

# Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated 31/03/20



## FORMER MILDURA BASE HOSPITAL



FORMER MILDURA BASE HOSPITAL  
SOHE 2008



1 former mildura base hospital 2001



Former Mildura Base Hospital East Wing  
2001



Former Mildura Base Hospital  
Foundation Stone



Former Mildura Base Hospital Ground  
Floor 2001



Former Mildura Base Hospital Main  
Entrance 2001



Former Mildura Base Hospital Main Stair  
2001



Former Mildura Base Hospital Porte  
Cochere 2001



Former Mildura Base Hospital Solarium  
2001



Former Mildura Base Hospital West  
Wing 2001



former mildura base hospital plan

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## Location

137-157 THIRTEENTH STREET MILDURA, MILDURA RURAL CITY

## Municipality

MILDURA RURAL CITY

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1934

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO52

## VHR Registration

May 10, 2001

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is significant?

The Former Mildura Base Hospital was the outcome of a Government initiative to establish community hospitals throughout the state which provided not only for the poor, but also for private paying patients. The new three storey Mildura hospital, designed by Melbourne architects Irwin and Stevenson in the European 'Moderne' style, was built by JC Taylor of Geelong. The Governor of Victoria officially opened the new hospital, which provided surgical, medical and midwifery care, on 30 August 1934, the day after Mildura was proclaimed a city. Alterations and extensions were later made to the rear of the building and the interior was continually altered to accommodate new practices. The hospital closed on 18 September 2000, the patients being transferred to a new hospital complex, also in Thirteenth Street.

How is it significant?

The Former Mildura Base Hospital is of historic, aesthetic and social significance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The Former Mildura Base Hospital is of historic significance as the first new large country 'community' hospital constructed during the 1930s in response to the Victorian Government's strategy to transform the hospital system by establishing hospitals providing services for all classes of the community (indigent, intermediate and affluent).

It is important in the history of health services and hospitals in Victoria, as the semi circular ends of the building, designed as 'solaria' to maximise light and ventilation, demonstrate the medical practice of the time of providing these aspects to assist patient recovery.

The hospital is also historically significant as an important example of the work of the noteworthy Melbourne architect Leighton Irwin (1892-1962), who was Director of the Melbourne University Architectural Atelier for twenty years. Irwin, a Modernist advocate, was a key figure in the development of architectural thought in Australia during the crucial early 1930s, and the Former Mildura Base Hospital is directly expressive of his role of leadership in the architectural profession.

The Former Mildura Base Hospital is of architectural significance as the first large complete hospital built in Victoria, and possibly Australia, designed in the central European 'Moderne' or 'Functionalist' mode. This style dominated hospital design from 1934 until the Second World War. Together with other later examples it set the pattern for the design of larger metropolitan hospitals in Australasia, including the Royal Melbourne and Prince Henry's Hospitals in Melbourne, Sydney's Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, the Royal Hobart Hospital, the General Hospital, Townsville, and the Wellington General Hospital in New Zealand.

The Former Mildura Base Hospital is socially significant for its long association with the provision of health services to all classes of the community in Mildura and the Mallee between 1934 and 2000.

## Permit Exemptions

EXEMPTIONS FROM PERMITS:

(Classes of works or activities which may be undertaken without a permit under Part 4 of the Heritage Act 1995)

General Conditions:

- 1 All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object.
- 2 Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of alterations that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such alteration shall cease and the Executive Director shall be notified as soon as possible.
- 3 If there is a conservation policy and plan approved by the Executive Director, all works shall be in accordance with it.
- 4 Nothing in this declaration prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.
- 5 Nothing in this declaration exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or

building permits from the responsible authority where applicable.

Exterior:

- 1 Removal of the front security fence, the kiosk building and the hospital building's Porte Cochere.
- 2 Reconstruction of the building's main ground floor front entrance in accordance with the original design.
- 3 Repainting of the building in the original external colour scheme.
- 4 Minor repairs and maintenance which replaces like with like.
- 5 Removal of non original additions, such as the roof mounted plant enclosures, walkways, mechanical plant and extraneous items such as pipe work, ducting, wiring, antennae and making good.
- 6 Removal of paint on brickwork and terra cotta work by chemical non-abrasive methods.
- 7 The process of gardening, mowing, mulching, bedding displays, removal of dead plants, disease and weed control, emergency and safety works.
- 8 Management of trees in accordance with Australian Standard AS 4373 Pruning of Amenity Trees.
- 9 Installation, removal and replacement of garden watering systems.
- 10 Repair, conservation and maintenance of hard landscaping elements (pavings etc) which replace like with like

Interior:

- 1 Decoration of previously decorated walls and ceilings
- 2 Removal of paint from originally unpainted or oiled joinery, doors, architraves and skirtings.
- 3 Installation, removal or replacement of carpets and /or flexible floor coverings.
- 4 Installation, removal of curtain tracks, rods, blinds and other window dressings.
- 5 Installation, removal or replacement of devices for hanging mirrors, paintings and wall mounted artworks.
- 6 Installation, removal or replacement of electrical wiring provided that all new wiring is fully concealed.
- 7 Installation, removal or replacement of smoke detectors.

Heritage Act Categories Registered place,

Hermes Number 6165

Property Number

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## Extent of Registration

1. All of the building known as the Former Mildura Base Hospital marked B1 on Diagram No. HER/2000/000162 held by the Executive Director.
2. All of the land marked L1 on Diagram No.HER/2000/000162 held by the Executive Director, being part of the land described in Certificate of Title Volume [unknown]. The boundary of the land marked L1 is 11 metres north west, 17 metres south east and 12 metres south west of building B1.

*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 data owner.*

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