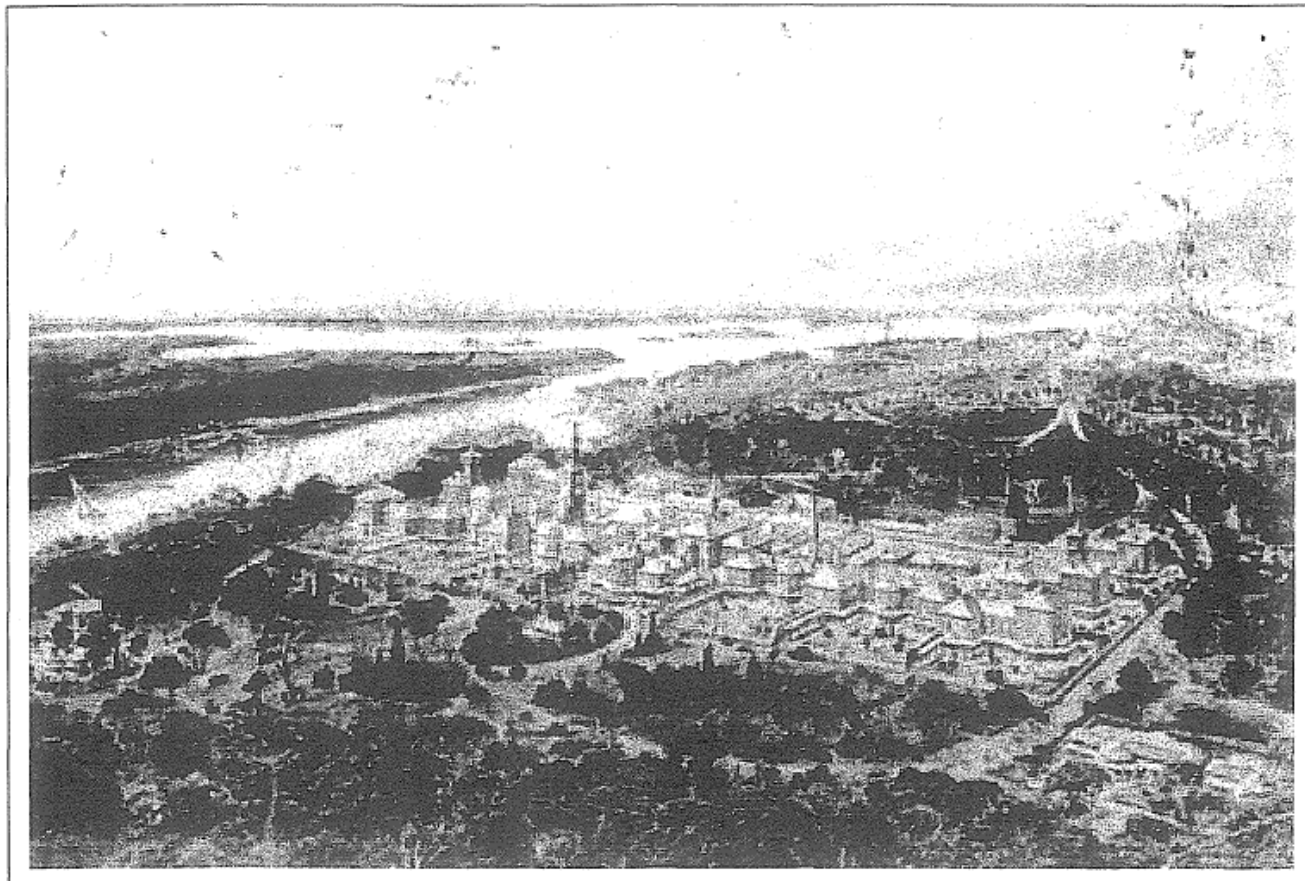


# ROZELLE HOSPITAL

## CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN VOLUME I



NEW SOUTH WALES HERITAGE COUNCIL

ENDORSED

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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### BACKGROUND

Rozelle Hospital is a site of exceptional significance. It contains the remains of three highly significant phases of historical development: Three Gentlemen's Estates from the early 1800s were located on the site, as was the largest purpose built asylum in New South Wales, Callan Park, and the later Broughton Hall Clinic where self admission mental health treatment was pioneered. The site has remained a institution for mental health care for over 150 years, and has been the location of the care of returned service men since World War I.

