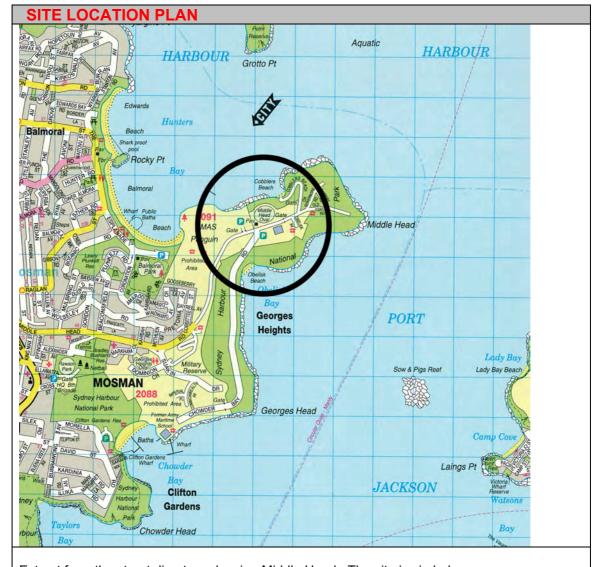
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MIDDLE HEAD

Conservation Management Plan – Inventory Descriptions

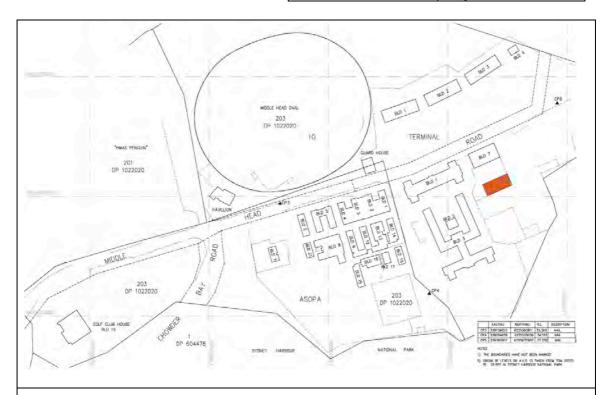
ITEM DETAILS		
Name Of Item School of Military Engineering (later 10 Terminal) Building 6		
Location Middle Head Rd, Middle Head	SHFT Bldg No 10 Terminal: 6	Defence Bldg No
Original Name School of Military Engineering, Anti-Aircraft and Fortress Engineering School	Date of Construction: 1941	



Extract from the street directory showing Middle Head. The site is circled.

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Site plan showing the location of Building 6 (coloured red)

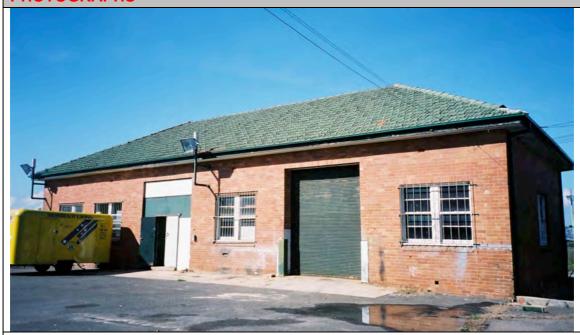


Extract from the 1991 aerial showing Building 6

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PHOTOGRAPHS



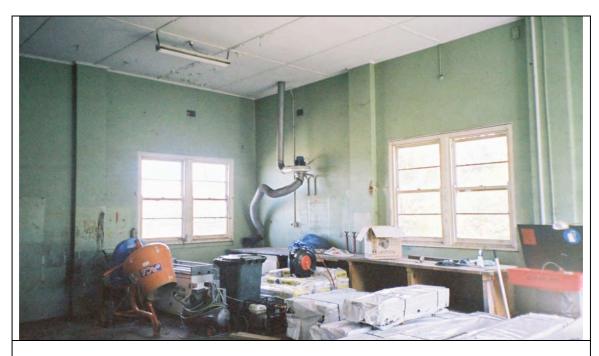
Current view of north façade of Building 6 (Photo: Robertson & Hindmarsh Pty Ltd, 2006)



