



Basic Climatological Station Metadata

Current status

Metadata compiled: 27 JUL 2021

Station: CHARTERS TOWERS AIRPORT

Bureau of Meteorology station number: 034084

Bureau of Meteorology district name: West Central Coast

State: QLD

World Meteorological Organization number: 94356

Identification: YCHT

Network Classification: CLIMAT Stations

Station purpose: Synoptic

Automatic Weather Station:



| Current Station Location | | | | |
|---|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Latitude | Decimal | -20.0464 | Hour Min Sec | 20°2'47"S |
| Longitude | Decimal | 146.2708 | Hour Min Sec | 146°16'15"E |
| Station Height | 289.78 m | Barometer Height | 291 m | |
| Method of station geographic positioning | | | GPS | |

Year opened: 1942

Status: Open

Station summary

No summary for this site has been written as yet.

Historical metadata for this site has not been quality controlled for accuracy and completeness. Data other than current station information, particularly earlier than 1998, should be considered accordingly. Information may not be complete, as backfilling of historical data is incomplete.

Prepared by the Bureau of Meteorology.

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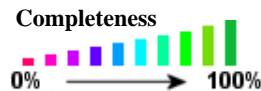
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Observation summary

The table below indicates the approximate completeness of the record for individual element types within the Australian Data Archive for Meteorology. For elements not listed see the note below.



DAILY DATA HOLDINGS

| OBSERVATION TYPE | FIRST MONTH | LAST MONTH | COMPLETENESS (% estimate) | SINGLE DAYS MISSED | FULL MONTHS MISSED |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| MAXIMUM AIR TEMPERATURE | DEC 1992 | JUN 2021 | 99.2 | 76 | 0 |
| 1 8 5 0 | 1 9 0 0 | 1 9 5 0 | 1 9 5 0 | 2 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 |
| RAINFALL | DEC 1992 | JUL 2021 | 100 | N/A | N/A |
| 1 8 5 0 | 1 9 0 0 | 1 9 5 0 | 1 9 5 0 | 2 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 |

HOURLY DATA HOLDINGS - from 1 to 24 observations per day

| OBSERVATION TYPE | FIRST MONTH | LAST MONTH | COMPLETENESS (% estimate) | FREQUENCY average daily | SINGLE DAYS MISSED | FULL MONTHS MISSED |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| AIR TEMPERATURE | DEC 1992 | JUN 2021 | 96.6 | 3.2 | 20 | 0 |
| 1 8 5 0 | 1 9 0 0 | 1 9 5 0 | 1 9 5 0 | 2 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 |
| DEW POINT | DEC 1992 | JUN 2021 | 96.1 | 3.2 | 27 | 1 |
| 1 8 5 0 | 1 9 0 0 | 1 9 5 0 | 1 9 5 0 | 2 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 |
| MEAN SEA LEVEL PRESSURE | DEC 1992 | JUN 2021 | 96.4 | 3.2 | 30 | 0 |
| 1 8 5 0 | 1 9 0 0 | 1 9 5 0 | 1 9 5 0 | 2 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 |
| TOTAL CLOUD AMOUNT | DEC 1992 | JUN 2021 | 96.5 | 3.2 | 21 | 0 |
| 1 8 5 0 | 1 9 0 0 | 1 9 5 0 | 1 9 5 0 | 2 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 |
| WIND SPEED | DEC 1992 | JUN 2021 | 96.6 | 3.2 | 20 | 0 |
| 1 8 5 0 | 1 9 0 0 | 1 9 5 0 | 1 9 5 0 | 2 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 |

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RAINFALL INTENSITY DATA HOLDINGS

| OBSERVATION TYPE | FIRST MONTH | LAST MONTH | COMPLETENESS (% estimate) | SINGLE DAYS MISSED | FULL MONTHS MISSED |
|--------------------|-------------|------------|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| RAINFALL INTENSITY | JAN 1993 | NOV 2015 | 72.8 | 328 | 64 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| 8 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 0 | 0 |
| 5 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

THERE ARE NO ONE-MINUTE DATA HOLDINGS

THERE ARE NO HALF-HOURLY DATA HOLDINGS

THERE ARE NO UPPER-AIR EDT DATA HOLDINGS

Holdings calculated up to 01 Jul 2021

The % complete figure is the completeness of observations averaged over all months of record, for the given station and observation type, taking gaps into account. For hourly holdings, the completeness is relative to the maximum number of daily observations for the site each month, and is therefore an estimate. For daily holdings, the completeness figure shown is exact.

The single days missed figure is the total number of days for which no observation was received, not including full missed months. The full months missed figure is the total of full month gaps over the period of record. Where an element is not included assumptions can generally be made about availability, and the list to use has been suggested below.

Unlisted element

- Minimum air temperature
- Wet bulb temperature
- Soil temperature at 20, 50 & 100cm
- Relative humidity
- Minimum temp. of water in evaporimeter
- Visual observations eg. weather, visibility
- Sea related observations

Listed element to use

- Maximum air temperature
- Dew point
- 10cm soil temperature
- Dew point
- Evaporimeter - max water temp
- Total cloud amount
- Sea state

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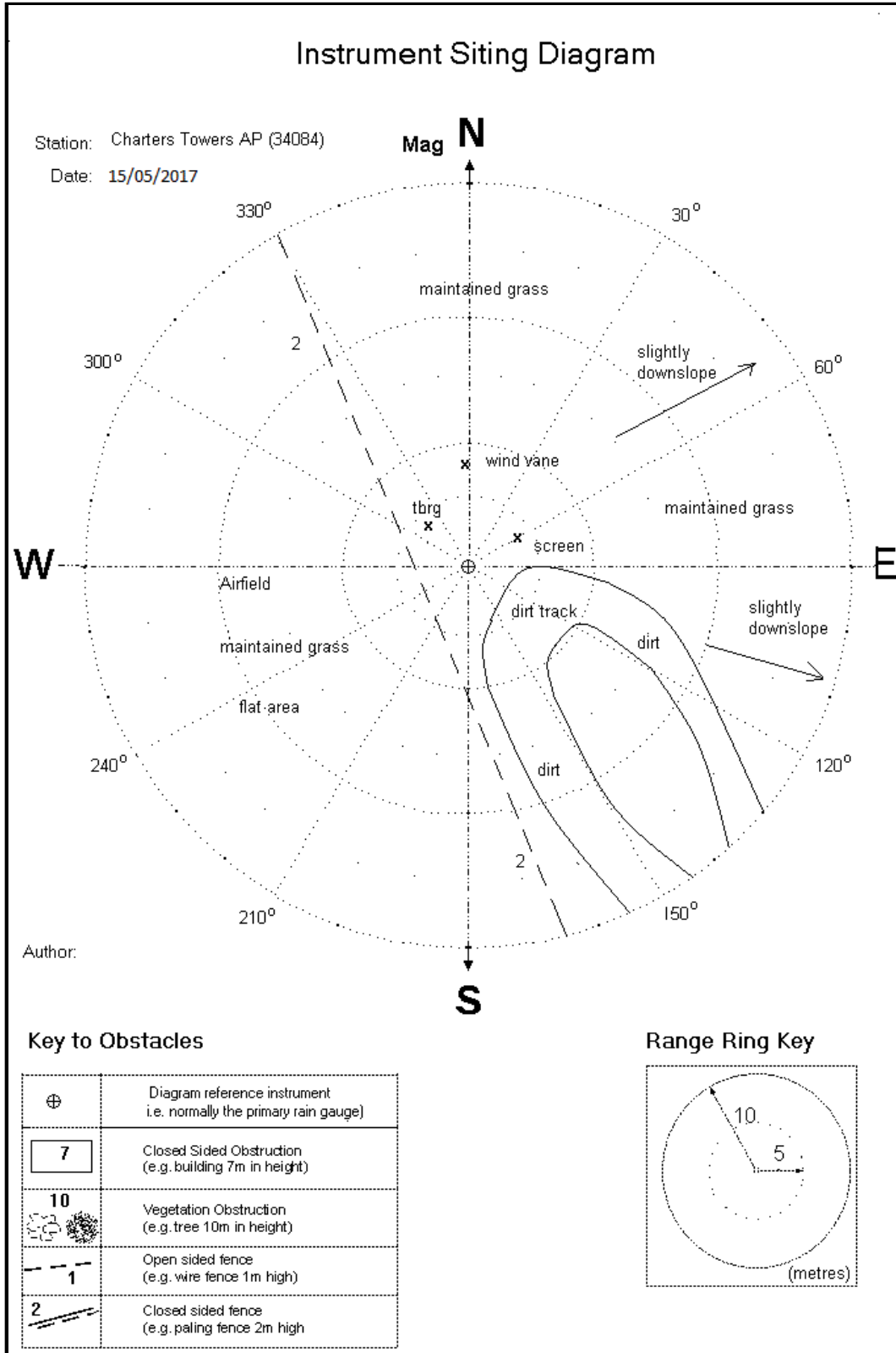
Extended Climatological Station Metadata

