

PART 1 of 2
Maitland Gaol Conservation
Management Plan
January 2001

Maitland Correctional Centre and Police Properties

Conservation Plan

final draft

Prepared by

The Heritage Group
Department of Public Works and Services

for

Client Service Division
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APPENDIX 3 - Return of value of Prisoners' Labour, Prisons AR 1896

1.0

INTRODUCTION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Conservation Plan for the Maitland Correctional Centre and Police Properties was commissioned by Client Services Division of the Department of Public Works and Services on behalf of the Department of Corrective Services (DOCS). It was prompted partly by DOCS's intention to close the gaol in 1998 and is designed to help guide the future use and development of the site.

1.1 Aims of the Study

The Conservation Plan aims to trace the history and development of the site now occupied by Maitland Correctional Centre, to reach an understanding of the place's cultural significance and to set out policies to guide its future conservation.

The policies are informed by a knowledge of the gaol's heritage values and they aim to reconcile these values with the interests of the general community and take into account a range of possible future uses.

Decisions about the treatment of the site and buildings should have regard to the statement of significance and follow from the conservation policies of this report.

1.2 Scope

The site is bounded by John Street, Lindsay Street and Cumberland Street at the northern corner of East Maitland (Fig. 1.1). The site under consideration includes the police residences at the north-western, pointed corner of the site and the former police barracks at the opposite end. While the policies of this report attempt to consider all aspects of the Gaol and Police Properties, further investigation and detailed consideration of built elements will be required when specific proposals involving change are developed.

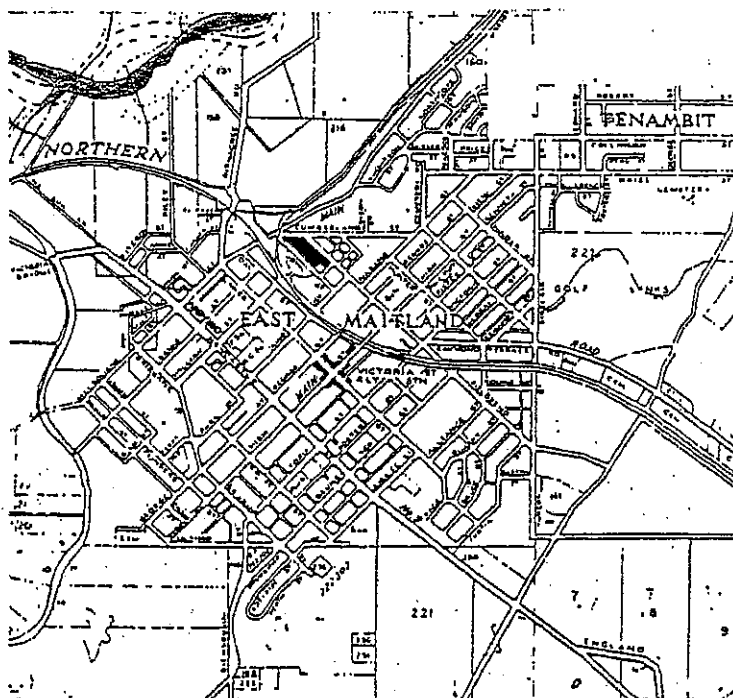


Fig. 1-1 Street Map of East Maitland (Site under consideration is shown black)

The major elements of the site are identified on the block plan below. A detailed plan using DOCS asset numbers is included as part of section 6.6 of this report. There is a modern building (former police station) in the lower right hand corner of this diagram. This area is not subject of this report.

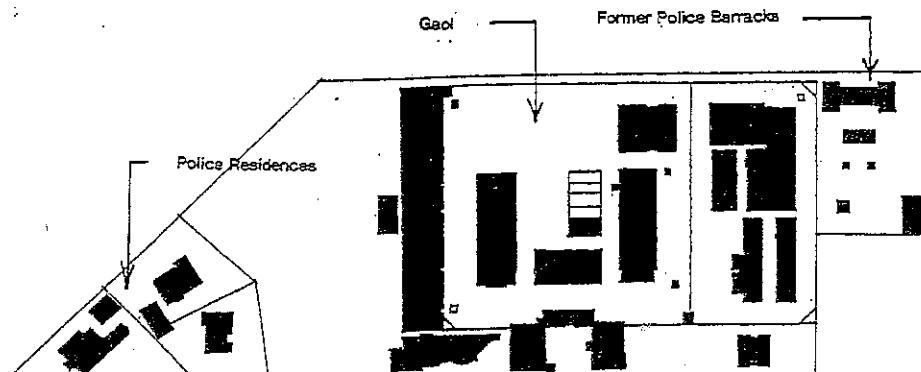


Fig. 7-1 Maitland Correctional Centre Site Plan in 1996.

1.3

Methodology

This report follows the structure set out by J.S. Kerr in *The Conservation Plan* and is consistent with the guidelines to *The Burra Charter*. The sequence of work adopted is illustrated by the following diagram with the elements included in Stage 1 of the conservation plan process shown shaded.

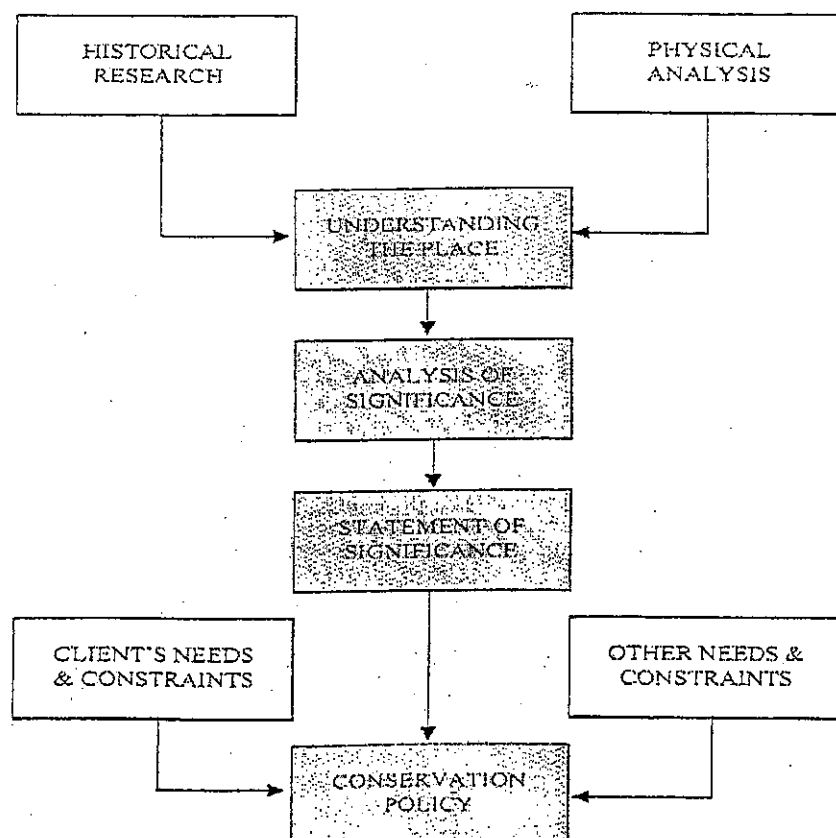


Fig.1-3 Diagram of the Conservation Plan Process

The team responsible for the study consisted of:

Sean Johnson	Conservation Architect Heritage Group, Dept. of Public Works & Services
Catherine Macarthur	Conservation Architect Heritage Group, Dept. of Public Works & Services
Dr. J.W. Turner	Historian Hunter History Consultants
Warwick Mayne-Wilson	Landscape Heritage Consultant Mayne-Wilson and Associates
John Carr	Heritage Architect, Hunter-New England Region, Dept. of Public Works & Services

The study was carried out in two stages. The first stage was completed in November 1996. It involved researching and writing the history and comparative analysis of the site without visiting it, and resulted in a draft statement of significance. The history was prepared by The Stage 1 report was distributed to interested parties and in July 1997 the Heritage Group was commissioned to complete the conservation plan.

The second stage commenced with a site inspection of the gaol and associated police properties by conservation architect, S Johnson in August 1997. The inspection work was not able to be completed at the first site visit due to access restrictions. S Johnson ceased working on the report, and C Macarthur completed the second stage of the report. A second visit to the site was made by conservation architects, C Macarthur, and J Carr to complete the inspection. Aspects requiring further research were identified and the history report was revised accordingly. The landscape architect submitted a report also. Work from these reports has been incorporated in this conservation plan, and these specialist reports are available as stand-alone documents at the Heritage Group, State Projects.¹

1.4

Acknowledgments

We wish to thank the following people for their assistance during the preparation of this report:

Ken Middlebrook - Regional Commander DOCS
 John Partridge - Records Officer DOCS
 Adrian Howard - Governor
 Roy Mitcherson (and staff) - Acting Governor
 John Laczkowski - First Class Prison Officer of Maitland Gaol
 Peter Cameron and Jan Sommers - Maitland City Council
 Professor John Ramisland - History Dept. University of Newcastle
 Peter Exton and Russell Rodrigo - Infrastructure Partnership, DPWS
 Anna Christie - Client Services Division, DPWS

1.5 Other Heritage Assessments & Planning Constraints

The Maitland Correctional Centre and Police properties are listed in the Registers of the National Estate, National Trust of Australia (NSW) and in the Heritage and Conservation Register established by the Department of Corrective Services under Section 170 of the Heritage Act.

The Gaol, Police Barracks (including Stables/outbuildings), and Police Lock-up (including cottage) are listed as heritage items of State significance in the Maitland Local Environmental Plan 1993. These sites are also listed in the Hunter Regional Environmental Plan 1989, which was superceded by the LEP.

The site and the buildings are not subject to a Conservation Order under the NSW Heritage Act, 1977.

1.6 Abbrieviations

AONSW	Archives Office of New South Wales
DLWC	Department of Lands and Water Conservation
DOCS	Department of Corrective Services
DPWS	Department of Public Works and Services
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Sites
JLC	Journal of the Legislative Council
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
M.L.	Mitchell Library
NSWGG	New South Wales Government Gazette
n.d.	No date
SPF	Small Pictures File, Mitchell Library
SMH	Sydney Morning Herald

1.7 Photographic credits

PE	Peter Exton
WMW	Warwick Mayne-Wilson
SJ	Sean Johnson
CM	Catherine Macarthur

END NOTES

1 Turner Dr J.W., *History of Maitland Gaol*, Final Report, December 1997.

Mayne-Wilson Associates, *Landscape Conservation Report on the Maitland Correctional Centre*, September 1997.

2.0

HISTORY OF MAITLAND GAOL

The text of this section is based on a report by the Consultant Historian, Dr J.W. Turner.¹

2.1 INTRODUCING MAITLAND GAOL

Maitland Gaol is located between John and Lindsay Streets, East Maitland. It has been in use since the 1840s but from time to time its function within the N.S.W. prison system has changed. During the last century it served as the main gaol of northern New South Wales, taking in both short and long term prisoners and some special prisoners from other areas.

Early in the present century the role of the gaol altered to take in mainly short term male prisoners from the northern areas of the state: it became the reception prison for the Hunter Region and served in this capacity until the 1950s. It also housed particular classes of prisoners such as those in need of protection or special treatment.

By the 1950s the future of the gaol was doubtful because it was considered outdated but by 1967 it was classified as a maximum security prison: ² it still plays that role.

2.2 RATIONALE FOR THE GAOL

European settlement of the Hunter Valley was delayed by the presence of a penal settlement at Newcastle and the first land grants were not made until 1821. Attracted by the availability of fertile land in a well-watered valley, settlers began to rush to the area in 1823 and by the end of the decade the Hunter was one of the most populous districts in New South Wales. As T.M. Perry remarked in *Australia's First Frontier, The Spread of Settlement in New South Wales, 1788-1829*, "by 1829 it had become the most populous and intensively used of all" the areas outside Cumberland to be considered for farming development."

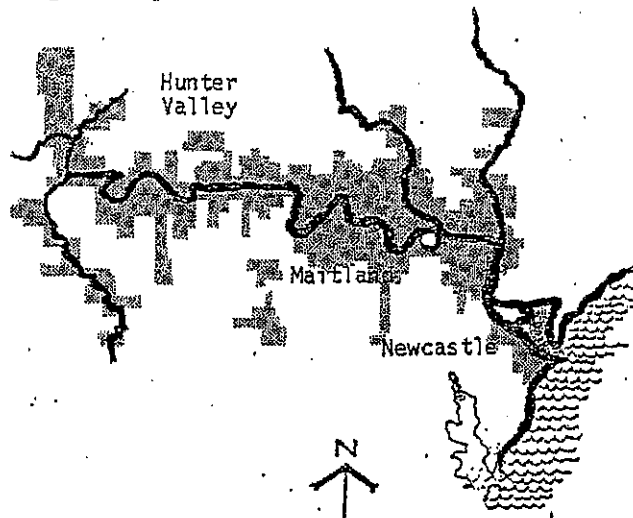


Fig. 2-1 Land Grants in 1825 (Reproduced from Dept of Public Works, Development Plan - Phase One, 1980, p.6)

As settlement proceeded a town became necessary to serve commercial purposes and to provide the usual government services such as law and order and administration. Newcastle was expected to become the main town in the Valley but its location was disadvantageous once steam navigation reached the Colony in 1831. With paddle steamers available Morpeth, at the head of navigation, became the port of the region and would have been its main town if the land there had not already been alienated by the Crown. In these circumstances the Governor decided in 1829 to establish a town as close to the head of navigation as possible and on high ground to avoid the floods to which the Hunter was already subject. He chose what is now East Maitland but was simply named Maitland in 1829 when the town was laid out.

The town plan of East Maitland has been singled out by D.L. Jeans as the most distinguished design in Sir Thomas Mitchell's long period as surveyor-general. The plan was based on a right-angled triangle, with the apex at the junction of the Newcastle and Morpeth roads where a cattle market adjoined the inn already on the site. Separating the residential and commercial sectors of the town and relegating noxious activities to its fringe, Mitchell placed the main commercial axis, High Street, with vistas

provided by the placement of sites for public buildings in line with their open ends. The higher ground is occupied in this way by a plan which attempts to exploit the possibilities offered for a variety of internal spaces and vistas while contributing an attractive feature as a whole for the aesthetic improvement of the surrounding areas.³

At the head of Lindesay Street, Mitchell located the "Barracks and Public Building", close to the site now occupied by Maitland Gaol. Although the gridiron design minimised the impact of the triangular design on the remaining sides of the triangle, the western boundary was highlighted by the retention of an avenue of trees in the park, which Mitchell reserved as he considered it "important to supply by art the natural defects of the country even with respect to the ornamental."

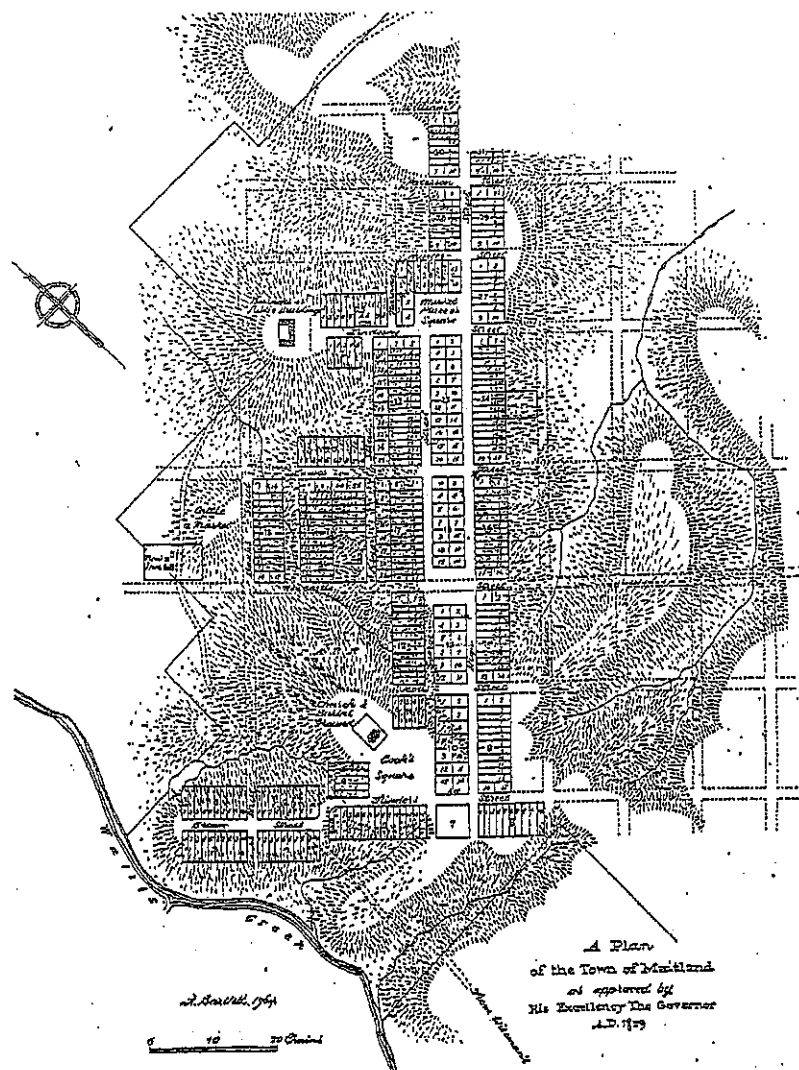


Fig. 2-2 Plan of the Town of Maitland as approved by the Governor 1829 (Re-drawn by A Bartlett for Australian Planning Institute Journal, October 1965.)

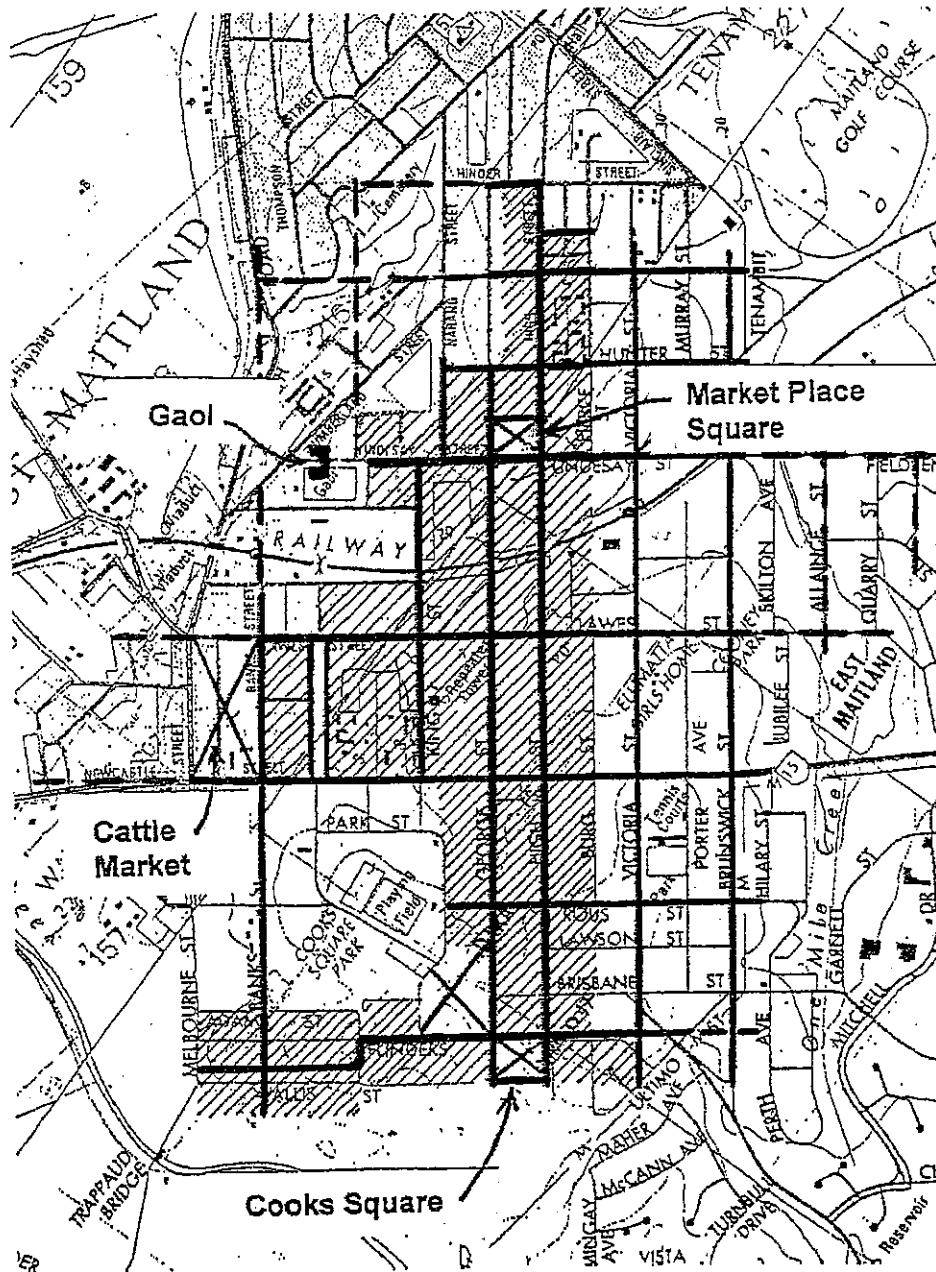


Fig. 2-3 Current Plan of East Maitland. (Hatched area and heavy lines indicate town as intended in Fig 2-2 1829, overlaid with the actual plan today. Source Topographic map 1:25,000 Maitland 9232-4-S and Beresfield 9232-3-N.)

One and a half centuries later, and after White's design had been subjected to various unfriendly intrusions, the author of the State Heritage Inventory for the Hunter Region still thought highly of this plan:

The land then rises generally to the south and south-east. Within the town the highway and the railway enter from Wallis Creek and run along the floor of a depression between two minor ridges. There are major open spaces at the spur of each of these ridges with views between them across the main business centre. The feature has been exploited by a tree-lined axis running along William Street which links the two. The views from Cooks Park in the south across to the Court House in the north are outstanding. From the other direction St. Peters Church dominates the view.

and

By far the best visual feature is the vista along William Street to the Court House. It would be one of the very few axial vistas in Australia either planned or unintentional. It is broken at its north-eastern end by the railway line. This has no real impact on the vista from Cooks Square. From the Court House however there is no similar vista. This is partly due to the railway line and partly to the fact that St. Peters Church is off the centre-line of the axis. There are nevertheless excellent views from the Court House and from a small footbridge over the railway itself.

The view takes in the large simple roof shapes of colonial style buildings, trees, chimneys and the more dominant large old institutional buildings. In spite of the presence of a number of modern buildings the area still maintains much of its historic character.⁴

The photograph of figure 2-4 clearly shows the William Street axial vista towards the gaol and courthouse.

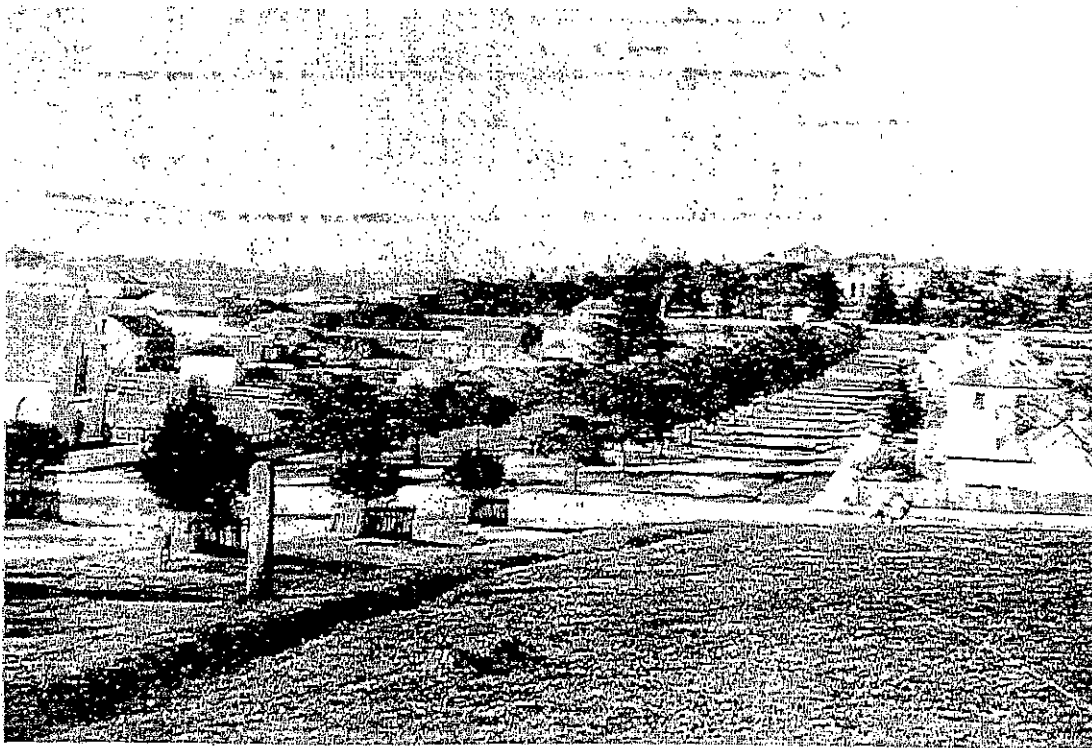


Figure 2-4 William Street, Looking towards the gaol, c.1880 (SPF)

In providing for a court house and gaol the Government in 1829 was not necessarily expecting that the gaol would serve the whole region: at that early stage of development, it is doubtful if Newcastle had been written off as the principal town of the Hunter Valley.

The gaol in Newcastle was constructed between 1816 and 1818 purely to serve the penal settlement. After the area was opened to free settlers it began to serve as the gaol of the northern region, holding convict workers sentenced to terms of imprisonment as punishment for minor offences, convicts awaiting assignment to employers and people awaiting trial for serious offences. It had room for 166 prisoners according to a return prepared in 1836 but it rarely held so many. However, the gaol had not been soundly built, was not very secure and suffered from a more serious disadvantage: it was at the extremity of the district it served and prisoners often had to be escorted from other parts

their trial. Such travel was slow and expensive because the prisoners had to be escorted. Clearly, a gaol more centrally situated would save time and money: the Government would have to find the funds to build a new one.

2.3 AGITATION FOR A NEW GAOL IN MAITLAND

Although the 1829 Plan of the Town of Maitland (fig 2-2) indicates the concept of the future town, an undated map, (fig 2-5) showing the planned boundaries, with farmhouses on some grants and a scatter of buildings at the junction of the Newcastle to West Maitland and Morpeth roads, is more indicative of the extent of settlement in 1829.⁵ The development of the town is charted in the following photographs (Figs. 2-6 to 2-8).

During the 1830s the Maitland area continued to develop and by 1841 the eastern and western sections had a total population of 2,768, second only to Parramatta (5,389) in New South Wales apart from Sydney and roughly twice the size of the population of Newcastle. It was not only the principal town of the Hunter Valley, it was playing a key role in the development of the northern districts of the Colony. As early as 11 June 1835, the *Colonist* reported that the Government was "determined to erect the public buildings required for the neighbourhood on the east side of the creek (Wallis) ... It is shortly expected that a Court House, a Jail and an Episcopalian Church will shortly [sic] be erected." On 26 October 1835 the Colonial Secretary called tenders for clearing, stumping and burning off fifty acres in East Maitland, including the gaol and court house reserve, the cattle market, Banks Street as far as the Police Barracks, William Street, the church reserve, King Street and part of Lowe's (later Lawes) Street.⁶

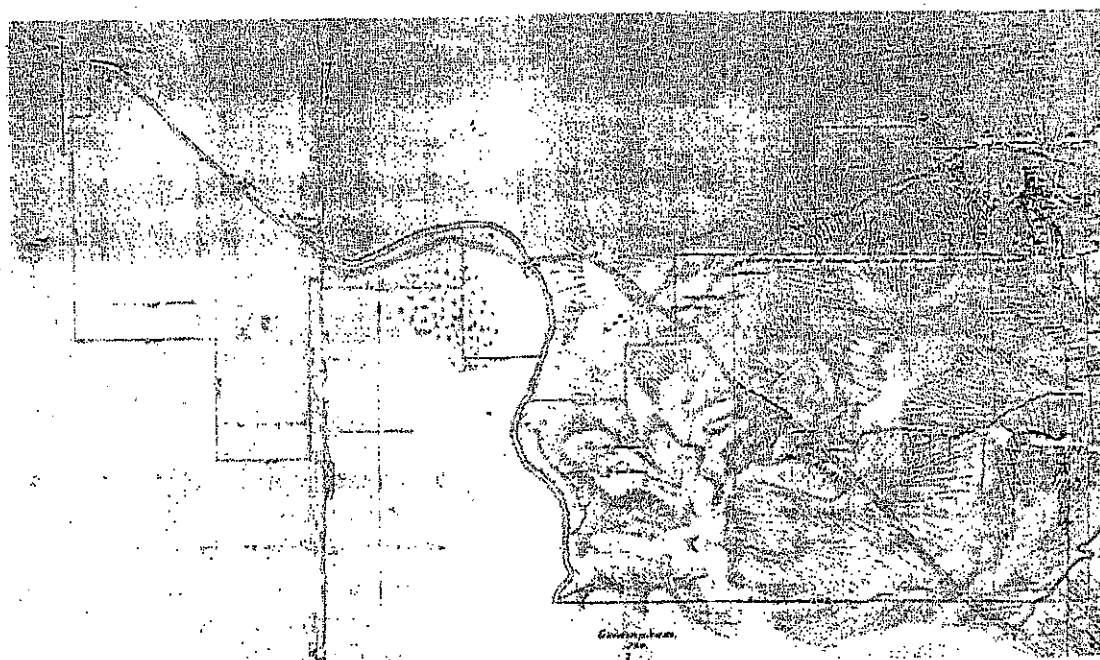


Figure 2-5 Undated map, AO 3628

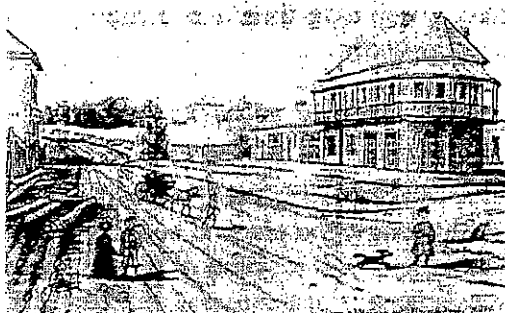


Figure 2-6 Entrance to East Maitland by the Morpeth Road, by John Hardwick, c.1853 (SPF)

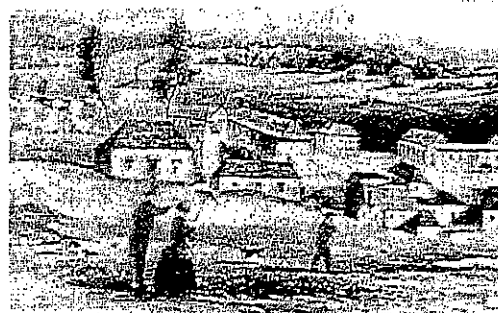


Figure 2-7 East Maitland, by F.C. Terry 1855 (SPF)

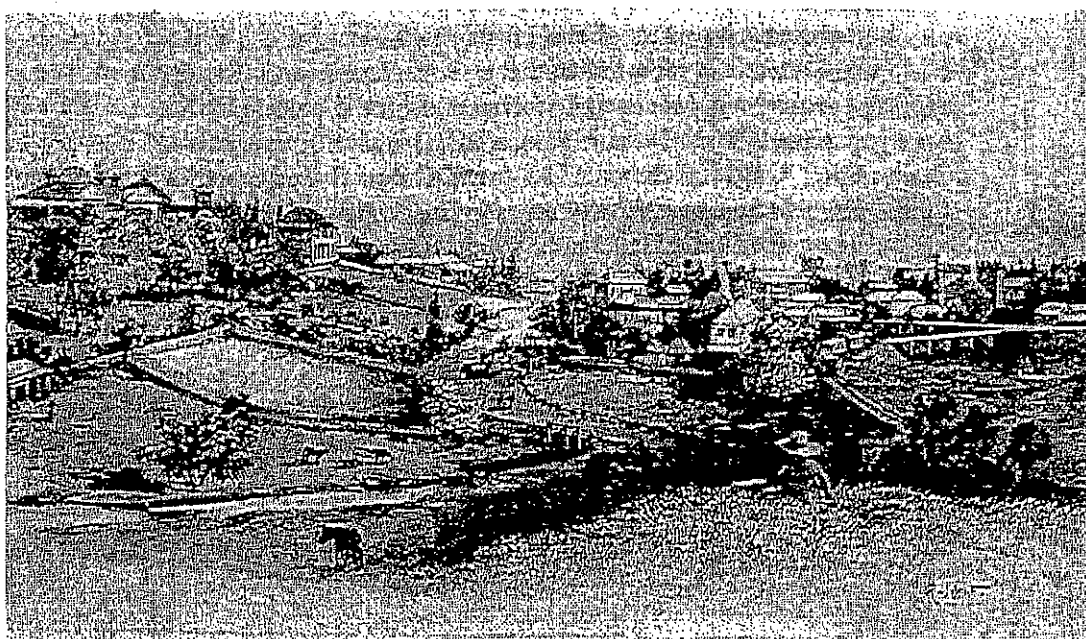


Figure 2-8 East Maitland, from the Picturesque Atlas of Australasia, 1888

2.4 DESIGNING THE GAOL

Mortimer Lewis Senior (1796-1879), Colonial Architect from 1835 until 1849, designed several gaols which are known as "Inspectors' Gaols" because their design was influenced by the penal philosophy of Inspectors of Prisons in England. Concerned to provide for the separation of prisoners into separate classes to prevent contamination and to allow a range of punishments, especially for female prisoners, Lord Glenelg, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, directed Governor George Gipps in 1837 to introduce the Inspectors' system to New South Wales. As J.S. Kerr points out, this led to the construction of gaols of this type at Port Phillip, Bathurst, Goulburn and Maitland.⁷

These new gaols were intended to allow the isolation of prisoners so that they could be reformed by methods explained by A.G.L. Shaw in *Convicts and the Colonies*, as "cellular isolation, in the form of 'separate confinement' with only instructors and officials to mitigate the prisoners' solitude."⁸ To accomplish this the Inspectors

safe custody and the classification of prisoners, and is situated at a distance of 20 miles from the assize town."¹⁹ They claim that nearly £6,000 had been spent on the walls of the gaol without any benefit to the district or the Government.

Although this petition met with a cool response from the Governor, who pointed out that the construction of the gaol had always been conditional on the availability of prison labour, a foundation stone was laid on February 16, 1844, perhaps to placate public opinion. The stone was laid within the gaol enclosure, near the north-west corner. Inside the stone was placed a sealed bottle containing several coins of the reigns of George III, George IV, William IV and Queen Victoria and an inscription stating that

On the 16th day of February, in the year of Our Lord, 1844, in the seventh year of the reign of her most gracious Majesty, Queen Victoria, and in the sixth year of the administration of the Government of New South Wales by his Excellency, Sir George Gipps, the first stone of this gaol was laid by Edward Denny Day Esq., Police Magistrate of Maitland: Mortimer William Lewis Esq., Colonial Architect.²⁰

With the wall in progress, the Government Architect called tenders on 15 April 1839 for the erection of "the new gaol at Maitland" but contracts were not let because the tendered prices were too high and there were to be considerable additional delays in construction, partly because of the onset of depression in 1843.²¹ In the meantime the gaol site came into limited use.

In October 1843 two Aborigines, Harry and Melville, who had been convicted at the Maitland Assizes of the murder of a white child at Stanhope, were brought from the Newcastle Gaol to East Maitland for execution: they spent their last night "lodged in one of the empty boxes in the new gaol yard ..." ²². The boxes referred to were probably those previously in use to house convicts engaged in road work in the Maitland district. As they were now standing within the walls of the gaol they may have been used for other prisoners as well as Harry and Melville.

The First Wing of the Prison

By 18 May 1844 arrangements had been made for the extraction of stone from a quarry at Morpeth, the work to be done by a convict ironed gang based at East Maitland.²³ The gang had to walk to the quarry and back each day and this would have reduced the output of stone but the Governor refused to allow the men to be based at Morpeth. To supervise the work at the quarry and the gaol Mortimer Lewis Junior moved from Sydney to act "as clerk of works at the New Gaol Maitland."²⁴ East Maitland stone had been tried, possibly from an excavation to the north west of the site of the gaol (Fig. 2-12) but it proved to be inferior.²⁵

Construction of the first wing of the gaol proceeded and by the end of 1845 the first cells were taking shape.²⁶ This early work may have been carried on by convict labour but the *Government Gazette* of 13 January 1846 called for masons and builders to tender for "the erection of the New Gaol, Maitland during the year 1846" and the resulting contract was awarded to the Sydney firm, Brodie and Craig, which also won the right to carry the work through to the opening of the gaol at the end of 1848.²⁷

It appears that this stage of the gaol was constructed by free labour rather than prisoners. Workers would have been recruited locally to supplement Brodie and Craig's Sydney workers. The Government's interests were protected by Mortimer Lewis Junior, the son of the Colonial Architect. Lewis Junior was in fact, if not in title, the

Peter Nicol Russell contracted to deliver 48 cast iron girders for the upper floors of the three storey section. (10 Dec. 1847)

Tenders called for the timber roof sections. (15 May 1848)

Patrick Meehan and Edward Manning contracted to supply iron railings to the balconies and staircase. (26 Feb. 1849)

The gallows were constructed in Sydney.

James Powell contracted to supply the iron gates. (11 April 1849)

As the tenders listed by Roser reveal, the gaol was still incomplete when it opened at the beginning of 1849. Apart from the unfinished buildings there was no separate building for female prisoners when Maitland took over from Newcastle as gaol of the region. This is evident from a plan of the prison drawn by James Cox, the gaoler in August 1850.²⁸ At that stage the complex consisted of a perimeter wall and gate house, A Wing and adjacent exercise yard, women's exercise yard in the eastern corner, a slop yard with closets in the western corner, three wooden accommodation boxes, a blacksmith's shop and a partly constructed two-room building.

The Second Construction Phase

After a comparative lull in construction in the 1850s, the pace quickened as Roser points out: stone came from Ravensfield Quarry near Bishop's Bridge, about 5 miles south west of Maitland district and for monumental purposes. A combination of free and convict labour was used to carry out the following work:

- 1861 a range of solitary confinement cells later incorporated in the north-western wing.
- 1862 stone stockpiling began again.
- c.1863 watch towers and temporary and permanent hospital.
- 1864-5 lower range of cells of north-western wing.
- 1866 Lewis, Junior, designed upper two ranges of cells in north-western wing and Thomas Alston commenced their construction.
- 1867 John Paton carried out drainage works at the gaol and court house.
- 1868 (onwards) the construction of warders' quarters and governor's residence flanking the John Street entrance and the replacement of the original governor's and wardens' accommodation with a two storey block (chapel, school and workshops) opposite the John Street entrance and between the cell blocks: a range of workshops and yards were built behind this structure from 1870. Fencing was carried out at the gaol in 1868.
- 1875 The present houses for the Governor and Lieutenant Governor flanking the entrance were completed by contractor Henry Noad.
- 1887 Cell ranges on the upper floors of B Wing completed.

The Original Design Completed

According to Roser, the additions undertaken in 1875 were practically completed by the end of 1876 after J. Sullivan had plastered the gaoler's quarters in the last quarter of that year. Although aware of subsequent changes, Roser sees the gaol as having been designed and completed, more or less faithfully, within three decades and under the auspices of the two government architects Lewis and Barnet: "the gaol is basically a product of some 30 years of unrelenting toil from its commencement under Mortimer Lewis to its completion under James Barnet." However, research undertaken for this report indicates a much later date for the completion of the upper floors of the north-western wing.

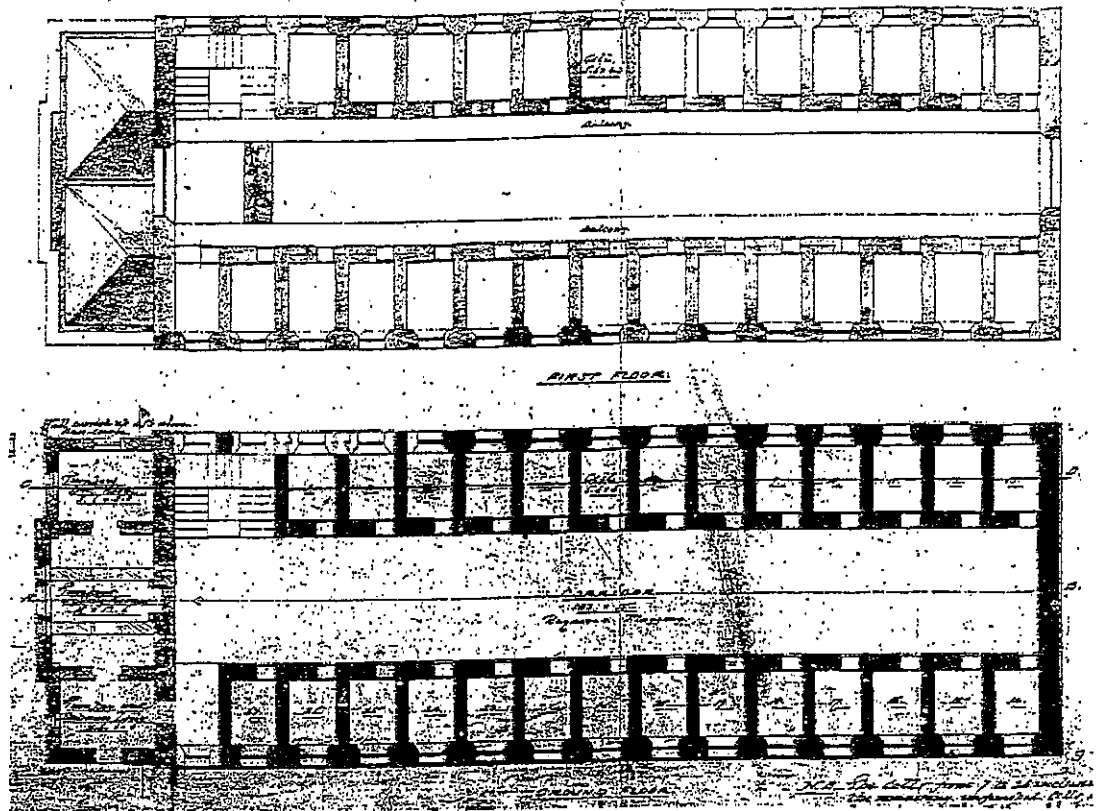


Fig. 2-12 Ground and First Floor Plans of 'B' Wing, Note in Lewis' handwriting reads: cells from 7 to 26 inclusively have been covered in (illegible) the remaining unfinished cells on the ground floor will shortly be ready for the ceiling plates'. (Detail from DPW&S Plan Room Drawing No. PC321/40)

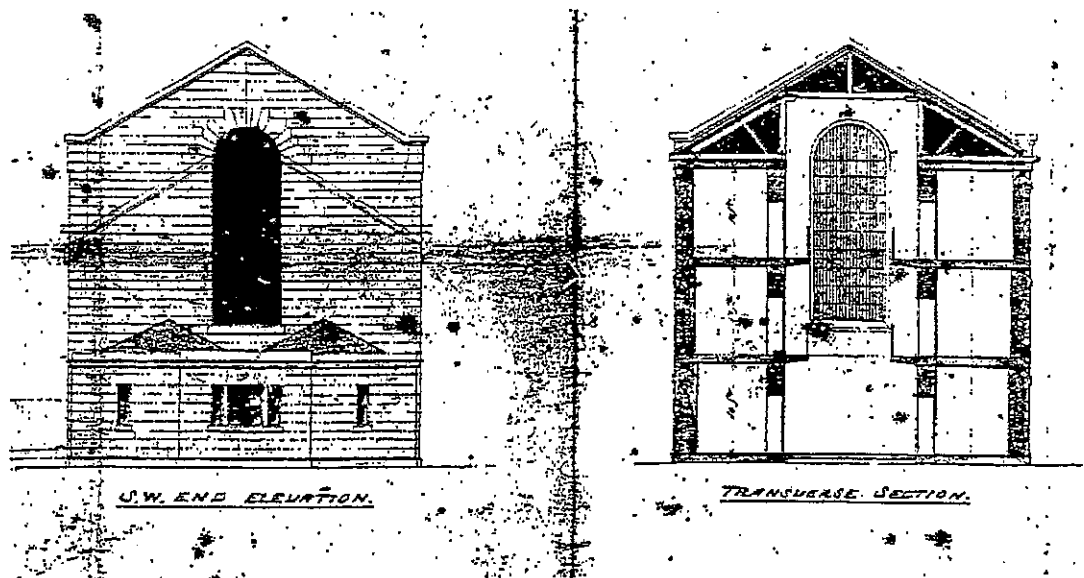


Fig. 2-13 End Elevation and Cross Section of 'B' Wing, Signed Mortimer William Lewis, 23 August 1866 (Detail from DPW&S Plan Room PC 321/40)

A newspaper cutting, tentatively dated 16 September 1887 and confirmed by internal evidence to emanate from that period (Appendix 2) shows that this work was not completed until 1887. Drawings signed by Mortimer Lewis Jnr. indicate that only the ground floor of B Wing had been completed by August 1866, not three floors as Roser believed.

