

Under delegation from the Chief Executive, Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation, and under the provisions of s.44 of the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992*, I, Stephen Potts:

**Recommend to: not vary the entry of the place in the heritage register to add additional land.**



Recommendation Date: 28 July 2026

Delegate name/position: Stephen Potts, Executive Director



Figure 1: Betty Willis Wing (Queensland Government, 2026)



Figure 2: Gowrie House Queensland Heritage Register Boundary (Queensland Government, 2026)

|                         |                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Place name              | Gowrie House               |
| Alternative Place Names | Largo                      |
| Address                 | 112 Mary Street, Toowoomba |
| LGA                     | Toowoomba Regional Council |
| RPD                     | L5 SP229169                |

## Statement of Significance

### critterion a

the place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of Queensland's history

*The Betty Willis Wing (1991) is not important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of Queensland's history. It was built as the fourth of five buildings used for accommodation by the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) on the site. The wing is a result of one phase in the Toowoomba YWCA Branch's ongoing provision of accommodation on the site and transition away from hostel accommodation to medium- and long-term housing, however, it does not reflect a broader pattern or evolution of YWCA accommodation across Queensland. Built as long term accommodation for people with disabilities through government grant funding under the 1989-1992 Queensland Government's Housing Accommodation Assistance Scheme (HAAS), and community raised funds, the Betty Willis Wing operated from 1991 until 2024. Although it forms part of the YWCA's complex on the site, it does not represent the YWCA's historic intent and use of Gowrie House to provide young country women with secure accommodation. The Betty Willis Wing does not satisfy this criterion at a state level of cultural heritage significance.*

*While a section of the Betty Willis Wing is currently attached across the rear of Gowrie House, and is contained within the current heritage boundary, it is not a significant feature of Gowrie House and is not important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of Queensland's history.*

### critterion b

the place demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of Queensland's cultural heritage

*There is no evidence the Betty Willis Wing (1991) is a rare, uncommon, or endangered aspect of Queensland's cultural heritage. The wing is a result of one phase in the Toowoomba YWCA branch's ongoing provision of accommodation on the site and transition away from hostel accommodation to medium- and long-term housing, which continued with the adjacent, extant Hofmann Wadley Building (2011).*

*There is no evidence the Betty Willis Wing is rare in demonstrating the accommodation buildings constructed for disabled people under the HAAS (operating from 1989-1992). Such accommodation buildings are not rare in Queensland, with many examples surviving in their original use across the state, including in Toowoomba.*

*The Betty Willis Wing does not satisfy this criterion, as it does not demonstrate rare, uncommon, or endangered aspects of Queensland's cultural heritage.*

*While a section of the Betty Willis Wing is currently attached across the rear of Gowrie House, and is contained within the current heritage boundary, it is not a significant feature of Gowrie House and does not demonstrate rare, uncommon, or endangered aspects of Queensland's cultural heritage.*

### critterion c

the place has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Queensland's history

*There is no evidence the Betty Willis Wing meets the threshold for state level significance for this criterion, as it does not demonstrate potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Queensland's history.*

|                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>criterion d</b></p> <p>the place is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of cultural places</p>                                | <p><i>There is no evidence the Betty Willis Wing is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of cultural place.</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p><b>criterion e</b></p> <p>the place is important because of its aesthetic significance</p>                                                                                  | <p><i>There is no evidence the Betty Willis Wing is important for its aesthetic significance as it does not demonstrate particular beautiful, picturesque, or expressive attributes, nor does it possess evocative, landmark, or streetscape qualities.</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p><b>criterion f</b></p> <p>the place is important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period</p>                             | <p><i>There is no evidence the Betty Willis Wing is important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p><b>criterion g</b></p> <p>the place has a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons</p>         | <p><i>The Betty Willis Wing does not have sufficient demonstrated length, extent, or degree of a strong or special association – former or present – with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. It does not display a length of association, demonstrated extent and degree of community association or a significant former association.</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p><b>criterion h</b></p> <p>the place has a special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organisation of importance in Queensland's history</p> | <p><i>The Betty Willis Wing, constructed in 1991 and closed in 2024, was a component of the YWCA's Gowrie House complex and provided accommodation and support for residents living with disabilities. Although the YWCA may be an organisation of importance in Queensland's history, there is no evidence the Betty Willis Wing has a special association with the life nor work of a particular person, group or organisation of importance in Queensland's history; the wing does not demonstrate a degree or extent of the association to the Queensland YWCA, nor a length of association, or an influence on the Queensland YWCA. The Betty Willis Wing does not satisfy this criterion at a state level of cultural heritage significance.</i></p> <p><i>While a section of the Betty Willis Wing is currently attached across the rear of Gowrie House, and is contained within the current heritage boundary, it is not a significant feature of Gowrie House and does not have a special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organisation of importance in Queensland's history.</i></p> |

## History

### **Largo (Gowrie House), c1901-1945**

The low-set brick house, Largo, on the corner of Arthur and Mary Street was designed by HJ Marks for prominent Toowoomba businessman Alexander Mayes and built probably in 1901, and definitely by 1902.

