

Health & Hospitals in Post-War Manchester

What difference did the NHS make?

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Framing my topic

- NHS introduced 1948; nationalised hospitals
- Planned through WWII – visions for post-war
- Re-planned by BEVAN under Labour, Act 1946
- No general scheme of Hospital building until 1962 National Plan. Contrast housing & education
- So, what was done, and how did that correspond to interwar and WWII plans?
- Esp re Manchester

Interwar planing

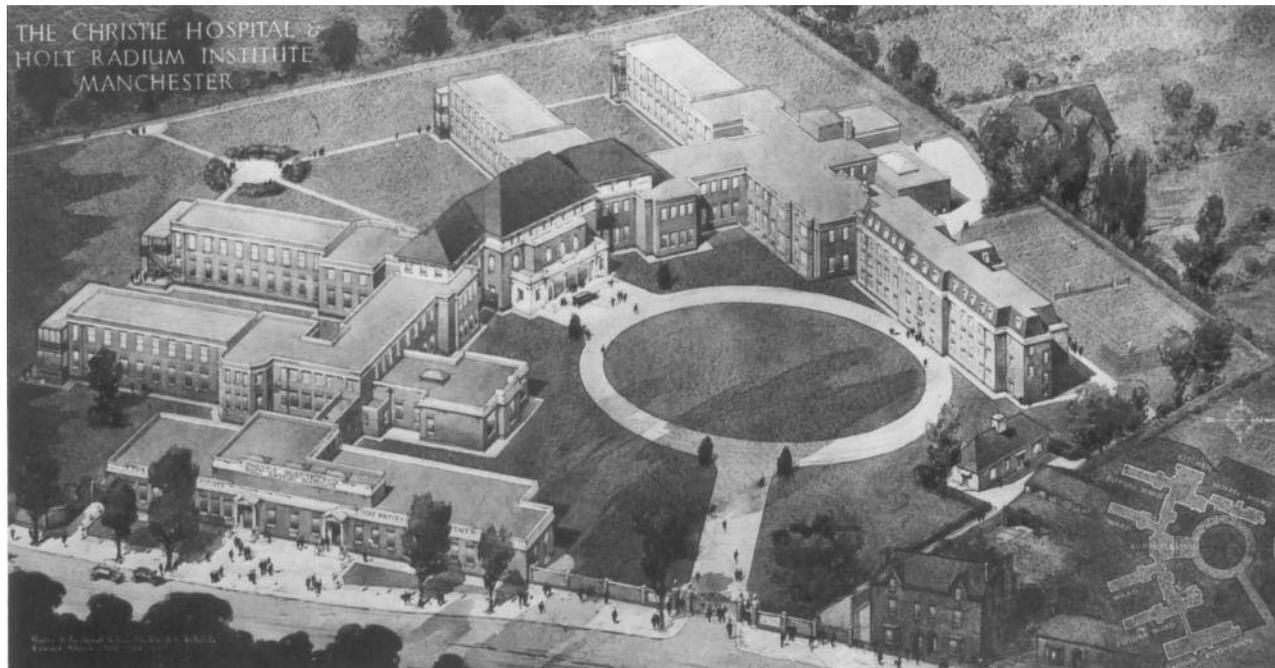
- DAWSON report, 1920, based on local Health Centres – rather like cottage hospitals
- His father was a architect – thus:

Manchester hospitals in 1938

- VOLUNTARY Sector: Manchester Royal Infirmary etc (teaching), and many smaller hospitals, eg Ancoats
- Little new Vol sector building: Christie; PPH at MRI
- Big Local Authority hospitals, Withington and Crumpsall; and LA children's hospital (Booth Hall)
- Big infectious disease hospital, Monsall
- Mcr TB hospital, Baguley

Christie, New hospital, c 1930

(also becomes in effect a regional cancer service centre)



General worries and Mcr initiatives

- Relation of impoverished, but high status voluntary hospitals,
- with expanding LA hospital services --without much new bldg; Upgrading
- friction in London

- **Mcr (& Salford) Joint Hospitals Advisory Board**, Vol. hospitals, LAs, and University (JSB Stopford)
- MSJHAB planned hospital developments, eg new specialist services in LA hospitals;
- Inc concrete orthopaedics bldg at MRI (Platt).
- MSJHAB seen as national model for joint planning

Harry Platt, orthopaedic surgeon, planning central hospitals



A brief history of NHS war

- Part of many plans for post-war Britain, under Coalition govt; much enthusiasm; focuses on **hospitals** which are now state funded by EMS (and relatively empty)
- Initial plans based on Local Authorities; but many were 'too small' to run modern hospitals; federate? 1944 Act
- Act much disliked by voluntary hospitals and top docs; and by GPs worried re LA (health centre) takeover.
- Tories , 1945, would have maintained existing ownership, with funds for voluntary hospital through Joint Planning Boards.

