



ACT Heritage Council

BACKGROUND INFORMATION FORMER KIPPAX HEALTH CENTRE (BLOCK 22, SECTION 51, HOLT)

At its meeting of 10 February 2022, the ACT Heritage Council decided that the Former Kippax Health Centre was not eligible for provisional registration.

The information contained in this report was considered by the ACT Heritage Council in assessing the nomination for the Former Kippax Health Centre against the heritage significance criteria outlined in s10 of the *Heritage Act 2004*.

HISTORY

General development context of Canberra in the period

Canberra's planning as the national capital dates to 1911 but its development until the years following World War 2 was limited to what are now the inner north and inner south areas. In the immediate post-war years, Canberra's development languished until the Commonwealth Government created the National Capital Development Commission (NCDC) in 1958 in order to give a high priority to the realisation of the city. (Reid 2002, pp. 201, 249-254)

Canberra experienced a boom in development from the 1960s onward as a result of this new priority and the role of the NCDC. The NCDC pioneered many innovations in planning and gave realisation to innovations in social policy which were proposed in the period. A major planning initiative of the 1960s was the adoption of the Y-Plan for Canberra's growth and development. This was based around the creation of a series of new towns for the valleys to the north and south of the then existing city, linked by a rapid transit spine. The new towns were within new districts, and the districts included a group of suburbs (neighbourhoods), all reflecting a hierarchy of planning expressed in several ways (Reid 2002, pp. 254, 258). Each suburb would have a small shopping centre, but group centres servicing several suburbs with more extensive shops and other facilities were also part of this planning (NCDC 1970, P. 85). Town centres with city-like shopping and other facilities were the focus of districts.

Belconnen was the second new town designed by the NCDC (NCDC 1970, p. 95). The first group centre in the district, Jamison Centre, opened in 1969, and the town centre dates from the late 1970s. The Kippax Centre, also a group centre, is located within the suburb of Holt, which is in Belconnen. Holt was gazetted in 1970 and construction was underway by 1971 (*Canberra Times* 1971). Kippax Centre is a group centre serving the surrounding suburbs, primarily Holt, Macgregor, Higgins and Latham (EPSDD 2019a, p. 25). Land for shops and other facilities was first made available in 1974. The Former Kippax Health Centre from 1975 was the first building in the Kippax Centre, and its first major shopping complex dates from 1977 (*Canberra Times* 1973; *Canberra Times* 1977b).

Kippax Centre continues to provide services and facilities for the nearby suburbs, as well as for demand arising from increased residential development in west Macgregor. Development at Ginninderry is also expected to increase demand. (EPSDD 2019a, p. 25)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – FORMER KIPPAX HEALTH CENTRE

Community health centres in Canberra

In the period before the 1970s, health services in Canberra were focused on local and private general practitioners, as well as hospital services. Early hospital services in Canberra were available from 1914, and a major development was the opening in 1943 of the initial buildings that eventually became the Royal Canberra Hospital at Acton.

By 1970, alternative ideas for the delivery of some health services were considered.

“The [National Capital Development] Commission and the Department of Health in a joint exercise, engaged the British consultant firm of Llewelyn-Davies and Partners to advise on the future health care needs for Canberra up to a population of half a million. The object of this study was not only to prepare a future health care plan but also to integrate health care requirements more closely with the planning and development of Canberra.” (NCDC 1971, p. 31)

This was part of a broader experimental approach to a wide range of city and community planning matters, including health and social policy issues in Canberra. As a Commonwealth controlled territory up to 1988, the ACT was often used to test new services, such as the mothercraft centres in the early years of the capital, but “...the centres have become synonymous with Gough Whitlam’s Labor Government and its ‘social laboratory’ in the ACT” (*The Canberra Times*, 14 June 1992:4), despite the origin of centres in the Llewelyn-Davies report commissioned by the McMahon Liberal-Country Party coalition.

The 1970 report *Future Health Care Services in Canberra and the Australian Capital Territory* (Llewelyn-Davies, Weeks, Forestier-Walker and Bor 1970) outlined a novel vision for Australia based on the principles of social medicine where welfare and medicine were inextricably linked (*Canberra Times* 1992). Overall, the report’s main recommendations were:

- establishing a health authority to plan, implement and manage a coordinated health system;
- health professionals and the public to contribute and participate in developing the system;
- there should be a ‘proper relationship’ between hospital and community-based services;
- future health care should be based on community health teams (private and public general practitioners along with related health professionals);
- community health teams (ie. primary care, including general practitioners and related health personnel) should be housed in health centres serving 20-50,000 people located at convenient locations, that is group centres, starting with pilot centres which would be evaluated;
- the primary health services centres should have the public access areas all on the first floor for ease of access;
- no set catchment of a set of services or design was proposed, so that each centre could cater for the needs of the area or for appropriate allocation of resources; and
- major hospitals set up as a campus with associated facilities such as laundry and sterilisation services with an aim to efficiency and reducing the need for hospital space to acute needs only. (NCDC 1971, p. 31)

This vision underpinned the British National Health Service and promoted government-run centres offering comprehensive social and health services with an emphasis on teamwork, health prevention, and free services unless private doctors rented space in the health centres (*Canberra Times* 1992).

While the development of health centres in Canberra was a focus of this activity, it was part of a broader Commonwealth Government community health initiative which included the provision of such centres in other parts of Australia as well. Related national health initiatives of the time included universal national

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – FORMER KIPPAX HEALTH CENTRE

health insurance (initially called Medibank and later Medicare), as well as cooperation with the states to develop services.