Late Nineteenth Century Developments

During the 1880s the development of the gaol continued both inside and outside the original walls. The cell ranges on the second and third floors of B Wing, designed in 1866 and completed in 1887, added 84 cells to the gaol's accommodation. The were inspected by a journalist, probably in September 1887:

This consists solely of sleeping cells. A wide corridor runs down the centre, well lighted by the large windows at either end. To the right and the left, running the whole length of the building, are the cells, both upstairs and on the ground-floor. An open gallery on the first floor runs round the interior of the building. All the cells in this wing are single cells. There are 84 of them, and the whole of them are at present in use.²⁹

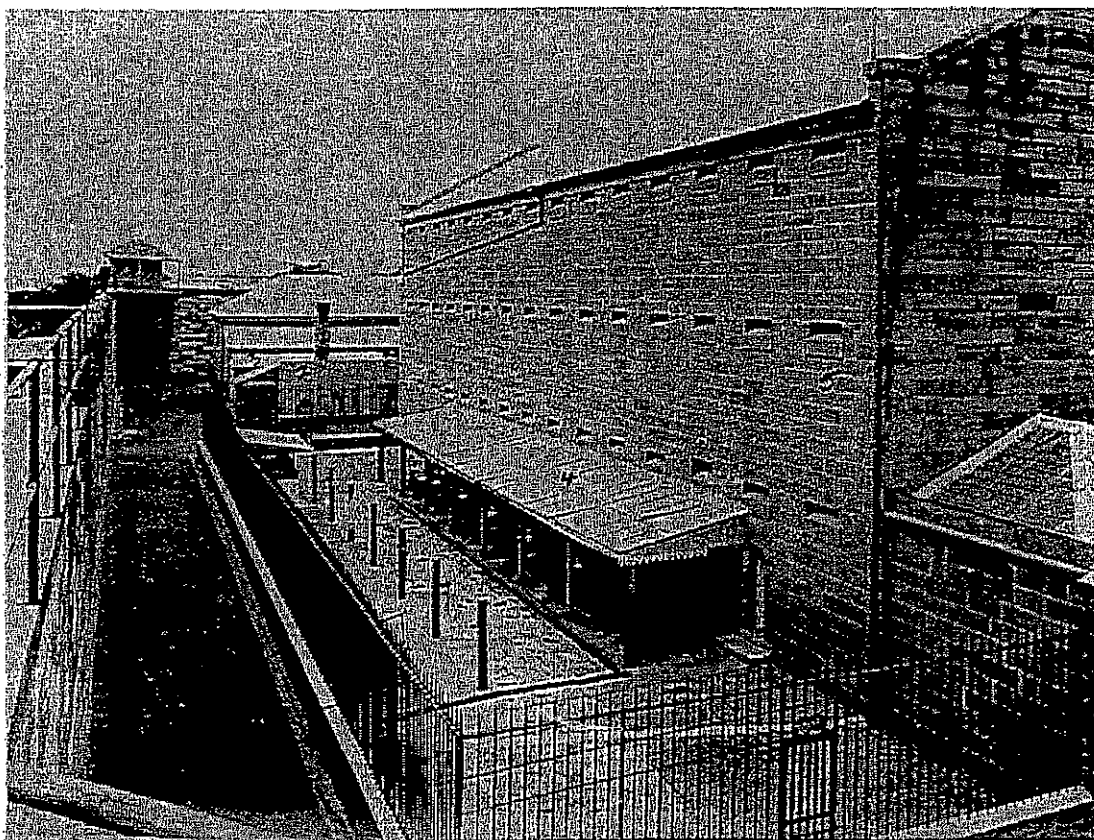


Fig. 2-14 View from tower showing 'B' wing in foreground, n.d. (photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS)

While this work was in progress an additional area on the eastern side of the gaol was being enclosed to become its "eastern extension".

Construction carried out by contractors is relatively easy to trace through the calling of tenders but work performed by prison labour is not nearly so visible in the records. According to newspaper references, the long contemplated extension of the southern wall of the gaol was in progress by May 1883³⁰. A "graceful pine and other trees that have been an ornament to the locality" had been removed to allow the extension of the side walls as far as the fence between the police quarters and the gaol. In March 1884

the *Maitland Mercury* recorded that good progress had been made with the walls of the extension which would be 20ft. high, 130ft. wide and 264ft. deep. The new section was intended to be used for labour yards and other purposes. John Lowe was supervising the convicts' work which was "of stone on very substantial foundations, and will be in harmony with the main structure."³¹

The date of completion of the extension's walls has not been located but planning for the new enclosure was under way. Intended in 1886 to provide four airing yards to facilitate the separation of different classes of prisoners during exercise periods, the new area had been committed by 1888 to a women's cell range, a laundry, a hospital for women, workshops and another proposed cell range.³² Progress in the implementation of this plan is documented in the Annual Report of the Controller of Prisons for 1891 which announces the completion of new and convenient workshops, the commencement of "the new wing for females" and "the formation of six classification yards. When finished, these yards will greatly improve the organisation of the gaol."

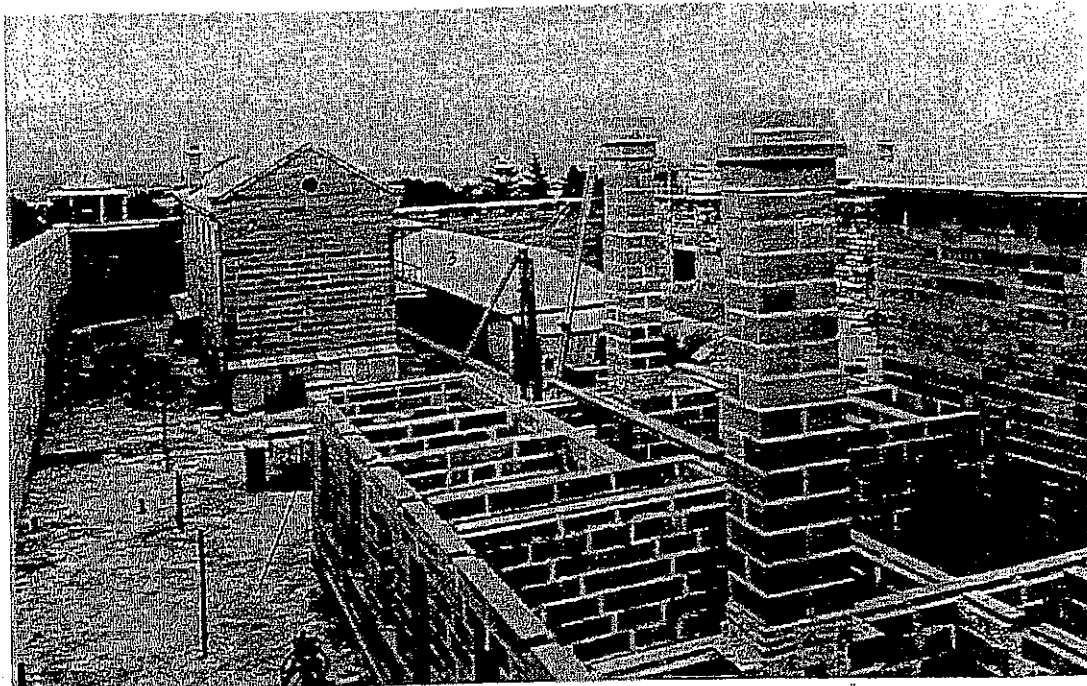


Fig. 2-15 The Eastern Extension, construction of new female cell wing in foreground, c.1897, (photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS)

According to Kerr and Annable the ground floor of C wing was designed for cell accommodation with a work-room, hospital and attendant's room on the upper floor and by 1897 the female warder's quarters were ready to be roofed. However, it was then decided to convert the upper floor to a second tier of cells and to accomplish this major changes were required. Kerr and Annable³³ detail changes to windows and ventilators and the removal of most of the construction on the upper floor and, on the ground floor, changes to the south-west entrance and the stairs which were replaced by a metal staircase and gallery.

It seems that the post 1897 changes to the buildings of the eastern extension were due to F.W. Neitenstein, who became Controllor General of N.S.W. Prisons in 1896 after spending nearly two decades as Commander and Superintendent of the nautical school ships *Vernon* and *Sobraon*. He and his assistant, Sam McCauley, then proceeded to reform comprehensively the N.S.W. prison system according to principles which Kerr

defines as "restricted association, the preservation of individual prisoner identity and giving extra emphasis to the reformation of juveniles and first timers."

In 1895 a chimney stack 65ft. high was erected in the gaol to serve a new steam cooking plant and hot water system for baths. Its stone base, which was 12ft. wide and about the same height, was built by prisoners but the brickwork was carried out by a contractor, Mr. Edges. Lasseter and Co. of Sydney were importing the cooking plant from the Lymington Works in England.³⁴

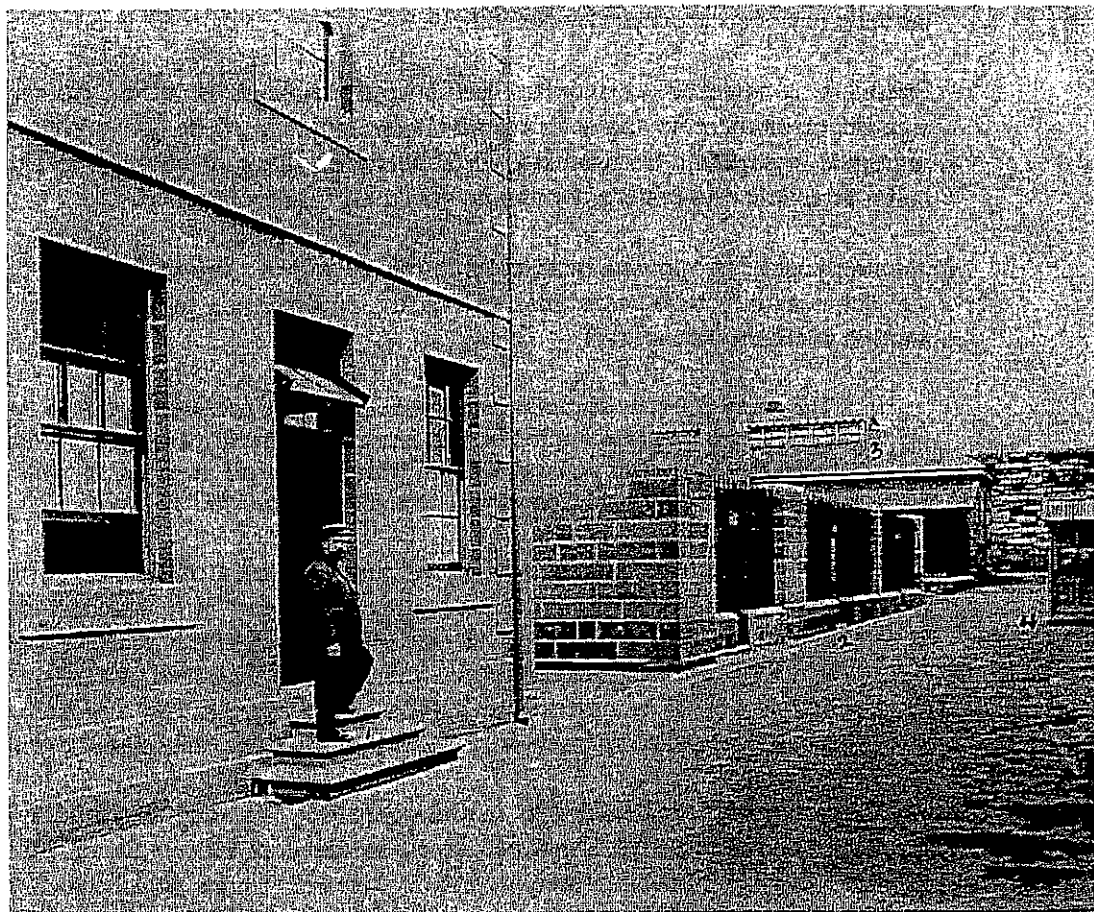


Fig.2-16 Cookhouse with new chimney stack, gaol office on left, c.1897 (photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS)

2.6 THE GAOL IN THE PRESENT CENTURY

The opening of Sydney's Long Bay Gaol early in this century and the removal of many prisoners to State asylums brought a long period of gaol re-organisation to an end. The policies of the Comptroller General Neitenstein were re-affirmed by his deputy, Sam McCauley, who took over the top job in 1914, and the role of Maitland Gaol was determined. It would serve as the reception prison for the Hunter Region and also accommodate special prisoners. As the 1914 annual report of the Controller General explained:

Maitland Gaol, owing to its situation as a centre of a rapidly growing district, and the opening of important railway lines, will be made more use of in future. With its facilities for the carrying on of trades, for the proper control of prisoners, and being within a reasonable distance of Sydney, it is admirably suited for the treatment of prisoners whom it may be found desirable to remove from the large gaols for special reasons.

In fulfilling this role the gaol received male and female prisoners and this continued until 1951 when overcrowding led to the exclusion of females.³⁵

The term "prisoners whom it may be desirable to remove from the large gaols" gave the authorities wide scope. Among those selected were prisoners found guilty of sexual crimes and in 1925 the Gaoler reported "the classification of the gaol as one set apart for sexual offenders and prisoners for special treatment was rigorously adhered to."³⁶ Naturally, the nature of this treatment was not made public nor were any more details provided in the report for 1937 which pointed out that "the special treatment for sexual perverts has been successfully carried out."

Prisoners considered to require special protection from other prisoners formed a significant element in the gaol's population and also those the authorities wished to segregate or separate from others. In 1990, when the gaol held 185 prisoners, 44 were being protected the eastern compound was used for this purpose.

Another special group was mentioned in the Governor's report for 1952-53: these were the homosexuals who were praised for their obedience to prison rules but created another problem for the staff.

The recidivist homosexual prisoner is beginning to present a problem that will have to receive consideration in the near future as the daily average for that type of prisoner has risen to seventeen. Such a number of prisoners of this type is harder to supervise and keep separate from other prisoners.³⁷

As mainly short-sentenced prisoners were admitted, large numbers passed through the gaol each year. In 1915, for example, the daily average was 97 males and 3 females but 711 prisoners were imprisoned there during the year. By 1925 the daily average was 131 males and 2 females and the total for the year was 596 received and 632 discharged. By 1952, when capacity was assessed at 120, the daily average was 137 and it had become necessary to place three prisoners in some cells, a practice considered undesirable.

The daily average exceeded 230 in the year 1957-58 and the Annual Report of the Department of Corrective Services described the gaol as too small and outmoded to continue as the Hunter's principal prison. However, the possibility remained of its retention as a reception prison after modernisation. The Department was planning to build a multi-purpose classification prison in the coalfields area but had not yet found a site.

The plans for Cessnock Corrective Centre were drawn up in 1963, altered in 1968 and the centre opened in 1972. It emerged after this long period as a complex of four medium security blocks within a double security fence guarded from four watchtowers. This left the maximum security role to Maitland Gaol. Accordingly the Government took steps to improve the prison and its amenities.

2.7 AN EXTENSION OF LIFE FOR THE GAOL

Between 1972 and 1980 an extensive programme of alterations and improvements was undertaken at Maitland, costing almost \$2.5m. (in January 1980 dollars). A great many other changes were also under way in 1980 when the Department of Corrective Services commissioned a development plan for the gaol. These included a new officers amenities block and the air conditioning of the hospital and tailors' shop.³⁸

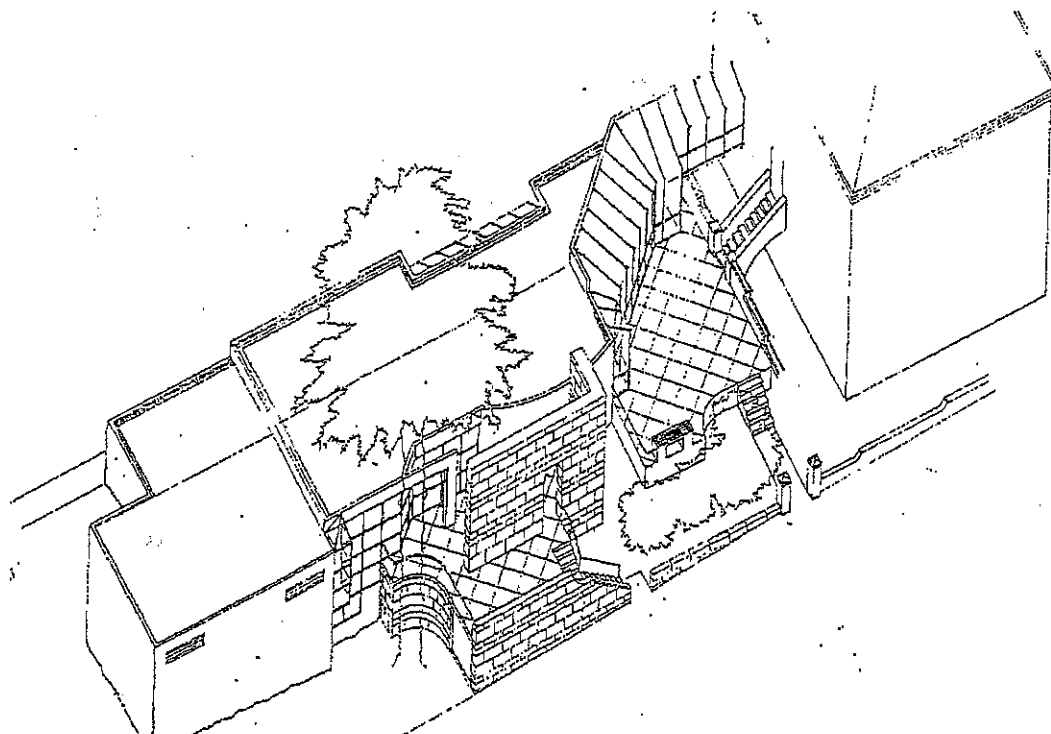


Fig. 2-17 Officers' Amenities Extension, Axonometric 7/3/80, (DPW&S Plan Room No. PC 321/192)

Capital Works 1972 to 1980³⁹

New Kitchen and Boiler House	\$2,583
Conversion of Existing Residences	\$14,559
Water Services	\$28,332
External Development	\$1,333,186
New Kitchen	\$375,011
Police Barracks	\$93,922
Workshop Rebuilding	\$52,053
Electrical Reticulation	\$146,500
Security Tower to West	\$27,449
Store	\$61,480
Fire Mains	\$19,023
Security	\$57,426
Dental Surgery and Special Office Accommodation	\$6,694
Contact Visiting Area	\$54,979
Electrical Upgrading	\$53,889
Officers' Amenities	\$75,181
Air Conditioning of Saddlery Shop	\$10,000
New Laundry Equipment	\$10,000
New Public Address System	\$15,000
<u>TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED</u> in constant terms of January 1980 dollars	\$2,460,515

Additions and alterations to the Gaol in the period between 1980 and 1997 are possibly the most significant in the recent history of the Gaol in terms of visual impact on the whole complex. These changes are of two major types:

- construction of a new cell wing and yards, general upgrading and visitation facilities in the Eastern Extension of the Gaol and
- increased security measures generally including new catwalks, steel fenced areas, razor wire and electronic surveillance etc.

Specific dates and details of these recent changes have not been researched for this report, however would be available through DPWS and DOCS records at the time.

2.8 THE GAOL IN OPERATION

Religion in the Gaol

The gaol was opened just after the era of convict transportation had ended in New South Wales but many of its features continued to affect the gaols of the Colony. The British authorities had placed great faith in the power of religion to assist in the reformation of prisoners. Religious tracts and bibles were issued to the convicts in great numbers and attendance at church services was obligatory even when military officers had to conduct the services because clergymen were unavailable. The belief that religion could assist in rehabilitation continued to influence the design of colonial gaols and the life of prisoners and it was inevitable that a chapel would be built at Maitland.

The chapel was part of a two storey block built in 1867-68 on the site of the original Governor's and warder's accommodation just opposite the entrance.⁴⁰ Workshops occupied the ground floor and the first floor was given over to the chapel and a school room. The chapel was the only room in the prison with some claim to softness and beauty. Spartan as it was compared to churches beyond the walls, the extensive use of cedar in the furniture and its timber ceiling offered some relief to the stone which predominated elsewhere.



Fig. 2-18 Interior of Chapel, (photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS)

Year by year the chaplains (Catholic, Presbyterian, Methodist and Anglican) made their reports listing their attendances and almost invariably testifying to the attentiveness and excellent behaviour of the prisoners. In 1915, for example, the Rev. Francis O'Gorman reported "I am happy to state that our ministrations, as well as the visits of the Sisters of Mercy, were fully availed of." In the same year the Presbyterian chaplain commented "I have invariably found the men most attentive and well behaved. The various officials have always treated me with the greatest courtesy", and the Methodist chaplain reported "the conduct of the prisoners has been very good, and they have shown interest in the truths of the Gospel brought under their notice. I have hope that these services, with lessons from the Divine Word and the Life of the Divine Saviour especially, will under God's blessing, issue in those results that shall make for the moral and spiritual benefit of those concerned."

The Church of England Chaplain made a more detailed report, thanking the gaol staff profusely for their support, as the ministers invariably did: perhaps this meant that the warders were always present during services to maintain order if required. During 1915 the prisoners had received seven addresses on temperance from members of the clergy and Archdeacon Walter Tollis commented:

I would add that many who come under my care are, I believe, victims of the drinking habit, engendered by the drinking customs of the day. They fall through sins of weakness rather than through wilful and deliberate wrong doing. The Comptroller-General, if I may venture to say so, deserves the warmest thanks of all friends of the prisoners for his advocacy of temperance addresses for the benefit and uplifting of those who suffer through lack of self control.

The Archdeacon went on to praise the prison system in general:

I have the honor to report that during the past year everything, as far as I am competent to judge, has been done to effectively carry out the rules and regulations of the excellent system which the authorities have formulated for the treatment of the inmates of H.M. Gaols.

As I remarked in a former report, the reformation of the offenders is kept strictly in view, and every facility is given to encourage, both the wilful and the weak, to amend their ways.

I desire again to thank the Governor and his Staff for the kind and ready assistance afforded me in the prosecution of my duty. The inmates are most respectful and attentive during Divine Service, and I have reason to believe that they are grateful for the provision made for their moral and spiritual welfare.⁴¹

Whether the prisoners were really as attentive and respectful as the minister reported and how they really felt about lectures on temperance is open to doubt. In more recent times attendance at religious observances in the gaol have fallen away but so, too, have such attendances by other Australians.

In the 1960s the chapel was still in regular use by the Catholic, Methodist, Anglican and Salvation Army denominations and one prison officer recalls choirs of boys and girls performing there.⁴² Concert parties also used the chapel for performances before the prisoners. The 1980 Development Plan - Phase One referred to "the recent" sub-division of the chapel to provide a classroom and offices.

Industrial Activities

Long before Maitland Gaol opened penologists recognised that prisoners should be given some form of employment but this was not always done. After the gaol began to operate three main types of employment were practised there. One was the performance of routine cleaning and food preparation tasks considered necessary to the conduct of the prison. Another was the extension and improvement of the gaol buildings, an activity that occupied many of the gaol inmates during most of the last century. The third category involved the practice of a variety of trades of utility to the Government or, more rarely, the wider community.

A journalist visiting the gaol in 1887 noted that six prisoners were engaged in bookbinding and lithography and four years later the Annual Report of the Gaoler referred to the completion of "new and convenient workshops" and "several useful trades now being carried on in them."⁴³ In 1896 the Annual Report listed "bootmaking, tailoring, tinsmithing, bookbinding, lithography, blacksmithing, painting, stonecutting, carpentry, asphaltting, washing, in addition to the usual work in the ordinary service of the gaol." Land was also being prepared for cultivation and the Gaoler believed that market gardening would be beneficial to the prisoners and remunerative to the Government. The Return of the Value of Prisoner's Labour, detailed in the 1896 Annual Report shows the variety of work undertaken in Maitland Gaol. (Appendix 3)

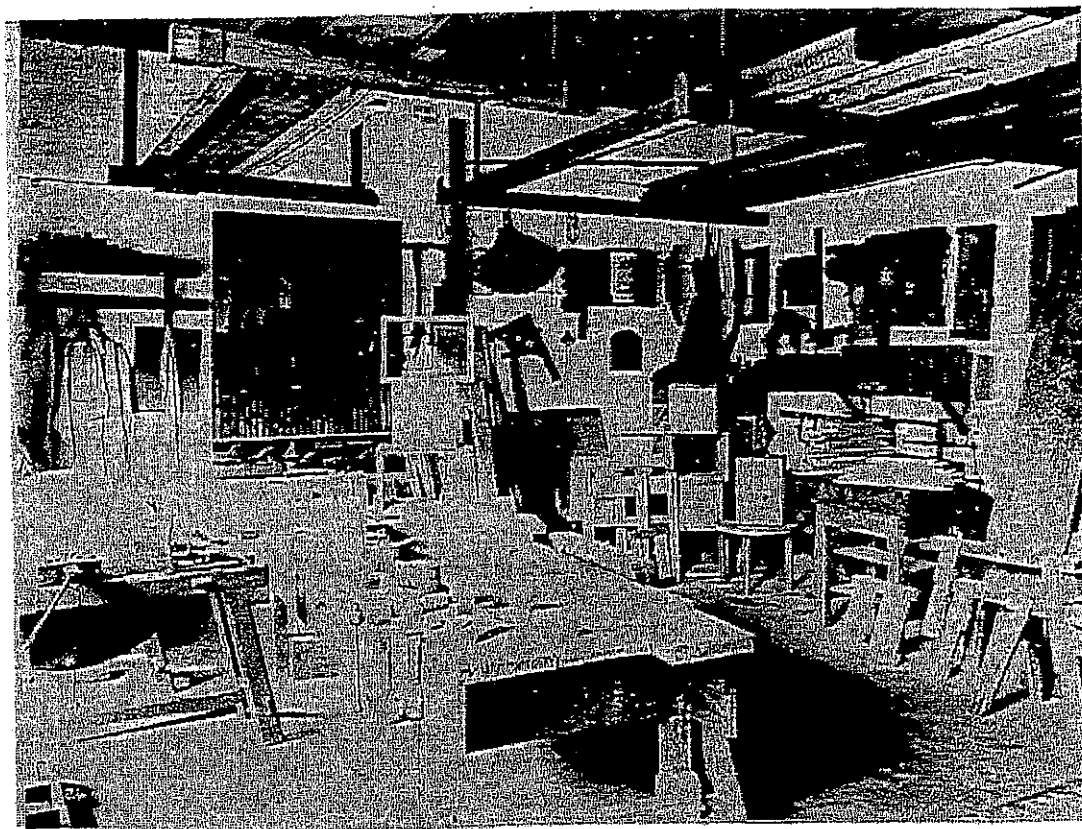


Fig. 2-19 Interior of Carpenter's Shop, (photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS)

In the present century the Government has continued to employ prisoners in what Fiori Rinaldi, in *Australian Prisons*, has called "cottage industries" but in response to union pressure has usually restricted production to items for use in the gaol or in other government departments.⁴⁴ A survey of Goulburn, Parramatta and Bathurst Gaols in 1972 showed that sewing, joinery, bookbinding, bootmaking, sheet metal/tin working, matmaking, brushmaking, soft toymaking and blacksmithing were in progress and many of these activities also existed at Maitland at various times.⁴⁵ As Rinaldi shows, the

employment of prisoners at extremely low wages in trades which are often disagreeable to them and having little or no relevance to the outside world is so inefficient and unrewarding that it is really only token work. Market gardening at Maitland may have been an exception to this rule.

Using several allotments of land in the vicinity of the gaol, the prisoners produced large quantities of vegetables for government use. In his annual report for the year ending June 1937, the Gaoler recorded the production of 37,000 lbs. weight of vegetables including a ton of potatoes and 4,480 pounds of pumpkins from "the extra ground near the Court House." From three acres of ground recently acquired from the Railways Department came 3,472 pounds of potatoes, 2,240 pounds of pumpkins and two tons of lucerne.

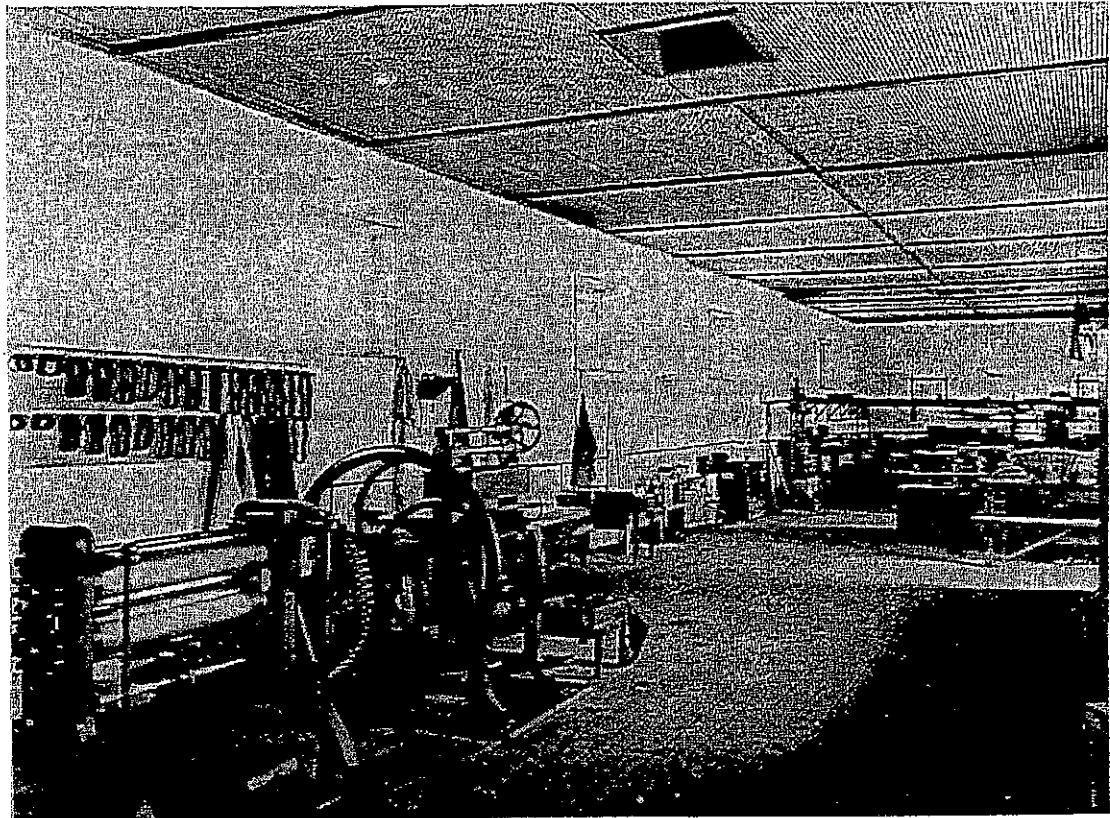


Fig. 2-20 Interior of Bootmaker's, Bookbinder's and Tailor's Shop, (photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS)

Educational Activities

From the appointment of the first clerk to the gaol soon after it opened there was an opportunity for prisoners to learn to read and write. Apart from keeping the records and attending to correspondence, the clerk was expected to conduct classes in reading and writing. By the 1880s the Gaol Chapel was used during weekdays as a schoolroom and illiterate prisoners were required to participate in a course of reading and writing conducted by a bank clerk, an embezzler who offered "a course of elementary training in those arts, beginning with the old time-honoured pot-hooks and hangers."⁴⁶

In 1887 there was a library of 300 volumes available to prisoners but their suitability in terms of subject and age is not known. The visitor who recorded these details also reported that writing materials were provided:

At the entrance to the corridor is a table containing writing paper and envelopes, at which prisoners may at stated times write to their friends - the letters, of course, having to pass the eye of one of the officials before being posted. Should the convicts be of a literary turn of mind they are supplied with paper, and are allowed to give free vent to their [inclinations]. But this sort of thing is rare with them.⁴⁷

Since World War II there has been a big improvement in educational opportunities for prisoners but how successful this has been is difficult to gauge.

Rod Kirkpatrick, staff reporter of the *Maitland Mercury*, reviewed the courses available to prisoners in 1967. Outside gaol working hours (8 am - 4 pm) on weekdays inmates were free to study and sixteen were doing correspondence courses from Sydney Technical College. Their subjects included wool classing, ticket writing, building, motor maintenance, accounting and general education to the Intermediate Certificate level. However, Mr. Justice Nagle's *Report of the Royal Commission into N.S.W. Prisons* (1978), found that the prison environment was prejudicial to educational activities and that "a drastic overhaul of the Department's educational organisation is needed. ... Education should not be merely an adjunct to the prime function of containment: it should be an integral part of the whole system."⁴⁸

Punishments

During the long history of the gaol it has witnessed all the traumas associated with Australian maximum security prisons including corporal and capital punishment. Flogging was an integral part of the convict system in force when the gaol was being constructed and sentences imposed by local magistrates would have been inflicted inside the walls of the gaol as early as 1843. In October of that year two Aborigines, Harry and Melville, who had been convicted of the murder of a child at Stanhope near Glendon, were hanged in the yard of the gaol. This appears to have been the first execution on the site and, perhaps, the most tragic:

After the ropes had been adjusted, the Rev. Mr. Wilton said, "Melville and Harry acknowledge that the Governor has done right in taking their lives, and die confessing the crime they have committed." The clergyman then left the unhappy men, and in a few minutes the bolt was drawn and the drop fell. Harry struggled for a long time, and appeared to suffer a great deal. Melville being a heavier man died sooner, though it was some time before the quivering in his limbs subsided. After hanging for an hour their bodies were lowered from the gallows, and placed in coffins, and buried in the grave yard. Both the prisoners during the whole of the awful scene conducted themselves as became men in their awful situation.⁴⁹

Executions at the gaol occurred at the rate of one or two a year from 1849 until 1854 and then became less frequent. In this period the only crimes to attract capital punishment were murder and rape. In 1860 two men were hanged on the same day, one for rape and the other for murder. Jim Crow, an Aboriginal, was convicted for a rape at Thalaba near Dungog and John Jones for the murder of a woman at Maitland. One week later a phrenologist announced that he would lecture at East Maitland, Hinton and Morpeth "on the casts and skulls of murderers, including casts of the heads of Jones and Jim Crow".⁵⁰ Thereafter, executions became rarer and the second last in the gaol occurred in 1871. The very last, the hanging of a man from the Scone district took place in 1897.

Until 1861 these executions were open to the public and large numbers of people attended, including many women and children. "Several hundred persons, including a

great number of children and some women", reported the *Maitland Mercury*, 21 August 1849, witnessed the hanging of a murderer and two years later, after a sensational murder trial, the crowd was estimated at between one and three thousand. The largest crowd ever to attend an execution at the gaol was reported to have seen the hanging in 1851 of a man who had murdered his wife: both of them were Maitlanders and this was believed to have been responsible for the large turnout.

From 1861 executions were carried out before a selected audience of police and leading citizens but this did not prevent the public taking a keen interest in these events. In the days before the last execution in 1897, despite the horror of the community at "the terrible outrage committed on his step-daughter" by the murderer, various attempts were made to save him from the gallows. A petition for his reprieve was presented to the Government without success and then, on the eve of the execution, the Rev. Henry Yarrington, Rector of St. Marys, Maitland, sent a telegram to the Acting Premier, J.M Brunker, urging a reprieve:

Terrible gloom over town and district about execution tomorrow morning. Could not temporary reprieve be granted to enquire into sexual insanity? Case quite isolated in character. Several reprieves for worse crimes lately. Mercifully reconsider before too late.⁵¹

This appeal was also rejected. These efforts to prevent another hanging, the first in twenty six years, show the changes that had occurred in community attitudes towards capital punishment.

Whereas executions at the gaol were given a great deal of attention in local newspapers, corporal punishment was usually not reported. Admittedly, in its early history flogging would have been so common an occurrence as to have no news value but with the passing of the age of convict transportation the cat-of-nine tails became redundant. Nevertheless the strap remained in use and in 1884 it was used at Maitland Gaol as a result of a sentence for indecent assault on a nine year old girl. The prisoner received twelve months gaol and fifteen strokes of the lash and the *Maitland Mercury*, 20 March 1884, reported the whipping in horrifying detail:

The whipping was privately conducted: no one was admitted to witness it except Dr. Spink, the visiting surgeon, and the governor of the gaol, and gaol officials. The other prisoners had not been released from their cells, and had no knowledge of what was about to take place. Dr. Spink examined the lad, who from the moment of his incarceration, appeared to dread very much the punishment awaiting him. At a quarter past 6 o'clock everything was in readiness, and on being strapped to the "horse" the prisoner yelled loudly, and he continued to sob bitterly as each stroke of the strap fell across his buttocks, which as usual in such cases, were quite bare. He appeared to realize very keenly the undesirable nature of the chastisement, and his flesh bore evidences that the flagellator had done his work effectively, though there was an entire absence of anything like excessive severity. The prisoner was afterwards removed to his cell to reflect on his conduct.

The whip continued to be used in executing court sentences in New South Wales until 1905 when, it appears, the State's last sentence of this kind was carried out in Maitland Gaol. In March 1905 a man was convicted of having attempted to commit a homosexual act outside Marconi's Circus, then performing at Newcastle. The Judge believed that the jury had taken a generous view of the matter and sentenced the prisoner to four years penal servitude and ten strokes of the whip.

Notorious Prisoners

In nearly 150 years of operation tens of thousands of prisoners have passed through the doors of the gaol, some to stay only a few days, others many years. Among them have been many desperate and dangerous prisoners and given the space available here and the closed nature of Corrective Services records, it is impossible to give a comprehensive account of all the prisoners who would deserve attention in a full history of the gaol. The following brief references are drawn mainly from articles based on research by Professor John Ramsland, the author of a forthcoming history of N.S.W. prisons entitled *With Just But Relentless Discipline: A Social History of Corrective Services of N.S.W.* The articles appeared in the *Maitland Mercury* of 31 July and 1 and 3 August 1996.

One of the gaol's most famous nineteenth century inmates was Louis Bertrand, the Sydney dentist who murdered the husband of one of his lovers and was sentenced to death in 1866 but reprieved on technical grounds and sent to gaol for life.

The Bertrand affair, according to Robert Travers, author of *The Amorous Dentist*, "had all the elements of a Victorian melodrama - a mustachioed villain with a penchant for disguise, a terrified young wife, a beautiful *femme fatale*, passionate love letters, a secret diary, murder and blackmail, everything, in fact, to make a rattling good blood-and-thunder epic in the old style." Bertrand became the longest serving prisoner in N.S.W. history, remaining in gaol for twenty eight years, and in 1887 a journalist saw him playing the organ in the chapel of Maitland Gaol

The only other person in the room at this time is a prisoner sitting at an organ and playing with a great deal of taste, and with exquisite feeling, some of the fine old tunes so well known in the English Church. I have a good side view of the organist, whose form, as it bent over the keyboard now and again, was like that of a man wrapped completely up in his religious feelings and in the beautiful and solemn prayers that welled out in melody from the instrument before him at the touch of his skilful fingers. A man with a piercing eye, a full, dark auburn beard and hair, and a somewhat prominent nose. "Who is that?" I asked, in a low voice - "That," replied the warder, "is the chapel organist - one of our convicts, you see" - and he was evidently quite proud of the presence of such a musician amongst them. "A convict?" I repeated somewhat incredulously - "but he has a beard, and his hair is not cut - Who is he? What is his crime?" "Oh, that is Bertrand." "What, the notorious Bertrand who murdered Mr. Kinder?" "The same".⁵²

In the present century the gaol has contained many murderers and attempted murderers, including J.F. Hayes, E.G. Steiner, Darcy Dugan, Kevin Crump, "Mad Dog" Denning, John Travers and Ivan Milat. "Chow" Hayes, as he was known, survived a life sentence for the murder of another gangster in the 1930s to be still alive today in his nineties. Steiner, who committed a murder in 1916, first escaped from Bathurst Gaol, was moved to Maitland and in 1922 escaped again. After breaking out of his cell into the main yard of the gaol he used a rope to climb the outside wall, a process that took five hours because the rope kept breaking and had to be repaired. The escapee managed to board a train for Sydney but was recaptured at Woy Woy and returned to Maitland where he later died. Denning, another murderer, was among seven hardened criminals who escaped from the gaol in 1977 to the consternation of local residents. Fortunately they were re-captured the same day.⁵³

The presence of men like Crump, Travers and Milat, in particular, is a powerful reminder of the need for maximum security institutions.

Unionists as Prisoners

Situated in the principal coal mining district of New South Wales and one with a strong union tradition, Maitland Gaol has accommodated, from time to time, prisoners whose incarceration resulted partly or wholly from their occupation. From the 1860s when miners were imprisoned in the gaol for breaking their contracts, through to the 1930s, when unionists were sentenced to gaol terms as a result of the 1929-30 lockout, Maitland has accommodated this special type of prisoner.

In 1905, for example, over 300 wheelers, the young men who moved coal from the mine face to the point where machinery took over its delivery to the surface, were summonsed for ceasing work, some of them being fined and others serving gaol sentences. In 1930, in a period of great industrial unrest, the major mines of the South Maitland coal field were closed for over a year and local courts sent some militant unionists to gaol for up to five months, in some cases with hard labour. One unionist who served time there as a result of the Rothbury Riot of 1929 had a son and nephew who were prison officers at Maitland two decades later.⁵⁴

Female Prisoners

Female prisoners, though in a minority, were a normal part of the gaol's population from 1848 until early in the present century. From then on they were present only in very small numbers and for short periods. In the 1850s Gaoler Wallace had only two ranges of cells, an upper and a lower and he used the upper range only for females. They spent the day in an exercise yard created for their use in 1849.⁵⁵ Although in a small minority, females continued to serve in the gaol and the eastern extension was intended partly for their use.

An 1888 plan proposed a new women's cell range (C Wing) with a shelter shed and earth closets in the adjacent yard and a hospital for women in the eastern extension. By 1894 female warders' quarters and a hospital for women were planned for the south-west wall of C Wing and the annual report of the Comptroller-General of Prisons for 1896 listed Maitland as one of the Colony's principal prisons for women. However, only a decade later, when the women's section of Long Bay Gaol opened, policy changed and henceforth Maitland only received females on a very short term basis. In the 1950s it was not uncommon for two or three women to be held in the gaol but only to serve sentences too short to permit their removal to Long Bay. A prison officer who joined the staff of the gaol in 1962 and served there for thirty years cannot recall any female prisoners.⁵⁶

The Riot of 1975

Riots have occurred periodically in Australian gaols since 1952 when the first modern riot occurred at Yatala. There was a major incident at Bathurst Gaol in 1974 when three quarters of the prison was destroyed and damage was estimated to exceed five million dollars.⁵⁷ Smaller riots occurred at Goulburn and Townsville and on 29 October 1975 Maitland was the scene of a riot. The Minister for Police and Corrective Services, Mr. John Waddy, visited the gaol in the morning but left without hearing from prisoners who had asked to speak to him about alleged injustices, the conditions of parole and the quality of their food. In protest about 100 prisoners, including many serving life sentences, began to demonstrate, demanding an investigation of their grievances.