Current view of west façade of Building 6 (Photo: Robertson & Hindmarsh Pty Ltd, 2006)

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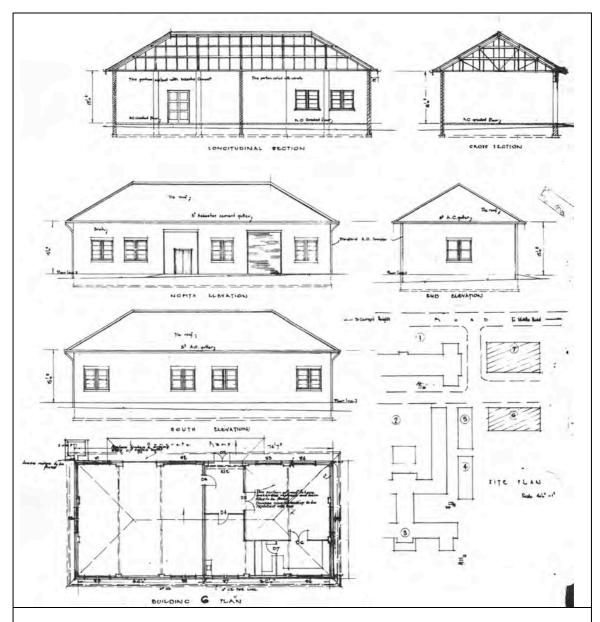
Current view of interior of west room of Building 6 (Photo: Robertson & Hindmarsh Pty Ltd, 2006)



This enlargement from the 1961 aerial photograph shows the layout of large, bare paved areas surrounding Building 6 and the location of the demolished temporary Buildings 4 & 5 to the west of Building 6. (1961 aerial photograph courtesy SHFT)

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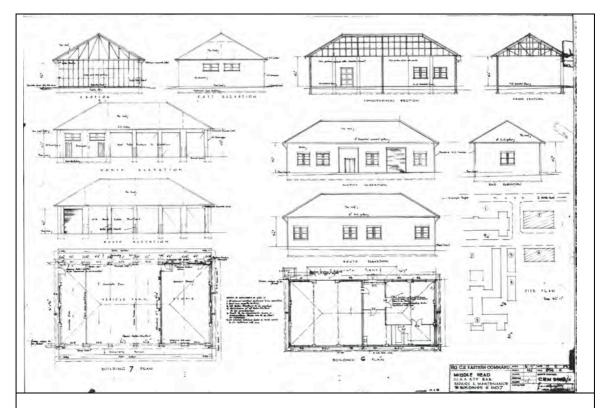
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Plan, elevations and section of Building 6, 1953 (Source: HQ CE Eastern Command, CEN 9925A; SHFT scan mlhb0191.tif)

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Plans, elevations and sections of Buildings 6 & 7, 1953 (Source: HQ CE Eastern Command, CEN 9925A; SHFT scan mlhb0191.tif)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Assessment Of Significance

- (a) to (h) are the Commonwealth & National Criteria:
- (a) Course or Pattern of History (State Criterion (a))
 Building 6 of 10 Terminal provides evidence of the long standing tradition of the use of Middle Head for coastal artillery training.
- (b) Uncommon or Rare (State Criterion (f))
- (c) Contribute to an understanding (State Criterion (e))
 Providing physical evidence of the standard of permanent training facilities erected during the wartime.
- (d) Principal Characteristics (State Criterion (g))
 The rectangular plan shaped plan layout remains substantially intact, including the original masonry wall dividing the building into two equal halves.
- (e) Aesthetic Characteristics (State Criterion (c)) The deliberate austerity of the design is typical of permanent military buildings of the late 1930s and early 1940s.

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- (f) Creative or Technical Achievement (State Criterion (c))
 The building is representative of the permanent facilities constructed during the war time and employs more permanent materials than the adjacent camp.
- (g) Community Association (State Criterion (d))
 Associated with the training of military engineers, coastal artillery personnel and subsequently Pacific Island Administrators.
- (h) Association with Life and Works (State Criterion (b)) No particular associations have been identified.