The NCDC and Department of Health used the report as the basis for developing health services in Canberra. The first temporary centres opened in 1973 were in Melba and Scullin, and these drew overseas visitors keen to learn from the health services experiment. In 1974 the NCDC reported it was,

“proceeding with the construction of health-care facilities for ACT Health Services and the Department of Health. The basis of this plan was the 1971 [sic] study by Llewelyn Davies and Partners, and their recommendations included the provision of community health centres within urban groups of 20,000-50,000 persons.

A brief has been prepared for a health centre at Narrabundah and sites have been identified for others in inner Canberra, the Woden-Weston, Belconnen and Tuggeranong districts. The proposed centres are close to group centres and public transport routes.

Construction of the first two permanent health centres at Phillip and Kippax began in December 1973. The Phillip Community Health and Welfare Centre to the west of the Woden Town Square will be bigger than the normal district health centre because it will serve a large population. It will also incorporate central administration facilities for the Woden-Weston Creek district, the welfare branch of the Department of the Capital Territory and an education clinic.

The Kippax Health Centre, Belconnen, will provide services for an estimated population of 20,000 in the suburbs of Higgins, Latham, Holt and Macgregor.

Both centres are expected to be completed late in 1974 and should be operational by early 1975.

Design work on the Kambah Health Centre, to be in the Kambah Group Centre in Tuggeranong, is well advanced, and the centre is expected to open during 1976.

This centre will operate like the Kippax Health Centre, but will incorporate a pharmacy and dispensary area. However, a temporary demountable health centre at The Village, Kambah, is expected to open in August 1974 to meet the needs of early residents of Tuggeranong.” (NCDC 1974, p. 56)

While the overall history of health centres in Canberra is complex and not fully researched, it appears that at least 16 health centres were established in Belconnen (1987, replaced 2013, still operating), City (interim centre 1974, permanent centre 1976, still operating), Chisholm, Dickson (1981, designed by Enrico Taglietti, still operating), Evatt, Gungahlin (2012?, still operating), Kaleen (1979, closed 1991), Kambah/Village Health Centre (interim centre from 1975, permanent centre 1977, designed by Philip Cox), Kambah/Village Creek Centre (still operating), Kippax (1975), Melba (interim centre from 1973), Narrabundah (interim centre from 1973, permanent centre 1976), Phillip (1975, designed by Ancher Mortlock & Woolley, still operating), Scullin (interim centre from 1973), Tuggeranong (1988, designed by Ancher Mortlock & Woolley, still operating) and Weston Creek (1978, still operating).

The Kippax Health Centre opened in 1975, by which time six centres were in operation (Department of Health 1975, p. 149).

The centres were controversial, with both supporters and critics. The original recommendation was for health centres to offer only para-medical services in areas where general practitioners were already operating privately. However, the government employed salaried doctors in the centres despite the presence of local doctors. Some private doctors viewed the centres as a challenge, and this created antagonism. (*Canberra Times* 1992)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – FORMER KIPPAX HEALTH CENTRE

However, with a change in the Commonwealth Government, services at some of the centres began to be wound back or changed from 1976.

A discussion paper produced by the then ACT Health Authority in 1987 said that of the then 11 ACT health centres, "Melba and Narrabundah... are the centres where the community-health philosophy seems to have worked the best." (*Canberra Times* 1990)

With self-government in the ACT from 1988, four centres were closed. Currently eight community health centres still operate in Canberra.

Phillip Health Centre

Of particular interest in this context is the Phillip Health Centre which was designed in the same period by Ken Woolley from Ancher Mortlock & Woolley for the National Capital Development Commission. The design was undertaken from 1972 and the Centre was completed in 1975. It is integrally linked to the Woden Library by the same Late Twentieth Century Brutalist architectural style and the concrete pergola over the public space between the buildings.

The Woden Library and Phillip Health Centre have been entered in the ACT Heritage Register, partly because of their social significance related to their role as important facilities for the Woden Valley community since 1977, the date of completion of the Library. (ACT Heritage Council 2008; ACT Heritage Council 2009; Ancher Mortlock & Woolley 1999, p. 235)

Construction of the Former Kippax Health Centre

The Former Kippax Health Centre was designed by Ken Woolley of Ancher Mortlock & Woolley in 1973. It was the first community health centre for west Belconnen and was constructed in 1973-4.

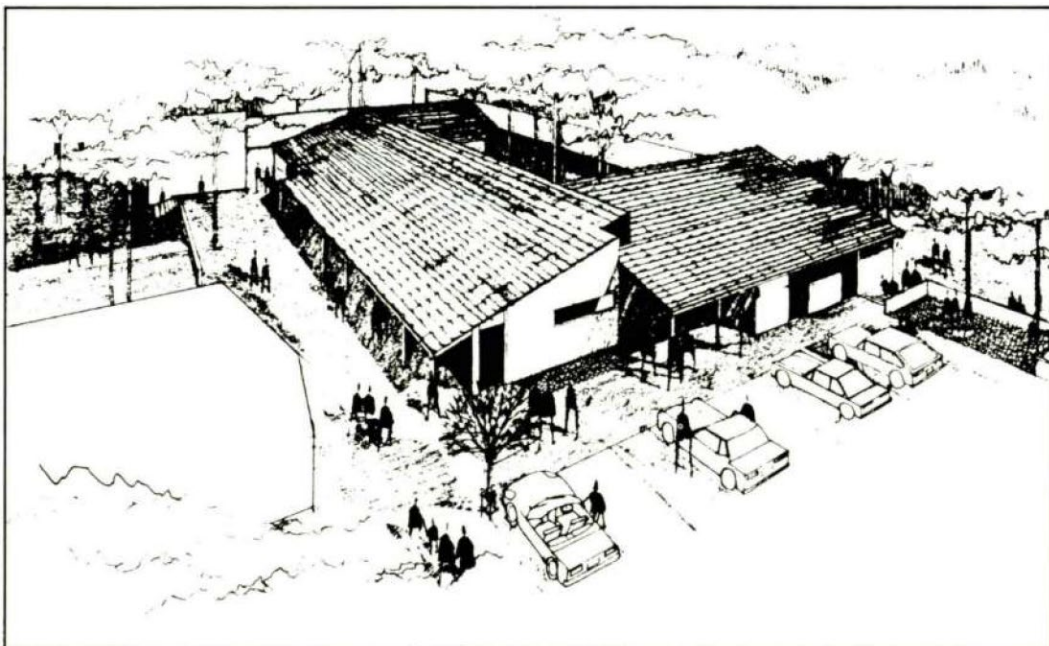


Figure 1 Sketch perspective of the proposed Kippax Health Centre (NCDC 1974, p. 56)

