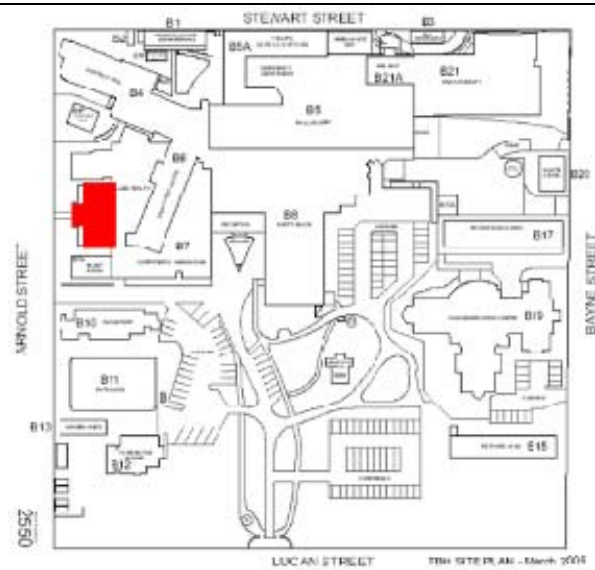


B9 Lansell Laboratory Building



Location: Arnold Street
 Built: 1928
 Designer: Unknown
 Builder: Unknown



History:

Mrs George Lansell and her son, the Hon. GV Lansell, donated £3,000 towards the construction of a purpose-built Commonwealth clinic and laboratory in 1927. The establishment of the clinic and laboratory was prompted by a 1920 Commonwealth government investigation into the high prevalence of respiratory disease in the Bendigo area. A tuberculosis clinic and laboratory was subsequently opened within an existing building at the Bendigo Benevolent Asylum in 1922. These services were relocated to the larger and purpose-built Lansell Laboratory Building on the Bendigo Hospital site in 1928.

In 1959, an architectural drawing described the ground floor as the X-Ray Department and the first floor as a Pathology Lab. In c.1964, alterations to the building included the enclosure of the loggia and installation of toilet facilities. Drawings from this date indicate that the building was used for multiple uses at this time, including a chest clinic, speech therapy, ear nose and throat, dentist and eye clinic.

Description:

The Lansell Laboratory Building is constructed of red brick with a tiled, hipped roof. The double-storey building is essentially rectangular in plan and addresses Arnold Street. The focus of the symmetrical front elevation is a central rendered loggia. The loggia has a pedimented parapet and a cornice supported on simple corbels. Just below the corbels, the name 'EDITH & GV LANSSELL LABORATORY & CLINIC' is applied to the wall in rendered letters. All but one of the three round-arched openings to the front of the loggia, and the two side arches, have been infilled. A later concrete ramp and steps lead up to the central arch of the loggia and from there to the main entrance into the building through a modern glazed door.

The building has multi-paned, steel-framed casement windows with painted concrete lintels and sills. Further decorative details include bands of brickwork, wrapping around all the buildings elevations, with patterns formed by alternating manganese and red bricks.

A barrel-vaulted ventilating dormer projects from the roof, above the loggia. It has horizontal louvres and is clad with metal sheet. It presumably assisted with the ventilation of the laboratories. Multiple ventilating tubes projecting from the roof also contributed to the ventilation system. Deep eaves, lined and bracketed with timber, are another feature of the building's design.

Internally, the building has been modified but contains some original elements, such as the timber stair, some battened fibrous plaster ceilings and single panel doors with simple mouldings and Inter-War door hardware. At first floor level, large circular openings in the ceilings connected to the ventilation system.

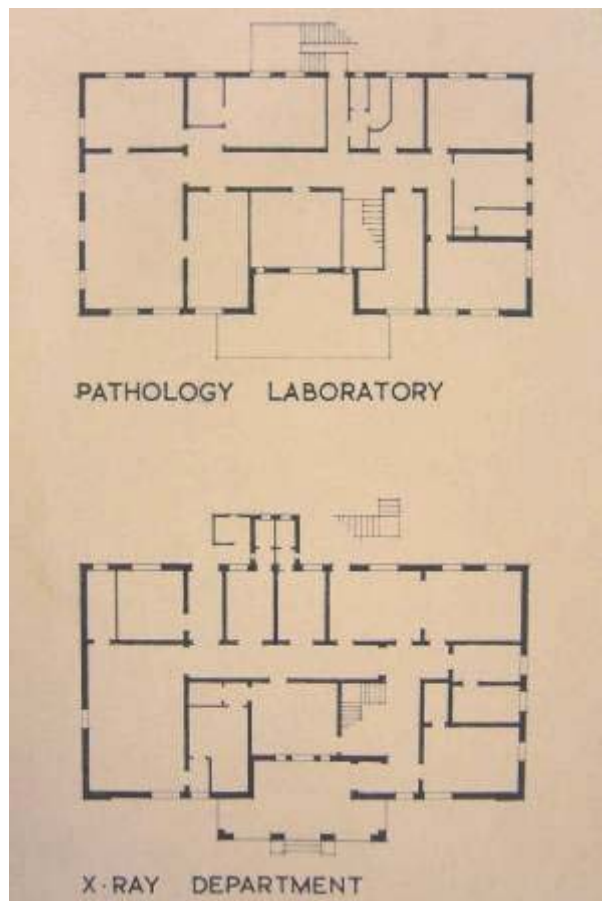
Cultural Heritage Significance

Historic Theme: Development of the Bendigo Hospital

Primary significance to the major historic theme and to the site as part of the group of the structures which define the site's earliest history.



Lansell Laboratory Building, 1931
Source: Bendigo Hospital Annual Report 1931



Plan of the Lansell Laboratory Buildings, as existing in 1959.
Source: Archives of Department of Human Services, Drawing by Yuncken Freeman Brothers Griffiths & Simpson