All History

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Instrument Location and Surrounding Features

15/05/2017(most recent)



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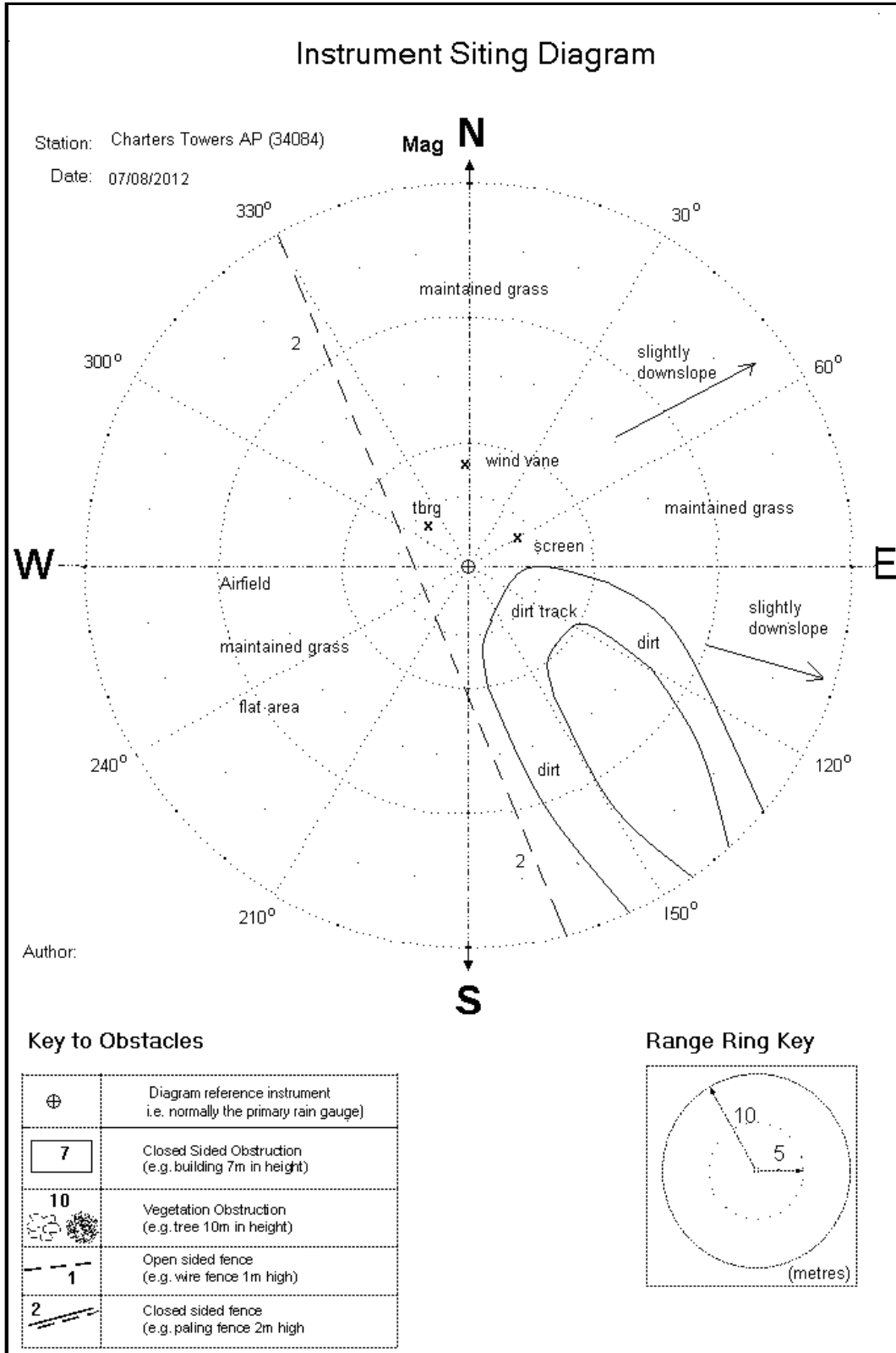
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Instrument Location and Surrounding Features

07/08/2012



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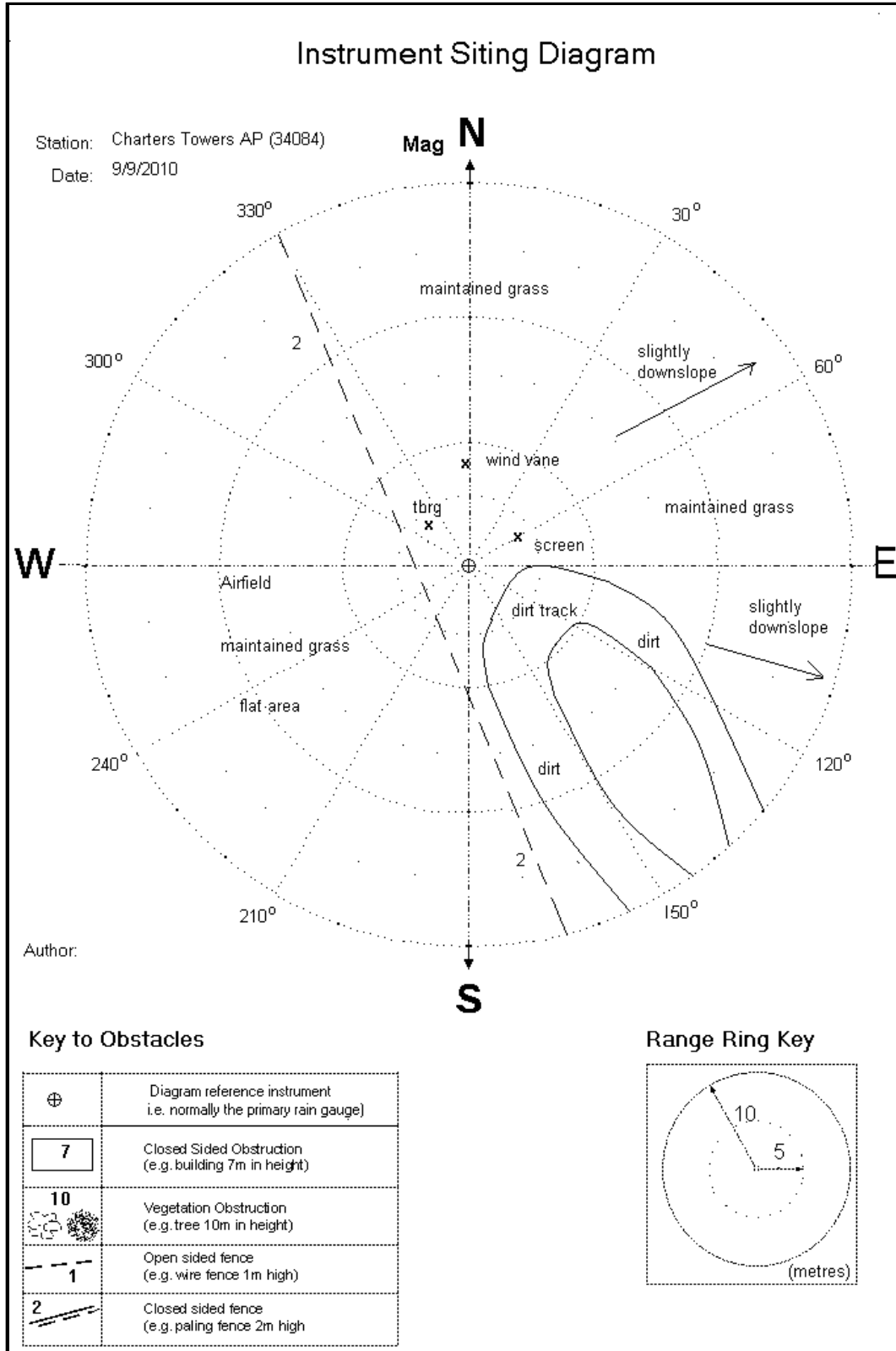
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Instrument Location and Surrounding Features

