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Sydney Adventist Hospital (Shannon building,  
Bethel Cottage and Maternity Wing),  
Wahroonga NSW

Photographic Archival Recording



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# Introduction

# 1.0

## 1.1 Context of the Report

This report has been commissioned by Sydney Adventist Church to satisfy a draft statement of commitment in the approved concept plan for Wahroonga Estate Redevelopment. The commitment states:

*An archival recording will be prepared to ensure the different phases in the historical development of the Sydney Adventists in Wahroonga are recorded prior to important buildings ('Bethel', the Shannon wing, Maternity wing, California-style Bungalow at 179 Fox valley Road and 1930s Villa at 175 Fox Valley Road, timber frame cottages) being relocated or removed. The recording should be undertaken in accordance with Heritage Branch guidelines and include the physical context, setting, gardens and landscaping of each building.*

The Minister of Planning declared the proposal to be a Major Project under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 on 12 December 2007 and authorised the submission of a Concept Plan and State Significant Site study. The proponent Johnson Property Group has prepared a State Significant Site study and Environmental Assessment (EA) to support the Concept Plan and submitted the Major Project application (MP07\_0166) to the Department of Planning. The Major Project application excludes redevelopment of the SAN Hospital medical precinct for which a separate masterplan is being prepared.

The overall proposal comprises upgrade and expansion of the hospital, private dwellings, senior's housing, student accommodation, and educational facilities, commercial and retail development and roadworks/infrastructure upgrade.

This archival recording has been prepared to accompany the hospital masterplan submission to the Department of Planning and only addresses the central hospital precinct C of the overall master plan comprising, the Shannon Building, the Bethel building and the Maternity wing. A separate archival recording will be prepared at a later stage for the remaining site and buildings such as the residences/buildings along Fox Valley Road and the heritage listed administrative block.

## 1.2 Site Identification

The hospital site is located within the Wahroonga Estate, which is a 62.4 hectares site managed by the Australasian

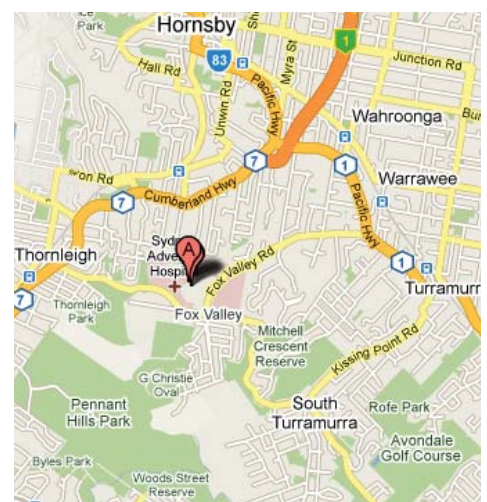


Figure 1-1: Location plan showing subject site

Conference Association (as property trustees of the Seventh Day Adventist Church). It is known as 185 Fox Valley Road and is identified by the NSW Department of Lands as Lots 62 DP 10175814.

The overall Wahroonga Estate site is located to the north of Wahroonga and south of Normanhurst. The hospital precinct is bound by Fox Valley Road to its west and Comenarra Parkway to its south.



Figure 1-2: Hospital site within the overall site area

### **1.3 Heritage Management Framework**

The proposed development being a Major Project (Part 3a), is not subject to the local council heritage legislations and controls.

A heritage impact statement was prepared for the Wahroonga Estate Redevelopment by Australian Museum Business Services in February 2009.

Graham Brooks and Associates have been engaged to also prepare heritage impact statements and interpretation strategies for individual precincts and affected historic buildings.

### **1.4 Methodology and Structure**

This Photographic Archival Recording has been based on the guidelines of the New South Wales Heritage Branch for the digital photographic reports.

The photographs are organised and numbered in two groups, external and internal.

## **1.5 Limitations**

Some areas of the Maternity Wing could not be accessed as these were occupied by patients. The interior of the building, on the whole, comprises recent fabric. There is no visible heritage fabric internally other than external windows and certain other details which have been documented in this recording.

Not all rooms of the Shannon building have been recorded due to limited access and the rooms being identical or very similar to each other.

## **1.6 Authorship**

This Archival Recording has been prepared by Rajat Chaudhary of Graham Brooks and Associates, Pty Ltd.

## **1.7 Documentary and photographic sources**

The information in this report is derived from the Heritage Impact Statement prepared for the Hospital Masterplan by Graham Brooks and Associates in June 2010, Heritage Impact Assessment report for the Wahroonga Estate Redevelopment prepared by Australian Museum Business Services in February 2009 and Preliminary Environmental Assessment report prepared for the Wahroonga Estate Redevelopment by Urbis Pty Ltd in January 2010.

# Brief history and description

# 2.0

## 2.1 History

### 2.1.1 Background

Shortly after the land of the First Fleet in 1788, Captain John Hunter and Captain Arthur Phillip led expeditions north of Sydney into the tribal lands of the Gurringai people searching for fresh water and land suitable for agriculture. Initially, the Ku-ring-gai area was exploited for timber by both land grantees and timber contractors. Timber contractors and timber-getters leased large tracts of land and cleared the area of timber suitable for building purposes; often using convict labour. William Henry was the first white settler in the area, occupying land called Millwood Farm on Blue Gum Creek by 1814. By the 1820s, Joseph Fidden had become a ferryman rowing sawn timber from government sawpits on the Lane Cove River to Sydney and dropped off supplies to settlements on his way back. Fidden established a wharf (Fidden's Wharf) on the Lane Cove River which was known as a supply source for sly grog and other provisions.

The earliest defined roads in the area were the Lane Cove Road (later Gordon Road then the Pacific Highway) and the road to Pittwater, now Mona Vale Road. The Lane Cove Road was a track formed along a known Aboriginal route along the ridge identified as the 'spine' between the main waterways of Middle Harbour and the Lane Cove River. From 1805 when the first land grants in the area were surveyed they were located to either side of the spine.

After land in the area was cleared of timber, some permanent settlements were established where grantees planted orchards. Settlement then focussed on locales such as Pymble, where Robert Pymble, one of the first and most influential settlers, had taken up permanent residence on his land grant of 600 acres in what is now the suburb of Pymble, and Gordon where John Brown who was known as the Squire and had been a successful timber-getter, resided on his holdings as an orchardist.

Much of the land remained as large grant portions until 1876, when smaller holdings were subdivided into Lots of 10-40 acres and farmed as orchards or market gardens. The arrival of the railway in 1890 saw further subdivisions of the larger holdings. Townships developed along the railway alignment with a proliferation of subdivisions encouraging urban development clustering around the stations. Subdivided blocks tended to be half acre lots close to the stations, allotments of one to four acres were further from the railway line and larger blocks, featuring large residences, on the periphery. By 1893, the railway line efficiently connected these northern settlements to the city via Milsons Point. Businesspeople and professionals, keen to escape the congestion and relatively unhealthy living conditions of inner city suburbs, were attracted to the area. Townships developed their own infrastructure, including schools, shops and churches. Each subdivision created a massive increase in population.

A feature of the Ku-ring-gai district is that it has designated space for parkland bordering on residential development; these include the Ku-ring-gai Chase Parkland reserved in 1896, Fiddens Wharf Reserve on the Lane Cove River and Davidson Park at Middle Harbour. By 1953, Ku-ring-gai Council had adopted a proposal that no land in the area should be zoned industrial and that corridors of bush should be retained along creek routes. The housing styles characterising the area include examples of Federation, Georgian Revival, Californian Bungalow, Spanish Mission and Stockbroker Tudor in the inter war period of the 1920s and 30s. The post war period saw the continued expansion of the area with further population increases, although the subdivision had slowed. The general pattern of



residential development of the area is that of large single dwellings with leafy gardens on large blocks of land surrounded by areas of native bushland.

### **2.1.2 Fox Valley, Wahroonga**

The Fox Valley Road lies within the Parish of Gordon in the Fox Valley area of Wahroonga. In the Aboriginal (Gurringai) language Wahroonga means “our home” and Fox Valley Road was named for John Brown’s Fox Ground estate. Fox Valley Road is one of the earliest roads in the area as shown on Mitchell’s 1835 Parish of Gordon map and the Wells county of Cumberland map of 1840, and was well defined by 1859 when allotments were sold in the area.

One of the earliest landholders in the vicinity was the emancipist, Thomas Hyndes. From 1803, Thomas Hyndes was squatting on an area of land at Lane Cove, which he was exploiting for timber-getting. Hyndes was forced to move from the land, as it had been granted to Robert Pymble, but was subsequently granted 640 acres in 1838, in what is now known as Wahroonga. By the 1840s, he had increased his holdings to 3,000 acres by leasing 2,000 acres, which was later granted to John Terry Hughes. Fox Valley Road passed through Hyndes’ leasehold, cutting through to the Lane Cove Road. Other grantees and landholders in the area included John Terry Hughes, Frederick Wright Unwin, Samuel Henry Horne, Aaron Pierce and John Brown. In 1857, John Brown purchased more land in the vicinity and eventually acquired Hyndes’ original grant of 640 acres. On the 1893 Parish map, this parcel of 640 acres was named the Fox Ground Estate. By the 1850s timber-getter John “Squire” Brown, had established a sawmill on Browns Road (now the Comenarra Parkway) adjacent to his holdings. Timber-getting, as well as being a lucrative source of income, was a common means of opening up and preparing land for settlement, with bullock drays transporting timber to wharfs, such as Fidden’s or Hyndes, on the Lane Cove River to be transported to Sydney. The remains of Brown’s timber business were demolished in 1980.

