
Princess Margaret Nurses Home



27235 Princess Margaret
Nurses Home

Location

Foster Street HAMILTON, Southern Grampians Shire

Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

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

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.

FOOTNOTES

i Garden, D, *Hamilton*, p 215.

ii Garden, D, *Hamilton*, p 127, *Australasian*, 2 May 1903 (illustration).

iii Garden, D, *Hamilton*, p 238.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - City of Hamilton Conservation Study, Timothy Hubbard with Carlotta Kellaway & Michael Looker (plus Francis Punch), 1991;
Construction dates	1951, 1955,
Hermes Number	27235
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

MATERIALS:

Roof: concrete (?)

Walls: cream brick

Dressings: cement render

Plinth: brick

Windows: timber dhs

Paving: concrete/terrazzo

Other: glazed wall tiles

aluminium doors

NOTABLE FEATURES: largest building in Hamilton

LEVEL OF STREETSCAPE SIGNIFICANCE: 1 || 2 || 3 |X|

STYLE: International

Historical Australian Themes

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES

Health: Hospitals and nursing

Education: Nursing

Integrity

Integrity: E

Physical Conditions

Conditions: G

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>