

HEDLAND HEALTH CAMPUS (HHC)

DORIC AT WORK IN YAMATJI MARLPA COUNTRY

MAIN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY : DORIC Contractors
DEVELOPER / CLIENT : W.A Health
PROJECT VALUE TO DATE : \$118 Million
COMPLETION : October 2010
ARCHITECTS : BG Architects and Woodhead International



Built to withstand cyclones and express the spirit of a place where estuary meets the desert, the new Hedland Health Campus constructed by DORIC and designed by BG Architects and Woodhead International combines simplicity of design and materials with sophisticated approaches to combining human needs and medical technology.

Replacing Port Hedland's thirty year old temporary facility, the \$118 million (construction cost) HHC will be the central point for health services for the Pilbara Gascoigne region. DORIC were contracted to construct a range of inpatient and outpatient facilities including an operating suite containing two operating theatres; dedicated ward areas for medical/surgical, obstetrics and paediatrics as well as a high dependency unit; ambulatory care wing including renal dialysis and consultation facilities for primary health and mental health services; an emergency department medical imaging and pathology; and support services buildings.

Cyclones are frequent, so the buildings structural frame was infilled using welded frames, externally sheeted with corrugated sheets in lower areas (up to 4.2 metres) and cfc sheeting above. Behind the cfc sheeting a 0.55 mm sheet metal provides impact protection. All glazing on the hospital is cyclone rated glass and frames, and all buildings are firmly anchored to concrete footings.

Temperatures soar in this area; to reduce heat impact an interstitial ceiling is built into the hospital at a level of 4.2 metres. This consists of foil faced R 1.5 insulation to create a heat buffer in the higher roof.

Indigenous apprentices were employed on the project through SMYL Community Services and Fairbridge. Architect Norm Bateman of BG Architects reflected the Traditional Owners, customary movement through the landscape, the country itself and the forms of the estuary in the design.

"The complex health and service planning is enclosed in a collection of simple single storey steel frame sheds placed on a low podium. These pavilions are linked by a central public space, which extends from the glazed entry right through the complex where it reconnects occupants with the open landscape beyond. Between the buildings are a series of generous publicly accessible courtyards, which are to be intensely landscaped to provide cool green relief," explained Norm.

"The functional elements are captured by a large rusted steel pergola, which wraps around the buildings and completely covering the courtyards between. This large structure serves to shade the windows from direct sun, and facilitate the creation of a refreshing microclimate in the courtyards.

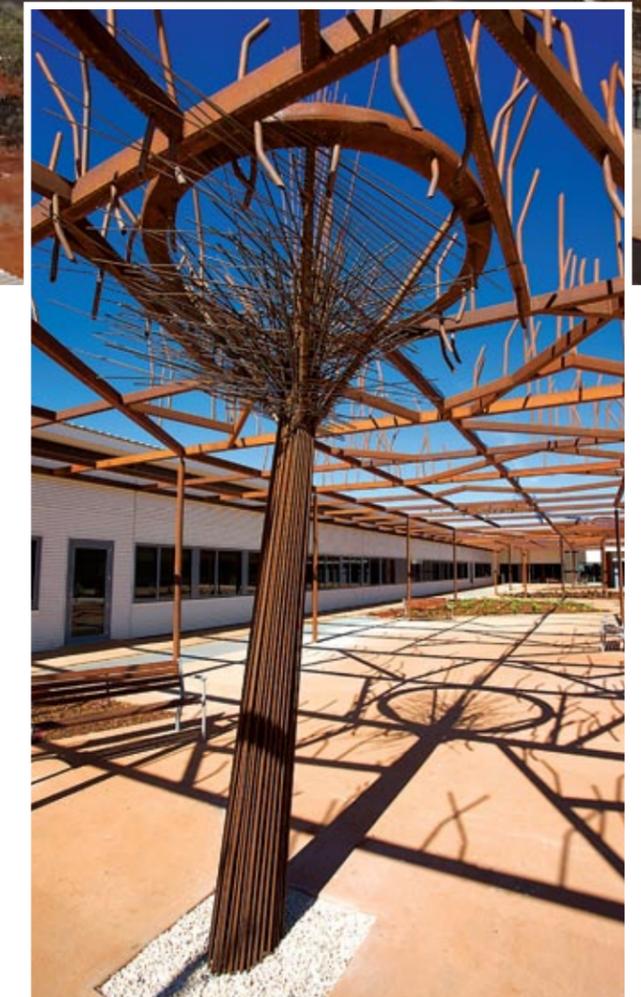
The pergola also provides a large canvas for the public art component of the project. The proposal is to use the arrangement of the louvre blades to depict the selected art work which it is hoped will be the result of collaboration with the Traditional Owners of the area."

For DORIC Project Manager Jens Wurster, one of the most satisfying aspects to the project has been the construction of a significant and lasting community asset, in a timely manner, within budget and with over 485,000 man hours worked without any LTI.

"This project required coordinating the complex array of services in the hospital, ordering medical equipment in a timely manner and planning the transition of existing hospital equipment from the old facility," he said.

"Decent sized projects in remote areas like the Pilbara are always challenging as the work force cannot be adjusted easily without huge mobilization costs."

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Hedland Health Campus mid way through construction, Port Hedland WA



WALL AND CEILING CONTRACTOR IN REGIONAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Working on some of Australia's most remote construction sites, Statewide Ceilings (SWC) is capable of delivering the manpower and materials which make a project successful. For the Hedland Resource Centre, they undertook the completion of a wide variety of tasks including the Gyprock installation, internal Rondo stud frame walls, all ceilings, outside canopies, external eaves linings and external walls cladding.

SWC operate under a subcontract model; for the HRC project, supervised and coordinated by SWC Project Manager Ron Burgess and Project Co-ordinator Johnno Van Der Velden. SWC had to manage challenges including getting enormous amounts of materials to the site and achieving cohesion among its subcontractors & other trades.

"The job has come out at a top standard; the finish has been complimented by both the Architect and the Hospital. A lot of effort has gone in," said Ron Burgess.

"There have been no LTIs; we are very strong on safety. All our workers have to abide by the same safety regulations used by Doric Construction."

"Our reward for doing this project, like all others, is that the builder is happy in what we do and they are prepared to give us the next job. The rewards are in having an exceptional workforce that is prepared to work anywhere we go and produce a quality product. Statewide is very proud of our Subcontractors," said Statewide Ceilings Manager, Hermann Haltiner.

The HRC is the biggest project SWC have undertaken to date. Other major projects include 22 BER schools in the Pilbara region; New Derby Regional Prison; Pluto LNG Gas Plant in Karratha; Kununurra Hospital; the Hospital at Fitzroy Crossing; School in Fitzroy Crossing; Karratha's Police Complex and numerous other far flung regional and remote constructions.

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