INTRODUCTION

The Site, Location and Context
• The Mudgee District hospital is ideally located in centre of the town and halfway between the town commercial centre and the industrial area.
• The area’s topography is gradually flat and the character is rural.
• Mudgee rail station is just north of the hospital and bus stops feature on Church Street and Meares Street.

Current Hospital and Signage
Existing buildings will be demolished and replaced by the new development. This process is taking place in stages. All current signage will be replaced with new best practice signage.

Design Principles for the Redevelopment
The overarching design of the physical environment will ensure:
• The built form is welcoming and reflective of the importance of the role of the facility.
• All visitor access is through the main entrance supported by a design solution and wayfinding that ensures people are intuitively directed to the service they are seeking.
• Public waiting and common areas can accommodate visitors and patients for different occasions.
• The use of contemporary design solutions to maximise opportunities for collaboration and communication.
• Separation of public and staff areas, including vehicular access.
• Flexibility within the building to adapt to changes in service provision in the future.
• The provision of convenient vehicle drop-off and pick-up for visitors and staff.
• The environment is secure and safe for all users.
INTRODUCTION TO THE SITE

1. Mudgee satellite view
2. Mudgee District Hospital
3. Mudgee Medical Centre (MMC)
4. Centre for Health and Learning (CHL)
5. Car Park
6. Public Park

Mudgee satellite view

Mudgee District Hospital

Mudgee Medical Centre (MMC)

Centre for Health and Learning (CHL)

Car Park

Public Park

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Wayfinding Principles

Clarity of Movement
Key principles are:
- Clear entry points;
- Clear and intuitive wayfinding;
- Separation of patient and public flows;
- Legible separation of acuity levels;
- Separation of vehicular flows;
- Efficient and operational and servicing strategies;
- Servicing strategies with discrete access;
- Enable multiple shared connections between clinical service zones.

Wayfinding and Signage
Wayfinding is the system that assists users to find their way through a complex environment. A wayfinding system will identify the most efficient way to direct people through an environment.

The tools to assist people in wayfinding can include:
- Printed information;
- Architectural features and design elements;
- Permanent signage;
- Digital devices e.g. the website;
- Human interactions e.g. with dedicated staff at information/entry point.

A successful wayfinding system will provide information for users to:
- Confirm they are at the correct start or finish point of an individual journey;
- Identify their location within a building or an external space;
- Reinforce they are traveling in the right direction;
- Orient themselves within a building or an external space;
- Understand the location and any potential hazards;
- Identify their destination on arrival;
- Escape safely in an emergency.

Function of Signage
The functional aspects of signage:
- Integration with the built environment (interfacing with other structures);
- Ergonomics relating to user interface;
- Measure of self-reliance;
- Durability;
- Flexibility;
- Maintenance (ease of);
- Value for money.

Hospital Wayfinding
Patients and visitors at hospitals and other health care facilities face some unique wayfinding challenges, including:
- Complex environments;
- Multiple destinations during their visit;
- Unfamiliar terminology;
- Stress caused by illness or the unknown.

Wayfinding systems address these challenges, utilising best practices that include:
- The use of consistent, non-technical language for wayfinding elements;
- The creation of well-defined public pathways;
- Reducing signage clutter;
- Ensuring consistent delivery and content of wayfinding information;
- Creating processes that maintain the accuracy of wayfinding components in the future.

Nomenclature
- No acronyms/abbreviations are to be used eg. NICU, SCN. Only the full name of a department is to be listed. Naming of destinations is to be simple, short, unambiguous and in the English language.
- Names are to feature relevant words only, therefore names fit on one line on signs and don’t create entire sentences.
- Names are aimed at visitors so that for example “Fetal Medicine” is preferred over “Fetal Medicine Unit”, as the word “Unit” does not provide relevant additional value to the visitor.
- The more words are used to create a destination name, the more space it uses on signs, the more words need to be remembered by the visitor, the longer it takes to recognise, scan, differentiate, read, understand and finally make a decision.
- Each destination requires a unique name in order to be referenced in spoken language, signage and mapping. This includes naming of carparks.
- Building and level naming require differentiation.
EXTERIOR SIGNAGE – DESIGN RATIONALE

The Journey

This document is primarily an update to further clarify the design intent for external identification and wayfinding. There are three steps to the journey of arrival:

1. Approach on Church Street and Meares Street - recognising the building;
2. Entering the site from Meares Street - recognising the site entry;
3. Entering the building through main entry - recognising the main entry.

When approaching the site, it may not be obvious that the site is the hospital and emergency department, hence a site identification in the corner of Church and Meares street is paramount and best practice.

In order to be effective, the site identification must be clear of obstructions, be that man-made or landscape elements. The site identification must be clearly visible from a distance, especially for traffic travelling on Church street in both directions.

