

# Heritage (Decision about Registration of Havelock House, Turner) Notice 2014

Notifiable Instrument NI2014—457

made under the

**Heritage Act 2004, s42 Notice of decision about registration**

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## **1 Revocation**

This instrument replaces NI2014—226.

## **2 Name of instrument**

This instrument is the *Heritage (Decision about Registration of Havelock House, Turner) Notice 2014*.

## **3 Registration details of the place**

Registration details of the place are at Attachment A: Register entry for Havelock House, Turner.

## **4 Reason for decision**

The ACT Heritage Council has decided that Havelock House, Turner meets one or more of the heritage significance criteria at s 10 of the *Heritage Act 2004*. The register entry is at Attachment A.

## **5 Date of registration**

18 September 2014

Anna Gurnhill  
A/g Secretary (as delegate for)  
ACT Heritage Council  
18 September 2014



ACT Heritage Council

**AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY  
HERITAGE REGISTER  
(Registration)**

For the purposes of s. 41 of the *Heritage Act 2004*, an entry to the heritage register has been prepared by the ACT Heritage Council for the following place:

**Havelock House**

**Block 1 Section 42, Turner**

**DATE OF REGISTRATION**

18 September 2014      Notifiable Instrument: 2014-457

Copies of the Register Entry are available for inspection at ACT Heritage. For further information please contact:

The Secretary  
ACT Heritage Council  
GPO Box 158, Canberra, ACT 2601  
Telephone: 13 22 81

## IDENTIFICATION OF THE PLACE

Havelock House, 85 Northbourne Avenue, Block 1, Section 42, Turner, Canberra Central

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This statement refers to the Heritage Significance of the place as required in s12(d) of the *Heritage Act 2004*.

### STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

Completed in 1951, Havelock House is important as evidence of a distinctive way of life, hostel living for relocated public servants, which is no longer practised. It was important to provide accommodation to public servants relocating to Canberra to help attract them to the National Capital. The housing shortage that persisted from the establishment of the National Capital was exacerbated by the post WW2 labour and materials shortages and the 1948 Cabinet decision to recommence transferring public servants from Melbourne to Canberra. After the Second World War, the transfer of government from Melbourne to the ACT was resumed in earnest and the need to provide appropriate accommodation to those public servants whose jobs had been compulsorily transferred was vital.

A series of government hostels was constructed during this time; most were timber structures and of a temporary nature, designed as standard quality accommodation for workers. In addition to the timber hostels were the higher quality, Lawley House and Havelock House, which were brick buildings of a permanent nature that were designed for young, single public servants and professionals. Designed to meet the social needs of its tenants to make their move to the ACT more acceptable, Lawley House and Havelock House were intended as higher quality accommodation so greater care was taken in designing the hostels than was done with the hostels for workers. Social activities were an important part of hostel life at the time with balls, plays and other events taking place in Havelock House. Havelock House is evidence of the way of life of predominantly young public servants enjoying the relative freedom of their own space and the intense social interaction of hostel life.

There is clear evidence of the separation of accommodation wings (with lounge areas and shared bathrooms, the rooftop laundries and drying areas) from the public areas (including foyer and staircase, the sitting rooms, dining hall, outdoor spaces including the dining terrace and the landscaped public courtyard) and perimeter grounds and the service areas (including delivery court and parking areas).

Of the 12 hostels built during this period only two, Havelock House and Lawley House, were designed to be permanent through qualities of material and design, and are the only ones still extant. Havelock House is significant as the only remaining hostel that retains a high level of intactness. Havelock House retains most of its original materials and design which are evident even in areas that have been modified to provide self-contained housing units or offices. [*Criteria (c and f)*]

Havelock House is particularly notable for continuing its use as public housing, although it is now associated with providing housing for those who are in need, rather than catering for a more affluent demographic transferring work localities. It is also this continued use as public housing that has kept the intrinsic features of the place relatively intact. [*Criterion (g)*]

Havelock House also has direct associations with the Havelock Housing Association (HHA). The genesis of the HHA occurred in 1983 when it was proposed that Havelock House become the new headquarters for the Australian Federal Police. Community groups picketed Havelock House, arguing that it should be retained as public housing for those in need. After five months of protesting their demands were met and in 1988 the HHA became the administrators for the housing. They expanded their responsibilities over the years and today administer public housing at several sites in the ACT where they arrange housing for those members of the ACT community who need it most. The HHA continues to operate from Havelock House and still use it to provide public housing. From its conversion to low-cost housing and re-opening in 1988, Havelock House has a strong association with the story

of community lobbying for welfare housing providing especially for homeless and unemployed youth. Havelock House continues in this role to the present. [*Criterion (h)*]