The architectural and aesthetic qualities of the buildings and landscape setting are of exceptional significance. The diversity of buildings includes not only important architectural items, but also material evidence of changing philosophies of patient care. The Rozelle Hospital site is highly significant as a resource for understanding the historical development of mental health care in Australia.

Page 101

### 4.6 SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE ROZELLE HOSPITAL SITE

The Rozelle Hospital site, created as one unit in 1976, comprises two major mental health facilities, each of which was developed utilising an existing mansion house set within expansive landscaping. As a whole, and as two component parts, Rozelle Hospital can demonstrate it has heritage significance to the people of New South Wales:

The Rozelle Hospital site contains the fabric of two grand Victorian gentlemen's estates, and is able to demonstrate the pastoral character of this period. The original relationship between Garry Owen House (later Callan Park) and Broughton Hall has been retained and their grounds are still interpretable and intact. These grounds became the sites of the mental health institutions that adopted their respective names.

Rozelle Hospital demonstrates two major changes in mental health care in NSW. It contains original architecture and landscaping of both hospitals. The buildings associated with the former Callan Park mental hospital are of exceptional significance, in particular the Kirkbride Block:

*The Kirkbride complex has a unique place in the history of mental hospitals in New South Wales. It is the only mental hospital which fully represented the ideal and classic 'moral therapy' style of institution. In the twentieth century it became one of the major examples of the modern custodial institutions. Although now seen as inappropriate for a modern mental health care system, it stands as a significant reminder, undoubtedly the most significant in New South Wales, of two major developments in the history of mental health care.*

Assessment in Conservation Plan for the Kirkbride Block Rozelle Hospital (State Projects, NSW Public Works, May 1993, Volume 2: 102.)

The Broughton Hall Psychiatric Clinic, also unique in the history of mental health care in NSW, is still in operation. While most of its facilities are outdated for contemporary patient care its fabric reflects the institution's pioneering methods in voluntary patient care. The Clinic's buildings, while not all of high significance are consistent in character and material, and are grouped around a unique inter war garden of outstanding aesthetic quality. The garden's links with the earlier Keep period and use in patient care make it a landscape of exceptional significance.

Its landscaped spaces and land mark buildings have contributed visually and socially to the local area for over 100 years. The foreshore areas of the site are significant as rare open space elements. Callan Point is considered to be the most important Aboriginal archaeological site remaining on the southern shores of Sydney Harbour. Callan Point also contains rare examples of pre-European vegetation and unique European rock carvings.

The site as a whole has very high levels of social significance and has special associations for the local and broader community both as an open space resource and for its cultural and aesthetic value.

The planning of works affecting the hospital buildings and grounds must consider the effect on the identified archaeological resource. Impacts should be minimised wherever possible.

Conservation, refurbishment or upgrading works associated with any compatible future use proposal may result in the potential disturbance of, or uncovering of the evidence of functions associated with earlier uses. In order that the history and significance of the buildings and its site may be fully understood and appreciated, the evidence shall be professionally recorded and assessed.<sup>127</sup>

Site-specific detailed assessments might be required where impacts are planned in areas of known remains (e.g. Broughton Hall and its immediate vicinity, the site of Kalouan House, or in the vicinity of the underground water tanks in the original Kirkbride Block). Impacts should be planned in consultation with the archaeologist so that testing can be carried out if necessary to identify the nature of remains prior to works planning being finalised. Depending on the nature of proposed impacts the archaeologist might need to carry out preliminary archaeological excavation and recording or monitor site works to record any archaeological features or remains disturbed by the works.

Priority will be given to retaining the archaeological resource undisturbed. To this end recommendations to mitigate against disturbance will be put forward once details of specific works and their impacts are known. However where archaeological evidence is potentially in the area of new development detailed provisions should become part of the planning process.

The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service has the responsibility to protect Aboriginal heritage sites.

Regular monitoring of all works in the Rozelle Hospital site will be required. The discovery of archaeological remains may require localised stop work while the remains are recorded.

Contractors on site are required under heritage legislation to report archaeological remains and should be encouraged to do this. Allowance for time variations should be provided.