Architect Harry Marks was born and trained in Toowoomba and he and his father James Marks have been described as dominating the architectural profession for more than half a century. While Harry Marks designed a number of buildings on the Darling Downs and in Brisbane, most of his work was in Toowoomba. He designed a number of buildings including Rodway [600868], St James Parish Hall [600856], St Luke's Church Hall [600866] and Gladstone House and Cottage [601303]. Marks was not only a good architect he was an inventive one, and he patented some of his innovative solutions such as his Austral window.

Alexander Mayes born at Largo, Fifeshire, Scotland, in 1859 came out to Queensland and established himself as a Toowoomba builder and contractor in 1886. He is known to have worked on the Town Hall, Post Office, Masonic Hall, Commercial Bank, Technical College and Vacy Hall and many private homes. He was mayor 1896, 1903, 1912 and was the first mayor of the enlarged city of Toowoomba 1916-17. He was also active in the community serving on the School of Arts and Technical College, East Toowoomba School Committee, was a staunch Mason and was honorary superintendent of the Toowoomba Fire Brigade for 42 years. He was also involved with the Austral Association [601315].

Successful and prosperous Alexander Mayes and his wife Helena Agnes, daughter of grazier William Grieve, had moved into their new architect designed home on the corner of Mary and Arthur Mary Street by 1902. This large masonry house reflected the status of the Mayes in Toowoomba's society. One of Mayes' sons described his boyhood home in the Toowoomba Chronicle of 4 July 1985. He remembered three large bedrooms, two at the front, the drawing room and dining room all opening of the central hallway. At the rear was a large room 'furnished with three beds and two long tables end-to-end', while the kitchen, pantry and maid's quarters were at the rear. Sons Emeritus Professor Bruce Toowoomba Mayes, Dr Alexander Mayes (involved with founding of St Andrew's Hospital Brisbane), Rev Charles Mayes and Hector Mayes were all born in this house.

In 1922 Mayes retired to northern New South Wales and Walter Watts occupied the house until Dr Albert Furness acquired it in 1936 and he employed noted Toowoomba architect William Hodgen for alterations. Hodgen's specifications include changes to the garage and laundry, adding panelling in the dinning room, installing electric light switches and polishing woodwork in the dining room, drawing room and master bedroom. Dr Furness sold it to the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) of Toowoomba in 1945.

### **Gowrie House, the YWCA and the Betty Willis Wing, 1945-2024**

The Young Women's Christian Association was founded in the 1850s in England to provide accommodation for women and girls. It soon spread to America and Europe, and is now an international organisation. The first Queensland branch was formed in Rockhampton in 1888 and Brisbane in 1890. A branch was established in Toowoomba in 1932 due to the initiatives of Lady Groom, wife of the local federal member.

During World War II the Toowoomba YWCA offered leave accommodation to servicewomen. The need for their own large premises saw the 1945 president, and South Girls School

headmistress, Miss AM Wadley, with a deposit of £50, able to acquire a loan to purchase Largo (Gowrie House) for the YWCA.

Re-named Gowrie House, after Lady Gowrie the wife of the then Australian Governor General, the site became the Toowoomba Young Women's Christian Association hostel. Mayor JD Annand officially opened it on 10 November 1945 as a hostel for young working and service girls.

The *Toowoomba Chronicle* of 12 November 1945 described the new hostel, saying how it was ideally situated on an acre of ground with mature shady trees and turf lawn and 'should provide a happy atmosphere for many students and Service girls away from home'. The solid brick house had a central hall off which were four spacious rooms with fireplaces and large windows and doors which opened onto wide verandahs. These large rooms with cedar-framed windows, doors and mantle pieces had been converted into dormitories sleeping four to six girls. The verandah on the northern side had also been converted into a dormitory, just off this sleepout was 'the bathroom with gas heater, set-in basin, bath and shower'. Of three smaller rooms one would be used for the matron and the others for dressing rooms. At the end of the hall was a huge cedar-panelled dining room with eight tables each seating six girls. Facing east it opened onto a fernery and side garden. The staff room, servery and well-equipped kitchen opened off the south side of the dining room.

An increase in country girls wanting secondary education and needing accommodation in Toowoomba resulted in construction of Wadley Wing in the late 1950s. Increase in accommodation needs of business and secondary students necessitated further expansion, with a new wing named after past president, Margaret Hofmann, opened by 1971. It replaced a couple of army huts that had been used by senior girls.

With the Education Department's policy of building country high schools, the number of girls requiring accommodation in Toowoomba reduced, however, there was a need for male apprentice accommodation, so in 1979 the branch adjusted to YWCA policy of admitting males and females to Gowrie House.

