



## Castlereagh – Timeline

This suburb takes its name from the Irish peer, Lord Viscount Castlereagh (1769-1822), who was responsible for the Act of Union between Ireland and England in 1803. Governor Lachlan Macquarie named the area in December 1810 during a tour of the Hawkesbury-Nepean region not long after his arrival in the Colony of New South Wales. Macquarie chose Castlereagh as one of his five towns, the others being Windsor, Richmond, Wilberforce, and Pitt Town. Castlereagh was designed to provide storage space and accommodation for the local community, especially during flood time. In his journal on 6 December 1810 Macquarie wrote 'The township for the Evan or Nepean District I have named Castlereagh in honor of Lord Viscount Castlereagh'. A sign bearing the name Castlereagh was erected in 1811 after the streets and a town square had been marked out by the surveyor James Meehan.

Circumstances however, ensured that Penrith, not Castlereagh, became the focal point of the area and this site was never developed. The present township is located five kilometres away from Macquarie's original site.

1799		A major flood of the Nepean River
1803	1 July	Mary Collett received a land grant at 'Birds Eye Corner'
1804	4 June	John Lees received land grant at Castlereagh. Later he gave part of this grant for a Methodist Church to be erected
1804	11 August	James McCarthy received land grant which he later named Crane Brook Farm
1806		A major flood of the Nepean River
1809		A major flood of the Nepean River
1810	6 December	Governor Lachlan Macquarie named Castlereagh as one of his five towns
1811		Surveyor James Meehan marked out the streets and square
1811		A major flood of the Nepean River
1814	28 April	A glebe house and school completed for Rev. Henry Fulton in Church Street
1814	11 July	Rev. Henry Fulton's school opened. Called the Classical Academy for Young Gentlemen, this school was the first secondary school in Australia

1814		First burial in Castlereagh Anglican cemetery
1817	7 October	The first Methodist chapel in the southern hemisphere was opened, erected by John Lees
1818	4 January	James Tobias 'Toby' Ryan born at Castlereagh
1822		John Single built 'Nepean Park'
1825		Rev. Henry Fulton's school was closed
1826	22 February	Joseph Daniel Single born
1836	4 August	Ann Fulton, wife of Henry Fulton died
1836		John Lees died at MayCastlereagh
1840	17 November	Rev. Henry Fulton died and is buried at Castlereagh Cemetery on the 19th Nov
1848		Methodist Chapel opened - the second on the site
1858	1 May	Castlereagh School opened. It closed in 1935
1878	11 December	Christchurch Anglican Church was consecrated. This church replaced Fulton's church in Church Street which had been destroyed by fire
1878	28 January	John Single of 'Nepean Park' estate died
1879	3 March	Upper Castlereagh School opened. It closed in 1975
1895	9 September	Municipality of Castlereagh proclaimed
1911	26 September	William Hart flew over Castlereagh and up the river to Edinglassie, the first aeroplane flight in the district
1923		First cotton grown in Australia at Castlereagh by G. A. Bond & Co. on the corner of Church Lane and Castlereagh Road
1935	17 December	Castlereagh School closed
1948	12 August	Announced that Castlereagh Council would amalgamate with Penrith not Windsor and Richmond as previously recommended
1948	December	Elections held for the new Council
1949	1 January	Castlereagh, Mulgoa, St. Marys and Penrith Shires amalgamated to form the Municipality of Penrith
1957		The present Castlereagh School erected
1980		Penrith Lakes Scheme established
1995	June	Development Application (DA3) to quarry 403 ha was approved
2019		The State Government acquires Hadley House from the Penrith Lakes Development Corporation.