

BUILDING TITLE: Former Fever Ward (Queen Victoria Cottages) **BUILDING ADDRESS:** Roberts Street
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: A || B || C |X| D || E || **BUILDING TYPE:** hospital
DESIGNATION: HBR Reg No File # AHC File # NT File # Class || Rec ||
CONSERVATION AREA: Hospital Hill **LEVEL OF STREETScape SIGNIFICANCE:** 1 || 2 || 3 |X|
STYLE: Queen Anne/vernacular bungalow

CONSTRUCTION DATE & ALTERATIONS:

1. 1897 (original fever ward)
2. 1920s (extension)
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Sources:

- 1 foundation stone

MATERIALS:

Roof: slate and t/c tiles
Walls: brick
Dressings: cement render
Plinth: bluestone
Windows: timber dhs
Paving: concrete
Other:

SURVEY DATE: / / **NEG FILE:** / **REPORTER:**
INTEGRITY: E |X| G || F || P || **NOTABLE FEATURES:**

CONDITION: E |X| G || F || P ||

SIGNIFICANCE: Part of the hospital complex, this group of buildings was specifically designed for patients in isolation and reflects the specialist nature of the Hamilton Base Hospital. It continues the Queen Anne style and was the work of Frank Hammond and Walter Butler, architects in association.

ALTERATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

Appropriate: Rec **Inappropriate:** Rec
none required none apparent apart from enclosure of verandahs

O=reinstate original design S=reinstate sympathetic alternative R=remove RAM=remove by approved method

SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/TENANTS: **ARCHITECTS/BUILDERS:** **TITLE:**
Sec CA

COUNCIL COMPUTER #

MORE INFO OVER |X|

HAMDS156

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Former Fever Ward (Queen Victoria Cottages)
Roberts Street

This large complex has regional significance for its architectural interest as a hospital with diverse components constructed over a long period from the 1860s to 1980s. It has historical significance for its important role within the Western District region and for its associations with a number of prominent local doctors including Dr David Laidlaw, who was Medical Superintendent in the pre-1920 period and Dr Samuel Fitzpatrick who replaced him. ⁽ⁱ⁾ The complex has social significance for its replacement, in 1904, of male warders with female nurses. ⁽ⁱⁱ⁾ The hospital also has industrial importance as a local employer and in the 1980s was the largest single employer in the town. ⁽ⁱⁱⁱ⁾

The fever ward was built in 1897 for the isolation of patients with highly contagious diseases. The architects were Walter Butler and Frank Hammond who worked together on other buildings in the complex. ^(iv) Butler was a leading Melbourne architect with an affluent clientele including several Western District graziers. Frank Hammond was the Town Clerk and Engineer who had a prolific and diverse practice in Hamilton around the turn of the century. The Queen Anne style used continues that chosen for the main hospital and for other developments in the complex. The original sections of this group are of particular interest for certain details specifically designed for isolating patients. The outbuildings are elaborately designed for fumigating bedding and equipment. The main building had a major extension in the 1920s which is remarkably domestic in character. It is now used for geriatric patients. The whole group remains substantially intact and is in good condition.

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES

Health: Contagious diseases
Evolution of the Town: 1890s, 1920s

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Hamilton Base Hospital, Corner of Tyers and Kitchener Sts
Fairfield Hospital, Melbourne
Myrniong, Hensley Park Road

REFERENCES

Garden, D, *Hamilton*, North Melbourne, 1984.
Andrews, *Hospital & Benevolent Asylum Extensions Hamilton*, Thesis HOS 4, University of Melbourne, 1963.

FOOTNOTES

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- ⁱ Garden, D, *Hamilton*, p 215.
ⁱⁱ Garden, D, *Hamilton*, p 127, *Australasian*, 2 May 1903 (illustration).
ⁱⁱⁱ Garden, D, *Hamilton*, p 238.
^{iv} Foundation stone. (Kindly and bravely checked for the authors by Sr Mills during a snow storm on 9/8/91!)