

FIRBECK HOUSE, SOUTHWELL WORKHOUSE, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE



Historic Building Survey on behalf of the National Trust

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SUMMARY OF PROJECT DETAILS

OASIS ID:	Thejesso I-288317
TJC Project Code:	FBH17
Project Type(s):	Historic Building Survey – HE Level 4
National Grid Reference:	SK 71190 54322 (NG25 0PT)
County:	Nottinghamshire
District/Unitary Authority:	Newark and Sherwood
Parish:	Upton
Elevation (above sea level):	c.30m
Designation Status(s):	Firbeck House – Not designated Greet House (Thurgaton Incorporation Workhouse), Grade II* (NHLE: 1045931) Former Infirmary to the north of the Workhouse, Grade II (NHLE: 1117388)
HER Record No(s):	Firbeck House – Not designated Greet House – n/a Former Infirmary – n/a
NT HBSMR	Firbeck House – Not designated Greet House – 68944 / MNA168156 Former Infirmary - 68945 / MNA183255
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NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

This report details the results of an archaeological building survey of Firbeck House, which was built as a new infirmary to the Southwell Union Workhouse in 1871, to the northeast of Southwell, Nottinghamshire. It has been undertaken on behalf of the National Trust. The programme of work has comprised of archive research, a measured survey of the internal and external elevations of the buildings and high resolution digital photography. The intention of the survey is to provide a lasting archaeological record of the building as it survives today and to provide a historical summary that can be used to guide decisions regarding its future use and adaptation.

Firbeck House is not a listed building, but falls within the curtilage of the Listed Workhouse at Thurgaton. The building was purpose built as an infirmary in 1871-2 to meet the growing needs of the community at the Workhouse. In later years during the mid-late 20th century it became a residential care home, but until the NT took ownership it had an almost continuous use to care for the sick and infirm. The history of the building is very well documented, comprising of plans, minute books, letters and oral history collected by the NT.

A total of six principal phases of development have been identified within the building, many of which are confirmed by the surviving documentary accounts. The layout of the building has always reflected the established arrangement of the Workhouse, with male and female (including children) being separated from one another. Originally the building had two identical entrances and side wings with day rooms on the ground floor and wards above. In the centre was a small office and kitchen, and accommodation above for the nursing staff. The building was extended to the north in 1914, which greatly increased its capacity for providing care.

The survey has identified over 25 different forms of wallpaper, paint and stenciled decoration. Each example has been recorded with digital photography.

In addition to Firbeck House, there is a well preserved air-raid shelter to the rear of the building, representing a good example of its type.

It is recommended that a scheme of wallpaper/paint analysis is undertaken throughout the building to provide a lasting record of the former decorative schemes within the infirmary. During the proposed building works an intermittent archaeological watching brief should be maintained to document aspects of the building that are currently obscured, or inaccessible. This should be undertaken by a suitably qualified historic buildings archaeologist, who is a member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

*The site archive has been deposited with the National Trust and the report uploaded to the OASIS digital archive with the reference number: **thejesso1-288317**.*

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Firbeck House is not a designated heritage asset, but it is worthy of being considered of equal quality to a Listed building and should be regarded as having National Significance. The building is a relatively intact example of a purpose built later Victorian infirmary, the design of which was influenced by many of the latest design ideas for medical facilities, care homes and workhouses.

Externally the building has an understated presence, which is partially masked by mature trees. Internally, the room layout and circulation spaces can still be understood in relation to the original design. There are good levels of survival of joinery details, doors and windows, along with decorative schemes including wallpaper and stenciling.

The recent history of the building is of considerable importance, as demonstrated by the oral history that has been undertaken by the NT and allows a direct connection to the past.

In addition, the almost intact survival of the air-raid shelter should be noted as it represents not only a period of intense conflict during WWII, but the provision that was made for the residents of the infirmary during this time.

I INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

This document presents the results of an historic building survey of the former infirmary building known as Firbeck House, that forms part of the former Thurgaton Incorporated Workhouse in Southwell, Nottinghamshire (**Figure 1**). It has been prepared to provide a greater understanding of the history, use and architectural development of the building to enable informed decisions to be made regarding its future use and adaptation for improved visitor facilities. The property is owned and managed by the National Trust (here after NT).

AIMS

The aim of the project is to produce a comprehensive understanding of the development of the building to enable a statement of significance to be prepared.

PRINCIPAL DELIVERABLES DERIVING FROM THIS WORK:

- To produce a set of floor plans, and cross sections of the buildings enhanced with archaeological information;
- To establish the constructional sequence following a detailed analysis of the extant historic fabric;
- To understand the historical setting of the building;
- To produce a statement of significance;
- To make recommendations regarding understanding any inaccessible areas of the structure;
- To make recommendations regarding paint and wallpaper analysis.

DISSEMINATION

Copies of this report will be distributed to the National Trust, the Nottinghamshire Historic Environment Record (HER), and a digital copy will be uploaded to the OASIS (Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigationS) with the reference number: **thejessol-288317**.

NOMENCLATURE

The terminology used throughout this document has been derived from existing names and descriptions associated with the Workhouse.