To the north of Fox Valley Road in 1857, Charles Leek purchased land and started fruit growing on land previously owned by Samuel Horne. Part of this property later formed the Leeks Orchard Estate Subdivision, which included the establishment of Elizabeth Street and Strone Avenue adjacent to the [Wahroonga Estate Redevelopment] study area.

By the 1860s, settlement in the area had developed around Pearce’s Corner where two roads intersected (modern day Pennant Hills Road and the Pacific Highway). The coming of the railway in 1890 further encouraged settlement with the Census of 1891 showing 57 residents in the area, and by 1911 this had increased to 350 residents.

In the early 1900s, residential settlement at Wahroonga comprised large houses, with extensive gardens, on blocks of three to twenty acres with half-acre residential blocks developing along main thoroughfares. Some of the very large estates were eventually acquired by churches and schools whilst others were subdivided. Some of these grant estates survive, albeit in a modified form, such as Mahratta and Purulia. Mahratta is located at the corner of Fox Valley Road and the Pacific Highway and Purulia is at 16 Fox Valley Road.

By 1917, subdivision along the east side of the Fox Valley Road appears in the Gordon parish map, indicating that the Leek’s Orchard Estate was subdivided and sold in the early twentieth century.

The Fox Valley area south of Browns Road remained largely bush and farmland until the late 1950s but was well developed into a residential area by 1974, when the Comenarra Parkway was completed.



### 2.1.3 Ellen White and the Seventh Day Adventist Church

Ellen Gould White (1827-1915), regarded as “one of the more important and colourful figures in the history of American religion”; and “one of the most fascinating and controversial personages ever to appear on the horizon of religious history”, was a key co-founder of the Seventh Day Adventist Church, an offshoot of the Sabbatarian Adventist Movement. As a Seventh Day prophet, White advocated Christian values and became an influential figure through both her preaching and her prolific writing and publications, which addressed topics ranging from vegetarianism, theology, Christian lifestyle, health, the temperance movement, and education.

Raised within a Methodist family, Ellen Harmon was introduced to the Millerite movement in 1840. She became an adherent of William Miller who preached of a “world in decay” and the Second Coming of Christ in “about the year 1843.” Whilst an active member of the Millerite congregation, Ellen was introduced to her future husband and Seventh Day co-founder James Springer White. In 1844, after the Second Advent had failed to materialise as predicted by Miller (known as the “Millerite Great Disappointment”), White reportedly experienced her first prophetic vision, and throughout the next two decades White became revered for her visions and publications that reinforced the messages underpinning her prophetic ministry.

In 1863, James and Ellen White, together with a small number of co-founders, broke away from the Millerite movement and established the Seventh Day Adventist Church. They diverged owing to a different interpretation of the message to be read from the ‘Great Disappointment,’ the ‘Pre-Advent Divine Investigative Judgement’, which taught that the judgement of God’s professed people began on October 22, 1844, formed the basis of the Seventh Day Adventist doctrine. A vision that White had in 1863, which occurred during a visit by James and Ellen White to Michigan workers, showed the group the appropriate spiritual path to God. As the group prayed, Ellen White reportedly experienced a vision showing the attainment of spirituality through physical health and purity, of the importance of following right principles in diet, in the care of the body, and of the benefits of nature’s remedies—clean and unpolluted air, sunshine, regular exercise and pure water.

In the months that followed, as health was seen to be a part of the message of Seventh-day Adventists, a health educational program was inaugurated. An introductory step in this effort was the publishing of six pamphlets of 64 pages each, entitled, *Health, or How to Live*, compiled by James and Ellen White. Rather than aiming at a simple reform of nineteenth century health and hygiene, the Whites promoted personal hygiene and purity principally as a requirement for entry into heaven, and only secondly as a means of living a more enjoyable life on earth.

White’s idea of health reform included shunning ‘stimulating’ foods such as meat, and advocating vegetarianism in an age where meat formed the basis of all meals, championing the practice on spiritual and moral grounds. Other substances to be avoided included tobacco, alcohol and the ministrations of drug-dispensing doctors, relying on prayers rather than physicians. White also extolled the benefits gained from hydropathy, and the adoption of “short” skirts and pantaloons for women.

White campaigned steadily throughout her life for the improvement of health and nutrition, as well as healthy eating and a balanced diet; in other areas, such as medicine, she gradually moderated her stance. Her views were shared by many reformist organisations, such as the Temperance Society and various health movements led by crusaders including Sylvester Graham. When White began campaigning for proper nutrition and healthy lifestyles in 1864, the average life expectancy in the United States of America was 32 years of age. Typically, meals were served three, four, and even five times a day; they were heavily spiced, contained gargantuan amounts of meat, were laden with rich gravies,

fried foods saturated in butter and lard, and finished off with pastries which contained high amounts of sugars and fats. Fruits and green vegetables, by contrast, were ranked low in dietary considerations. In *Counsels on Diet & Foods*, White denounced these eating habits, on the basis that such foods created “a feverish condition in the system, and inflame[d] the animal passions.”

Like Sylvester Graham, White abhorred these ‘irritating substances’ on the domestic table, and ruled out consumption of spices and condiments including pepper, mustard, salt, tea and coffee. With numerous reform societies espousing some or all of these values, it was often difficult for mainstream society to distinguish between the various religious and non-religious groups; “the vegetarians, phrenologists, water-cure doctors, and anti-tobacco, anti-corset, and temperance people” so frequently crossed paths that “they began to look like participants in a single reform movement.”

Early in 1866, responding to the divine directive given to Ellen White on Christmas Day in 1865 that Seventh Day Adventists should establish a health institute for the care of the sick and the imparting of health instruction, plans were laid for the Western Health Reform Institute, constructed at Battle Creek. This opened in September 1866, fulfilling White’s goal of founding an Adventist water cure where Sabbath-keeping invalids could be treated in an environment that was compatible with their faith. The Battle Creek facility also served as a training ground for nurses, who were taught Adventist principles and practices in the hopes of their serving as missionaries in the future, disseminating the Adventist message throughout the wider community. The Battle Creek Sanitarium promoted holistic methods, with a focus on nutrition and exercise, and included treatments such as hydropathy (which was a reflection of the wider “American water-cure craze”); the facility was managed by superintendent and fellow Seventh Day Adventist, Dr John Harvey Kellogg, who became a household name with his Corn Flakes. The founding of the Sanitarium Health Food Company, similarly, arose from Adventist health principles.

As part of her later ministry, the widowed Ellen White spent time in Europe and the South Pacific as a missionary, and based herself in Australia and New Zealand from 1891 to 1900. The force of her personality evidently left a deep impression on the Australian colonies; in 1899 the Hobart Mercury described her as a “voluminous writer... a constant speaker, and she must be accounted an extraordinary woman.” Her success was reflected in the fact that even as far away as Tasmania, the Battle Creek Sanitarium was a well known institution, as “the largest hydropathic and vegetarian sanitorium in the world, and this is a monument of her foresight and energy.”

After returning to America in 1900, she continued her publication and ministry work until her death in 1915.

#### **2.1.4 The Seventh Day Adventists in Australia**

In 1865, a group of Seventh Day Adventists led by Stephen Haskell sailed from America to Australia, ostensibly visiting Melbourne for a short period before advancing the Adventist cause in New Zealand and England. A contingent settled in Melbourne, establishing a publication company to help circulation of their tracts, and from 1886 producing a monthly periodical, *The Bible Echo and Signs of the Times*.

By 1890 the Adventists had a second base, initially a modest enterprise at Ashfield in Sydney. As part of the promotion of their Christian lifestyle in the Australian context, the Adventists established schools and after some years of discussion, formed the Sanitarium Health Food Company, enticing an American baker to Australia in 1897 to produce the first ready-to-eat breakfast cereal and officially forming the company in 1898. A Bible training school was also established in rural Cooranbong, north of Sydney,

where Ellen White temporarily served as a “medical missionary.”

The first Sydney premises at Ashfield were managed by Alfred and Emma Semmens, who had been trained in nursing and health practices at the Battle Creek Sanitarium. They were joined by Dr Merritt Kellogg, protege of Ellen White and half-brother of John Harvey Kellogg; prior to his arrival in Sydney, Merritt Kellogg had been serving as a missionary in the South Pacific region.

From the initial base at “Beechwood,” a seven-roomed house at Ashfield, the Semmens operated “The Health Home”, a hydropathic clinic. In 1897, they relocated to larger premises, renting three houses in Summer Hill and renaming The Health Home “The Sydney Medical and Surgical Sanitarium.” As part of the day-to-day operations, the business trained nursing staff in accordance with their medical, ethical and religious principles; by 1898 there were fifteen nurses in training at the Summer Hill facility.

Upon reviewing the early clinics, White observed in the last decade of her life that the health and medical approach had proven to be an effective method of eroding prejudice against the Seventh Day Adventist cause. Once the health clinics were up and running, their success generated a positive image of the Adventist movement; the health work served as “an entering wedge, making a way for other truths to reach the heart.”

### **2.1.5 Establishment of the Sydney Sanitarium and Hospital**

By 1899, the success of the first Sydney facility was such that the Adventist Church decided to construct a purpose-built medical and surgical sanitarium in the Sydney suburbs rather than rely on makeshift rental premises. A recent Adventist convert, John Radley, was delegated the task of locating a suitable site for the proposed new sanitarium, whilst responsibility for the architectural design and the eventual supervision of the construction of his ‘healthful living’ holistic facility fell to Dr Merritt Kellogg.