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### FEATURES INTRINSIC TO THE HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PLACE

The attributes listed below are assessed as features intrinsic to the heritage significance of the place and warrant conservation:

- The overall original external form and fabric of the building.
  - Being a building viewed in the round from the surrounding streets of Northbourne Avenue, Gould Street, Moore Street and McKay Street.
  - Landscaped zone between the building and Northbourne Avenue and Gould Street.
  - The two internal courtyards.
  - Evidence of original internal planning of small accommodation units at the south end of the building and larger communal spaces at the north end of the building.
  - The original internal curved staircase, timber panelling, decorative brick detailing, signage and light fittings.
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### CONSERVATION OBJECTIVE

The guiding conservation objective is that Havelock House shall be conserved and appropriately managed in a manner respecting its heritage significance and the features intrinsic to that heritage significance.

The ACT Heritage Council may adopt heritage guidelines applicable to the place under s25 of the *Heritage Act 2004*.

For further information on guidelines applicable to the place, or for advice on proposed works or development, please contact ACT Heritage on 13 22 81.

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### REASON FOR REGISTRATION

Havelock House has been assessed against the heritage significance criteria and been found to have heritage significance when assessed against criteria (c), (f), (g) and (h) under the *Heritage Act 2004*.

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### ASSESSMENT AGAINST THE HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA

Pursuant to s.10 of the Heritage Act 2004, a place or object has heritage significance if it satisfies one or more of the following criteria. Significance has been determined by research as accessed in the references below. Future research may alter the findings of this assessment.

- (a) it demonstrates a high degree of technical or creative achievement (or both), by showing qualities of innovation, discovery, invention or an exceptionally fine level of application of existing techniques or approaches;**

Havelock House does not meet this criterion.

Completed in 1951, Havelock House was built to a design based on site planning, form and style previously used at earlier hostels in Canberra such as Gorman House and using typical materials and construction techniques of the day. The design of Havelock House was very similar to that of Lawley House, the other substantial hostel of the post World War II period, which was opened in 1949. The design does not show qualities of innovation, discovery, invention or an exceptionally fine level of application of existing techniques or approaches that are able to demonstrate a high degree of technical or creative achievement.

**(b) it exhibits outstanding design or aesthetic qualities valued by the community or a cultural group;**

Havelock House does not meet this criterion.

Havelock House incorporates several high quality design elements which lift it from the ordinary. These include the elegant curved staircase, timber panelling, decorative brick detailing, signage and light fittings. However, its general design and construction is otherwise conventional. The higher quality design elements of Havelock House are not considered outstanding and there is no evidence that they are highly valued by the ACT community or a cultural group.

There is insufficient evidence before the Council to demonstrate that Havelock House exhibits other outstanding design or aesthetic qualities which are valued by the ACT community or a cultural group.

**(c) it is important as evidence of a distinctive way of life, taste, tradition, religion, land use, custom, process, design or function that is no longer practised, is in danger of being lost or is of exceptional interest;**

Havelock House meets this criterion.

Havelock House is important as evidence of a distinctive way of life, hostel living for relocated public servants, which is no longer practised. It was important to provide accommodation to public servants relocating to Canberra to help attract them to the National Capital. The housing shortage that persisted from the establishment of the National Capital was exacerbated by the post WW2 labour and materials shortages and the 1948 Cabinet decision to recommence transferring public servants from Melbourne to Canberra. This post WW2 period in the establishment of the National Capital is particularly important as it marks the start of the final push to transfer government from Melbourne and 13% of the population of the ACT was living in hostels or guesthouses. Social activities were an important part of hostel life at the time with balls, plays and other events taking place in Havelock House. Havelock House is evidence of the way of life of predominantly young public servants enjoying the relative freedom of their own space and the intense social interaction of hostel life.

Although there have been some internal modifications, there is sufficient surviving fabric to illustrate the communal way of hostel life. Most of the changes could be reversed, such as removal of light weight partitioning in the dining hall to form offices and the formation of door openings in the accommodation wing to form flats.

There is clear evidence of the separation of accommodation wings (with lounge areas and shared bathrooms, the rooftop laundries and drying areas) from the public areas (including foyer and staircase, the sitting rooms and dining hall and outdoor spaces including the dining terrace, the landscaped public courtyard) and perimeter grounds and the service areas (including delivery court and parking areas).