The initial builder for the Centre was Mainline Constructions (ACT). However, it went out of business about half-way through construction, and the NCDC re-allocated several projects to other companies, including the Kippax Health Centre project to Jennings Industries. (*Canberra Times* 1974)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – FORMER KIPPAX HEALTH CENTRE

The building was completed and officially opened on 17 May 1975 by the Member for Fraser, Ken Fry. (*Canberra Times* 1975a)

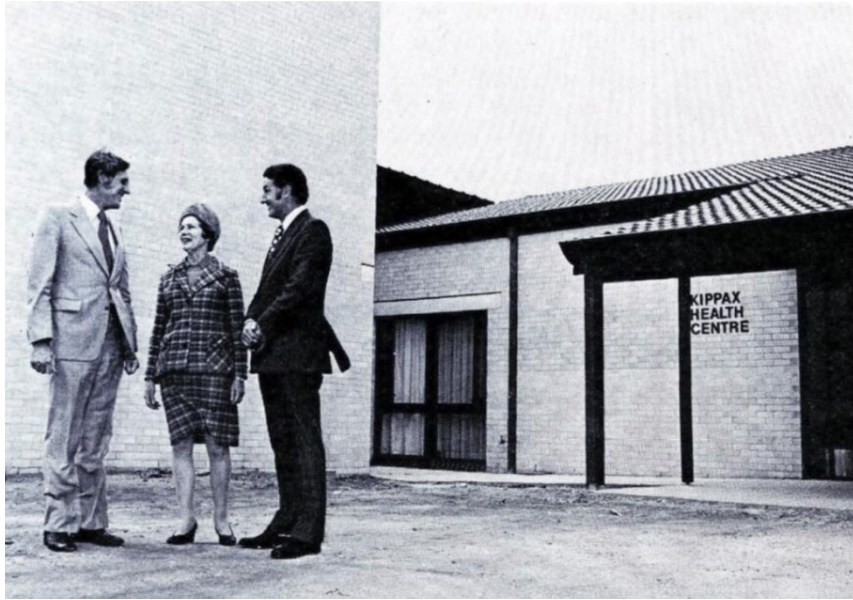


Figure 2 Official opening of the Kippax Health Centre on 17 May 1975 (Department of Health 1975, p. 149)

Ancher Mortlock & Woolley

Sydney Ancher was an architect prior to World War 2 and resumed architectural practice in 1945 after military service. This was formed into the partnership of Ancher Mortlock & Murray in 1951 and practised under that name until 1964 when Ken Woolley left the Government Architect's Branch to become a partner. The firm of Ancher Mortlock Murray & Woolley was incorporated in 1969. Stuart Murray left the practice in 1975 and the name changed to Ancher Mortlock & Woolley. The firm continues to practice to the present day, although merged with another practice. (RAIA 1988)

Over the decades, the firm has been responsible for projects of greatly varying size, cost and function. Commissions have been completed for a wide variety of government departments, statutory authorities and a variety of commercial clients. Ancher Mortlock Murray & Woolley or Ancher Mortlock & Woolley has received every major Australian architectural award. The eminent architectural historian Jennifer Taylor has commented,

“Few firms in the history of Australian architecture can approach the sustained performance of Ancher Mortlock & Woolley over the past 50 years. The work has been innovative, artistic, exploratory and responsible, and each member of the partnership has contributed in differing ways to the firm's general excellence of performance.” (Ancher Mortlock & Woolley 1999, p. 18)

The Former Kippax Health Centre is one of a number of works by Ancher Mortlock Murray & Woolley or Ancher Mortlock & Woolley in Canberra. Other Canberra work includes the Lyneham and Dickson Flats (or the Northbourne Housing Group, 1960), Canberra National Seventh Day Adventist Church (1971), Woden Library and Phillip Health Centre (1975-77), RAIA Headquarters (1976), Criminology Building (1979), Yarralumla Townhouses (1984), ADFA Cadets Mess (1986), the Australian/Hellenic Memorial (1987) and the Tuggeranong Health Centre (1988).

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – FORMER KIPPAX HEALTH CENTRE