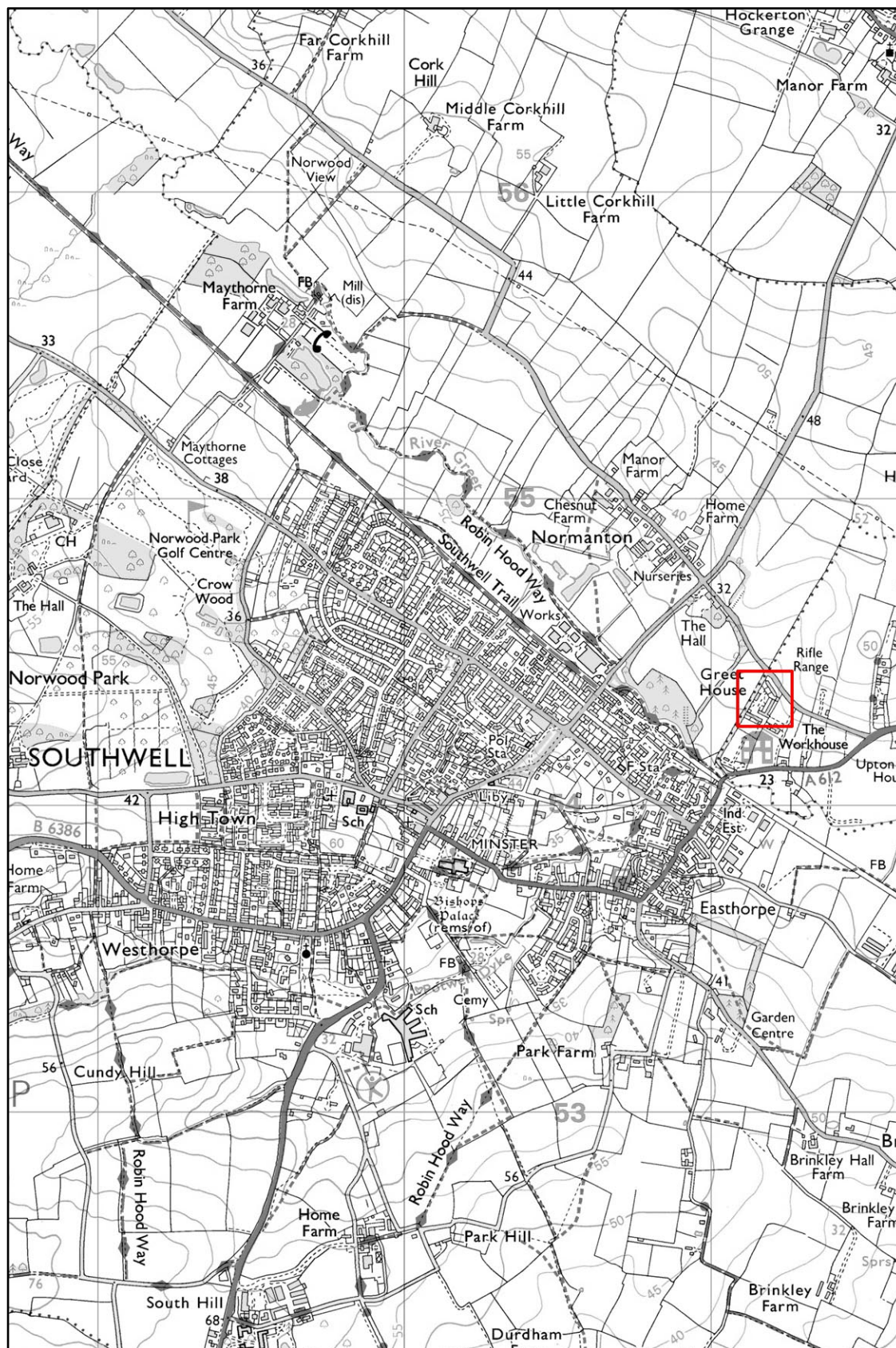


Figure 1: Location of the site

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2 SITE LOCATION AND BASELINE CONDITION

LOCATION OF SITE AND SETTING

Firbeck House is located c.50m to the northeast of former Thurgaton Incorporation workhouse in Southwell, Nottinghamshire (**Figure 1**). It is a freestanding rectangular range orientated northeast-southwest. The building is located 1km to the northwest of the settlement of Southwell, in the parish of Upton.

The site is centered on NRG SK 71 190 54322 (**Figure 1**).

SITE LAYOUT

The building is approximately orientated on a northeast-southwest alignment and for the purpose of this survey the northwest elevation is assumed to be facing west, which overlooks a grass lawn with borders, with paving to the southwest with picnic benches. Beyond this is an area presently used the staff car park, with the east elevation opening onto a small linear enclosed yard.

The layout of Firbeck House is structured around three entrance halls, through which there is access into both ancillary/staff facilities, and the wards that occupy wings on either side.

A low brick wall (**Appendix 2.2**) bounds a grassed area west of Firbeck House (**Appendices 2.8-2.10**), whilst there is a brick walled yard to the east. There is access around the south end of the building to the rear yard that was formerly subdivided containing small outbuildings (**Appendix 2.12**), although only one survives. In addition, there is a single storey structure to the northeast which is an air-raid shelter.

The buildings that have been surveyed include (see **Figure 2**):

- **Firbeck House:** single-storey, Building 1
- **Outbuilding/Potting Shed:** single-storey, Building 2
- **Air Raid Shelter:** single-storey, Building 3

GEOLOGY

The underlying bedrock geology beneath Firbeck House is Radcliffe Member - Mudstone And Siltstone, a Sedimentary Bedrock. No superficial deposits are recorded (BGS Digital data 2017).

