

Administration Centre

from laboratories to offices

The Administration Centre, now over 100 years old, has been adapted to the changing needs of the School over time.

The building was originally constructed as a science wing. It was officially opened on 26 July 1912 by His Excellency Sir William MacGregor, the Governor of Queensland, when he placed the last brick in position with an inscribed silver trowel.

Sir William MacGregor said that the opening of the laboratories marked an important epoch in the history of education in Queensland and showed that the Trustees were noting advances in education elsewhere.

The new science wing was the first building to be constructed since the opening of the School on Gregory Terrace in 1881. Building costs were funded by selling endowment land and a Queensland Treasury grant.

The architect George Payne designed the science wing as a contemporary and complementary interpretation of James Cowlshaw's Gothic-inspired main building.

The science wing comprised a large chemistry laboratory and smaller physics laboratory with timber galleries. These classrooms were impressive double-storey height spaces with exposed roof structures, clerestory lighting and ventilation.

In 1928 a bellcote, designed by Arnold Brooks, and bell were erected on the wall of the building facing the Newell quadrangle. They were the gift of



New Science Wing, 1912

Old Boys in memory of George Rilatt – the School janitor and 'ringer of bells'.

The building underwent major renovations as part of the School's Centenary Building Project. It was converted into administrative offices and masters' common rooms by School architect Colin Trapp and opened in 1966.

