

# **Alton House School**

**16 Sefton Street / 9 Sarah Street**

Alton House in 1904.  
House on the far  
right half obscured  
by the left tree.



# Alton House 1904

Photograph taken  
from the new  
Chalmers Church



Close up of Alton House with blinds fitted over classroom windows





# Aerial View - late 1939

The Bay Hill  
 Sefton Street East  
 Sophia Street  
 Theodosia Street  
 Elizabeth Street  
 Sarah Street  
 Grey Road  
 Bidw  
 Highway 1  
 Theodosia Street  
 Baynew Place  
 Elizabeth Street  
 Hewli  
 16  
 28  
 5  
 12/48  
 1/48 2/48 3/48 4/48 5/48  
 7/48 8/48 9/48 10/48 11/48  
 52  
 54  
 56  
 64  
 68  
 72 74  
 11A  
 4  
 11B  
 18  
 11  
 3/9  
 5  
 3  
 1B  
 15C  
 15E  
 15D  
 24  
 1/86  
 84  
 82  
 Bidw  
 3/80  
 1/80  
 78A  
 76A  
 74  
 63  
 8  
 10  
 10A  
 1/12  
 12  
 2/12  
 1/14  
 14  
 2/14  
 20  
 4/22  
 3/22  
 2/24  
 5/24  
 1/24  
 4A/24  
 1/26  
 2/26  
 63  
 72  
 30  
 72  
 1/68  
 Canterbury maps 2025

Latest aerial view





Close up on latest aerial view.



Alton House - east face, showing the existing ground floor schoolroom w



North face showing modern extension and blocked off road front (form

Alton House - North-west corner. Modern addition with original house.



# Alton House - original Sarah Street frontage.



(Note the mixture of original sash windows, casement windows, and the additional external staircase.)



Alton House - South-west corner showing the extensions and modifications

# **Whare Nana Private Hospital [ 11 ]**

**32 Bidwill Street**

Nurses Jessie Mary Stewart King (1874 - 1958) - Nurses registration number 110.

and

Lucy Georgina White (1878 - 1971)

- Nurse registration number 112.

circa 1912



# Private Hospitals Act 1906

Enacted 1 January 1907

*4.(5) “The licence shall state whether it is in respect of a lying-in private hospital or a surgical and medical private hospital, and no lying-in patient shall be received in a private hospital unless it is licensed for such cases, and no patient other than a lying-in patient shall be received in a private hospital licensed for lying-in cases only: Provided that where the Minister is satisfied that the accommodation is suitable he may specially licence a private hospital for both purposes.”*

# Appendix to the Journals of the House of Representatives 1911-1

*“During the year since 1st April, 1910, the private hospitals, with a few exceptions in very distant place, have been visited and inspected.....*

*During the year forty new houses were licensed, thirty-one gave up their licences, and even were transferred to new holders.*

*Total number licensed .....218*

*For medical and surgical..... 52*

*For maternity only .....135*

*For medical, surgical, and midwifery.... 31*

*It is not desirable to have medical, surgical, and midwifery cases in the one house, and in the larger towns licenses are not granted for all case: but in the country it would be almost impossible to carry on a hospital for medical and surgical case only, and consideration has been given to this fact.”*

