



LINCLUDEN

Background

Lincluden, the gift of Sir James Burns, was opened by Sir Philip Game, Governor of NSW on 16 February 1931.

“The opening was preceded by a luncheon party including the Governor at Gowan Brae Mansion House which was given by the Chairman who presided at the official opening later in the afternoon. There was a very large gathering of the public fully 700 being present. Afternoon tea was served and the whole function passed most satisfactorily”

(Board Minutes 12/3/1931)

This Home was originally called “Gowan Brae” after the home of Sir James Burns from whose estate it was financed. Its name was altered to Lincluden within a year to avoid confusion with the Home on the Gowan Brae estate which were occupied by staff and senior boys.

Designed by the architects Power, Adams and Mullins it was built by Mackenzie Adams whose tender price was 5,960 pounds. It was intended that it accommodate 20-30 children.

The architect, Gregory Nolan in 1986 described the building as:-

“A two storey brick building with a hipped terra cotta roof. The ground floor openings are characterized by finely executed brick arches. This includes

the small entry portico which is particularly well detailed. The door has a semicircular top with matching fan lights. The façade is characterized by high quality brick colour mixing and accents and decorative brickwork panels.

The windows are double hung and hopper with brick sills and archbars over the upper floor. The windows to the central section are six paneled. The floors are timber except in the shelter and bathroom. The ceilings are A C sheeting and the internal walls are cement rendered.

The interior features an excellent timber stair and balustrade and well laid timber floors.”

War Years

Whilst the children from Lincluden were located in the Blue Mountains from January 1942 to January 1945 and the Australian Army occupied Burnside, Lincluden was used as an officers' mess.

1945 - Present

After the children returned in January 1945 and repairs had been completed, Lincluden housed about 25 girls until it was closed as a Home on 24/10/1952. The matrons who cared for the girls were Miss Cohen and Miss Duncan.

Lincluden was then used as staff quarters until it was decided in 1962 to remodel the building to house 20 children temporarily whilst their mothers were in hospital. Mr and Mrs Waters, appointed as house parents in mid 1962, resigned in June 1970. Subsequent house mothers included Mrs Davidson, Miss Brown, Miss Yeomans and Mrs Murray. Respite care continued in Lincluden until 1989 when the property was sold to the Pacific College of Evangelism in August of that year for \$706,000.