Due to the growth in tertiary education facilities and students in Toowoomba and disabled students needing accommodation in the late 1980s, the YWCA launched a major building appeal program.<sup>1</sup> Following community consultation, the Toowoomba YWCA identified that there was a lack of affordable accommodation in the district for people with disabilities who were attending educational facilities such as TAFE, as well as those seeking semi-independent living facilities.<sup>2</sup> At a general members' meeting of the Toowoomba YWCA in March 1989, the minutes record that a substantial grant had been given to the branch from the Federal and State governments to 'construct new accommodation and modify existing building at the YWCA Hostel, Gowrie House, for rent to ten physically handicapped persons, in addition to present residents'.<sup>3</sup> The minutes also state that the Management Committee would be responsible for raising the extra funds required under the grant to contribute to the construction costs and furnishings. The Management Committee were also tasked to establish a Building Project Appeal Committee to launch a public appeal for the funding of the new hostel.<sup>4</sup>

From the early 1960s, YWCA branches across Queensland moved away from providing hostel accommodation. Branches had operated small hostels, short term accommodation for young female travellers or new arrivals, from at least the 1890s in Rockhampton, Townsville, and possibly Bundaberg. In the 1910s and 1920s, the Brisbane branch began operating a series of large hostels in substantial houses. A further period of expansion followed World War II, with hostels opening in Cairns, Mackay, and Toowoomba. However, in the 1960s

YWCA hostels were losing popularity and generally proved difficult to operate successfully. Gradually, the branches closed their hostels and sold the properties. In 1979 with the closure of Brisbane's last hostel, Gowrie House at Toowoomba was the sole YWCA accommodation in Queensland. Many hostels were established in leased buildings, and were short-lived, and in 2026 their location and survival is not known. However, former YWCA hostel buildings are known to survive at Newmarket (Elizabeth House and the adjacent Hammond House) and Toowoomba (Gowrie House). The former YWCA House at Clayfield also survives, having been relocated to Redland Bay.<sup>5</sup>

Toowoomba became the centre of the YWCA's continuing accommodation activities in Queensland, shifting from short term hostel accommodation to medium- and long-term housing. Accommodation at the Gowrie House site was progressively expanded through the construction of the Wadley Wing (1957), Hofmann Wing (1971) and Betty Willis Wing (1991). The Wadley and Hofmann wings were demolished in 2011 and replaced by the Hofmann Wadley Building, a 23-unit affordable housing development. In 2018, the federated branch structure was consolidated into YWCA Australia. By 2026, the organisation owned, managed, or operated more than 110 homes in Queensland, primarily in Toowoomba and Townsville.<sup>6</sup>

The Queensland Government grant was given under the Housing Accommodation Assistance Scheme (HAAS) that helped to fund housing projects throughout the State that would provide accommodation for elderly and disabled people. It was started in the late 1980s. The Betty Willis Wing was constructed in part using a grant from the Housing Accommodation Assistance Scheme (HAAS). Developed by the Federal Government and administered by the states from 1985, the HAAS was designed to consolidate and streamline government funding for social housing. Between 1988 and 1992, the HAAS provided funding to approximately 304 organisations for accommodation projects, including 130 in the program's first financial year. Organisations received on average grants of \$139,000, although individual grants ranged from \$10,000 to \$1 million. Nearly half of the funded projects were for housing for people with disabilities, accounting for 71 of the 150 projects funded in the program's first year.<sup>7</sup>

In 2026, 25 of these first-round projects are known to survive, all remaining in use as social housing. However, the number may be considerably higher, as the locations of 41 of the 71 disability housing projects could not be identified. Only two projects are known to have been demolished.

In July 1992, the HAAS was renamed the Community Housing Partnership Program (CHPP), which continued to support the construction of community housing projects across Queensland in subsequent decades.<sup>8</sup>

The new wing was designed by Toowoomba based architect, Malcolm Just, with design consultant, Rob Fielder, and was constructed by TM and M Mitchell Builders.<sup>9</sup> The state government grant was for \$371,000, and as part of the HAAS grant agreement, 10% of the construction costs would be provided by the YWCA. To raise this money, the Toowoomba YWCA established the 'Housing for the Young' appeal and this was reported in the *Toowoomba Chronicle*, 'Gifts are recognised through a brick book (\$5 a brick), a donor board for \$100 gifts, an honour board for \$500 gifts and plaques for the furnishing of a bedroom for \$1000 or sponsoring a bedroom for \$5000'.<sup>10</sup> The final cost of the building project was \$540,000.<sup>11</sup>

With the new wing complete, an opening ceremony was held on 18 May 1991, attended by several dignitaries, including the national YWCA President, June May. Deputy Premier and

Minister for Local Government and Housing, Mr Tom Burns, officially opened the new wing. It consisted of five ground floor bedrooms, laundry, ablutions, kitchen and dining room that could be accessed by wheelchairs; the first floor had nine bedrooms and a supervisor's flat.<sup>12</sup>

The new wing was named after YWCA member and past president of the Toowoomba branch, Betty Willis OAM, who made important contributions to the YWCA through overseas missionary work, as well as work in the Toowoomba district.<sup>13</sup>

Also at this time, the Toowoomba administration office of the YWCA, which had been operating from the hall at Laurel Bank Park (QHR 650083), was relocated into Gowrie House (Largo).<sup>14</sup>

The Betty Willis Wing was closed for accommodation purposes in 2024, with tenants relocated to other premises.

## Description

### The Site and Complex

The YWCA operates from a complex of buildings occupying a generous, rectangular corner lot in East Toowoomba. The site is bounded to the west by Mary Street, to the south by Arthur Street, to the east by a freestanding residence, and to the north by a former residence converted for commercial use. The surrounding neighbourhood predominantly comprises freestanding suburban dwellings, with a large sports reserve situated directly opposite the site across Mary Street.