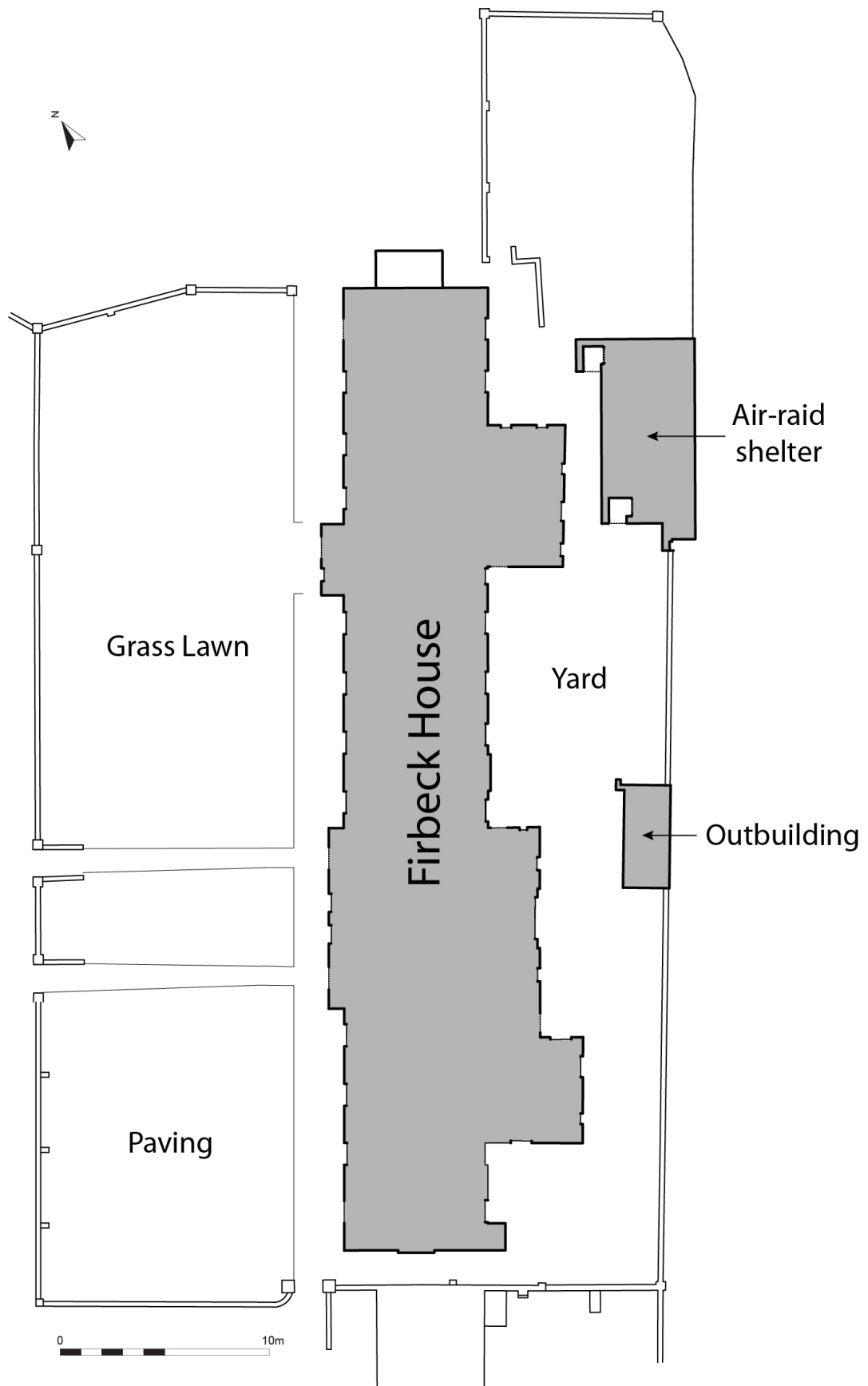


Figure 2: Layout of Firbeck House and its setting

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3 METHODOLOGY

INTRODUCTION

This archaeological building survey has been prepared in accordance with guidance prepared by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014) and Historic England (HE 2016). The project methodology has comprised of a series of stages, including a review of previous work, archive research, a site survey, production of measured drawings and digital photography.

DOCUMENTARY AND ARCHIVE RESEARCH

The first stage of the project was to review previous research that has been undertaken by NT staff and volunteers relating to Firbeck House, following which a wider archive search was undertaken in the Nottinghamshire Archives, which identified a number of drawings for the Infirmary prior to its acquisition by the NT.

The following archaeological databases and archive repositories were consulted as part of the programme of archive research:

- Archaeological Data Service (ADS) – York;
- Nottinghamshire Record Office;
- Nottinghamshire Historic Environment Record;
- Geological mapping;
- Heritage Gateway;
- Historic England Archive (red boxes);
- Historic mapping including relevant Ordnance Survey Maps;
- Internet archives;
- National Heritage List for England – Historic England
- National Trust Archives.

SITE SURVEY

Written description

Written notes and sketches were prepared for the various rooms within the building, noting features of archaeological interests and significance.

Drawings

A series of detailed floor plans, and cross sections throughout the building were produced to document its historical development and to identify features of archaeological significance (see **Figures 4 to 7**).

Photography

To accompany the drawn record a digital photographic survey was undertaken. This included the use of metric scales of varying sizes to record the building and its wider historic setting. All elevations (interior and exterior) and architectural details were photographed where possible and their locations plotted on a plan of the building and specific details recorded on pro-forma registers.

The survey has been undertaken with reference to an outline scope of works detailed by Rachael Hall (National Trust Consultancy Manager and Archaeologist).

LIMITATIONS

The building survey has examined all readily accessible areas around the boundary of Firbeck House and all of the interior rooms, although it should be noted that access was too restricted some of the ground floor roof as a result of stored materials. There was no access to the roof void.

In addition, at the time of survey the weather was heavy rain, which had an impact on light levels around the building.

The scope of the report is limited to:

- Consultation with architectural plans produced for alterations to the buildings;
- Review of relevant archive and documentary material;
- Detailed site survey comprising of measured drawing and photography;
- The preparation of this report and a fieldwork archive.

The research and fieldwork was undertaken during May and June 2017.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

No formal research questions have been considered as part of this archaeological survey, although the building is considered to be of considerable importance to help develop our wider understanding of the development of infirmaries in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

4 UNDERSTANDING THE SITE - HISTORY

INTRODUCTION

This section of the report presents a summary history of the Southwell Workhouse, followed by a detailed account of Firbeck House, which was a purpose built infirmary to meet the growing needs of the community in the second half of the 19th century.

It has made reference to the previous historical published and archive sources (see bibliography), and the extensive research undertaken by the NT. Relevant visual sources including maps and photographs are included as **Appendix I**.

A timeline of key historical events at Firbeck is included below:

Date	Event
1863	Board of Guardians considers the provision of a new infirmary but rejects the idea due to costs
1870	The Board of Guardians decides to erect a new infirmary block (known as the New Infirmary)
1870	John Sudbury is appointed the architect and William Duke the builder
1871	The infirmary building is started but costs escalate from £950 to £1250
1872	Asphalt or gravel applied to the yards of the infirmary
1873	Final bill of Mr Duke paid
1874	Infirmary reported as being deficient in hot and cold water
1891	Plans for drains to be repaired and baths and water closets drawn up as well as for a hot water boiler
1892	The proposed work for the repairs to the baths and water closets was agreed
1894	Dr Needham suggests the addition of fire exits to the infirmary building
1898	Mr Urmson reports there was no second fire exit
1900	Earth closets converted to water closets, wooden partition installed on female side and new baths added
1914	New extension for children and nursery and maternity ward added. The site became known as the Southwell County Institution.
1924	Proposals made for extending infirmary and plans drawn up by Sands and Walker

1926	Additional infirmary building built, the two blocks were known as Block 1 and 2
1935	Approval for the building of a children's nursery – Caudwell House
1948	The building was used for residential care of the elderly, with men housed in the infirmary. The buildings became known as Greet House and the term master was replaced with superintendent.
1962	Women occupy both the old and new infirmary buildings
1960s	The buildings renamed Firbeck and Minster View
1987	Firbeck House ceased to function as an institution
1999	Acquired by the National Trust on the 9 th December.
2012	Renovation of part of the upper floor for NT offices
2015	Re-imaging project to tell the story of welfare (August).