Radley proposed the acquisition of land in Wahroonga that formed part of two early land grants. Lot 31 had originally been a portion of a grant made to free settler Alexander Bowman in 1821, while Lots 29 and 30 had been granted to Thomas Rothwell. By the 1890s, the land was in the ownership of Mr and Mrs Richard Evans.

Once the site had been proposed, Adventist Church founder Ellen White, together with her son, Pastor W.C. White, visited Sydney in order to inspect the property. Located on Fox Valley Road, it was a large parcel that had been planted as an orchard. The property was ideal, as it was situated in an open, undeveloped area and boasted the fresh clean air and natural landscape setting that White advocated as part of her holistic doctrine. Upon White’s approval, the land was purchased over a twelve month period by the Sydney Adventist Church community, and the construction of the 70-bed Sanitarium proceeded, at a projected cost of £8,000. Kellogg’s timber building was constructed principally with volunteer labour, and owing to funding shortages was far from complete when it was formally opened on 1st January 1903 as the Sydney Sanitarium and Hospital.

The timber building (timber being considered “healthier” than brick) was the centrepiece of the Adventist goal for holistic lifestyles, and followed the principles promulgated by its Summer Hill forerunner: The remedial agencies employed in this Institution shall be in harmony with the true principles of rational medicine given by the Creator. We believe that God’s remedies are the simple agencies of nature, such as pure air, pure water, electricity, cleanliness, proper diet, purity of life, suitable exercise, recreation, rest and a firm trust in God. The adoption of these principles necessarily leads us to discard the use of poisonous drugs.

Rather than a place where patients enjoyed a brief stay, the Sanitarium -more familiarly known as 'The San' - was promoted as a 'place where people learn to stay well'. After its first three years of operation, a review of the facility showed that the average patient numbers was forty-nine per month, with the average stay of each patient lasting between two and three weeks. These early patients were cared for by up to forty staff employed in nine departments. Its emphasis on 'wellness' was reinforced by its surrounds, with the initial Sanitarium building soon supplemented by croquet and tennis courts, set amongst land used for crop production, grazing land for dairy cows, a vineyard, the orchards, and gardens. It was a serene environment, with its landscape guaranteed to divert patients during their daily walks. By promoting the capacity to get away from the polluted city and get back 'in touch' with natural landscapes, The San capitalised on the social trends of bushwalking and 'rambles' aimed at appreciating the natural environment. The Reverend Hugh Jones, a Presbyterian minister from Victoria, wrote in glowing terms, commenting that:

The surroundings of the Sydney Sanitarium are exceedingly beautiful. There are some lovely walks in the vicinity, along tree-embowered roads or through sylvan glades. I know, as I must have averaged about five miles a day walking, and I never grew tired of the scenery. While I was at the Sanitarium the waratah was in gorgeous bloom, and there were lovely wild flowers everywhere carpeting the ground, the exquisite native rose being particularly striking. The large estate of the Sanitarium is really a sanctuary for native birds."

In addition to bushwalking, tennis and croquet, The San promoted Adventist principles, such as vegetarianism and Christian living, all of which were heartily recommended to the patients. By way of example, the nursing staff at The San were obliged to follow the same practices, attend the regular prayer meetings and other spiritual sessions including 'world missionary study' and partake of regular exercise. This supplemented their nursing training and patient care aimed at furthering a 'thorough knowledge of the human body.' The Sanitarium also engaged male as well as female trainee nurses, being the first in Australia to do so. However, state registration of male nurses was not implemented for some years, well behind that for female nursing staff, which fell under the 1926 Nurses Registration Act. From its earliest years, the Sanitarium also sought to educate the young, with a small room at the rear of the Sanitarium used as a school; its core pupils were the children of the Sanitarium staff.

### **2.1.6 Site Expansion**

Throughout the course of the twentieth century, The San underwent periodic expansion to continue its role within the local community, and to accommodate the growing diversity in medical fields of knowledge. Its reputation as a high quality holistic facility meant that new accommodation had to be found for patients on a regular basis, which also required additional accommodation for the increasing numbers of nursing staff required to care for these patients. Improvement in medical technology also demanded purpose-built amenities, and specialist staff had to be found to keep abreast of developments.

As part of the early twentieth century phase of expansion, the original 1903 Sanitarium was followed by the construction of other buildings regarded as key to the everyday functioning of the facility; together, this group of buildings formed a core hospital precinct.

#### Bethel Museum

In 1915, a small weatherboard cottage was constructed. Named "Bethel" ("house of God") it served as a maternity wing or birthing centre until a new maternity wing was erected in 1933. Bethel was converted

for use as a staff residence before its third phase of use from 2003 as the Merritt Kellogg Museum.

### Shannon Wing

The present-day Shannon Wing was constructed in 1920 in order to alleviate the growing pressure on patient accommodation in the 1903 timber building designed by Merritt Kellogg. The initial proposal for the new building was controversial, as some parties supported Ellen White's view that many institutions were a preferred action rather than the addition of more buildings to any one institution.

Built to the west of the Sanitarium, this "splendid new wing" was a three storeyed brick building, complete with a rooftop terrace and designed to accommodate thirty-one patients. In addition to patient wards, the new building boasted a lounge room and an operating theatre, built to the most modern standards of the time.

In the mid-1950s, the building was extensively renovated, an action made possible by a substantial donation of £7,000 made by Arthur Shannon. Subsequently, the building was named 'Shannon' in acknowledgment of his generosity.

Later changes to the building included the addition of a concrete block to its southern end, intended to house oncology and radiotherapy. The Shannon Wing's current uses are for administration offices and the morgue.

### Maternity/South Wing

In 1933, a purpose-built Maternity Wing was constructed; at the time it was described as an "addition to the Sanitarium replete with every modern device for the treatment of disease". Designed in the inter war Georgian Revival style, the brick building had a terracotta tiled roof and fan-light windows, and was intended to accommodate fifteen medical beds and ten obstetric beds, in areas that were segregated for men and women respectively. In the weeks prior to its opening, the new building received favourable advance publicity on the basis of the Sanitarium's standing as "probably the best institution of its kind in Australia. By many persons it has become to be regarded as Australia's Home of Health."

The new brick wing,  
"embodying the latest features in hospital architecture, will be opened. The medical staff...specialises in massage, hydrotherapy, electric baths, diathermy, Bergonic chair and ultra violet ray treatments. ...Special attention is given to diet and the application of treatments which assist Nature in restoring the patient to health."

In keeping with the original Sanitarium's opening in 1903, at the opening of this new building in 1933 the wing was unfinished, taking a further decade before it was completed. Whilst promoted as the first stage in a larger building programme, its lengthy construction period emphasised long running funding stresses which hindered the rolling out of the building programme.

In 1989-1990, work was carried out on the Maternity Wing, with an extension providing accommodation for physiothereapy and hydrotherapy on the ground floor, together with upgrade of the maternity wing costing \$8.7 million.



## 2.2 Site description

The main entrance to the Hospital site is via the signalised intersection on Fox Valley Road, with a further access point further to the south on Fox Valley Road. The Hospital buildings, set in landscaped grounds, include the following facilities: 352 inpatient beds, 12 intensive care unit beds, 11 coronary care unit beds, 96 day beds, 14 renal dialysis chairs, 8 birthing suites, 3 cardiac catheter laboratories, 2 endoscopy theatres, 12 operating theatres, clinical services, a Faculty of Nursing, Australasian research unit, Nurses residence, Child care centre, Chapel, cafeteria, staff amenities, workshops and warehouse.

The lawn in front of the main hospital tower building features a sundial, set in a rose garden adjacent to the entrance gates. The sundial was presented to the SAN by a patient in 1931, and placed in its present location in 1978, as part of the Hospital's 75th Anniversary celebrations.

### 'Bethel' House

'Bethel' House was constructed in 1915 as the Maternity Labour and Delivery cottage, and later used as staff accommodation. It is located at the rear of the hospital buildings, in the vicinity of the staff tennis court. The north facing, timber cottage has a metal roof, simple timber detailing and timber framed windows. The west and east portions of its wrap around verandah have been enclosed, as has part of the northern verandah.

Additions, clad with fibrous cement sheeting, have been made to the west, south and east of the building. A demountable structure added on the western side of the building provides office space for the museum staff.

The cottage contains the Hospital's Merritt Kellogg Museum collection, named after Merritt Kellogg who drew up the plans, and was the building supervisor, of the 1903 SAN building. The museum collection includes framed photos, surgical instruments, medical equipment, and 2 mannequins in nurses' uniforms from the past. There are also clocks, carpentry tools, nursing certificates, Patients' Lounge fireplace, Dining Room cutlery and crockery. In storage are 6,000 photos and archival material from every SAN department including the School of Nursing. On display are also stained and etched glass windows salvaged from early hospital buildings that have been demolished.

Interpretive elements at the front of 'Bethel' House are the Nurses' Memorial Fountain, the flagpole from the original SAN building, and some low shrubbery forming the letters "SAN". The Memorial Fountain was an initiative of the Sydney Sanitarium Class of 1964 and was dedicated in 2004 to the memory of nursing graduates and trainees who have died while actively working for the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

### Shannon Wing

The Shannon Wing was second Hospital building to be constructed on this site. It is located to the south west of the tower building and is surrounded by the late twentieth century development of the site. Immediately to its east is the tower building, to its south is the services building and to the west, wrapping around to the north is an addition containing the Hospital's Oncology and Radiation facilities.

The northern facade of the once handsome building is now the only one able to be readily viewed, and it is partially obscured by the 1977 Oncology / Radiation addition at the southern end and a portico added



at the northern end.