The complex's primary building is Gowrie House (c1901), a substantial, single-storey, Federation-era brick villa facing west toward Mary Street with established gardens on its southern and western sides. Converted to accommodate hostel administration functions, it is highly intact and vacant in 2026. Attached to the rear (eastern elevation) of Gowrie House is the Betty Willis Wing (1991), a large, two-storey hostel building, which is also vacant in 2026. Situated north of Gowrie House and also facing Mary Street is the Hofmann Wadley Building (2011), a long, two-storey brick accommodation building extending east-west along the majority of the site's northern boundary. A large surface carpark occupies the eastern extent of the site, accessed via Arthur Street.

### The Betty Willis Wing

The Betty Willis Wing (1991) is a timber-framed structure with a concrete slab-on-ground. It is attached across the entire rear of Gowrie House, extending beyond the house at either end, and wrapping around the house's south side. The wing comprises a broad ground floor with a narrower, elongated first floor located over its western half adjacent to Gowrie House. Its exterior walls are clad in face brick and fibre-cement planks, and its shallow-pitched gable truss roof is clad with corrugated metal sheets and has eaves lined with fibre-cement sheets. The first floor has a particle board floor. Windows are aluminium-framed fixed and sliding units, fitted with external metal security grilles. The building's form, materials, composition, and details reflect late-20th century suburban house design applied to an institutional building, with the exterior massing and elevational compositions corresponding to its internal arrangement.

### Layout

Primary access into the Betty Willis Wing is via Gowrie House, with multiple secondary entrances on the wing's other sides, some with access ramps. The ground floor layout is

zoned with large communal rooms in the south half and smaller, service and private rooms in the north half. The primary circulation is a long, narrow corridor running north-south along the wing's western edge, abutting Gowrie House and connecting into it via multiple doors. At the corridor's southern end is a large commercial Kitchen and Dry Store, and an originally-open porch entrance from the garden that has been altered and enclosed. Midway along the corridor, wide sliding doors open east into the Dining Room, which in turn opens east through a full-width wall of concertina doors into the Activities Room, operable to create one large hall. At the northern end of the corridor is a small, enclosed stairwell to the first floor, and north of this is a communal ablutions area incorporating toilets, showers, and laundry. The corridor's northern end opens into the garden (it originally connected to the now-demolished Wadley Wing). At the northeastern corner of the wing is a separable but connected bedroom area comprising a private corridor serving five bedrooms and incorporating two small, glazed garden courtyards open to the sky.

In the long corridor, the construction of the Betty Willis Wing appears to have replaced the timber section of the rear wall of Gowrie House with masonry, while incorporating original or early windows, doorways, and a chimney.

The first floor is arranged around a central common area containing the stair, ablutions, and a former living room with small kitchenette that has been converted entirely to kitchenette use. Extending southwards from here is a long, narrow corridor with bedrooms opening off either side (nine in total), terminating at an external fire stair. Opening off the north of the communal hub is a self-contained, two-bedroom flat for the supervisor.

The layout of both floors is largely intact, although minor alterations have been made to insert and demolish a few partitions. Finishes are generally intact, although this is difficult to fully determine. The interior walls and ceilings are generally lined with plasterboard with plaster cornices, and have timber architraves and skirtings. The floors are lined with vinyl sheet in communal areas and corridors. Internal doors are generally hollow-core units faced with thin compressed-board sheets. Retained original features include chrome D door and joinery handles, plastic window handles, and wall-mounted heaters and fluorescent light fittings. Later modern services have been flush mounted to the ceilings throughout, including signs, fans, lights, sensors, and cameras.

The ground-floor ablutions are generally intact in their original locations and layout with some updating of fixtures and finishes. They generally have tiled floors and skirtings, full-height cubicle partitions and doors, wall-hung vanity joinery with semi-recessed basins, chrome mixers, large wall mirrors, and wet-area panelled showers with chrome curtain rails. Some chrome fixtures appear original, although most have been replaced with later equivalents. The first-floor ablutions area retains its original layout but has had its fixtures, fittings, and finishes replaced.

All original kitchenettes have been replaced with modern cabinets. The stairwell has had its stair surfaces replaced and a modern handrail installed.

The bedrooms are generally intact in their original configuration, with minor updates to finishes and fittings. Some floors are clad with modern vinyl planks, replacing carpets, and door handles have generally been replaced with modern levers. Wardrobe joinery comprises white melamine units with integrated dressing tables, fluorescent light fittings, and chrome D handles. Some wall-mounted heaters and ceiling fans with oyster lights appear to be original.

The Supervisor's Flat is generally intact, including its layout. The original carpet has been replaced with vinyl planks, and kitchen cabinets have been replaced. The bathroom retains its skylight, wall and floor tiles, joinery, fixtures, and fittings. The main bedroom retains its melamine wardrobe.

## **Related Objects in Gowrie House**

A timber honour board (1991) is mounted on a wall in Gowrie House, listing donors to the construction of the Betty Willis Wing. Gowrie House also contains a loose engraved metal dedication plate (1991) commemorating the opening of the wing.

