

# Renwick Hospital for Infants, Thomas Street

1911 – 1920

**Other Names:**

- Thomas Street Asylum
- Renwick Hospital

## Details

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The Renwick Hospital for Infants was opened in 1911 by the Benevolent Society. The building had been the Thomas Street Asylum, but was converted to a babies' hospital to deal with the epidemics of gastroenteritis that hit crowded Sydney streets in summer. It had 60 cots and also appears to have catered to lying-in mothers. Thomas Street Asylum became an administration building and outpatients' hospital in 1920.

The Renwick Hospital for Infants was opened on 3 July 1911 on the corner of Thomas Street and Quay Street, Sydney, in the Thomas Street Asylum. Within a short period, the facilities were stretched to breaking point and the Benevolent Society began looking for new accommodation for lying-in cases and infants.

In 1917, pre-maternity patients waiting at Thomas Street were transferred to a newly established pre-maternity department at the Royal Hospital for Women. In the same year the Society leased 'Scarba' in Wellington Street Bondi to which all women and children were moved.

In 1919 the Society acquired two properties in Summer Hill for the relocation of the Renwick Hospital. Patients were transferred to the new hospital in October 1921 and it was officially opened on 7 November of that year. The Thomas Street wards continued to be used as the hospital's outpatients department until its closure in December 1957. In 1964, the Society accepted an offer from the State Government to acquire the Renwick Hospital, which resulted in the closure of the hospital at the beginning of 1965.

## Gallery

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**Renwick Hospital for Infants**

**Description:** This is a digital copy of a photograph held by the Benevolent Society.



**Thomas Street Asylum**

## More info

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# Chronology

- Thomas Street Asylum (1904 - 1911)
  - **Renwick Hospital for Infants, Thomas Street (1911 – 1920)**
    - Renwick Hospital for Infants, Summer Hill (1921 - 1965)

## Related Entries

### Run by

- [Benevolent Society of New South Wales \(1813 - current\)](#)  
Date: 1911 - 1965

### Related Organisations

- [Scarba Welfare House for Women and Children \(1917 - 1920\)](#)  
Women and children from Renwick Hospital for Infants were transferred to Scarba in 1917.

## Resources

- Bluett, Ros, [Charity and Justice: The early days of the Benevolent Society in Sydney](#), 24 March 2013
- Benevolent Society, *Benevolent Society: 200 year celebration: Last 200*, 2013

## Records

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For more information and to access your records, follow the links below:

### Records

- [Benevolent Society of New South Wales Collection, 1813-1996 \(1813 - 1996\)](#)
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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/renwick-hospital-for-infants-thomas-street/>