DETAILED HISTORY - THE FIRBECK WORKHOUSE

A parish workhouse had been built on Moor Lane in Southwell in 1808, designed by the Reverend John T Belcher and architect Richard Ingleman. It housed 84 inmates. The plans published in Becher's 1828 *The anti-pauper system* showed a strict segregation of males and females and the provision of a school room but no special provision for the sick (workhouses.org.uk). Becher was a promoter of a system that gave poor relief only to those who entered the workhouse and as a consequence with the help of George Nicholls, parish overseer, managed to reduce the escalating relief bill from £1,884 in 1821/2 to £811 in 1823. The regime of the practice of a 'deterrent workhouse', such as that practiced at Southwell, where conditions in the workhouse aimed to be worse than the "the lowest class of independent labourer" paved the way for the New Poor Law in 1834 (Richardson 1998, 55). In 1824 Rev. Becher instigated the formation of the Thurgarton Hundred Incorporation of 49 parishes around Southwell and a workhouse, designed by William Nicholson and Becher was built at Upton costing £6596 (Morrison 1999, 36-7). The 'inmates' were divided into 'good character and conduct' and 'idle, immoral and improvident'.

The Poor Law Amendment Act in 1834 introduced a national system for dealing with poverty based around the Union workhouse. It demanded a strict classification of inmates including: Aged; Impotent; Children; Able-bodied males; and Able-bodied females. Little guidance was offered for the provision of the sick. Workhouses, like that at Southwell only had the minimum facilities to deal with infections and sickness amongst the residents of the workhouse.

The 1832 Royal Commission had proposed that perhaps using existing buildings in the parishes would be a solution for each class suggesting that in single parish workhouses the “rooms appropriate for the reception of the sick must often be empty” but in unions “the absence of patients from one parish would be met by an influx from another and a more average number maintained” (quoted in Richardson 1998, 56). However the Union workhouse was eventually recognised as the most efficient way forward, a single workhouse for all classes of poor. The central poor law commissioners employed the architect Sampson Kempthorne to design four models to accommodate 200, 300 or 500 inmates. His 1835 square and hexagon plans (of which the buildings formed a cruciform and Y-shaped) contained shared wards for the sick and infirm. In the square plan on the first floor there were 12 beds wards for male and females at the extremity of the radial arms and further accommodation on the 2nd floor with 2 nurses rooms, a surgery, a 12 bed men’s ward and 11 female ward, nursery and 6 lying-in beds. In the hexagonal plan there were 16 bed wards for the sick and infirm on the first and second floors and two lying-in wards and a nursery on the second floor but no provision for nurses accommodation or surgery (Richardson 1998, 57). There were no separate wards for those classed as lunatics and imbeciles. In 1839 (**Appendix 1.1**), in his plan for a workhouse for 200 paupers for less pauperised districts, the sick wards grouped along a central axis of the workhouse on the ground floor. Provision was also made for a surgery and lying-in ward next to the boys and girls bedrooms on the first floor (Richardson 1998, 57).

By the 1840s some unions opted to build separate infirmary accommodation for the sick. An early example in Cambridge by John Smith (1838) which had separate floors for men and women The ground floor housed the male wards, nurses room and a surgery first floor was for a women’s sick ward, lying-in ward and 3 private wards (Richardson 1998, 58). The infirmary at Leicester (1838-9), designed by William Flint, separated men and women on either side of a central hub building and like Kempthorne’s 1836 plans had separate entrances. By locating the wards together in a single block nursing was made easier and most infirmaries contained a nurse’s duty room, and infirmary yard. The first detached infirmaries were usually located at the rear of the main workhouse block (Morrison 1999, 157).

The rise in demand for the poor-law infirmaries after 1835 may have been instigated by the new demands of the Poor Law as medical officers may have encouraged admissions rather than having to visit ‘squalid homes’ of labourers (Morrison 1999, 158). They also began to realise their patients recovered more quickly in the workhouse and thus reduced the burden on the ratepayer (Richardson 1998, 60).

Morrison suggests that to keep the costs down the Unions often engaged medical officers who were inexperienced doctors, keen to set up their own private practices, and as a result often

neglected their workhouse duties (Morrison 1999, 157). The workhouse medical officer usually visited once or twice a week, the daily care of the sick was often left to pauper nurses who were unpaid (Richardson 1998, 60). From their pay, medical officers also had to fund the supply of drugs themselves.

Guardians across the country were often slow to adopt the idea of separate infirmaries that were seen as 'repositories for the sick poor' rather than hospitals. During the 1860s and 70s long corridors became equated with poor ventilation and transmission of disease. In this period workhouse design began to change and separate block schemes were adopted (Morrison 1999, 103). There were also some moves to improve nursing care. A case brought in 1864 about a death at St Bartholomew's Hospital prompted Florence Nightingale to write to Mr Villiers, the President of the Poor Law Board, to ask for an enquiry into the whole question of hospital nursing in workhouses. The response came that there were not enough trained nurses and those that were often drawn to Public or Private hospitals rather than those in workhouses (Rivett, 2015).

THE PROVISION FOR THE SICK AT SOUTHWELL

After the introduction of the New Poor Law the Thurgarton Hundred Incorporation was enlarged and renamed the Southwell Union. The union officially took place on the 25th April 1836 and consisted of 60 parishes. A guardian from each parish was selected, Southwell, because of its size had 3 guardians on the board, thus making a total of 63 Guardians. The Union adopted the larger Thurgarton workhouse premises that could hold 158 inmates. The former Southwell workhouse building on Moor-Lane was offered for sale by auction on the 8th February 1838 (Nottingham Review 2/2/1838; 4). Like Southwell's parish workhouse, the building at Upton was designed to separate male and female inmates. In the range of outbuildings, above the bake house there was a small infirmary with nurse's room above (Morrison 1999, 38-9). For the provision of the sick new Southwell Union was divided into parts (8-10 depending on the year) each with its own medical officer.