09/09/2010



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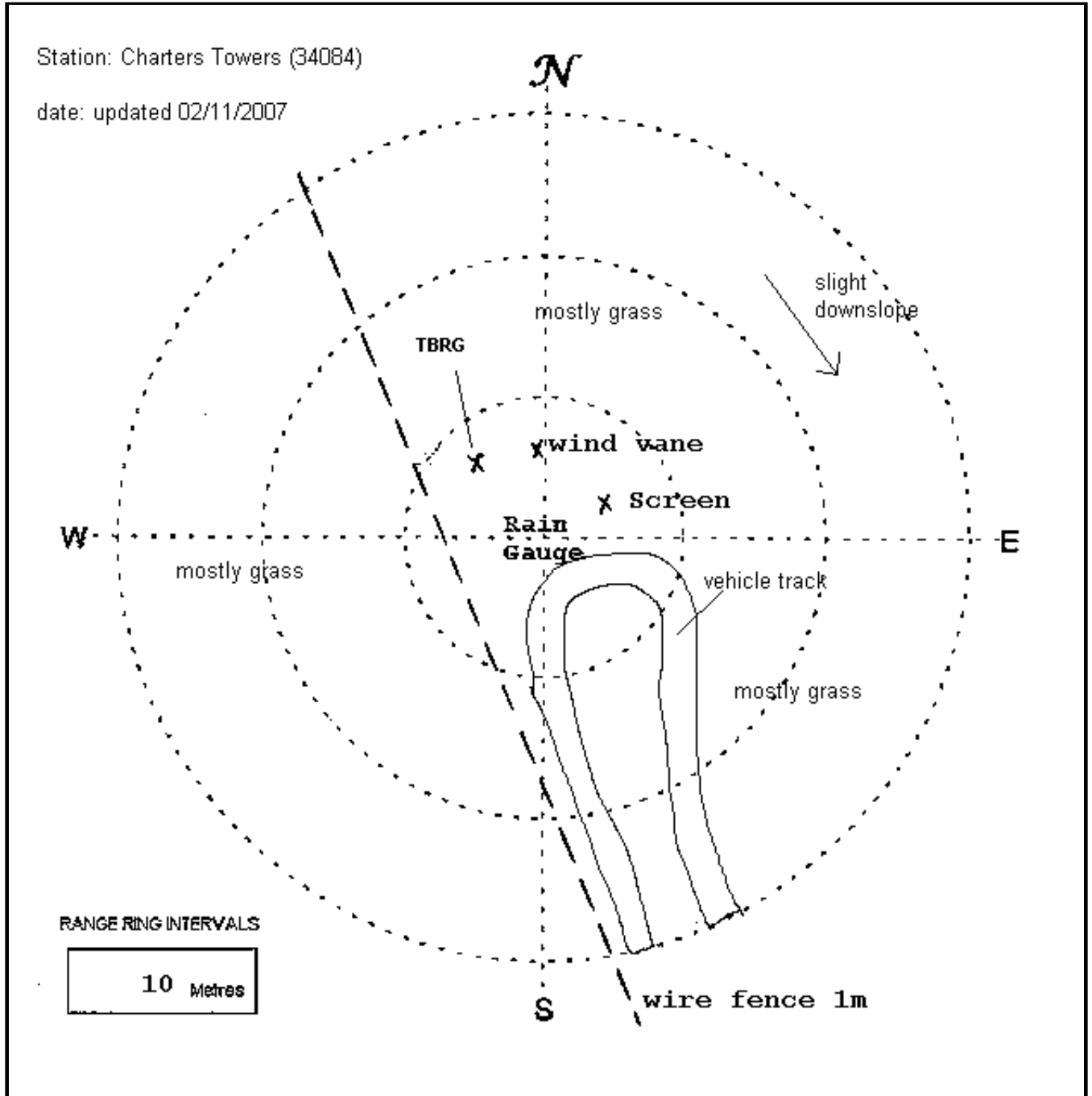
Extended Climatological Station Metadata

All History

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Instrument Location and Surrounding Features

02/11/2007



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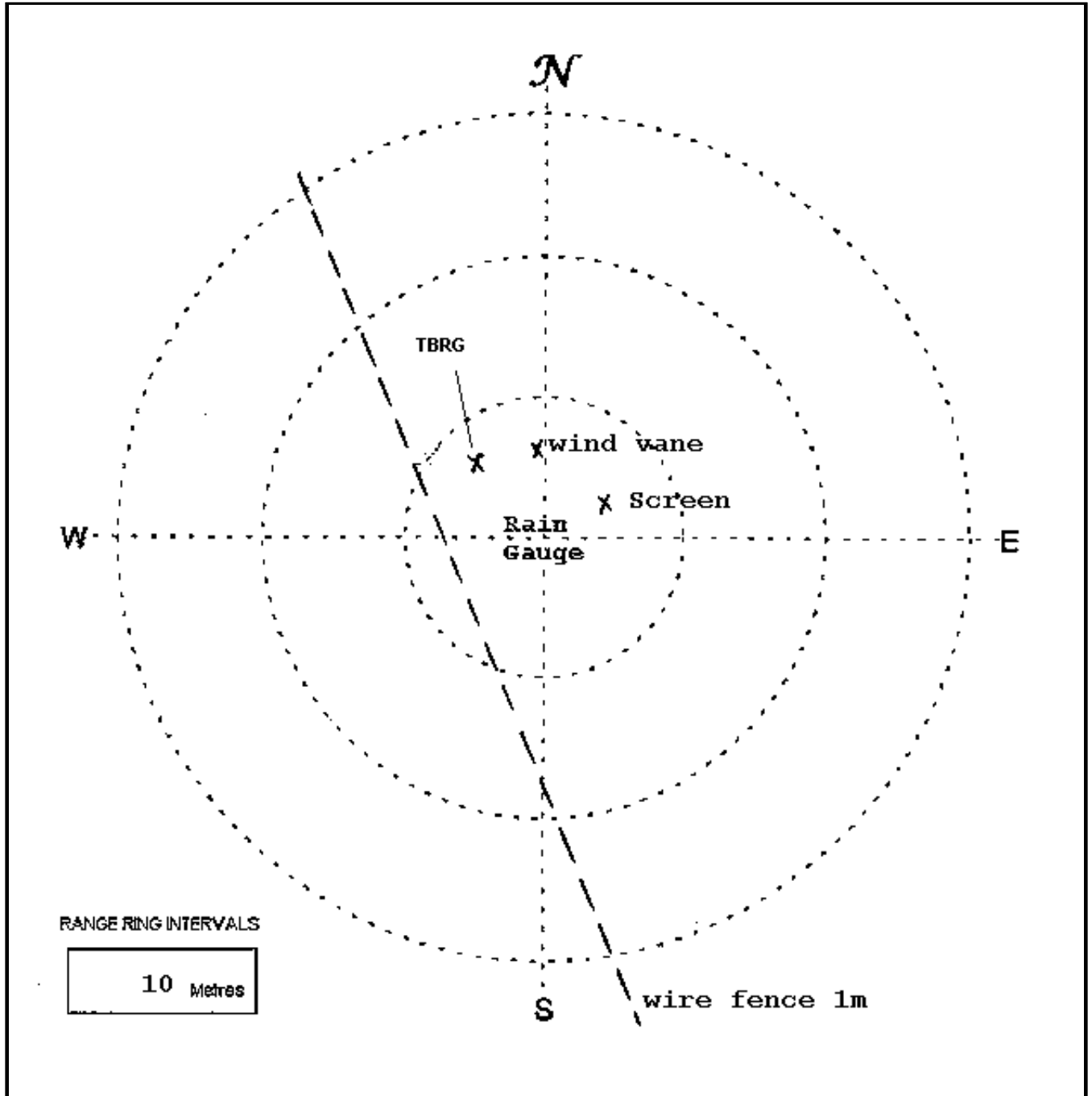
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Instrument Location and Surrounding Features