Aerial view

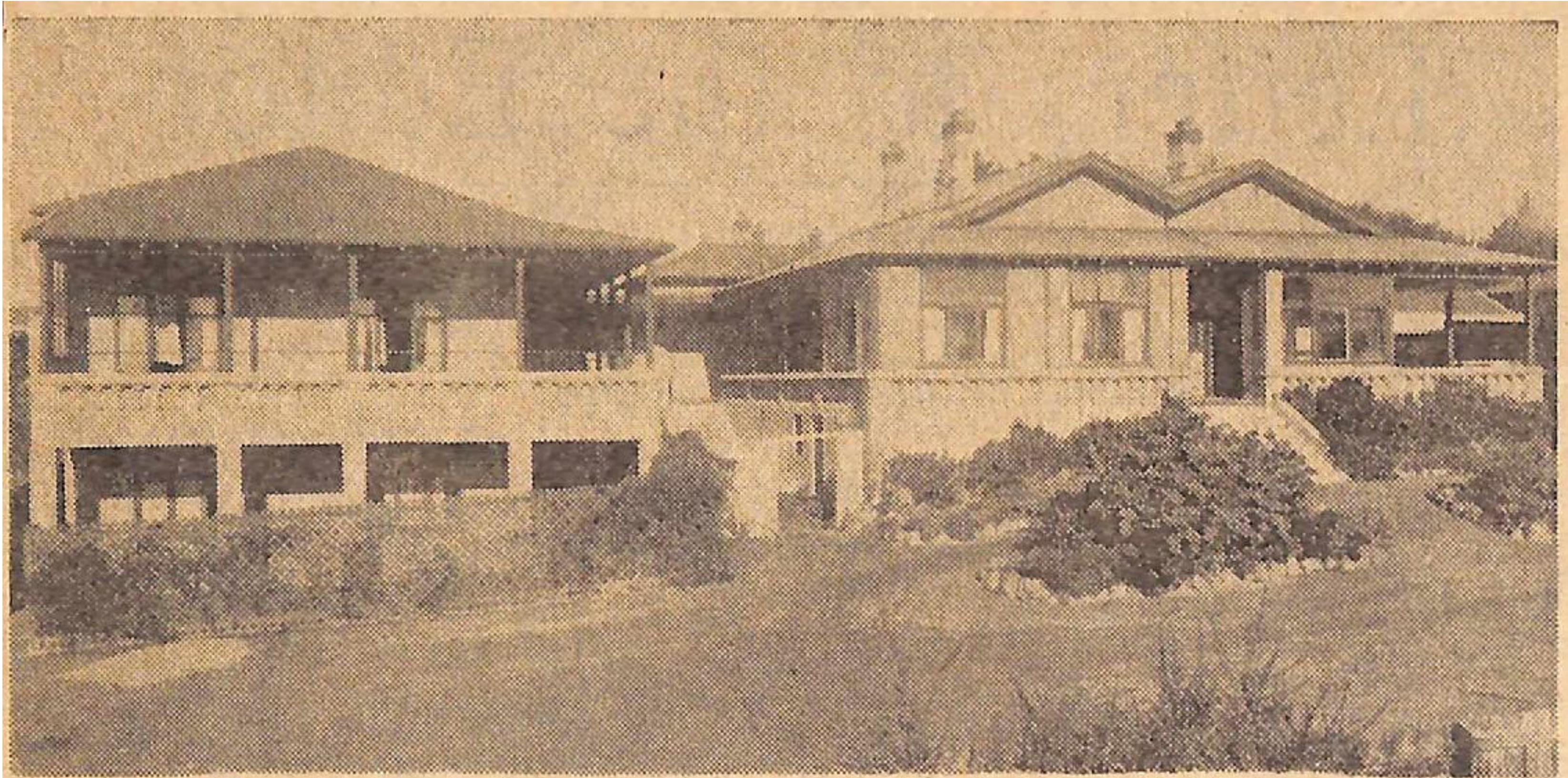
Late 1939



Latest aerial  
view







**New Zealand's first private maternity hospital in Bidwill Street.**

**Architect: William Dunning.**

Timaru Herald 8 June 1961



Whare Nana Private Hospital - East wing showing a section of the original balustrades.



Whare Nana Private Hospital - view from the North-west.



Close up of the uncovered balustrades



[Left] Whare Nana Private Hospital - North-east verandah showing one of the remaining original French Doors out to the verandah. (Note that the original French doors were reused when the corner of the verandah was enclosed.)

[Right] One of the original French Door openings that had been closed up in the 1960's.





Foundations under the west wing, showing the tapered shape.



Whare Nana Private Hospital - East wing.



Whare Nana Maternity Home - Path from the south-east corner towards the former isolation wing.



Whare Nana Maternity Home - Former infectious wing and services block with the filled in doorways visible.



**WARNING**  
PRIVATE PROPERTY  
TENANTS VEHICLES ONLY  
ABSOLUTELY  
NO TURNING TRAFFIC

Alton House School and Whare Nana Private Hospital  
were:

Conceived of by women.

Funded by women.

Run by women.

Solely for the benefit of South Canterbury women.