An advert for Medical Officers at Southwell in 1841 stated they should deal with "*all cases of sickness, surgery, medicine and necessary attendance (except midwifery and trusses)...for all paupers, vagrants or casual poor...Midwifery cases 10s 6d each where attendance is required by written order of the Relieving Officer...Vaccinations 1s 6d per case* (Nottingham Review 5/3/1841; 1). The wage offered for the Southwell district and workhouse medical officer in 1843 was £35 for a population of 3,478 and an area of 5,613 acres. Other medical officers in the Union received between £9 and £28 (Nottingham Review 24/2/1843). Richard Smith: 4th district, £12.

EARLY PLANS FOR A NEW WORKHOUSE INFIRMARY

By the 1860s, the single small infirmary room at Southwell was beginning to be regarded as insufficient, however Southwell was one of those Unions that took its time to instigate the building of a new infirmary. The discussions are clearly documented in the minute books of the Board of Guardians. The average occupation of the workhouse appears to have been around 100.

1850	107	1858	95	1866	85
1851	103	1859	86	1867	91
1852	106	1860	76	1868	101
1853	99	1861	102	1869	104
1854	89	1862	114	1870	105
1855	86	1863	109		
1856	90	1864	99		
1857	101	1865	94		

Table 1: Figures of average occupancy at Southwell (Nottingham Guardian on the 25/11/1870, 8)

In 1863 the Board of Guardians, which met fortnightly, held discussions about increasing the provision for the sick. Minutes for the 9th of March 1863 stated that the workhouse medical officer, Mr Warwick, had called for a special meeting to discuss additional accommodation for sick paupers an idea supported by Guardians Mr Beacher and Mr Tomlin. The House Committee was to seek the assistance of a competent builder and report to the Guardians about the *probable cost of alterations to provided increased accommodation for the sick and vacant wards*. On the 7th April Mr Warwick resigned but the board decided to hold another special meeting regarding a new building for the sick (Nottinghamshire Journal 11/4/1863, 4). On the 21st April Mr R.E. Cooke was appointed the new medical officer (Stamford Mercury 1/5/1863, 5) but the Poor Law Board did not approve his appointment. The post was subsequently re-advertised (Nottinghamshire Guardian 22/5/1863, 8). The idea of alterations and additions was finally approved by 23 of the guardians on the 14th of July but was later rescinded on the 20th October (SO/PUS/1/1/6- Nottinghamshire Archives), the motion carried by 13 for rescinding the proposals and 12 against (Nottinghamshire Guardian 23/10/1863, 5). No explanation was given in the minutes or in the newspaper report but a later report in 1870 revealed that it was to protect the "pockets of the ratepayers" (Nottinghamshire Guardian 25/11/1870, 8).

On the 15th September 1865 Dr Smith, one of the Poor Law Board inspectors made a visit to Southwell. He thought that the provision for sick and infectious diseases sufficient but that the new infection wards had not been opened. He also noted that the old women slept two to a bed in winter and that the medical officer attended every 2nd day but he was not sent for to examine every case. This was something Dr Smith called the special attention of the Guardians to as it was deemed to be unacceptable. In 1860 there had been a Consolidated Order Respecting Medical Relief that determined doctors should attend the workhouse daily (Hodginson, R. 1967, 352). Smith's overall impression was that the workhouse was not well managed (MH 12 9533/121 National Archives). A follow up letter from the Poor Law Board to clerk John Kirkland highlighted the need for regular visits by the Guardians and highlighted that Dr Smith had met with an inmate named William Crooks, who had sore legs and had been a resident for 12 months and claimed never been seen by a surgeon. The Poor Law Board wanted an explanation (MH 12 9533/122 National Archives). Mr Smith supplemented the report from of his visit with further notes about his concerns. These included:

The ventilation in the sick and other rooms as very defective. I suggest that a pane be taken out of the window and perforated zinc or glass placed in its stead. Windows being closed at night do not act as ventilation. (MH 12/9533/135)

DR EDWARD SMITH LL.B., F.R.S.

Dr Smith was a key inspector in of the Poor Law Board. He published several papers regarding the condition of the sick at workhouses across the country. In 1866, he published a report on the state of the Metropolitan Workhouse Infirmaries. His work on the necessarily cubic feet required per person was compared to the work of Mr Farrell in the British Medical Journal on the 28th July of that year. Mr Farrell had been commissioned to look into the state of the metropolitan workhouse. Dr Smith contrary to Mr Farrell maintained that 500 cubic feet of air should be provided for each patient and that by extending and reconstructing workhouses that this was possible. Mr Farrell suggested the minimum was 1000 cubic feet of air and that only new hospitals "apart from the workhouses" would be adequate. The British Medical Journal in its analysis of the reports was scathing of Mr Farrell as he had been responsible for the provision for the sick as part of the Poor Law Board and wondered why he had not promoted his ideas before. They welcomed the opinion of Mr Smith as a more reasoned argument.

Florence Nightingale however was of a different opinion. She considered Dr Smith as wanting to return to the Middle Ages in the care of the sick and wondered if Mr Smith had considered the fact that by the time alterations and additions had taken place to old buildings that it was more cost effective to build a new structure will all the known principals of best practice in caring for the sick (MacDonald 2009, 592). Eventually the Cubic Space Committee resolved the matter of space

for patients in February 1867 under the direction of Dr Thomas Watson, president of the Royal College of Physicians, who made a recommendation of 850 cubic feet in sick wards and 1200 cubic feet in fever wards (Morrison 1999, 161). The Poor Law Amendment Act of 1867 was based on the reports by Smith and others, including the work of Florence Nightingale, the Journal of the Workhouse Visiting Society and the Association for the Improvement of Workhouse Infirmarys.