18/07/2002



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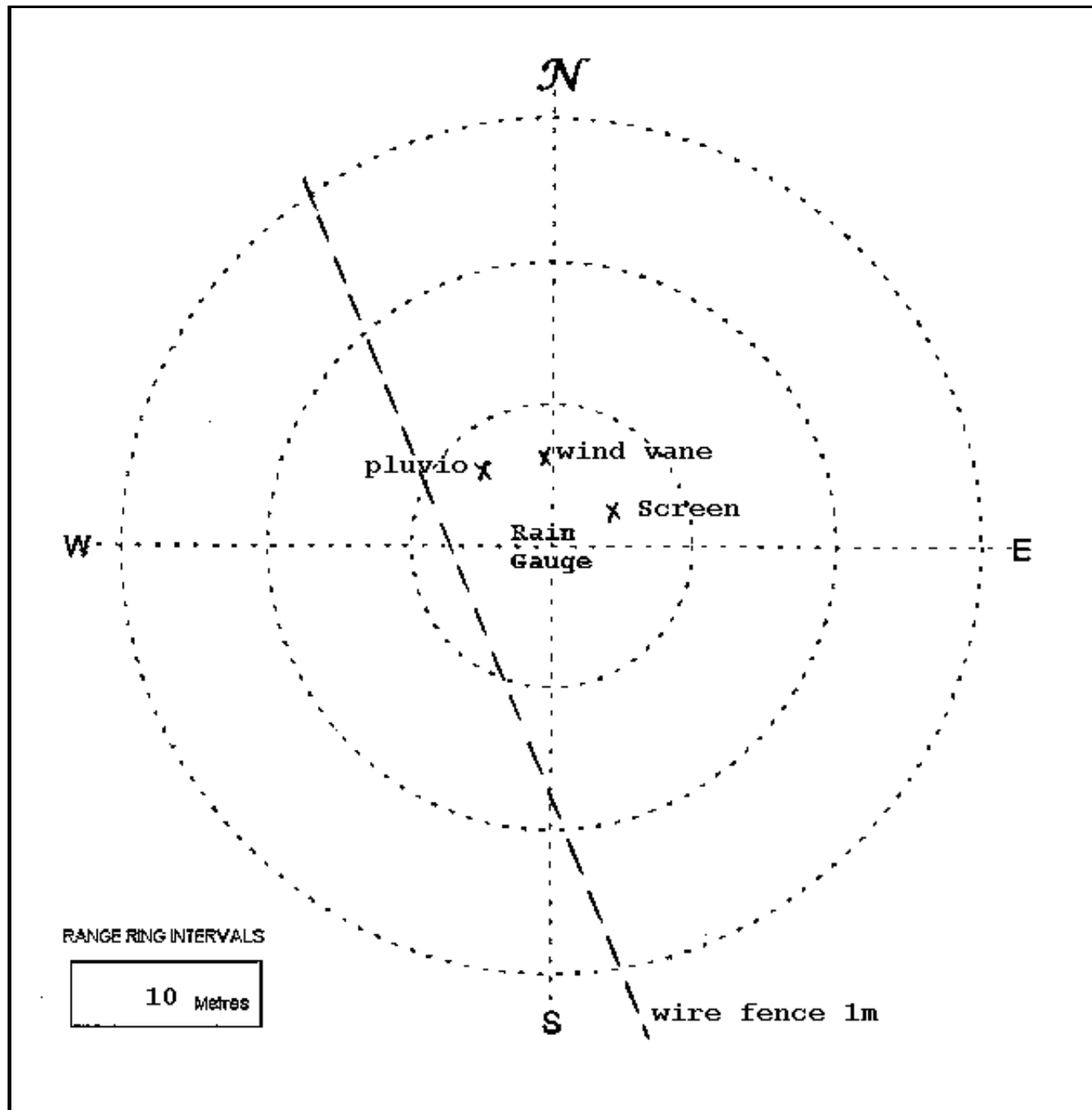
Extended Climatological Station Metadata

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Instrument Location and Surrounding Features

01/10/2000



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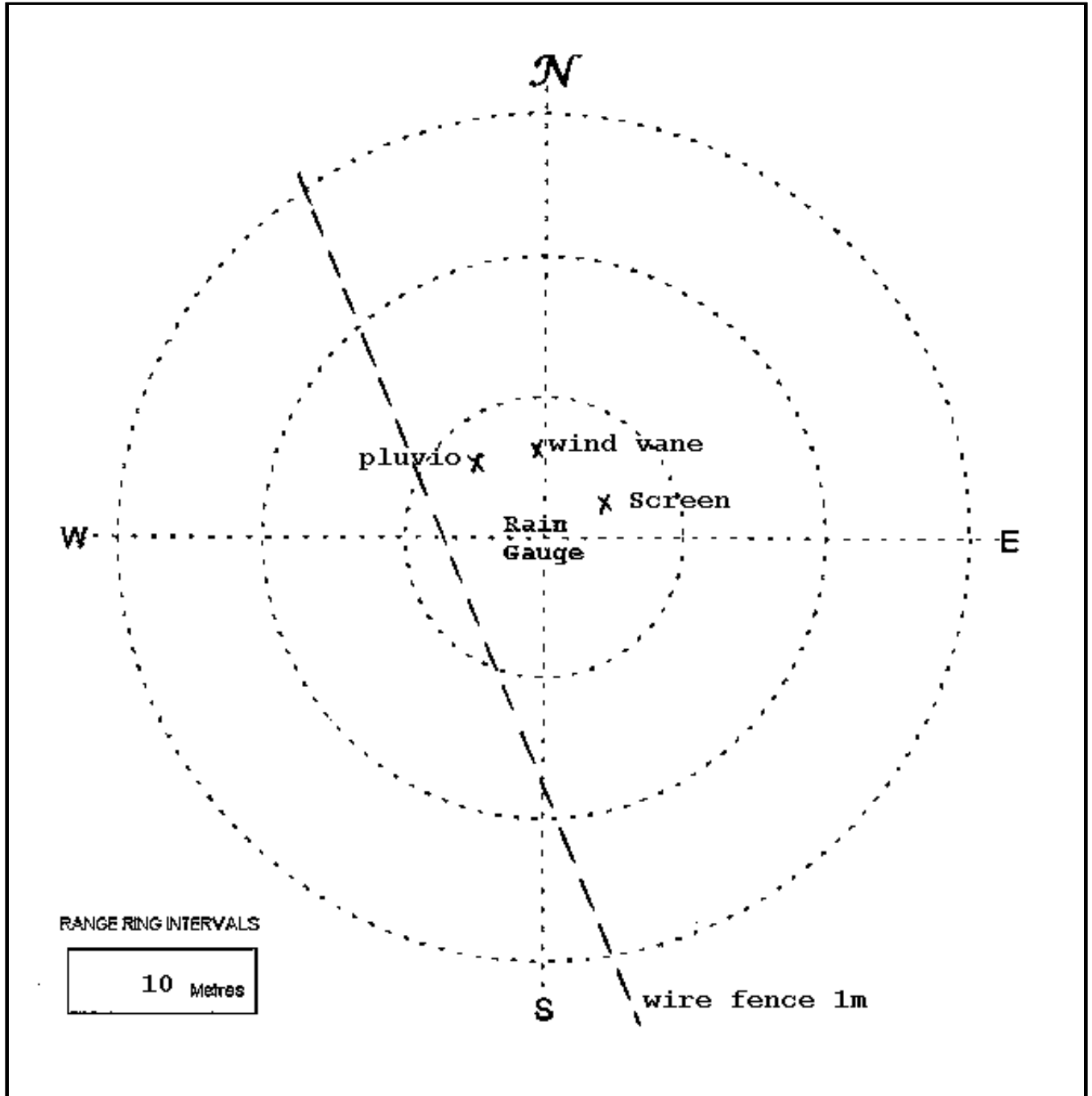
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Instrument Location and Surrounding Features

15/08/1999



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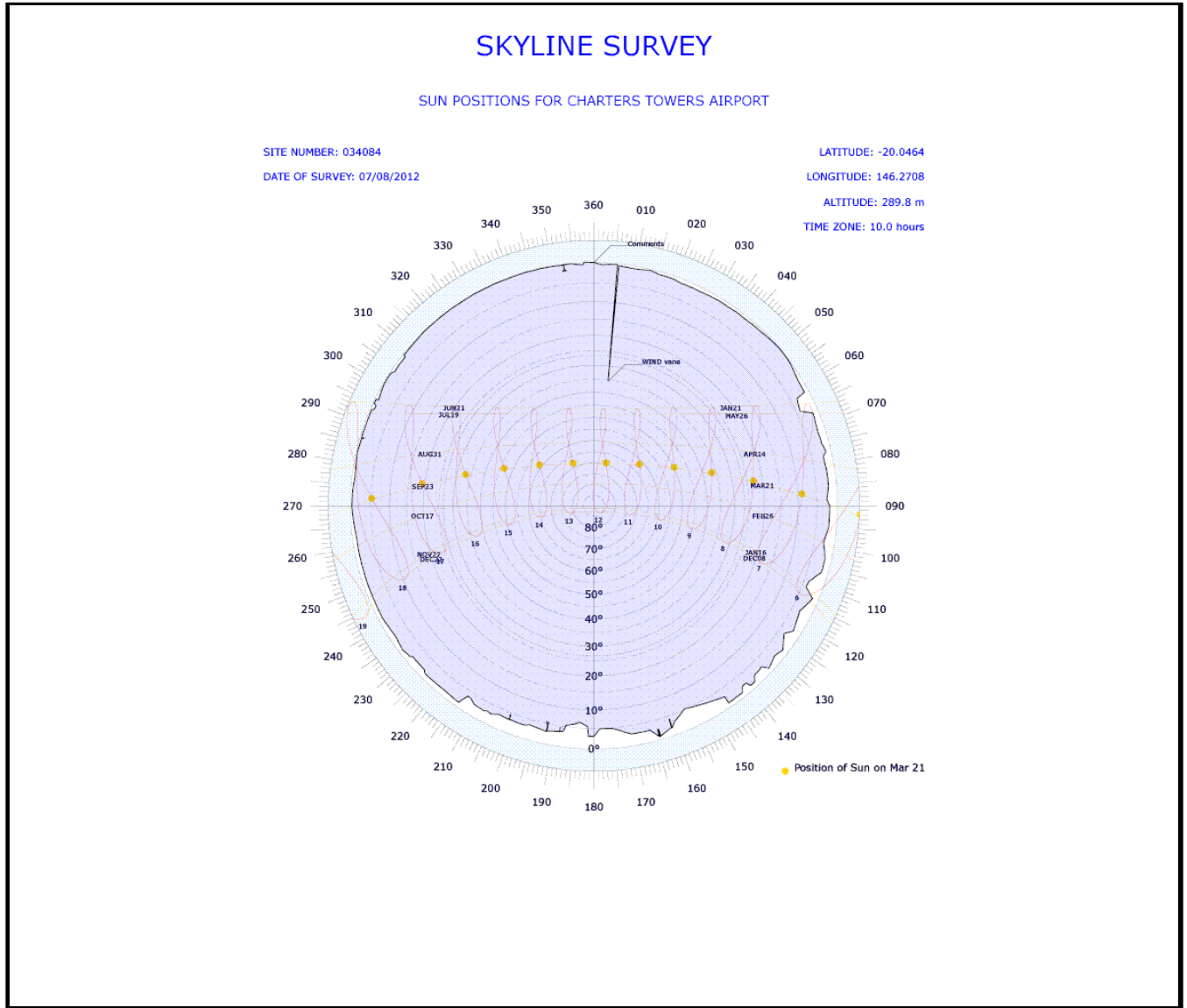