The three storey brick building has timber framed windows and doors, timber balconies with pressed metal ceilings on the upper floors and a flat trafficable roof. Modifications to the building include the removal of the balcony wrapping around the eastern facade, to allow construction of the tower block, the removal of the roof level, replacement roofing, the portico and Radiation / Oncology additions, and covered links to the other hospital buildings.

The building is currently used for administration and clinical purposes. The interiors are in good condition and it is understood they were refurbished in 2002. There are original decorative plaster ceilings, timber staircase, joinery and parquet flooring visible on all floors. Evidence of the building's modifications / upgrades includes: removal of internal walls, insertion of partition walls, removal of bathroom fittings, lowered and replacement ceilings, replacement fire doors and inclusion of modern services.

# Photographic Record- Shannon Building

## 3.1 Colour Digital Photographic Record Catalogue

3.0

Shannon Building, Sydney Adventist Hospital	
<b>Photographer:</b> Rajat Chaudhary	<b>Date of recording:</b> 15th June 2010
<b>Camera:</b> Canon EOS 300D <b>Lens:</b> 28-70 mm	<b>Media:</b> Colour Digital
Photo no.	Description (EXTERNAL)
1	Long distance shot showing Shannon building within its surrounding context, looking east
2	Northwest elevation showing later addition and other hospital buildings in the background
3	Northwest facade of the original portion
4	View looking south, showing later porch
5	Typical bays along northwest facade
6	Detail of facade and verandah on first floor (Level 4)
7	Detail of eaves soffit
8	Detail of verandah timber posts, balustrade and lintel
9	Later porch showing ceiling and post
10	View looking south, showing side (northeast) facade
11	Side/rear facade towards the eastern end of the building showing entrance door and bricked-up door above
12	Detail of rear (southeast) facade and eaves
13	Detail of typical window
14	View looking southwest along the rear facade at roof level
15	Rear facade, looking west
16	Rear facade, looking northwest
17	Rear facade, looking northeast
18	Side (southwest) elevation showing later additions and adjacent development
19	Detail of southwest and southeast facades
20	View along ground level verandah, looking south
21	Detail of fanlight above main entrance door
22	Ground floor verandah pressed metal ceiling in good condition
23	Detail of ceiling pattern
24	View along ground level verandah, looking northeast
25	Southwest elevation showing later additions

Shannon Building, Sydney Adventist Hospital	
Photographer: Rajat Chaudhary	Date of recording: 15th and 20th June 2010
Camera: Canon EOS 300D      Lens: 28-70 mm	Media: Colour Digital

Photo no.	Description INTERNAL GROUND (LVL 3) FLOOR
1	View along corridor from main entrance
2	View looking southeast along central corridor on level 3 (ground)
3	Door frame, hinges and skirting detail
4	Skirtings and door frames detail
5	View from corridor into room G1 showing typical window arrangement and original ceiling
6	Detail of plaster ceiling in G1
7	View looking towards corridor in G1, showing eastern interior elevation
8	View looking towards corridor in G1, showing southern and western interior elevations
9	View from corridor into room G1 showing typical window arrangement and original ceiling
10	Later reception area outside subdivided former room G9
11	Original timber staircase in good condition
12	Detail of timber balustrade and newel post with motif repeated on all floors
13	Original timber handrail detail
14	View from corridor looking into G3
15	View from corridor looking into G4 showing later cubicle
16	View looking towards corridor in G4
17	View along central corridor looking southwest
18	View from corridor looking into G8
19	View from corridor looking into G5
20	View from corridor looking into G7
21	View looking towards corridor in G7
22	View showing later cubicles at the southwest end of the building
23	View looking east into the area (that may have been G6) on the southern side
24	View looking into the later additions
25	View looking into southwest end of the filled-in verandah
26	View from corridor looking into G10
27	View into later toilet cubicle in G10
28	Typical window on the landing between ground and first floor

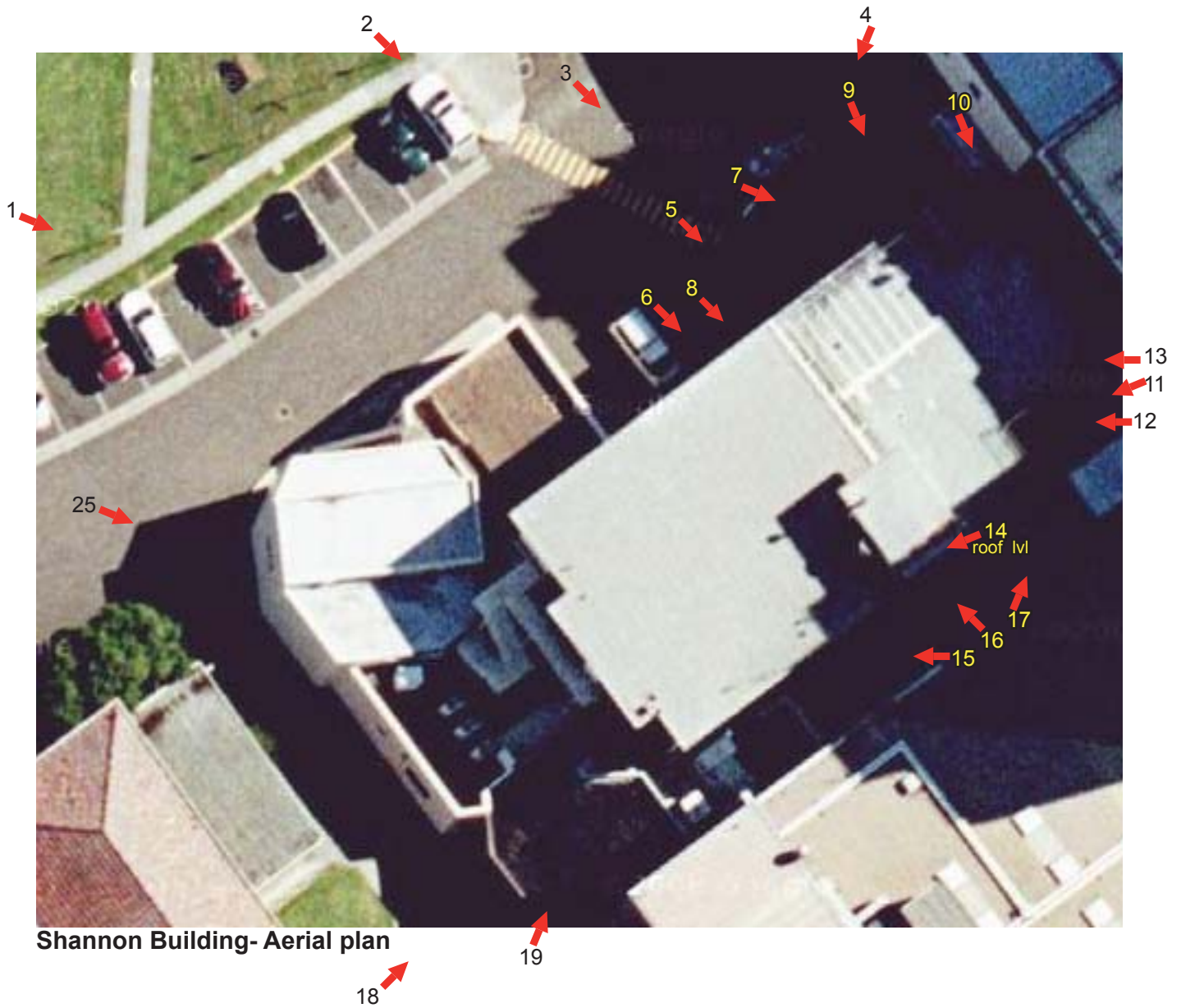
  

Photo no.	Description INTERNAL FIRST (LVL 4) FLOOR
29	View from landing looking up the stairs to level 4
30	View looking southwest along central corridor on level 4 (first)
31	View from corridor looking into F9
32	View looking towards corridor in F9
33	View along southern side of central corridor, looking west, showing original door openings
34	Wall cabinet with what appears to be original timber door

35	Skirting detail at southwestern end
36	Hatch for disposal equipment now not in use
37	Hatch for disposal equipment
38	Original wash basin
39	Closet at southwestern end, probably original
40	Early WC at southwestern end
41	View from corridor looking into F6 showing plain ceiling and original beam with side wall shifted
42	Detail of wall vent and window frame
43	Detail of original washbasin in F6
44	View from corridor looking into F7 showing plain ceiling
45	View looking towards corridor in F7
46	View from corridor looking into combined F2 & 3 showing original configuration, ceilings and skirtings
47	View looking towards corridor in F2&3
48	Original decorative plaster ceiling in F2&3
49	Detail of ceiling motif
50	View from corridor looking into F10 showing plain ceiling
51	View looking towards corridor in F10
52	Detail of original washbasin, tiling and steam/water radiator still in use
53	View along central corridor, looking northeast
54	View from corridor looking into F1 showing original decorative ceiling
55	Detail of original washbasin in F1
56	Detail of radiator still in use
57	View looking towards corridor in F12
58	Decorative ceiling in F12
59	Corridor door on southern facade
60	Corridor door leading to verandah on northern facade
61	Detail of larger radiator in the corridor
62	View along first floor verandah, looking southwest
63	Detail of typical window
64	Detail of pressed metal verandah ceiling still in good condition
65	Verandah door, looking externally
66	View from corridor looking into F12
67	View from corridor looking into F11
68	View of original side wall in F11
69	Detail of decorative ceiling in F11
70	View looking towards corridor in F11
71	Staircase on first floor with original detailing, looking up
72	Landing window between first and second floor and staircase soffit
Photo no.	Description INTERNAL SECOND (LVL 5) FLOOR
73	View from corridor looking into S3 showing original timber flooring and decorative ceiling