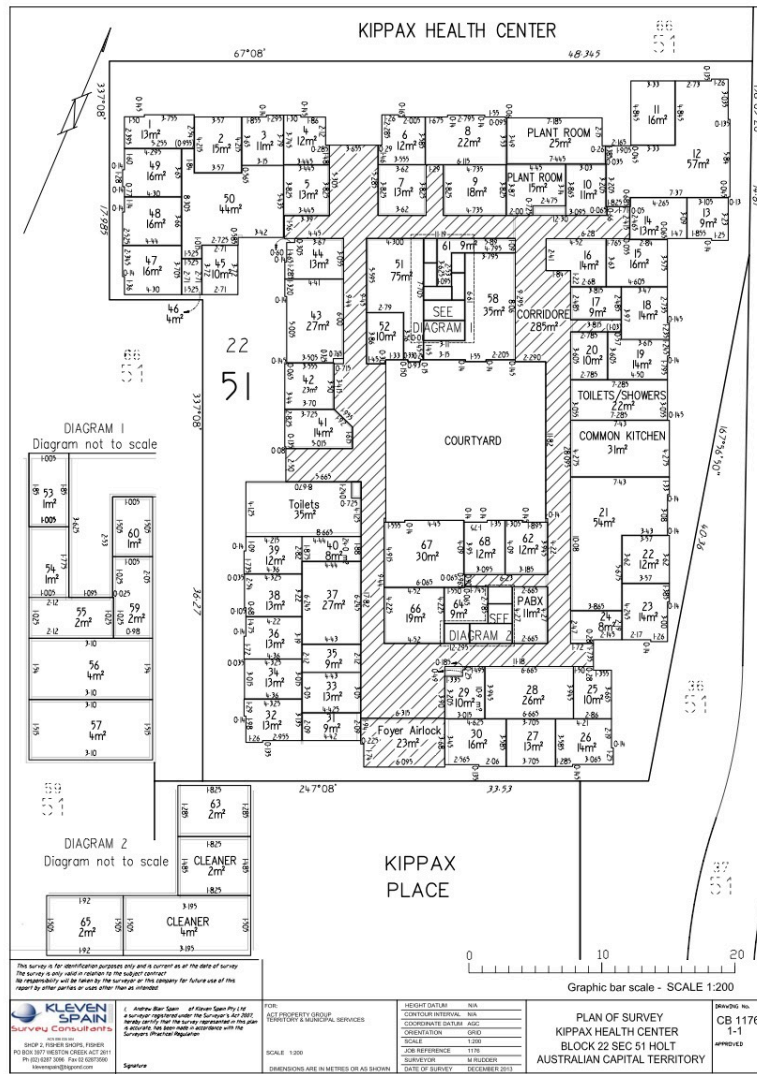


Figure 3 Layout of the Former Kippax Health Centre in 2013

Ken Woolley has born in 1933 and studied architecture at the University of Sydney where he graduated with a University Medal in 1955. Prior to joining Ancher Mortlock & Murray, he was a founding member of the Design Office of the NSW Government Architect's Branch and became involved in major projects such as the Fisher Library and State Office Block. (Ancher Mortlock & Woolley 1999, p. 229)

Ken Woolley was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 1988 and awarded the RIAA Gold Medal in 1993.

Late Twentieth-Century Sydney Regional architectural style in Canberra

The Former Kippax Health Centre is an example of the Late Twentieth-Century Sydney Regional architectural style (Apperly, Irving and Reynolds 1989, pp. 240-3). Other surviving suggested Canberra examples of the style, or examples reflecting aspects the style, include:

- Kanangra Court, Collard, Clarke and Jackson (1962);
- Cater House, Red Hill, Allen, Jack and Cottier (1965);
- Pettit & Sevitt Housing in various suburbs (1972-82), such as 93 Brereton Street, Garran, Ken Woolley (1975);

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – FORMER KIPPAX HEALTH CENTRE

- 12 Marawa Place, Aranda, Robin Boyd (1969);
- Swinger Hill Stage 1 and 2, Ian McKay and Partners (1969);
- Canberra National Seventh Day Adventist Church, Ancher, Mortlock, Murray & Woolley (1971);
- 38 Mirning Crescent, Aranda, Roger Pegrum (1971-72);
- Urambi Village, Michael Dysart (1974);
- Cook Housing Cooperative, Wybalena Grove, Michael Dysart (1974);
- RAlA Headquarters, Ancher, Mortlock, Murray & Woolley (1976); and
- 36 Drysdale Circuit, Kambah. (<http://www.canberrahouse.com.au/sydney-school.html>; Metcalf 2003; AIA)

Use of the Building

The Kippax Health Centre opened on 5 May 1975, prior to an official opening later in the month. At the time, it was reported that,

“Kippax Health Centre in West Belconnen... is the largest centre established so far in the A.C.T. and also the first permanent centre building. It cost \$600 000.

Health workers at the centre include two salaried doctors and two fee-for-service doctors providing general practitioner services, a mental health team of psychiatrist, psychologist and social worker, together with a physiotherapist, speech therapist, nurses and others. Suites are available to accommodate more family doctors as the population of the area grows.” (Department of Health 1975, p. 149)



Figure 4 Kippax Health Centre reception area in 1975 (NCDC 1975, p. 54)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – FORMER KIPPAX HEALTH CENTRE

The Centre had over 10,000 patients in its first year and the doctors worked out a roster to be available for night, weekend and holiday emergencies (CTHC 1976, p. 6). Radiology services at Kippax started operating in 1977 (*Canberra Times* 1977).

The nature and scale of services provided are indicated in the following figure.

Table 6 KIPPAX COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE:
PATIENT ENCOUNTERS

Financial year	1975-76	1974-75(a)
New patients registered	8 234	2 502
Number of encounters with		
– Dentists	6 221	—
– Community medical practitioner (salaried)	11 364	1 011
– Practice nurse (salaried)	10 976	1 050
– Community medical practitioners (private)	21 281	2 425
– Practice nurse (private)	1 746	224
– District nurse	517	68
– Physiotherapist	4 300	476
– Speech therapist	590	81
– Social worker	1 043	50
– Social health visitor	525	76
– Psychologist	373	66
– Psychiatrist	626	65
– Infant welfare sister	776	81
– Immunisation	2 464	—

(a) Centre opened May 1975.

Figure 5 Kippax Health Centre services provided in 1975-76 (CTHC 1976, p. 79)

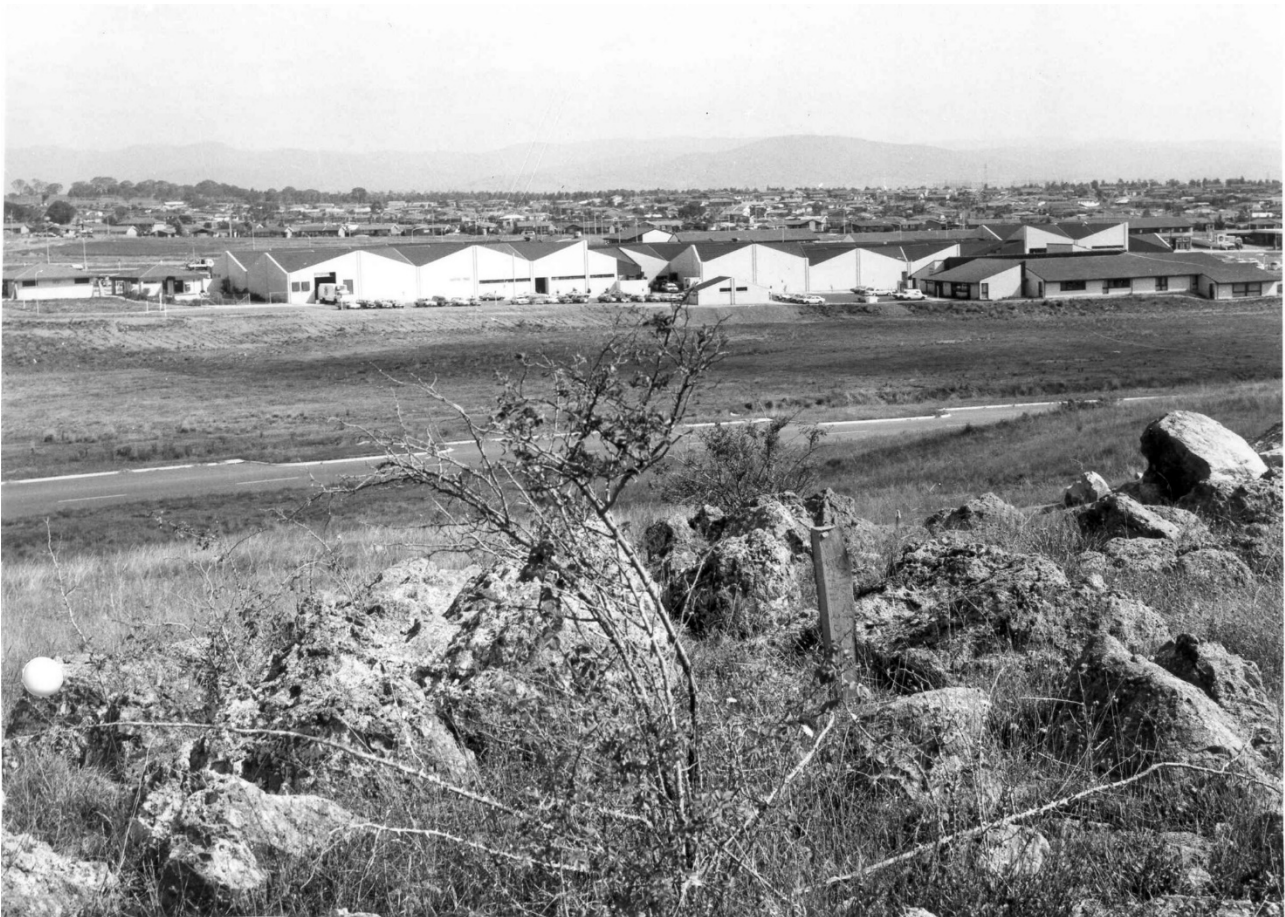


Figure 6 General view of Kippax Fair in 1978 with the Kippax Health Centre to the right (Archives ACT Flickr, Kippax Fair, April 1978)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – FORMER KIPPAX HEALTH CENTRE

Staffing of the Centre is reflected in the following figure.

Table 13 STAFF EMPLOYED AT COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRES

	Community health centres — number of staff						
	City	Kippax	Melba Evatt(a)	Narra- bundah	Phillip	Scullin	Village
Secretary/administrator	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Receptionist	4	4	4	3	5	1	1
Medical records	1	2	2	.	.	2	1
General practitioner							
– Private	1 p.t.	3	.	.	.	4	.
– Salaried	5	2	{ 5 f.t. 1 p.t.	2 f.t. 1 p.t.	2	.	3
Private doctor's receptionist	.	3	.	.	.	9 p.t.	.
Practice nurse							
– Private	.	1
– Salaried	3	2	3	2	2	.	1
District nurse	10	{ 2 f.t. 1 p.t.	.	3	{ 6 f.t. 9 p.t.	.	.
Community nurse	.	1 p.t.	.	.	3	.	2
Infant welfare sister	1	1 p.t.	1	1 p.t.	.	1 p.t.	1
Immunisation sister	1	1 p.t.	.	.	2 p.t.	.	.
Dentist							
– Private	.	2	.	.	{ 1 f.t. 1 p.t.	2	.
– Salaried	.	.	2	.	2	.	1
Dental assistant							
– Private	.	3	.	.	1 p.t.	2	.
– Salaried	.	.	2	.	2	.	1
Private dental receptionist	.	1	.	.	.	1	.
Pharmacist	1 (b)	.	3	.	.	.	1
Physiotherapist	.	1	1	1	.	2 p.t.	.

Figure 7 Kippax Health Centre staffing in 1975-76 (CTHC 1976, p. 84)

By 1980, staffing of the Centre is indicated in the figure below.