## Illustrations



Figure 3: Betty Willis Wing from Arthur Street (Queensland Government, 2026)



Figure 4: Betty Willis Wing from the east carpark (Queensland Government, 2026)



Figure 5: Ground floor, Dining Room, looking south, with Kitchen on right and doors to Activities Room to left (Queensland Government, 2026)



Figure 6: Ground floor, Activities Room, looking east (Queensland Government, 2026)



Figure 7: Ground floor, main corridor, looking south (Queensland Government, 2026)



Figure 8: Ground floor, communal Laundry (Queensland Government, 2026)



Figure 9: Ground floor, bedroom (Queensland Government, 2026)



Figure 10: Ground floor shared bathroom (Queensland Government, 2026)



Figure 11: First floor, communal kitchenette (Queensland Government, 2026)



Figure 12: First floor, bedroom (Queensland Government, 2026)

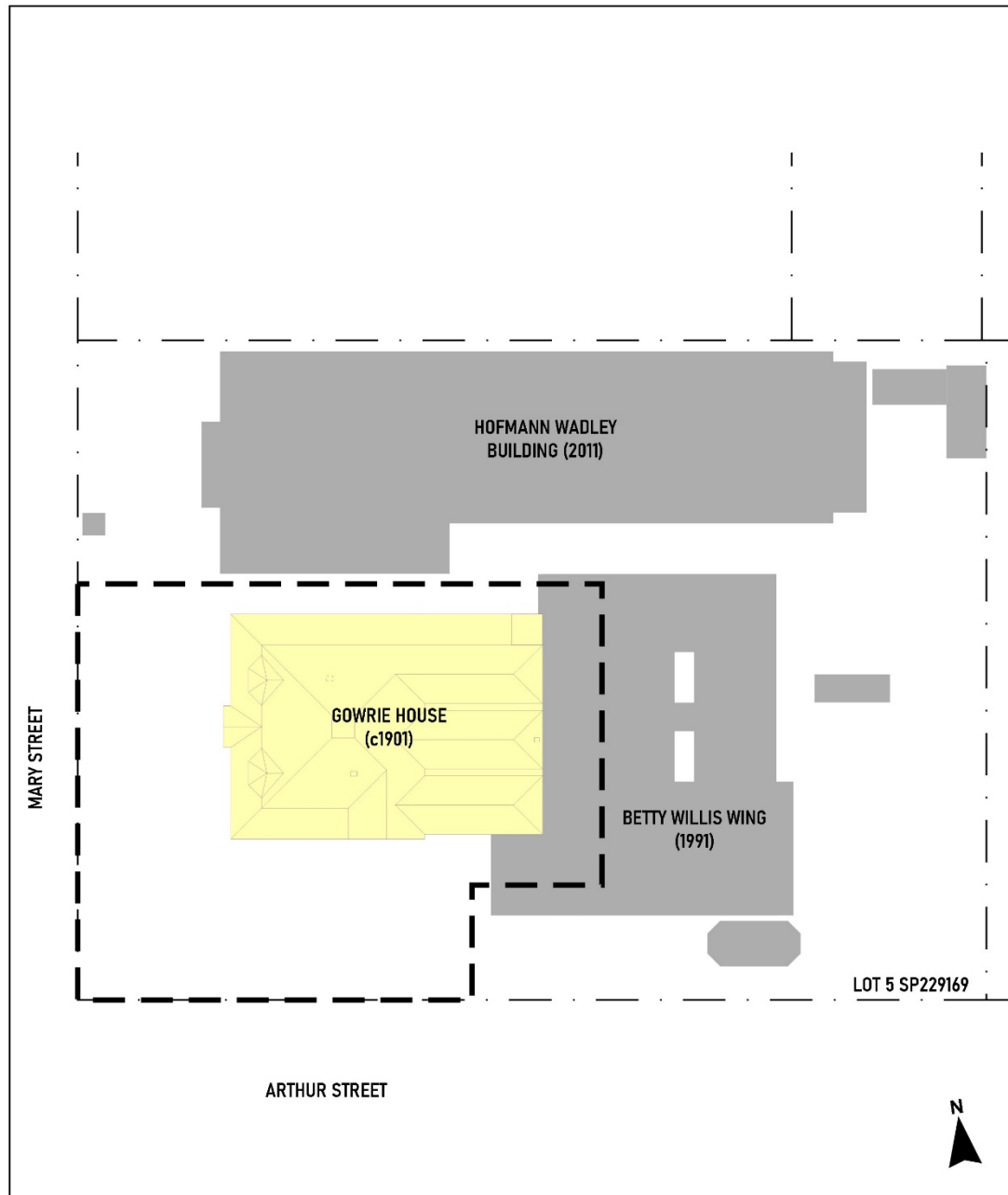


Figure 13: First floor, Supervisor's Flat (Queensland Government, 2026)



Figure 13: Betty Willis Wing Honour Board in Gowrie House (Queensland Government, 2026)