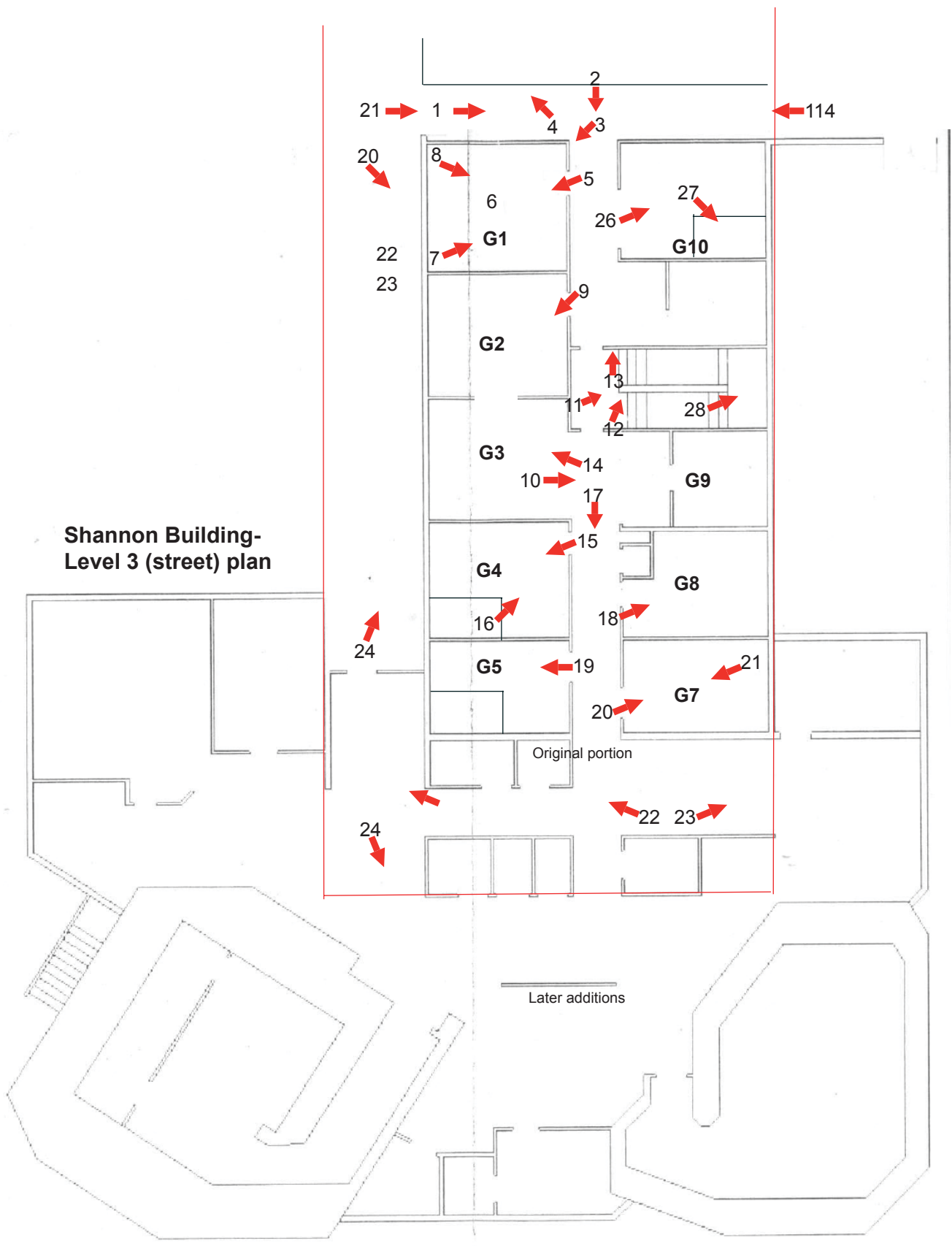
74	Detail of timber flooring
75	View along south side of central corridor showing original door configuration
76	View from corridor looking into S9 showing original tiling
77	View looking towards corridor in S9
78	View into store, originally a toilet.
79	Detail of store tiling
80	View from corridor looking into S8 showing original decorative ceiling
81	View looking towards corridor in S8
82	View from corridor looking into S4 showing original decorative ceiling
83	View looking towards corridor in S4
84	View from corridor looking into S5 showing original decorative ceiling
85	View looking towards corridor in S5
86	View from corridor looking into S7 showing plain ceiling
87	View looking towards corridor in S7
88	View into printer area at western end
89	View into cubicle in northwest corner showing later window
90	View into toilet showing early tiling and partitioning
91	View into toilet with early WC
92	Detail of toilet window on western facade
93	Door configuration along corridor
94	View along the corridor from the staircase, looking east
95	View from corridor looking into S1
96	Detail of verandah door handle
97	View looking towards corridor in S1
98	View of original side wall in S1
99	Detail of decorative ceiling in S1
100	Detail of door fitting for corridor wall cupboard
101	View along central corridor, looking west
102	View of side walls in S11
103	View from corridor looking into S11
104	Decorative ceiling detail in S11
105	Staircase on second floor with original detailing, looking up
106	View from staircase along central corridor, looking west
Photo no.	Description ROOF LVL (6)
107	Detail of decorative wall vent on top floor
108	Typical detail of skirting in staircase
109	Detail of newel post
110	Original door leading to roof
111	Original threshold
112	Early door handle
113	View of the roof
114	View from adjacent building along corridor on ground floor, looking towards main entrance

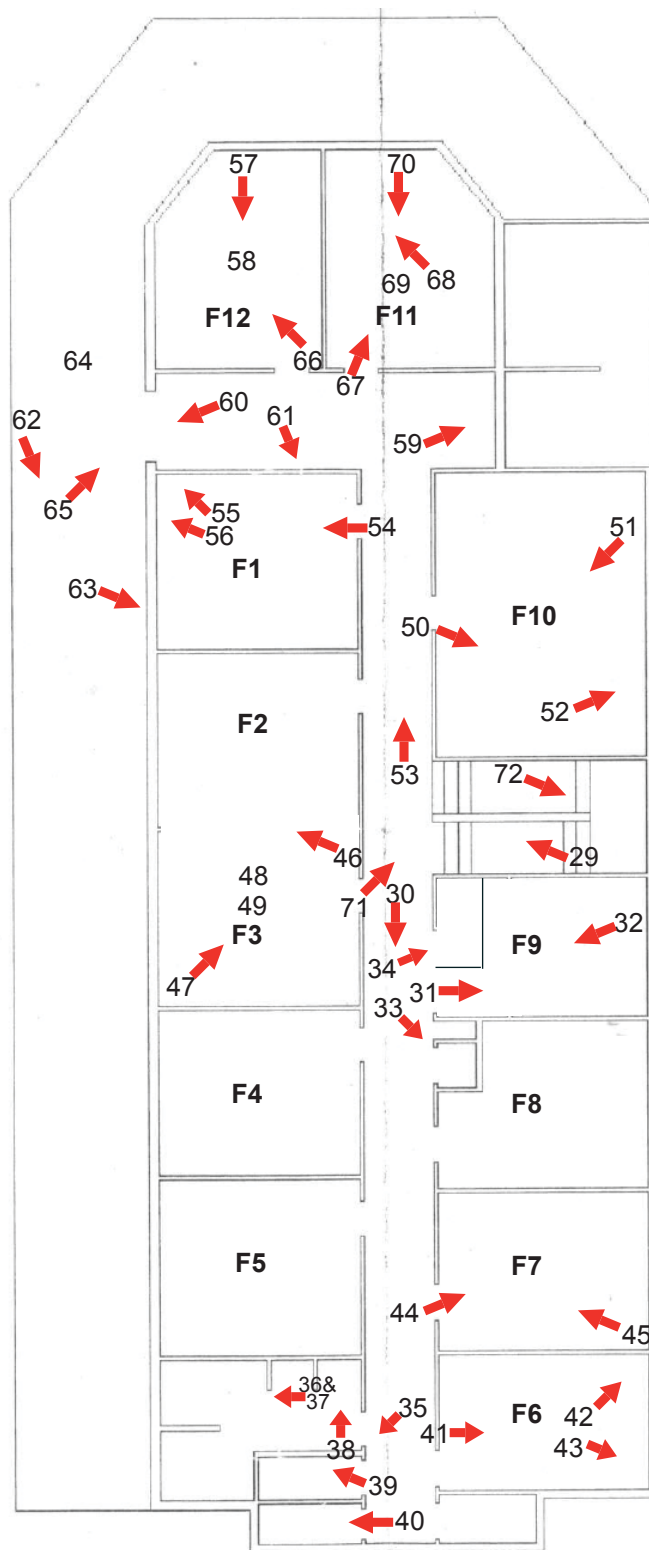
### 3.2 Plans showing location and direction of photographs



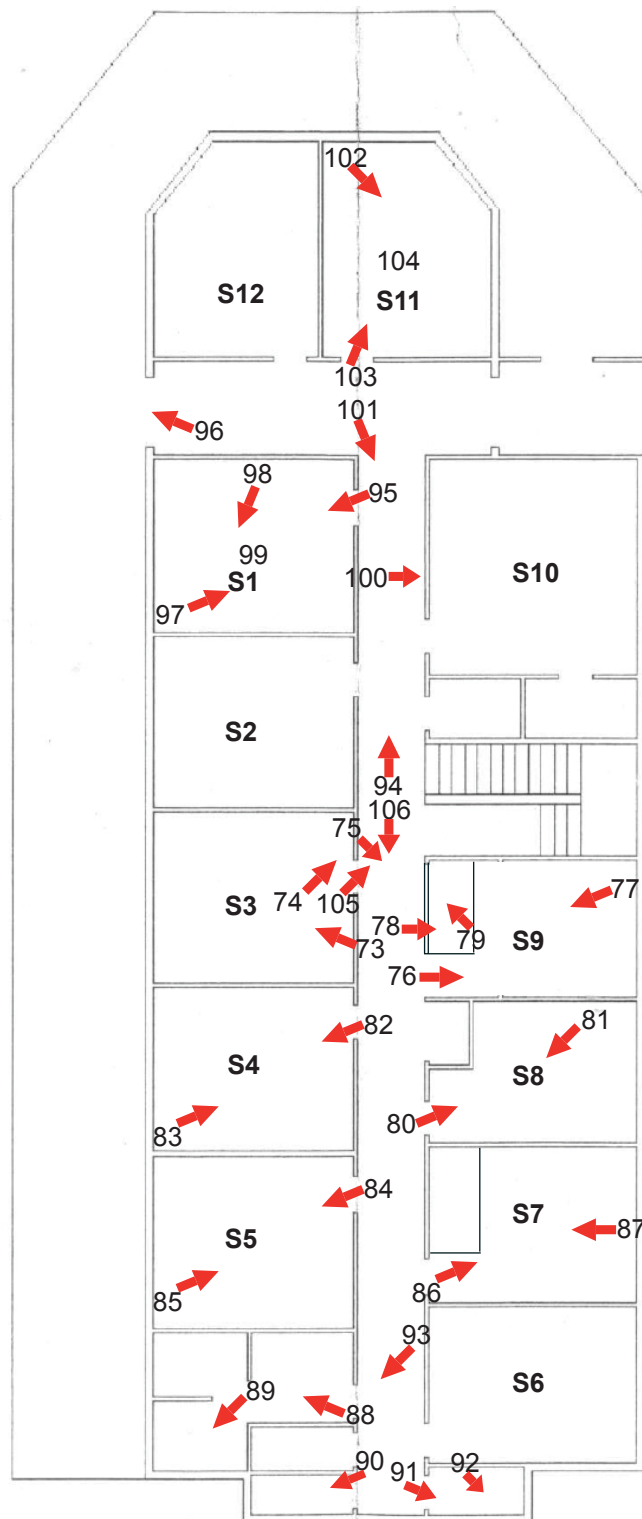


**Shannon Building-  
Level 3 (street) plan**

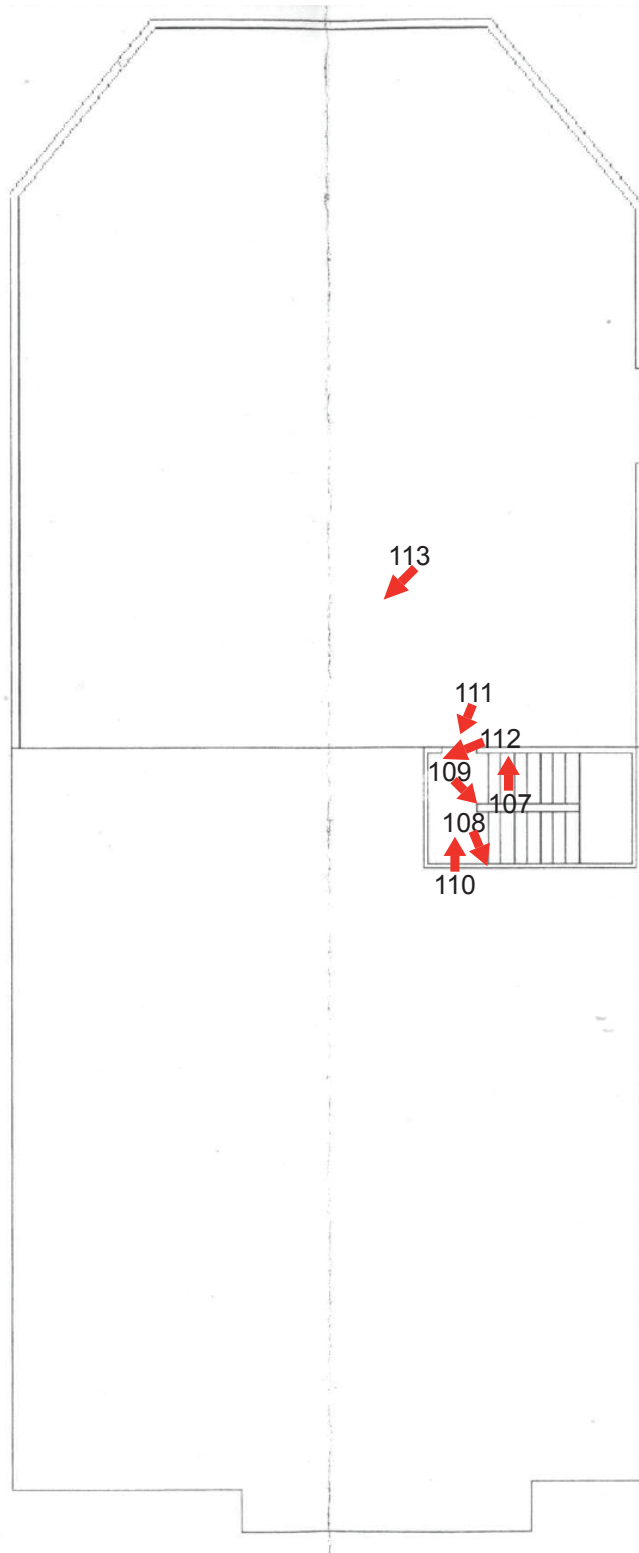




**Shannon Building -  
Level 4 plan**



**Shannon Building -  
Level 5 Plan**



**Shannon Building -  
Level 6 (roof) plan**

# Photographic Record- Bethel Cottage

## 4.1 Colour Digital Photographic Record Catalogue

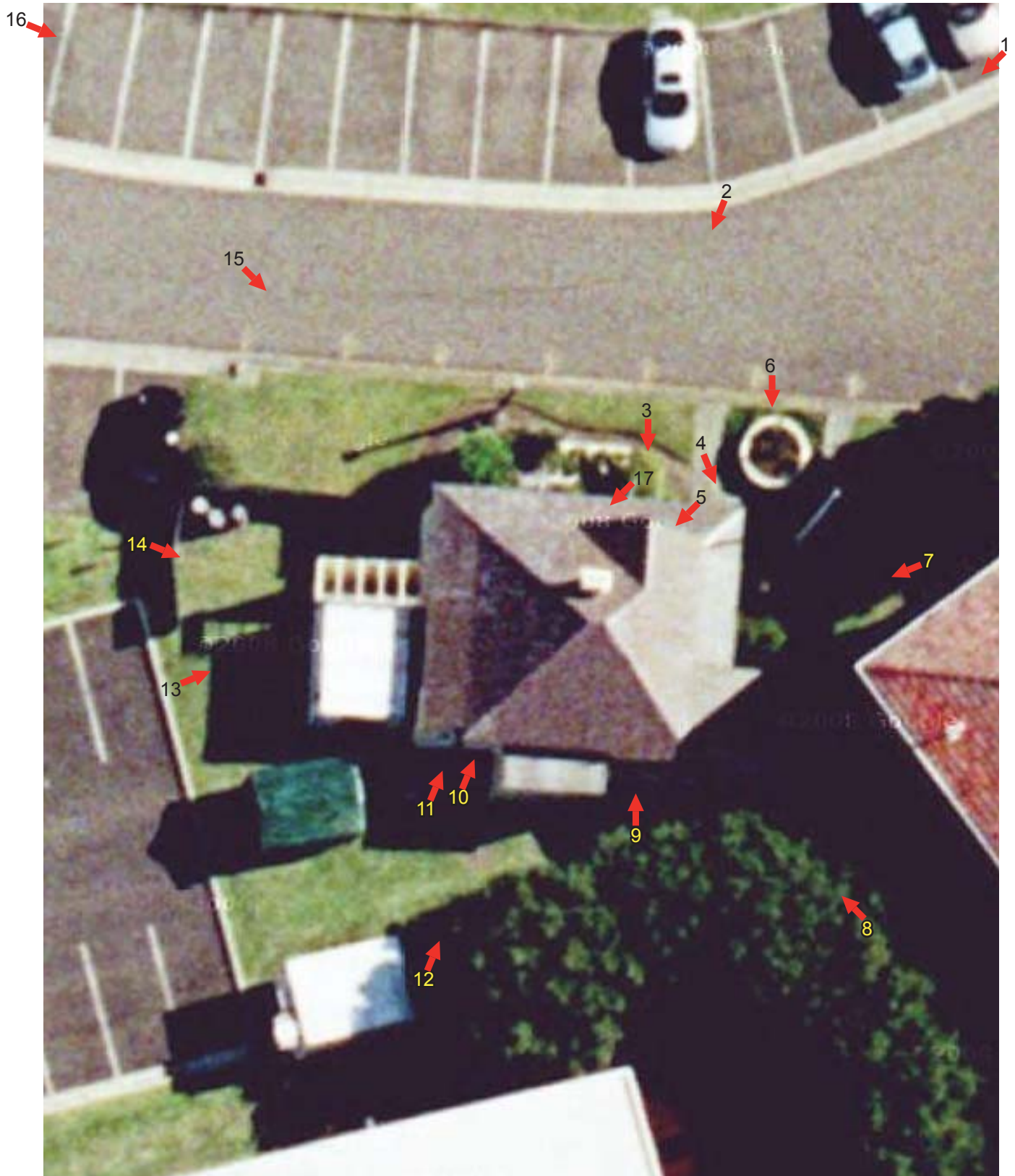
4.0

Bethel Cottage, Sydney Adventist Hospital	
<b>Photographer:</b> Rajat Chaudhary	<b>Date of recording:</b> 15th June 2010
<b>Camera:</b> Canon EOS 300D <b>Lens:</b> 28-70 mm	<b>Media:</b> Colour Digital
Photo no.	Description (EXTERNAL)
1	Long distance shot showing Bethel cottage within its surrounding context, looking southwest
2	North elevation
3	Detail of gable and chimney on north facade
4	Detail of timber posts and verandah lintel and gutter
5	Detail of typical window
6	Commemorative water fountain added in 2004
7	East elevation showing later infill
8	East and south elevation
9	Original window on south elevation
10	Underfloor area looking from southern side
11	Timber weatherboarding, window, gutter and eave detail on south facade
12	South facade showing later addition
13	West elevation showing later addition
14	West elevation
15	North and west elevations showing roof forms
16	Long distance shot showing Bethel cottage within its surrounding context, looking southeast
17	Original front entrance door