Table 3. Health centre services at 30 June 1980

Health centre	Medical	Dental	Social Work	Psychiatry	Psycho-logy	Social Health Visitor(a)	Com-munity Practice Nursing	Dietit-ian	Speech therapy	Physio-therapy
City	x	—	x	x	x	x	x	p.t.	x	—
Kaleen	x	x	p.t.	—	—	—	x	—	—	—
Kambah	x	x	x	—	—	x	—	x	p.t.	p.t.
Kippax	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	p.t.	x
Melba	x	x	x	—	x	x	x	x	p.t.	x
Narrabundah	x	p.t.	x	—	x	x	x	x	p.t.	p.t.
Phillip	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	—	x	—
Scullin	x	x	x	—	—	x	x	—	p.t.	x
Weston Creek	x	x	x	x	—	x	x	—	p.t.	—

Legend:
 x full-time service provided.
 — not provided
 p.t. part-time service provided

(a) Social Health Visitors are Mental Health Branch Staff, members of the counselling team

Figure 8 Kippax Health Centre staffing in 1980 (CTHC 1980, p. 31)

The opening of an emergency department at Calvary Hospital in Bruce in 1980 had an impact on the use of the Centre on weekends and holidays.

In 1987 the ACT Health Authority announced changes to the health centre system, noting that the Kippax Health Centre would no longer be used to provide public services and that it was considering options for future use by other departments, non-government agencies and community groups. It would also consider selling the building as it became fully private. However, the sale did not ultimately take place. (*Canberra Times* 1987)

In 1995 the ACT Chief Minister, Kate Carnell, in response to the Kippax Community Task Force voicing concerns over the proposed sale of the Centre, warned of an uncertain future for community health centres in the ACT, noting that the government would continue to move to sell the Melba and Kippax Health Centres. The government cited its policy of placing health resources on the basis of need, combined with the plans to rent space to house community services in the future to lower costs. Dr Chris Watson of

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – FORMER KIPPAX HEALTH CENTRE

the Kippax Community Task Force said the move would deprive the 35,000 residents of the area of a needed service and that demand was likely to grow as the surrounding area kept developing. (*Canberra Times* 1995a)

A community rally was held on 16 October 1995 in support of retaining the Kippax Health Centre. The protestors were mostly concerned about the ancillary services offered by the health centre. There was also concern that the community was not being consulted. In response,

“Mr Hird [a member of the ACT Legislative Assembly] said while the Government had decided to stop providing salaried medical practice, none of the centres was to be closed. "The future of health centres is not in doubt because they will continue to play a central role in providing for the primary health care needs of the people of Canberra," he said.” (*Canberra Times* 1995b)

Again, the suggested sale did not take place.

One of the factors which may have led to a decline in the use of the building was the construction of the adjacent Kippax Fair shopping centre in 1977 and its subsequent extensions up to 2005, which ultimately obscured the Former Kippax Health Centre from the main carpark area and other shops.

The role of the building as a health centre appears to have ended in 2005, although some private health services continued to be offered through until 2021. At some stage, the building was used by the Belconnen Community Service and by other community groups.

The building has provided very limited health services for some time, most recently (2021) a dental practice was located in the building, although it has now moved out. The only remaining tenant is a community group, which is also looking to move.

Consultation undertaken as part of the development of the Kippax Group Centre draft Master Plan identified few issues regarding the Former Kippax Health Centre building itself, although there were concerns for the future of community and health services generally in the area (ACT Government Environment and Planning 2015; Kippax Group Centre Master Plan, community engagement report, Stage 4; EPSDD 2017; EPSDD 2019b). However, comments were made about the possibility of replacing or upgrading the building (EPSDD 2019b, p. 25).

The full history of the use of the Centre has not been researched, and there are no doubts gaps in the above information.

Changes to the Former Kippax Health Centre

The history of changes to the building have not been documented or fully researched. Apparent changes include:

- over-cladding some upper wall faces, such as for the wings with single pitched roofs;
- creation of an entry airlock and upgrading of entry doors;
- upgrading of some finishes and joinery (e.g. carpeting and kitchens);
- changes to the colour scheme for the building (e.g. carpeting and timber doors and windows);
- painting internal walls;
- installation of additional services (e.g. fire and ceiling mounted services, lighting and air-conditioning units);
- partial painting of exposed external concrete brickwork;
- additional wall signage;
- construction of a fire cabinet on the north wall;

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – FORMER KIPPAX HEALTH CENTRE

- installation of large security lights attached to the building exterior; and
- replacement of some timber doors with aluminium doors.

DESCRIPTION

The Former Kippax Health Centre is located on the eastern edge of the Kippax group centre, with the Kippax Fair shopping centre immediately to the west and open playing fields to the east. A small carpark is south of the building, and a small landscaped park is to the north.

The building is single storey and mostly on one level, with a lower-level section to the northeast. It comprises four interlocking wings around a central open courtyard. The east and west wings have single pitched roofs, and the north and south wings have gabled roofs.

Externally there is a verandah along part of the west side of the building with a timber slat ceiling and low brick edge wall, a garden bed and small paved area formed with concrete brick walls and circular pre-cast elements is located to the north, and a garden bed supported by a concrete brick retaining wall is to the east. The internal courtyard is brick and timber deck paved.

The internal planning is organised around a main circulation corridor through each wing. The west and east wing corridors frame two sides of the courtyard and provide access and views to it, with complexes of rooms against the outer edges of the building. The north and south wing corridors link to the west and east wing corridors and are centrally placed with complexes of rooms either side. The main entrance with an airlock and foyer area is to the south which links directly to the west wing corridor, which then leads to a secondary northern entrance. Another entrance is on the western side, linked by a short side corridor to the west wing corridor. The planning displays an articulated geometry which avoids simple, long lengths of straight walls and corridors.