Before they were forced to return to their cells, the rioters took control of the tailor's shop and started a fire which caused damage estimated by the *Newcastle Morning Herald* at \$100,000. After several discussions between the gaol superintendent and a deputation from the prisoners failed to resolve the confrontation, police and warders used teargas and batons to force the prisoners back into their cells at about 9 p.m. According to the *Herald's* reports, a large collection of weapons was found in the prisoners' possession, including:

96 daggers made from dismantled tailor's shears, maces made from bolts and weights stolen from the recreation store, bows and arrows made from drain-cleaning canes and welding rods, acid bombs, guillotine blades, hammers, saws, pipe extensions with screwdrivers jammed in the end and blades from material cutting machines.⁵⁸

In the aftermath of this riot several prisoners had their terms extended for damaging government property amid claims of injustice, bashing by warders and prisoners being forced to run the gauntlet between officers armed with batons and pick handles.⁵⁹ Many weeks passed before conditions at the gaol returned to normal.

The Staff

As one of the smaller gaols of New South Wales, Maitland did not employ the full range of professional officers found in some of the larger establishments. Thus it relied on visiting doctors, dentists and chaplains who were drawn from the Maitland community on a part-time basis when required. This practice would have fostered town-gaol relations and may have acted to alleviate the narrowness of institutional life.

Staffed in the beginning by a gaoler, the matron (usually the gaoler's wife), a clerk-teacher and a number of warders, the gaol was a significant local employer right through its long life. The first two gaolers enjoyed a very short tenure, being dismissed after escapes from the gaol but the third, Mr. John Wallace, served from 1851 until 1867. As the prisons service developed, the gaolers and their deputies usually stayed for relatively short periods, moving on up the ladder to promotion to larger gaols, but this was not the case with the prison officers who tended to serve for long periods, making Maitland "a stable gaol" in staff terms. A deputy-governor who served 34 years at Maitland from about 1950 testifies to the stability of the prison officers' service and another long term officer from the modern period recalls that two officers had a very large lottery win but stayed on the staff regardless of their change of circumstances.⁶⁰

In 1990 there were 113 custodial staff employed at the gaol working three shifts: non-custodial numbers varied but did not exceed ten people.⁶¹

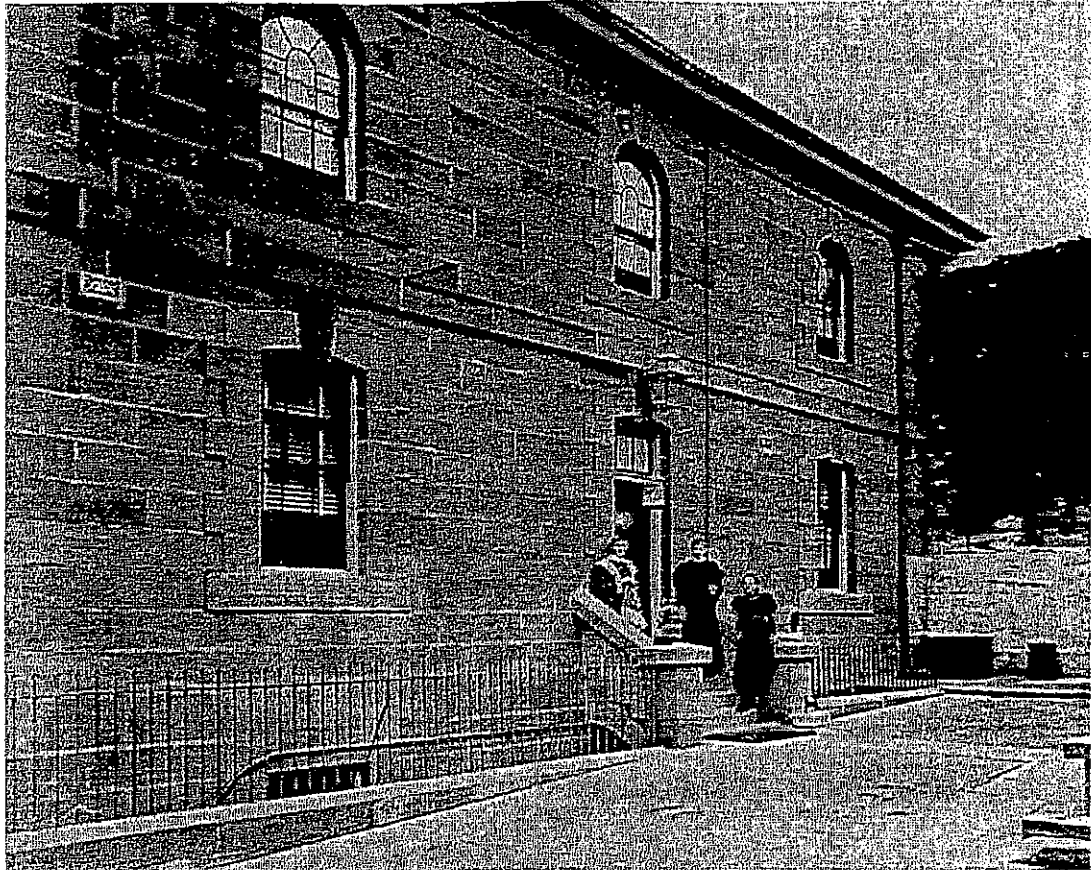


Fig. 2-21 Governor's Quarters, (photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS)

The Health of Prisoners

In similar terms to those used by the chaplains, the gaolers and visiting surgeons consistently reported on the good health of the inmates. In 1915, for example, the gaoler commented:

The health of the prisoners has been good, no prisoners having to be treated in the hospital. This is very satisfactory, as the prison population of this gaol is of the vagrant class, and many of them more fit for a benevolent asylum than a gaol.

Five years later, the gaoler wrote:

The health of the prisoners has been good, there being no deaths or cases of serious illness ... The gaol hospital has now been furnished throughout to accommodate 6 patients, and fitted for minor operations should same at any time be necessary.

In 1924 the annual report made the usual claim to good health, there having been no deaths nor even any serious illnesses:

Constant attention was paid to the vital questions of sanitation, and the providing of wholesome and well-cooked food. Many prisoners left the gaol better, physically, than on their reception.

Given modern knowledge of institutional life and official reports about other N.S.W. gaols, such claims about the food and health of prisoners should not be taken at face

value. Perhaps, a complete history of the gaol would reveal that conditions were not accurately reflected in the annual reports of the prisons department.

2.9 THE NAGLE ROYAL COMMISSION AND MAITLAND GAOL

In 1976 Justice Nagle was appointed to conduct a Royal Commission into "the general working of the Department of Corrective Services of New South Wales" and his report was highly critical of many conditions in the gaols of the state. Although the Royal Commissioner reserved his most severe criticisms for other gaols, he also condemned certain practices at Maitland. There had been no time for the Commission to investigate "grave allegations of the illegal use of force against prisoners" at Maitland (p.28) but he condemned the treatment of the prisoners classified as "intractables" ("tracs" in prison parlance) at Maitland and other gaols. Despite departmental policy that prisoners should be confined one to a cell, at Maitland prisoners had been housed four to a double cell in the 1970s. Psychiatric services were not available at Maitland (nor at four other country gaols) and there were too few prison staff so that inmates were often locked in their cells at 4.10 p.m. and not released until the following morning, far too long a confinement according to Justice Nagle. Moreover, it had been the practice at Maitland and Parramatta gaols not only to segregate prisoners but also to deprive them of privileges, a policy disapproved of by the Commissioner. There was evidence, too, of unjust punishments being inflicted by a visiting magistrate at Maitland gaol.

2.10 SUMMING UP 150 YEARS

The changes in N.S.W. prisons from 1848, at the tail end of the convict era, to the present have been enormous. Living conditions today would have been beyond the comprehension of the staff and inmates of 1848 and yet there is one constant: the gaol, by definition, denies freedom of movement to people who have enjoyed it all their adult lives. Inevitably, such a limitation is resented by the prisoners and that is the critical factor which dominates life in gaol. Gaol staff have had to maintain the detention function of the institution within the rules and restraints imposed by the State of New South Wales through its Corrective Services Department. The gaol was created by the Colony of New South Wales and in its structure and history it reflects the changing attitudes of the parent society towards those citizens who break its rules. Events in the gaol and the experiences of, perhaps, as many as 150,000 prisoners, should not be seen in isolation but as inextricably connected to the wider community.

Over its long history Maitland Gaol witnessed a great deal of misery ranging from executions and floggings to the unhappiness that comes from the boredom and loneliness of prison life. Injustice, bullying, brutality and assault have undoubtedly occurred there and at the other extreme of prison experience there have undoubtedly been kindnesses, friendships and rehabilitations. It would be a brave historian who attempted to demonstrate, on the basis of a swift survey of the records, that Maitland Gaol was more efficient or cruel or humane than the other prisons of the state. However, it should be noted that it has not been shown by official enquiry to compare with the excesses of prison life that have occurred in the present century at Bathurst, Grafton and Katingal.

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3.0

HISTORY OF POLICE PROPERTIES

at

EAST MAITLAND

The text of this section is based on a report¹ by the Consultant Historian, Dr J.W. Turner, which was written with the aid of material now in the possession of Professor J. Ramsland, University of Newcastle.

3.1 HISTORY OF THE BARRACKS

With the settlement of the Hunter Valley proceeding at a rapid pace in the 1820s, the Government recognised the need for a town close to the head of navigation on the Hunter River and on 1 June 1829 the Colonial Secretary published a list of towns including "Maitland, a town to be laid out at the Head of Navigation of the Hunter's River ...".

Commercial development in what became known as East Maitland began along the road between Morpeth and West Maitland, particularly at its junction with the Newcastle Road. In August 1829 Alexander McLeod's new Union Inn on the north east corner was used for the Assizes and from 1833 until 1843 the town's court house was situated opposite the Union Inn.² A police lock-up was also built in this location but in 1844 the Crown leased new premises in Day Street for the court house. Its proximity to the gaol soon to be constructed on the gaol reserve was seen to be an advantage in the selection of the Day Street site but the gaol did not open until 1848 and it is likely that the new court house also served as a police lock-up until the East Maitland Court House opened in 1860.³

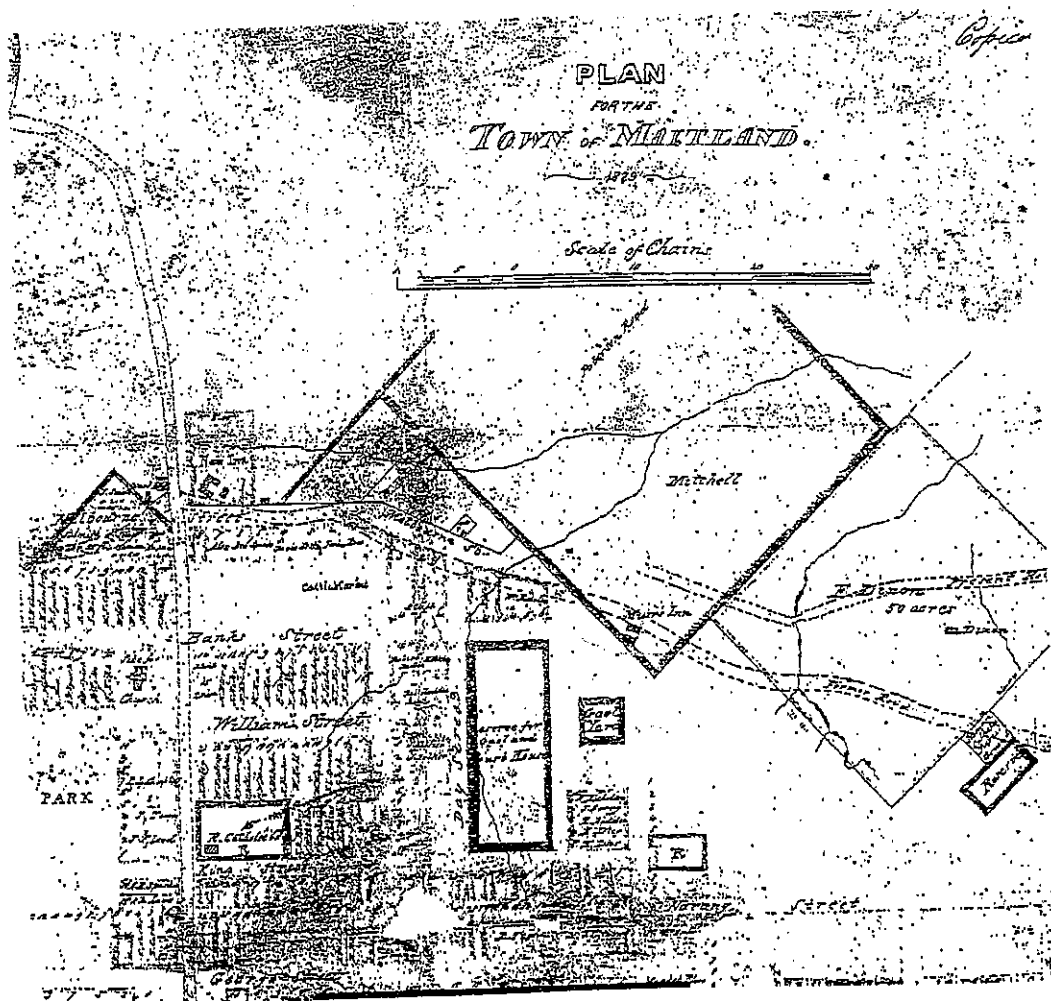


Fig. 3-1 Plan for the town of Maitland, 1829 (portion), Newcastle Region Public Library.

As the Maitlands developed into the principal town of northern New South Wales in the 1830s, it became a centre of government administration for that region.⁴

Policing was an important part of its role and the police magistrate, E. Denny Day, is recognised as one of the most influential in the colony's history⁵. With law and order being directed from Maitland, the town's police services and gaol were developed beyond purely local requirements. Thus by 1872 thirty police were stationed in and around Maitland, with fourteen at West Maitland and six at East Maitland but the district superintendent was based in the latter centre.⁶

In 1881 the N.S.W. Government decided to build a barracks next to the Maitland Gaol for a detachment of mounted police. Present in one form or another from the earliest years of settlement, mounted police performed a different role to the foot police whose duties were town based.⁷ A new force, the N.S.W. Mounted Police, was established in 1862 to operate throughout the colony with special responsibilities for rural areas. There were nine districts of which the north-east, of 9,243 square miles, was directed from Maitland. As John O'Sullivan pointed out in *Mounted Police in New South Wales* (Adelaide 1979), the administration of the mounted police was improved in the 1880s and barracks were built to house the men and their horses in a number of country centres. Accordingly, in 1881 the tender of W.C. Cains and Sons was accepted for the construction of a new police barracks in Lindsay Street adjacent to the wall of the Maitland Gaol.⁸ Built of Ravensfield stone and local bricks and with a shingled roof, it was comprised of separate messes and sleeping accommodation for sergeants and their troopers. The barracks were used to accommodate the mounted police until the force was withdrawn in the middle years of this century. At the rear a six stall stable and forage room were erected.⁹

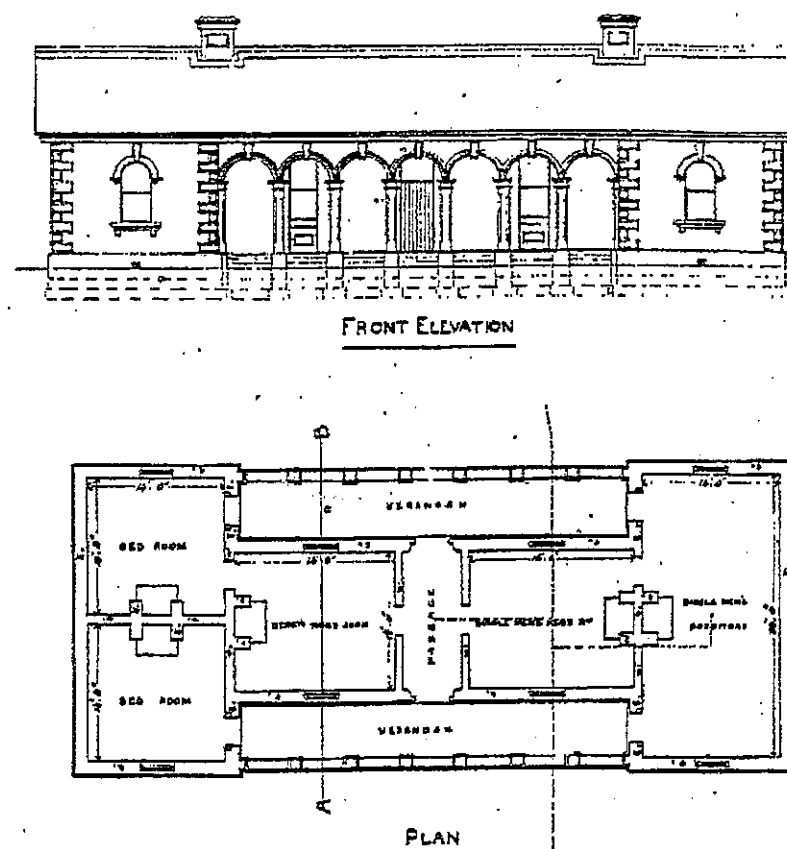


Fig. 3-2 Plan and Front Elevation of Police Barracks, (DPW&S Plan Room PC 321/ 16 detail)

The age of motor vehicles gradually made the role of mounted police redundant but the date of their departure from the barracks has not been discovered.

Alterations and additions to the barracks were made in 1954, according to records in the Police and Justice Museum and it served as the East Maitland Police Station until 1972 when a new station was built at 20 John Street.¹⁰ The barracks was then expected to become the base for the Civil Defence Organisation but in 1979 it was restored at a cost of \$83,000 to provide additional office space for Maitland Gaol.¹¹ In the process several additions such as walkways and timber verandahs, considered to be out of character with the original building, were demolished. In the 1980s a museum and craft shop (selling some prison manufactures) was conducted in the barracks. It is currently used as gaol offices.¹²

3.2 THE FORMER POLICE LOCKUP, NOW RESIDENCE

Unlike the barracks, the lock-up/residence on the corner of Melbourne and John Streets was built to serve the locality. Tenders were called for a police lock-up (police station in modern parlance) on the gaol reserve in the *Government Gazette* of 2 December 1870¹³ and the building was completed in the following year. Notes to the plan illustrated below indicate that the walls were of brick, the foundations constructed of local stone (basecourses and hearths), the carpentry of blue gum and tallowwood and the joinery of cedar.

As constructed, the cells and charge room faced John Street and the brick walls of this section are more substantial than would have been necessary for a residence. In 1914, it is believed, the lock-up was re-constructed in response to growing population and changing community attitudes. The resulting changes are shown on an undated plan. The former cells and charge room now became three bedrooms and a sitting room and a verandah were added at the front. Other changes completed the transformation into a police residence and new cells and prisoners' yard were constructed behind the lock-up.

According to notes in the Police and Justice Museum, this building was re-classified as a superintendent's residence circa 1968.

Separated by an expanse of the reserve for most of its history, the residence lost its isolation in 1972 when two houses for gaol officers were constructed between it and the prison.

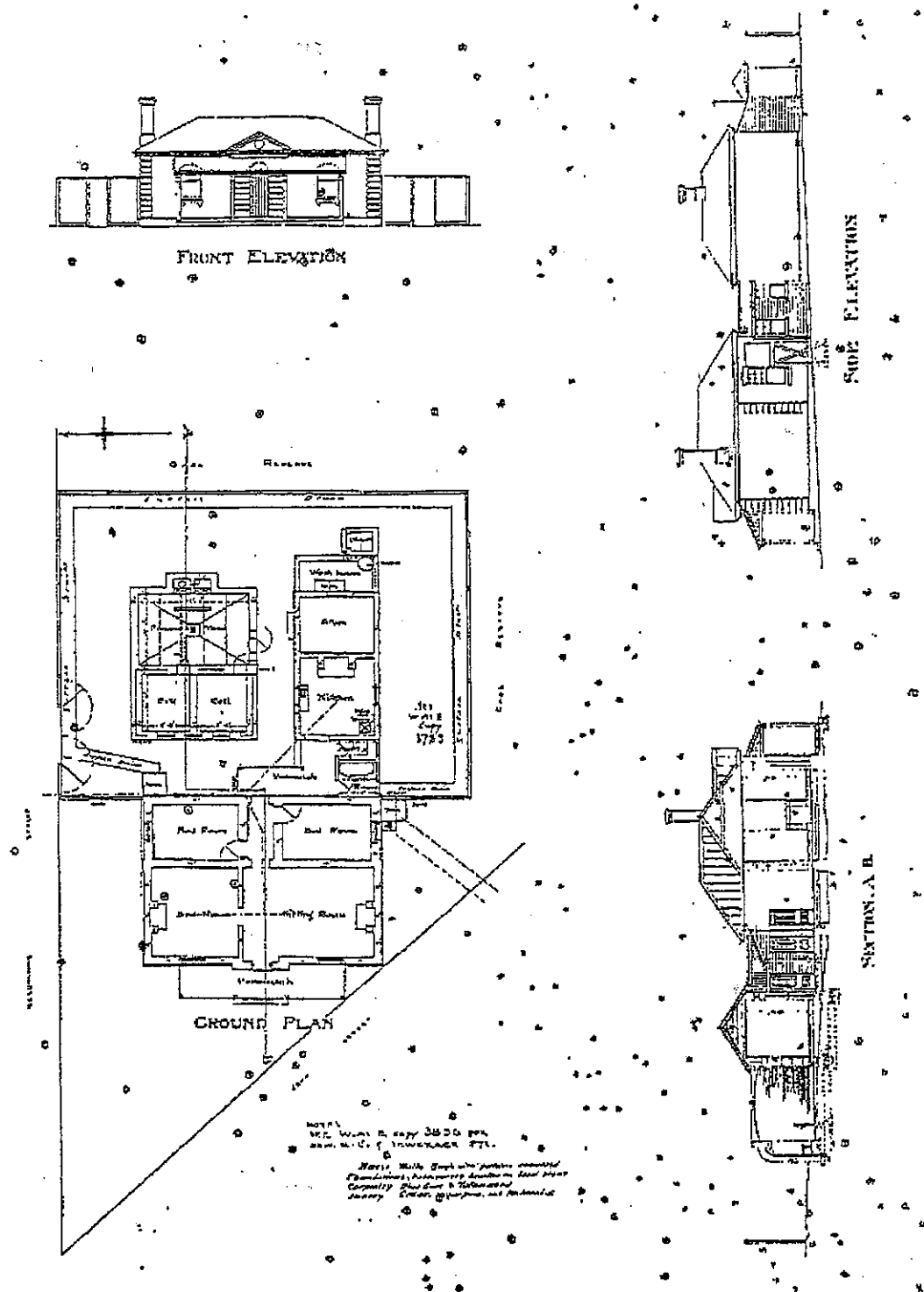


Fig. 3-4 East Maitland Lock-up, c.1925, (DPW&S Plan Room No. PC321/26)

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- ¹³ *N.S.W. Government Gazette*, 2 December 1870.

4.0

CHRONOLOGY

Maitland Gaol & Police Properties Chronology

- 1835 First report that gaol would be constructed. Tenders called for clearing 50 acres of East Maitland town.
- 1839 Tenders called for first stage. Tenders too high so work delayed.
- 1841 Maitland was third largest population centre.
- 1843 Local residents petitioned for completion of gaol. First use of site as a gaol. (Harry and Melville held in 'boxes' and executed there).
- 1844 Stone quarried at Morpeth by convicts. Works supervised by Mortimer Lewis Jnr.

1846 - 1849 First construction phase.

- 1846 Tender called for construction of gaol, won by Sydney firm, Brodie and Craig.
- 1849 Gaol opened in January with one wing built, single storey building attached to the end and lodge each side of entrance gateway. Buildings were unfinished and there was rudimentary provision for women prisoners but this was the main regional gaol.

1861-1887 Second construction phase.

- 1861 B Wing begun with range of solitary cells.
- c.1863 Watch towers and hospital.
- 1865 Lower range of cells of B Wing.
- 1866 Upper ranges designed by Lewis Jnr. and construction commenced.
- 1868 - Warders' quarters and Governor's residence, chapel, school & workshops.
- 1871 Police Lockup building completed.
- 1875 Residences flanking entrance completed.

1881 Mounted Police Barracks buildings commenced.**1883 Eastern extension commenced (perimeter wall only).**

- 1886 Eastern extension intended for airing yards.
- 1887 B Wing completed.
- 1888 Eastern extension intended for women's 'C Wing', laundry, hospital and workshops.

- 1895 Brick chimney stack erected and boilers installed.
- 1896 Gaol listed as one of Colony's principal prisons for women. It continued as such until Long Bay opened 1909.
- 1897 Eastern extension ready to be roofed. Last hanging took place to the horror of the local community.
- 1905 Last corporal punishment in the State carried out at Maitland? Coal miners gaoled for strike action.
- 1914 Role of Maitland Gaol confirmed as reception prison for Hunter Region and for "special" prisoners.
- 1914 Police Lockup converted to a residence with new cell block and yard behind.
- 1925 Gaol confirmed as "set apart for sexual offenders".
- c. 1930 Unionists from South Maitland coal field gaoled.
- 1937 Vegetable production from "ground near the Court House".
- 1951 Females no longer accommodated at gaol.
- 1952 Homosexuals mentioned as special group in gaol.
- 1954 Alterations to Mounted Police Barracks. Served as East Maitland Police Station.
- 1957 Gaol noted as too small to serve as Hunter's principal prison.
- 1970 - 1980 Demolitions, alterations and improvements: new kitchen, external development, visiting facilities, officers' amenities**
- c.1971 Demolition of Female's Wing (first major demolition within Gaol)
- 1972 Cessnock Corrective Centre opened as medium security prison. Maitland became maximum security.
- 1972 New police residences constructed.
- 1975 Riot and fire in tailor's shop. Reprisals by warders.
- 1976 Treatment of "intractables", lack of psychiatric services and understaffing at Maitland criticised by Nagle Royal Commission but no evidence of excesses that occurred at Bathurst, Grafton and Katingal.
- 1977 Escape of seven hardened criminals including "mad dog" Denning.
- 1979 Former Mounted Police Barracks (East Maitland Police Station) restored as office space for gaol. Used as museum/ craft shop in 1980s.

5.0

BUILDING AND LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

5.0 ASPECTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

5.1 Design of the First Stage of Maitland Gaol

Maitland was the last of a series of gaols constructed during a spate of improvements made to penal infrastructure in NSW during the 1830s and 40s. The eight new establishments built during these years fall into two groups: radial designs resembling those published in the 1820s by the Society for the Improvement of Prison Discipline (SIPD); and what Kerr calls 'the Inspectors' gaols' which were single or double parallel wings based on the recommendations of the English Inspectors of Prisons.¹ The type of cell wing preferred by the Inspectors was one with ranges of cells either side of a galleried central space, the pattern used at some contemporary American gaols.

Plans for new gaols of the SIPD type, at Berrima, Sydney and Parramatta were initiated by Governor Bourke in 1835. Mortimer Lewis, a surveyor appointed as Colonial Architect by Bourke in the same year, became responsible for the implementation of these buildings but it is not known how much influence he had on the designs. A drawing of 1837 shows that a radial plan with five wings, similar to that used at Parramatta, was originally intended for Maitland Gaol. The drawing is noted by Kerr as 'one of Lewis' transitional proposals' for Parramatta.²

*New Gaols at Maitland & Parramatta
Ground Plan*

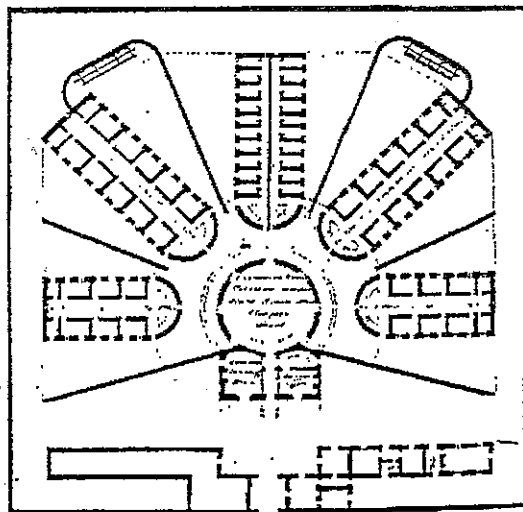


Fig. 5-1 Plan for new gaols at Maitland and Parramatta, 1837.(A/NSW, CS Returns, 4/269, reproduced from Kerr, *Parramatta Correctional Centre*, p.10)

Commanding Royal Engineer, Capt. George Barney, arrived in NSW in 1835 with specific instructions to prepare plans for the Sydney gaol and a committee was appointed to decide between his and Lewis' designs. In the event the final drawings for Darlinghurst Gaol were published over the signatures of both Barney and Lewis but Kerr states that 'Barney became the expert advisor and Lewis the executor of the works'.³ In 1838 further significant amendments were made to the designs of all three gaols of the SIPD type by the new Governor, Sir George Gipps, also a Royal Engineer. Kerr has described how Gipps picked up the latest ideas in penal design before his departure from England and how he incorporated and compromised them

in an autocratic fashion in the Female Factory at Parramatta. This three-storey, galleried cell block with single cells on the ground floor and larger cells above has been identified by Kerr as the model for the last four country gaols built in this period: Bathurst, Goulburn, Port Phillip and Maitland.

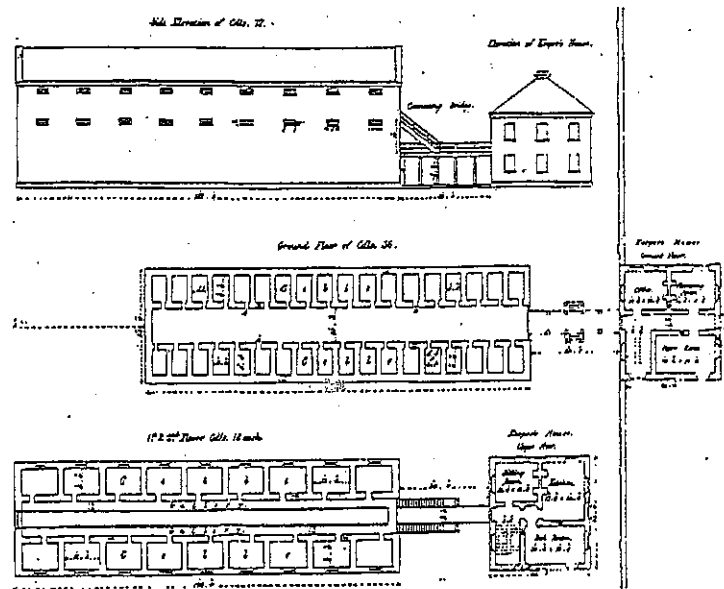


Fig.5-2 Parramatta Female Factory Cell Wing as originally conceived by Gipps, 1840
(Reproduced from Kerr, *Design for Convicts*, p.104)

There were, however, important differences between the configuration of the Parramatta wing and that of 'A wing' completed ten years later at Maitland. Firstly the Maitland wing could hold only about half as many prisoners. It has two floors whereas the blocks at Parramatta, Bathurst, Goulburn and Port Phillip have three. Secondly all but two of the cells at Maitland were of the larger type (i.e. 8' x 12'), originally intended by Governor Gipps to hold six inmates but actually only occupied by a maximum of four. The reasons for Maitland being so much smaller than the preceding gaols are probably the ending of transportation in 1840 and the severe economic depression of the 1840s. It is difficult to assess the extent of Mortimer Lewis' involvement in the original design of Maitland Gaol because only one drawing of the gaol signed by him survives, a sketch dated 1846 showing the progress of the building work. Those parts of the gaol completed in the first stage: (the perimeter wall, a lodge on the inside of that wall, the cell block now known as 'A Wing' and a kitchen), offered little opportunity for stylistic expression.

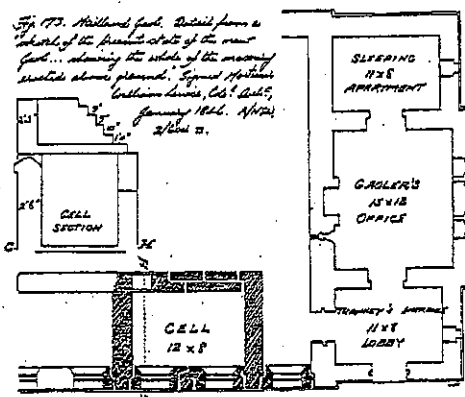


Fig. 5-3 Detail from plan of 'A' Wing by Mortimer Lewis, 1846
(Reproduced from Kerr, *Design for Convicts*, p.110)



Fig. 5-4 Interior of 'A' Wing (photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS)

The relative statistics of the gaols built during this period are listed on the table below along with a note as to whether they still exist. The only remaining example of a cell wing dating from the 'Inspectors' gaols is 'A' Wing at Maitland. This analysis supports Kerr's statement that Maitland is the oldest structure in Australia that has been in continuous use as a gaol.⁴

Gaol & Date	No/ size cells/ max. capacity	Type of Gaol	Current Status
Berrima 1834 - 39	42 cells max. size 7'x6'6"	Radial plan based on English SIPD design.	Demolished except for perimeter wall & gatehouse
Darlinghurst (First Stage 1836 - 41)	24 single cells 60 six-man cells	Radial 3-storey wings.	Dis-established in 1914, became tech. college 1922
Parramatta Third Gaol 1837 - 44	64 cells 5' x 8' 60 cells 8' x 12'	Radial 3-storey wings	Disestablished in 1918, re-established 1927. Now due for closure.
Parramatta Female Factory 1838 - 9	36 cells 5' x 8' 36 cells 8' x 12' cap. 180	Three-storey wing. Same plan used for the next three country gaols.	Cell wing demolished. Other portions now part of Cumberland Hospital.
Bathurst 1840 - 5	40 cells 5' x 8' 43 cells 8' x 12' cap. 212	Two parallel three-storey wings planned, only one built.	Superseded and demolished 1880s.
Port Phillip 1841 - 3	40 cells 5' x 8' 43 cells 8' x 12' cap. 212	Two parallel three-storey wings, later one built in 1859 to a different design.	First wing demolished in 1908.
Goulburn 1840 - 5	43 cells 5' x 8' 40 cells 8' x 12' cap. 203	Two parallel three-storey wings planned, only one built.	Demolished in 1884 to make way for Court House.
Maitland First Stage 1844 - 49	2 cells 5' x 8' 26 cells 8' x 12' cap. 106	Two-storey wing	Extant.

Table 3-1 NSW Gaols pre-dating Maitland

5.2 The Second Stage of Maitland Gaol

The second stage of construction at Maitland consisted of the completion of the buildings within the area defined by the original perimeter wall. It began in the mid-1860s after a decade of inactivity. The completion of the gaol and the construction of the Court House were probably prompted by the increased population and wealth of the area, and the arrival of the railway from Newcastle on the gaol's doorstep in 1858. The work stretched over a period of 23 years overlapping the development of the eastern extension but the whole design appears to have been finalised by 1867. Surviving drawings dated August 1866 indicate that Mortimer Lewis Junior, Clerk of Works, was responsible for the design of 'B wing', a three-storey version of the earlier wing designed by his father, containing 81 single cells. Other parts of the gaol included warders' quarters, cook house, hospital, women's day room, and workshops under the chapel all designed in the Colonial Architect's office under James Barnet. One of these drawings can be definitely dated at Dec. 1867.⁵

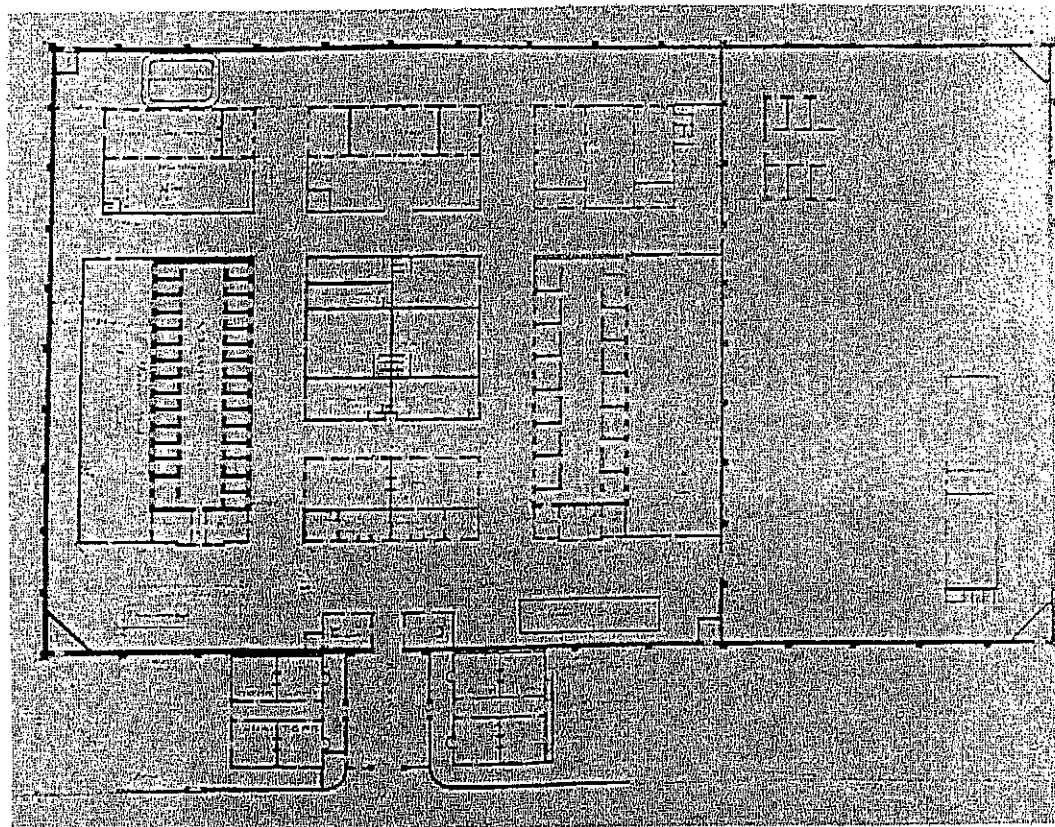


Fig. 5-5 Plan of Maitland Gaol c1891-4, (photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS)

As the comparative chronology on the following page shows, the design for the completion of Maitland Gaol was carried out at the beginning of Barnet's 28 years in office, it was the first of the many gaol buildings for which he was responsible. A series of two-storey 12-cell country gaols had been completed in the early 1860s. They were followed in the late 1870s by a more sophisticated type of single-storey country gaol of about the same size. Between these two spates of building activity, one gaol of intermediate size was built at Cooma and opened in 1873. There are some architectural similarities between Cooma and Maitland. Both have a severe classical treatment reminiscent of Newgate Prison in London, with rusticated quoins to doors and windows. The main gates in both cases are round headed openings flanked by residences projecting forward of the perimeter wall. The likeness is

reinforced, albeit coincidentally, because the grey-brown colouring of the Ravensfield stone used at Maitland is similar to those of Cooma's granite.

The arrangement of gatehouse and flanking residences at Maitland is a distinctive and powerful architectural scheme. The same layout was developed and elaborated by Barnett, and his gaols expert William Coles, at Goulburn and Bathurst some 20 years later, however Maitland has none of the decorative stonework seen at the later gaols and the scale is somewhat cramped compared with the forecourts at Goulburn and Bathurst. Another telling difference between the two generations of gaol buildings is their location in relation to the town. By the time Bathurst and Goulburn were planned it was no longer thought appropriate for a gaol to be built in the town proper so both were sited on the outskirts, prominently but disconnectedly from the town.

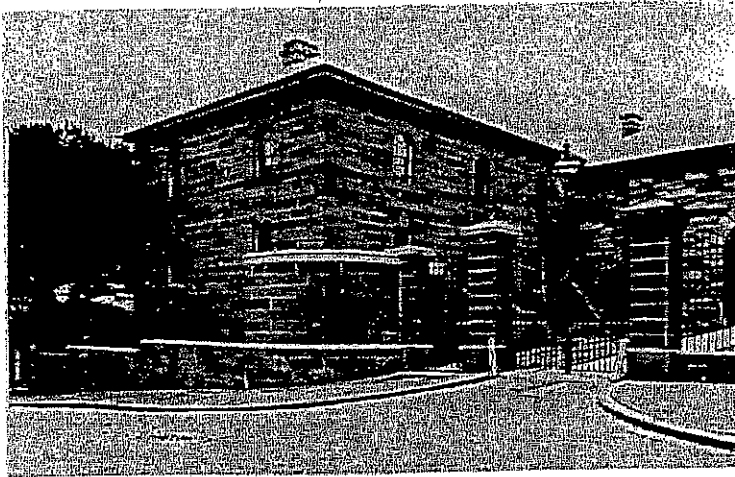


Fig. 5-6 Front of Maitland Gaol, Deputy Governor's Quarters on left, (photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS)

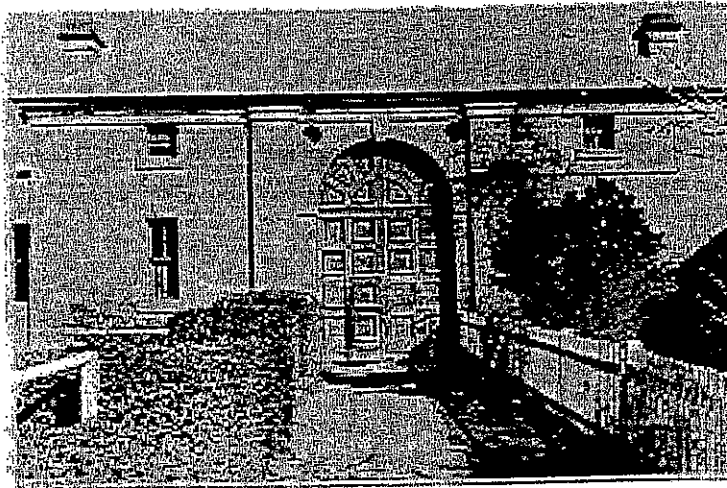


Fig. 5-7 Front of Cooma Gaol, (photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS)

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5.3 The Eastern Extension

At the end of 1880 there were 2107 people in gaol in NSW out of a population of 750,000. A network of 47 gaols existed around the State, ranging from what Maclean called the 'labour prisons' (Darlinghurst, Parramatta, Bathurst, Goulburn and Maitland) to much smaller establishments such as the many 'police gaols'. However, there was severe overcrowding in the system due to increasing urban crime.⁶ Consequently, two major new gaols were begun at Bathurst and Goulburn, replacing the earlier 'Inspectors' Gaols' from the 1840s, and extensions were planned for Darlinghurst, Parramatta and Maitland.

The eastern extension to Maitland Gaol was begun in the mid-1880s at the same time as the major new country gaols of Goulburn and Bathurst. The extension started as extra yard spaces but within a few years it had become the women's division of the prison and additional workshops. It then underwent a series of additions such as female warders' quarters and women's hospital to enhance its specialised role. Small numbers of women had always been kept at the gaol. Originally the exercise yard for women was set apart in the eastern corner and they were housed upstairs in 'A' wing. The eastern extension gave the gaol the status as one of the principal prisons for women in the State until the construction of the new Female Reformatory at Long Bay. It also demonstrates the increasing importance of industrial activities in late 19th century gaols.

