriginal Area: Awabakal

Curtilage/Boundary:

Item Type: **Group:** **Category:**

Owner:

Admin Codes: **Code 2:** **Code 3:**

Current Use:

Former Uses:

Assessed Significance: **Endorsed Significance:**

Statement of Significance: The former remote control receiving station played a vital role in the communication operations of the State listed sea plane base at Rathmines during World War II. Its location and siting in what was dense bushland demonstrates Australia's response to the the threat of invasion and the need for secrecy.

Historical Notes or Provenance: Part of the key communications infrastructure for the World War Two Sea Plane Base at Rathmines erected just after the outbreak fo war. The bunkers served as VHF/DF transmitting stations. They are semi-underground and were proofed against bomb blast and splinters. At the time, they were disguised by thick bush, but the ground has now been cleared, being situated under power lines. The bunkers were equipped with their own water and power supply and operated 24 hours a day by men and women. A large 'wind up' tower was also part of the site. During the 1950s and 60s the radio equipment in the Bunkers was taken by the amateur West Lakes Radio Club.

Themes:

Designer:

Maker / Builder:

Year Started: **Year Completed:** 1942 **Circa:** No

Physical Description: Concrete Bunkers (2) 30m long by 5m wide and are almost 5 metres high. They were built 10 m into the ground and covered with soil to disguise their shape.

Physical Condition:

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Modification Dates:

Recommended
Management:

Management:

Further Comments:

- Criteria a)** As part of the key communications infrastructure for the Rathmines seaplane base, the bunkers played an important role in the defence of Australia during World War II and are therefore important in the pattern of NSW's cultural history.
- Criteria b)** The bunkers have a strong association with the service personnel that served at the base during World War II
- Criteria c)** The bunkers have the ability to demonstrate communication functions of the sea plane base and has significant associations with the technical innovations of World War II in the defence of Australia.
- Criteria d)** As part of the sea plane base, the bunkers are important to the local community and ex-service personnel.
- Criteria e)** The bunkers have the ability to inform further research into the communication operations of the sea plane base.
- Criteria f)**
- Criteria g)**

Integrity / Intactness:

References:	Author	Title	Year
	Alec and Joy Howard & John Newton	Rathmines...not forgotten & RAAF Rathmines	

Studies:

Parcels:	Parcel Code	LotNumber	Section	Plan Code	Plan Number
	MD	PT. 609		MS 3079	

Latitude:

Longitude:

Location validity:

Spatial Accuracy:

Map Name:

Map Scale:

AMG Zone:

Easting:

Northing:

Listings:

Custom Field One:

Custom Field Two:

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Custom Field Three:

Custom Field Four:

Custom Field Five:

Custom Field Six:

Data Entry:

Date First Entered: 28/11/2006

Date Updated: 09/03/2010

Status: Basic

Item Name: **AW-09~ Emergency Radio Bunkers**

Location: **115 Wangi Road, Rathmines**

Image/s:



Caption: Emergency Radio Bunkers

Copyright:

Image by:

Image Date:

Image Number:

Image Path:

Image File: 1910401.jpg

Thumb Nail Path:

Thumb Nail File: