

BUILDING TITLE: Hamilton Base Hospital **BUILDING ADDRESS:** Cnr Tyers and Kitchener Streets
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: A || B |X| C || 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

CONSTRUCTION DATE & ALTERATIONS:
 1. 1862
 2. 1888
 3. 1897
 4. 1940s (redevelopment of wings)
 5.
 6.

Sources:
 1 Garden, D, Hamilton, p 127
 2 BEMJ, 30 November 1889 et al
 3 BEMJ, 28 January 1897
 4 Hamilton Hist Soc photographs

MATERIALS:
Roof: slate (polychrome)
Walls: red brick & render
Dressings: cement render
Plinth: red brick
Windows: timber dhs
Paving: concrete
Other: casement windows
 half timbered gables

SURVEY DATE: 5/4/1991 **NEG FILE:** 4/31 **REPORTER:** tfh
INTEGRITY: E || G || F |X| P || **NOTABLE FEATURES:** Dominating gables and Queen Anne materials and detailing.
CONDITION: E || G || F |X| P ||

SIGNIFICANCE: Remains at the core of this complex of regional significant. Was the work of important architects working in the Queen Anne style and its successor the federation style.

ALTERATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS:
Appropriate: Rec **Inappropriate:** Rec
 demolition of parts
 redevelopment of side wings
 fleche removed from roof
 windows enlarged
 courtyard built in
 new connect

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

SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/TENANTS: land to Hospital Purposes (Permanent) Gazettal 73/1268
ARCHITECTS/BUILDERS: Butler and Ussher, 1880s
 Frank Hammond, 1890s extension
TITLE: Sec CA
 Hospital Reserve
 Hamilton Base Hospital

COUNCIL COMPUTER # 13501.0021 **MORE INFO OVER** |X| **HAMDS082**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Hamilton Base Hospital
Corner of Tyers and Kitchener Streets

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 1880s building remains at the heart of the complex. The earliest section was designed in 1862 by the architect, James Henry Fox, ^(iv) while the notable architectural firm of Butler & Ussher was associated with the substantial 1880s and 1890s extensions which incorporated the 1860s building. ^(v) A 'fever ward' designed by Hammond & Butler, was erected in 1897. (See separate data sheet for this building.) ^(vi) The turn of the century saw the establishment of the McKellar Hospital, a maternity wing, which became the second in Victoria to train midwives. ^(vii) (See separate data sheet for this building) After the Second World War another major development was the construction of a TB Chalet, designed and built as one of several around the state to combat the disease. (See separate data sheet for this building.) The Princess Margaret Nurses Homes, built in the 1960s, was the next major development and remains the largest building in Hamilton. (See separate data sheet for this building.)

Originally the core 1880s building looked out to the north-east towards the Grampians. It is now much altered with the side wings partly demolished and rebuilt. A new temporary building has been constructed in the courtyard in front of it. The fleche on top of the main roof has been removed and there have been other alterations to the fabric of the centre wing. Nonetheless this wing remains relatively intact and is in fair condition.

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES

Evolution of the Town: 1860s, 1880s, 1890s,
1900s & 1980s
Health: Hospitals & Doctors

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Grange Hostel, 19 Gray Street
(owned currently by the hospital)
TB Chalet, Tyers St
Princess Margaret Nurses' Home, Foster Street
Fever Ward, Roberts Street
MacKellar Hospital, Tyers Street
Ambulance Station, Foster Street

REFERENCES

Garden, D, *Hamilton*, North Melbourne, 1984
Sutherland, A, *Victoria And Its Metropolis*, 3 Vols.
Hamilton Spectator

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} *Victoria And Its Metropolis*, Vol II, p 518, *Hamilton Spectator*, 22 April 1864.
^v Garden, D, *Hamilton*, p 127, *BEMJ*, 30 November 1889, *ABCN*, 28 June 1890. (tender notices)
^{vi} *BEMJ*, 28 January 1897, 13 February 1897. (tender notices)
^{vii} *Hamilton Spectator*, June 1906, 3 Jan 1907.