Of the twelve hostels built during this period only two, Havelock House and Lawley House, were designed to be permanent and are the only ones still extant. Lawley House has undergone significant alterations in its conversion to a training facility for the Australian Federal Police College, leaving Havelock House as the only place that can be counted as important as evidence for this period of a distinctive way of life.

**(d) it is highly valued by the community or a cultural group for reasons of strong or special religious, spiritual, cultural, educational or social associations;**

Havelock House does not meet this criterion.

Havelock House is valued by the Havelock Housing Association and by the National Trust of Australia (ACT) as a place that many have fought to save to provide low-cost housing for the homeless and those with special needs. In 1983, at the height of intense lobbying on this issue, a five-month picket was sustained by the Australian Social Welfare Union and ACT Council of Social Services, with widespread community involvement and support. This led to the re-development of Havelock House as low cost social housing available for people on low incomes under the newly-established community organisation, Havelock Housing Association, which has continued to operate the place until the present.

The Council's *Heritage Assessment Policy*, interprets a cultural group as a 'group of people within a society with a shared ethnic or cultural background' or 'a group of people connected through the same way of living, which has been transmitted from one generation to another'. The Council therefore does not consider the Havelock Housing Association or the National Trust of Australia (ACT) to be a cultural group for the purposes of the criterion.

Havelock House is also valued by current and former residents as a place with a rich social history and as providing a home and secure environment. However, there is no evidence that these social and personal associations are shared with the broader ACT community sufficient for this aspect to meet the criterion.

The Council acknowledges that Havelock House currently provides public housing for the ACT Community, and therefore may be valued by the ACT Community for providing accommodation for its vulnerable. But there is no evidence currently to support a conclusion about possible value.

Furthermore, there is insufficient evidence before the Council to demonstrate that Havelock House is highly valued by the broader ACT Community for reasons of strong or special religious, spiritual, cultural, education or social associations.

**(e) it is significant to the ACT because of its importance as part of local Aboriginal tradition**

This criterion does not apply to Havelock House.

**(f) it is a rare or unique example of its kind, or is rare or unique in its comparative intactness**

Havelock House meets this criterion.

Havelock House is a rare example of a government hostel from the important post-war period of government expansion in the ACT. After the Second World War, the transfer of government from Melbourne to the ACT was resumed in earnest and the need to provide appropriate accommodation to those public servants whose jobs had been compulsorily transferred was vital. A series of government hostels was constructed during this time; most were timber structures and of a temporary nature, designed as standard quality accommodation for workers. In addition to the timber hostels were Lawley House and Havelock House which were brick buildings of a

permanent nature that were designed for young, single public servants and professionals. Designed to meet the social needs of its tenants to make their move to the ACT more acceptable, Lawley House and Havelock House were intended as higher quality accommodation so great care was taken in designing the common areas of the courtyards, the lounges and dining room.

Havelock House is significant as the only remaining hostel that retains a high level of intactness. Lawley House has suffered significant internal modifications that have erased much of the evidence of its past use. Havelock House, however, retains most of its original materials and design which are evident even in areas that have been modified to provide self-contained housing units or offices.

**(g) it is a notable example of a kind of place or object and demonstrates the main characteristics of that kind**

Havelock House meets this criterion.

Havelock House is a notable example of a government hostel that was designed to provide high quality accommodation to young, single public servants and professionals. The main characteristics that make Havelock House a notable example of a government hostel are the high quality, permanent design and construction of the building during a time when the majority of hostels were temporary timber construction. This is evidenced by the division of wings into residential and common areas around two courtyards, the brick construction, consideration for the social lives of the tenants with provision of lounges and courtyards. It was important to provide for the social life as well as provide high quality accommodation to entice public servants to a place that was perceived at the time as devoid of social activity.

Havelock House is particularly notable for continuing its use as public housing, although it is now associated with providing housing for those who are in need, rather than catering for a more affluent demographic transferring work localities. It is also this continued use as public housing that has kept the intrinsic features of the place relatively intact, whereas Lawley House has lost most of the features that identify it as public housing when it was converted to training facilities for the Australian Federal Police.

**(h) it has strong or special associations with a person, group, event, development or cultural phase in local or national history**

Havelock House meets this criterion.