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Skyline Diagram 07/08/2012(most recent)



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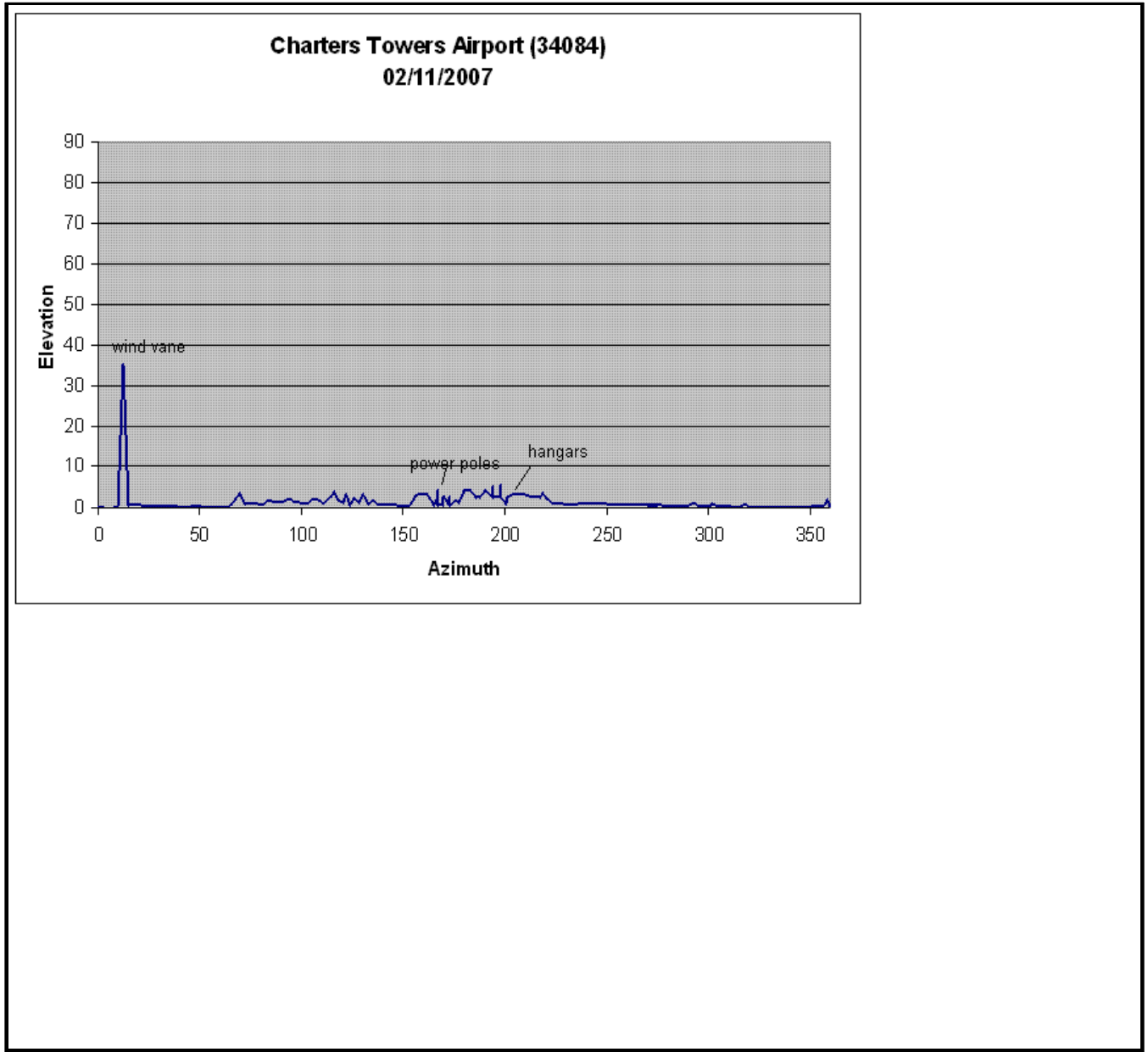
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Skyline Diagram

02/11/2007



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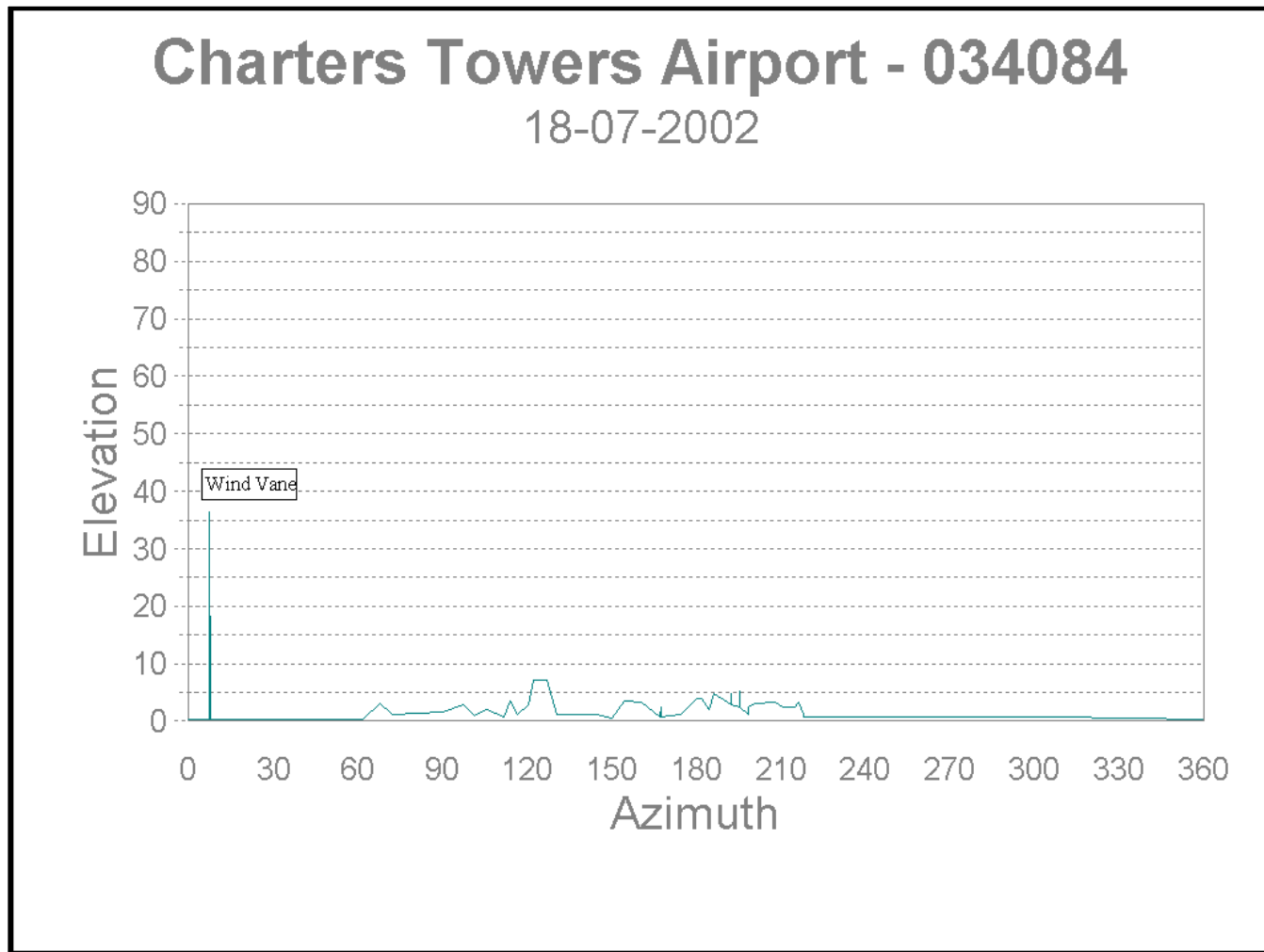
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Skyline Diagram