Additional National Criterion:

(i) Importance as a part of indigenous tradition (State Criteria (a) & (d)) An assessment of significance to indigenous peoples has not been undertaken.

Statement of Significance

General:

The former brick and tile World War 2 School of Military Engineering buildings at Middle Head form an exceptionally rare collection of such buildings at a National level. Within NSW only the almost contemporary School of Artillery at North Head and the former 12th Lines of Communication complex at Boronia Park (Gladesville) are known to survive outside military establishments.

Building 6 of 10 Terminal is of significance as an integral part of the original phase of construction of 10 Terminal: the School of Military Engineering, Anti-Aircraft and Fortress, and as physical evidence of the series of permanent training facilities erected during World War 2 in Australia.

Substantial documentary and physical evidence of the original configuration and detail of the building survives, including window joinery, doors and partitions.

Aesthetically the building is typical of the permanent buildings designed as training facilities in Australia during the 1930s and 1940s.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The site upon which Building 6 of 10 Terminal was constructed lies within the area of King Bungaree's farm, land later granted to Charles Beilby. Beilby's Flat was resumed by the crown for military purposes and a cricket and football ground established for the adjacent mobilisation camp. This cricket pitch was still evident in 1941 site plans and can be seen in aerial photographs.

SCHOOL OF MILITARY ENGINEERING

In 1941 work commenced on planning the Anti-Aircraft and Fortress Engineering School camp, which would be built of brick. It was intended as a permanent training facility and thus it was built of brick and tile. This project was carried out under Requisition 310/40-41. Plans and elevations of a building which became the

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Headquarters Building [Building 1] were completed in April 1941 (Req AHQ 310 – 40/41).¹

Construction of these buildings did not occur through the issue of a specification. Instead, a bill of quantities was drawn up. On 17 June 1941, the Bill of Quantities and Estimate for the erection and completion of buildings for the "Engineering School, Middle Head", under Requisition AHQ 310/40-41 was completed. The work included concrete footings for the buildings, brick walls, and wooden floors and timber and tile roofs. Buildings covered by the document included "Building A" [Building 3] with canteen store, servery, fuel and boiler room, with roof of green Marseilles tiles, plus boiler, tanks, steam cookers and refrigerator. "Building B" [Building 1] had blackboards and cupboards and was roofed with green Marseilles tiles. The relevant plans were DEF 25512; 25651; 25682; 25710-25712; 25714; 25715; 25717-25719; 25752.²

The tender of William Hughes & Co Pty Ltd, 41 Bridge St, Sydney, to erect buildings at Middle Head for £20,737 (310/40-41) was accepted on 3 July 1941. Construction was due for completion on 20 November 1941.³

A specification was issued for the installation of electric light and power at Middle Head, (AHQ 310/40-41) on 7 July 1941.⁴ The tender of E F Connell & Co, 101 Cabarita Rd, Concord to install electrical light and power to buildings at Middle Head, for £790/12/0 (310/40-41) was accepted on 31 July 1941.⁵

A specification was issued on 27 June 1941 for the supply and installation of a hot water and steam system at Middle Head, under AHQ 310/40-41. The relevant plan was MS.1169A.⁶ The tender of W G Gailey, 165 George St, Sydney to install hot water system and steam to buildings at Middle Head, for £835 (310/40-41) was accepted on 17 July 1941.⁷

The specification for the fabrication and completion of joinery fittings for the Middle Head buildings (AHQ 310/40-41) was issued on 27 July 1941. Work to be completed included sink draining boards, cupboards and counters, lavatory seats and shelves, hat and coat rails, shelves, tables, benches, and plate rack. The relevant plans were DEF 26320 and 26321.8 On 14 August 1941, the tender of George Hudson Pty Ltd, Bridge Rd, Glebe to fabricate and complete joinery for buildings at Middle Head, for £517/9/1 (310/40-41) was accepted. The work was due for completion on 5 November 1941.9

