

*Major Floods in*  
*Riverstone*

Riverstone & District Historical Society

2002

Flood levels of the Hawkesbury River recorded at Windsor Bridge, floods 9.15 metres (30 ft) and over. Major floods shown in **bold**.

Year	Height (m)	Ft & ins	Year	Height (m)	Ft & ins
<b>1799 March</b>	<b>15.25</b>	<b>50'</b>	1895 January	9.30	30' 6"
<b>1800 March</b>	<b>12.20</b>	<b>40'</b>	1898 February	9.61	31' 6"
<b>1806 March</b>	<b>14.64</b>	<b>48'</b>	<b>1900 July</b>	<b>14.08</b>	<b>46' 2"</b>
<b>1806 August</b>	<b>14.33</b>	<b>47'</b>	<b>1904 July</b>	<b>12.22</b>	<b>40' 1"</b>
1806 October	9.15	30'	1916 October	10.83	35' 6"
<b>1809 May</b>	<b>14.64</b>	<b>48'</b>	1922 July	9.45	31'
<b>1809 August</b>	<b>14.49</b>	<b>47' 6"</b>	1925 June	11.36	37' 3"
<b>1816 June</b>	<b>13.88</b>	<b>45' 6"</b>	1934 February	9.15	30'
<b>1817 February</b>	<b>14.03</b>	<b>46'</b>	1943 May	10.11	33' 2"
<b>1819 February</b>	<b>14.03</b>	<b>46'</b>	1949 June	11.97	39' 3"
<b>1819 June</b>	<b>14.03</b>	<b>46'</b>	1950 March	9.20	30' 2"
1857 July	9.91	32' 6"	1950 April	9.20	30' 2"
1857 August	11.44	37' 6"	1950 June	9.45	31'
1 860 April	11.21	36' 9"	1952 June	9.35	30' 8"
1860 July	10.45	34' 3"	1952 June	11.61	38' 1"
1860 November	10.98	36'	1952 August	9.71	31' 10"
1864 June	9.91	37' 6"	1955 May	9.76	32'
1 864 July	10.98	36'	<b>1956 February</b>	<b>13.70</b>	<b>44' 11"</b>
<b>1867 June</b>	<b>19.26</b>	<b>63' 2"</b>	1956 February	11.56	37' 11"
1869 May	11.21	36' 9"	1956 March	9.81	32' 2"
1870 April	13.72	45'	1956 June	9.53	31' 3"
1870 May	10.83	35' 6"	<b>1961 November</b>	<b>15.10</b>	<b>49' 6"</b>
1871 May	11.21	36' 9"	1963-4 New gauge reduced 305 mm		
<b>1873 February</b>	<b>12.66</b>	<b>41' 6"</b>	<b>1964 June</b>	<b>14.51</b>	<b>47' 7"</b>
1875 June	11.82	38' 9"	1969 November	10.06	33'
1877 May	9.15	30'	1974 May	10.28	33' 9"
1879 September	10.52	34' 6"	<b>1978 March</b>	<b>14.31</b>	<b>46' 11"</b>
<b>1879 September</b>	<b>13.91</b>	<b>43' 3"</b>	1978 June	9.55	31' 4"
1889 May	11.74	38' 6"	1986 August	11.30	37' 6"
1890 March	12.12	39' 9"	<b>1988 April</b>	<b>12.65</b>	<b>41' 6"</b>
1890 March	10.52	34' 6"	1988 July	10.74	35' 3"
1891 June	10.83	35' 6"	1990 April	9.80	32' 2"
1894 March	9.68	31' 9"	1992 February	11.00	36' 1"

#### Flood types and effects:

- *MINOR - From about 5.8 m*  
Causes inconvenience, minor roads & low-level bridges affected.
- *MODERATE - From about 6.9m*  
Overbank flow occurs with damage to low lying homes and farms. North Richmond bridge closes at 8.4m and Windsor Bridge at 6-9m.
- *MAJOR - From about 12.2m*  
Widespread inundation. Large areas flooded, towns & properties isolated & waters encroach. Extensive damage and hardship can occur.

Source: Flood Levels from *Hawkesbury Gazette*, *Sydney Gazette* & *Macquarie Country*.  
Description from *Civic News* August 1988, p. 9, inserted in the *Hawkesbury Gazette* 1988.