Havelock House has strong associations with the provision of high quality accommodation for single, young professionals during the post-war expansion of the ACT when the push to move government to the new capital was renewed and a need arrived to house transferring public servants in appropriate accommodation. This resulted in a building of higher quality and more permanent construction than other government hostels of the time which provided a basic level of accommodation for labourers and others involved in the construction of the National Capital. This can still be seen in the physical fabric of Havelock House which retains most of its original features, such as accommodation rooms for a single person (in 2014 retained as single lockable rooms within shared units), dining and lounge areas (in 2014 converted into a smaller shared dining area and offices divided by partitions walls that retain the original layout), shared courtyards for passive recreation and the brick exterior.

Havelock House also has direct associations with the Havelock Housing Association (HHA). The genesis of the HHA occurred in 1983 when it was proposed that Havelock House become the new headquarters for the Australian Federal Police. Community groups picketed Havelock House, arguing that it should be retained as public housing for those in need. After five months of

protesting their demands were met and the HHA became the administrators for the housing. They expanded their responsibilities over the years and today administer public housing at several sites in the ACT where they arrange housing for those members of the ACT community who need it most. The HHA continue to run their organisation from Havelock House and still use it to provide public housing. From its conversion to low-cost housing and re-opening in 1988, Havelock House has a strong association with the story of community lobbying for welfare housing providing especially for homeless and unemployed youths. Havelock House continues in this role to the present.

This first phase of public housing at Havelock House was markedly different to the modern provision of public housing in that it was not designed to help out those in need, but rather, to ease the transition of public servants to a new city as their jobs were transferred to the developing capital.

- (i) it is significant for understanding the evolution of natural landscapes, including significant geological features, landforms, biota or natural processes**

This criterion does not apply to Havelock House.

- (j) it has provided, or is likely to provide, information that will contribute significantly to a wider understanding of the natural or cultural history of the ACT because of its use or potential use as a research site or object, teaching site or object, type locality or benchmark site**

This criterion does not apply to Havelock House.

- (k) for a place—it exhibits unusual richness, diversity or significant transitions of flora, fauna or natural landscapes and their elements**

This criterion does not apply to Havelock House.

- (l) for a place—it is a significant ecological community, habitat or locality for any of the following:**

- I. the life cycle of native species;**
- II. rare, threatened or uncommon species;**
- III. species at the limits of their natural range;**
- IV. distinct occurrences of species.**

This criterion does not apply to Havelock House.



## HISTORY AND PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

### HISTORY

#### **Public housing in Canberra and the city's early growth and development**

Public housing forms a crucial element in Canberra's history. Unlike many other cities, where the main focus of public housing is to provide a minimum level of accommodation for those who cannot afford to provide it for themselves, in Canberra, a large program of public housing established from 1927 has provided housing for all classes of society. It was not until 1972 that the number of privately built dwellings surpassed the number built by government (Wright, 2000:vi).

The Government provided housing in all manner of forms: hostels, hotels, detached residences, and flats.

Well before Parliament's first sitting in Canberra in 1927, the Federal Government knew that it would need to provide housing for those relocating to the nation's capital.

In 1912 the Minister for Home and Territories stated that 'it appears that the Government must, therefore, be responsible for housing its officials who are transferred from Melbourne, and who are on a different footing from the commercial population, and will suffer some hardship and inconvenience on their compulsory transfer to the seat of government' (Wright, 2000: 6).

The Federal Capital Commission (FCC) was established in 1925 and set about providing housing for the expected influx of construction workers and public servants. In the year to 30 June 1927 the FCC approved construction of 545 Government houses. A year later 646 public servants had been transferred to Canberra with office and residential accommodation provided. This included houses, hotel and hostel accommodation (Wright, 2000: 17).

The Depression was accompanied by a downturn in the transfer program and with the change of Government in 1930, the FCC was wound up and Canberra reverted to divided departmental control (advised by a partly elected ACT Advisory Council), a state of affairs that was to continue until 1958.

By the late 1930s the piecemeal approach to development by the Department of Interior and other responsible agencies was having significant adverse impacts. In February 1939, there were 400 people on the waiting list for government housing in Canberra. Administration was not coping with Canberra's rate of growth (Wright, 2000: 28).

During World War II construction of Government houses in Canberra was halted leaving Canberra with an estimated shortage of 500 houses through the latter part of the war.

Putting still further pressure on the housing situation, Cabinet decided in 1948 to recommence the program of transferring the public service from Melbourne to Canberra (Wright, 2000: 29).

The phase of construction of public housing following the Second World War to meet this additional pressure was, according to Alan Foskett (*Canberra Historical Journal*, Sept. 1998 p8 cited by Leeson 2011: 198) a period "when a quaint mixture of substantial and ephemeral hostel buildings were provided." It was also a period when 13% of Canberra's population lived in government sponsored establishments; a figure that declined to 4% by 1972 (Leeson, 2011:199)

Hostels built in Canberra by the government during the post World War II period are listed below.