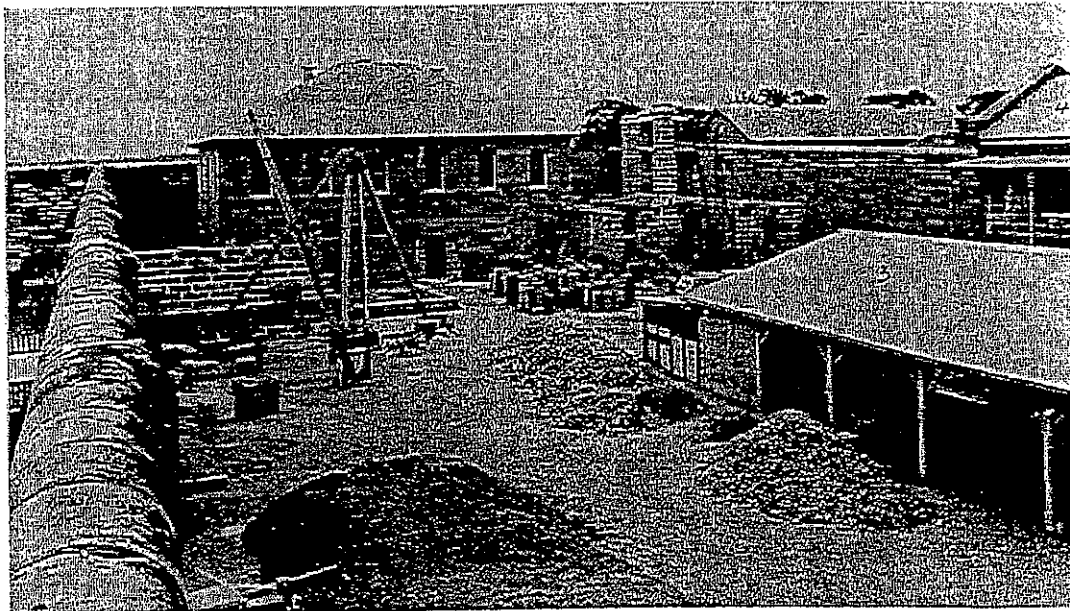


Fig. 5-8 Eastern Extension: 1: Female wing; 2: Female warders' quarters in course of erection; 3: stone cutting shed; 4: Workshops, c. 1897. (photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS)

5.4 Recent Additions

Recent additions to the Gaol also have their interest. The western extension (Asset No. 023), built in the 1970s somewhat insensitively in brick, contrasts with the contextualism of the 1980s officers' facilities built facing John Street. Recent additions relating to the Eastern Extension are discussed below.

5.5 Demolition and Major Alterations

Maitland's continuity of use as a gaol for over 150 years gives it an unique ability to demonstrate the changes in attitudes and practices that have occurred over that time.

Having been in continuous use has resulted in a number of changes to the fabric and use of the gaol, some aspects of which are considered below.

The overall layout of the Gaol developed as described previously in two construction phases. A comparison of the available site plans and early photographs reveals the evolution and alterations to the Gaol layout and individual buildings or areas. The Following plan shows the Gaol and Police Properties completed as intended in the 19th century. The plan (Fig. 5-9) is dated 1925. A site plan indicating the layout of the Gaol today is included in Section 6.0 Cultural Significance. This plan (Fig. 6-2) has a key to the buildings and uses the most recent Asset No.s for identification.

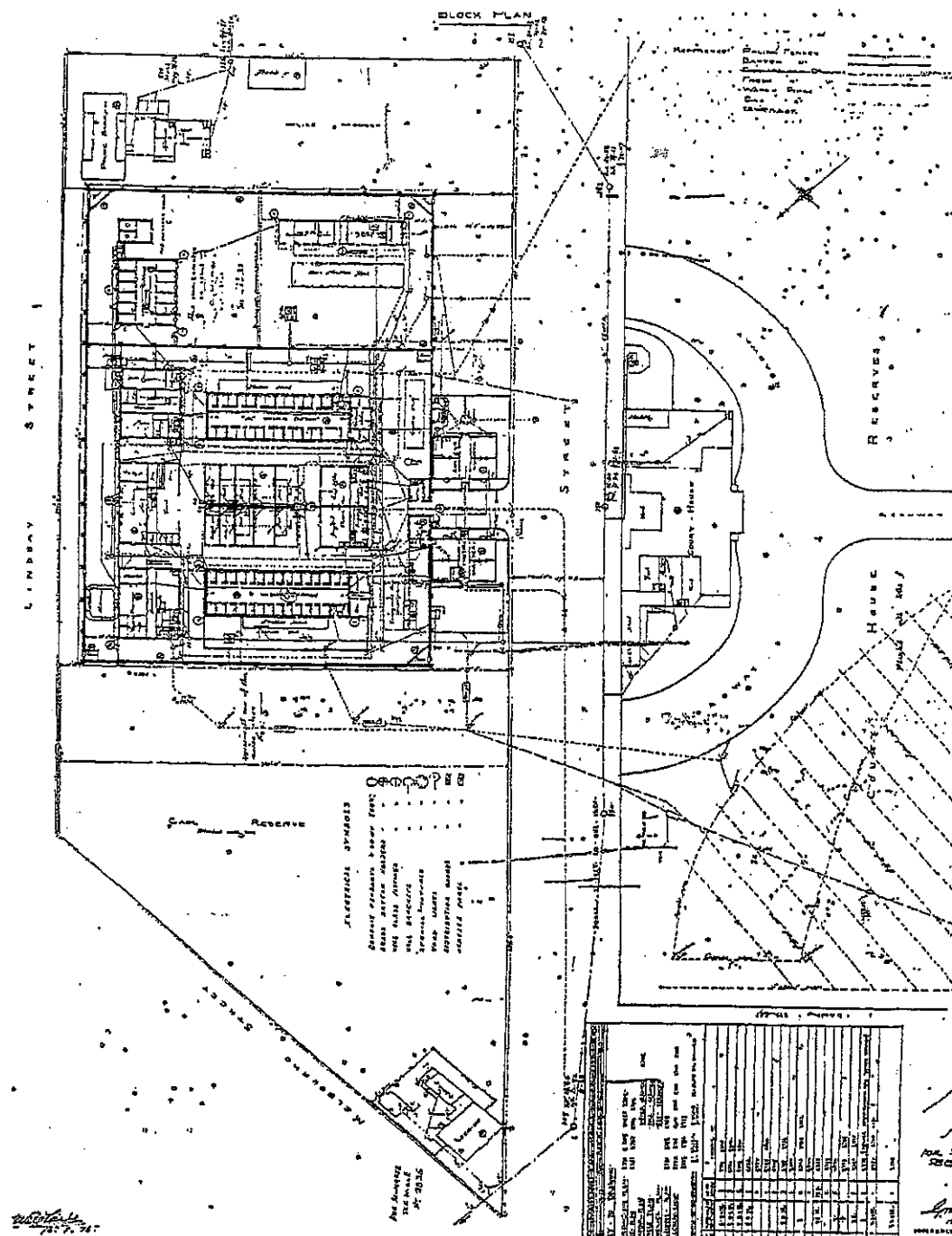


Fig. 5-9 Site plan dated 1925 of the area subject of this report. Plan shows the complex 'complete' as intended in the 19th Century. (PC 321/12)

5.5.1 Central Gaol (Demolitions and Major Alterations)

Figure 5-9 is useful as it shows the site before any significant demolitions or the more recent additions to the Eastern Extension (see below). It is also possible to see the formal quality of the three distinct blocks along the north-east edge of the gaol:

- Female compound
- Cookhouse
- Hospital, and Bathroom & Morgue.

A plan dated 1954⁷ indicates the construction of a new single storey laundry between the Hospital building and the Cookhouse. This, in effect, joined these buildings, until later demolitions in the area.

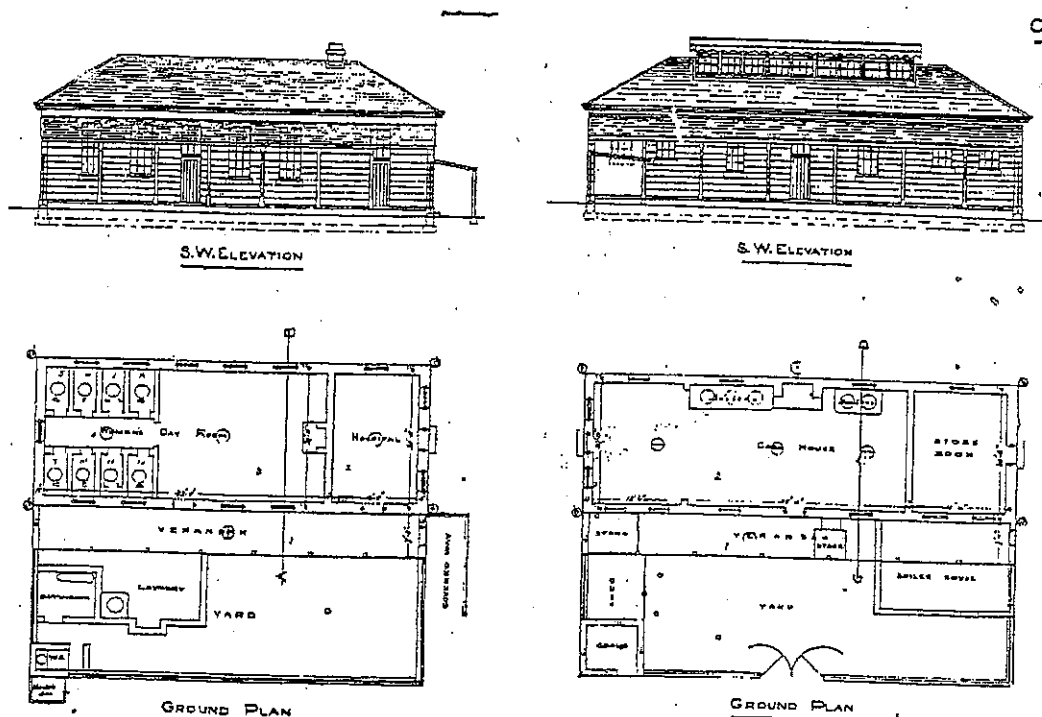


Fig. 5-11 Plan and Elevation of the Female's Wing dated 1925, (DPWS Plan Room No. PC 321/7 - part of)

Fig 5-10 Plan and Elevation of the Cookhouse dated 1925, (DPWS Plan Room No. PC 321/7, part of)

Cookhouse

The Cookhouse, one of the original buildings of the formal gaol layout, was situated in the north-west corner of the central gaol complex. It remains on the site plans until 1974. There was a proposal to convert this structure to an amenities hall in 1977⁸, but it is not known if this took place. As there are a number plans indicate a number of proposals for changes relating to the cookhouse in the 1970s and the structure does not exist in any of the 1990s plans, it is assumed that this building was demolished in the 1970s. It is possible that footings of this building remain below the current grassed surface.

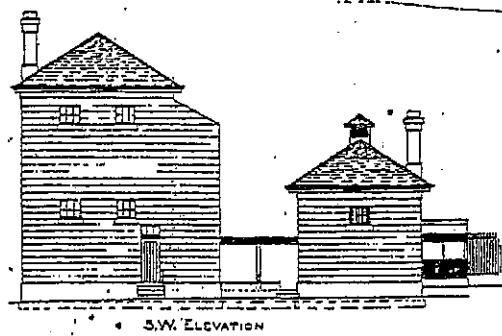
Female's Wing

The Female's wing, one of the original buildings of the formal gaol layout, was situated next to the Cook House. From a comparison of the site plans, the Female's Wing (labelled 'D wing' on some drawings) was probably demolished sometime

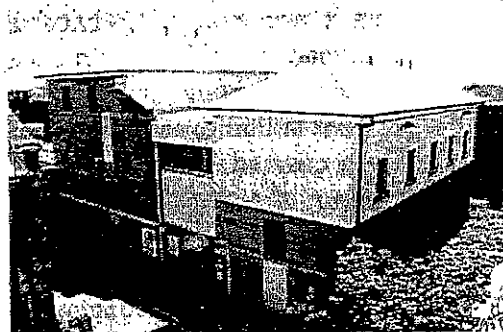
been 1971 when it features in plan form and 1974⁹ when it is noted as a builders yard.

Kitchen - (Asset No. 013), Former Hospital and Morgue/Bathhouse

The 1974 plan indicates the intention to construct a new Kitchen requiring the amalgamation of two separate structures; the hospital and the bathroom/morgue. A plan dated 1980¹⁰ indicates a proposal to create cells on the upper 2 levels.



*Fig 5-12 South-west elevation
Hospital (left) and the Bathroom and Morgue
(right) - part of drawing (DPW&S Plan Room PC
321/9)*



*Fig 5-13 Kitchen Block
Kitchen block with cells above (CM 1997)*

The forms of the original two buildings are still clearly recognisable when an early drawing is compared with a current photograph (Figs. 5-12 and 5-13). Asset 013 are still recognisable as can be seen by comparing Figures 5-12 and 5-13, however the fabric has been substantially changed in many ways. The buildings have been joined (c.1974)¹¹, to create one floor plate on the ground and first floor. The former two storey hospital was modified to incorporate three storeys within the existing envelop. Its south-east elevation was substantially demolished in the process. A first floor addition was constructed over the original single storey Bathroom and Morgue building. The new roof is of similar hipped form to the original lower one. All infill and new work appears to be rendered brick, distinguishing new work from the original.



*Fig 5-14 Kitchen Interior - Ground floor.
(CM 1997)*

Only the remnant forms, being evidence of two separate structures, are of any significance in relating the structures of the 19th Century gaol. The remaining building fabric is altered such that it relates primarily to the building's current use, as a kitchen and upper levels cell block, in demonstrating recycling and evolution of the site in gaol use. The interiors of the current Asset No. 013 retain little if any evidence of the former subsumed structures, all floors being of concrete slab construction, the windows modern aluminium frames, concrete stairwells, and modern kitchen fitout.

5.5.2 Evidence of Inferior East Maitland Stone

Also of interest is the change in condition and type of stone on the exterior of 'A wing' (north-west elevation). Reading the fabric misleadingly suggests that a smaller building was built prior to the current building on the site, and then later extended to the north-east and a second storey added. (Fig 5-15) The stone of the 'earlier' building, being in such poor condition, suggesting that it was built of (inferior) East Maitland stone¹². That an earlier, shorter building preceded the current building, at first appears to be confirmed by the 1850 sketch plan of the gaol by James Cox (Fig. 2-12).

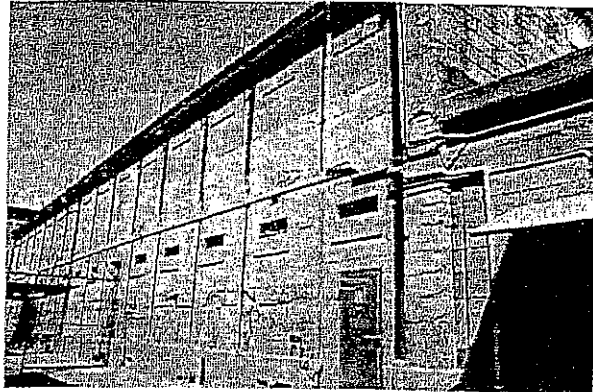


Fig. 5-15 North-west elevation of 'A wing'. Note the difference in stone condition, possibly indicating use of East Maitland stone. (CM 1997)

However, in calculating the dimensions noted on the sketch, it is realised that the sketch is out of proportion, showing a shorter building than built. Comparing cell numbers and dimensions of the Cox sketch with an 1891-94 plan (fig 5-5), confirms that the Cox sketch is out of proportion, and that it is likely that 'A wing' is currently in its original form.

'A wing', along with the walls (central gaol complex) and gatehouse, are the only remaining structures from the first phase of the gaol. They are also the structures showing greatest evidence of poor quality stone (the gaol walls and external facade of the gatehouse are rendered due to poor condition). It is likely that they were constructed using East Maitland stone and 'A wing' commenced in East Maitland stone and completed with Ravensfield stone. The new entry rooms, when re-built and slightly reconfigured c.1900 (Fig. 5-16), used Ravensfield also.

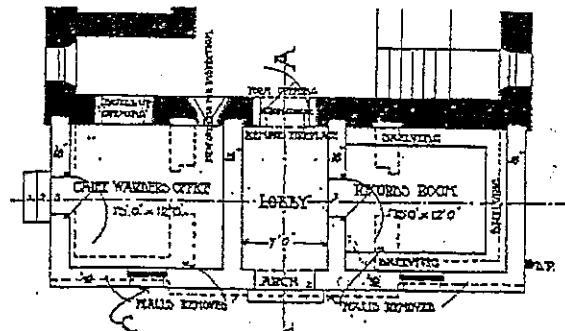


Fig. 5-16 Front rooms of 'A wing'. Detail of a plan dated 1960 signed by W.L. Vernon showing the reconstruction (DPW&S Plan Room No. 321/19)

5.5.3 Cells (Demolitions and Major Alterations)

One of the earliest alterations to the gaol was the subdivision of the cells in 'A wing', doubling the number of cells in the wing by reducing their size from 8' x 12' to 5' x 8'. This provided extra single cells in line with the 'separate system' introduced by Harold Maclean in 1867 but it returned inmates to the mean space standards of earlier years. Cells in the new gaols at Bathurst and Goulburn were made the same size as those of the Model Prison at Pentonville, England, i.e. 7' x 13', more than twice the floor area. The first evidence of this change is a plan dated 1899.¹³ Figure 5-16 shows a 1925 ground floor plan of 'A wing' with the 5' x 8' cells with an overlay in bold of the original cell layout.

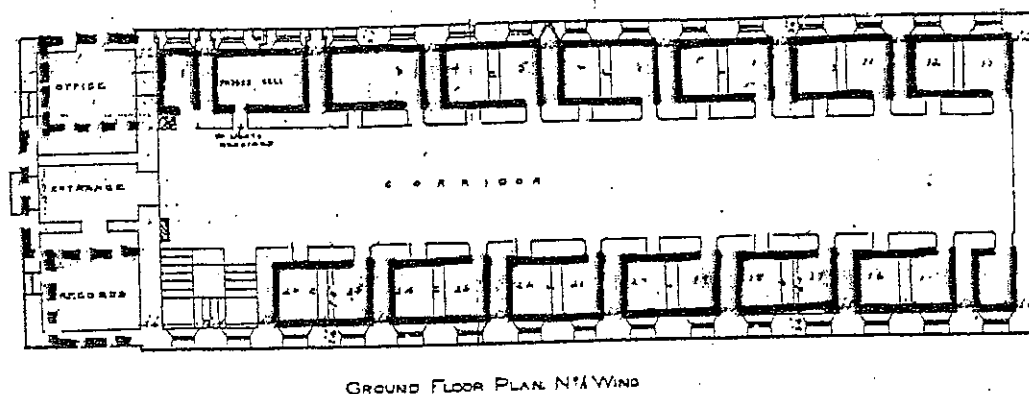
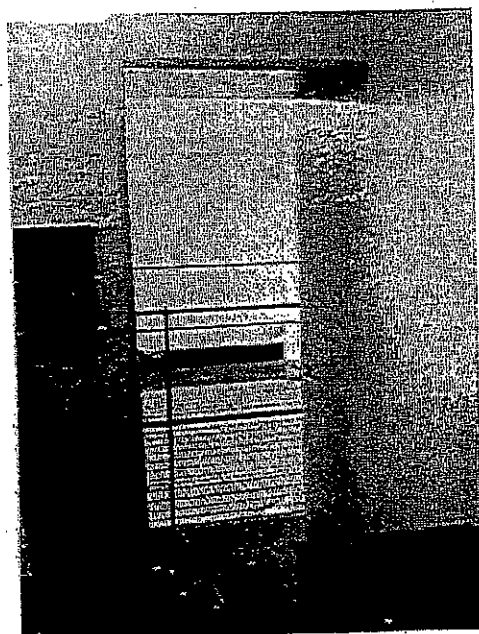


Fig. 5-17 Ground Floor plan of 'A wing'. This diagram is based on a 1925 plan with the original cell sizes in bold and the original rooms on the front shown dotted. (DPW&S Plan Room PC 321/3)

The cell doors are built of sheet metal, hinged outwards on the passage side of the cell wall. These doors are probably not original. Every second cell has a iron grille door (opening inwards) indicating the original doorways to the double cells. The detail of the later intermediate doorways (without iron grilles) varies slightly from the original. The later doorway reveal is flush with the internal cell wall (Fig. 5-18). The original doorway has a rebate on the inner face to house the iron grille in the closed position. The rebate creates a 'nib' from the internal cell wall, which is tapered outwards to be wider outside the cell (Fig. 5-19).



*Fig. 5-18
View from inside a typical 'A wing' cell without a grille door. There is no rebate in the reveal. This opening was created at the time of doubling the cell numbers. (CM 1997)*



*Fig. 5-19
View from inside a typical 'A wing' cell with a grille door and a solid door. There is a rebate to house the grille door in the closed position. (CM 1997)*

A cage on the ground floor separates the rear (north-east end) 12 cells and common floor of the block as a secure area. There are two bridges for the upper level gallery, the one at the north-eastern end not appearing on the early plans may have been introduced later. An office for staff has been introduced at the south-eastern end on

each level. This enables means of escape for staff directly to the outside, as the offices each connect to a former single cell, one above the other, connected by an escape hatch, the ground floor cell having direct access to the outside. While the upper level office is intrusive by nature of its construction, it is part of an introduced system (probably post-1943) of security for staff at the gaol.

The cells in 'B wing' (Asset No. 012) have also been modified. The original cells were 5'6" x 8'3", with 28 cells on each floor. Fewer, larger cells were created by removal of part of the common dividing wall between cells (Fig. 5-20).

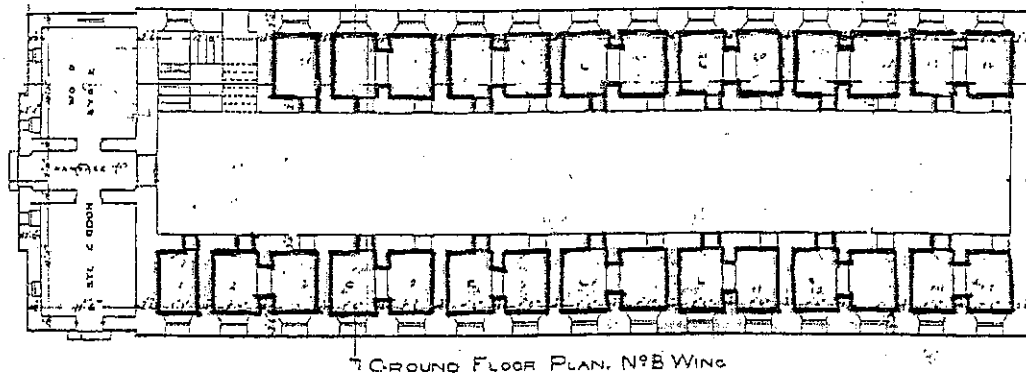


Fig. 5-20 Ground Floor plan of 'B wing'. Diagram is based on a 1925 plan with the modified cell arrangement indicated in bold over the original smaller cell arrangement. (DPW&S Plan Room PC 321/5)

This rendered every second doorway unnecessary, and it appears the original outer solid doors and iron grilles have been kept permanently locked. This cell change is first evident in the general site plan of 1925 (refer Fig. 5-9)¹⁴. The cell doors are timber framed with diagonal boarded panels, lined internally with sheet metal, and open outwards. Iron grille doors open inwards. Similarly to 'A wing', a single bridge is indicated on early plans, yet there are two bridges per gallery level. An office has been introduced on the first floor as part of an escape route for staff. The ground floor 'lobby' room closest to Asset No. 005 (hospital / chapel) has most recently been in use as a dental surgery.

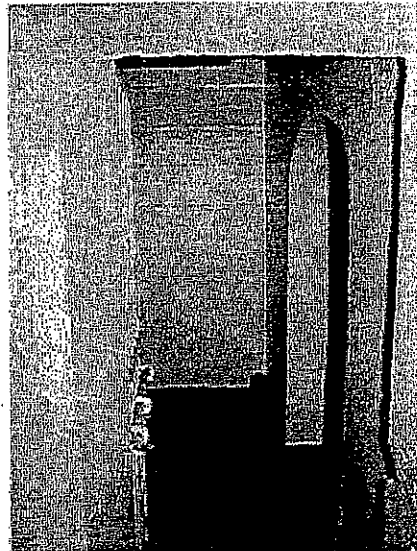


Fig. 5-21 View looking in to a typical 'B wing' cell. The arch is the area of wall removed to double the size of each cell. (SJ 1997)

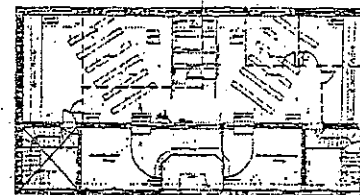
The cells wing interiors are generally intact. Minor alterations indicate use and operational changes associated with the gaol. The cell doors in 'B wing' are timber framed with boarded panels. The doors are painted alternately pink and blue (presumably to indicate doors which are active following cell modifications) and lined with sheet metal on the cell side.

According to the plans, some plumbing was introduced to each cell after 1943 and before 1971. A plan dated 1945 indicates provision of electric lights to each cell. Each cell has a w.c. pan and basin, most being stainless steel.

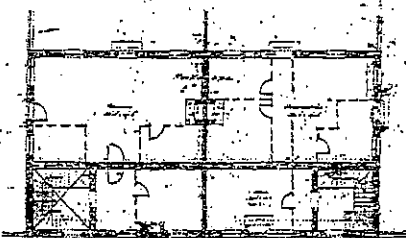
5.5.4 Former Chapel (Demolitions and Major Alterations)

The history and use of the former chapel is described in section 2.8 of this report. The exterior of the building is largely intact in form. The interior, while appearing significantly modified, retains the original form of two completely separate ground floor areas, currently the hospital/dispensary and general offices. The upper level, while partitioned in recent years, still reads as the large open space of the former chapel. The western stair now demolished (part of the dispensary below) and the southern stair providing the main access to the upper level. (Fig. 22 indicates the modern partition walls dotted and demolished stair by a cross). A large opening has been introduced in the centre of the north-eastern wall to connect the upper level to a raised 'demountable' building, which in turn connects to the ground via a modern steel stair. These changes have taken place in recent decades, and are generally of a low standard. While most are detrimental to the building, they are largely reversible (Fig. 5-23).

* 22



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

Fig. 5-22 Early plan of ground and first floor of Administration building. The Chapel upstairs and offices/hospital on ground floor. (DPW&S Plan Room PC 321/146 c1867 - unclear)

Historic photographs indicate that the chapel and general office were spaces of a high quality (Fig. 2-19 and Fig. 5-23 respectively). While a full investigation of concealed finishes was not made, it appears that if modern partitions and wall and ceiling finishes were to be removed, original spaces and finishes could easily be recovered. In the office space at the south-east corner on the ground floor, the modern ceiling panels were dislodged and exposed original ceiling lining boards remaining intact. According to the plans, a hospital has been located in this part of the building since c.1925, and as such this use of the building, while not original is of some significance.

* 23

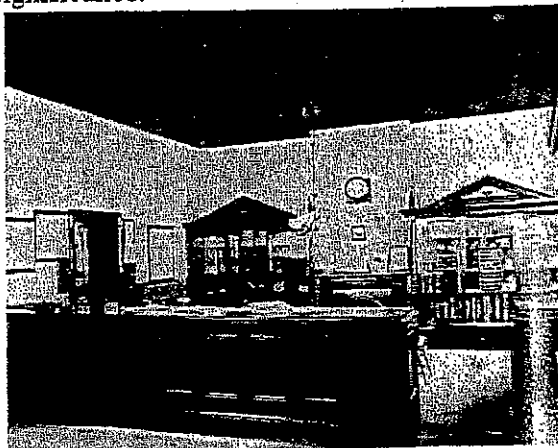


Fig 5-23 General Office Interior, n.d. c.1897 (photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS)

5.5.5 Special Yards (Demolitions and Major Alterations)

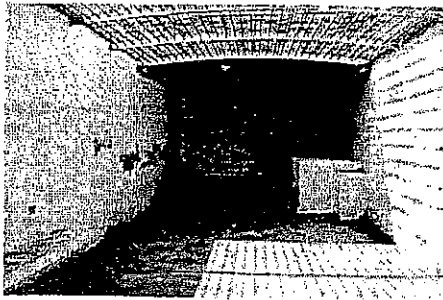


Fig. 5-24 Interior of a typical yard (CM 1997)

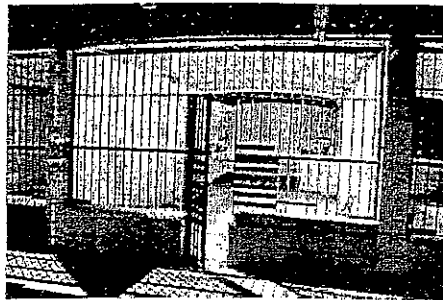


Fig. 5-25 Exterior of typical yard. (CM 1997)

The special yards are a significant part of the early design of the gaol and remain so despite early 20th century modifications, and recent¹⁵ demolition of half of the complex. By comparing early and recent site plans it appears that the yards have been modified twice.

An earlier site plan of c1867¹⁶ shows six larger yards attached to the former chapel. A subsequent configuration (base plan for Fig. 5-26) was of seven yards open to the sky; five of the yards are shown with shelter sheds and sanitary facilities, two remaining smaller yards are shown with grills over.

A number of changes since are evident by comparing evolution of plans and the fabric include:

- demolition of half the yards
- division of two larger remaining yards each into two yards
- blocking up (with sandstone) of south east opening to yard and opening to the sky, and opening up of other end.

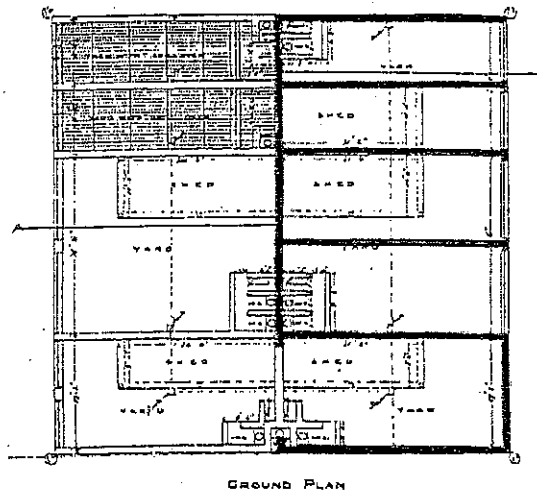


Fig. 5-26 Floor plan of the Special Yards based on an early plan c. 1925 (PC 321/1).

The current remaining yards are those shown in solid outline in Fig. 5-26. The toilet walls and integral bench probably post date 1925.

5.5.6 Eastern Extension (Demolitions and Alterations)

A report by Annable and Kerr¹⁷ analyses in detail the history of the Eastern Extension of the Gaol. For further detail refer to that report.

The Eastern Extension was planned and replanned a number of times, one scheme semi-completed before being radically changed. The primary example of this is that 'C wing', originally intended, and built, to have cells on the ground floor and a hospital, attendant's room and work-room on the upper level was modified to provide cells on two levels. To achieve this, windows on the upper level were blocked in, the staircase relocated and galleries added. The fate of the near completed female warder's quarters (see unroofed structure in Fig. 2-17) is not known. However from earlier plans it seems that two isolation cells were erected in their place. A wall dividing the Eastern Extension into two equal lots was under construction c.1897 (Fig. 5-8) however, the 1925 plan (Fig. 5-9) notes that the footings only for this wall were built, therefore indicating that they were evident in 1925. It is also interesting to note that a plan dated 1888¹⁸ and contained in the Annable and Kerr report, proposed this wall with two smaller buildings (a hospital and laundry) to the north-east, and a new large cell range integral to the south-west of similar proportion to those of the central gaol area. With the exception of the wall, this design seems not to have been commenced. The Eastern Extension appears to have remained substantially as completed c.1899 (refer Fig. 5-9) until the 1960s, having evolved to contain three major buildings:



Fig. 5-27 View of Eastern Extension. Photo shows the new Yards in the foreground and the cell block behind (CM 1997).

- C wing - Two storey stone cell block (hipped roof) and separate isolation cells
- Stone Cutter's Shed - Long open sided structure hipped roofed.
- Workshops - Two storey stone building with cantilevered verandah to north-west.

The Annable and Kerr report was prepared as an assessment of the proposed 1991 alterations and additions, which were subsequently carried out. This major upgrade was the most significant change to the Eastern Extension this century, which resulted in the current configuration (Fig. 5-29). The site prior to the 1991 work is shown in figure 5-28.

The 1991 work is summarised as follows:

- Demolition of the c.1975 Industries building (Tailors) ¹⁹
- Construction of Cell Block (Asset No. 018).
- Demolition of the structures, minor elements and yard south-west of 'C wing'.
- Construction of Exercise Yards (Asset No. 017)
- Construction of the Visitors Processing Centre (Asset No. 036) between the wall of the Eastern Extension and John Street, and new carpark.
- Construction of the contact and non-contacts Visiting Facility (Asset No. 020) within the structure of the former Stone Cutter's Shed.
- New stair to upper level of Workshop Building (Asset No. 019)
- Fencing of open spaces.

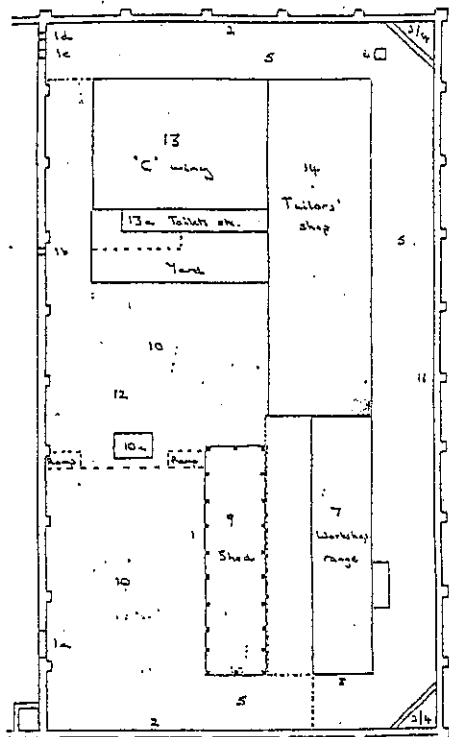


Fig. 5-28 Location plan of structures in the Eastern Extension. Diagram prepared for the assessment of the site before 1991 works. (Annable and Kerr, 1991, Fig 4).

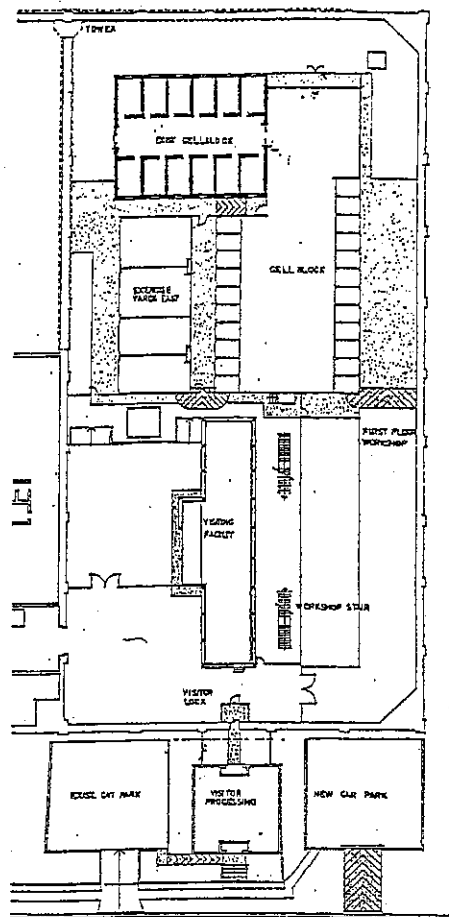


Fig. 5-29 Proposed works 1991 (as completed) for the Eastern Extension, (DPW&S Plan Room PC 321/270)

The report by Annable and Kerr contains a detailed analysis of the buildings and other elements of the Eastern Extension. For more detailed information to the Workshop, Stonecutters' Shelter Shed and 'C wing' refer to the 1991 Annable and Kerr report.

5.5.7 Walls and Towers

walls

The walls of the gaol display evidence of changes to the Gaol over the years. The most noticeable alteration to the walls is that the stone has been rendered almost entirely on the inside and the outside. This detracts from the visual quality of the Gaol, however, it is evident from photographs dating back to 1899 that the walls even then were suffering from the effects of weathering. As noted above (5.5.2) it is possible that the walls were constructed of East Maitland stone, before it was found to be inferior and Ravensfield stone subsequently used for the second phase of construction.

There are a number of holes in the walls relating to new buildings or new circulation patterns within the Gaol. A number of smaller features associated with the use of the

Gaol are attached to or marked on the walls. These are of some significance and generally increase the understanding changes in use at the Gaol.

towers

There are currently six octagonal towers on the perimeter walls. None of the tower buildings (above the wall coping) are the original structures.. All towers are entered by an external door in the gaol wall. The site plan dated 1850 (Fig. 2-4) doesn't indicate any towers. An inspection of the fabric shows that the tower base structures were added after construction of the main walls. A site plan dated 1899²⁰ is the earliest evidence of towers at the gaol, and it shows two square towers (the north and south corners of the central gaol) and three octagonal towers²¹. The west tower of the central gaol is octagonal, the access stair rising through the triangular form at the corner (Fig. 5-27). The east and south towers of the Eastern Extension are both octagonal. According to the site plans the sixth tower was added in 1991²² (Fig. 5-30).



Fig. 5-30 East tower of central gaol. (CM 1997)



Fig. 5-31 Detail photograph of the same tower as in 5-30 (CM 1997)



Fig. 5-32 Interior photograph of the early timber stair inside a triangular (CM 1997)

The concrete block towers lead to modern catwalks, built in the 1980s, with mesh floors and curved roofs attached to the top of the walls (Fig. 5-31). The 19th century photographs indicate that the original towers were of stone construction and that the walkways originally extended as far as the flat coping stones of the walls (ie providing the walking surface), and had iron hand rails. The remainder of the wall copings are curved. The original catwalks were extended by an earlier version of the current design. This earlier catwalk was also perched over the walls, with a timber floor deck and had no roof (Fig. 5-33).

Despite the poor aesthetic quality of the recent towers and covered walkways, they are significant as contemporary structures indicating the continued use of surveillance for security at the gaol from the 19th century to the end of the 20th century.

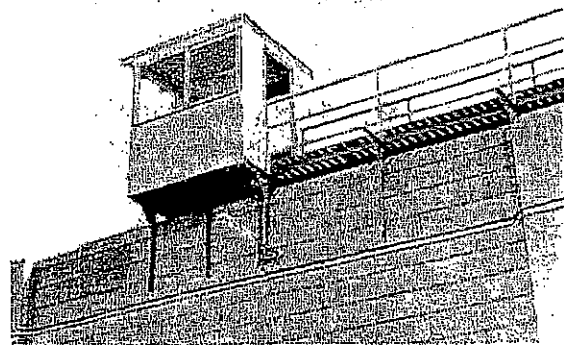


Fig. 5-33 Catwalk to Gaol walls before current design. n.d. c.1970? (DPWS Archives)

5.6 Security

As a Gaol in continuous use over 150 years, security measures at Maitland Gaol from many phases are evident. There are a number of layers of security method and a variety of technologies. Originally, the walls, watch towers and entry gates in combination with staff would have been the extent of security.

In more recent times, the traditional means of security have not been compromised. In addition, wire mesh fences, controlling movement of prisoners and visitors in the open spaces of the gaol, closed circuit TV monitor systems, infra-red beams and razor wire around the perimeter of the gaol at a high level are employed to a high degree. The staff also carry a remote monitor which indicates to the central TV monitor where they are at any time in the gaol. The gates and doors to each section, building or room/cell of the Gaol are all padlocked. The watch towers are occupied by staff with guns. Windows and doors have external grilles of varying types and ages. The means of security at Maitland Gaol are of considerable significance in their range and variety and cumulative approach being evidence of the evolution of Gaol security.

It is worth noting that the 'layer' of recent security means described above are a direct result of reduction in staff numbers at the Gaol, and has been introduced largely in the last 10 years to enable a smaller number of staff to operate the Gaol. Prison staff are known to have been concerned about security at the Gaol in recent years.

5.7 Police Properties

Police Barracks

The Barracks is similar in design to several others in the Hunter Region and probably elsewhere. While a standard design was employed for the main Barracks buildings which were constructed in the 1870s and 1880s. Architecturally similar Mounted Police Barracks were constructed at Wallsend, Morpeth, Newcastle and East Maitland. The Newcastle building has been demolished. The Morpeth Barracks building is larger than the one at East Maitland, but is otherwise comparable. The Wallsend building is the smallest.²³

As the base for mounted police with regional responsibilities, the East Maitland barracks has special significance. Active in the more remote areas, particularly in the pursuit of stock thieves, the mounted police played a vital role in law enforcement in Northern New South Wales. According to O'Sullivan, "the last great operation of the mounted police in New South Wales" was the hunt for the Governor brothers and Jacky Underwood, the serial murderers of the turn of the century.²⁴

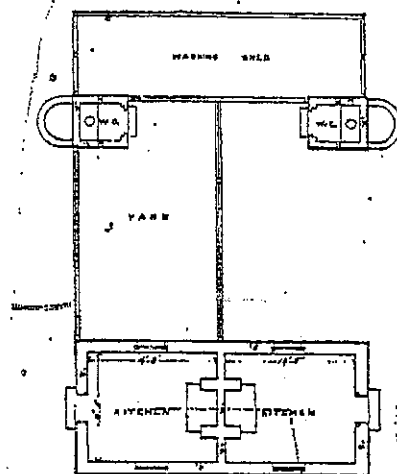


Fig. 5-34 Plan of Kitchen Block and the two toilet structure.. Note washing shed behind the toilets and a yard linking the Kitchen with the shed. (DPWS Plan RoomPC 321/16: undated, c.1925)

Underwood was captured, though not by the police, at Singleton and there is no doubt about the involvement of the East Maitland mounted police in the hunt.

Members of the force, probably including those from East Maitland, were also present at Rothbury Colliery when the notorious Rothbury Riot occurred in 1929. The police were guarding the mine from demonstrating unionists when shots were fired and one miner was killed. The event was a landmark in the industrial history of New South Wales.

The buildings of the former Mounted Police Barracks precinct appear to remain relatively unaltered. The context of the former Kitchen block and the two toilet structures has been compromised to some degree by the loss of the walls of the washing shed and yard linking them, and the introduction of a small brick structure.

The Police Lock-up

The lock-up/residence, when compared with the more recent prison officers' residences, is indicative of the changing conditions of police service since 1871. Existing close by the 1972 (former) police station it allows comparison between East Maitland police stations a century apart. This type of building is relatively common in the Hunter Region. It is not known how many function today as police stations or related uses, however, it is thought that most have been converted to residences. While not rare, this building is representative of its type and significant as part of the law and order precinct.

The earliest photograph found of this building is 1969 (Fig. 5-35). No photographs of the Police Lock-up as constructed in 1871 were found in the course of preparing this report. The 1925 drawings (Fig. 3-3) indicate the building after conversion of the three lock-up rooms to bedrooms. It is not clear whether the two cells and walled yard were built in the 1870s or early c1914 when it is thought that the conversion occurred (refer history 3.2). The site otherwise remains relatively intact.



Fig. 5-35 *The Police Lock-up in 1969. Note the corrugated iron roof which is currently concrete tiled. (DPWS Plan Room)*

5.8 Current Social Value

In addition to discussions with warders during site visits, preliminary consideration by survey of the current social value of Maitland Gaol was undertaken in December 1997²⁴. The following conclusions are made. Former staff (warders, teachers and ministers of religion) and close residents were contacted and their views were sought. No inmates were consulted directly in this process. Group community consultation and undertaking of oral histories before full closure and reuse of the gaol would provide a more developed understanding of the social value of the gaol.

Gaol Employees

The warders are generally understood to hold a relatively high view of Maitland Gaol as a Gaol to work at by comparison with others in NSW. During site visits to the Gaol, warders claimed significant numbers of staff with long standing association at

the gaol (up to 26 years). Reasons stated included that the high level of security due to the design at the Gaol make it a safe place for warders to work. While having a history of maximum level security prisoners, there are said to have been few escapes, compared with other more recent gaols. It was one warder's view that those imprisoned for serious crimes, preferred Maitland Gaol to other gaols due to the high level of internal security; the historic design of the Gaol making it a 'safe gaol' in relation to inmate conflict²⁵. This view is supported in the results of the survey by Turner.²⁶ However, the same warder stated that those imprisoned for less serious crimes felt the place had "nothing to do" relative to other gaols in NSW.