In front of Saundercock' garage: Three men (left to right) - Snowy Alderton, Jack Mills and Jimmy Andrews. Boys unknown [courtesy of Beryl Teale].



1961 Flood, looking across the railway line towards West Parade.



1961 Flood, looking down Garfield Road West, Riverstone hotel on the left and the meatworks local sales shop on the right (now the vet nary clinic)



Evacuating the "Crouch Family" from the Dairy, left to right: 1. Sid Straughan, 2. Barry Straughan, 3. ?, 4. Brian McNamara, 5. Bert Wheeler, 6. George Watson, 7. Tom McNamara, 8. Colin Crouch, 9. Kevin Crouch, 10. ?, 11. Cliff Crouch, 12. Harold Crouch.





1961 Flood before and after photos of the sheep-unloading yard (behind the old Skinshed) at the Riverstone Meatworks.





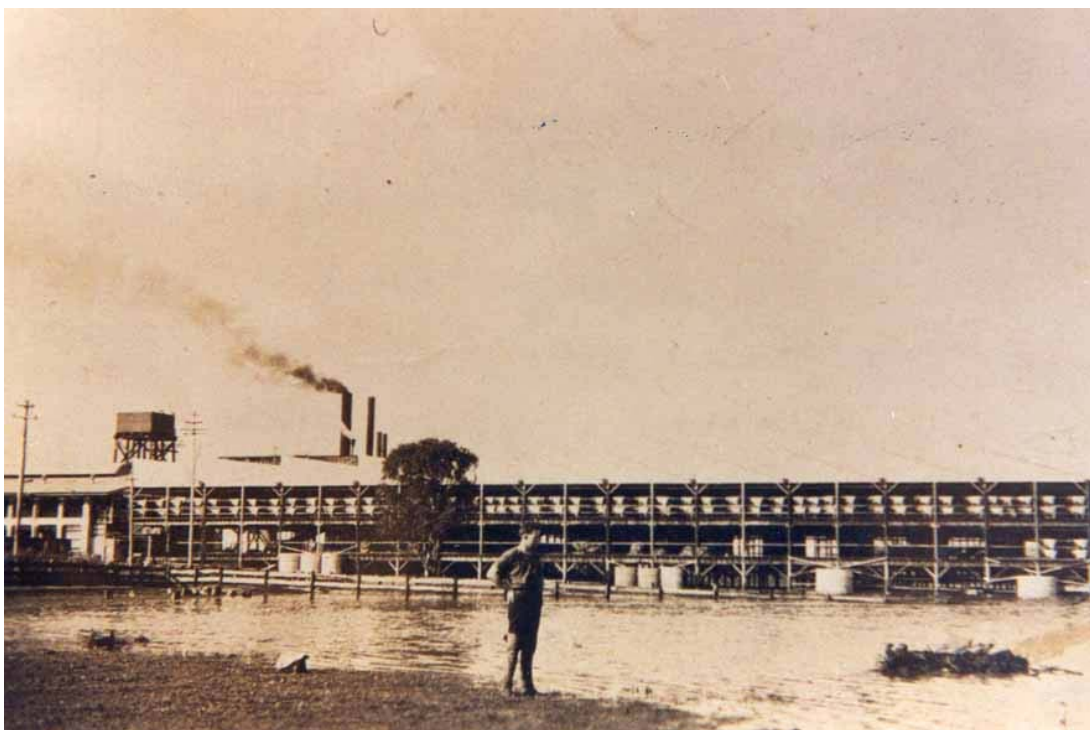
1961 Flood before and after photos (6 weeks apart) taken from the top of the old skinsheds looking over the stables behind the Riverstone Meatworks.







1956 Flood, arial photo showing railway terrace, the railway crossing and Garfield Road West [courtesy of R. Phillis].



1925 Flood showing the skinshed at Riverstone Meatworks [courtesy of N. Shields].



1961 Flood, showing the boiler house and textile plant at Riverstone Meatworks  
[courtesy of B. Allison].



1961 Flood, showing Freezer lane at the Meatworks [courtesy of C. Neal].





1956 Flood, showing the textile building at Riverstone Meatworks.