Name	Built	General details	Current status
Eastlake Hostel Kingston	completed 1946, enlarged 1947	Barracks style timber buildings	Demolished after 1952
Riverside Hostel (aka Riverview Hostel), Barton	Completed 1946	Barrack style timber huts	Demolished 1952
Mulwala House, City	completed 1947	Barrack style accommodation with 231 rooms built of fibro with iron roofs	Demolished 1969
Fairbairn Hostel	Completed 1947	Began as tents, replaced by 1950 with timber huts	Demolished 1952.
Narellan House, Reid,	First stage completed 1948. Extended 1960s	Timber construction to accommodate 50	Demolished 1992
Capital Hill Hostel	Completed 1948		Demolished 1966
Turner Hostel	Completed 1949	Barrack style hostel for 345 building and industrial workers constructed of fibro, timber and tiles.	Demolished
Ainslie Village	Completed 1949	Barrack style hostel of 11 fibro timber and iron roofed buildings for 275 workers and 50 staff	Demolished. New accommodation complex built on the site.
Lawley House, Barton	Completed 1949	Brick walls, tiled roof designed around courtyards.	Converted to Australian Federal Police Training Centre
Reid House	Completed 1950	Accommodated 326	Demolished
Havelock House	Completed 1951	Brick walls, tiled roof to accommodate 200	Converted to flats.
Hillside Hostel, City.	Completed 1950s	Fibro and timber barrack style buildings	Demolished 1969

(Foskett, 2007)

### **Havelock House**

Havelock House was designed in 1948 by the Canberra Branch of the Commonwealth Department of Works and Housing as a hostel for single, senior public servants and was built between 1948 and 1951 by Cody and Willist Pty Ltd. It was one of two hostels built to a similar design, the other being Lawley House in Barton. Each of the hostels could accommodate 200 guests and staff. Lawley House opened in 1949 followed by Havelock House in 1951. (Leeson, 2011: 197-8)

Havelock House and Lawley House were two of the substantial hostels referred to by Foskett. Many of the occupants in the 1950s were young single people being groomed for senior government positions. Former residents have described the active social lives experienced in the lounge and dining rooms of the hostel. Some met their future spouses while living at Havelock House.

Designed in the 1940s Havelock House operated as a hostel until November 1971 when operations were suspended. The hostel reopened in 1973 with a cafeteria service providing in-house meals and was upgraded in 1975-6. Havelock House closed as a government operated hostel in 1981. In 1982 it was taken over by the Australian Federal Police.

The tenure of the Australian Federal Police was short. Canberra in the early 1980s was in recession and local welfare groups lobbied for low cost accommodation. Havelock House had been considered for closure and redevelopment in an early 1980s' review by the Fraser Government. A five month picket line at Havelock House in 1983 was followed by the new Labor Government refurbishing the complex for low cost social housing. Welfare housing under the newly established community organisation, Havelock Housing Association, became available on 10 April 1988. A number of welfare agencies were also given offices at Havelock House from that time. (Leeson, 2011: 199-200)

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## DESCRIPTION

Havelock House is located on an urban block bounded by Northbourne Avenue to the east, Gould Street to the north, Moore Street to the west and McKay Street to the South. It is a two storey building planned around two internal courtyards. The northern wing of the building contained the communal and public spaces on the ground floor such as the dining room, lounges and waiting rooms. These public spaces are identified externally by double hung windows topped with fanlights and French doors opening to the north facing verandah. The south wing and upper floors contained accommodation rooms.

The building is constructed of monochrome face brick, relieved by a string course at first floor sill level. Decorative brickwork has been used on columns of the main entry from Northbourne Avenue and on the north facing verandah where bricks are laid in stack bond with recessed joints and with fluted detailing at the edge of the concrete lintel and slab. The entry from the Northbourne Avenue side has a stepped brickwork reveals. The windows are generally double hung sashes, with fanlights above the openings in the ground floor public rooms. The main roof is hipped and clad with terracotta tiles. A flat roof is over the internal link between the courtyards, originally providing a space for the laundry and clothes lines.

The main stair lobby off the Northbourne Avenue foyer has reeded glass set in a cast cement frame. The stair itself and the entry is lined with timber veneer sheets, curved around the stair balustrade. From the lobby, a large main lounge opens off the foyer with a smaller lounge opening off the main lounge. A spacious dining room on the north side of the building opened off the main lounge and connects directly to the north facing verandah. The lounge areas have original details including timber panelling, cornices and fireplaces. The dining room has been divided by partitions.

