
Former Fever Ward (Queen Victoria Cottages)



27237 Former Fever Ward
(Queen Victoria Cottages)

Location

Roberts 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: 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.

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.

FOOTNOTES

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!)

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - City of Hamilton Conservation Study, Timothy Hubbard with Carlotta Kellaway & Michael Looker (plus Francis Punch), 1991;
Construction dates	1897, 1920,
Hermes Number	27237
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

MATERIALS:

Roof: slate and t/c tiles

Walls: brick

Dressings: cement render

Plinth: bluestone

Windows: timber dhs

Paving: concrete

Other:

NOTABLE FEATURES:

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

STYLE: Queen Anne/vernacular bungalow

Historical Australian Themes

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES

Health: Contagious diseases

Evolution of the Town: 1890s, 1920s

Integrity

Integrity: E

Physical Conditions

Conditions: E

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/>