In 1867 Smith published a further report entitled the "A report of the care and treatment of the sick poor in provincial workhouse" which concluded provision was no better than the Metropolitan workhouses and appears to have taken on board some of the criticisms of his earlier recommendations. The Medical Times and Gazette on the 26th January 1868 reported that he had visited 48 provincial workshops between 1866 and 1868 at the request of the Poor Law Board. The report stated that it was mainly the sick and aged who were brought to the workhouse rather than the able bodied poor and that workhouses should be altered accordingly. He estimated on average five-sixths of inmates in provincial workhouses were in this category (Richardson 1998, 69). While noting smallpox and fever wards often lay empty he recommended the workhouses took cases in time of epidemic, fever in a family, great destitution in the poor and when space and nursing allowed for it. He also recommended that fever and small pox wards should be provided and isolated where possible. Offensive and disagreeable cases should be in well-ventilated wards and provision made for a separate ward for children. Venereal cases he recommended were separated on moral grounds and that there should be a day room for 'lying-in' (Medical Times and Gazette 26/1/1868).

Recognising that the Guardians and their architects were not necessarily acquainted with the requirements of a sick ward and that they were constrained by the legislative limits on expenditure (Hodginson 1967, 530-532) Dr Smith made a series of recommendations:

- Sick wards should be separate from the main building (but not far removed from the general building Medical Times and Gazette 26/1/1868);
- Workhouses should have a southerly aspect;
- Yards should be paved and have seats and the walls lowered;
- Gardens were to be accessible to the sick daily;
- The ground floor of an infirmary was to have officers and officers' apartments. Resident medical officers were recommended when the workhouse was larger than 500 people;
- The first floor sick wards should have windows on both sides of the wards, reaching from 3ft from the floor to the ceiling;
- It was suggested that wards should not be less than 20 feet in width and 10-12 feet high;

- All beds should have 6ft of wall space. (The optimum number of beds in a pavilion ward was decreed to be 32 and each allowed 800 cubic foot of air (Morrison 1999, 104));
- Earth closets should be installed for the upper floors;
- There should be a means of distributing warmth throughout the wards;
- Day rooms were to be provided;
- It was suggested there should be a separate laundry for the sick wards.

Dr Smith also advocated for proper nursing staff and a skilled cook to provide special diets for the sick. The Medical Times and Gazette suggests he recommended that no male nurses were ever employed *as it is "found practically that those wards which are attended by male nurses are always untidy and dirty "* (26/1/1868). In 1868 the Poor Law Board issued a circular that new infirmaries must incorporate pavilion principles and recommended water closets occupy projections (note this was implemented at Southwell see **Appendix I.14** and sections below) with cross ventilated lobbies and in general it was accepted that windows on both sides of rooms were better (Morrison 1999, 105).

He later went on to publish in 1873 papers on foods, A Manual for Medical officers of Health and a Handbook for the inspectors of nuisances as well as his research into the health of schools. He died on the 16th November 1874 (The Lancet Nov 21st 1874 p 747).

THE BUILDING OF THE INFIRMARY AT SOUTHWELL (1870s)

On June 7th 1870 the Guardian Minute books (SO/PUS/1/1/7) record that the clerk of the Board was directed to give notice to the Guardians that a special meeting will be held on the 5th July to consider the report of Dr Smith of the Poor Law Inspector as to the accommodation and classification of the inmates of the workhouse, the erection of a new infirmary and other matters. He is also requested to request the attendance of Dr Smith at such meeting.

The meeting was duly held on the 5th and it was agreed that a committee was formed to consider:

...the propriety of carrying out the several suggestions made by the Poor Law Inspector and to report to the Guardians at a future meeting, such committee to consist of the following gentlemen, namely:

Messrs. Barrow, Sherbrooke, Milward, Jackson, Bradwell, Rawson, Tomlin, Faulkes, Denam, Marriott, Howitt, Leeson and Hole and that such committee meet at the Union Workhouse on the 19th instant at 10 o'clock.

The meeting on the 19th of July 1870 reported the committee had come to the conclusion that:

"The committee recommends that an Infirmary be built for 25 inmates according to the suggestions of Dr Smith and that the Poor Law Board be requested to furnish the plans".

Notice was given at the meeting on the 2nd August to discuss the plans for the new infirmary at the meeting on the 16th August 1870. On that date further discussion took place and it was duly proposed by Mr Sherbrooke and seconded by Mr Marriott that the building for 30 inmates be erected. However an amendment was proposed by Mr Tomlin and seconded by Mr Denman that it should be for 25 inmates. The decision was put to the vote resulting for 13 for the original proposition and 14 for the amendment. The minutes further record that after the vote had been taken Dr Smith arrived late prompting further discussions to take place and having heard Dr Smith's statements Mr Sherbrooke and Mr Parkinson proposed and seconded that the infirmary be built for 32 inmates. Mr Tomlin and Mr Denman again submitted a revised proposal for 28 inmates and another vote was taken with 9 for the original proposition and 18 for the amendment and the previous vote for accommodation for 25 inmates being rescinded. The agreement for an infirmary for 28 inmates was thus approved. It was further agreed that Mr John Sudbury of Loughborough be appointed as the architect to prepare the plans and carry out the works for the new building and that the House Committee should act as a building committee.

Despite supporting the concept of a new infirmary Dr Smith continued to raise his concerns about the Southwell Workhouse. Earlier in August 1870 he raised concerns about the irregular attendance of the Medical Officer (MH 12/9534/403) and at the same meeting that the infirmary was agreed to Dr Cooke was requested to resign *"in consequence of the numerous complaints of the in attention of Dr Cooke to his Duties as medical officer of the workhouse"* (SO PUS/1/1/7 and MH12/9534/411).

John Kirkland, clerk to the Guardians wrote to the Poor Law Board (MH12/9534/407) on the 17th August 1870 formerly stated that the Southwell Union had resolved to erect an infirmary for 28 inmates and that John Sudbury of Loughborough has been appointed the architect to prepare the plans for the new building. A note on the back of the letter dated 25th August 1870 says that the architect had been met with and the plans were expected to be ready for the next meeting of the Union. On the 29th August the Poor Law Board expressed 'satisfaction' on 'hearing the decision at which the Guardians have arrived and ...required the plans be forwarded' (MH12/9534/408).

By the 30th August Mr Sudbury had submitted his plans and elevations for the new infirmary to the Guardians on the 5th of September, which were then submitted by Kirkland to the Poor Law Board in Whitehall (MH12/9534/413) for approval. The specification for a two-storey building, although not costed, details the layout. Unfortunately the plans have not survived.