Stylistically, Havelock House relates back to style used by John Smith Murdoch in earlier hostels such as Gorman House. It utilises a similar layout of rooms around internal courtyards and simple hipped roofed forms articulated by bays breaking out to provide larger spaces for communal rooms or other larger spaces. Havelock House does not show the influence of emerging international or regional styles of the Post World War II period except perhaps in the curved staircase of the entry foyer. Instead, the design uses good proportions and interesting details to create interest. This reflects the continuing conservative approach to public building in the federal capital during the mid twentieth century as well as the shortages of the post World War II period.

The site is bounded on Northbourne Avenue and McKay Street by *Cotoneaster* hedges. These appear to be a continuum of the early plantings of shrubs, trees and lawns that provide pleasant landscaped areas and screen the entry from Northbourne Avenue. *Prunus*, *Cupressus sempervirens* and *Pyrus* sp. are planted in the northern courtyard. A carpark is to the south of the building. Informal plantings around the building include *Pinus canariensis*, *Cupressus arizonica*, *Quercus palustris* and *Cedrus deodar* to the east, *Liquidambar* and *Cupressus arizonica* to the north and *Quercus suber*, *Cedrus deodar*, *Cupressus arizonica* and *Plantanus orientalis* to the west. (Leeson, 2011; 219-221) These are consistent with 1940s plantings and with the early plantings that appear in 1952 photographs of Havelock House reproduced below.

### Physical condition and integrity

The external fabric of Havelock House was inspected by the ACT Heritage Unit on 22 April 2014.

Havelock House was modified in 1987 to create larger flats from the original individual units and to partition the original dining room for office space. The modifications included:  
conversion of the dining room and kitchen to office space with false ceilings,  
split system air conditioning units,  
conversion of the residential section from single rooms into group flats consisting of varying numbers of bedrooms,  
kitchen, bathroom, living and dining spaces,  
several additional entry stair lobbies,  
perforated metal external window shades,  
curved corrugated steel porch canopies to entry doors,  
painting of original face brick to first floor level between windows,  
new landscaping to the internal courtyards, and  
new colorbond gutters, fascias and downpipes.

The 1987 work was undertaken to the design of Lester Firth Associates. Openings have been made to connect original rooms and lightweight partitions used to close some other openings. Original bathrooms continue to be used as bathrooms with minor functional upgrades.

In addition to the 1987 work, the original terracotta roof tiles on the internal roof slopes have been replaced with concrete tiles and a carport has been constructed on the east side.

These alterations do not prevent the original spaces of the hostel from being interpreted. The partitions in the original dining room can be easily removed without substantial damage to original fabric.

In comparison to Lawley House which was built two years earlier to a similar design, Havelock House retains far greater integrity. Lawley House has most of its internal walls removed to create large training spaces.

Lawley House, now the Australian Federal Police College, has not been used for public housing accommodation since 1976. Apart from short periods when alterations were being undertaken, Havelock House has continued to provide accommodation since it was opened in 1951 until the present day (2014).

The original fabric of Havelock House is generally in good condition with the exception of the roof tiles and the reeded glass in the main stair lobby which are in fair condition, and the timber veneer panels to the main stair which need refinishing. Some areas of brickwork on the upper floors have been painted above first floor sill level.

Some maintenance is needed to later elements such as aluminium flyscreens, security screens, sunshades and carports.

**SITE PLAN**



**Image 1** Registration Boundary, Havelock House, Turner

## IMAGES



**Image 2**  
Havelock House, December 1952  
(Source: Canberra Times Collection,  
ACT Heritage Library)



**Image 5**  
Havelock House main entrance, 10 September 1971  
(Source: Canberra Times Collection, ACT Heritage Library,  
photographer Bruce Moore)