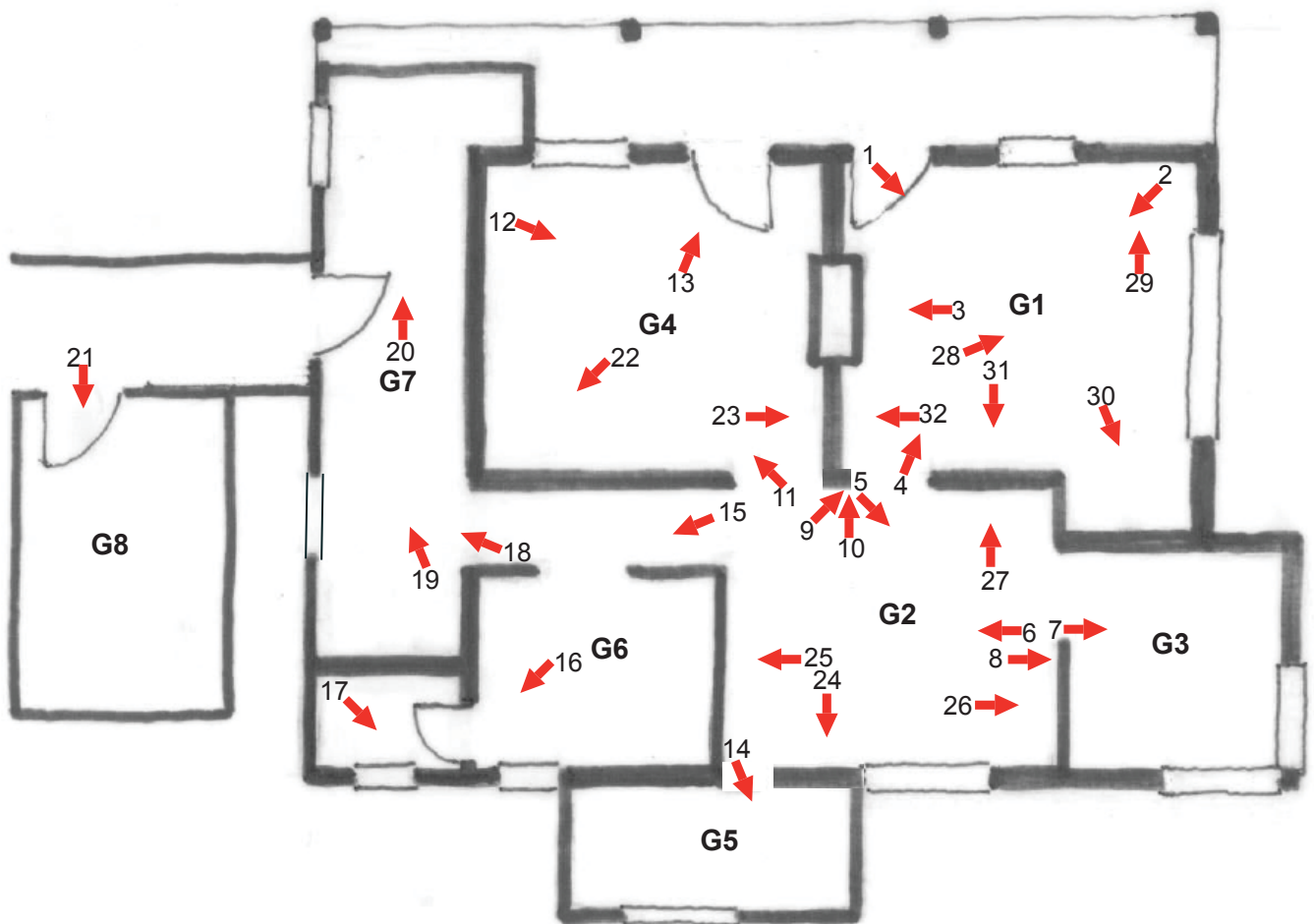
<b>Bethel Cottage, Sydney Adventist Hospital</b>	
<b>Photographer:</b> Rajat Chaudhary	<b>Date of recording:</b> 15th June 2010
<b>Camera:</b> Canon EOS 300D <b>Lens:</b> 28-70 mm	<b>Media:</b> Colour Digital
Photo no.	Description INTERNAL GROUND FLOOR
1	View from entrance door into G1 showing later verandah infill and window
2	View in G1 looking southwest showing fireplace and original doors and joinery
3	Detail of fireplace
4	Northern wall of G1
5	View into G2 looking southeast showing later addition beyond
6	Western, southern and northern walls of G2
7	View into later addition G3
8	Original wall vent and later door frame
9	Typical original skirting and architrave detail
10	Typical original door frame and wall framing detail
11	View into G4 looking northwest showing original door and window on northern wall
12	View in G4 looking southeast showing fireplace missing
13	Detail of door to verandah
14	View into later addition G5
15	View into G6 showing later partition wall
16	View looking towards early toilet
17	Detail of door and window in toilet
18	View into later verandah infill G7 showing later window
19	View in G7 showing later fabric
20	View of later verandah infill on north facade
21	View into later addition G8
22	Glass showcase displaying early texts and records in southwest corner of G4
23	Early photographs and a coloured glass pane in timber frame displayed on wall in G4
24	Early hospital records and assorted photographs displayed on wall in G2
25	Newspaper and magazine cuttings displayed on wall in G2
26	Early staff photographs displayed on wall in G2
27	Early staff photographs and certificates displayed on wall in G2
28	Early bell and name plates of doctors displayed on wall in G1
29	Early photographs of buildings on site displayed on wall in G1
30	Glass showcase displaying instruments and gadgets used in early days of the hospital
31	Early photographs of buildings on site displayed on wall in G1
32	Glass showcase displaying assorted objects used in early days of the hospital



#### 4.2 Plans showing location and direction of photographs



Bethel Cottage- Aerial plan



**Bethel Cottage -  
Ground Floor Plan**

# Photographic Record- Maternity Wing

## 5.1 Colour Digital Photographic Record Catalogue

5.0

Maternity Wing, Sydney Adventist Hospital	
<b>Photographer:</b> Rajat Chaudhary	<b>Date of recording:</b> 15th June 2010
<b>Camera:</b> Canon EOS 300D <b>Lens:</b> 28-70 mm	<b>Media:</b> Colour Digital
Photo no.	Description (EXTERNAL)
1	Long distance shot of Maternity wing from Fox Valley Road, looking northwest
2	South elevation showing roof form and later extension beyond
3	Eastern facade showing later extensions on either side
4	Eastern facade showing later extension in the background
5	Triple arched french doors and balcony on eastern facade
6	Southern elevation showing surrounding context
7	Southern facade
8	Long distance shot looking north, showing later extension to the west of original building
9	Duplicate of 8
10	Western elevation showing new extension and original component and surrounding buildings in the background
11	Western facade of original building
12	Long distance shot looking east, showing surrounding context
13	Northern elevation of the original component and later extension in the background
14	Western elevation showing tall main block behind
15	Block located north of the original maternity wing
16	Northern elevation and adjacent Nurses residential block
17	Western facade of northern portion
18	Northern facade
19	Typical window detail

Maternity Wing, Sydney Adventist Hospital		
Photographer: Rajat Chaudhary		Date of recording: 15th June 2010
Camera: Canon EOS 300D	Lens: 28-70 mm	Media: Colour Digital

Photo no.	Description INTERNAL LEVEL 4
1	Detail of original terrazzo tile skirting in the internal staircase
2	Detail of original timber handrail in the internal staircase
3	Detail of typical window frame along northeastern facade on level 4
4	Detail of arched french doors along northeastern facade
5	View looking south along central corridor on level 4
6	View looking west along central corridor on level 4
7	Typical room with original window on level 4
8	View looking north along central corridor on level 4
9	View looking west along central corridor near the lift and stairs on level 4
10	View looking north near the lift towards along corridor leading to Shannon building
11	View looking down the original internal stairs

Photo no.	Description INTERNAL LEVEL 3
12	View looking west along central corridor near the lift and stairs on level 3
13	View looking south along central corridor on level 3
14	View of the northern corner of the building showing original windows
15	Detail of window
16	Null
17	View looking north near the lift towards along corridor leading to Shannon building