Ground Floor

1. Male sick ward for 4 males
2. Male dayroom
3. Female day room
4. Female sick ward for 6 females

First Floor

1. Male sick ward for 9 males
2. Female sick ward for 5 females
3. Lying-in ward for 4 females

Total 13 males and 15 females

A note on the back written by the Board states that Dr Smith was on leave when the plans were submitted but as he had been *'conferred with several times...the plans have been prepared in accordance his suggestions'* there were unlikely to be objections except that the plans made no mention of drainage or airing yards. The return letter, which confirmed the receipt of the plans, on The 8th of September 1870, advised the Guardians that they would be examined *"as soon as the state of business in their office may furnish"* (MH12/9534/414).

Within a fortnight a letter from the Board (dated 19th September) stated the plans prepared by Mr Sudbury were acceptable but also reported the concerns of the Board who *"desire to point out that the means of draining the proposed building are not shown in the plan or described in the specification...also to the omission of convalescent airing yards (one for each sex) in connection with the new building. It is desirable that the yards should be formed and enclosed in the manner prescribed in paragraphs 46 to 48 of the "Points to be attended to in the construction of Workhouses"* (MH12/9534/415). They enclosed with the letter the 'Points' for the Guardians to view and the forms requiring the signatures of the Guardians for formalize the commitment to building the infirmary. A draft of the Workhouse Order to authorize the building infirmary and that the Union could borrow the sum required was attached and sent to the Guardians on the 27th September (MH12/9534/416).

Revised plans (missing, or lost) were sent on the 4th of October and approved by the Board on the 8th October but they further advised that the airing yards should be surrounded with dwarf walls and palisades instead of high walls except that between the yards which was to be 7ft high (MH12/9534/420).

Mr. Kirkland replied on the 9th November with a letter with the consent of 43 of the Guardians and wrote *"I shall be glad to receive the Order as early as may be, the Guardians being anxious to proceed with the building at once and have advertised for the tenders to contract"* (MH12/9534/430). The minutes noted the advert was placed on the 8th of November and is evidenced by the advert in local paper of that date, The Nottingham Journal (p2).

A week later a letter from the Poor Law Board dated 15th November and read to the Guardians on the 18th authorised the infirmary to be erected at a cost not exceeding £950 (MH12/9534/431). It also set out how the Guardians could borrow the money stating that The Union Loans Act 1860 permitted two options.

1. Thirty equal annual payments of the principal sum borrowed and interest on the balance for each unpaid year
2. Equal annual payments reckoning the principal and interest together to repay the sum borrowed in thirty years.

Nine tenders were received by the deadline of the 21st November and considered at a meeting of the Board on the 22nd November. The tenders were reported in the Nottingham Guardian dated the 25 November 1870 with five coming in below the maximum allowed by the Poor Law Board. The tender prices were as follows:

Mr Duke of Newark	£850-0-0
Mr Collyer of Calverton, Nottingham	£890-0-0
Messrs Steveson and Weston of Nottingham	£940-0-0
Messrs Marriott, Wartnaby and Scott of Nottingham	£950-0-0
Mr Fretwell of Newark	£950-0-0
Messrs Smith and Parkin of Southwell	£955-12-0
Mr Dickmore of East Bridgeford, Nottingham	£976-0-0
Mr Fischer of Southwell	£1,059-0-0
Mr Main of Loughborough	£1,135-0-0

Mr William Duke, builder, of Newark was duly appointed having the lowest quote and was given a deadline for the work to be completed by 31st March 1871. A letter to the Poor Law Board dated the 24th November informed them that Duke had been appointed but the drains and airing yards were not included in the contract as separate contracts would be issued for them. The contract was to state that Mr Duke was to give two sureties for the work Mr Kirkland also

enquired if stamp duty should be paid. The board noted it was for the Guardians to require the sureties they thought proper and that no stamp duty was required. (MH12/9534/437). The Poor Law Board issued a letter dated the 3rd of December confirming their approval of the contract to William Duke (MH12/9534/438).

Within three days Kirkland again wrote to the Board outlining the money required. It acknowledged that the Board had approved £950. He then outlined the position of the Guardians with regards to borrowing money for the building (MH12/9534/439).

I beg to state that a sum of £1104-0-10 is now standing in the names of the Guardians in the 3% consols to the credit of the parishes in this union, a statement of which was forwarded with your letter to me on the 18th August last. I shall be glad to be informed if those parishes having funds can apply such liquidation of the proportion of each such Parish in the expense of the new infirmary, also if those parishes not having any funds can borrow of the Guardians from the remaining part of such funds, the balance required being their proportion ...the extent over a certain number of years to be henceforth fixed. I presume the total cost will be apportioned to each parish according to the rateable values.

The reply dated the 16th December stated that the Guardians should borrow the sum required for the building works not exceeding the £950 approved. When that had been done the Board could issue an order to authorize the sale annually for “so much of the stock as will be necessary to pay the installments upon the loan, chargeable to the several parishes who have an interest in the stock...The loan being chargeable to the Common Fund of the Union, the actual amount each Parish will have to pay cannot be ascertained, as the valuation tests will vary during the term that the loan is being repaid. The board cannot authorize the application of the stock to the payment of the cost of the infirmary in any other way” (MH12/9534/440).

Not surprisingly, due to the time of year, it was soon recognised the building would not be completed by the end of March. A letter to the Poor Law Board from the Guardians dated the 17th January 1871 suggested it would be 4 or 5 months “before it is in a fit state to receive paupers”(MH12/9534/467). They also asked that they could offer out-door relief in the meantime to the able bodied as the severe weather had increased the numbers in the workhouse. Included were two extracts from the Master's reports dated the 8th November 1870 and the 17th January 1871 reporting on the ‘crowded state’ of the male wards. That on the 17th January highlighted that from the 14th January there had been no accommodation for “the admission of a single adult male. All available floor space in the respective wards is taken up (beds having been removed from other parts of the house) and for some length of time the infectious ward has been occupied by 6 inmates during the day and 8 at night.

On the 31st January 1871 the board *resolved that an addition be made to the new infirmary so that the same may accommodate 4 additional beds (making the number 32 as originally proposed) and that the cost of such addition do not exceed £40*. Mr Sudbury was instructed to send written instructions to Mr Duke about the alterations to the plans and to notify the Poor Law Board (MH12/9534/469).

