



Heritage Watch 2011

Boggo Road Gaol Dutton Park



<p>Why we're watching</p>	<p>Boggo Road Gaol is included within the Boggo Road Urban Village. This development project is described as 'mixed-use area including residential, retail, commercial, environmental research and recreational facilities'. Infrastructure and the Ecosciences Precinct already are in place. Leighton Properties have signed a project deed with the Queensland Government for development of Lots 1, 5, 6 and 7 within the Village site. Consultation with community groups such as the National Trust has commenced.</p>
<p>Significance</p>	<p>The Boggo Road Gaol, of which No. 2 Division and some other sections remain, is important because its fabric demonstrates how nineteenth century prisons were constructed and how they evolved. The Gaol is a rare example of an Australian prison that was built for female prisoners. Set high on a hill and with imposing brick walls, the Gaol has a strong physical presence, one meant to serve as a deterrent.</p>
<p>What you can do</p>	<p>Get involved in the process. As approvals are sought for the development, these will be available for viewing through the online Planning and Development section of the BCC website at http://pdonline.brisbane.qld.gov.au/MasterView/masterplan/enquirer/default.aspx Although the Gaol is not presently open to the public, you can visit the Urban Village and see the construction to date, including the Ecosciences Precinct.</p>
<p>History/ Description</p>	<p>Division 2, the section of Boggo Road Gaol which has been retained, opened in 1903 as the State Prison for Women. Designed by the Queensland Department of Public Works, it remained a prison for women until 1921 after which it housed long-term detainees from St Helena Island. In the 1970s it became a maximum security prison. Division 2 was decommissioned in 1989, with the Gaol proper (which included Division 1, the male prison) closed by 1992. Demolition of most of Division 1 followed, leaving Division 2 unoccupied for a number of years.</p> <p>The extant Boggo Road Gaol comprises a brick walled complex of one-to-three storey brick buildings set around courtyards. Exercise yards occupy some of the spaces between the three cell blocks (D, E and F). The complex is approached through a gatehouse at its northern boundary. The remaining parts of Division 1 are located on the eastern boundary of the site.</p>
<p>Local Government</p>	<p>Brisbane City Council</p>
<p>Links to other information regarding the site</p>	<p>The home page for the Boggo Road Urban Village is at http://www.boggoroad.com.au/content/standard.asp?name=Home The website for the Boggo Road Gaol Historical Society is at http://www.boggoroadgaol.com.au/</p>