## Site Plans



### Gowrie House 601307 Site Plan, 2026

Date created: July 2026  
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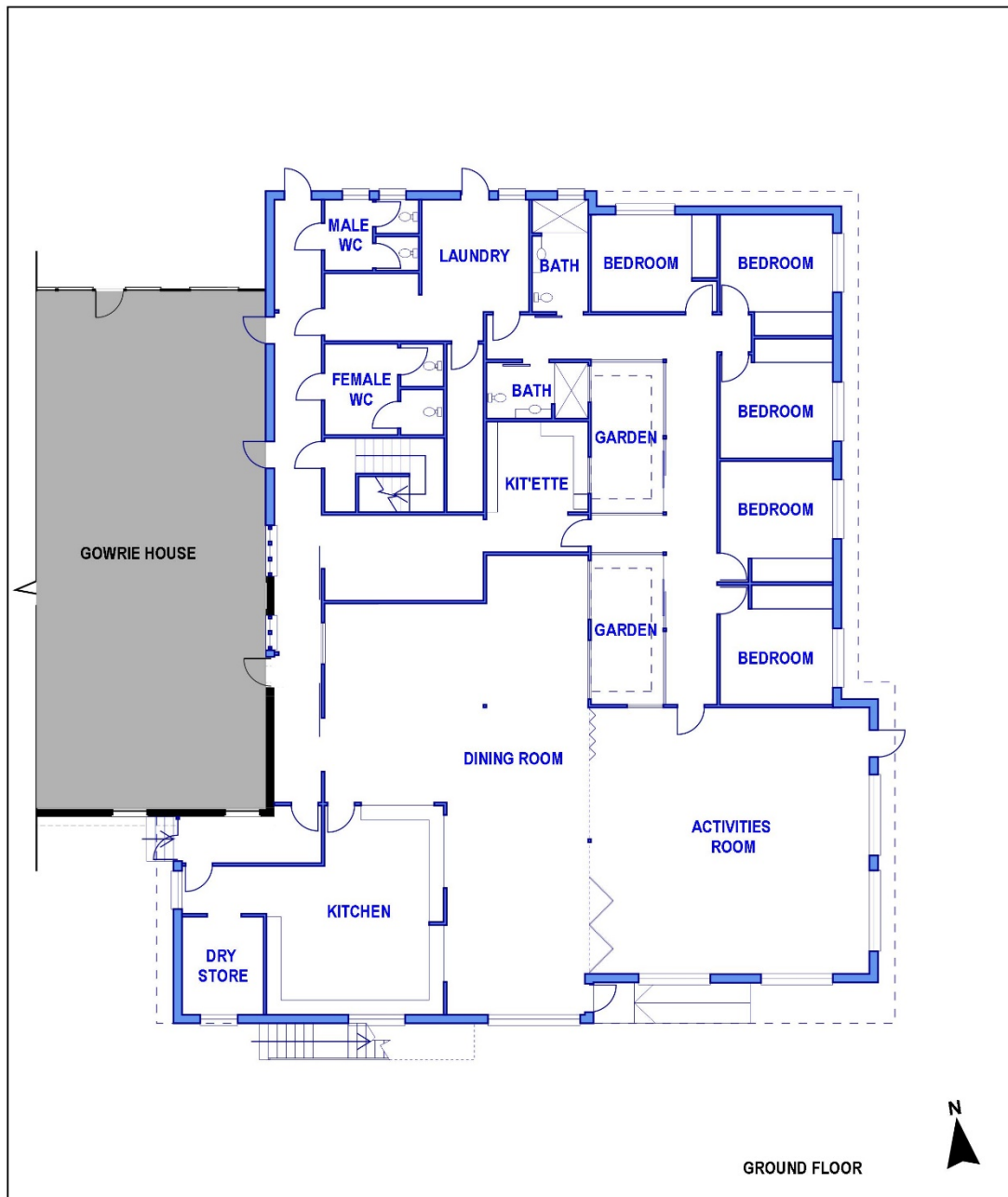
#### Legend



Queensland Heritage Register Boundary

Figure 14: Gowrie House, Site Plan (Queensland Government, 2026)

