

BUILDING TITLE: Princess Margaret Nurses Home **BUILDING ADDRESS:** Foster Street
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: A || B || C |X| D || E || **BUILDING TYPE:** hostel
DESIGNATION: HBR Reg No File # AHC File # NT File # Class || Rec ||
CONSERVATION AREA: Hospital Hill **LEVEL OF STREETScape SIGNIFICANCE:** 1 || 2 || 3 |X|
STYLE: International

CONSTRUCTION DATE & ALTERATIONS:

1. 1951 (foundation stone laid)
2. 1955 (opened)
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Sources:

- 1 foundation stones

MATERIALS:

Roof: concrete (?)
Walls: cream brick
Dressings: cement render
Plinth: brick
Windows: timber dhs
Paving: concrete/terrazzo
Other: glazed wall tiles
aluminium doors

SURVEY DATE: 17/5/91 **NEG FILE:** 10/8 **REPORTER:** tfh

INTEGRITY: E |X| G || F || P || **NOTABLE FEATURES:** largest building in Hamilton

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

SIGNIFICANCE: Built immediately after the Second World War to accommodate the very large number of nurses and trainees who worked at this regional hospital.

ALTERATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

Appropriate:	Rec	Inappropriate:	Rec
none required		none apparent	

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

SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/TENANTS:

Hospital Purposes Reserve

ARCHITECTS/BUILDERS:

Hamilton Hospital

TITLE:

Sec CA

Hospital Purposes Reserve

COUNCIL COMPUTER #

MORE INFO OVER |X|

HAMDS154

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Princess Margaret Nurses Home
Foster 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 Princess Margaret Nurses Home is the largest building in the complex and probably the largest in Hamilton. It was finally opened in 1955 to accommodate the very large number of nurses and trainees at the Base Hospital. It was designed in the International Style, the automatic choice for such a building at that time. Its clean functional lines are a perfect expression of the spirit of advance and optimism which lies behind the style. It remains significantly intact and in good condition. It is the most dominant building in the Hospital complex and in this part of Hamilton.

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES

Health: Hospitals and nursing
Education: Nursing

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Hamilton Base Hospital Complex

REFERENCES

Garden, D, *Hamilton*, North Melbourne, 1984.

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.