



# GYMPIE HOSPITAL

MAY 2024 - SEPT 2024  
QUEENSLAND HEALTH  
\$0.75 M

Engaged by Queensland Health to undertake demolition and civil works, DEMEX commenced this regional Queensland project in the first half of 2024. The building, Block 13 at Gympie Hospital – the former Nurses' Quarters – was deemed structurally unsound, heavily asbestos and lead contaminated, and therefore, unsuitable for being repurposed.

## CHALLENGES & SOLUTIONS

Demolition works commenced with an intensive strip out program to allow effective recycling of materials. Additionally, location and demolition of the structure demanded an engineered scaffolding design to prevent impact to hospital operations. Project delivery required careful consideration of several factors to ensure safe delivery.

- **Narrow access, live site** – Access to the site was constrained, with just one narrow road leading to the work zone located on a steep slope. Demolition operations needed to remain vigilant about the impact of works on pedestrian and vehicle traffic. To address this challenge, a detailed traffic management plan was developed and agreed in conjunction with the client. Regular, clear communication with client and hospital stakeholders ensured changes caused minimal impact.

- **Asbestos contamination** – Due to the date of construction, the Nurses Quarters were built with large amounts of asbestos containing material. Extensive friable contamination was evident in paperback vinyl and LDB throughout the structure. To address this, multiple friable enclosures were constructed to complete remediation works.
- **Civil construction** – At tender, QBuild had scoped a requirement for a small carpark to service the hospital. Part way through the works, QBuild expanded the carpark by increasing the size of each parking space to accommodate the needs of hospital patrons. This resulted in a redesign and a change in the civil scope of work. Civil works ultimately encompassed carpark construction, a 60 metre retaining wall, placement of asphalt over a 900 m<sup>2</sup> area, together with drainage, line markings, and wheel stops.

DEMEX managed multiple subcontractors on this project and ultimately received positive feedback from QBuild at practical completion.