Maitland residents nearby the Gaol

It appears that residents of the gaol precinct have not been much affected by the potential danger of escapee behaviour and there is little evidence that the prison is a symbol of fear in the community. This accords with the results of surveys in 1991, "that the effects of a prison are greater on an urban area such as Parramatta than on a rural centre such as Goulburn, and that much greater benefits are seen in rural areas, particularly in terms of employment."²⁷

Thus the conclusion of the Planning Workshop report on the impact of an extension of Maitland Gaol in 1991 quotes a survey into the Parklea Prison which tends to confirm the present preliminary enquiry into the social significance of Maitland Gaol. "In short, there appears to be only one issue which causes any concern within the surrounding community. This is safety and security, either personal or property Where concern is expressed, little objective reality can be attached to the threat. ... In reality, the survey results show that very few live in constant fear. The vast majority think about the fact that they live near a prison only occasionally (22.4%), rarely (21.8%) or never think about it at all (48.3%)."²⁸

Maitland Community generally

There can be no doubt that the Maitland community is well aware of the economic value of the gaol to the district. At a time of high unemployment the closure of a large state-funded institution which had provided secure employment over one and a half centuries is a matter of concern. This concern appears to over-ride the less satisfactory aspects of the type of work involved. The indirect employment opportunities (service related) that the Gaol provides to the community are also highly valued.

It is also clear that the Maitlanders are strongly aware of the historical importance of the Gaol. This seems to go hand-in-hand with a conviction that the gaol complex should be preserved and exploited for its educational/tourist potential.

The Prison and the Town

The gaol's importance as one of the group of government buildings in the vicinity associated with law and order (Gaol, Court House, Police Lockup, Mounted Police Barracks) has been prominently noted in previous heritage assessments, as has the axial vista along William Street. It is also relevant to note that the town of East Maitland has grown as a government town with West Maitland (now called simply Maitland) serving as the commercial centre. The gaol is intrinsically woven into the urban fabric and has become accepted as such by the population. The attachment of the local community to the gaol as a functioning and important component of the town's economy, as well as a part of its history, is evidenced by the concern raised by its proposed closure.

5.9 Axial Siting

Some admiration has been expressed about the siting of the Gaol on its ridge at the northern end of the axis deliberately created in the town plan for (East) Maitland by Assistant Surveyor G.B. White under the supervision of the Surveyor-General, Sir Thomas Mitchell (see Fig 2-2 and refer section 2.2 Rational for the Gaol). Of the intention to create the William Street axis with a park at one end, a church in the centre and a courthouse and gaol reserve at the other end, a high degree is still evident in the landscape today.

The elements that were carried through were the construction of the Court House and Gaol at the northern end of the axis (Fig. 5-36) and the development of William Street as a gracious double-carriageway boulevard with a double line of majestic Fig trees down the broad, grassed central spine (Figs. 5-37 & 5-38). The Gaol was erected behind the Court House (Fig. 5-39), reinforcing the sense of a legal precinct. Like a big stick held behind the Court's back with the blunt end just visible, the Gaol reminded viewers that punishment awaited those who transgressed the law. Subsequently, the Church of St. Peters was built near the southern end of the axis, but off centre (Fig. 5-38). It is scarcely visible from the Gaol. Regrettably, however, a combination of events conspired to dilute the full realisation of this plan that unless one was briefed on it in advance, it is barely legible today. To begin with, although the area was laid out as a government centre, it failed to develop fully as a township. Commercial and other factors caused the development of the town to occur about a mile to the west, on the edge of the Hunter River. This meant that many of the civic buildings that were anticipated to be built along the William Street axis in what is now East Maitland, were not erected there. Accordingly, it failed to gain the massing of substantial, dignified civic elements intended for it. Instead, it is lined by ordinary dwellings of little if any aesthetic merit, too small in scale for the grandeur of the boulevard. Although the Court House was sited at the northern head of the grand axis, its presentation today has been spoiled by the insensitive location of a car



Fig. 5-36 Front of the Court House from the railway footbridge. Note imbalances created by the screen planting on the left, and the 19th Century parkland on the right. (WMW 1997)



Fig. 5-37 The central avenue planting of Fig Trees along William Street. The Court House is just visible on the horizon - (WMW 1997)

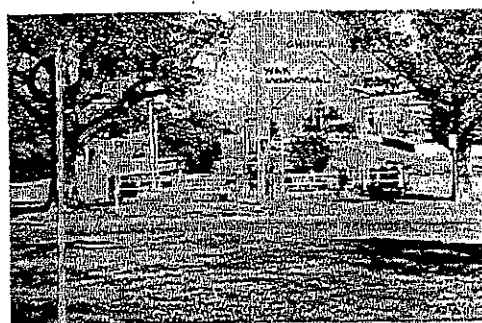


Fig. 5-38 A view along the central grassed island of William St. The tree planting has degenerated as the avenue proceeds up Stockade Hill. A small war memorial occupies centre stage, spoiled visually by a large lamp post. (WMW 1997).

park and a miscellany of associated native plantings on the western front of it. These, together with the crooked angle of the railway footbridge create the impression that the Court House is off-centre, aligned with the western carriageway of the grand axis.

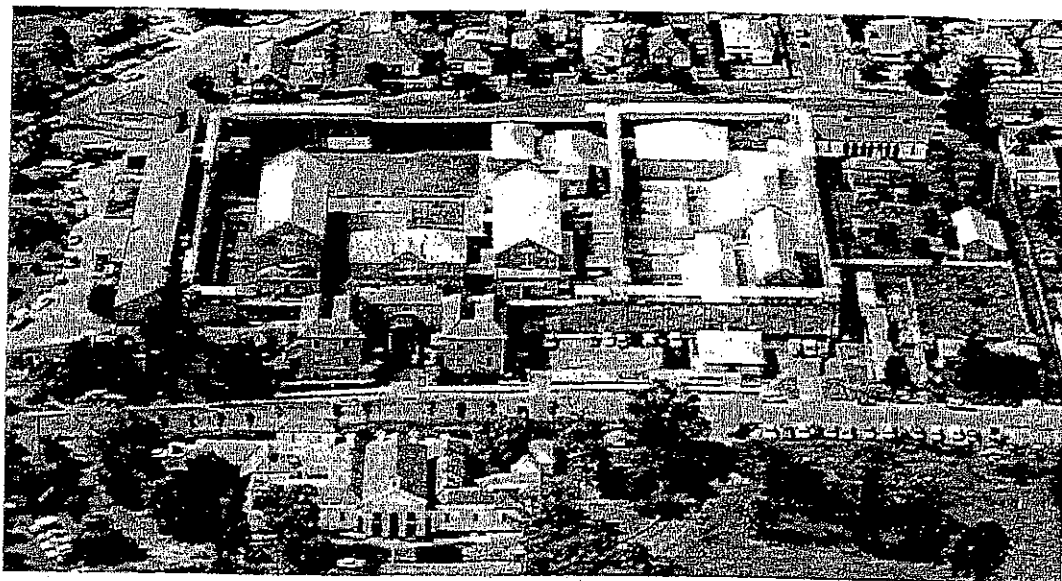


Fig. 5-39 Aerial photograph looking north-east. The Gaol is located behind the Court House and the latter's surrounding parkland. Note the asymmetry created by the carpark on the left front of the Court House. (Shoot 107/7 of 31.8.93)

However, an aerial photo (Fig. 5-39) does not bear this out. The aerial photographs (Figs. 5-39 & 5-40) also makes it clear that the original twin buildings on either side of the entrance to the Gaol (the Governor's and Deputy Governor's quarters) were very precisely sited behind the Court House, and would have read from William St. as rear 'wings' to the Court House before the latter was laterally extended to the east.

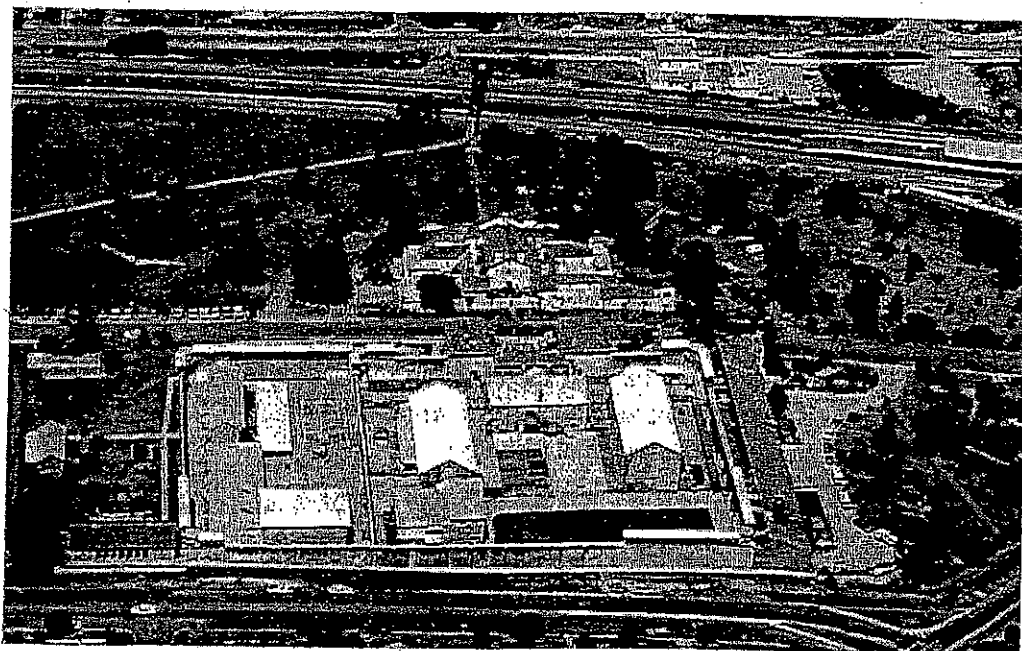


Fig. 5-40 Aerial photograph looking south-west. Note the relationship between the Gaol, the Court House, the railway line and William St. (top Centre). (shoot 32/4 of 19/11/91)

Second, when the railway was constructed later in the century, the railway line cut directly across this axis, preventing pedestrian and vehicular traffic from proceeding directly up the hill to the Court House. Even the later construction of a wood and steel footbridge across the railway line was clumsily done, the aerial photo (Fig. 5-40) showing it being off-centre and lacking any aesthetic qualities. It also spoiled the vista between William St. and the Court House and Gaol on the rising spur behind it.

Third, the main highway between Newcastle and Maitland now bisects this boulevard, further diluting the legibility of the intended axial vista.

Fourth, although a pleasant park was developed around the Court House to provide an attractive setting for it, the western portion was spoiled by the installation of the above-mentioned car park and its screen planting. Not only was this a clumsy 1970s intrusion into a late 19th century urban park; it also created a curiously lopsided effect, because the remainder of the planting on the eastern side is very thin (Figs. 5-37 & 5-39)

As a result of all this, the Gaol is scarcely visible from along William Street, its main entrance being screened by the (expanded) Court House and its associated plantings. It only rises to prominence when viewed from the distant spur, Stockade Hill, at the far southern end of the axis. All in all, therefore, it adds up to an unfortunate, continuing failure by a range of government agencies to grasp the intention of the original town plan. Cumulatively and over time a series of small, thoughtless actions have detracted from its intention and realisation.

5.10 Landscaping of the Gaol site

There is little information about the development of the grounds within the study area, and no plans or maps showing the details of plantings, either within or outside the Gaol.

Within the walls

An early photograph, c.1897 (Fig.5-41) shows a small square of shrubs just inside and to the west of the main entry gate of the Gaol. They appear to be ornamentals, or possibly tall herbs. Today, however, there is nothing of landscape interest within the Gaol itself. Instead, one has to go beyond the Gaol walls to identify such elements.

In the space between the Gaol walls and the road, an early plan dated c.1867 (Fig. 5-42) shows the dotted outline of formal gardens to the east and to the west of the two official residences. It is not known, however, whether these gardens were actually constructed according to that layout. A subsequent plan, c.1885 (Fig. 5-43) shows the spatial outline of the two garden

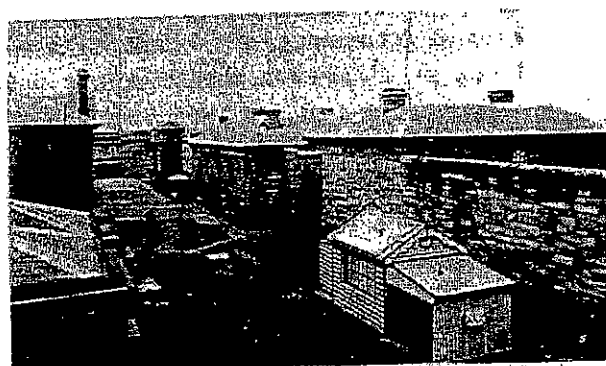


Fig. 5-41 A small garden (centre) is visible beside the Entry Gate and at the back of the Deputy Governor's Quarters, c1897 (photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS)

yards, but no layout or planting information. It indicates a feature in the centre of the garden yard of the Governor's Residence, which would appear from the photograph, dated c.1897 (Fig. 2-21), to be a well and a water pump in the centre. Note that the garden yard had already been paved over, the only planting being ivy which half

covers the back wall. At the time of writing, nothing further is known about these gardens from the documentation.

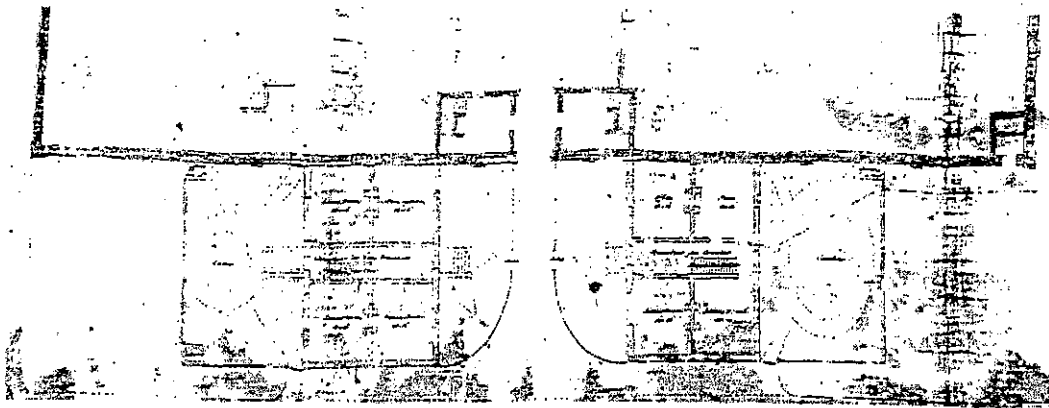


Fig. 5-42 An early plan of the Gaol, c.1867. This plan shows, at the bottom - in dotted outline - the layout of the gardens on each side of the two residences. (DPW&S Plan Room No.PC321/43)

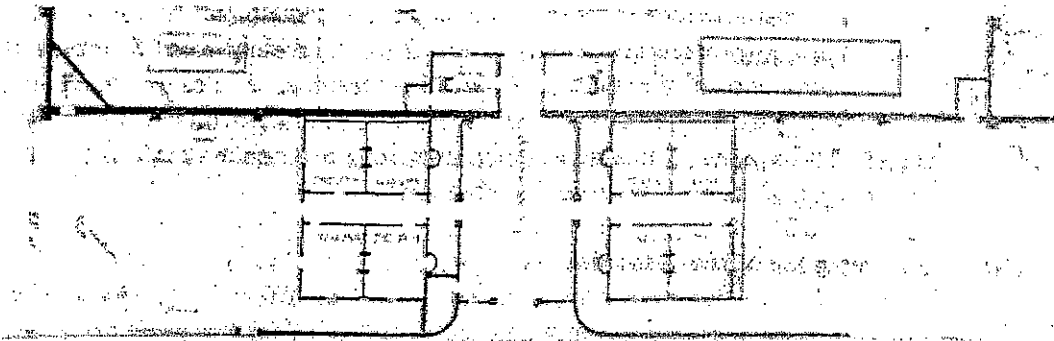


Fig. 5-43 A later plan of the Gaol, c.1885 showing the garden yards, simplified. (DPW&S Plan Room PC 321/43)

However, from early photographs²⁹ there are a few tantalising glimpses of dark shrubs, possibly Cypressess or Pines, which appear to be growing in or close to the two official gardens. There is a passing mention of them in the History (this report) - Late Nineteenth Century Developments: 'A graceful pine and other trees that have been an ornament to the locality' had been removed from the eastern sector of the block in 1883, when new buildings were located in what became known as the 'eastern extension'. (This went as far as the fence between the Police Quarters and the Gaol.) Interestingly, a 1990 survey plan³⁰ shows that until recently the space to the east of the Governor's quarters still contained the configuration of the original garden yard, with a brick wall on its eastern boundary. Garden beds were laid out around the perimeter, with a large area of lawn in the centre. A similar layout occurred on the eastern side of that wall, for about the same distance. Unfortunately, however, all this was obliterated in 1990-1 when the bitumen car park was extended westwards as shown in the aerial photograph (Fig. 5-39).

Early Plantings

The most obvious early plantings are the very tall Hoop Pines (*Araucaria cunninghamii*) which were planted as boundary and entry markers to the Gaol.



Fig. 5-44 The c.1890 Hoop Pine near the former Deputy Governor's Residence, west of the main entrance to the Gaol. (WMW 1997)

As these did not appear in the early photographs, it is assumed that they were not original plantings, but put in a little later, perhaps towards the turn of the century. Although, the one now remaining at the front entrance (there could have been a pair, originally) appears to be in good health (Fig. 5-44), the other two remaining ones are in a poor state; the hoop pine in front of the former Police Station is unfortunately senescent (Fig. 5-45), and the Lindesay Street tree was struck by lightning a few years ago and is dead from 4 metres up (Fig. 5-46). Their location is shown on a 1990 Survey Plan³¹.

As the only remaining early plantings on the whole site, they have a moderate to high degree of heritage significance, as they reflect the late Victorian taste for monumental, sculptural plantings, especially for use as markers of important sites. A more precise estimate of their degree of significance could be determined if supporting documentation was available.



Fig. 5-45 The second early Hoop Pine, in front of the former East Maitland Police Station, marking the eastern boundary of the Gaol reserve. (WMW 1997)



Fig. 5-46 The third Hoop Pine, beside the Police Quarter - north-east corner of the site. Note its luxuriant growth up to 4m, and dead branches above. (WMW 1997)

Street frontages

On the perimeter of the Gaol along Lindsay Street there are no plantings, apart from half a dozen street verge plantings of the lower species of Bottle Brush. The old ashlar sandstone wall near the western end of this street does, however, appear to have some heritage significance. Refer to policies section 7.0 for discussion on this element. Similarly, there are no plantings of heritage significance along the Cumberland St. verge boundary, with only a handful of *Melaleuca armillaris* scattered along it.

Main Entrance to the Gaol - Left hand side

The plantings of this area of the Gaol complex comprises four tree ferns (3 *Cyathea*s and 1 half dead *Dicksonia*) on the left hand side of the main entrance, and one *Cocos* Palm and one *Hibiscus* on the right hand side. None have any heritage or aesthetic value; their amenity value is slight.

5.11 Landscaping of areas associated with the Gaol

Former Police Barracks site

The grounds of this area appear to have been considerably tidied up in recent times, and the white picket fence removed (it is currently stored). Apart from the two near-dead Hoop Pines (see above), there are no plantings of any heritage significance in this precinct. In the south-western corner is an old Cypress tree, possibly 50 years old. It may have been part of a pair, forming markers to a path or lane leading up to the Police Barracks, but the other has been gone for some years (it does not show in the 1993 aerial photograph - Fig. 5-39). As no reference to it has so far appeared in the documents, it is not possible to attribute any particular significance to it. The same can be said of more recently planted Brush Boxes to the east of it, directly in front of the former East Maitland Police Station.

Within the grounds of the former Police Barracks are two Loquat trees and one Citrus tree, and an unidentified fruit tree of the *Prunus* family. None of these appears likely to have heritage significance. A driveway on the east of the site, leading from Lindsay St. to the former stables has been planted with Bottle Brushes, probably in the 1980s. These now constitute a pleasant avenue of some amenity but are of slight heritage significance. They also serve to soften the eastern edge of this precinct, and partly hide its paling boundary fence. Near the mouth of the driveway is one of the afore-mentioned heritage Hoop Pines, dead from about its knees up, but flourishing below that. Near it there are also one Judas Tree (*Bauhinia*) and one Jacaranda (directly behind it), near the failing boundary fence. These were probably planted earlier than the Bottle Brushes. They have some amenity value but are of slight heritage significance.

*Police Lock-up and Reserve**The Triangular Reserve*

Between the Cumberland St. boundary and the western extension to the Gaol lies a triangular wedge of land, which for many years appears to have been largely grassed, with a few shrubs or trees dotted here and there. It appears to have been land left over from the original Reserve after the progressive expansion of the Gaol. A photograph dated 1971 (Fig. 5-47) indicates that this Reserve was being used as a

vegetable garden, probably tended by low security risk prisoners. At the north-western corner of it, partly screening a transformer, is an attractive, mature Eucalypt, three Bottle Brushes at the top of an embankment retaining wall, and a large one below it.



Fig.5-47 "Site for new Police Residences at Maitland Gaol Jan 1971" (caption on original photograph). The Police Lockup residence is at the apex of Cumberland and John Streets. It appears to be tomatoes growing in the foreground, and a crop, possible wheat growing on the land of the prison farm. (AONSW?)

In the "parkland" space between the main Gaol building and the two police houses erected in the 1970s is a variety of recent plantings, put in between 1971 and the late 1980s. Most of these are native species, but there are a few ornamentals such as Hibiscus, Golden Ash, Liquidambar, Chinese Tallowwood, Jacarandas, Viburnum, and Photinia. None of these has any particular heritage value, although they do, collectively, demonstrate the planting practice favoured by institutions of using almost entirely native species for public places in that period. The great majority of these species, however, will not last for more than another 15-20 years. Some will die well before that. However, the Liquidambars, Tallowood trees, Jacarandas, Firewheel Tree and some of the Bottle Brushes already have some amenity value, and are likely to become valued trees if left to mature. They should therefore be retained. Survey Plan No. 9064 shows identification of plants by their botanical name³².

The Memorial Garden

The small memorial garden (Fig. 5-48), created in 1988 as a bicentennial project, the centre pieces of which is a small rock-walled pond and a tall flagpole. A plaque at the foot of the flagpole states:

"This flag pole was erected as a bicentennial commemorative project to honour all those Governors/Superintendents and their staff who served under the from the time of proclamation of the Maitland Gaol".

The plantings in this memorial park are a mixture of Hibiscus, Golden Book - Leaf Cypress, Cocos Palms, Purple Lantana, two Figs and Eucalypts. These reflect typical suburban front garden plantings of the period, probably drawn from those currently and cheaply available at the local nursery. The Rock Pond, now minus water but accumulating debris, is sensitively sited just upslope of a septic pit with a large, prominent, steel hatchcover.

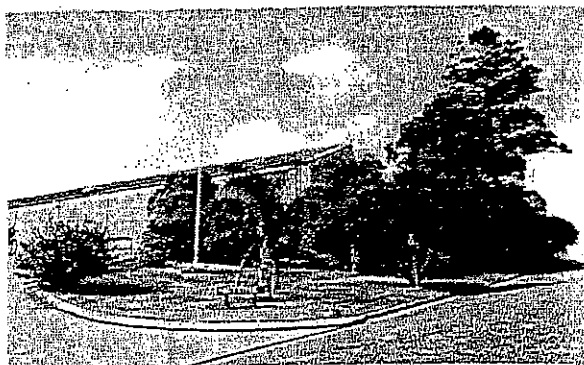


Fig. 5-48 The small memorial garden on John Street, in front of the Gaol's Store. The small rock pool lies behind the first Cocos Palm and to the right of the flagpole. The first Hoop Pine (right) dominates the scene, while the Peppermint trees provide useful screening. (WMW 1997)

Linking this precinct with the front entrance are three tall, mature Peppermint Gums, their drooping narrow grey-green leaves contrasting against the dark Hoop Pine beyond it (Fig 5-48). They appear to have been planted in the early 1970's, about the same time as the Eucalypt and Bottle Brush trees in the far north-west corner of the triangular reserve. They were probably planted to soften the brick walls of the Officers' Amenities Building erected at that time and, as a distinct amenity, should be retained. However, they have little or no heritage value, other than demonstrating common amenity planting practice of institutions in the 1970s.

5.12 Prison Farm Landscapes

It is understood that a segment of the flood plain of Wallis Creek, just north-west of Morpeth Road between the railway line and Cumberland Street, was at one time used as a 'prison farm' for growing vegetables. It is assumed that the flood plain was chosen because it was more arable and close to water supplies. It was also close to the Gaol. During the 19th century it was common for gaols in NSW to have small farms close by or the production of fresh fruit and vegetables, since transport of



Fig. 5-49 Stone stored on the former prison farm site. DPWS Heritage Stonemasonry owns the stone and has catalogued all items (CM 1997)

perishables was slow and good sometimes arrived in poor condition. However, with the advent of rail and later motor vehicle transport, making supplies of fresh food more rapid and reliable, the need for such farms gradually diminished.

Given its location, the only permanent structures now present are a corrugated steel storage shed on the levee bank and a broken flight of concrete steps down that bank to the floodplain level. No plantings of ornamental trees appear to have been made - or if they were, none have survived. The only other items are quantities of dressed sandstone blocks from the old Gaol, dumped there after alterations were made.

Because of the paucity of relevant documentation and significant fabric, it is difficult to assess the prison farm's heritage significance. However, as it provided outdoor exercise and fresh food for prisoners for some (as far unknown) number of years, it is assessed that it would have social and historical significance, but of a low degree.

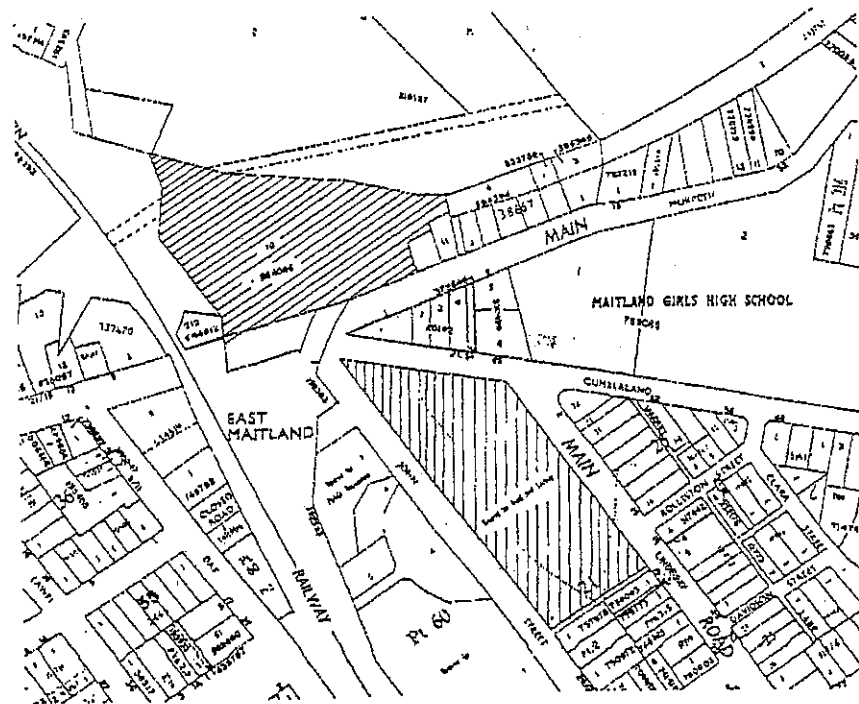


Fig. 5-50 Approximate area of former Prison Farm shown hatched diagonally. This land was transferred from DOCS ownership to Maitland City Council in 1997. Vertical hatching indicates site of Gaol and Police Properties

5.13 Maitland Correctional Centre & Police Properties Site Plan showing periods of Development

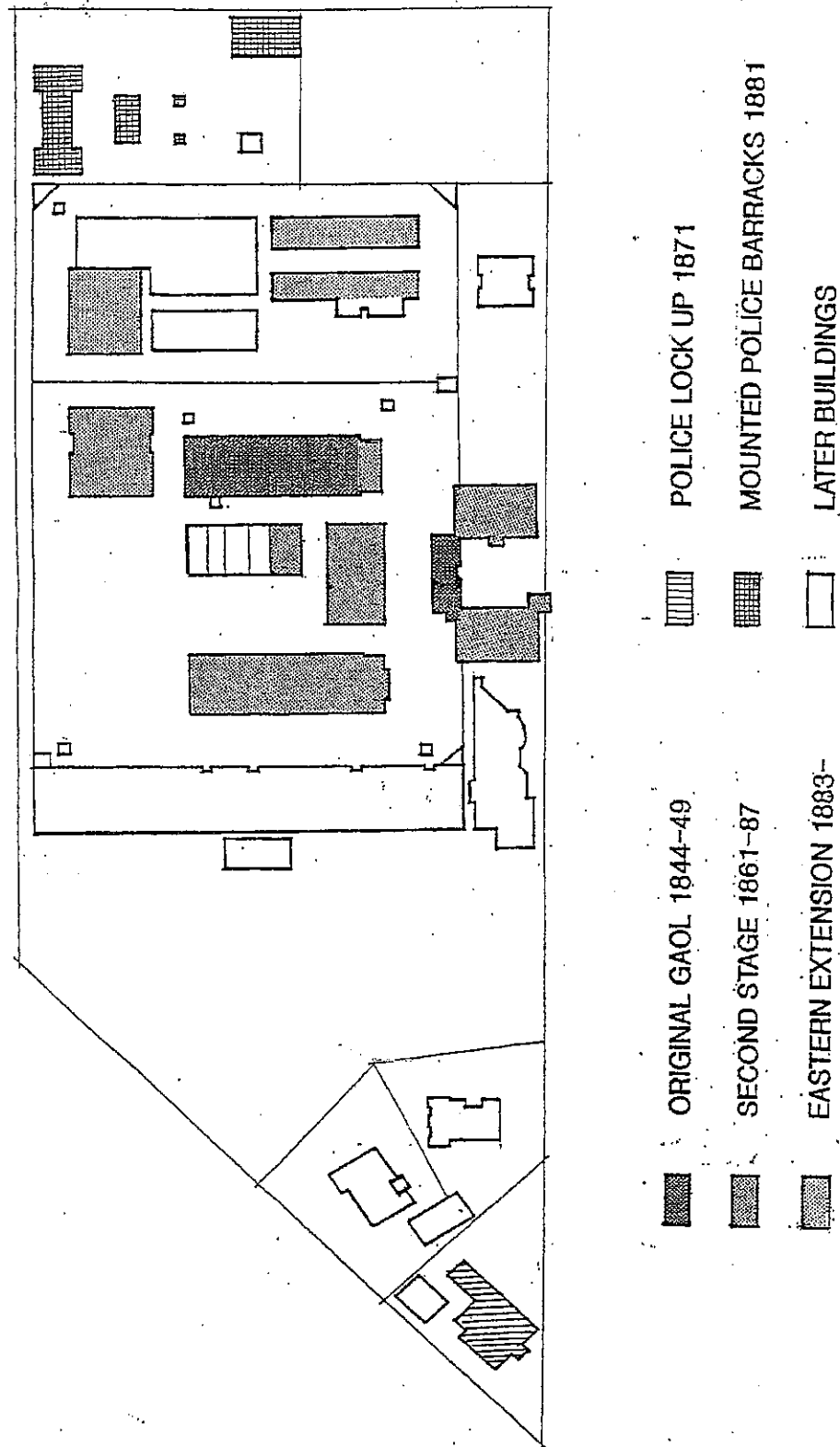


Fig. 5-51

14 5.13 Photographic Comparison of the Gaol using c.1897 and Current Photographs

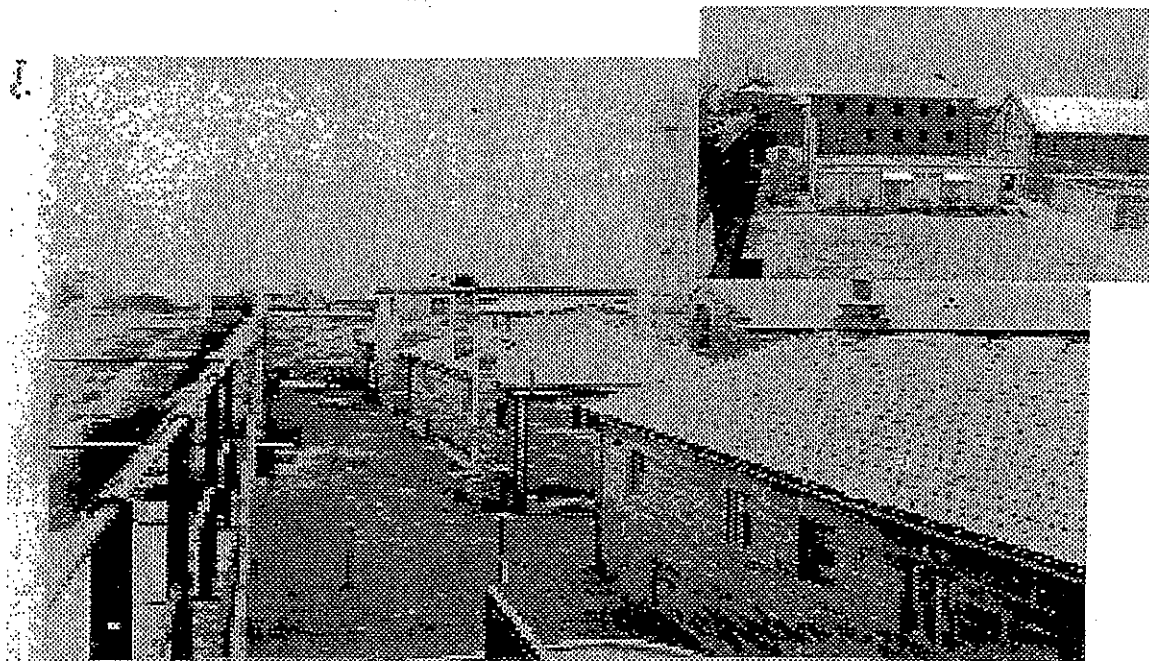


Fig. 5-52

View from North Tower looking towards Asset No.s 013 and 009. This photograph clearly shows the two buildings; the Cookhouse (3) and the Female Surgery/Workroom buildings (4) that were demolished to provide an open area. The Bathroom and Hospital (2) have been modified to create the present Kitchen Block. (c. 1897 Photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS and inset CM 1997)



Fig. 5-53

View looking north-east between Asset No.s 005 and 009. This photograph shows an early configuration of the special yards, with the Cookhouse in the background. The wall of the closest yard in the c.1897 photograph has been blocked in and an opening created on the north-western side. An infil wall at the end of this space and lightweight shelter-type structures built over this space detract from the appreciation of this area. (n.d. Photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS and inset CM 1997).

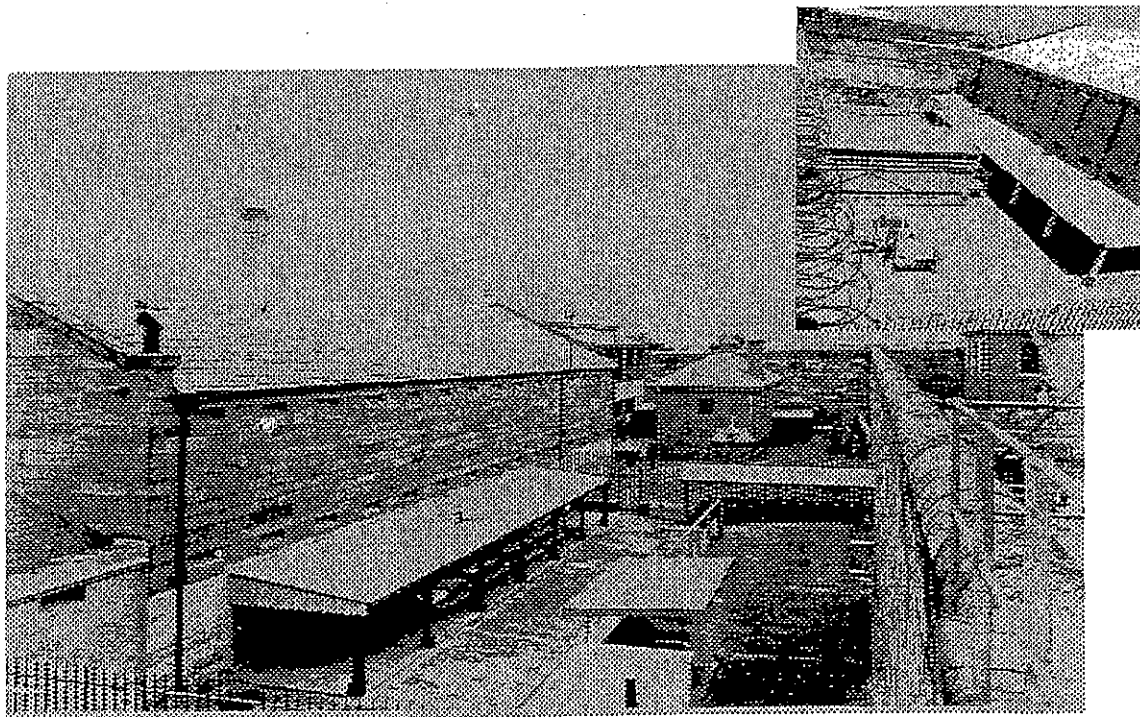


Fig. 5-54

View from South Tower of central gaol complex looking north-east. Asset No 009 and in the distance Asset No. 013 when two separate buildings (Hospital and Bathroom/Morgue). The yard of Asset No. 009 shows little change from (c1897 Photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS and inset CM 1997)

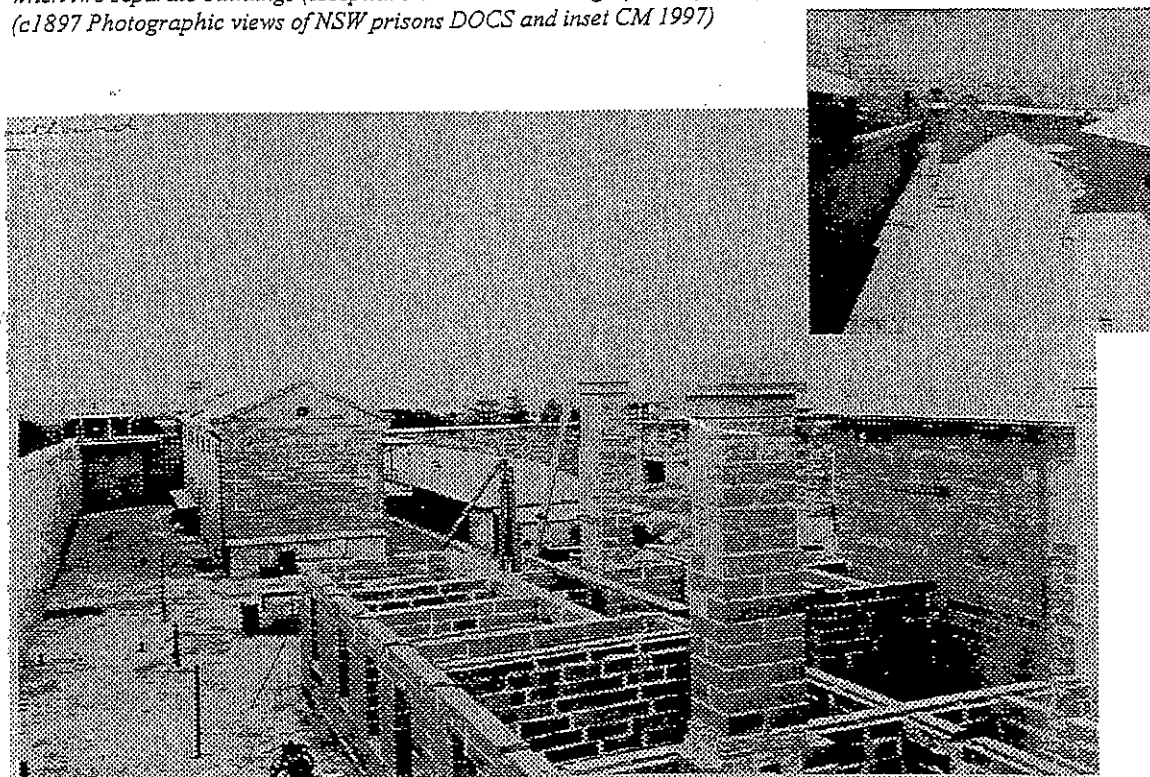


Fig. 5-55

View from East Tower of Eastern Extension looking towards Asset No. 019 and 020, Asset No. 016 is on the right of the photographs. This photo shows the Female Warder's Quarters under construction and the new female wing (Asset No. 016) to the right. The Warder's Quarters appears to have been demolished for the construction of the new offices post section of the eastern extension. (c.1897 Photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS and inset CM 1997)

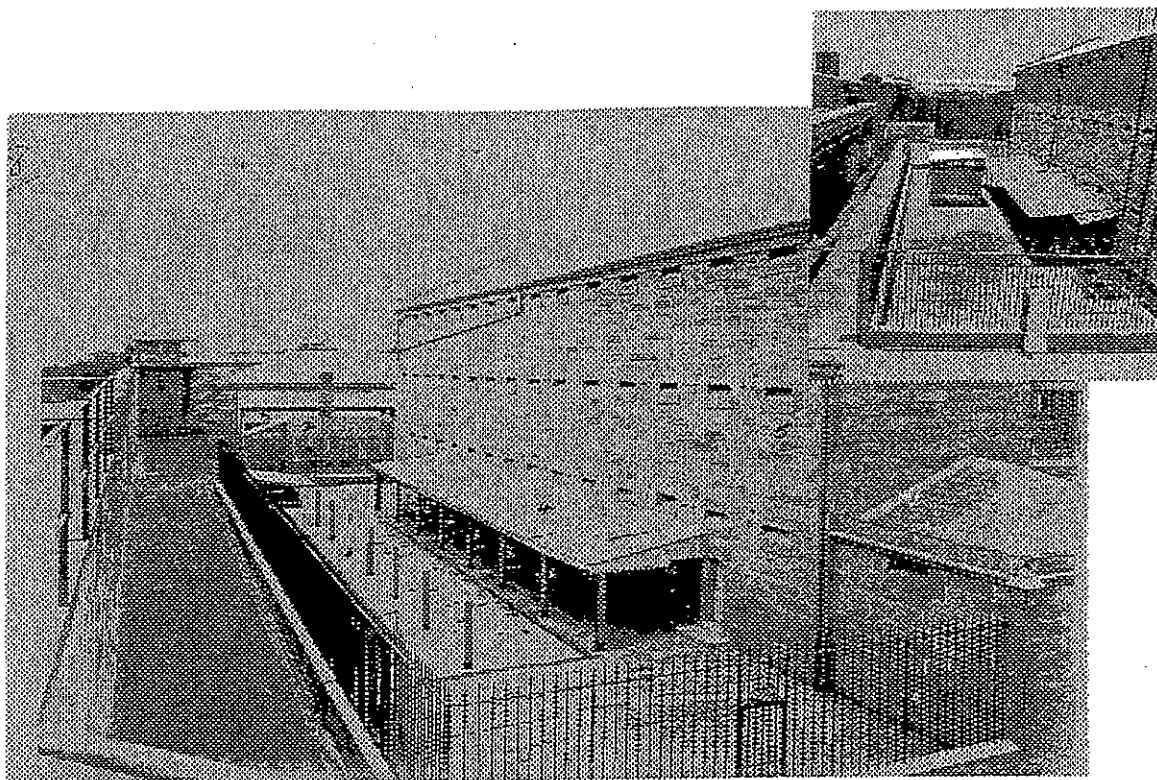


Fig 5-56

View from West Tower of central gaol complex looking at yard of Asset No. 012. There is little change from c1897 noting the Female Wing which was demolished. Changes in the yard include the posts to the lean-to shelter, the paving which may have been concreted over and the location of the ablutions block. (c. 1897 Photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS and inset CM 1997)