This channels the traffic into Meares Street where visitors pick up the site entry marker.

The last step in the journey is the main entry into the building. This is clearly the focus of the journey. The main entry is a portal, a frame, a welcoming and calming statement. This is important since the main entry is shared with Emergency patients. It would be a contradiction to the architectural design intent to visually blast large graphics on to the building fabric such as “EMERGENCY”. This may work on a mundane building but in this case, it would be highly counterproductive. The journey and architecture are intuitive.

The main entry simply requires a confirmation as follows: “Mudgee District Hospital - Main Entry - Emergency” on the fascia of the awning.

Design Rationale

The inspiration for the design is consistent with the design of the main building entry portal. The site entry marker and site identification take that visual cue to the street front in order to guide the visitor with design elements that in the end confirm the arrival at the main entry.

A site identification with three elements is stronger than using just one marker, because three elements carry a narrative, that of an important site, a public site, a design composition and highly structured information. This is a very assuring to the visitor.

We also believe the markers should be lit with in-ground lights, they are easy to maintain, the lighting is more dramatic especially in view of the inclined top section of the markers.

The site entry marker is a single element since it is only assuring visitors of the site entry. There are no competing elements in the otherwise low density single storey residential area.

Lighting is with in-ground lights to be consistant with the lighting of the site identification.

The main building entry identification is in form of applied letters to the awning fascia. Illumination of these letters is subject to design development.

Material, Colour and Finish

In anticipation of warmer colours and materials for the building, we propose a zinc-type of colour for the markers with highly contrasting graphics.

The markers feature an articulated base which resonates with the inclined top section of the markers and enhance the narrative.
EXTERIOR SIGNAGE – CONCEPT SKETCH – SITE IDENTIFICATION

SITE IDENTIFICATION – SOUTH WEST CORNER
EXTERIOR SIGNAGE – SITE IDENTIFICATION

Site Identification
Cap height: 125mm Directions
Cap height: 140mm Mudgee Hospital
3300mm H (max) x 1100mm W per marker x 80mm D per marker
EXTERIOR SIGNAGE – SIGN FORM – SITE IDENTIFICATION

EXISTING COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE (CHC)
EXTERIOR SIGNAGE  – MAIN ENTRY SIGNAGE

MUDGEE DISTRICT HOSPITAL

VEHICULAR DIRECTIONAL & ENTRY MARKER
SEE PLAN FOR LOCATION

ALL INTERNALLY ILLUMINATED
3D LETTERING TO TOP OF AWNING
WHITE LETTERING WITH CHARCOAL RETURNS
EXTERIOR SIGNAGE – SIGN FAMILY – DIRECTIONAL MARKER

1. Large Vehicular Entry Marker & Directional
   - Cap height: 115mm
   - Mudgee Hospital
   - 3300mm H x 800mm W per marker x 100mm D per marker

2. Medium Vehicular Entry Marker & Staff Directional
   - Cap height: 115mm
   - Mudgee Hospital
   - 3300mm H x 800mm W per marker x 100mm D per marker

3. Small Vehicular Directional Marker
   - Cap height: 60mm
   - Mudgee Hospital
   - 1600mm H x 400mm W per marker x nom. 60mm D per marker

4. Main Entrance
   - Emergency
   - Logistics
   - 3300mm H x 800mm W per marker x 100mm D per marker

5. Main Entrance
   - Emergency
   - Logistics
   - 3300mm H x 800mm W per marker x 100mm D per marker

6. Main Entrance
   - Emergency
   - Logistics
   - 3300mm H x 800mm W per marker x 100mm D per marker

7. Main Entrance
   - Emergency
   - Logistics
   - 3300mm H x 800mm W per marker x 100mm D per marker

8. Main Entrance
   - Emergency
   - Logistics
   - 3300mm H x 800mm W per marker x 100mm D per marker

9. Main Entrance
   - Emergency
   - Logistics
   - 3300mm H x 800mm W per marker x 100mm D per marker

10. Main Entrance
    - Emergency
    - Logistics
    - 3300mm H x 800mm W per marker x 100mm D per marker

11. Main Entrance
    - Emergency
    - Logistics
    - 3300mm H x 800mm W per marker x 100mm D per marker

12. Main Entrance
    - Emergency
    - Logistics
    - 3300mm H x 800mm W per marker x 100mm D per marker

13. Main Entrance
    - Emergency
    - Logistics
    - 3300mm H x 800mm W per marker x 100mm D per marker
EXTERIOR SIGNAGE – MAIN ENTRY SIGNAGE

1045W X 570H MM
570MM CAPHEIGHT
SOFIA PRO MEDIUM
OPTICAL KERNING, -10 TRACKING

ALL INTERNALLY ILLUMINATED
3D LETTERING TO TOP OF AWNING
WHITE LETTERING WITH CHARCOAL RETURNS