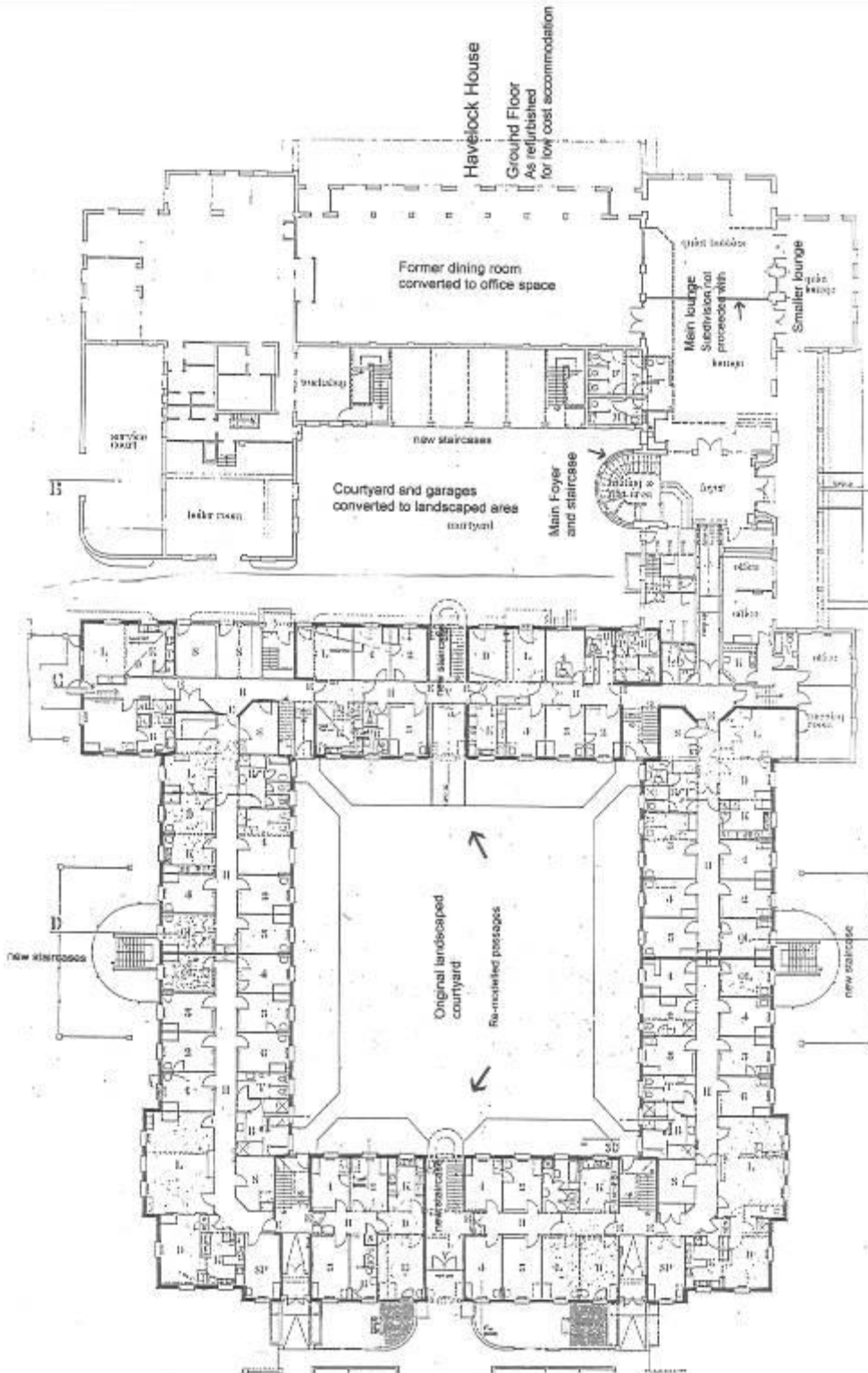
**Image 3**  
Foyer of Havelock House, 1959 showing the  
curved stair and timber veneer panelling.  
(Source: National Archives of Australia,  
Image no. A7973, INT550/1)



