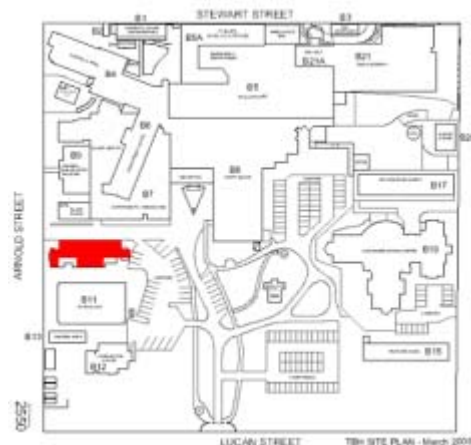


B10 Old Library



Location: Arnold Street
Built: 1908
Designer: Unknown
Builder: Unknown



History:

This building was constructed in 1908 as a Lunacy Ward. The architect is unknown, but it was noted that it was 'laid out on modern lines under the supervision of Dr Jones – Inspector General for the Insane'. By 1935 the building was being used to accommodate nurses. The rear wing of the building was demolished in c.1964 to allow for the construction of the Outpatients / Admissions Department. The building was converted into a Medical Library in 1977.

Description:

This single-storey, red brick building originally had a T-shaped plan, but the demolition of the rear wing has left it as essentially a rectangular building. Symmetrical bays projecting from the two short ends of the building accommodated toilets and were most probably the male and female ablution blocks for the Lunacy Ward.

The building appears as though the north-east elevation was originally the front elevation. Before the nearby Pathology building was constructed, this elevation would have been directly visible from the main entrance on Lucan Street. This front elevation is distinguished by the jerkin head roofs over the two most prominent bays. A

verandah originally extended between these bays, but has been enclosed at a later date. The remainder of the building has a hipped roof clad with corrugated iron.

The current entrance into the building is through a modern glazed porch built between the ablution block and main building at the northern corner of the building. A further addition has been added to the southern corner of the building. The building features four brick chimneys with rendered tops, projecting from the main ridge. The multi-paned windows are timber-framed and double-hung. Internally, the building has retained some original plaster ceilings with ribbed mouldings, and early tiled floors and ripple iron ceilings to the ablution block at the southern end.

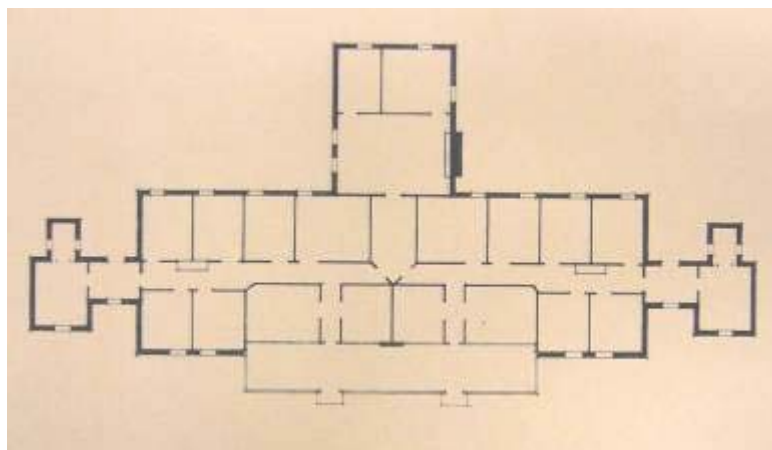
Cultural Heritage Significance

Historic Theme: Development of the Bendigo Hospital

Contributory 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.



The Old Library in the 1960s
Source: Bendigo Health Records



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