Between the wars, there had been no permanent school of military engineering but this deficiency was reversed just in time for the outbreak of the Second World War.¹⁰

² NN, Middle Head, NAA, CRS SP 155/1 (Box 61)

¹ DEF 25714, SHFT Plans CD

³ Commonwealth of Australia Gazette, 3 July 1941, p 1467

⁴ DEF 26210I, Middle Head, NAA, CRS SP 155/1 (Box 62)

⁵ Commonwealth of Australia Gazette, 31 July 1941, p 1670

DEF 26166G, Middle Head, NAA, CRS SP 155/1 (Box 62)
 Commonwealth of Australia Gazette, 17 July 1941, p 1567

⁸ DEF 26369D, Middle Head, NAA, CRS SP 155/1 (Box 62)

⁹ Commonwealth of Australia Gazette, 14 Aug 1941, p 1799

¹⁰ R McNicoll, *The Royal Australian Engineers* – Vol 3, *1919 to 1945: Teeth and Tail*, Corps Committee of RAE, Canberra, 1982, p 16

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It was announced that a permanent School of Anti-Aircraft and Fortress Engineering would be formed at Chowder Bay on 1 October 1939. 11

Additionally, the 1st Anti-Aircraft Searchlight Company had been formed in Sydney in 1937. Thus, there was a ready audience for the courses conducted by the School. From 1939 onwards, courses trained officers in anti-aircraft engineering at Chowder Bay and Georges Head, and it became part of the School of Military Engineering, Anti-Aircraft and Fortress. A Camouflage Wing was added to Georges Head, and at Middle Head.¹³ The decision to train tradesmen in the necessary skills was taken in February 1940. These men were taken from applicants for these positions and they trained at Chowder Bay before being posted to fortress and anti-aircraft units. 14 In 1942, the School of Military Engineering Anti-aircraft and Fortress Wing moved to Middle Head.

The first army school providing instruction in searchlight equipment was held at SME, Georges Heights in October 1939. It then moved to the RAE Barracks at Georges Head and then in July 1941 to new buildings at Middle Head. 15

No original plans from 1941 for Building 6 have survived. The earliest plans are dated 1953 (CEN 9925A), amended 1958 and show the plans, elevations and sections of both Buildings 6 and 7 and proposed maintenance works to the buildings.

It is presumed that Building 6 was intended as either a stores building or a transport garage building for the School of Military Engineering.

12TH LINES OF COMMUNICATIONS (c. 1946)

By 14 February 1946, a total of 160 AWAS signallers of 12th Lines of Communications Headquarters occupied quarters at Middle Head. They operated many of the military switchboards across Sydney. 16 The mess and accommodation building was the large brick building [now Building 3 of the 10 Terminal Regiment group]. The Headquarters building [Building 1, 10 Terminal Regiment group] was also being used by 12th Lines of Communications.¹⁷

ASOPA (1947-1951)

Following the war Alfred Conlon persuaded Eddie Ward, Minister for Territories, to set up the school to train administrators for Papua and New Guinea. 18 However, some historians have disputed this version of events. 19

¹¹ R McNicoll, *The Royal Australian Engineers* – Vol 3, 1919 to 1945: Teeth and Tail, Corps Committee of RAE, Canberra, 1982, p 14

¹² R McNicoll, The Royal Australian Engineers - Vol 3, 1919 to 1945: Teeth and Tail, Corps Committee of RAE, Canberra, 1982, p 14

¹³ R McNicoll, The Royal Australian Engineers – Vol 3, 1919 to 1945: Teeth and Tail, Corps Committee of RAE, Canberra, 1982, p 334-5, 361

¹⁴ R McNicoll, *The Royal Australian Engineers* – Vol 3, *1919 to 1945: Teeth and Tail*, Corps Committee of RAE,

Canberra, 1982, p 21

¹⁵ N F Hill, Expose!: A history of searchlights in WW II, Boolarong, Brisbane, 1993, p vii

