

Register of Significant Twentieth Century Architecture

RSTCA No: R003

Name of Place: Canberra Hospital Administration Building, former

Other/Former Names:

Address/Location: Mills Road ACTON 2601 (ANU Campus)

Block Section 39 of Acton

Listing Status:	Registered	Other Heritage Listings:	
Date of Listing:	June 1984	Level of Significance:	Local
Citation Revision No:	3	Category:	Health (now Educational)
Citation Revision Date:	October 1985	Style:	Colonial (Georgian) Revival, Federal Capital Era

Date of Design:	1927	Designer:	HM Holland, Chief Architect, FCC Architects Dept
Construction Period:	1928	Client/Owner/Lessee:	
Date of Additions:		Builder:	Day Labor under FCC Architects Dept

Statement of Significance

A fine example of the timber architecture of the FCC, having a character representative of a number of earlier timber buildings in the area built under the direction of Rolland, most of which have been demolished. The most significant remaining building with an aesthetic quality not present in any of the survivors. Formed a significant entrance and portal function to the group of buildings formerly forming the hospital. Historically an important community building.

Description

Originally an administrative and outpatients block with a variety of hospital functions. Single storey, timber-framed weatherboard-clad walls and hipped tiled roof, with porch and off-centre portico, each supported by Tuscan columns and paved with Herringbone brick. Roof changes pitch where building widens in centre.

Built in timber as an interim or provisional hospital facility near the site for the permanent facility approved in the City Plan. Hospital functions ceased in 1943 and the building has subsequently been used for various government and university purposes.

Colonial form typical of Rolland and derived from Georgian and Hardy Wilson's Australian precedents.

Condition and Integrity

Sound. Porch at NE end has been enclosed and columns removed; partitioning added internally; sympathetic window alterations; rear modified, walkway glazed in; associated ward buildings (c.1914) demolished.

Background/History

Analysis against the Criteria specified in Schedule 2 of the Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991

(i) a place which demonstrates a high degree of technical and/or creative achievement, by showing qualities of innovation or departure or representing a new achievement of its time

(ii) a place which exhibits outstanding design or aesthetic qualities valued by the community or a cultural group

(iii) a place which demonstrates a distinctive way of life, taste, tradition, religion, land use, custom, process, design or function which is no longer practised, is in danger or being lost, or is of exceptional interest

(iv) a place which is highly valued by the community or a cultural group for reasons of strong or special religious, spiritual, cultural, educational or social associations

(v) a place which is the only known or only comparatively intact example of its type

(vi) a place which is a notable example of a class of natural or cultural places or landscapes and which demonstrates the principal characteristics of that class

(vii) a place which has strong or special associations with person, group, event, development or cultural phase which played a significant part in local or national history

(xi) a place which demonstrates a likelihood of providing information which will contribute significantly to a wider understanding of natural or cultural history, by virtue of its use as a research site, teaching site, type locality or benchmark site

References

Other Information Sources