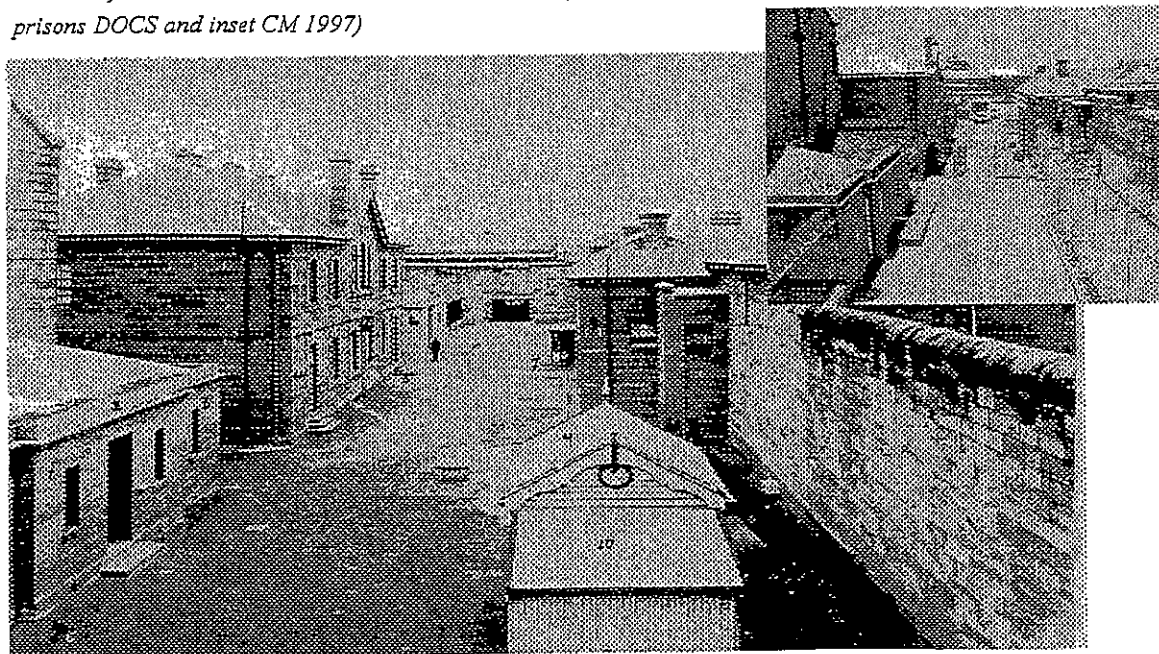


Fig. 5-57

View from West Tower of central gaol complex looking south-east. This photo shows that the opening in the wall between the central gaol and the eastern extension has existed since before c1897. This dividing wall shows as unrendered. There is an decorative stone sentry box with a cupola roof to the south-east of the entry gate and a timber and corrugated iron building identified as the photo gallery and messengers shed in the foreground. The rooves of all major buildings in the complex appear to be slate in the c.1897 photo. In the more recent photo, the gatehouse buildings have red tile rooves (some chimneys missing) and the major buildings within the walls are probably zincalume. The paving appears to be bitumen, while the present finish in this area is paving bricks. The entry steps to the buildings have been replaced with less sympathetic designs and chainmesh fences and razor wire features strongly in this area. (c.1897 Photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS and inset CM 1997)

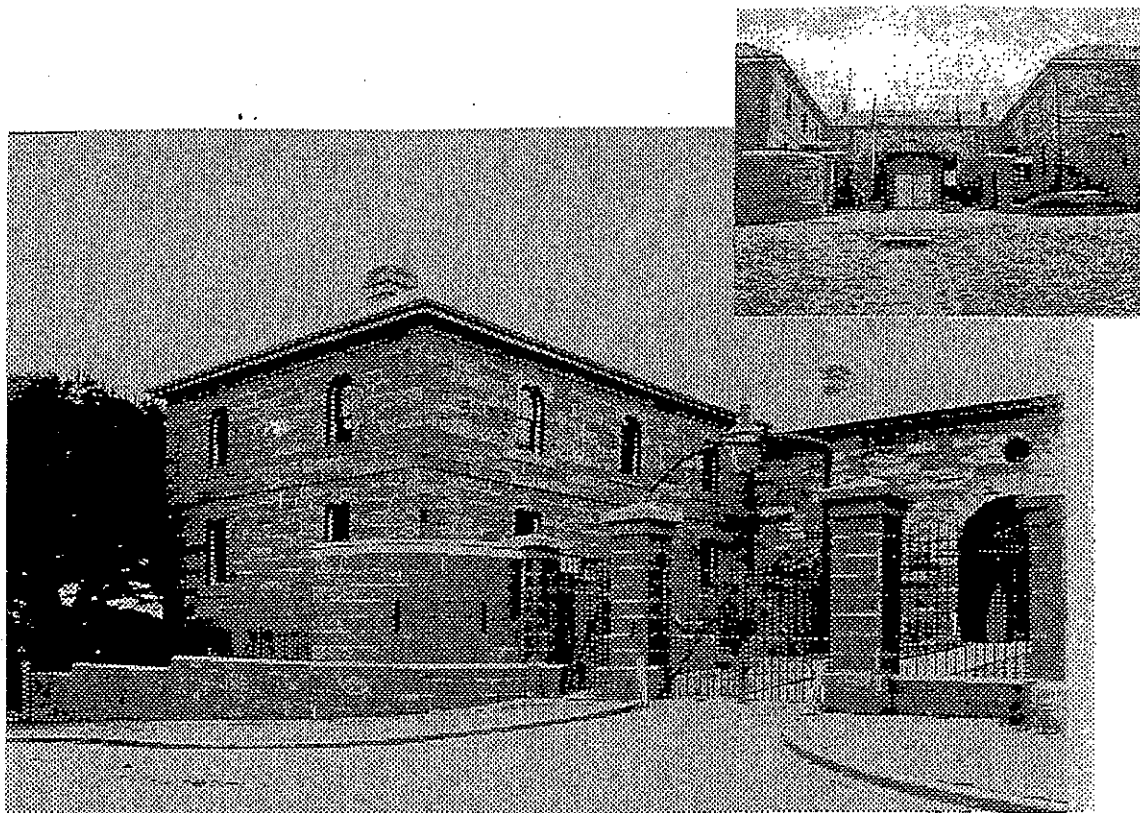


Fig. 5-58

View looking towards main entry of the gaol complex from John Street. Note the original gateposts with lamp over and current cage canopy concealing main arch of entrance way. The central building has been rendered on the street facade. (c.1897 Photographic views of NSW prisons DOCS and inset CM 1997)

ENDNOTES

- 1 Kerr, J.S., *Design for Convicts*, 1987, p.104.
- 2 *ibid.*, p.10.
- 3 Kerr, J.S., *Parramatta Correctional Centre Its Past Development and Future Care*, Dept of Corrective Services, 1995, p.10.
- 4 Annable, R. and Kerr, J.S., *Maitland Gaol Provisional Assessment of the Eastern Extension and Conservation Guide*, February 1991, p.6.
- 5 DPW&S Plan Room No.s PC 321/ 42, 43, 45 - 47. The date is visible on drwg. PC 321/ 47 of the Warders' Quarters.
- 6 Ramsland, John., *A History of Corrective Services in New South Wales*, Revised draft 22.12.94, ch 3.
- 7 PC 321/33 - DPW&S Plan Room
- 8 PC 321/222 - DPW&S Plan Room
- 9 PC 321/183 (1971) and PC 321/113 - DPW&S Plan Room
- 10 PC 321/161 - DPW&S Plan Room
- 11 PC 321/113 - DPW&S Plan Room
- 12 refer Section 2.5 Constructing the Gaol - This report.
- 13 Annable, R. and Kerr, J.S., 1991, Plate 2.
- 14 PC 321/222 - DPW&S Plan Room
- 15 PC 321/222 - DPW&S Plan Room
- 16 PC 321/43 - DPW&S Plan Room
- 17 Annable, R. and Kerr, J.S., 1991 (see endnote 4. above)
- 18 Annable, R. and Kerr, J.S., 1991
- 19 The 1975 Industries building was built of concrete blockwork with metal deck roof and was located between 'C wing' and the Workshops. An earlier Industries building was constructed in the 1960s in this location. It was destroyed by fire during prison disturbances in 1975. (Annable and Kerr, p22)
- 20 Annable & Kerr, 1991, Plate 2
- 21 The base to these towers has been created by a later wall, forming a triangle in plan in the corner.
- 22 PC 321/235 - DPW&S Plan Room
- 23 Summary of discussion (1998) with John Carr, Heritage Architect, DPWS Hunter Region. Further research on the history and development of Police Barracks in the Hunter and NSW would be useful in further understanding the significance of the Barracks complex at East Maitland.
- 24 O'Sullivan, J., *Mounted Police in New South Wales*, Adelaide, 1979, p.139
- 25 Turner, J.W., *Preliminary Statement of Social Significance*, Dec 1997.
- 26 This view is supported in the results of the 1997 survey by J. W. Turner
- 27 *ibid*, p2
- 28 "Maitland Gaol - Category A1 Upgrade Statement of Environmental Effects", Planning Workshop, 1991, p.17
- 29 *ibid.*, Attachment 3, p.12.
- 30 Mayne-Wilson, W., *Landscape Conservation Report on the Maitland Correctional Centre - Stage 2*, September 1997, pp 8 & 9
- 31 DOCS Survey Plan No. 9064
- 32 DOCS Survey Plan No. 9064, 1990
- 33 Mayne-Wilson, W., 1997, Appendix A-

6.0

CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

6.1 BASIS OF ASSESSMENT

Cultural significance has been assessed in this study using the methodology and terminology of the *Burra Charter*¹ and *The Conservation Plan*². The assessment has been developed from an understanding of the history of the gaol and an inspection of the existing fabric as detailed in the previous section.

6.2 LEVELS OF SIGNIFICANCE

The terminology used to define levels of significance is consistent with previous conservation plans for Corrective Services properties at Goulburn, Parramatta, Broken Hill and Long Bay.

Exceptional Significance

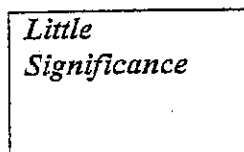
- A This is the highest level of cultural significance (e.g. Sydney Opera House, early part of Parramatta Gaol). It applies to Maitland Gaol as an entity but not to its individual components.*



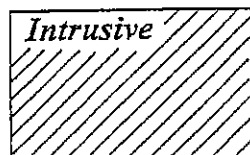
- B Items which deserve to be included on any national or state register and would be subject to statutory conservation measures. This category includes the remaining parts of the gaol complex completed around the turn of the century.*



- C This level contains the threshold for listing on a national or state register. It includes later fabric and minor subsidiary parts of the 19th century institution.*



- D Fabric in this category has little heritage significance. It either has a neutral impact on heritage values or would be too destructive to remove.*



- I This category includes items which impair heritage value either by being visually intrusive or by obscuring more significant parts.*

6.3 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

MAITLAND GAOL is of considerable significance for the following reasons:

The first stage:

- Is the oldest structure in Australia that has been continuously used as a gaol.
- Is a rare vestige from the first system of State prisons in NSW and is the oldest intact country gaol in NSW.
- 'A' Wing is the only surviving example from the "Inspectors' Gaols" designed by Mortimer Lewis and built in the 1830s and 40s. Contemporary wings at the Parramatta Female Factory, Port Phillip, Goulburn and Bathurst have been demolished.

The second stage:

- Is the first of the major gaol complexes completed under James Barnet as Colonial Architect. It provides evidence of the evolution in penal design between the first permanent buildings and the major country gaols at Bathurst and Goulburn.

The eastern extension:

- Demonstrates the importance of expanded provision for women and for industrial activities in the prison system during the 1880s.

The whole gaol complex:

- Demonstrates early status of the town of Maitland and its place in the growth of the Hunter Region.
- Has associations from its long history of holding notorious criminals, as well as groups such as homosexuals and local unionists; and as the scene of famous escapes and hangings.
- Provides evidence of changing penal attitudes and practices over the last 150 years.
- Has a high status and perceived value in the local community as a landmark in the urban townscape and is accepted by the community for the economic benefits it confers.
- The historicity of the gaol is universally recognised by the community and preservation of the significant aspects of the Gaol is desired.
- As an active gaol is valued by both warders and serious offenders as a 'safe gaol' affording immediate community, employees and inmates a relatively safe working and living environment.

The gaol in the context of East Maitland:

- Is an important component of the group of nearby historic buildings, (Court House, Police Lockup and Mounted Police Barracks) associated with law and order.
- Is a highly visible architectural vestige of the early town plan for East Maitland, terminating an important axial vista along William Street. As such it is deliberately sited on the shoulder of a prominent ridge with a broad valley below it in which the majority of residents live.
- Has aesthetic value in the townscape for its architectural quality and skillful use of local stone.

THE POLICE PROPERTIES *are of considerable significance for the following reasons:*

The Former Mounted Police Barracks & Former Police Lockup:

- Provide evidence of the important role of the mounted police in the latter part of 19th century.
- Have associations with the hunt for notorious outlaws such as Jacky Underwood and the Governor Brothers.
- Are well built, of local materials and add to the coherent historic character of the Gaol/ Court House group.
- Demonstrate the changes that have occurred in the police service over 120 years.
- Demonstrate a standard Police Lock-up design, extensively used in the Hunter Valley, in context of a Police and Gaol precinct.

LANDSCAPE COMPONENTS OF MAITLAND GAOL *are of some to considerable significance as follows:*

The former gardens (now built over or destroyed) of the former Governor and Deputy Governor Residences:

- The sites, or spatial configuration, of the former gardens of the residences once had *some significance*, reflecting 19th century practice in providing some softening amenity and privacy for the officials families resident at the gaols, and an opportunity to grow fresh flowers and vegetables.

The early plantings and garden design associated with the Gaol:

- The Hoop Pines on the western side of the main entrance, on the southern edge of the former East Maitland Police Station, and on the north-eastern edge of the Police Quarters Precinct have some to considerable significance arising from their aesthetic qualities as landscape and boundary markers for the Gaol and from their social value in reflecting the preferences of public institutions for planting statuesque rainforest trees in their grounds and parklands during the decade or so leading up to Federation.
- Similar plantings are present in the parkland surrounding the Court House, on the other side of John Street, which help both to reinforce the landmark quality of the 'law and order' precinct on the ridge and to strengthen its visual impact as a definitive terminating element of the visual axis along William Street. Collectively, in this precinct, this group of late 19th century landmark plantings has *considerable cultural significance* for East Maitland.

The site of the former prison farm and triangular reserve:

- Are of some significance for its social value as a former venue for providing outdoor exercise for selected prisoners and the production of fresh vegetables.

6.5 SUMMARY

The following matrix summarises the nature and level of the significance assigned to each part of the site under consideration. Shading indicates the level of significance in accordance with the convention established above.

Nature of Significance	walled gaol complex	former police barracks	former police lock-up	Prison Farm	Axial siting in town plan
Historic	B	B	B	C	B
Aesthetic	B	B	C	C	B
Social	C	C	C	C	C

6.6 SCHEDULE OF SIGNIFICANT FABRIC

The first of the following tables relates to elements common to more than one building. The second table relates to particular elements to each building.

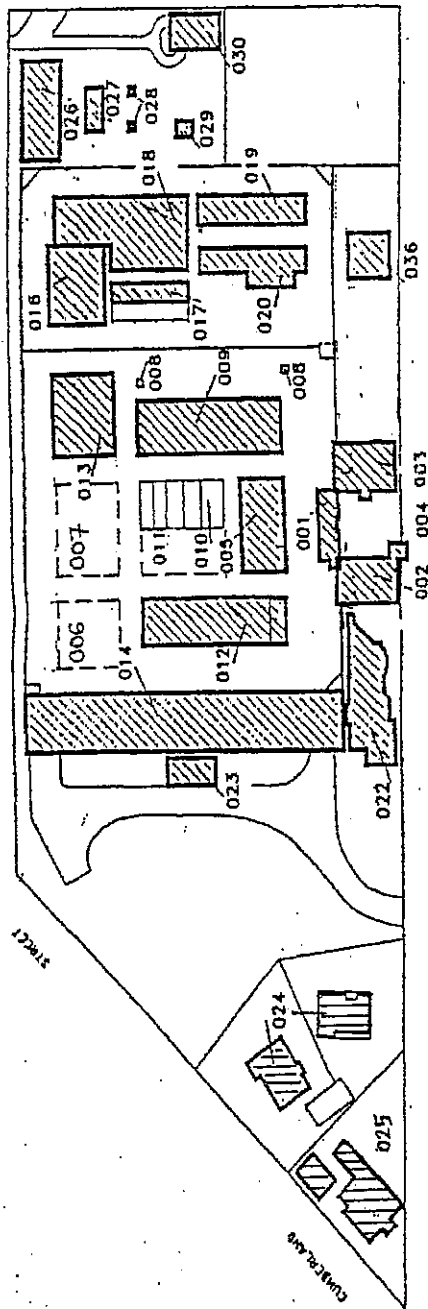
Element	Level
Roofing old painted iron	C
Roofing terracotta tiles	D
Roofing 'colorbond'	D
Masonry walls, chimneys etc	B
Original joinery: sash windows, boarded ceilings, panelled doors, ledged, braced and battened doors, skirtings, architraves, top lights over doors, etc	B
Remains of original fireplaces and surrounds etc	B
Original ceilings (metal, lath and plaster, timber boards)	B
Modern ceilings (plasterboard)	D
Modern wall linings and finishes	D
Modern partitions	I
Fluorescent lighting and modern services	D/I
Original flooring	C
Modern floor coverings	D
Signs, notices, numerals and other evidence of current operation (incl. graffiti)	C
Security bars to windows generally	C/D

POLICE LOCK-UP and RESERVE

CENTRAL GAOL

EASTERN
EXTENSIONPOLICE
BARRACKS

LINDSAY



STREET

-JOM-

KEY TO BUILDINGS - Diagram and building numbers are those used in the DOCS Section 170 Heritage Register. Those building numbers missing from the sequence are assumed to be demolished buildings, where known the building is identified below.

Central Gaol

- 001 Gatehouse - Central Entry
- 002 Gatehouse - Superintendents Office (former house of Lieutenant Governor)
- 003 Gatehouse - Deputy Roster Clerk Office (former house of Governor)
- 004 Gatehouse (sentry post)
- 005 Internal Administration (former Chapel Offices and Hospital)
- 006/007 Demolished: Females' Wing / Cookhouse
- 008 Sentry Boxes
- 009 1-Wing cell range (two-storey former 'A' wing)
- 010/011 Yards (011 shown dotted has been demolished)
- 012 2-Wing cell range (three-storey former 'B' wing)
- 013 Kitchen Block (cells above)
- 014 Store

Eastern Extension

- 015 Presumed demolished (possibly the former Industries Building)
- 016 4-Wing cell range (two-storey former 'C' wing)
- 017 Yards

Modern Cell Block

- 018 Gymnasium & Education (Maintenance)
- 019 Contact and non-contact visits (originally open shelter shed)
- 020 Walls and Towers
- 021 Amenities extension
- 022 **Police Lockup and Reserve**
- 023 Demountable
- 024 Police Residences (and similar building to south of 024)
- 025 former Police Lock-up (at apex of corner site)

Police Barracks

- 026 Training (former Mounded Police Barracks)
- 027 Training (former Barracks Kitchen)
- 028 Toilet blocks (x2)
- 029 Small modern brick building
- 030 Former Stable
- 031-035 presumed demolished
- 036 Modern 'Visits' building

Asset No	Name of Building	Architectural Form	Internal Configuration	Original Fabric	Notes	Level
SCHEDULE OF SIGNIFICANT FABRIC						
001	Gatehouse - central building	B	B	B	Iron grill gates to gaoi Sheet metal gates to driveway Modern iron cage to driveway Internal stair (up to first fl) security and related services equipment	C D I B C
002	Gatehouse - Superintendents Office (former house of Lieutenant Governor)	B	B	B	Basement - fitout (gym, showers etc) Ground fl - fitout (offices, toilets etc) First fl - fitout (offices) Internal staircase (up to first fl & down to basement) Entry stairs, ramps and cages	I D/I D B I
003	Gatehouse - Deputy Roster Clerk Office (former house of Governor)	B	B	B	Basement - substantially intact Ground fl - fitout First fl - fitout Internal staircase (up to first fl & down to basement)	B D/I D/I D
004	Gatehouse (entry guard room)	B	B	B		-
005	Internal Administration (former Chapel)	B	B/C	B	Stair up to former chapel Modern ceiling lining panels over timber boards Original timber ceiling boards Concrete floor Signage related to hospital/dispensary Demountable over yards connected to upper level Modern Steel stair and security cage Modern steps and ramps Exposed roof structure on upper level Coloured glass window Office and kitchen fitout in building generally Partition walls in hospital area	B I B D C I I I B C D/I I
008	Sentry boxes	D	D	D	Original structure type, not original fabric	-
009	1-wing cell range (two-storey 'A' wing)	B			Central space: bridges, stone galleries, iron rails etc Ceiling and roof structure Copper water tanks Wire grid over void between galleries Control room ground floor Control room upper floor	B B C D/I B D/I

Asset No	Name of Building	Architectural Form	Internal Configuration	Original Fabric	Notes	
					Ground floor cage Original windows Stone stair Cell configuration* Cell furniture and fittings (ie power boards) Cell WC and basin Metal cell doors (and door furniture) Steel cell grille doors (and door furniture) Officer escape route (manholes, ladder, Associated yard (base wall, fence, lean-to, toilets) Associated yard (small demountable structure)	D B B B C C B B C C I
010/011	Yards	C	C	C	Enclosure (walls, bars, roofing) Extended roofing Fixed furniture/facility fixtures	C I C
012	2-wing cell range (three storey 'B' wing)	B	B	B	Central space: bridges, stone galleries, iron rails etc Ceiling and roof structure Copper water tanks Wire grid over void between galleries Control room ground floor Control room upper floor Stone stair Cell configuration Cell furniture and fittings (ie power boards) Cell WC and basin Timber cell doors (and door furniture) Steel cell grille doors (and door furniture) Associated yard (base wall, fence, lean-to, toilets) Associated yard (small demountable structure)	B B C D/I B D/I B B C C B B C I
013	Kitchen block (cells above)	C	I	B	Demountable to NW of building Additions and alteration to form one building from two Kitchen finishes and fitout Cell configuration Cell furniture and fittings (ie shelves and powerboard) Cell WC and basin	I I D D D D D D
014	Store	D	D	D	Machinery and other loose equipment items Fitout for offices, storage etc	C D/I
016	4-wing cell range (two-storey 'C' wing)	B			Central space: bridges, walkways, rails etc	B

Asset No	Name of Building	Architectural Form	Internal Configuration	Original Fabric	Notes	Level
017	Yards	D	D	D	Ceiling and roof structure Wire grid over void between galleries Control room ground floor Control room upper floor Original windows Cell configuration Cell furniture and fittings (ie power boards) Cell WC and basin Metal cell doors Steel cell grille doors Recent addition in context of gaol evolution	B C B D/I B B B B B B
018	New Security Cell Block	D	D	D	Recent addition in context of gaol evolution	-
019	Gymnasium & Education (Maintenance)	B	B	B	Grills to arches on ground floor Solid infil walls to arches Airconditioning condenser unit on balcony Airconditioning duct Modern mechanical lift/hoist Original balcony structure (incl. decorative iron posts) Modern Stair to upper level Murals in upper level room Remains of forge	C I I D/I D/I B D C B
020	Contact and non-contact visits (originally open shelter shed)	B	B	B	Post structure Roof structure Demountable sheds within the structure (reversible) Ramps etc associated with sheds	B B D/I D/I
021	Walls and Towers	B	B (towers D)	(towers D)	Render over stone walls to main part of gaol Razorwire and other modern security elements Towers (all modern) Tower bases and staircases Modern catwalks on top of walls Various non-original openings in walls Recent addition	D D/I D/I B D/I C D/I
022	Amenities extension	D/I	D/I	D/I		
023	Demountable	I	I	I	Not original, intrusive in this context	I
026	Training (former Mounted Police Barracks)	B	B	B		-
027	Training (former Barracks Kitchen)	B	B	B	Interior not inspected	-

Asset No	Name of Building	Architectural Form	Internal Configuration	Original Fabric	Notes	
028	Toilets for 'Training'	B	B	B	Interior not inspected	-
029	Small modern brick building	I	I	I	Not original, intrusive in this context	I
030	Former stable	B	B	B	Interior not inspected	-
-	Former Police lock-up	B	B	B		-
024	Police Residences (x2)	D/I	D	D	Recent addition in context of gaol evolution	-
036	New visits building	D/I	D	D	Recent addition in context of gaol evolution	-

ENDNOTES

- 1 Australia ICOMOS, The Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter), revised 1981.
- 2 Kerr, J.S., The Conservation Plan, National Trust of Australia (NSW), 1996.

7.0

CONSERVATION POLICY

7.0 CONSERVATION POLICY

Introduction

These conservation policies have been formulated specifically in the context of the planned closure of the Correctional Centre; and without knowing the future uses of the place. In addition, the policies specific to each building are limited by the scope of this report to being general in approach (each building of considerable significance warrants a conservation plan in its own right). The primary aim has been to ensure the protection of the values identified with the site in the statement of significance. It will be important to develop further and more detailed policies for each building and for the site as a whole as the process of adaptive reuse evolves.

7.1 GENERAL

- 7.1.1** *Formally adopt this Conservation Plan as a guide to future management and development of the site and seek the endorsement of the Heritage Council of NSW. Current and future owners and managers of the site should formally endorse the Plan.*

Copies of the Conservation Plan will be distributed as follows;
for comment:

- The National Trust of Australia (NSW) (1 copy)
- Maitland City Council (1 copy)

for approval and archiving:

- Neil Daines, Director Capital Works, DOCS. (2 copies)

for endorsement:

- NSW Heritage Council (1 copy)

Copies of the complete Conservation Plan will be lodged with;

- The eventual new manager or owner of the site (2 copies)
- Maitland City Council (1 copy)
- NSW Heritage Council (as above)

and, in accordance with the legal obligations of Premier's Memorandum No. 91/27 copies of the complete Conservation Plan will also be lodged with;

- National Library of Australia (1 copy)
- State Library of New South Wales (2 copies)
- Departmental Library - DPWS (2 copies)

An International Standard Book Number (ISBN) and International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) will be allocated by the DPWS librarians.

- 7.1.2** *The Statement of Significance and Conservation Policies in this document should be accepted as the basis for any future planning and work affecting the heritage value of the site.*

Any developments involving demolition (part or whole), damage or alteration to those buildings identified as of significance, or their setting, will require consent

from the Maitland City Council who may refuse consent if the heritage significance of the item, including stylistic or horticultural features of its setting, are affected. Any Development Application shall be accompanied by a Statement of Heritage Impact, using this Conservation Plan as a basis for assessing the impact upon the significance of the place. While the site remains under the control of the Dept. of Corrective Services, or any other government instrumentality, the provisions of Section 170 of the Heritage Act apply. Guidelines to the Section 170 Register state that proposals involving alteration, disposal or demolition of items of State or regional significance should be referred to the Heritage Council through the Heritage Office.¹

7.1.3 *Undertake all conservation or development works to the site and buildings of the original gaol complex in accordance with principles of the Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter).*

The Burra Charter is widely accepted as the philosophical framework for conservation works. It should not be expected to give specific answers to questions about how to treat significant fabric but is a useful reference for definitions of terminology and sets out the principles of conservation.

7.1.4 *Demolition, alteration, renovation, excavation or erection of a new building or sub-division of any part of Maitland Gaol and the Police Properties require the consent of Maitland City Council.*

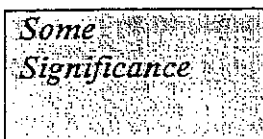
All changes of use and resultant modification to the fabric of Maitland Gaol and the Police Properties requires the approval of Maitland City Council in accordance with the Local Environmental Plan. The proposal should be accompanied by;

- this Conservation Plan
- further detailed analysis and conservation policies specific to the subject area
- a Statement of Heritage Impact

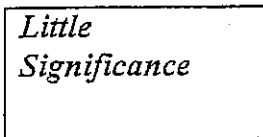
7.1.5 *Treatment of fabric of different levels of significance*



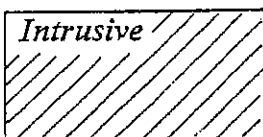
B *Aim to retain all fabric. If adaptation is necessary for the continued use of the place, minimise changes, removal and obscuring of significant fabric and give preference to changes which are reversible.*



C *Aim to retain most of the fabric. If adaptation is necessary, more changes can be made than would be possible for fabric of considerable significance but the same principles apply.*



D *Fabric of little significance may be retained or removed as required for the future use of the place, provided that its removal would cause no damage to more significant fabric.*



I *Intrusive fabric should be removed or altered to reduce its impact when the opportunity arises, whilst minimising damage to adjacent fabric of significance.*

It would be simplistic to suggest that there is a direct and immutable relationship between the level of significance at which a building or element has been assessed and its recommended treatment. All the fabric of the Correctional Centre is physical evidence of how it has operated up to the present day and, while the recent changes are of modest significance, as much as possible should be retained in any future adaptation. On the other hand, there may be justification under certain circumstances for the removal of more significant fabric; if for example it is demonstrated to be necessary for the sake of the conservation of the whole site. Throughout the process of adaptation and re-use it should be remembered that the primary significance of the place is as a historical document of: the oldest intact country gaol in NSW (1844-49) and the first major gaol complex completed (1861-87) under Colonial architect Barnet. Also, the gaol complex including the Eastern Extension, Mounted Police Barracks and Police Lock Up (1871-c1883) is an important high quality architectural component of a nearby group of historic buildings being a vestige of the early town plan for East Maitland.

Often *the way* work is carried out is more important than simply *what* is done, so the above recommendations should be treated as a general guide rather than a universal prescription.

7.1.6 *Engage persons with relevant expertise and experience in conservation projects to assist in the planning, design and supervision of future development on the site, or of changes to the existing fabric.*

It is important that an experienced conservation architect is available to assist in interpreting and implementing this Conservation Plan throughout the changes that will occur to the Correctional Centre once it closes.

7.1.7 *Any excavation on the site currently listed on the Local Environmental Plan as a heritage item (i.e. the whole of the property indicated below adjacent to John, Cumberland and Lindsay Street) will require an excavation permit from the Heritage Council in accordance with the Heritage Act and should be supervised by an archaeologist.*

There may also be archaeological remains of importance nearby that should at least be recorded (e.g. evidence of prison farm nearby). The stone footings of two demolished buildings (Females' Wing and Cookhouse, refer Fig. 7-4a) are likely to remain beneath the current ground surface. This stone should remain in situ.

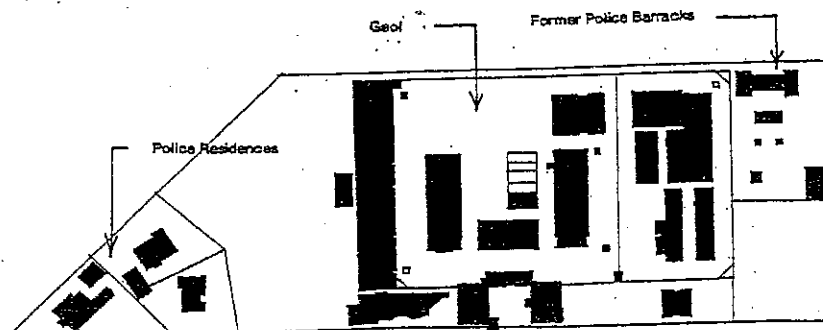


Fig. 7-1 Land and properties subject of this report

7.1.8 *Prepare an Interpretation Plan for the Gaol and the Police Properties.*

An Interpretation Plan should be prepared by an experienced and qualified professional for the Gaol and Police Properties. This Plan should be prepared by the new group responsible for the site (in relation to its future use) with the assistance of DOCS. Ideally, this Plan would include both the Gaol and the Police Properties, however, two separate reports could be prepared.

Interpretation plans for the site should address issues such as an interpretation centre or facility within the complex, oral histories², new construction on sites of earlier structures and sites of earlier buildings (ie paving). The Plan should be approved by Maitland City Council and the NSW Heritage Council.

There are limited opportunities for new construction within the Gaol walls. This is best described by section 7.2.4 of this report. New work is not essential, however if undertaken should:

- be based on archaeological and photographic evidence
- be respectful of the historic footprint of demolished buildings & their forms
- not mimic the original architecture
- be explained and interpreted for visitors to the site

Other opportunities for construction within the Gaol walls may include small buildings similar in form and number to original or existing sentry boxes. If undertaken, these should not in any way dominate the significant formal spaces between the buildings.

7.1.9 *Interpret the former Prison Farm to the general public.*

Maitland City Council should be encouraged to interpret the site for the general public. Interpretation of this site could be inclusion on tourist brochures, a plaque or other simple means. Further research may be necessary.

7.1.10 *Compile an oral history of the Correctional Centre and Police Properties*

The considerable social value attaching to the Correctional Centre and Police Properties as an operating institution in the town of Maitland is indicated in this study (refer section 5.10). There are associations from its long history of holding notorious criminals, as well as groups such as homosexuals and local unions; and as the scene of famous escapes and hangings. Due to time constraints, it has not been possible to undertake a systematic oral history, other than the preliminary investigations co-ordinated by the historian (Dr J.W. Turner).

Further research is recommended to document this aspect of significance and to add to the place's interest for specific groups and the wider community. It is suggested that an effort be made to collect the oral histories of a representative sample of the prisoners and staff who worked there over three or more decades, in order to provide an understanding of its social impact and the contribution it made to shaping people's lives.

7.1.11 Undertake studies in relation to Maitland, Parramatta and Cooma Gaols as part of a broader investigation in the aspects of social significance of gaols in NSW.

In addition to the preliminary work undertaken in regard to understanding social significance of Maitland Gaol, it is strongly recommended that further research be part of a comprehensive study of social significance of gaols in NSW. Ideally, this would occur at each gaol before closure, to enable interviews and discussion groups to include active staff and prisoners. This would enable a comparative approach to understanding and interpreting the social values of NSW gaols.

In context of closure of significant historic gaols in NSW including Parramatta (1997), Maitland (proposed 1998) and Cooma (proposed 1998) it is considered timely and mutually beneficial that this study be undertaken as soon as possible.

7.1.12 Review these policies as the need arises and, at the latest, within 5 years.

As new uses are found for the buildings questions will no doubt arise that have not been addressed by these policies. The policy section will therefore need to be clarified and augmented as the process of adaptive re-use evolves.

7.2 CONTEXT

7.2.1 Conserve the visual character of the Maitland Gaol in context of the early town plan for East Maitland.

The group of public buildings associated with law and order fronting John and Lindsay Streets (the Gaol, Court House and Police Properties) together demonstrate the early status of the town of Maitland. While it is unfortunate that the town plan has not been realised to its full potential, the Gaol and Courthouse in relation to the street layout and William Street axis are of prime importance in defining the early town plan (Refer Fig. 2-3). Means of conserving the presence of the Gaol and Police Properties are discussed below.

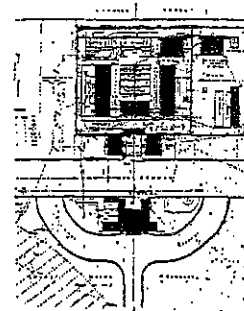


Fig. 7.2 William Street axis dotted

7.2.2 Clarify, enhance and maintain the William Street axial vista and views of the walled complex.

It is recommended that the axial vista along William Street between the Gaol and Stockade Hill should be clarified and enhanced. While such action would mainly involve a range of other state and local authorities, it is recommended that the future authority responsible for the Gaol consider taking a lead in this matter. If corrective action were taken by the State Rail Authority (relocation and design of the footbridge) and the Department of Courts Administration (removal of the carpark and restoration of the 19th century parkland



Fig. 7.3 View of Courthouse and Gaol along the William Street axis (Source: Development Plan - Phase One, Descriptive Model of Maitland Gaol, NSWPWD, 1980)

plantings around the Court House), the 'legibility' of the sector of the axis close to the Gaol could be markedly improved.

7.2.3 *Maintain the clarity of the walled complex*

The area immediately outside (and inside) the perimeter walls of any gaol is traditionally kept clear of obstructions, for obvious security reasons. This principle is still largely evident at Maitland however some later or temporary construction has compromised this clarity.

In order to appreciate the function of the walls and watch towers, keep any new landscape elements or buildings well clear. The 1980s Officers Amenities building, the 1991 Visits building, accretions around the Gatehouse Residences and recent landscaping have had a negative effect on the significance of the Gaol. These are addressed below in Detailed Building Policies.

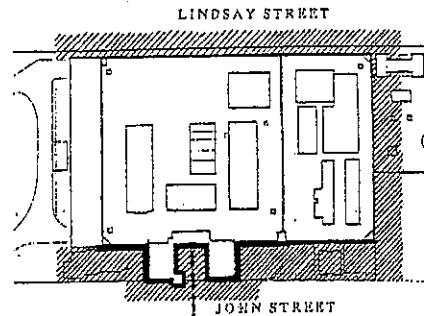


Fig.7-4 Primarily open space around the gaol - compromised by later additions.

7.2.4 *Maintain the clarity of open spaces between the formal built items (ie building and walls) of the Central Gaol.*

There are two types of spaces within the gaol complex:

- The areas within the Gaol as part of the original circulation space. They are both significant in defining the original layout of the Gaol.
- Those voids left by the demolition of major buildings

The clear nature of the circulation spaces is a security feature of the formal design of the Gaol. The only intrusions into these spaces were sentry boxes (those present today are later structures), and more recently tall wire mesh fences. The paving of these spaces is not clear from the early photographs, however it appeared consistent. Currently, there are a variety of concrete, paving bricks, and asphalt surfaces. The original circulation space (hatched) of the central gaol (Fig. 7-5) demonstrates the formal layout. The 'voids' are marked 'A' - Female Wing, 'B' - Cookhouse and 'C' - part of Special Yards. These major buildings were demolished and are described in the Analysis (Section 5.0)

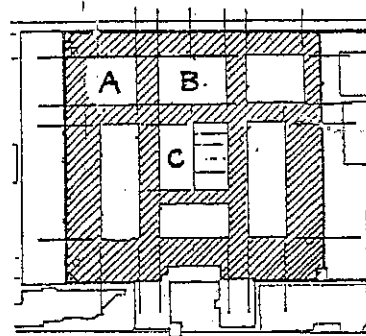


Fig.7-5 The open space pattern of the central gaol.

No new permanent structures should be erected in the circulation space of the main gaol (hatched). Small secondary structures only may be constructed in these areas if based on the notion of the sentry boxes and research (ie 19th century photographs).

New construction in the 'voids' described by A and B may be permitted, however this should be carefully weighed against the value of this area as open space within the complex. Any new buildings at A and B should be of the same footprint as the demolished buildings, and be sympathetic in height, design and materials to the main gaol. They should clearly be new construction and be comparable in scale to the demolished buildings. No new construction should take place in the void marked 'C', unless walled yards similar to the original structures are required. It would be desirable to identify the location of the original footings of the yard walls and represent these in the paving, for interpretation purposes.

7.2.5 *Remove demountable structures from within the gaol walls and beyond.*

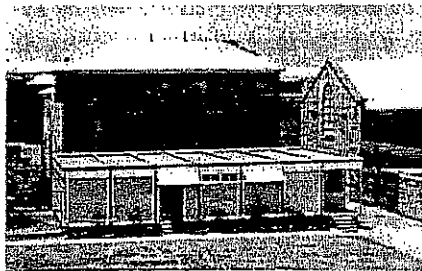


Fig. 7-6 Demountable building north-west of Kitchen Block.

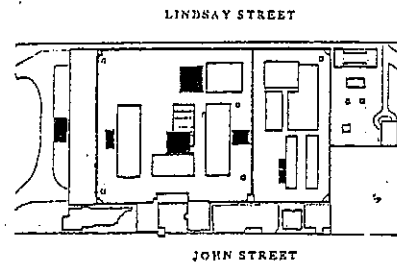


Fig. 7-7 Demountable buildings which should be removed.

There are five existent demountable structures within the central gaol complex, and one outside. Their locations are indicated in Fig. 7-7; to the north-west of the Kitchen Block, to the north-east of the Administration block (above the Special Yards), a shower block in each of the yards of cell wings A and B, within and protruding from the former stonecutter's shed in the Eastern Extension and on the north-western edge of the Store. These structures obscure the formal nature of the site, are temporary in nature, and should be removed.

7.2.6 *Maintain the clarity of the open spaces between the formal built items (ie building and walls) of the Eastern Extension.*

The space network of the Eastern Extension is not as clear as that of the central gaol as the intended layout was modified early on. Recent construction of the modern cell block and yards has not followed a formal plan.

Ideally, the area of open space near the Stonecutters' Shed would remain open as no building has ever been built in this location. However, a structure (of similar proportion to its historic neighbours) could be erected in this location if essential to the future of the Gaol. This structure should be the result of careful spatial analysis; reinforcing the sterile zone inside the walls and not further confusing the formality of significant buildings in this area. Interpretation should ensure that any new building is not confused to be reinstatement of an earlier one.

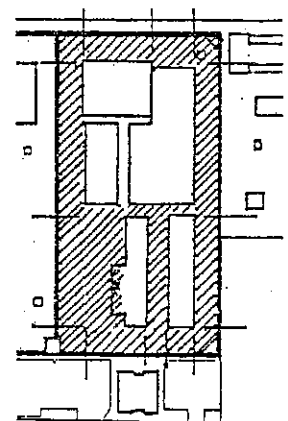


Fig. 7-8 Open space pattern of the Eastern Extension.

- 7.2.7** *Any repairs or additions carried out at the Gaol or Police Properties subject of this report should respect the character of the precinct by using the same palette of materials, or other materials carefully chosen to complement the existing colours and textures.*

Repairs or minor alterations should be carried out in compatible materials. New buildings should be identifiably new and separated physically from the existing buildings. New designs need not mimic the old but the ability to build in harmony with the existing character depends on the designer's sensitivity and skill. Architects with a proven track record of working successfully in the context of older buildings should be commissioned.

- 7.2.8** *New exterior signage and advertising should be carefully designed in keeping with the character of the 19th Century walled complex and discretely located.*

In terms of its contribution to the townscape, the Gaol is a distinctive element in the landscape, sited prominently in its immediate high topography, and forming the backdrop to the Courthouse as a termination of the William Street axial vista. It is important to maintain that formal quality and not to dilute it with busy commercial signage. Any signs needed for the Gaol or associated Police properties should be understated and carefully sited so as not to obtrude.

- 7.2.9** *Department of Public Works and Services, with the assistance of Maitland City Council should identify and retrieve all remnants of Ravensfield stone in addition to stock at the Prison Farm.*

In addition to the stone elements at the former Prison Farm, there are a number of miscellaneous stone elements lying around in the vicinity of the gaol. Two such examples are shown in the photographs below. This stone should be maintained by the Department of Public Works and suitable stones made available for reuse in repair and restoration work of local buildings constructed of Ravensfield stone (refer 7.4.2).

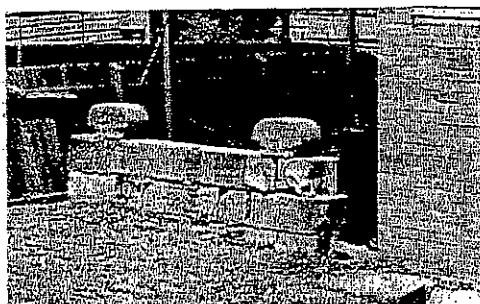


Fig. 7-9 Remnant stone elements near former Police Station. (CM 1997)



Fig. 7-10 Remnant stone elements on Lindsay Street. (CM 1997)

7.3 THE ORIGINAL WALLED COMPLEX

7.3.1 *Keep the walled complex under the control of a single responsible owner or committee of management.*

The significance of the original gaol complex is as a single institution (i.e. as a gaol). Its significance is more likely to be retained if it is treated as a whole and if the responsibility for future decisions rests with one organisation.