¹⁶ AWM photo 125774

¹⁷ AWM photo 125779

¹⁸ V H Parkinson, in G Leaver, *25 Years of ASOPA*, 1972, p 5

¹⁹ I C Campbell, 'The ASOPA Controversy: A pivot of Australian policy for Papua and New Guinea, 1945-49', Journal of Pacific History, 35, 1, 2000, pp 83-4

²⁰ 52/46/962, in NAA, CRS SP 1008/1, 475/6/957

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The unit did not remain at Duntroon. On 14 February 1946, Colonel John R Kerr, reported that Professor Mills, the Director of Commonwealth Education, had inspected the site of the Camouflage School at Georges Heights which was then unoccupied. He also checked a nearby brick building. These are judged as suitable as accommodation. ²⁰

The Australian School of Pacific Administration (ASOPA) took over the functions previously carried out by the Recruiting Committee for the (Land Headquarters) School of Civil Affairs located at Royal Military College, Duntroon. The School moved to Middle Head, Sydney in May 1947. The May 1947 issue of *South Pacific* recorded that the School was "currently" moving into new premises at Middle Head. At first, it occupied the former AA and Fortress Engineering School buildings.

On 14 March 1951, an army memo stated that the Eastern Command Signals Squadron would move out of Middle Head by 28 March 1951 and that certain buildings would be handed over to the School of Pacific Administration. ASOPA currently occupied the brick barracks [10 Terminal Regiment] and its takeover of the Signals Camp would permit the return of the barracks to the Army less some buildings. Sufficient space would be left at the western end of the administration block for a library for the school and the wooden floored section of the garage would be used for ASOPA sporting activities. The library appears to have been relocated to buildings 2/3 in ASOPA between 1955 and 1961

III ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY BATTERY (1953-19??)

The earliest surviving plans of Building 6 are dated 1953 (CEN 9925A), amended 1958 and show the plans, elevations and sections of both Buildings 6 and 7 and proposed maintenance works to the buildings. The plans show the building divided into two equal halves by a brick wall. The western half had an asbestos cement ceiling and the eastern half had a Cane-ite ceiling. The drawings make mention of repairs to the roof tiles above the Cane-ite ceiling and also to the Cane-ite ceiling itself, possibly after damage from a hail storm. The cross section shows a reinforced concrete floor slab.

Evidence of this configuration survives today with the addition of a timber floor on battens fixed to the concrete slab over most of the eastern half of the building. The internal lightweight walls currently in the eastern half were in evidence in the 1953 drawing.

The building would appear to have been used as a stores building.

SCHOOL OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE (1958-1967)

The use of the building during this phase is unknown.

1 TERMINAL GROUP, LATER 10 TERMINAL (1967-1998)

The use of the majority building during this phase is unknown.

The building, and the remainder of the barracks was officially closed on 27 November 1997 and in February 1998 the site was handed over to Sydney Property Disposals.

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MODIFICATIONS

The building appears to have undergone very few modifications since the layout depicted in the 1953 drawing.

There have been minor modifications to the partitions in the southern part of the eastern section of the building and the construction of a small lobby between the eastern half and the western half of the building.

There is no documentary evidence to indicate if and when the original concrete slab in the eastern half of the building was over sheeted with timber floor boards on battens.

Refer to the detailed schedule of fabric for Building 6.

POLICY

Potential Uses

New uses for the building should be those which retain substantial evidence of the internal and external configuration of the building, including any significant plantings.

Fabric to be retained

Original extant external fabric is to be preserved.

Original extant spaces, joinery including partitions, finishes and fittings are to be preserved.

Adaptation

Ensure that the heritage impact of proposed alterations and additions to the place are assessed.

Intrusive Elements

Seek to remove intrusive elements in such a manner that does not impact on surrounding significant fabric.

Other

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Zones

Retain the surviving original volumes in the areas shaded blue and yellow.

BUILDING DESCRIPTION

The rectangular plan single storey building is constructed of face brickwork. The surviving plans show cavity brick construction to the external walls. The original timber sash windows survive, including the horizontal glazing bars and two horizontal panes per sash.

