
Administration Building - Hamilton Base Hospital



B5027 Administration Building

Location

Cnr Tyers & Kitchener Streets,, HAMILTON VIC 3300 - Property No B5027

Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

State

Heritage Listing

National Trust

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 31, 2004

Located at the core of the Hamilton Base Hospital, the 1890 Administration Building is architecturally and historically significant at a state level. The two storey red brick building was the architectural focus of a wing building complex designed by notable architects Ussher and Butler which made it the biggest hospital west of Ballarat. The building is one of the first Australian designs and one of the few non-residential commissions by the young and recently emigrated English architect Walter Butler who was to become one of the most innovative, influential and important architects in Victoria from 1889 until the Great Depression of the 1930s.

The picturesque roofline punctuated by gabled bays, extensive use of red brick, distinctive brackets, and double storey polygonal bays is one of the earliest examples in Victoria of the institutional use of the so-called Queen Anne style which was then gaining popularity in England. The design almost certainly reflects the direct influence of Butler's sketching tours of English medieval towns in 1885 and 1888. These tours which earned the architect a handsome repertoire of details and forms was a design resource commonly employed by the major English Arts and Crafts architects such as Richard Norman Shaw and F K Sedding, Butler's former employer in London.

Despite the truncation in 1940 of part of the side wings of the building which formed the courtyard, the removal of the fleche and tall chimneys from the main roof and minor alterations and additions internally, the central building and the remaining wings retain their architectural significance. The building is also notable as constituting the most important component of the original 1862 Hospital complex.

Classified: 18/11/1992

See also B6398 Tuberculosis Chalet (Hamilton Base Hospital) and B6398 Hamilton Base Hospital Complex.

Hermes Number 69705

Property Number

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/>