Three possible scenarios exist for this to occur.

1. The site could be transferred to a new institutional owner, e.g. if it became a new correctional centre or a TAFE college.
2. Legal ownership could be transferred to the Shire Council and the site could be managed by a Gaol Trust or Committee of Management comprised of representatives from the Shire Council, the Heritage Office and members of the local community. (Similar arrangements have been successful in conserving the historic gaols at Hay and Wentworth.)
3. The site could be sold to a private company or individual.

Under the second scenario, multiple new uses could co-exist in a flexible way by leasing the buildings, in part or whole, to suitable tenants. Compliance with the Conservation Plan would be a condition of any lease. The success of this arrangement will depend on the expertise and enthusiasm that members of the managing committee bring with them. Relevant experience would include:

- architectural conservation and adaptive re-use
- local history, penal history
- heritage planning
- property management
- curatorial and interpretive skills
- cultural heritage tourism
- financial and marketing³

7.3.2 *The new owner and manager of the site should undertake to formally endorse the Conservation Plan and carry out any building maintenance needed to keep the buildings in a stable condition.*

7.3.3 *Find a compatible use for all those parts of the original walled complex identified as of some or considerable significance.*

The Burra Charter defines a 'compatible use' as 'a use which involves no change to the culturally significant fabric, changes which are substantially reversible, or changes which require a minimal impact.'⁴ The most compatible uses will usually be closely related to the original use. If a penal use cannot be continued on the site, the second choice would be some other institutional use that would keep the integrity of the complex and enhance its contextual setting; in the town context, the periphery of the complex and the interior of the complex. Other uses that have been suggested include: backpackers' accommodation, museum/ tourist attraction, industries, secure storage, or a mix of uses. While not possible to foresee what kind of uses will be found, generic possibilities are graded in the following order of preference:

1. Correctional Centre.

2. Single institutional use (e.g. educational establishment, council premises).
3. Single commercial use (e.g. secure storage facility, budget accommodation).
4. Mixture of multiple uses.
5. 'Mothball'

The extent of alterations allowable for each of these uses would diminish according to their position on the list, e.g. multiple uses would tend to change more often so it would be inappropriate to make major changes to suit them. Lowest on the list is the option of leaving the buildings disused until a satisfactory use, or mix of uses, is found. Previous cases of institutional buildings left unoccupied show that high level deterioration of original fabric occurs during this period. Whatever happens, the buildings should continue to be maintained to the minimum standard specified below.

7.3.4 *Submit a Development Application to Maitland City Council accompanied by a Statement of Heritage Impact, using this Conservation Plan as a basis for assessing significance, for any proposed development or alterations to the walled complex, or the Police Properties*

7.3.5 *Ensure that any fabric of 'considerable' or 'some' heritage significance, which is justifiably removed, is recorded prior to removal in accordance with the Recording Guidelines prepared by the Heritage Branch of Department of Urban Affairs & Planning.⁵*

Any proposal to remove or disturb such fabric should be assessed with the help of a conservation architect and alternatives to removal should be fully considered. It should not be necessary to remove superseded items such as locks, new fittings can usually be installed alongside.

7.3.6 *Salvage and store materials for re-use.*

Where original fabric has been removed in previous alterations to the gaol the opportunity has been taken to stockpile and re-use the stone. There is a stockpile of Ravensfield stone currently kept on the former prison farm site.

If future demolition or relocation of significant fabric is unavoidable, salvage and retain the materials for re-use. This applies to all joinery items, metalwork and the like. Items should be catalogued, labelled and securely stored at a suitable location on the site.

7.3.7 *Establish an archive at an accessible location in the Correctional Centre.*

Updated copies of the Conservation Plan and Maintenance Plan (refer 7.3.10) should be kept here. If some form of gaol museum or interpretive centre is opened, efforts should be made to assemble all relevant material in the archive. A collection of historic material would be a drawcard for visitors. Historic plans, photographs and artefacts connected with Maitland Gaol should be actively sought.

7.3.8 *Any new developments (including adaption of existing buildings of significance)*

on the site should respect the character of the original gaol buildings in terms of architectural design, scale and materials. Refer Policies 7.2.4 and 7.2.6 regarding open space for more detail.

7.3.9 *Ensure that the buildings continue to receive correct and timely maintenance after the closure of the Correctional Centre.*

Corrective Services have kept the buildings in use and well maintained over the past 150 years, although some of the work that has been done is not in accordance with the best conservation practice. The main danger when DOCS leaves is that essential regular maintenance routines will be neglected and the building will rapidly deteriorate. As Feilden rightly points out, 'The best way to preserve buildings as opposed to objects is to keep them in use'.⁶

7.3.10 *DOCS should leave the buildings in good condition and with all necessary information for continued maintenance.*

DOCS should depart from occupation and activity at Maitland Gaol with minimal disturbance to significant fabric, fixtures and furniture. Refer policy 7.3.15.

The future owner or lessee should produce a maintenance plan, based on a current condition survey and on DOCS' experience of maintaining the place over the past 40 years. The maintenance plan should contain full drawings showing the location of services, records of work carried out, contractors names and addresses, and indicating the kinds of problems known to exist that will need to be monitored. The manual should recommend a suitable programme for cyclic maintenance and include estimates so that such costs can be built into future lease agreements. DOCS should make this information available to the future owner or lessee.

DOCS should remain responsible for the security of the Gaol and Police Properties until full hand over to the future owner or lessee. If the buildings remain disused for any length of time, security from vandalism and pests will need to be considered. Methods should be recommended for preventing the entry of birds, termites and cockroaches without damaging the historic fabric or restricting ventilation.

Future maintenance tasks of high priority for the new management will be:

- Regularly inspect for rising / falling damp & entry of insects or other pests.
- Clear gutters frequently.
- Check roofing inside and out.
- Check stormwater drains.
- Maintain paintwork on woodwork and metalwork.
- Keep weeds at bay and trim overhanging trees.
- Ventilate enclosed spaces.
- Investigate and monitor the cause of damage to lower levels of stonework. Existing drainage should be investigated.

Some areas of maintenance that could be improved include:

- Repointing of the stone masonry: it is important to keep the masonry joints filled with mortar but hard cement mortar should not be used with natural stone. Some areas of the perimeter walling have open joints while others have been poorly

repointed using cement mortar spread widely across the joints. This will accelerate the decay of the stone.

- Stone repairs have also been carried out in hard cement mortar, a damaging and unsightly practice. Small repairs can be effected using synthetic stone whereas larger repairs need to be done by skilled masons using the same stone.

A record of all the work that is carried out over the coming years should be added to the maintenance plan.

7.3.11 *Only qualified and experienced tradespeople with the necessary specialised skills should be used. This is especially important in dealing with masonry. Adequate supervision should be provided at all times.*

7.3.12 *Roofing may be returned to a galvanised grey colour when replacement is necessary.*

Gaol

Currently the roofs of all the major buildings belonging to the Correctional Centre are new white colorbond. While this unity of material and colour gives the gaol buildings a collective identity it tends to overpower the architectural character. The exception to this is the gatehouse group of buildings which have terracotta tiled roofs. These match the roofs of the Courthouse directly in front of the Gaol. Early photographs show that all roofs associated with the 19th century Gaol were originally slate. Should the roofs of the Gaol require recladding, slate should be reconsidered. However, a grey coloured finish approximating the original slate would be appropriate, if slate can not be achieved. Future re-cladding of the roofs of the gatehouse buildings should be considered in association with the Courthouse. (Refer aerial photographs Section 5)

The Police Barracks

The Police Barracks buildings (including stables, kitchen and toilets) in Lindsay Street have grey coloured iron roofs which sit more comfortably in company with the masonry, than the white. The stables building has been clad with white colorbond, and should be returned to a grey colour iron in the future. Documents indicate that timber shingles were original used on the Barracks building.

Police Lock-up

The Police Lock up Residence has a brown concrete tiled roof. This, along with the general level of attention to detail in the past, is unsympathetic. It is likely that the original roofing was slate, however this has not been confirmed. Further investigation should be undertaken into the original material. The current tiled roof should be replaced by a more appropriate material (if the original material was slate, use slate or a grey galvanised iron as a substitute).

7.3.13 *Do not paint currently unpainted surfaces such as stonework and brickwork. When painted elements require repainting consider researching and re-instating the original external paint colour schemes.*

Currently most of the visible painted exterior elements (downpipes, doors, metal work) are coloured the same intense red as the roofing. External paintwork will need to be maintained in years to come. When repainting is needed it would be worthwhile analysing the original colour schemes of the major periods of building

activity: 1846-49 and 1861-87. These colour schemes could be usefully re-instated to assist in distinguishing the story of the place. There should be no need to remove all evidence of intervening colour schemes.

Internal colour schemes will last longer and can be left as they are or researched and re-instated in part as required.

7.3.14 *Ensure that any future upgrading of services involves the least possible impact on significant fabric.*

Plan new service routes carefully beforehand to avoid damaging or disfiguring significant fabric. Do not chase services into the stonework or the external face of brickwork. Re-use existing fixings or locate new, non-corroding fixings in joints rather than in masonry units. Where possible preserve evidence of early services (e.g. wiring, gas, water supply and drainage lines).

7.3.15 *Conserve evidence of the use of the place by keeping movable and removable items.*

DOCS will no doubt wish to remove certain items of value that can be used elsewhere in the prison system but care must be taken to limit the damage caused during and subsequent to removal. It is also important not to strip all vestiges of the functioning of the place by being unduly thorough in decommissioning. It is understood that a significant number of moveable items were removed from the Gaol a number of years ago. DOCS should endeavour to reclaim these items if possible.

Items such as plaques, notices, key boards, coat hooks and the like may not have been specifically listed in this document but they can add greatly to the understanding of how the place operated. A representative sample of cell furniture and the like should be left in situ. DOCS should ensure that moveable items are catalogued by a professional archivist and specific policies formulated regarding moveable and removable items before closure and full departure from the Gaol.



Fig. 7-11 Typical cell door bolt and lock. This lock is one of the more recent Abloy Lock types. (CM 1997)

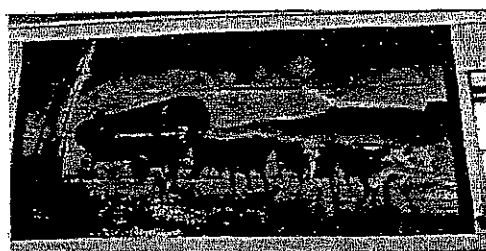


Fig. 7-12 Mural on the upper level of the workshop building. (CM 1997)

Even murals and graffiti add to the significance of the prison and should be retained. As James Kerr well puts it:

'murals and graffiti help fill the massive vacuum left when prisoners and staff are removed. Such work represents an immediate and compelling reminder of emotional attitudes within a prison'.⁷

Significant 'fixed' items that should be retained include: iron and steel gates, cell doors and all hardware, cell grill doors, signage, graffiti. A representative selection of cell furniture, electrical service control panels in cells, machinery, locks and other loose items should be retained. The type of free standing items which can be removed includes Gym equipment, lockers and modern office furniture. Art work (ie paintings) should be relocated according to Corrective Services policy.

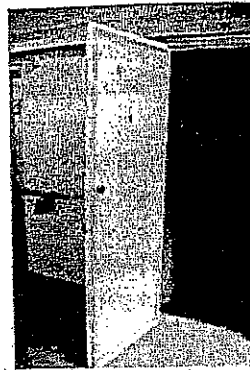
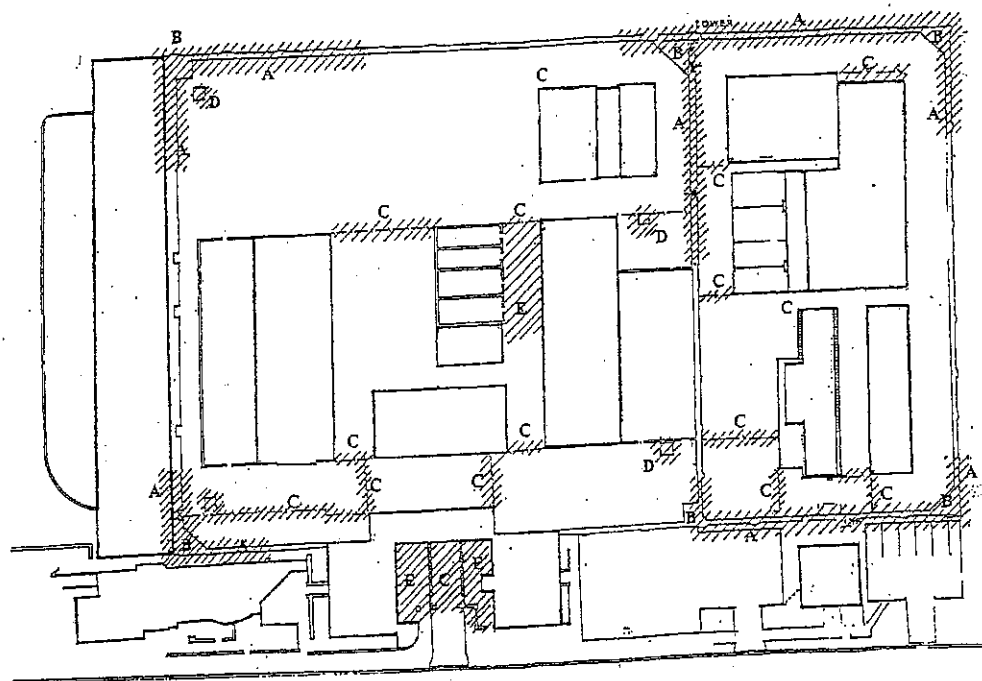


Fig. 7-13 Graffiti on cell door of '1 Wing' (CM 1997)

7.3.16 Retain some evidence of security at the Gaol.



- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| A. catwalks | D. sentry boxes |
| B. towers | E. minor structures and accretions |
| C. wire fences and grilles | |

Fig. 7-14 Plan of Gaol with key to miscellaneous security related elements

Larger items

Elements A, B, C and D (Fig. 7-14) while visually intrusive are of some significance and should not necessarily all be removed. These elements are a modern 'light' layer of fabric and are significant in demonstrating the security measures used by DOCS up to and at the time of the closure of the gaol. In pure conservation terms relative to their significance these 'lighter' items should remain. However they are items specific to a gaol and in some cases it may only be appropriate for them to remain if Maitland Gaol;

- continues use as a gaol or similar security institution

- requires security (external or internal) in a new use type
- would benefit from its retention for interpretation (ie museum-type use), and
- if items remaining do not i) impose an undue maintenance burden over more significant fabric or ii) damage significant fabric.

The future user should endeavour to retain a selection of these elements. Those items not retained may be carefully removed for reuse or disposal by DOCS at other institutions. If removed archival quality photographic recording should be undertaken beforehand. Damage to significant fabric should be minimised and repairs undertaken if necessary.

Smaller items

Security measures such as lighting and razor wire are evidence of the current use of the Gaol and may be left in place. The smaller miscellaneous objects and systems associated with the security of the gaol include close circuit TV monitor systems, infra-red beams, razor wire, barbed wire and mirrors.

In summary, it is recommended that some of these elements remain. It is desirable that the fabric which is retained relates to a particular precinct in terms of security and operation of the Gaol, such as the maximum security area of the Eastern Extension.

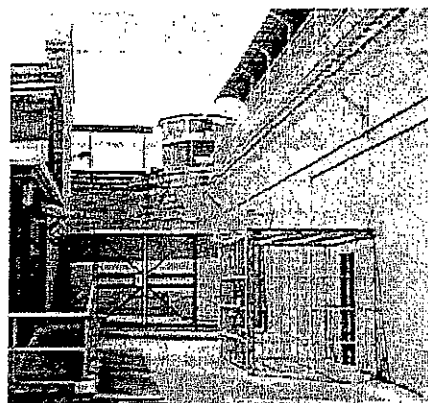


Fig. 7-15 Typical security on wall interior at high level. (CM 1997)

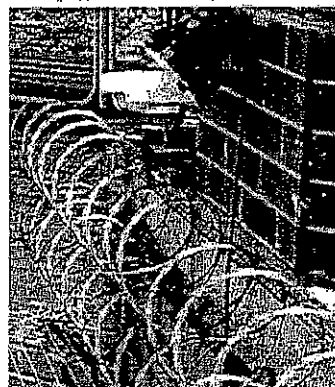


Fig. 7-15 Typical security fences etc (Eastern Extension) (CM 1997)

7.3.17 *Remove and record miscellaneous elements that have a detrimental effect on the formal design of the gaol complex.*

There are a number of recent minor structures (refer 'E' in Fig. 7-14) and additions related to security at the gaol. Most of these structure are detrimental to the integrity of the significant elements and formal concept of the gaol and should be removed.

Archival recording should take place before and after removal, and should only be undertaken if removal is followed by positive action to repair any damage to significant fabric and the overall result is to regain lost significance. These elements include the 'pergola' type structures built between 'A wing' and the Special Yards, and entry structures (including paving, security cages) to both Asset No.s 002 and 003 (refer Fig. 7-17)



Fig. 7-17 Detail of modern stair and security bars to Asset No. 002. (CM 1997)

7.4 FORMER PRISON FARM

7.4.1 *Retain the Prison Farm as open space and maintain in public ownership.*

No recommendations are made in relation to the future use of the Prison Farm land based on the assumption that as the land is flood prone, it will remain undeveloped public open space. The land has recently been acquired by Maitland City Council. This policy should be revised if land use is proposed to change. At this time further research and a detailed site survey should be carried out.



Fig. 7-18 Photo of former Prison Farm land.
(SJ 1997)

7.4.2 *DPWS should, in association with, Maitland City Council, continue to care for and monitor the stone on the former prison farm land.*

NSW DPWS Heritage Stonemasonry and Maitland City Council should ensure the continued security and care of the stone. This stone is primarily from demolition and other works at Maitland Gaol. Most of it originally came from the Ravensfield Quarry. It has been catalogued by Heritage Stonemasonry. This is the last remaining stock from the Ravensfield Quarry. It is possible that in the future additional stone could be excavated from the original quarry which is still in existence and still owned by the Brown family. However, a recent study into the viability of the quarry indicated that it would be too expensive to reactivate.⁸

This stone should be managed by DPWS with the exclusive purpose of essential conservation and repair work to local buildings (including the Gaol) constructed of Ravensfield stone. Requests for reuse of the stone should be directed in the first instance to the DPWS Regional Office.

7.5 LANDSCAPING

7.5.1 *Retain the Remaining Hoop Pine*

Every effort should be made to protect and conserve the remaining Hoop Pine that is still in good condition. Due to the advanced state of senescence of the other two, little can be done now to conserve them. Whether they should be replaced with identical plants would depend on the future uses to which their site is likely to be put, and whether it is considered desirable to maintain/restore the landmark quality of the Gaol site on the ridge.

7.5.2 *Maintain the Gaol site as a free-standing complex in a landscaped setting.*

It is a matter of regret that the garden yards of the two official residences have been built over or paved over since the 1970s. It is possible that if the late 20th century structures on their sites were removed, their foundations could be located and the original garden 'rooms' and the amenity they provided to the two former residential buildings could be restored.

7.5.3 *Use or development of the triangular reserve on the Gaol's western edge should be sympathetic in context and maintain its parkland character.*

The historical role of this land as a vegetable garden and currently as parkland open space softens the hard built forms of the Gaol and complements the park on the Court House precinct opposite. If use of this land includes development, it should not detract from or dominate the significant urban and formal qualities of the Gaol.

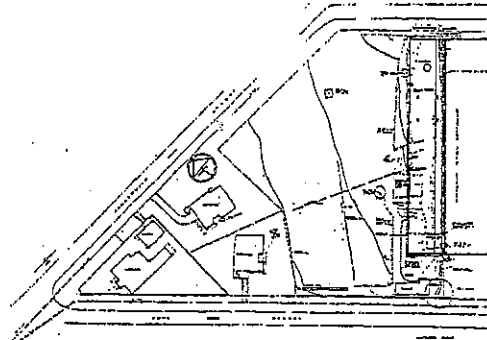


Fig. 7-19 Plan indicating the triangular reserve.

It is also recommended that those trees in the reserve and in the police housing yards which are now mature or semi-mature and have increasing amenity value should be preserved wherever possible. As additional reason is that, if retained, they would in time gain some heritage value because they would demonstrate the planting practices (notably, use of native species) adopted by public institutions in the period 1970 - 1990.

7.6 DETAILED BUILDING POLICIES - THE GAOL

The Original Gatehouse Complex (Assets No. 001, 002, 003, 004)

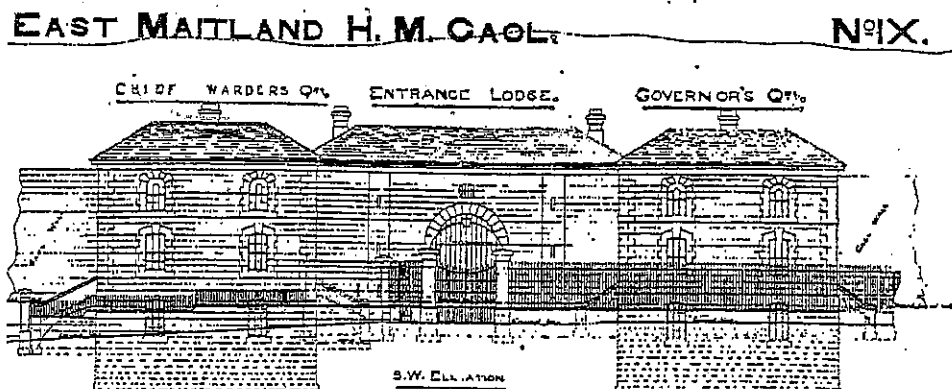


Fig. 7-20 South-west elevation showing gatehouse group. (DPW&S Plan Room PC 321/6).

Architecturally significant as the centre-piece of the gaol's public facade, the gatehouse complex is mainly intact, although its use has changed with the changing facilities and support for the gaol. Original slate roofing has been replaced by terracotta tiles which match the Courthouse opposite. It is significant as a sub-group being part of the symmetrical composition of the Courthouse, and

gaol visible from the grand axis of Sir Thomas Mitchell's early 1800s plan for Maitland. All building in this group are integral to the south-west wall of the Gaol. The residences project outwards from the walls of the Gaol and the central gatehouse projects inwards. Both residences have three levels and externally remain relatively intact, with some intrusive additions (particularly in the forecourt) relating to security of the Gaol. Comparing the original drawing with the situation today, there are many minor changes and additions that combine in effect to detract from the street address of this area.

- 7.6.1 *Maintain the important axial relationship of these buildings to each other and William Street. The street presence of these buildings would be improved, by removal of the unsympathetic pillars, stairways, minor additions and modern security bars, and reinstatement.*

Gatehouse - central building (Asset No. 008 001)

Built of sandstone, the building is incorporated in the compound wall and protrudes into the sterile zone within the compound. It is two storeys with the original two chimneys. Steel doors have replaced the original iron bar gates at the inside and outside elevations of the building. A two storeys high structure with the original two chimneys.

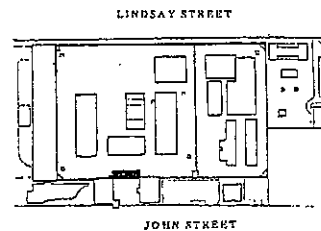


Fig. 7-21
Plan of gaol showing gatehouse black.

The Gatehouse is significant as; part of the symmetrical composition of the Courthouse and Gaol visible from the grand axis of the early 1800s plan for Maitland; part of the prison complex at Maitland.

The gatehouse, along with the 'A wing' and the central complex walls, may be one of the earliest structures on the site appearing on a plan dated 1850 (Fig.2-11). It is possible that the early single storey building was added to result in the current two storey building. While the lower courses of stone, within the Gaol, generally show evidence of deterioration (typical of the earlier East Maitland stone), and the lower wall has been rendered, there is not a definite indication in the fabric of two periods of construction.

The two ground floor rooms of the gatehouse have a dog leg staircase in one corner leading up to the three first floor rooms. The lodge to the south of the entry passage comprises one room on each level. The gatekeepers quarters to the north occupies two of the upper level gatehouse room, and one up and one down of the former Lieutenant Governor's residence. This layout has been changed by crudely blocking off the connection to the former residence on both levels. The original internal layout could be re-established. The two staircases should remain intact.

The gatehouse front elevation which is integral with the Gaol perimeter wall is rendered, as are all other surfaces of the central Gaol walls. The stone of this wall may be the 'inferior' East Maitland Stone as suggested above in sub-section 'Evidence of the Inferior East Maitland Stone' and below in 'Walls'. On the ground floor, this building flanks the major entry to the Gaol. It contains many of its original features, and many features relating to the staffing and security of the Gaol.

The central security TV monitors are in the room on the right hand side as the Gaol is entered. The Gaol visitors checkpoint and staff facilities are located on the left hand side. The building has two storeys and a staircase remains to the upper level of each side.

- 7.6.2 *Retain the overall external form of the central gatehouse and the central passage way as the primary entry to the Gaol. The layout of the rooms in their current form should remain, however a return to the original connections would be easily achieved.*

**Gatehouse - Superintendents Office (former house of Lieutenant Governor)
(Asset No. 008 002 & sentry box Asset No. 008 004)**

Three storeys, including basement, ashlar sandstone with heavily rusticated windows and corners this building projects forward from the compound wall. The chimneys have been demolished as have the eastern projecting stairs, and an unsympathetic security stair built in its place.

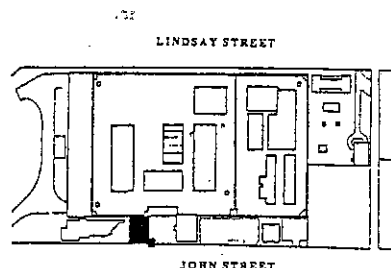


Fig. 7-22 Plan of gaol showing Superintendents Office black.

The former Deputy Governor's House shows a number of phases of internal change. The most intrusive being the separation of the building internally so that the upper basement and north-west half of the ground floor relate to the new 1980s amenity building. Not only has this confused the floor planning, it has converted the basement (whole floor plan) to a shower room bathroom, locker room and gym, the planning and finishes have retained few of the early features. A bathroom has been introduced on the upper level, this floor is otherwise relatively intact. There is a new doorway from the upper level passage into the former gatekeeper's bedroom. This room, as part of the residence building footprint was originally accessible only through a bathroom of the gatehouse (Asset No. 001), the doorway of which is now bricked in. Original elements, details and finishes remain in part on the ground and upper level; including, fire place surrounds, doors, cornices, joinery etc. The staircase appears to remain intact through all floors of the building, although it is currently not possible to access each floor internally. This building would suit reuse as a residence, or offices, or similar. Ideally, it would be returned to a singular use, with internal access to all spaces.

- 7.6.3 *This building may be adapted to a suitable new use, preferably one which would return all levels to a single occupancy, having regard to the original plan and significant elements.*
- 7.6.4 *Remove detrimental internal and external additions to the building, to regain significance lost or concealed*
- 7.6.5 *Consider removing facilities in the basement of the building and returning to a more compatible use with regard to significance of the space and care of original fabric.*

Gatehouse - Deputy Roster Clerk Office (former house of Governor) (Asset No. 008 003)

Three storeys, including basement, ashlar sandstone with heavily rusticated arched windows and corners, this building projects forward from the compound wall to form a three sided court with its twin the lieutenant governors house and the gatehouse. The chimney has been demolished.

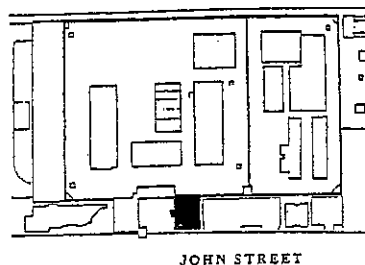


Fig. 7-23 Plan of gaol showing Deputy Roster Clerk Office black.

The former Governor's House has been recently 'restored' on the upper level, and ground floor for administration offices. This upgrade generally respects the layout of the building, with some intrusive toilet rooms, partitions and details. The timber (cedar ?) staircase remains intact. The habitable basement of this building occupies half the floor plan. It appears to have been in limited storage use for many years. Rising damp needs to be addressed and is affecting the whole lower basement level. Original elements, details and finishes remain intact in part on the upper levels, and to a high degree in the basement. A hole on the ground floor level has been placed through the Gaol wall (back wall of the residence) providing direct access to the gaol. This remains in use today. This building would suit reuse as a residence, or offices, or similar. Ideally, it would be returned to a singular use, with internal access to all spaces.

- 7.6.6 *This building may be adapted to a suitable new use, preferably one which would return all levels to a single occupancy, having regard to the original plan and remaining significant elements.*
- 7.6.7 *Investigate source of rising damp and seek to halt damage if ongoing. Repair stone as necessary.*
- 7.6.8 *Internal changes to the building should aim to remove, intrusive modern materials, later partitions and bathrooms etc with a view to re-establishing the original plan.*

The Prison Walls and Towers (Asset No. 008 021)

The perimeter wall of the first compound is rendered sandstone with semi-circular coping. Quadrant capped buttresses were placed on the exterior to keep the interior face of the wall flush and difficult to climb. Access to the three watch towers was from the exterior of the compound. Originally only one opening through the gatehouse gave access to the compound until the end of the 1880s, when the Eastern Extension was completed. Ashlar block Ravensfield stone with semicircular

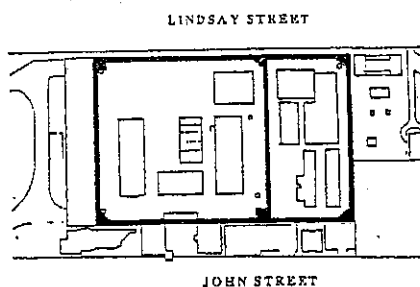


Fig. 7-24 Plan of gaol showing Walled Areas and towers.

copings and exterior buttresses form the perimeter wall of the eastern compound. One opening on the southern wall gives access to the exterior.

It has been concluded (refer analysis) that the walls of the central gaol are of East Maitland stone which, being of a poor quality, has not weathered well. Photographic evidence suggests that this was a problem in the late 19th century. These walls have been rendered and should remain so.

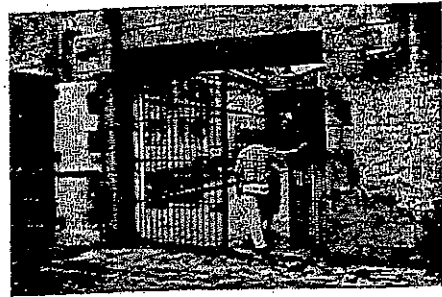


Fig. 7-25 Photo of major link between Central Gaol and Eastern Extension. (CM 1997)

- 7.6.9 *Maintain the rendered finish of the walls of the central walled complex and the Ravensfield finish of the eastern extension.*
- 7.6.10 *Retain integrity of the perimeter walls of the Central Gaol complex and the Eastern Extension.*
- 7.6.11 *Do not compromise the plain austere character of the perimeter walls by placing signs or otherwise obscuring them.*

Internal Administration - former Chapel and Hospital (Asset No. 008/005)

Two storeys of ashlar sandstone with heavily rusticated arched windows and quoins. The roof is hipped with a central gable, on the gatehouse elevation, over Chapel and Governor's Office.

It is significant as; part of the symmetrical composition of the Courthouse, and gaol visible from the grand axis of the early 1800s plan for Maitland.

This building although significantly altered internally, is capable of being returned to a handsome building with rooms of good proportion. Much of the original detail and fabric remains and new partition walls etc are generally of a poor quality. Changes to the building have generally not permanently affected the original form and layout of the building.

The Hospital area has been modified a number of times (north-western end ground floor). If not to be used or interpreted as a hospital (or medical centre) these spaces could be returned to their earlier forms with compatible finishes.

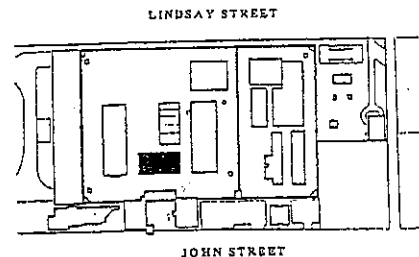


Fig. 7-26 Plan of gaol showing Internal Administration block.

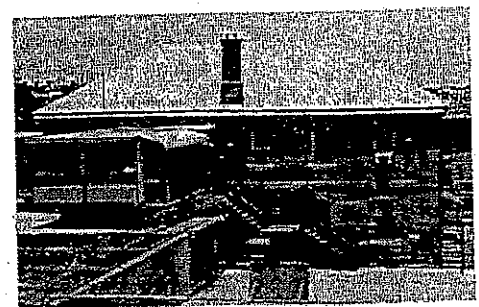


Fig. 7-27 Photo of exterior of the former Chapel. (CM 1997)

- 7.6.12 *Remove all intrusive walls and finishes and make good remaining original finishes.*

- 7.6.13 *Retain and conserve all existing original features including joinery and fireplaces, and consider restoring all original features, such as missing glazing bars.*
- 7.6.14 *Reinstate demolished stair as a means to gaining acceptable access and egress to the upper level of the building in preference to retaining the intrusive external steel stair at the rear of the former Chapel.*
- 7.6.15 *Retain front elevation central coloured window. (Further investigation required)*

1-Wing Cell Range (former A Wing) (Asset No: 008 009)

A two storey building built with large 12' x 8' cells and with the cells on the upper levels accessed by the gallery. Most cells were subdivided doubling the number of cells in the wing. The building is of considerable significance being the only surviving example of the 'Inspectors Gaols' designed by Mortifier Leis and built in the 1830s and 40s. While a number of changes to the building took place early in the development of the Gaol. The wing is primarily intact, apart from the following additions;

- Demolition and rebuilding of the three single storey rooms c.1900
- Introduction of an escape route for staff through a system of one unoccupied cell on each level connected by a man hole, and exiting through a door in the external wall of the former cell.
- Construction of a staff office on each level which relate to the escape route. The ground floor office is probably early 20th century construction, while the upper level office is a less compatible form and of recent construction.
- A cage has been erected mid-gallery on the ground floor.
- A wire grid is placed over the void at first floor gallery level, and at ceiling level as a barrier to the roof space.
- Sanitary services (WC and basin) and electric power have been provided to each cell.

It may be possible to returned some cells to the original 12' x 8' size (by removing the introduced dividing stone wall) if essential to a compatible use for the wing and structurally possible without compromising the significance of the wing.

- 7.6.16 *Retain the existing galleried layout. This block is of considerable significance and proposed changes to accommodate a new use need to be carefully balanced against loss of significance for the Gaol.*

- 7.6.17 *Retain at least one pair of single cells on each level intact with existing fittings and furnishings as an example of the divided cell plan.*

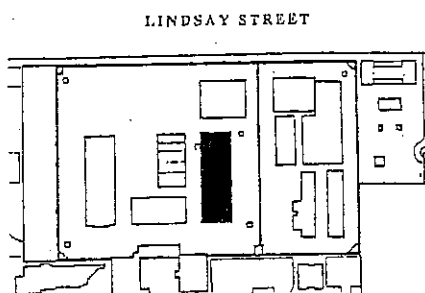


Fig. 7-28 Plan of gaol showing '1-Wing' black.

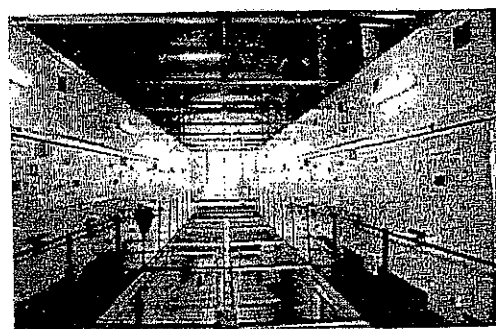


Fig. 7-29 Interior space of '1-Wing' (CM 1997)

7.6.18 Retain the ground level office and staff escape route. Consider removing the upper level office.

The '1 Wing' Yard is part of the open space network of the central Gaol. This space and early components are significant in demonstrating an original and continued aspect gaol life. It remains strongly defined by the original stone base wall and iron pike and rail fence. The lean-to shelter shed, while missing its original solid timber posts, is the most dominant feature of the yard. The red roofed toilet structure is also a significant form. It may contain some early fabric but is not in the original configuration. These elements are significant in indicating the layout and use of the gaol (refer comparative photos at the end of Analysis 5.0). It is important that these elements are recognised, and cared for as per buildings above. The taller modern demountable structure, while part of the evolution of the gaol, is obtrusive in this context and should be removed (refer policy 7.2.5 on demountable structures).

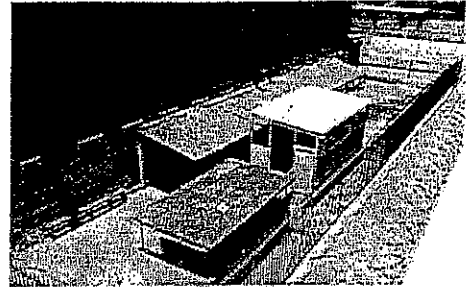


Fig. 7-30 Photo of '2 wing' yard (CM 1997)

7.6.19 Maintain the yard as primarily open space and with no unnecessary clutter. All original or early structures should remain and be conserved including associated features ie benches and hooks etc. Consider replacing the current lean-to posts with new posts to approximate the original ones.

Yards (Asset Nos 008 010 and 008 011)

The yards appear to remain intact until the 1970s when plans indicate intentions to demolish them in whole or in part. Only half of the original special yard area remains as yard, the other half having been demolished. The remaining special yards are somewhat modified from the original layout. The south-western most yard has been infilled with stone on the south-eastern side, the wall opened to the other side, and the space used as a secure gym. The remaining four yards are similar to the original footprint, with some variation. The yards are similar to each other, in that there is a covered area to the rear, a low vaulted grille over the remainder of the roof, and a toilet, shower and basin unit and bench built integral to the walls of the yards. The original area and arrangement of the Special Yards can be seen on Fig. 5-9. Figure 5-28 indicates the current arrangement in bold over the original plan. A typical yard is shown in Figures 5-24 and 5-25.

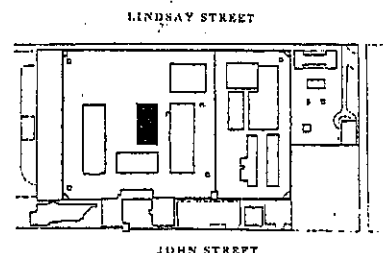


Fig. 7-31 Plan of gaol showing Special Yards black

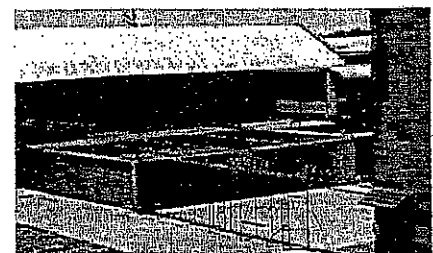


Fig. 7-32 View of Special Yards from above.

7.6.20 *Maintain the yards in their current configuration with existing fixtures and grilles etc. The blocked in original opening to the south-western most yard could be reopened. Recent and unsympathetic shelter structures erected in the space between the yards and '1-wing' should be removed.*

7.6.21 *Consider marking the original plan of the demolished yards in the paving.*

2-wing Cell Range (former 'C' Wing) (Asset No. 008 012)

A three storey building with a gable roof and a one storey sandstone lobby on the southern wall. The cells are arranged in two parallel rows, accessed by metal galleys on the upper floors. The cells were originally all single but some have been converted to form double cells by the removal of arched section of dividing walls.

The 2-Wing cell range is significant as part of the only surviving examples of two of 'Inspectors Gaols' built with two parallel ranges as intended. The wing is primarily intact, apart from the following modifications;

- An early change in plans for the central entry room which was reduced to a narrow passage.
- Introduction of an escape route for staff through a system of one unoccupied cell on each level connected by a man hole, and exiting through a door in the external wall of the former cell.
- Construction of a staff office on the ground and first floor which relate to the escape route. The ground floor office is probably early 20th century construction, while the upper level office is a less compatible form and of recent construction.
- A wire grid is placed over the voids at first floor and second floor gallery level, and at ceiling level as a barrier to the roof space.
- Sanitary services (WC and basin) and electric power have been provided to each cell.

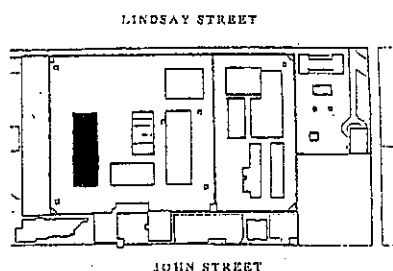


Fig. 7-33 Plan of gaol showing '2-Wing' black.

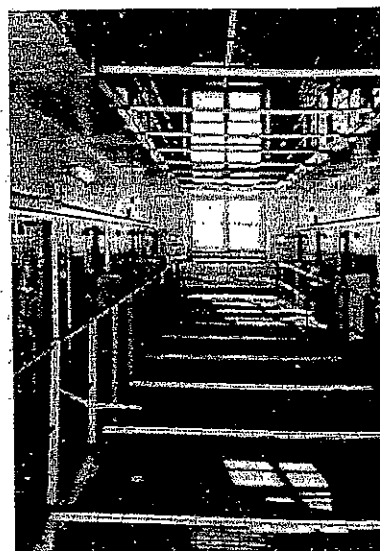


Fig. 7-34 Photo of central interior space from first floor. (CM 1997).

7.6.22 *Retain the existing galleried layout. This block is of considerable significance and proposed changes to accommodate a new use need to be carefully balanced against loss of significance for the Gaol.*

7.6.23 *Retain at least one double cell on each level intact with existing fittings and furnishings.*

7.6.24 *Retain the ground level office and staff escape route. Consider removing the upper level office.*

The '2 Wing' Yard is part of the open space network of the central Gaol. This space and early components are significant in demonstrating an original and continued aspect gaol life. It remains strongly defined by the original stone base wall and iron pike and rail fence. The lean-to shelter shed, while missing its original solid timber posts, is the most dominant feature of the yard. The open walled toilet structure (not visible in photograph) is also a significant form. It may contain some early fabric, but is not in the original configuration. It is important that these elements are recognised, and cared for as per buildings above. The larger demountable type structure is a recent addition and while part of the evolution of the Gaol, is obtrusive in this context and should be removed (refer policy 7.2.5 on demountable structures).

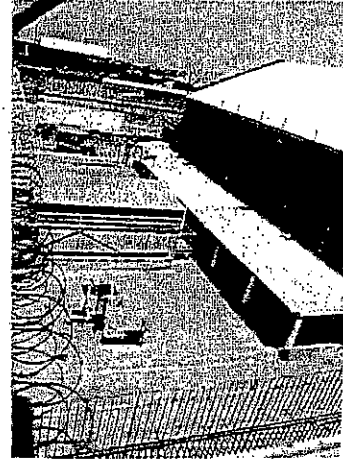


Fig. 7-35 Photo of '1 wing' yard (CM 1997)

- 7.6.25 *Maintain the yard as primarily open space and with no unnecessary clutter. All original or early structures should remain and be conserved including associated features ie benches and hooks etc. Consider replacing the current lean-to posts with new posts to approximate the original ones.*

Kitchen Block with Cells above (Asset No. 008 013)

The development of this building is described in some detail in the Analysis section. The overall form of this building should be retained as it is of considerable significance as an element of the formal plan of the central gaol complex. Internally the building has been so altered, that it is of little significance to the 19th century gaol, and only has some significance in relation to evolution of the site in 1974. The cells themselves are of some interest for their fitout (including power panel, fixed and free furniture) and graffiti and murals.

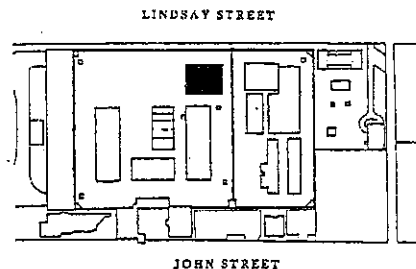


Fig. 7-36 Plan of gaol showing Kitchen Block black.