18/07/2002



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Station Observation Program Summary (Surface Observations) from 14/12/1992 to 16/03/2005

| Current Observation | Continuous | Half Hourly | Hourly |
|----------------------|------------|-------------|--------|
| Surface Observations | - | - | - |

| Current Observation | Program Type | 12 AM | 3 AM | 6 AM | 9 AM | 12 PM | 3 PM | 6 AM | 9 AM |
|---------------------|--------------|-------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|
| Surface Observation | PERFORMED | - | Y | Y | Y | - | Y | - | - |
| Surface Observation | REPORTED | - | Y | Y | Y | - | Y | - | - |
| Surface Observation | SEASONAL | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

Station Observation Program Summary (Surface Observations) from 16/03/2005 to 10/01/2015

| Current Observation | Continuous | Half Hourly | Hourly |
|----------------------|------------|-------------|--------|
| Surface Observations | - | - | - |

| Current Observation | Program Type | 12 AM | 3 AM | 6 AM | 9 AM | 12 PM | 3 PM | 6 AM | 9 AM |
|---------------------|--------------|-------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|
| Surface Observation | PERFORMED | - | - | Y | Y | - | Y | - | - |
| Surface Observation | REPORTED | - | - | Y | Y | - | Y | - | - |
| Surface Observation | SEASONAL | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

Station Observation Program Summary (Surface Observations) 27 JUL 2021 (most recent)

| Current Observation | Continuous | Half Hourly | Hourly |
|----------------------|------------|-------------|--------|
| Surface Observations | - | - | - |

| Current Observation | Program Type | 12 AM | 3 AM | 6 AM | 9 AM | 12 PM | 3 PM | 6 AM | 9 AM |
|---------------------|--------------|-------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|
| Surface Observation | PERFORMED | - | - | - | Y | - | Y | - | - |
| Surface Observation | REPORTED | - | - | - | Y | - | Y | - | - |
| Surface Observation | SEASONAL | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

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Station Equipment History

Equipment Install/Remove

Cloud Height (No Electronic History)

River Height (No Electronic History)

Wind Run (No Electronic History)

Spectral Radiation (No Electronic History)

Sea Surface Temperature (No Electronic History)

Sea Water Temperature (No Electronic History)

Evaporation (No Electronic History)

Minimum Temperature

14/DEC/1992 INSTALL Thermometer, Alcohol, Min (Type Dobbie S/N - 4671) Surface Observations

27/SEP/2012 INSTALL Thermometer, Alcohol, Min (Type WIKA S/N - 30432) Surface Observations

17/AUG/2012 REMOVE Thermometer, Alcohol, Min (Type Dobbie S/N - 25900) Surface Observations

10/JUL/2003 REPLACE Thermometer, Alcohol, Min (Now Amarol S/N - 23310) Surface Observations

02/JUL/2013 REPLACE Thermometer, Alcohol, Min (Now Dobbie S/N - 25900) Surface Observations

30/SEP/2010 REPLACE Thermometer, Alcohol, Min (Now Dobbie S/N - 25900) Surface Observations

22/OCT/2006 REPLACE Thermometer, Alcohol, Min (Now Dobbie S/N - 25900) Surface Observations

06/AUG/2010 REPLACE Thermometer, Alcohol, Min (Now WIKA S/N - 30432) Surface Observations

Soil Temperature 50cm (No Electronic History)

Sub Surface Temperature (No Electronic History)

Electrical Conductivity (No Electronic History)

Maximum Temperature

14/DEC/1992 INSTALL Thermometer, Mercury, Max (Type Dobbie S/N - M0471) Surface Observations

Soil Temperature 20cm (No Electronic History)

Solar Radiation (No Electronic History)

Soil Temperature 5cm (No Electronic History)

Oxygen Content (No Electronic History)

Sea Water Level (No Electronic History)

Surface Inclination (No Electronic History)

Terrestrial Minimum Temperature (No Electronic History)

Visibility (No Electronic History)

Solar Radiation (Direct) (No Electronic History)

Magnetic Bearing (No Electronic History)

Wind Direction

14/DEC/1992 INSTALL Anemometer (Type Dwyer on mast S/N - Unknown) Surface Observations

29/SEP/2008 INSTALL Anemometer (Type Kestrel 1000 S/N - 1727044) Surface Observations

25/MAY/2017 INSTALL Anemometer (Type Kestrel 1000 S/N - 1761796) Surface Observations

14/DEC/1992 INSTALL Anemometer (Type Wind Vane S/N - NONE) Surface Observations

22/OCT/2006 REMOVE Anemometer (Type Dwyer on mast S/N - Unknown) Surface Observations

15/MAY/2017 REMOVE Anemometer (Type Kestrel 1000 S/N - 1727044) Surface Observations

Air Temperature

22/NOV/2011 INSTALL Thermometer, Mercury, Dry Bulb (Type Dobbie S/N - 1741) Surface Observations

14/DEC/1992 INSTALL Thermometer, Mercury, Dry Bulb (Type Dobbie S/N - 3009) Surface Observations

Wet Bulb Temperature

14/DEC/1992 INSTALL Thermometer, Mercury, Wet Bulb (Type Dobbie S/N - 1813) Surface Observations

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Extended Climatological Station Metadata

All History

| | | | | |
|---|--|----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Station: CHARTERS TOWERS AIRPORT | Location: CHARTERS TOWERS AIRPORT | | | State: QLD |
| Bureau No.: 034084 | WMO No.: 94356 | Aviation ID: YCHT | Opened: 01 Jan 1942 | Current Status: Still open |
| Latitude: -20.0464 | Longitude: 146.2708 | Elevation: 289.78 m | Barometer Elev: 291 m | Metadata compiled: 27 JUL 2021 |

Station Equipment History (continued)

Equipment Install/Remove(Continued)

22/NOV/2011 REMOVE Thermometer, Mercury, Wet Bulb (Type Dobbie S/N - 1813) Surface Observations

Lightning (No Electronic History)

Turbidity (No Electronic History)

Total Column Ozone Amount (No Electronic History)

Pressure

29/OCT/1993 INSTALL Barometer (Type Negretti and Zambra Mk I S/N - CBM101) Surface Observations

14/DEC/1992 INSTALL Barometer (Type Negretti and Zambra Mk I S/N - Unknown) Surface Observations

29/NOV/1997 REMOVE Barometer (Type Negretti and Zambra Mk I S/N - Unknown) Surface Observations

29/NOV/1997 REPLACE Barometer (Now Vaisala PA11A S/N - S0630009) Surface Observations

09/OCT/2008 REPLACE Barometer (Now Vaisala PTB220B S/N - C1550014) Surface Observations

18/DEC/2019 REPLACE Barometer (Now Vaisala PTB220B S/N - V0440017) Surface Observations

15/MAR/2013 REPLACE Barometer (Now Vaisala PTB220B S/N - W1120053) Surface Observations

Humidity (No Electronic History)

Sunshine Hours (No Electronic History)

Pressure Trend

14/DEC/1992 INSTALL Barograph (Type Weekly S/N - 107) Surface Observations

Snow Height (No Electronic History)

Wind Speed

14/DEC/1992 INSTALL Anemometer (Type Dwyer on mast S/N - Unknown) Surface Observations

29/SEP/2008 INSTALL Anemometer (Type Kestrel 1000 S/N - 1727044) Surface Observations

25/MAY/2017 INSTALL Anemometer (Type Kestrel 1000 S/N - 1761796) Surface Observations

14/DEC/1992 INSTALL Anemometer (Type Wind Vane S/N - NONE) Surface Observations

22/OCT/2006 REMOVE Anemometer (Type Dwyer on mast S/N - Unknown) Surface Observations