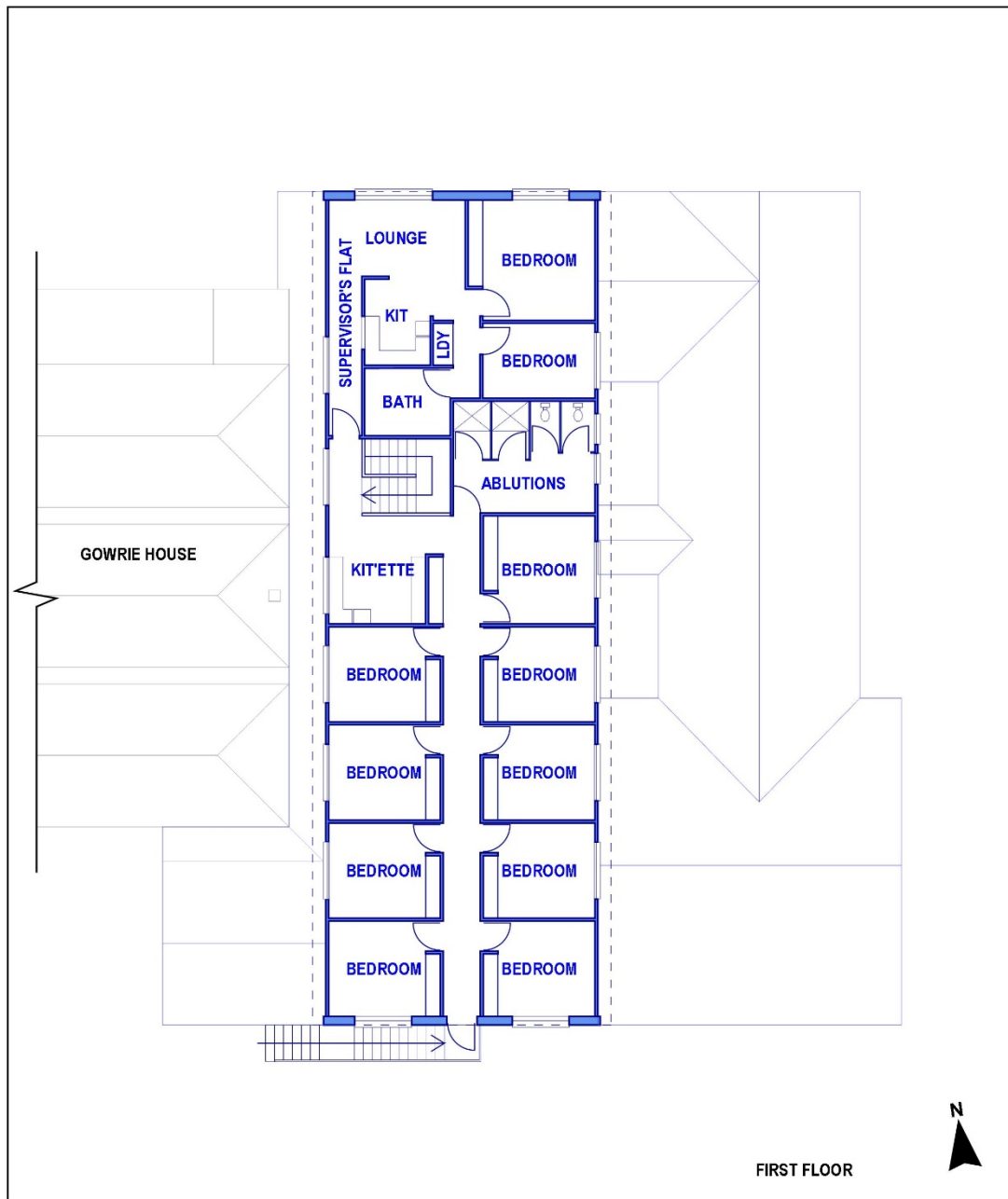
## Plans



**Gowrie House  
601307  
Betty Willis Wing Floor Plan, 2026**

Date created: July 2026  
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Figure 15: Betty Willis Wing, Ground Floor Plan (Queensland Government, 2026)



**Gowrie House**  
**601307**  
**Betty Willis Wing Floor Plan, 2026**

Date created: July 2026  
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Figure 16: Betty Willis Wing, First Floor Plan (Queensland Government, 2026)