The hip roof is clad with Marseilles-pattern terra cotta tiles which were painted [or glazed?] green. This colour and finish appears to be original. These tiles were probably manufactured locally. The eaves soffit consists of timber slats like the contemporary Building 3. The roof line is original and was not penetrated by chimneys.

Aerial photographs dating from the 1960s show the layout of the paved areas around the building and indicate the transport-based usage of the building.

INTERIOR

The original configuration of Building 6 is substantially intact with the exception of the modifications listed above.

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CONSTRAINTS

No new openings are to be cut in the perimeter walls or through the roof.

No original fabric should be removed.

Original rooms should not be further sub-divided or combined.

The replacement of intrusive, unsympathetic modern fabric is acceptable.

BCA

Building 6 will need to be upgraded to meet the BCA in terms of access, egress, emergency lighting and services, exit signs, amenities.

Services

As noted above, the services will need to be upgraded.

Parking

The overall complex contained a separate motor garage and parking.

Structural

A structural investigation has not been undertaken.

Archaeological

The archaeological potential of the site has not been assessed.

However, an aboriginal heritage survey of the site was conducted on 4 February 2006 by AMBS which concluded that there were "no Aboriginal sites or objects" and that there "are no known constraints at this property with regard to Aboriginal archaeology".

OPPORTUNITIES

Re-instatement of the two large original spaces.

The plan layout lends itself to separate tenancies if required.

SIGNIFICANT ELEMENTS

Original external fabric including:

Face brick to external walls

uding: EXCEPTIONAL

Green tiled roof

Timber doors and sash windows

Original internal fabric including: EXCEPTIONAL

Timber skirtings
Timber flooring

Painted plaster on masonry

Cornice & ceilings

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Refer to the attached schedule of significant fabric which details the fabric in each room.

RECOMMENDED CONSERVATION WORKS

Urgent work: 0 – 1 year

There are no works that need to be undertaken immediately.

The condition of the roof should be investigated

Medium term work 1-3 years

A program of conservation works should be undertaken including:

re-roof the building;

install anti-vermin mesh above the timber slatted eaves;

remove asbestos sheet and pipe lagging from the interior;

repaint exterior woodwork (based on paint scrapes);

repaint interior walls and interior woodwork

(subject to investigation of original finishes);

repair floors;

replace sash cords to all windows;

remove unsympathetic door furniture;

rewire the building (including data cabling);

remove intrusive internal and external elements (refer to separate schedule).

Long term work: 3 – 5 years

Should an extensive program of conservation works be undertaken as listed above then works, other than routine inspections and routine maintenance (eg cleaning out gutters), need not be undertaken.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INTERPRETATION

Interpret the different phases of use of the building.

Utilise the surviving historic photographs and plans in the interpretation.

ARCHAEOLOGY

An archaeological assessment has not been undertaken however, an aboriginal heritage survey of the site was conducted on 4 February 2006 by AMBS which concluded that there were "no Aboriginal sites or objects" and that there "are no known constraints at this property with regard to Aboriginal archaeology".

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REFERENCES

Robertson & Hindmarsh Pty Ltd, 2006, Conservation Management Plan for 10 Terminal, ASOPA and the Gold Club House, Middle Head, Mosman, Volume 1

DRAWINGS

Middle Head III AA Bty RAA Repairs and Maintenance to Buildings 6 and 7 HQ CE Eastern Command CEN9925/A 17/6/53 (source: SHFT scan mlhb0193.tif)

Floor Plan showing door & window numbers (Base plan by Lockley Land Title courtesy SHFT)



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MIDDLE HEAD 10 TERMINAL SITE BUILDING 6 SCHEDULE OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF ITEMS