Details of the building structure have not been obtained but appear to comprise concrete slab floors, structural concrete brick walls, and framed or trussed roofing.

With regard to materials, externally the building has face concrete brick walls, expressed concrete lintels and brown tile sills, timber and aluminium windows and doors, metal screens on some windows, metal cladding to some upper walls, especially the wings with single pitched roofs (possibly over-cladding original timber cladding), and tiled roofs with timber slat eaves. The roofs have large quarter round painted gutters. Some windows have external canvas awnings.

Internally there is a carpet tile, vinyl sheet and tiles, and ceramic tiled finish to the concrete floors, painted brickwork and plasterboard walls, and stained timber ceilings. Other features of note include the timber slat ceiling and walling in the entry airlock (presumably originally an external feature prior to installation of the airlock), and the close-spaced window jambs around the courtyard and elsewhere creating a multi-paned effect.

Parts of the external brick walling has been painted (presumably to address graffiti), there are numerous signs and several large security lights attached to the building, and air-conditioning plant in cages has been mounted on the ground adjacent to the building in several locations.

The building contains some hazardous materials, including non-friable asbestos, but is considered safe for use with standard monitoring.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – FORMER KIPPAX HEALTH CENTRE

The building displays a number of the features of the Late Twentieth-Century Sydney Regional architectural style:

- *Asymmetrical massing;*
- *Roof following the slope of the land;*
- *Tiled skillion roof;*
- Timber post-and-beam construction;
- Exposed roof beam;
- Painted brick walling;
- *Stained or oiled timber;*
- Timber awning sash; and
- Slatted timber screen (Apperly, Irving and Reynolds 1989, p. 242).

Physical condition and integrity

Generally, the building appears to be in fair to good condition and displays moderate integrity.

Detailed condition and integrity issues include:

- over-cladding of some upper wall faces with metal sheeting, such as for the wings with single pitched roofs;
- changes to the colour scheme for the building (e.g. carpeting, timber doors and windows, external timberwork);
- graffiti on external surfaces;
- damaged/stained concrete brickwork following graffiti removal;
- partial painting of exposed external concrete brickwork;
- additional wall signage;
- a non-original fire cabinet on the north wall, now damaged;
- large security lights attached to the building exterior;
- air-conditioning plant in cages mounted on the ground adjacent to the building;
- deteriorated window awnings;
- degraded landscaping, including erosion of garden areas;
- missing bricks in garden walling;
- creation of an entry airlock and upgrading of entry doors;
- timber ceilings are cluttered with numerous additional services;
- installation of additional services (e.g. fire services, surface-mounted conduits);
- painting of internal walls; and
- replacement of some timber doors with aluminium doors.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – FORMER KIPPAX HEALTH CENTRE