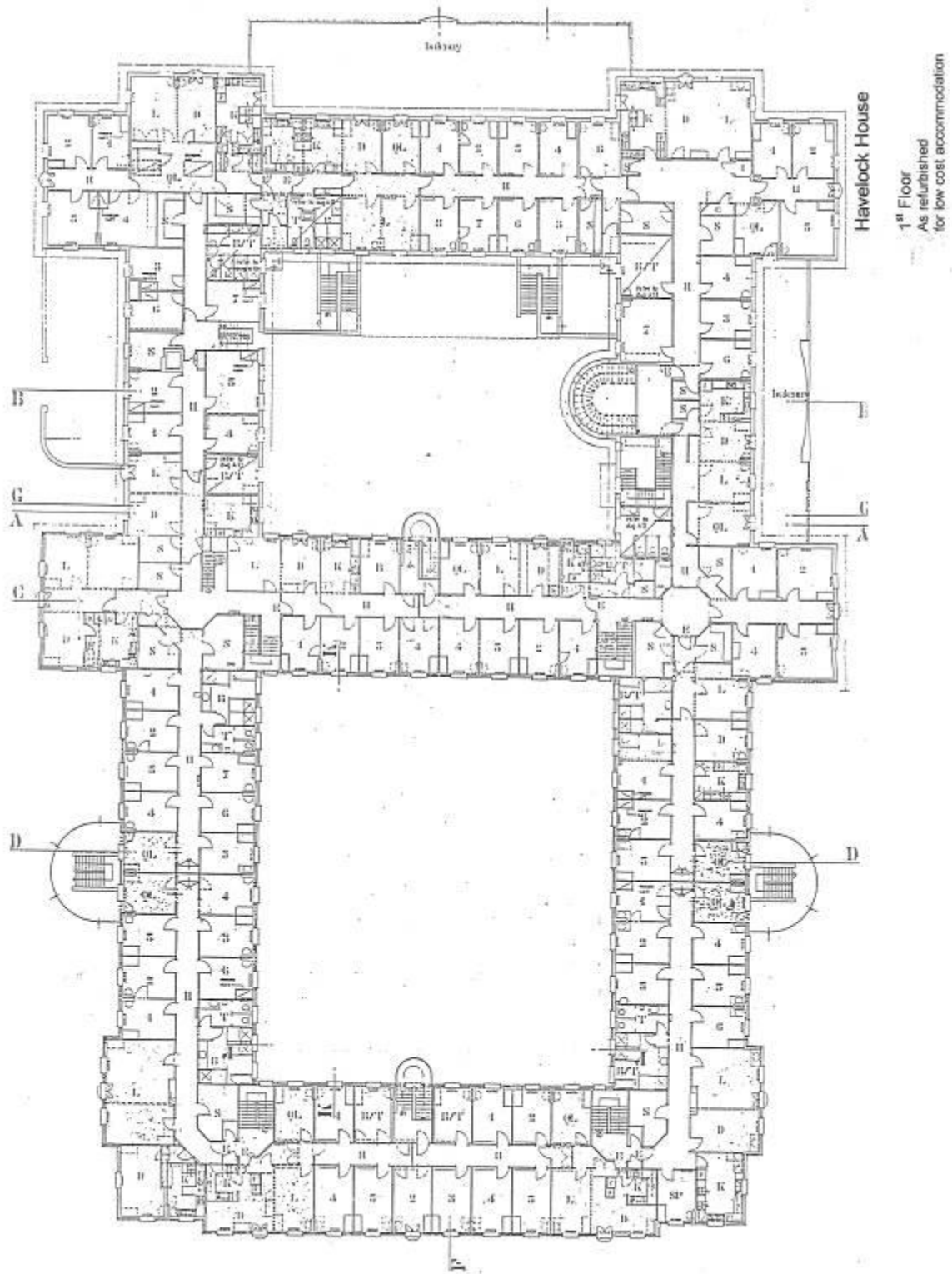
**Image 6**  
Members of the Australian Social Welfare Union, Metta  
Young and Beth Jewell, sit at a table on the Havelock  
House Picket, 26 September 1983  
(Source: Canberra Times Collection,  
ACT Heritage Library)



**Image 4**  
Havelock House 1963  
(Source: National Archives of Australia,  
Image no.: A1500, K10220)



**Image 7**  
 Havelock House Ground Floor Plan after 1980s refurbishment  
 (Source: Lester Firth & Associates)



**Image 8**  
 Havelock House First Floor Plan after 1980s refurbishment  
 (Source: Lester Firth & Associates)





**Image 9**  
View from northwest showing the verandah off the original dining room.  
22 April 2014  
(Source: ACT Heritage)



**Image 12**  
View from northwest. The taller windows at the ground floor reflect the use of this end of the building for community spaces.  
22 April 2014  
(Source: ACT Heritage)



**Image 10**  
Detail of brickwork to north verandah  
22 April 2014  
(Source: ACT Heritage)



**Image 13**  
Detail of west elevation – south end  
22 April 2014  
(Source: ACT Heritage)



**Image 11**  
South elevation  
22 April 2014  
(Source: ACT Heritage)

## REFERENCES

ACT Heritage File 00/8215

Alan Foskett, *A Home in the Capital: stories about life in Canberra's hostels*, A. Foskett, Campbell ACT, 2007.

Philip Leeson Architects Pty Ltd for Community Services Directorate (Final for Endorsement November 2011) *Heritage Assessments of Housing ACT Properties*.

Wright, Bruce 2000. *Cornerstone of the Capital: A history of public housing in Canberra*, Canberra, ACT Government