- 7.6.26 *The interior of this building could be substantially altered, and the significance of the gaol not greatly compromised. Ideally, a typical cell would be retained with its graffiti and furnishings, including services.*

'4-Wing' Cell Range (former 'C' Wing) (Asset No. 008 046)

A detailed analysis of this building is contained in the Annable and Kerr report⁹. '4-wing' is a two storey ashlar block building comprising 24 cells. Corrugated metal roofing has replaced the original slate. The upper level external window openings have been modified to high level barred openings (cells were not originally intended for the upper level). The roof is a queen post truss with battens for slates which were the original roof covering.

After various proposals (including unrealised separate structures for a hospital and laundry in the eastern extension) work was commenced in 1891 for female cell accommodation below with a staircase leading to the workroom and hospital above.

A separate and substantial structure for the new female warders' quarters was near completion c1897, but probably demolished before 1899. Two isolation cells as a small separate structure to the south-east of '4-wing' (same site as female warders' quarters) appear on plans dated 1899, 1925 and 1940-43. Evidence of these 19th century structures is unlikely to survive (but possible) as this is the site of two previous building prior to the present officers station of 1991.

Major reconstruction took place after plans were prepared in 1899 for erecting a second tier of cells on the upper level. As well as creating the cells themselves, this involved removal of the central part of the upper floor, introduction of the gallery walkway (cast iron panels) and iron stair. The original stair was demolished and a regular cell created in its place on each level. Windows were infilled in the 19th century and are visible in external walls (Fig. 7-39). These windows could be reinstated if essential to the future use of the Gaol. Also of note is the evidence of a wall footing down the centre of the ground floor originally providing for separate classes of prisoners.¹⁰

A detailed inspection of each cell was not made for this report, however, Annable and Kerr make some interesting observations about the cells in 1991, which are summarised below.

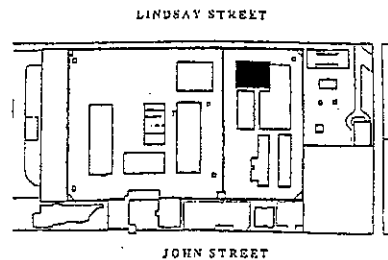


Fig. 7-37 Plan of gaol showing '4-Wing' black.



Fig. 7-38 Interior space of '4 wing' (CM 1997)

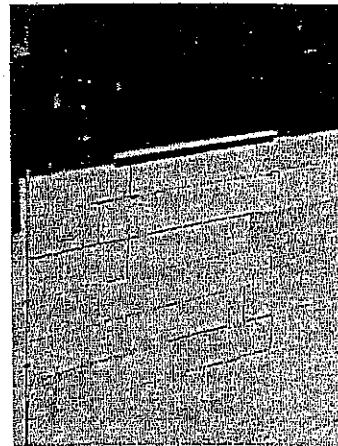


Fig. 7-39 Detail of infilled window on north-east wall of Gaol. (CM 1997)

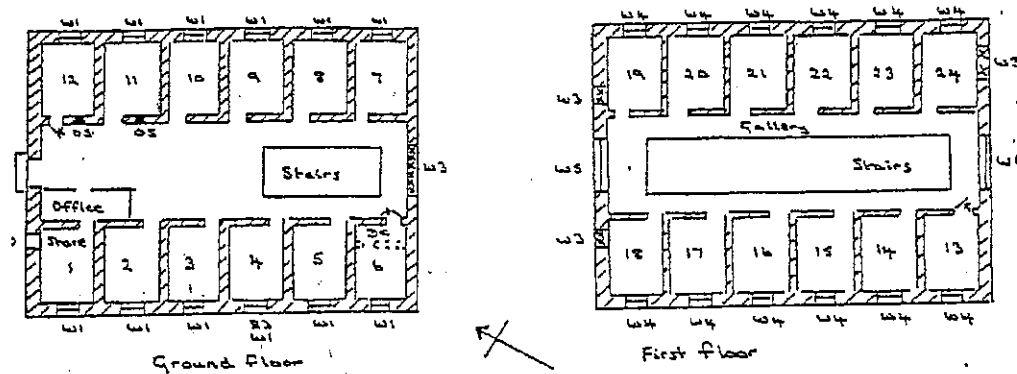


Fig. 7-40 Diagram by showing current cell arrangement in '4-wing'. (Annable and Kerr, p20)

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Cell 6 | Dark cell. There is evidence of an inner wall in the building, and windows were introduced later. It is now a standard cell |
| Cell 1 | Used as a store in 1991. It is now a regular cell. |
| Cell 4 | Contains evidence of the former location of the door and stair of original scheme. |
| Cells 11 & 12 | Observation cells (slits to the right of each door). |

The most appropriate use for this building is as a cell accommodation, and evidence of the development of the building should not be destroyed. The buildings exterior, its layout and fabric associated with its use as a gaol should not be compromised.

- 7.6.27 *A compatible use for '4-wing' as a multi-roomed building should be found if the building is not to be used as cell accommodation.*
- 7.6.28 *Retain the building in its current form, including exterior, cells, galleries, and common spaces. Retain evidence in the fabric of the building of its history and development.*
- 7.6.29 *Retain one cell and its fitout including the servicing panels and furniture and fixtures.*

Yards and Modern Cell Block - Eastern Extension (Asset Nos. 008 017 & 018)

The yards (four separate yards) were built during the 1991 upgrade of facilities at the Gaol. The building has some significance in showing the evolution of the eastern extension of the gaol. This building is not ideally designed in relation to '4-wing' (Asset 016). A new use may be able to be found for these structures, however their retention is not essential.

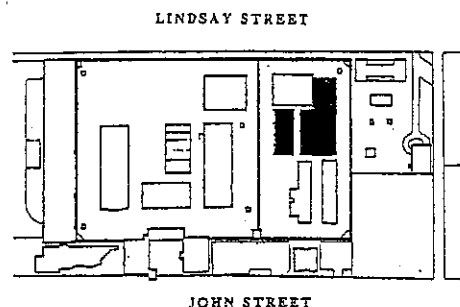


Fig. 7-41 Plan of eastern extension of Gaol showing yard and modern cell block

The modern single storey cell block comprises 22 cells with individual yards. This building is at right angles to '4-wing' and a staff area is located at the junction. This is the maximum security zone of the gaol. Similarly this building is of some significance in relation to the evolution of the gaol and ideally would be used as such. If a compatible use can not be found for this building alterations to its would be acceptable.

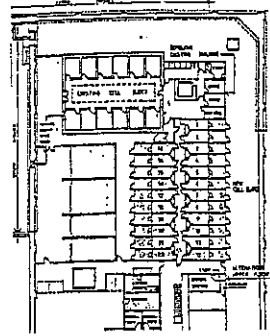


Fig. 7-42 Plan of cell block and yards of eastern extension

There may be a case for demolition of the cell block and yards if such action were to the advantage of the spatial appreciation of '4 wing'.

- 7.6.30 *Retain the overall footprint of the cell block and its relationship to '4-wing'. Substantial alteration to the internal layout would be acceptable if an example of typical cells is retained unaltered, for example, if cells 1 and 2 (and yards) are retained unaltered.*

Gymnasium, Maintenance, and Education (former Maintenance) (Asset No. 008 019)

A detailed analysis of this building is contained in the Annable and Kerr report¹¹. The former maintenance workshops is a two storey sandstone (Ravensfield) gabled building of considerable significance. It has open arcading to the ground floor facing the courtyard, with early grilles surviving in each arch.

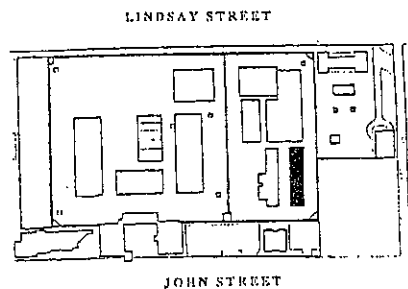


Fig. 7-43 Plan of gaol showing Maintenance Building block.

The balcony provides access to the upper floors on the western side and compressed cement sheeting replaces probably early timber boards. It originally had a hipped roof running the full length of the building. It is supported by decorative iron columns. The balcony has been shortened and staircase relocated. Corrugated colorbond has replaced the corrugated galvanised iron roofing. The original stair to the upper level was relocated and then demolished in 1991. The current steel stair is a modern approximation of the original, in a new location (Fig. 7-45).

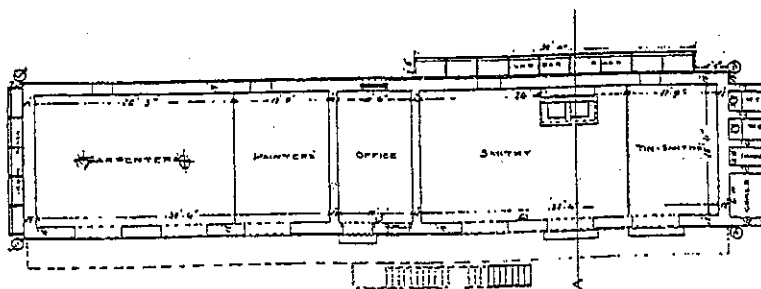


Fig. 7-44 Plan of ground floor of workshops (DPW&S Plan Room PC 321/2)

The upper level is primarily one large space as built, with offices and toilets at the north-eastern end. Early plans indicate that this configuration is based on the original layout. Most windows are original being double hung. The two door sets are early, but not original. The walls are painted stone, the ceilings plasterboard, and sheet flooring. The original metal ceiling is said to have been removed¹². A modern mechanical hoist services the upper level. This and other modern services to this building, such as the airconditioning unit on the balcony and duct to the upper room are generally intrusive and should be removed. It is possible that original timber structure remains under the modern floor finish. The five wall murals painted by prisoners are beginning to deteriorate.

The lower level also remains in near original configuration and should be retained. The smaller central room is used as an office with original joinery and ripple iron ceiling. The larger rooms either side are currently used as a gym (originally a tin smith) and a locker room (originally a carpenter). It is not know if their original ceilings remain beneath the plasterboard lining. The arches to the locker room have been infilled and should be reopened. The remains of a forge are evident in the gym.

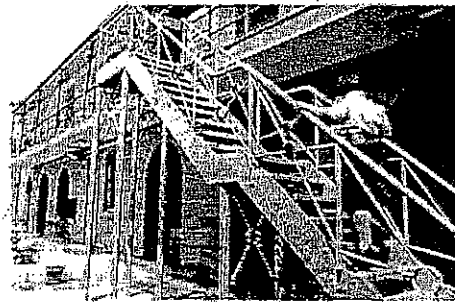


Fig. 7-45 Photo of Maintenance Building. (CM 1997)

The ideal use for this building is as a workshop with heavier activities on the ground floor and lighter activities upstairs. Its original uses included carpentry and metalworking.

- 7.6.31 *Seek a compatible use for the former workshops which retains the significant configuration of rooms and original fabric providing evidence of early use of the building (ie forge). The modern interior walls and infill walls to the arched colonnade (ground level) may be removed.*
- 7.6.32 *Consider reconstructing the missing length of the balcony and access stair to the upper level in original form and location. Original roofing and cast iron columns (and flooring pending further investigation) should be retained. Replace missing column brackets, and timber flooring to the balcony.*
- 7.6.33 *Remove airconditioning ducts from upper level and condenser unit on balcony.*
- 7.6.34 *Replace modern ceilings on both levels with metal profile similar to original.*
- 7.6.35 *Preserve the wall murals on the upper level.*

Contact and Non-Contact Visits - (former Stonecutter's Shelter Shed) (Asset No.008-020)

A handsome shed with chamfered, bracketed timber posts supporting Kingpost trusses. Corrugated zincalume, has replaced the original corrugated iron as the hipped roof. To the west the shed is separated from the yard by two sandstone steps along the length of the shed. The demountable shed erected within the posts is reversible in approach. The part of the shed which protrudes into the yard is an addition and dilutes the integrity of the nineteenth century prison precinct. The infill building can be modified internally as long as original fabric is not compromised. The demolition of the protruding section of the new building would improve the context for the original shed.

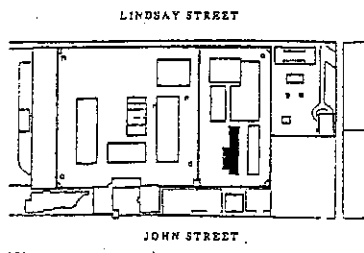


Fig. 7-46 Plan of gaol showing former Stonecutter' Shelter Shed black.

The stonecutters' shelters shed is significant as one of the few surviving examples of government shelter sheds of the 1860s to 1890s, now rare; one of rarer large examples of its kind; as an indication of the standard of facilities provided for prisoners. The significance of this structure is equal to that of the other original buildings in the compound.



Fig. 7-47 Stonecutter' Shelter Shed (CM 1997)

- 7.6.36 *Ensure the survival and integrity of the original stonecutters' shelter shed. The enclosed structure erected within the shed has been introduced in a reversible manner. Ideally, this internal structure will be removed, however, its retention is acceptable in the near future. The protruding part of the infill building should be demolished.*

Sentry Boxes (Asset Nos. 008-008)

The 19th Century version of these structures are evident in some of the early photographs, and appeared to be circular in plan, constructed of stone, with a flat onion domed roof of copper. It is not clear when the current Sentry Boxes were originally constructed at the gaol. The modern Sentry Boxes are square in plan, probably concrete block construction, and have a flat projecting metal deck roof. While of some significance, they could be removed, retained or replaced depending on the future use of the gaol. If removed, the each structure's location could be retained in the paving as is the case for a former sentry box in the south-west corner of the gaol. If replaced, they should be of a sympathetic design, in regard to the main gaol complex and scale as small elements in the open spaces system.



Fig. 7-48 Photo of typical Sentry Box (CM 1997)

7.7 DETAILED BUILDING POLICIES - THE POLICE PROPERTIES

Former Mounted Police Barracks Group

The complex is significant as a group, and should be conserved as a group. The loss of walls of the washing shed and yard linking them (Fig. 5-34) may have occurred in 1979 along with the walkways and verandahs referred to in the history (3.0 of this report). Future landscaping and interpretation of this area should have regard to the original layout. The current paving layout between the Barracks building and the Kitchen, and footpaths to the toilet buildings relates to a 1977 plan possible related to the museum phase of the Barracks building. The footpaths, in particular, do not relate to the historic layout.

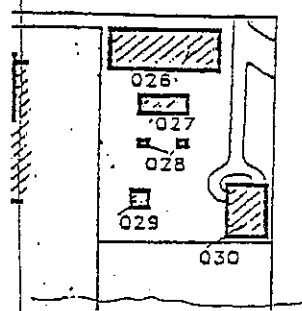


Fig. 7-49 Key to Police Barracks Group

- 7.7.1 *The Barracks building group and the existing relationships between them should be conserved. Interpretative structures in relation to the original yards linking the Kitchen and the toilets are the only new work that should be permitted in area.*

Former Mounted Police Barracks (Asset No. 008 026)

Single storey building with a central portico on each long elevation and a simple gable roof. Sandstone arcade columns support sandstone Roman arches with accentuated keystones. Sandstone is also used for quoins and the arched heads to the pavilion windows. A timber picket fence separates the building from Lindsay Street.

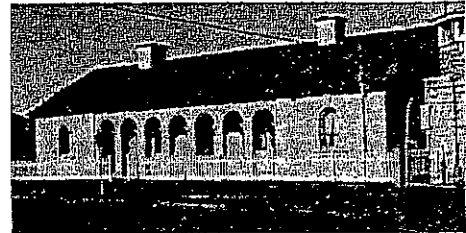


Fig. 7-50 Photo of Police Barracks (SJ 1997)

The Former Barracks building appears to be in relatively original condition externally and internally. The c.1925 drawing (Fig. 3-2), includes some notes on materials: 'Walls brick painted externally. Foundations, bases, etc Ravensfield stone, Carpentry Bluegum, Tallowood, Joinery Cedar, Single Roofs.' Externally the brick is painted, except the Lindsay Street elevation, where the stone trim is unpainted. The other major facade (and side gable elevations) are painted white with all stone, but the keystones and base plinth/steps painted in a buff colour. The roof is corrugated iron. It is not known when the shingle roofs were replaced. Internally, the room layout appears largely unmodified. The ceilings vary from room to room, it is assumed the original ones are the timber (cedar) lining boards and the replacements being sheet and battened. The joinery is generally intact and in good condition. However, the internal paint scheme is not in character with a building of this era. While the building has had various uses, its layout and significant features have not been compromised.

- 7.7.3 *A compatible new use for the former Mounted Police Barracks should be sought and it should be conserved as a significant element of the Barracks group.*

- 7.7.4 *The Barracks building should be restored, and introduction of modern elements restricted.*

Former Barracks Kitchen - (Asset No. 008 027)

This building is a significant element of the Barracks Group, and should be conserved. Single storey small building with a verandah at the sole door. A central chimney suggests that there were originally two rooms. Ravenfield sandstone has been used for the plinth/footing. The loss of the walled enclosure linking this building to the toilets is unfortunate, and could be reinstated using archaeology and documentary evidence to aid the interpretation of the group of this buildings.



Fig. 7-51 Photo of former Barracks Kitchen. (CM 1977)

- 7.7.5 *The Former Barracks Kitchen should be retained and conserved as a significant element of the Barracks group.*

Toilets (x 2) (Asset No. 008 028)

It is remarkable that these small simple brick structures have been retained. They are significant elements of the Barracks Group, and should be conserved. The loss of the walled enclosures (refer Fig. 5-34) is unfortunate, and could be reinstated using archaeology and documentary evidence to aid the interpretation of the group of this buildings.

- 7.7.6 *Both toilet structures should be retained and conserved as significant elements of the Barracks Group.*

Brick building (Asset No. 008 029)

This modern orange brick building is of recent construction and does not add to the understanding of the Maitland Gaol or Police properties. It does not contribute to the character of the precinct nor is it sympathetic. It appears to have been built after 1977 (It does not appear on PC 321/222 dated 1977), and its use is unknown.

- 7.7.7 *This building may be demolished in the context of improving the setting of the former Police Barracks complex.*

Former Stables - (Asset No. 008 030)

A single storey face brick shed. Of the five arched openings to the original stable four have been bricked in up to the arches which have been louvred. Two circular louvred openings vent the interior under the ridge. On the Lindsay St elevation there is evidence of either a large opening having been blocked in or of an arched structure having been removed. The building is slightly lost



Fig. 7-52 Photo of former stables (CM 1997)

in the recent planting immediately surrounding it. It remains a significant component of the Former Police Barracks group of buildings.

Access was not gained to the interior of the former stables building. Early fabric should be retained.

7.7.8 *Retain and conserve the former stables building*

Former Police Lock-up - (No assigned Asset No.)

7.7.9 *Conserve the Former Police Lock-up and cell block for interpretative or residential use.*

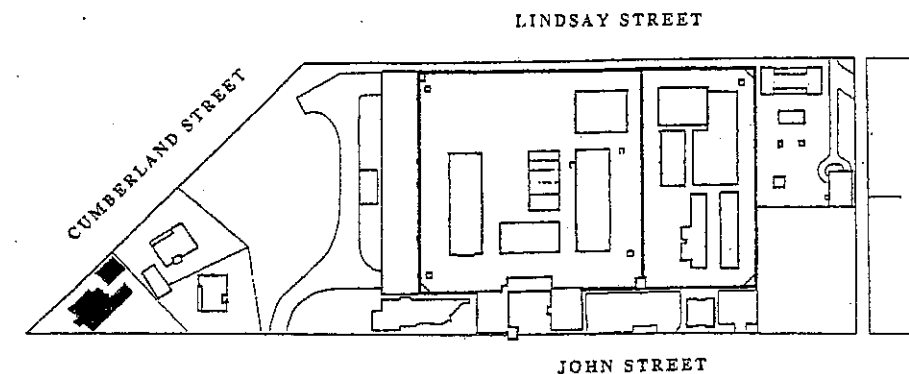


Fig. 7-53 Former Police Lock up

The residence retains many of its significant features including its basic form, joinery and two chimneys. The cells and yard remain, however the yard is roofed over to provide a garage. The setting of this small complex is somewhat compromised by the loss of the original perimeter wall which has been replaced by a combination of unsympathetic fence types in timber, aluminium and wire. The front garden and grounds give few clues to the original walled setting and plants conceal the residence from view. The concrete tile roof (probably originally slate) and colour scheme internally and externally also detract from its significance and ability to appreciate the place.

This building could be used in association with the future use of the gaol. It is prominently sited on the major contemporary approach to the Gaol. Alternatively, it could successfully be used as a residence.

The significance and presence of the building could be enhanced by active conservation measures including attention to removal of unsympathetic or poorly executed additions and replacement of modern finishes. This includes;



Fig. 7-54 Former Police Lock up (SJ 1997)

- restoring the cell block and yards to its earlier form with a pitched roof over the two cells and
- improving the grounds and general setting by interpreting (reconstructing ?) the former fenced rear yard, replacing the mesh fence with a more sympathetic and contextual one if necessary, and maintaining the garden.
- conserving the residence by removing unsympathetic accretions and replacing unsympathetic fabric such as the concrete tiled roof and modern joinery, and exposed services.

7.8 DETAILED BUILDING POLICIES - Recent Construction beyond the Gaol walls

SITE PLAN - with asset numbers

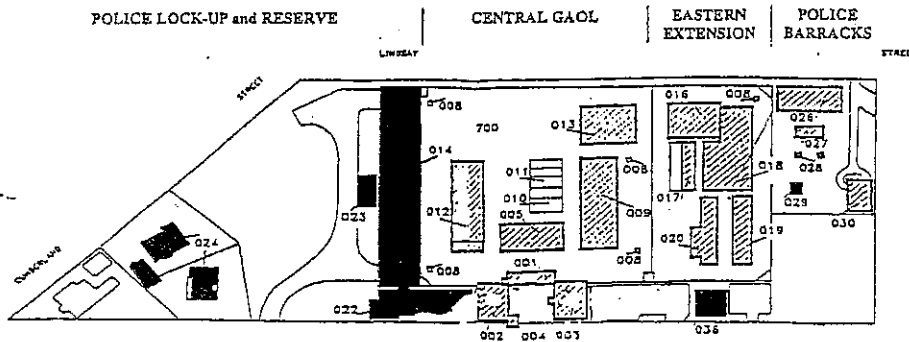


Fig. 7-55 Site Plan (For key to asset numbers refer to figure accompanying schedule in Section 6.6)

Store (Asset No. 008 014)

This orange brick building sits along the entire north-west elevation of the gaol walls in the c.1970 is of some significance in demonstrating a phase of expansion at the gaol. While it has a negative impact on the ability to appreciate the external form of the gaol, and could be considered to have little heritage significance, its demolition is not considered essential. While, possible, it may be too destructive to remove, the walls behind (probably East Maitland stone) are rendered, and resources would be better directed to careful conservation and adaption of more significant aspects of the gaol.

Internally, the store has had a number of uses from workshops to an auditorium for the prisoners. The open nature of this industrial scale building makes it ideal for a variety of use types. Simple means could be sought to improve its appearance in context.

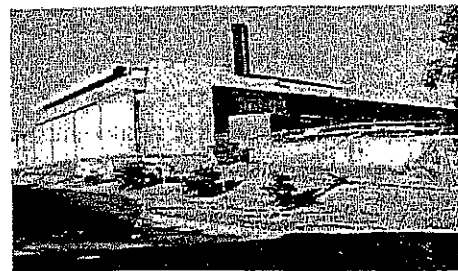


Fig. 7-56 North view of the Store (CM 1997)

- 7.8.1** *Find a use for the Store within its current envelope. This use could be associated with the future use of the Gaol, or be quite distinct.*

Amenities Extension (Asset No. 008 022)

This building demonstrates the evolution of the gaol, in relation to facilities for staff. While it is contextual in design it also compromises the ability to appreciate the walled complex of the gaol, by reducing the clarity of the form of the gaol at its most significant street address. It is however, recessive rather than dominant at a macro scale and could be retained and reused.

The relationship of the this building with the former Deputy Governor's Residence has had detrimental effect on the Residence and future consideration of these two buildings should seek to establish separate identities for these buildings in favour of the integrity of the Residence.

Demountable Building (Asset No. 008 023)

The desired removal of this building is dealt with in policy 7.2.5

Two Police Residences (Asset No. 008 024)

These building appear to have been built c.1972. They are of little significance in context of continued use and ownership of the site in association with the gaol. Although these buildings are part of the Gaol complex, they are considered to have less significance than the contemporary buildings within the walled complex as the recent Police use of the site is unrelated to the Gaol. They also detract from the significance of the whole precinct.

New Visits Building (Asset No. 008 036)

This building was built as part of the major upgrade of the Eastern Extension of the Gaol. It has been the public address of the gaol used by visitors for prisoners after the 1991 contract was completed. This building provides direct access in to gaol via a purpose cut hole in the wall to the contact and non-contact visits section of the gaol. As a new structure in the sterile zone, the building detracts from the integrity and appreciation of the external form of the gaol. The scale and design of the building minimises the negative impact of this building. It could remain and successfully serve the site in the future, possibly as an interpretation or secondary entry point to the site, in line with its current purpose.

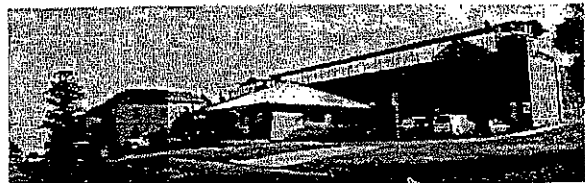


Fig. 7-57 John Street View of the Visits Centre (CM 1997)

- 7.8.2 *The Visits Centre if retained should be used (possibly as a secondary point of access to the site) in association with the new use and interpretation of the Gaol.*

7.9 SUMMARY TABLE INDICATING THE KEY RESPONSIBILITY GROUP FOR THE ABOVE POLICIES.

7.1.1	DOCS / All	7.6.4	Future Lessee or owner
7.1.2	Future Lessee or Tenant	7.6.5	Future Lessee or owner
7.1.3	Future Lessee or Tenant	7.6.6	Future Lessee or owner
7.1.4	Future Lessee or Tenant	7.6.7	Future Lessee or owner
7.1.5	Future Lessee or Tenant	7.6.8	Future Lessee or owner
7.1.6	Future Lessee or Tenant	7.6.9	Future Lessee or owner
7.1.7	Future Lessee or Tenant	7.6.10	Future Lessee or owner
7.1.8	Future Lessee or Tenant	7.6.11	Future Lessee or owner
7.1.9	Maitland City Council	7.6.12	Future Lessee or owner
7.1.10	DOCS	7.6.13	Future Lessee or owner
7.1.11	DOCS	7.6.14	Future Lessee or owner
7.2.1	Maitland City Council	7.6.15	Future Lessee or owner
7.2.2	Maitland City Council	7.6.16	Future Lessee or owner
7.2.3	Future Lessee or Tenant	7.6.17	Future Lessee or owner
7.2.4	Future Lessee or Tenant	7.6.18	Future Lessee or owner
7.2.5	Future Lessee or Tenant	7.6.19	Future Lessee or owner
7.2.6	Future Lessee or Tenant	7.6.20	Future Lessee or owner
7.2.7	Future Lessee or Tenant	7.6.21	Future Lessee or owner
7.2.8	Future Lessee or Tenant	7.6.22	Future Lessee or owner
7.2.9	DPWS & Maitland City Council	7.6.23	Future Lessee or owner
7.3.1	DOCS & DPWS	7.6.24	Future Lessee or owner
7.3.2	Future Lessee or Tenant	7.6.25	Future Lessee or owner
7.3.3	Future Lessee or Tenant	7.6.26	Future Lessee or owner
7.3.4	Future Lessee or Tenant	7.6.27	Future Lessee or owner
7.3.5	Future Lessee or Tenant	7.6.28	Future Lessee or owner
7.3.6	Future Lessee or Tenant	7.6.29	Future Lessee or owner
7.3.7	DOCS	7.6.30	Future Lessee or owner
7.3.8	Future Lessee or owner	7.6.31	Future Lessee or owner
7.3.9	DOCS / Future Lessee or owner	7.6.32	Future Lessee or owner
7.3.10	DOCS / Future Lessee or owner	7.6.33	Future Lessee or owner
7.3.11	Future Lessee or owner	7.6.34	Future Lessee or owner
7.3.12	Future Lessee or owner	7.6.35	Future Lessee or owner
7.3.13	Future Lessee or owner	7.7.1	Future Lessee or owner
7.3.14	Future Lessee or owner	7.7.2	Future Lessee or owner
7.3.15	DOCS	7.7.3	Future Lessee or owner
7.3.16	Future Lessee or owner	7.7.4	Future Lessee or owner
7.3.17	Future Lessee or owner	7.7.5	Future Lessee or owner
7.4.1	Maitland City Council	7.7.6	Future Lessee or owner
7.4.2	DPWS	7.7.7	Future Lessee or owner
7.5.1	Future Lessee or owner	7.7.8	Future Lessee or owner
7.5.2	Future Lessee or owner	7.7.9	Future Lessee or owner
7.5.3	Future Lessee or owner	7.8.1	Future Lessee or owner
7.6.1	Future Lessee or owner	7.8.2	Future Lessee or owner
7.6.2	Future Lessee or owner		
7.6.3	Future Lessee or owner		

END NOTES

- 1 Dept. of Urban Affairs and Planning, *Heritage Management in State Government Departments S170 Guidelines - State Heritage Inventory Manual*, 1995.
- 2 In December 1997 Nine Network Australia (TV) A Current Affair produced a story on the Closure of Maitland Gaol. Numerous people It is called "Maitland Gaol" and went to air
- 3 This list is based on that developed by J.Kerr, Fremantle Prison, 1992.
- 4 Australia ICOMOS, *The Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter)*, revised 1981.
- 5 Dept. of Urban Affairs & Planning, *NSW Heritage How to Prepare Archival Records of Heritage Items*, 2nd ed., February 1995.
- 6 Bernard M. Feilden, *Conservation of Historic Buildings*, 1994, p.10.
- 7 James Semple Kerr, *Fremantle Prison A policy for its conservation*, 1992.
- 8 Discussion with J Carr (DPWS employee and relation of owners of Brown's Quarry) and A Higham also of DPWS
- 9 Annable and Kerr, Maitland Gaol, *Provisional Assesment of the Eastern Extension and Conservation Guide*, 1991.
- 10 *ibid.*, pp17-22
- 11 *ibid.*, p
- 12 *ibid.*, p12

8.0

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Oral History

Interviews with	First Class Prison Officer John Laczkowski Deputy Governor (retired) Nev. Griffiths First Class Prison Officer (retired) Alan Peak
Survey	Preliminary Statement of Social Significance of Maitland Gaol, undertaken by J.W. Turner, December 1997
TV interview	" <i>Maitland Gaol</i> ", Nine Network Australia Filmed December 1997, to air 1 January 1998

THE MAITLAND GAOL.

To-day it is expected that the prisoners now confined in Newcastle gaol, numbering we believe about forty, will be brought up per steamer, and be lodged in the new gaol, East Maitland, which is henceforth to be the gaol for the Northern Circuit District. Mr. Tristram, the keeper of the gaol, together with the turnkeys, &c., will of course accompany the prisoners.

One wing of the intended buildings within the gaol walls is now completed, and is about 108 feet long by 40 feet wide: it contains 28 cells, 26 of which measure 12 feet by 8, and 2 measure 5 feet by 8, all being 10 feet high. They are arranged in a similar manner to those in most modern gaols, 7 cells standing on the ground floor on each side of a passage 15 feet wide, and 7 cells also on each side of the second story; a stone walk or parapet of nearly three feet width running along past the doors of the upper cells on each side, leaving a clear space in the centre; these parapets will hereafter be each provided with an iron railing along the outer edge. A stone staircase leads up to the parapets. The two smaller cells are intended for condemned cells, and are sufficiently large for one prisoner in each; the others are estimated as sufficient to contain each five prisoners, should the gaol at any time contain a large number. The arrangements for ventilating these cells are admirable, and it is stated have been found to answer very well in England: in the centre of the outer wall of each cell a perpendicular tube is cut out of the solid stone, which communicates at the bottom with a small opening on the floor of the cell, and at the top with three similar openings, one of which opens into the cell, and two into the outer air, at some distance on each side of the tube; while on the opposite side of the cell a horizontal tube is cut in the centre of the passage wall, which communicates with two small openings on the floor of the cell, and with three similar ones on the passage floor, at some distance from either of the inner openings. And in addition to these four openings, there are two open windows at the top of each cell, cut out of the solid stone, and each about six or seven inches in depth. There is also a circular opening at an outer corner of the floor of each cell, opening direct to the outer air in a downward direction, to allow of the escape of water, &c.; this is also cut out of the solid stone. Each cell is provided with two doors, the inner one of open bars of iron, the outer of hardwood, sheeted with iron. The outer wall is two feet and a half thick, the passage wall two feet thick, and the wall between each cell two feet thick; all of the best and most durable stone in the neighbourhood, and the stones dovetailed into each other in such a manner that a prisoner to get out must fairly cut through the solid stone. The ceilings of the lower cells are composed of large stones of one foot in thickness, strengthened and supported by iron girders, and the upper side of the same stones forms the flooring of the upper cells; the ceilings of the upper cells are similarly built.

passage and cells is also composed of stones one foot thick, and varying from six feet to eight feet and a half in length; the flooring of the cells rests in the centre on dwarf walls, so that it would seem it can never become wet, or probably even damp.

The roof of this wing is covered with slates, and so far as we can judge, it is built in a very strong and substantial manner; the interior passage is open up to the roof, and it is lit at each end by large and handsome windows, which are, however, only composed of vertical iron bars, through which a current of air enters, which is most agreeable on a hot day. The workmanship of the roof, the walls, the doors, &c., &c., is excellent, indeed we never saw better; while at the same time the impression given to the mind is that the building is one of vast strength, and that the materials are of the most substantial nature. The building stands longitudinally about north-east and south-west.

At one end of the wing a building of one story is nearly completed, which contains three rooms; the first an entrance-room, the second a turnkey's room, and the third a turnkey's bedroom. The entrance-room opens by one door into a lobby leading to the interior passage of the building, and by another into the turnkey's room. The turnkey's room has a handsome window looking into the gaol yard, and two open slits (to be provided with shutters) looking into the interior passage; the turnkey will thus command a view of all that passes inside the building.

From the outside the whole building has a very handsome and well-finished effect. The whole space enclosed within the outer walls of the gaol is, we believe, about 300 feet square. The wing at present built occupies therefore but a small portion of that space, and it is probable that a second building, for female prisoners, will be the next portion built. Meanwhile a stone kitchen is being built near the turnkey's end of the present wing, and a lodge is being built on each side of the entrance gateway, which will make apparently a convenient and handsome dwelling. A space of about 120 feet by 30, extending between the present wing and the outer wall, is fenced off as an exercise yard for the prisoners at present. The remainder of the space within the outer walls is partly occupied by temporary sheds, store-houses, &c., partly by loose, rejected stones, and a small portion is vacant.

It will be seen, therefore, that the present accommodation for the keeper and turnkeys is very deficient, but the insecure condition of the Newcastle gaol rendered it imperative that the prisoners should be removed at the earliest moment. A still greater want, as it seems to us, lies in there being no well or water reservoir

Appendix 1
The Maitland Gaol Opens
Maitland Mercury 30
December 1848

The gaol at East Maitland is one of the most healthily situated in the colony, and from the fact that it is not only nearly always full, but that drafts of prisoners are constantly being sent to it from other prisons, it would also appear to be in special request. Not that prisoners can make their own selection, of course, but if it is "popular" with the authorities, I am quite sure, after a brief visit, it is even more so with the prisoners.

The gaol is a series of stone buildings, enclosed by a wall about 20ft. high. The buildings consist of what are known as Nos. 1 and 2 wings, standing between which is the chapel and offices; also, a separate building for cooking, and building for females, and some other buildings in which various branches of trade are carried on. Our first visit (I was accompanied by a warder) was made to No. 2 wing, a new addition only recently completed. This consists solely of sleeping cells. A wide corridor runs down the centre, well lighted by the large windows at either end. To the right and the left, running the whole length of the building, are the cells, both upstairs and on the ground-floor. An open gallery on the first floor runs round the interior of the building. All the cells in this wing are single cells. There are 34 of them, and the whole of them are at present in use. I am informed that as a rule these single cells are preferred by the prisoners; it may be so, but I am much inclined to doubt it. From what I afterwards saw of the prisoners I cannot help thinking that they prefer company to solitude. These cells are by no means what they call "solitary" cells, which are quite another thing. Solitary cells are awarded for punishment, it is explained to me, and there are no cells of this kind at Maitland, though it does not follow that there is no punishment; but the punishment appeared to me from what I could learn to be of a very mild type. Although the cells are not called "solitary," solitary enough I should think they would be, seeing that the prisoners are locked up in them from 6 o'clock in the evening until 6 o'clock the following morning. The only light admitted is by open slits in the outer wall, which also has the effect of ventilating the cells—often, I should think, to an extent that must be far from agreeable to the prisoners. Externally No. 1 wing is precisely similar to No. 2, but the cells here are intended to hold from one to five inmates—that is to say, one, three, four, or five. A description of one cell is a description of the whole. Take a cell for three. Stone pavement, white-washed wall, and arched brick roof overhead; light from slit in wall, and just at present plenty of it, for it is a bright spring morning. There are two doors—an inner and an outer one. The inner consists of open iron rails, which are made fast as soon as the prisoners are in their cells, and an outer iron solid door. In each cell is a low stool, on each stool is a Bible, and, in some instances, a Prayer Book; but, judging from the appearance of the great majority, these books are not often used. The rest of the furniture consists of bedding, which is rolled up in a bundle at the head of each man's bed. The bed consists of canvas sackings stretched out at night upon iron rods and running round the cells; it has to be rolled up the first thing in the morning, except twice a week, when it is aired on the outside of the building. At night time there is the addition of a bucket and a pail of water. The bedding consists of a couple of blankets and a rug or rough counterpane, for each prisoner. The condemned cell is situated in the far corner of this wing; and in no way does it differ from the other single cells that I could see, unless indeed it was a trifle narrower. At the end of one of the cell-wings stands a book-case containing perhaps about 300 volumes of miscellaneous literature, to which the well-behaved convicts have access if they feel so disposed, and which they are entitled to read in their own time—that is to say when they are not at work, and at certain times on Saturdays and Sundays. At the entrance to the corridor is a table containing writing paper and envelopes, at which prisoners may at stated times write to their friends—the letters, of course, having to pass the eye of one of the officials before being posted. Should the convicts be of a literary turn of mind they are supplied with paper, and are allowed to give free vent to their *ecceitibus scribentibus*. But this sort of thing is rare with them.

Passing out from this wing we enter another building, the upper portion of which is the prison chapel. It is of a really light and elegant character, wholly different from any other portion of the gaol. It is lighted by stained windows at each end. The fittings of various kinds are varnished, and of dark stained wood; the seats with which the chapel is filled are the same. There is a partition in the middle, about 6ft. high, for the purpose of separating the males from the females. The pulpit is near this partition, and a door that opens near to it allows the female portion of the congregation to see the minister without seeing the male prisoners. A high seat, near the partition on the male side, is for a male warder, who can keep his eye on both sides at once, though the female warder is also in

males it seems necessary that they should also be under the supervision of a man-warder. There are two small vestries for the clergy attending the spiritual wants of the inmates. Protestant and Catholic services are held once a week at the gaol, viz., on Wednesday morning. On Sunday there is no service, and the prisoners pretty well have the time to themselves. The services are not very long, and, as may easily be imagined, are not particularly devout, though, doubtless, some of them pretend to be. In the week days the chapel is used as a schoolroom (except on the Wednesday), and the prisoners who enter the gaol are able to read and write have to undergo a course of elementary training in those arts, beginning with the old time-honoured pot-hooks and hangers. The assistant schoolmaster is pointed out to me. He is a good-looking young man—is under sentence for embezzlement; his occupation was that of a bank clerk. The only other person in the room at this time is a prisoner sitting at an organ and playing with a great deal of taste, and with exquisite feeling, some of the fine old tunes so well known in the English Church. I have a good side view of the organist, whose form, as it bent over the keyboard now and again, was like that of a man wrapped completely up in his religious feelings and in the beautiful and solemn prayers that welled out in melody from the instrument before him at the touch of his skilful fingers. A man with a piercing eye, a full, dark auburn beard and hair, and a somewhat prominent nose. "Who is that?" I asked, in a low voice. "That," replied the warder, "is the chapel organist—one of our convicts, you see"—and he was evidently quite proud of the presence of such a musician amongst them. "A convict?" I repeated somewhat incredulously—"but he has a beard, and his hair is not cut—Who is he? What is his crime?" "Oh, that is Bertrand." "What, the notorious Bertrand who murdered Mr. Kinder?" "The same. We expected he would have been liberated a short time ago, so he was allowed the three months' growth of beard and hair." This, then, was the fashionable Sydney dentist whose misdeeds brought him under the gallows, and whose life was only saved at the last moment. Having served the usual 20 years (a "life sentence"), it was thought that he, like others in his position, would be liberated; but the Judge who sentenced him refused to recommend that liberation, and he remains in gaol. I suppose they hadn't the heart to cut his hair and to shave him again directly, and so at the present time he has all the appearance of a free man—for the grey trousers and waistcoat which he wore when I saw him had no connection, in my mind, with convictism. The man bears his age wonderfully well—I could not from where I sat see a grey hair in his beard or hair, and should never have taken him for more than about 40. He is, too, in pretty good condition; so that, on the whole, prison life does not seem to have disagreed with him. His "trade" is that of a bookbinder (learned, of course, during his incarceration), and he is reckoned a first-class workman. Some of his workmanship—as afterwards shown to us when we visited the bookbinders and lithographers' shop, where we found some half-dozen convicts employed.

Appendix 2
Cutting from an
unidentified newspaper,
dated 16 September 1887.
Newcastle Region Public
Library, Maitland Gaol File

RETURN of the Value of Prisoners' Labour, 1896.

Description of Employment.	Daily Average Number of Prisoners.			Value of Prisoners' Labour
	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Manufactures—				£ s. d.
Shoemakers	3,483	.....	3,483	107 8 5
Bookbinders	3,758	.....	3,758	185 2 7
Tailors	1,839	.....	1,839	54 5 7
Needlewomen .....	.....	3,438	3,438	19 2 6
Lithographers	1,428	.....	1,428	51 14 1
Hatmakers	13,160	.....	13,160	42 3 2
Total	23,669	3,438	27,106	459 16 4
In Buildings—				
Masons	2,915	.....	2,915	189 19 9
Stonecutters	7,826	.....	7,826	400 8 2
Labourers	11,483	.....	11,483	373 1 4
Carpenters	2,911	.....	2,911	134 4 10
Painters	1,261	.....	1,261	55 17 10
Blacksmiths	1,872	.....	1,872	70 7 11
Tinsmiths	1,663	.....	1,663	69 7 2
Total	29,931	.....	29,931	1,383 7 0
Employed in Ordinary Prison Service—				
Cooking	3,000	.....	3,000	84 3 0
Sweepers and cleaners	39,130	964	40,094	1,124 12 9
Washing	2,183	2,931	5,114	143 8 11
Hospital attendants, &c.	7,836	2,013	9,849	276 5 3
Occasionally employed	2,852	.....	2,852	80 0 0
Working outside	7,751	.....	7,751	217 8 4
Total	62,752	5,908	68,660	1,925 18 3
Non-effectives—				
Sick	549	158	707	.....
Punishment	507	649	1,156	.....
Awaiting trial	4,692	376	5,068	.....
Unemployed	3,179	144	3,323	.....
Total	9,127	1,227	10,354	.....
Grand Totals	125,478	10,073	135,551	3,769 1 7

Appendix 3
Return of the value of
Prisoners' Labour, 1896 at
Maitland Gaol
Annual Report of the
Comptroller of Prisons
for 1896