## Heritage Register Boundary (no change proposed)

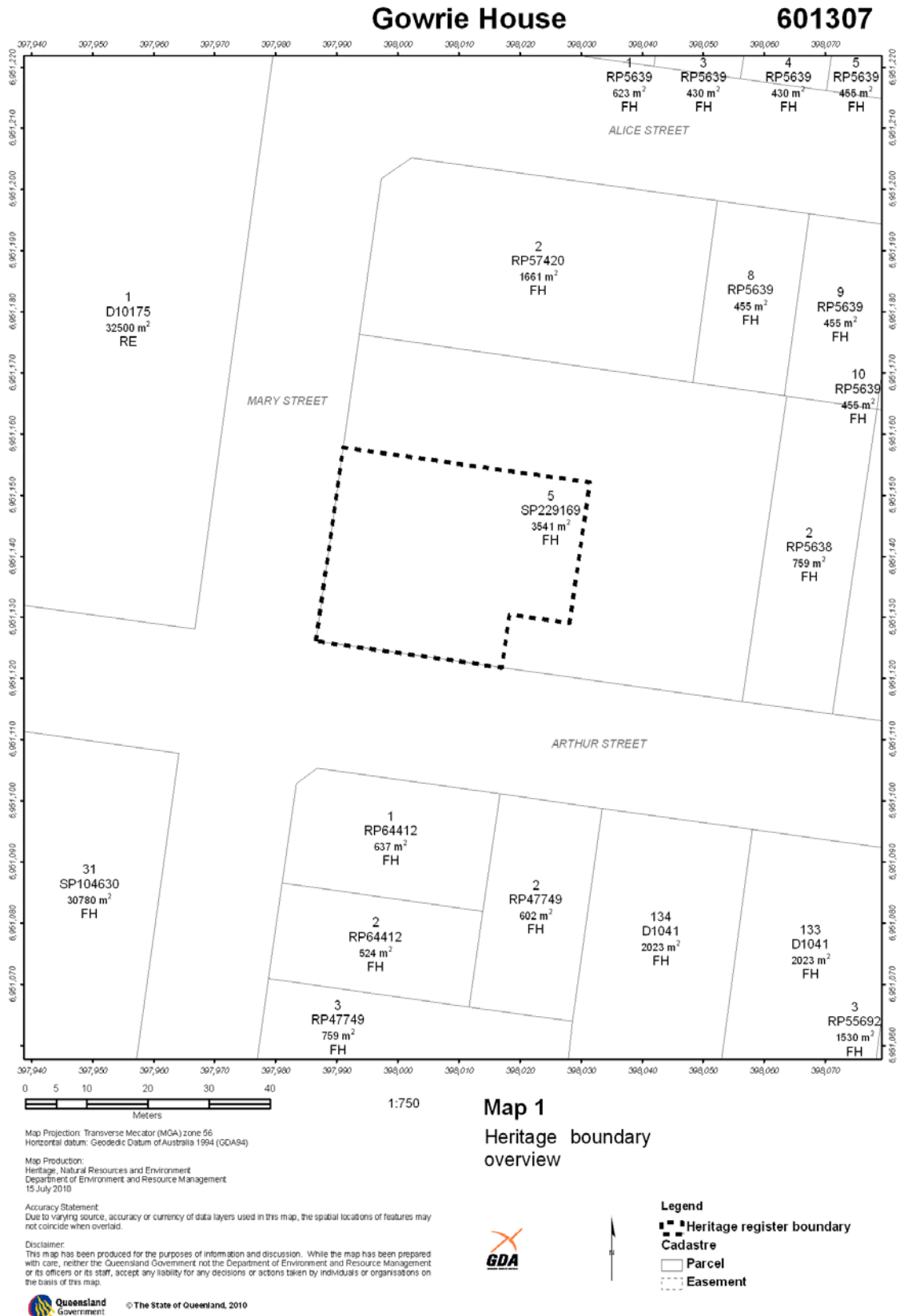


Figure 17: Gowrie House, Heritage Register Boundary (Queensland Government, 2026)

## References

- <sup>1</sup> Content reproduced from History section, Entry in the Queensland Heritage Register, Gowrie House (QHR 601307)
- <sup>2</sup> President's Report, *Toowoomba YWCA Newsletter*, 1988, Young Women's Christian Association of Queensland Records, Box 14899, State Library of Queensland; Ivan McDonald Architects, *Conservation Management Plan, Largo*, 2009, p.14.
- <sup>3</sup> Young Women's Christian Association of Toowoomba Inc., Special General Members' Meeting, Minutes, 9 March 1989, Young Women's Christian Association of Queensland Records, Box 14899, State Library of Queensland.
- <sup>4</sup> Young Women's Christian Association of Toowoomba Inc., Special General Members' Meeting, Minutes, 9 March 1989, Young Women's Christian Association of Queensland Records, Box 14899, State Library of Queensland.
- <sup>5</sup> Aline Gillespie, *Widening Horizons: The YWCA in Queensland 1888-1988*, Master of the Arts Thesis, University of Queensland, 1996.
- <sup>6</sup> Aline Gillespie, *Widening Horizons: The YWCA in Queensland 1888-1988*, Master of the Arts Thesis, University of Queensland, 1996.
- <sup>7</sup> 'Schedule of Community Housing Projects funded from the Auctioneers and Agents Fidelity Guarantee Fund', tabled by Hon Tom Burns Minister for Housing, Local Government and Planning, 25 October 1994, <<https://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-the-assembly/tables/papers/docs/4794T5287/4794t5287>>, Accessed 8 July 2026; in official reporting, the projects were described as 'housing for the aged and disabled' or 'aged or disabled', amongst other descriptors, meaning the projects were for housing designed to accommodate a range of people at a housing disadvantage, including people with intellectual and physical disabilities. Only projects that included the term 'disabled' are calculated in these figures, however, it is acknowledged that some of these projects may never have been occupied by people with disabilities.
- <sup>8</sup> 'Schedule of Community Housing Projects funded from the Auctioneers and Agents Fidelity Guarantee Fund', tabled by Hon Tom Burns Minister for Housing, Local Government and Planning, 25 October 1994, <<https://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-the-assembly/tables/papers/docs/4794T5287/4794t5287>>, Accessed 8 July 2026.
- <sup>9</sup> Ivan McDonald Architects, *Conservation Management Plan, Largo*, 2009, p.14.
- <sup>10</sup> *Toowoomba Chronicle*, 'YWCA opens accommodation wing at Gowrie House complex', 17 May 1991, p.20.
- <sup>11</sup> *Toowoomba Chronicle*, 'Disabled hostel officially opened', 20 May 1991, p.3; Ivan McDonald Architects, *Conservation Management Plan, Largo*, 2009, p.14.
- <sup>12</sup> *Toowoomba Chronicle*, 'YWCA opens accommodation wing at Gowrie House complex', 17 May 1991, p.20; *Toowoomba Chronicle*, 'Disabled hostel officially opened', 20 May 1991, p.3; Ivan McDonald Architects, *Conservation Management Plan, Largo*, 2009, p.14.
- <sup>13</sup> Betty Willis, *Another Turn in the Road: The Memoirs of Betty Willis*, Community Books, Darling Heights, 2007, pp.129-130; Ivan McDonald Architects, *Conservation Management Plan, Largo*, 2009, p.14.
- <sup>14</sup> Aline Gillespie, *Widening Horizons: The YWCA in Queensland 1888-1988*, Master of the Arts Thesis, University of Queensland, 1996, p.295; Ivan McDonald Architects, *Conservation Management Plan, Largo*, 2009, p.14.