

NOMINATION TO THE ACT HERITAGE REGISTER

Please note that the information below represents the indicative heritage values supplied by the nominator and are not the views of the ACT Heritage Council (the Council).

This nomination is yet to be assessed by the Council against the heritage significance criteria established under the Heritage Act 2004.

Acceptance of a nomination is a preliminary, threshold step and ought not to be taken as indicative of any particular outcome concerning the Council's assessment of the nomination.

CAMERON OFFICES WING 3 AND THE BRIDGE, WINGS 4 AND 5 AND THE LINK CHANDLER STREET, BELCONNEN

DISTRICT OF BELCONNEN: BLOCK 8 SECTION 49, BLOCK 1 SECTION 193, BLOCK 1 SECTION 194, BLOCK 1 SECTION 195, BLOCK 7 SECTION 44, BLOCKS 13, 15, 17 AND 19 SECTION 44.

The nomination was given to the Council on 17 December 2025 and accepted under delegation on 18 December 2025.

Overview

The Cameron Offices complex (1970–1977) is a landmark example of Late Twentieth Century Brutalist architecture and was Australia's largest office development at the time. It was the first major building in Belconnen's new town centre, designed to integrate office, housing, and commercial spaces.

The complex is significant for its innovative structural engineering, architectural expression of the natural landform, and its association with renowned architect John Andrews AO and structural engineer Peter Owen Miller.

Architectural style and design

- Late Twentieth Century Brutalist style with stepped profiles, cubes, and voids
- Landmark streetscape feature in Belconnen with national and international reputation
- Integration of structure, landscape, and services into a cohesive design

Urban planning and concept

- First building in Belconnen town centre, providing a focal point
- Incorporation of pedestrian and landscaped elements to create an office environment complete with opportunities for passive recreation

Technical innovation

- Use of post-tensioned precast concrete 'T' floor beams
- Structural system combining sun-shading and column-free spaces
- Floors supported by columns on one side and hung 'gallow' beams on the other

Cultural and professional associations

- Designed by John Andrews AO, a leading Modernist Architect and RAIA Gold Medal recipient, as his first Australian design
- Associated with structural engineer Peter Owen Miller
- Influenced Canberra's office building design philosophy

Historic and aesthetic value

- Largest office complex in Australia at its time
- Forms an architectural response to surrounding land
- Landmark feature of Belconnen's urban skyline