

The history of Galbraith

Middlemore Hospital is located on land requisitioned from the Auckland Golf Club in the 1940s.

At the time, WWII in the Pacific was going badly and it was predicted that casualties would be heavy. A military hospital was needed in Auckland – a 10 ward, 300 bed hospital was built.

Over the years Middlemore Hospital grew, and in 1964 a six floor, 300 bed (plus services) acute block was opened, named after Mr Ray Galbraith, the then board secretary.

This housed Ward 11 (ENT), Ward 12 (intensive care), Wards 14, 15, 16, 18 and 20 (orthopaedic) and Wards 17,

19 and 21 (surgical), as well as operating theatres, A&E, clinic areas and x-ray department.

Today the Galbraith building comprises birthing units, two maternity wards, early pregnancy assessment clinic, gynaecology care unit, plastic surgery, clinical engineering, infusion centre, blood bank, radiology, ophthalmology clinics and executive offices.

The block requires significant investment to either bring it up to acceptable levels, or be demolished.

A decision on the block's future has not yet been made.

CM Health takes its health and safety issues seriously and considers all risks when assessing buildings.