Site	Building	Ext/Int	Room	Element	Description	Significance
10 Terminal	6	Exterior		Walls	Face brick walls - original	Exceptional
				Walls	Cracked brickwork due to corroding lintel above window W5	Intrusive
				Roof	Green painted terra cotta tiles, Modern French/ Marseilles pattern - original	Exceptional
				Roof	Painted timber fascia - original	Exceptional
				Roof	Asbestos cement sheeted eaves	Intrusive/ Hazardous
				Roof	Timber batten eaves lining (concealed by AC sheeting) - original	Exceptional
				Roof	Colorbond coated metal eaves gutters	Little
				Walls	Colorbond coated metal downpipes	Little
				Windows	Timber framed sash windows - original	Exceptional
				Doors	Metal roller door	Neutral
				Doors	Filled in original roller door opening	Intrusive
10 Terminal	6	Interior	Rooms 1 & 2	Floor	Concrete - original	Exceptional
				Walls	Rendered brickwork - original	Exceptional
				Walls: South & west walls of Room 2	Timber framed walls and ceiling structure	Intrusive
				Ceiling	Asbestos cement ceiling lining with timber battens - original	Exceptional/ Hazardous
				Windows	Original timber architraves - original	Exceptional
			Windows	Windows W3 to W7: Timber double hung with 2 horizontal panes per sash grouped in pairs - original	Exceptional	
				Doors	Door D2: Opening for roller door - original	Exceptional
				Doors	Door D2: Metal roller door	Neutral
				Doors	Door D6: Doorway (door leaf missing) - original	Exceptional
				Doors	Door D7: Flush hollow core door	Intrusive
				Lights	Fluorescent tubes on chain suspension	Intrusive

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Site	Building	Ext/Int	Room	Element	Description	Significance
10	6	Interior	Room	Floor	Concrete slab - original	Exceptional
Terminal			3		overlaid with timber boards on battens	Neutral
				Walls:	Painted brickwork - original	Exceptional
				North &	_	
				west		
				Walls:	Masonite sheeting on timber	Intrusive
				East & south	wall framing	
				Ceiling	Asbestos cement ceiling	Exceptional/
					lining with timber battens - original	Hazardous
				Doors	Door D1: Opening for roller	Exceptional
					door & fixings for original roller door - original	·
				Doors	Door D1: Double flush solid	Intrusive
					core doors	
				Doors	Door D1: Lightweight infill wall around door D1	Intrusive
				Doors	Door D3: Double flush hollow core doors	Intrusive
				Doors	Door D4: Double flush hollow core doors	Intrusive
				Lights	Fluorescent tube	Intrusive
				Ligitio	T lacroscent tabe	THE GOIVE
10	6	Interior	Room	Floor	Concrete slab - original	Exceptional
Terminal			4		overlaid with timber boards on battens	Neutral
				Walls: South & west	Painted brickwork - original	Exceptional
				Walls: East & north	Masonite sheeting on timber wall framing	Intrusive
				Ceiling	Asbestos cement ceiling	Exceptional/
					lining with timber battens - original	Hazardous
				Windows	Original timber architraves - original	Exceptional
				Windows	Window W8: Timber double hung with 2 horizontal panes per sash grouped in pairs - original	Exceptional
				Doors	Door D4: See Room 3	See Room 3
				Doors	Door D5: Mesh gate covered with plastic	Intrusive
				Lights	Fluorescent tube	Intrusive
10 Terminal	6	Interior	Room 5	Floor	Concrete slab - original overlaid with timber boards on battens	Exceptional Neutral
				Walls: South & west	Painted brickwork - original	Exceptional
				Walls: East & north	Masonite sheeting on timber wall framing	Intrusive

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Site	Building	Ext/Int	Room	Element	Description	Significance
				Ceiling	Asbestos cement ceiling lining with timber battens - original	Exceptional/ Hazardous
				Windows	Original timber architraves - original	Exceptional
				Windows	Windows W1, W2, W9 & W10: Timber double hung with 2 horizontal panes per sash grouped in pairs - original	Exceptional
				Doors	Door D3: See Room 3	See Room 3
				Doors	Door D5: See Room 4	See Room 4
				Lights	Fluorescent tubes	Intrusive