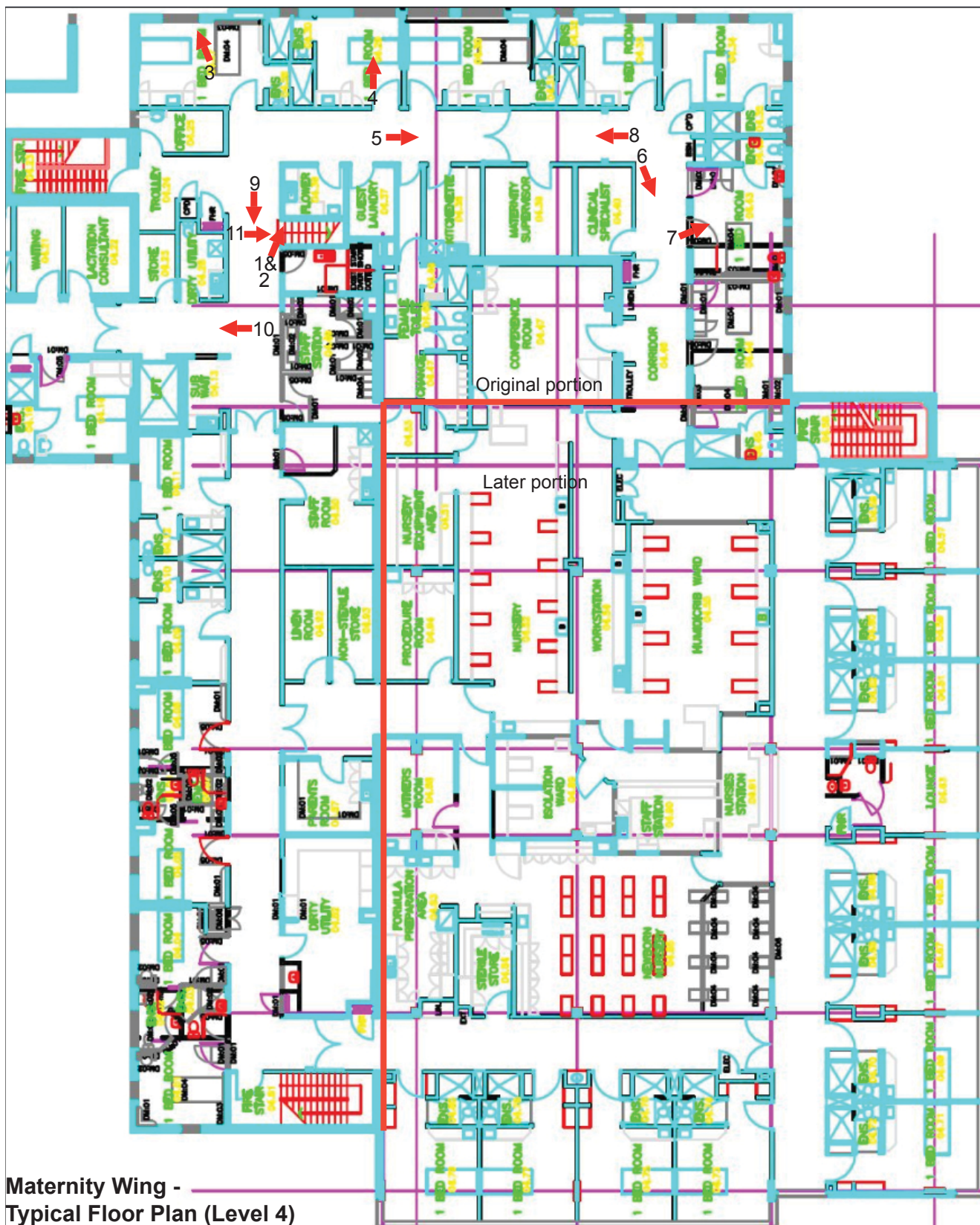
Photo no.	Description INTERNAL BASEMENT LEVEL
18	Detail of original internal staircase skirting and tread
19	Stairs on basement level showing original terrazzo tile treads
20	Original french door to the staircase on basement level
21	Window detail
22	Original glazed panelled door
23	Internal view of typical window inside former mortuary)
24	Original door to the mortuary
25	Battened door to storage
26	Coved skirting detail
27	Terrazzo coved skirting
28	View of internal stairs showing metal balustrade, probably original
29	Curved wall edge, probably original



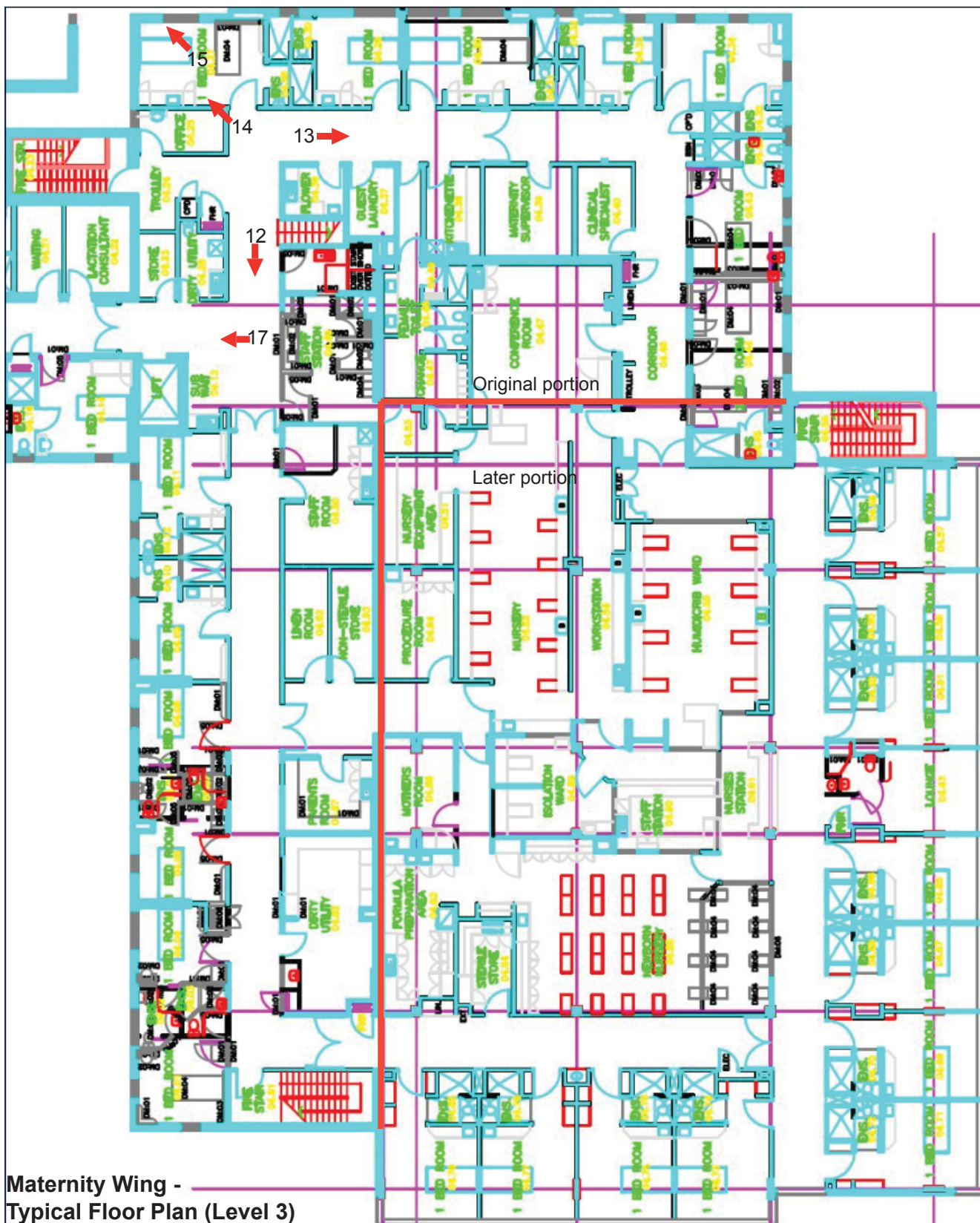
## 5.2 Plans showing location and direction of photographs

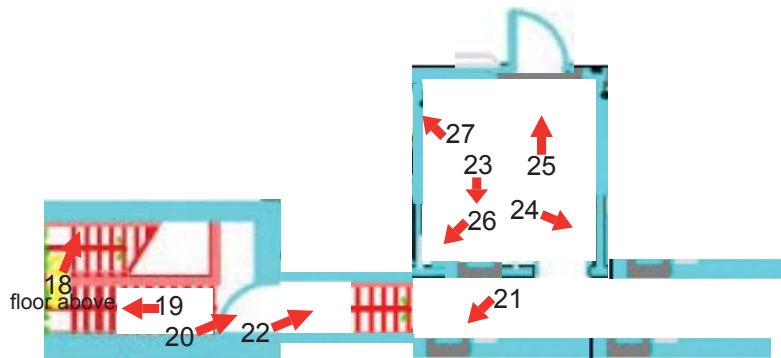












**Maternity Wing -  
Typical Floor Plan (Basement lvl)**

## 6.1 Certificate of archival quality material

### Speedilab

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Email: info@Speedilab.com.au Web: www.speedilab.com.au

Archival material

Graham Brooks and Associates  
71 York Street; Level 1  
Sydney. 2000

Attention: Rajat Chaudhary  
Heritage Consultant

21 June 2010

**This is to certify that prints produced by Speedilab on the 21 June 2010 were made on Fujifilm Crystal Archive Paper in accordance with archival storage requirements.**

**Reference: Archival Photographic Recording  
Sydney Adventist Hospital  
FOXV/2025/10**

Yours sincerely;



Harry Kornfeld  
Director