15/MAY/2017 REMOVE Anemometer (Type Kestrel 1000 S/N - 1727044) Surface Observations

Rainfall

14/DEC/1992 INSTALL Pluviograph (Type Dines syphoning S/N - Unknown) Rainfall Intensity

18/JUL/2002 REMOVE Pluviograph (Type Dines syphoning S/N - Unknown) Rainfall Intensity

14/DEC/1992 INSTALL Raingauge (Type 203 mm (8in) - 200mm capacity S/N - NONE) Surface Observations

18/JUL/2002 INSTALL Raingauge (Type Rimco 7499 TBRG S/N - 82416) Rainfall Intensity

01/JUL/2020 REMOVE Raingauge (Type Rimco 7499 TBRG S/N - 92403) Rainfall Intensity

11/SEP/2008 REPLACE Raingauge (Now Rimco 7499 TBRG S/N - 92403) Rainfall Intensity

Soil Temperature 100cm (No Electronic History)

Soil Temperature 10cm (No Electronic History)

Solar Radiation (Long Wave) (No Electronic History)

RF Reflectivity (No Electronic History)

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Extended Climatological Station Metadata

All History

| | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| Station: CHARTERS TOWERS AIRPORT | Location: CHARTERS TOWERS AIRPORT | State: QLD |
| Bureau No.: 034084 | WMO No.: 94356 | Aviation ID: YCHT |
| Latitude: -20.0464 | Longitude: 146.2708 | Elevation: 289.78 m |
| | Barometer Elev: 291 m | Opened: 01 Jan 1942 |
| | | Current Status: Still open |
| | | Metadata compiled: 27 JUL 2021 |

Station Equipment History (continued)

The following table summarises information on field performance checks available electronically over the period indicated. The number of instances an instrument was found to fail field performance checks should only be used as a guide. A system of data quality flags is implemented by the Bureau of Meteorology to indicate the data quality of an observation as determined by a multi-stage quality control process.

| Available Date Range | Element | Fail Field Performance Check |
|---------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| 01/OCT/2000 - 18/MAR/2019 | Minimum Temperature | 1 |
| 01/OCT/2000 - 18/MAR/2019 | Maximum Temperature | 0 |
| 15/AUG/1999 - 18/DEC/2019 | Wind Direction | 5 |
| 01/OCT/2000 - 18/DEC/2019 | Air Temperature | 0 |
| 01/OCT/2000 - 15/SEP/2011 | Wet Bulb Temperature | 0 |
| 15/AUG/1999 - 18/DEC/2019 | Pressure | 0 |
| 01/OCT/2000 - 18/MAR/2019 | Pressure Trend | 0 |
| 15/AUG/1999 - 18/DEC/2019 | Wind Speed | 5 |
| 01/OCT/2000 - 18/DEC/2019 | Rainfall | 3 |

Station Detail Changes

- 01/JUL/2011 CLASSIFICATION Australian Climate Observations Reference Network - Surface Air Temperature (ACORN-SAT)
- 10/APR/2014 CLASSIFICATION CLIMAT Stations (CLC)
- 09/MAY/2006 CLASSIFICATION Category D (TAF D) ENDED 05-03-2015
- 01/JUL/2017 CLASSIFICATION Observing Operations Hub - Cairns (OOH-C)
- 01/JUL/2017 CLASSIFICATION SLS Flood forecasting priority â€™ Low (FWP-L)
- 30/JUN/2015 OBJECT Document/34084-allowance reduction letter 2015
- 01/JAN/2015 OBJECT Document/34084_revised_obs_2015_schedule
- 05/NOV/1997 OBJECT Document/BAROMETER COEFFICIENTS
- 18/JUL/2002 OBJECT Document/SKYLINE DATA
- 07/AUG/2012 OBJECT Document/SKYLINE DATA
- 02/NOV/2007 OBJECT Document/SKYLINE DATA
- 01/JAN/1942 STATION - (nondb seeding) Opened
- 01/JAN/1942 STATION - (nondb seeding) aero_ht Changed to 291.1
- 01/JAN/1942 STATION - (nondb seeding) name Changed to CHARTERS TOWERS AIRPORT
- 01/JAN/1942 STATION - (nondb seeding) wmo_num Changed to 94356
- 01/JAN/1942 STATION aviation_id Changed to YCHT
- 01/JAN/1942 STATION bar_ht Changed to 291.03
- 01/JAN/1942 STATION bar_ht_deriv Changed to SURVEY
- 01/JAN/1942 STATION latitude Changed to -20.0464Seeded from NonDb
- 01/JAN/1942 STATION latlon_deriv Changed to GPS
- 01/JAN/1942 STATION longitude Changed to 146.2708Seeded from NonDb
- 15/AUG/1999 STATION lu_0_100m Changed to Airport
- 15/AUG/1999 STATION lu_100m_1km Changed to Airport
- 15/AUG/1999 STATION lu_1km_10km Changed to Town 1000 to 10,000
- 15/AUG/1999 STATION soil_type Changed to red soil
- 01/JAN/1942 STATION stn_ht Changed to 289.78
- 01/JAN/1942 STATION stn_ht_deriv Changed to SURVEY

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Extended Climatological Station Metadata

All History

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------------|----------|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| Station: | CHARTERS TOWERS AIRPORT | | Location: | CHARTERS TOWERS AIRPORT | | State: | QLD | |
| Bureau No.: | 034084 | WMO No.: | 94356 | Aviation ID: | YCHT | Opened: | 01 Jan 1942 | |
| Latitude: | -20.0464 | Longitude: | 146.2708 | Elevation: | 289.78 m | Barometer Elev: | 291 m | |
| | | | | | | | Current Status: | Still open |
| | | | | | | | Metadata compiled: | 27 JUL 2021 |

Station Equipment History (continued)

Station Detail Changes(Continued)

15/AUG/1999 STATION surface_type Changed to partly covered by grass

System Changes

01/JUL/2020 SYSTEM Rainfall Intensity Ceased

14/DEC/1992 SYSTEM Rainfall Intensity Commenced

14/DEC/1992 SYSTEM Surface Observations Commenced

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Notes on these metadata

The following notes have been compiled to assist with interpreting the metadata provided in this document. These notes are subject to change as the network evolves. Changes in station-specific metadata occur more frequently, both as recent changes are recorded and historical information is transferred from paper file to electronic database.

Reliability of the metadata

The Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology maintains information on more than 20,000 stations which have operated since observations began in the mid 1800s. The amount of information available for each of these sites and its associated uncertainty are influenced by a number of factors including the type and purpose of the station and the time over which it operated.

Early information about stations was held only on paper file. In 1998 a corporate electronic database was established to help maintain information about the network and its components. The number of parameters recorded about a station is now much greater than before this database was established. The national database has also helped improve consistency in the metadata through the implementation of predefined fields. As a result, and through the refinement of operating procedures, station metadata recorded since 1998 are of a higher overall standard than previously, although occasional omissions and errors are still possible.

The Bureau is part way through a task of entering historical information held on paper file into the corporate database. **Until this process is completed there will remain large gaps in the information contained in these metadata documents and considerable caution should be used when deriving conclusions from the metadata.** As an example, two consecutive entries about a rain gauge dated 50 years apart may appear in the equipment metadata. This may either mean that nothing happened to that instrument over the 50 years, or that information for the intervening period has yet to be entered into the database. Similarly, if no information was available about instruments at a site when it was first established, fields which were required to have a value present may have used the earliest information available as a best-guess estimate. Sometimes this was the metadata current when the database was established in 1998. In some instances there may be gaps in metadata relevant to the post 1998 period.

For the above reasons it is recommended that all metadata prior to 1998 be considered as indicative only, and used with caution, unless it has been quality controlled. The Bureau of Meteorology should be contacted if further information or confirmation of the data is required. Depending on the nature of the inquiry there may be a fee associated with this request. Contact details are provided in the telephone book for each capital city or the Bureau's web site at:
<http://www.bom.gov.au>

The following pages contain explanatory notes for selected terms found in this document.

Station Number

The Bureau of Meteorology station number uniquely specifies a station and is not intended to change over time, although on very rare occasions a station number may change or be deleted from the record (usually to correct an error). Generally a new station number is established if an existing station changes in a way that would affect the climate data record for that site (measured in terms of air temperature and precipitation). Significant station moves are an example of this.

Some stations also possess a World Meteorological Organization (WMO) station number. The WMO number is different to the Bureau of Meteorology number. It also uniquely specifies a station at any given time but can be reassigned to another station if the new station takes priority in the global reporting network. Only selected stations will have a WMO number. Significant stations may maintain their WMO number for many decades.