SITE PLAN

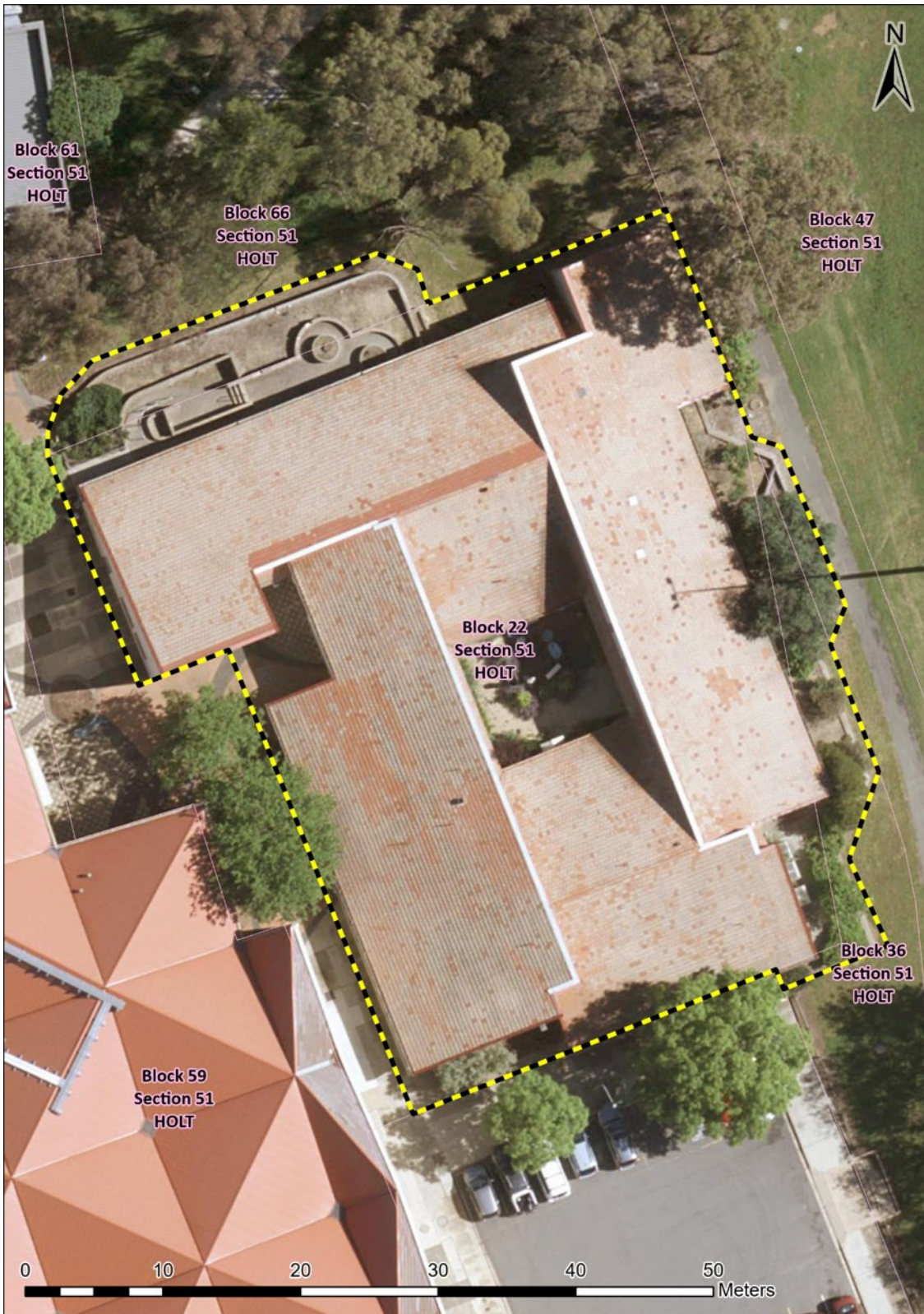


Figure 9 Former Kippax Health Centre site boundary

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – FORMER KIPPAX HEALTH CENTRE

IMAGES



Figure 10 Entrance to the Former Kippax Health Centre on the southeast side



Figure 11 View of verandah to southwest side of Centre

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – FORMER KIPPAX HEALTH CENTRE



Figure 12 View of southwest side of the Centre with verandah



Figure 13 View of the northwest side of the Centre

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – FORMER KIPPAX HEALTH CENTRE



Figure 14 View into courtyard



Figure 15 View of entry foyer

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – FORMER KIPPAX HEALTH CENTRE



Figure 16 View down corridor from entry foyer

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – FORMER KIPPAX HEALTH CENTRE

REFERENCES

ACT Government Environment and Planning (2015), Kippax Group Centre draft Master Plan engagement snapshot.

ACT Heritage Council (2008), *Woden Library and Phillip Health Centre*, ACT Heritage Register non-statutory background information.

ACT Heritage Council (2009), *Woden Library and Phillip Health Centre*, ACT Heritage Register entry.

Ancher Mortlock & Woolley (1999), *Ken Woolley and Ancher Mortlock & Woolley, selected and current works*, Images Publishing Group, Craftsman House.

Apperly R, R Irving and P Reynolds (1989), *Identifying Australia Architecture*, Angus and Robertson Publishers.

Australian Institute of Architects (ACT Chapter) [AIA], Register of Significant Twentieth Century Architecture, citations for:

- Cater House;
- Wilson House;
- Swinger Hill Stages 1 and 2 Cluster Housing;
- Kanangra Court;
- RAlA Headquarters;
- House at 12 Marawa Place, Aranda; and
- Canberra National Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Canberra Times (1971), "The changing face of Canberra", 31 March 1971, p. 16.

Canberra Times (1973), "Business leases", 5 October 1973, p. 8.

Canberra Times (1974), "NCDC re-allocates Mainline projects", 12 September 1974, p. 11.

Canberra Times (1975a), "Health centre open Monday", 3 May 1975, p. 8.

Canberra Times (1975b), "Kippax Health Centre official opening", 14 May 1975, p. 23.

Canberra Times (1975c), "Kippax Centre opened", 19 May 1975, p. 3.

Canberra Times (1977a), "X-ray in use", 20 January 1977, p. 10.

Canberra Times (1977b), "Kippax Fair", 14 June 1977, p. 11.

Canberra Times (1979), "Centre wide health program", 26 August 1979, p. 13.

Canberra Times (1987), "Regional health centres undergo changes", 28 August 1987, p. 7.

Canberra Times (1990), "Closure of Melba centre 'a disgrace'", 27 October 1990, p. 16.

Canberra Times (1992), "Time to judge how far ACT community health has come", 14 June 1992, p. 4.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – FORMER KIPPAX HEALTH CENTRE

- Canberra Times* (1995a), “Carnell: health services not safe”, 25 September 1995, p. 1.
- Canberra Times* (1995b), “Health Centre protest a political stunt: Govt”, 17 October 1995, p. 5.
- Capital Territory Health Commission [CTHC] (1976), *Annual Report 1975-76*.
- Capital Territory Health Commission (1980), *Annual Report 1979-80*.
- Chesher, Elon (2021), *Memories of Kippax Community Health Centre*.
- Crozier, H C (1975), “Health centre”, letter to the editor in the *Canberra Times*, 31 March 1975, p. 2.
- Department of Health (1975), *Annual report of the Director-General of Health 1974-75*.
- Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate [EPSDD] (2017), *Kippax Group Centre Master Plan, community panel outcomes report*.
- Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (2019a), *Kippax Group Centre Master Plan*.
- Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (2019b), *Kippax Group Centre Master Plan, community engagement report, stages 2, 3 and 4*.
- Kippax Group Centre Master Plan, community engagement report, Stage 4*.
- Llewelyn-Davies, Weeks, Forestier-Walker and Bor (1970), *Future health care services in Canberra and the Australian Capital Territory*, The Company, London.
- Metcalf, Andrew (2003), *Canberra Architecture*, The Watermark Press.
- National Capital Development Commission [NCDC] (1970), *Tomorrow’s Canberra*, National Capital Development Commission.
- National Capital Development Commission (1971), *Annual Report 1970-71*.
- National Capital Development Commission (1974), *Annual Report 1973-74*.
- National Capital Development Commission (1975), *Annual Report 1974-75*.
- RAIA (1988), *Architects of Australia*, The Bicentennial Edition, Images Australia Pty Ltd, Melbourne.
- Reid, P (2002), *Canberra following Griffin*, National Archives of Australia.
- Webber, Peter (2012), “Ken Woolley”, in P Goad and J Willis (eds), *Encyclopaedia of Australian Architecture*, Cambridge University Press, pp. 775-7.