Bevan and Labour

- Labour traditionally on side of LAs
- Bevan, NOT from LA background was technocratic, got on well with 'public spirited' consultants and leading MOsH (Nuffield)
- Solved ownership prob by nationalising vol and LA hospitals.
- And expertise problem by Regional Boards in medical school cities, with hospital management committees in towns
- LAs keep public health;
- Universalises GP coverage but backs off re Health centres etc

New service

- Very popular; but building hospitals was NOT a national priority til 1960s
- GPs howled, gained much, changed little
- Hosp docs – had worried about socialist med;
- but in fact, docs were in charge.
- MRHB chaired by Stopford, etc
- Services Upgraded with new consultants, new services esp in ex LA hospitals; + dentistry etc
- Limited gains from rationalisation of services within districts

Unplanned for, daily Issues

- Tripartite problematic, esp on municipal sites, now partly LA welfare, partly NHS hospitals
- and re fractured ex LA services, eg TB and maternity (both seen to need more beds)
- Substantially weakened Local government

Building hospitals for Mcr?:

- LA health centres had been planned, but abandoned
- Complete University Medical Centre 'Island site'
- approved by MSJHAB and zoned by Planning authority, in 1945 Mcr plan
- 70 acres, next to Education campus,
- in 1945 hospital reports - but in fact no major bldg till late 1960s

PROJECT FOR CENTRES OF CULTURE, EDUCATION & MEDICINE



- REFERENCE**
- 1 CIVIC HALL
 - 2 CITY ASSEMBLY HALL
 - 3 CIVIC THEATRE
 - 4 CONCERT HALL
 - 5 LITTLE THEATRE
 - 6 CENTRAL BATHS
 - 7 BROADCASTING HOUSE
 - 8 UNIVERSITY MAIN BLOCK
 - 9 " " UNION BLDG
 - 10 " " FACULTY OF ARTS
 - 11 " " ARTS LIBRARY
 - 12 " " DENTAL SCHOOL
 - 13 " " FACULTY OF SCIENCE
 - 14 ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
 - 15 UNIV. EXTENSIONS
 - 16 HOLY NAME R.C. CENTRE
 - 17 MEDICAL SCHOOL
 - 18 HALLS OF RESIDENCE
 - 19 PHYSICAL EDUCATION CENTRE
 - 20 WHITWORTH WARE EXTENSION
 - 21 SCHOOL OF DOMESTIC ECONOMY
 - 22 SCHOOL OF COMMERCE
 - 23 INSTITUTE OF ADULT EDUCATION
 - 24 SCHOOL OF ART
 - 25 CENTRAL GALLERY COLLECT
 - 26 COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
 - 27 RECREATION AREA
 - 28 MANCHESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY
 - 29 M.E.I. EXTENSIONS
 - 30 ROYAL EYE HOSPITAL
 - 31 ST. MART'S HOSPITAL
 - 32 FURNESS HOSPITAL RECEPTION
 - 33 NURSING COLLEGE



SCALE OF FEET
 0 100 200 300

Cambridge Street

Whitworth Park

Upper Brook Street

Church of the Holy Name

To the City

1

Drawing by F. D. Hepworth

THE HOSPITAL CENTRE



What was built in Mcr Region?

- (Leighton Hospital near Crewe, as specimen prefabricated hospital by Poulson)
- Wythenshawe Hospital
- Baguley TB sanatorium (near Manchester's major housing scheme, Wythenshawe).
- Scheme for new hospital in 1930s plans
- Baguley expanded in WWII, with huts, as EMS hospital, inc plastic surgery centre.

Baguley Hospital and EMS huts, 1947



Baguley Sanatorium and Annex in 1947

Why and how was it built?

- Hospital in Ministry plan, 1955, for c 500 beds
- Green-field site and supported by Manchester city – for rapidly growing estate population
- And by Tories in nearby Altrincham – also expanding
- Wonderful quarrel about whether it should be ‘smoke free’. Scaled down to 350 beds and keep the huts
- Maternity hosp 1965; developed specialist chest services; and general hospital services

1962 Hospital Plan

- Enoch Powell – to end asylums, and develop new hospitals.
- New hosp planned for Preston but generally
- MRHB had incremental schemes, usually on ex municipal sites (more room)
- Maternity services first (public pressure, and ‘always sure of births’)
- Inc St Mary’s maternity block (expected in 1945) opened 1970 – now pulled down
- Central Mcr hospitals not prioritised
- New hosp buildings open c 1992; massive PFI scheme approved 1997; fifty years after first ‘plans’

Conclusions

- NHS major advance and hugely popular, but did not translate into new hospital buildings – except where new populations.
- 1962 Plan: bldg incremental and often delayed
- Mcr Teaching hospital ‘devolved’ from c 1970 to include Withington/Wythenshawe & Hope Hospital (Salford)
- ie Major constructions, ex-municipal sites, edges of city
- then in 2000s PFI for central hospitals inc children

What in fact happened

- General practice remained a form of small-business, with NI covering only workers
- Little Vol Sector hospital bldg (re 1870-1914) – Christie 1930, B'pool,
- MRI: PPH & Orthopaedic
- Major expansions of Local Authority Services re TB, children, maternity, and housing (under MoH)
- LAs take over welfare services after Poor Law ended by 1929 act
- Large LAs develop workhouse infirmaries as municipal hospitals, with more acute services