

Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan
Fort Qu'Appelle Indian Hospital
Broad Street

HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT

The Fort Qu'Appelle Indian Hospital was built in 1935 as a 50-bed tuberculosis treatment facility for native people. An addition was built in 1946 and minor upgrading has been undertaken since. The building now serves as the public hospital for the Fort Qu'Appelle region. Health and Welfare Canada is the custodial department. See FHBRO Building Report 87-81.

Reason for Designation

The Fort Qu'Appelle Indian Hospital was designated Recognized because of its association with native people's health care, particularly tuberculosis treatment, and as the first specialized facility of its kind. The site is closely related to the function of the hospital and remains substantially unchanged. The hospital is a landmark in the region.

Character Defining Elements

The heritage value of the building resides in its modest classical composition and linear massing, those aspects of its design that relate to its function as an early tuberculosis treatment facility, and its site.

The building is of modern, simplified-classical design, modestly decorated, reflecting the restricted budgets for public architecture of its time. The 1946 addition is, in these respects, of similar and compatible design. It is sited at an angle to the original hospital. While this approach to siting relates to its period of construction, it leaves the original hospital less clearly defined and undermines its near-symmetry. The symmetrical aspect of the composition of the 1935 block should be respected. Future site development could be oriented in order to redress this imbalance.

The ward plan and the pattern of fenestration that relates to it, the verandahs, and the outdoor space for patients are particular elements of the building that reflect the purpose-built aspect of the design.

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