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Notes on these metadata

Network Classification

| |
|--|
| SUPPORTING the BASIC CLIMATE SERVICE |
| Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) |
| GCOS Upper Air Network (GUAN) |
| GCOS Surface Network (GSN) |
| National Climate Network {not yet assigned} |
| Reference Climate Stations (RCS) |
| Regional Basic Climatological Network (RBCN) |
| CLIMAT Stations (CLC) |
| CLIMAT TEMP Stations (CLT) |
| SUPPORTING the NATIONAL WEATHER WATCH SYSTEM |
| WMO Global Observing System (GOS) |
| GOS Upper Air Network |
| GOS Satellite Network |
| Global Atmospheric Watch |
| Background Atmospheric Pollution Monitoring Network (BAPMON) |
| Basic Ozone Network |
| Basic Solar and Terrestrial Radiation Network |
| Regional Basic Synoptic Network (RBSN) |
| WMO Global Oceanic Observing System (GOOS) |
| SUPPORTING the BASIC WEATHER SERVICE (BWS) |
| BWS Land Network |
| Significant Land Locations |
| Capital City Mesonets |
| National Benchmark Network for Agrometeorology (NBNA) |
| BWS Marine Network |
| Significant Coastal Locations |
| Open Ocean Network |
| BWS Upper Air Network |
| Major Significant Locations |
| BWS Remote Sensing Network |
| Weather Watch Radar Network |
| Fire Weather Wind Mesonets |
| High Resolution Satellite |
| SUPPORTING the BASIC HYDROLOGICAL SERVICE |
| Regional Flood Warning Network |
| Water Resources Assessment Network |
| Global Hydrological Network |
| Global Terrestrial Observing System (GTOS) |
| World Hydrological Cycle Observing System (WHYCOS) |
| National Hydrological Network |

Networks of stations are defined for a variety of purposes (as defined in above table).

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Notes on these metadata

Network Classification Continued...

Stations may be included in several different networks, which may change over time. The table on the previous page lists current network classifications related to the scientific purpose of the network. Some of these networks - the GCOS network for instance - are components of a global network. Entries in the database for some networks may not be complete, thus not properly representing the status of the network. The composition of the network will usually change over time. While several of the networks have international significance, other network classifications have been developed to aid operational management.

Station Purpose

The station purpose can be classified according to the observation program listed below. Parameters in brackets list some of the various different configurations which occur.

- Synoptic [Seasonal, River Height, Climatological, Telegraphic Rain, Aeronautical, Upper Air]
- Climatological [Seasonal, Telegraphic Rain]
- Aeronautical
- Rainfall [River Height]
- River Height
- Telegraphic Rain [Non-Telegraphic River Height, Telegraphic River Height]
- Non-Telegraphic Rain [Telegraphic River Height]
- Evaporation [Rainfall, River Height, Telegraphic River Height, Non-Telegraphic River Height, Telegraphic Rain, Non-Telegraphic Rain]
- Pluviograph [Rainfall, Telegraphic Rain, Non-Telegraphic Rain, River Height, Telegraphic River Height, Non-Telegraphic River Height]
- Radiation
- Lightning Flash Counter
- Public Information
- Local Conditions
- Radar Site
- Unclassified
- No Routine Observations

Note: Telegraphic observations are those which are sent by some electronic means be it a phone or telegram to the responsible Bureau office. It is a term which is historically linked to analogue non automatic data transmission.

Station Observation Program Summary

Surface Observations

The following terms are used to describe the frequency of surface observations at a site. Historical observation programs will typically be missing for many sites until the database is backfilled with information.

Set a)

- Continuous Program
 - More than half hourly observations sent (eg an automatic weather station {AWS} which continuously transmits 10 minute observations). This will automatically include half hourly and hourly observations programs.
- Half hourly observations
 - Half hourly observations sent. This will automatically include hourly observations.
- Hourly observations
 - Hourly observations sent only. Stations report on non-synoptic hours (ie. 0100, 0200, 0400, 0500, etc)

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Notes on these metadata

Surface observations continued....

Set b)

- Performed
 - Observations performed, instruments read and observations recorded
- Reported
 - Observations performed, instruments read and reported real time
- Seasonal
 - The program may only be performed during a defined season (such as Fire Weather observations) or the routine program may increase in reporting frequency and/or parameters. The program dates are currently modified at the start and end of each season for stations performing seasonal observations. Historically this was not always the case.

Current Station Equipment Summary

Equipment listed in this metadata product is catalogued under one of systems listed below, appropriate to its application. The "Infrastructure" category has been included since it contains information about the mast height of an anemometer (if present).

- Flood Warning
- Infrastructure
- Radiation
- Rainfall Intensity
- Surface Observations
- Upper Air
- Weather Watch {RADAR}

Station Equipment History

Equipment Install/Remove

One of four types of actions can be performed on an instrument in this listing:

Install - A new instrument is installed at the site. This can be either a completely new addition (eg the first barometer at the site), or the replacement of an existing instrument with a different type (eg replacing mercury barometer with electronic barometer)

Remove - An instrument can be removed either when it is no longer necessary to measure a particular element, or when the element is to be measured by an instrument of a different type (see under "Install" above)

Replace - This occurs when one instrument is replaced with another of the same type (eg Kew pattern mercury barometer replacing another Kew pattern mercury barometer)

Share - The same instrument is used for observations under two (or more) systems (eg a rain gauge may be used within both Surface Observations and Rainfall Intensity systems)

Unshare - The instrument is no longer shared between systems

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Notes on these metadata

Calibration

During a site inspection an instrument will be calibrated as either being within or not within the specified tolerance in accuracy.

Where a quantitative calibration result can be achieved by comparison to a transfer standard (eg barometer comparisons and tipping bucket rain gauge calibrations), the instrument will be recorded as being within or outside the required tolerance. Instruments (such as 203mm rain gauges, screens and evaporation pans) where quantitative calibrations cannot be derived should be regarded as meeting specifications when the instrument is in 'good working order'.

This product provides a summary table of the number of times an instrument was found to be out of calibration

Station Detail Changes

This set of metadata indicates when some aspect of the general information about a station has changed.

- STATION

Metadata which are categorised as pertaining to STATION are items of (textual) information describing a specific attribute of the station. A reference to (nondB seeding) indicates initial information of this field has been sourced from a previous database.

Station position

- Latitude and longitude

Derivation of station latitude and longitude, defined by the location of the rain gauge when it is present, has changed over time. Current practice is to locate or verify open and operational station latitude and longitude based on Global Positioning System equipment. Methods used to locate a station as described in this product (latlon_deriv) are as follows: GPS, MAP 1:10000, MAP 1:12500, MAP 1:25000, MAP 1:50000, MAP 1:100000, MAP 1:250000, SURVEY, and Unknown (which is more commonly represented by a null value). The field latlon_error should be used with caution as the method of determining this value has been interpreted in different ways over time.

- Height

Determination of heights for observing sites is by survey where possible. Otherwise height may be determined using a Digital Aneroid Barometer and a known surveyed point, or derived from map contours. The source of height is provided in the corresponding parameter with a suffix of "_deriv".

Heights which may appear in these metadata are:

- aero_ht
 - The official elevation of the aerodrome which normally corresponds to the altitude of the highest threshold of the runways at that airport;
- bar_ht
 - this represents the height of the mercury barometer cistern or the digital aneroid barometer above mean sea level (MSL);
- stn_ht
 - this normally represents the height of the rain gauge above MSL

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Notes on these metadata

- Land Use

To assist the long term understanding of climate change it is important to be able to determine the differences over time which are attributed to variations in the climate. Since land use has an effect on the micro climate around the site, and changes in land use will therefore affect the climate record, it is important that the characteristics of the site are monitored. Soil types are recorded as they affect the land use and also add to the knowledge of the site details.

Defined Land use Types.

- Non-vegetated (barren, desert)
- Coastal or Island
- Forest
- Open farmland, grassland or tundra
- Small town, less than 1000 population
- Town 1000 to 10,000 population
- City area with buildings less than 10 metres (3 stories)
- City area with buildings greater than 10 metres (3 stories)
- Airport

The land use code is entered on the station inspection form in the ranges 0 to 100 m, 100 to 1 km and 1km to 10 km; ie:

- lu_0_100m: Land Use 0 to 100 metres from the enclosure
- lu_100m_1km: Land Use 100 metres to 1 kilometre
- lu_1km_10km: Land Use 1 kilometre to 10 kilometres

Defined Soil Type (At Enclosure).

- unable to determine
- sand
- black soil
- clay
- rock
- red soil
- other

Surface Type (At Enclosure).

- unable to determine
- fully covered by grass
- mostly covered by grass
- partly covered by grass
- bare ground
- sand
- concrete
- asphalt
- rock
- other

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