The regular meetings of the Guardians were not necessarily to be relished. In January 1871 a letter to the Board from the District Auditor, A.G. Chamberlain stated that Dr Smith had found the small workhouse boardroom too cold to hold meetings and had to move to the Masters accommodation. Chamberlain was requesting the auditors meeting be held at the Crown Hotel Southwell for the same reason (MH 12/9534/465) as well as providing more ample space for those who were to attend.

The Guardians were still ironing out the finances for the cost of the infirmary in February 1871. On the 9th they sent a letter to the Board which said they had determined the cost of building the infirmary be charged to the Common Fund of the Union without borrowing. Those parishes that had monies in their funds were to send their proportion of the cost as ascertained at Michaelmas that year when it was estimated *"that the whole expenses would be paid"* (MH12/9534/470). This was confirmed to the Board in a letter dated the 21st February and it was noted that the building *"is now being proceeded with as fast as the weather will permit"* (MH12/9534/478).

However not all were happy with the progress. On the 20th February 1871 the Master, G Shaw wrote to the Board of Guardians about his concerns as to the quality of the work:

"The building of the new infirmary is fast progressing. I am not the clerk of the works neither have I any authority to superintend the manner in which the work is executed but my own opinion is (though it may not be worth much) that the brickwork is being done anything but well and satisfactory. A great and now irretrievable mistake was made by the Board of Guardians on Tuesday last owing to the indecision of some and the stupidity of others but at the same time that is no reason that the building imperfect cabin'd, cribbed, confined as a centre part of it is should be badly executed."

A later letter dated the 28th February apologised for his criticism of the Guardians but restated his opinion of the building work.

In mid-March the Board issued a letter saying they were prepared to authorise the sale of stock in the parishes to discharge the amount of the payments due for the new building (MH12/9534/479).

On the 23rd May 1871 Mr Sudbury submitted a report and plans for drains, fences and a wall for the completion of the infirmary to be submitted to the Poor Law Board so a *"further order may be*

issued by them to include the cost of the works as shown by the plan". The new cost for the infirmary was £886. A further tender for completing the works required £288-5-0 making a total of £1174-5-0 and therefore a request was made for the Board to approve up to a further £300 for the building. Dr Smith wrote a note saying he saw no objections to granting the extra asked for. John Sudbury also provided details and plans of the fence walls, drains, pumps, well, cisterns and stone steps required for finishing the works and stated that he believed the estimate for the work a fair price. He also recommended that lockers be placed by the bedside of each patient and had taken samples down for the board to inspect. These he estimated could be supplied for between 6/6 and 7/0 each (MH 12/9534/524)

This additional expenditure was approved at a meeting of the Poor Law board on the 5th June 1871 (MH12/9534/525 & 526).

In mid-June (13th) 1871 Dr Smith again visited the workhouse. His report this time was more favourable stating that the infirmary would be a *creditable and useful building* (MH 12/9534/529).

He noted that the infirmary was due to be open before the winter and suggested that the visiting committee be appointed to consider the furnishing and rearrangement of the workhouse. He noted:

All beds in the infirmary will be single beds and new ones should be provided. A proportion of rack bedsteads should be supplied and may be obtained from Mr. Crispin, Huddersfield.

Dr Smith also made recommendation that all beds in the workhouse should be single unless for children or for women with children. In the male wards he recommended there should be 13 beds for the able bodied, 6 double and 3 single for boys in the large ward and 4 double for boys in the small ward. For aged men there should be 11 single beds in the large ward and 7-8 in the small ward and for a further aged men ward there should be 12 single beds. He also wanted the day room for aged men to be enlarged and highlighted he would be visiting the workhouse again.

In August the Guardians returned the consent form with 41 signature for the increased cost of the infirmary (MH/12/9534/562) and on the 10th August an official letter was sent from the Poor Law Board (MH/12/9534/564) stating that the original £950 was not enough and that a further £300 be allowed to be taken by the Guardians from the Common Fund to allow the workhouse to be completed. An advert appeared for contractors to tender for the erection of walls and iron palisades as well as for the excavation and building of cistern and well and the erection of pumps on the 18th August 1871 (p4). It was noted the iron palisades and fixing of them should be tendered for separately. The plans were available on application to G. Shaw (Workhouse master).

Despite what had looked like progress Dr Smith in a visit on the 4th October 1871 reported to the Board that the infirmary was still not complete due to the deficiency of the workmen (MH12/9535/17).

A month later on 7th November a note in the minutes stated that the common seal of Guardians had been affixed to contract with Mr Duke for erections of walls, fences, and drainage to complete the works of the new infirmary and had been signed by Mr Duke who attended the meeting. Another order was issued on the 14th December increasing the total spend on the building to be £1250 (MH/12/9534/563).

Duke submitted further costs reported by Kirkland in a letter to the Board dated 15th February 1872 for £17-12-6. He recommended the board accept the costs on the basis that the architect had sanctioned it. The amount was approved by the Local Government Board on the 23rd February.

Even by July (5th) 1872 there appeared to be items to be resolved with the new building. The yards of the infirmary did not meet the approval of Mr Shaw the master. In a letter to the Poor Law Board he stated he thought they needed to be laid with asphalt or gravel (MH 12/9535/152). However the infirmary by this date does seem to have provided extra space, as Shaw stated that there was no longer any need for lead-bottomed beds in the workhouse and that cross-beds for 3-4 children were not needed, as there was now space for single beds. However the beds were not being replaced rapidly. A further letter dated the 30th July 1872 from the Local Government Board to the Guardians recognized that financial constraints prevented the double and cross-beds being replaced all at once but recognized that this would happen over time (MH 12/9535/175).

July 17th 1872 also saw a letter to the Local Government Board stating the Guardians had not paid the contractor the balance due but that the amounts would shortly be approved by the architect (MH 12/9535/165). A month later on the 14th of August 1872 the Local Government Board received a letter from Kirkland stating that no money had been borrowed to build the infirmary and that all money had been charged to the common fund (MH 12/9535/186).

Two years after the due completion date in 1873 there were still discussions about the payment of Mr Duke's final bill. On the 30th January a letter was sent from Mr. Kirkland to the Local Government Board stating they had received a final bill from Mr Duke for £12-16-4 and as this was brought the total to more than had been authorized they were seeking approval (MH 12/9535/251). On the 11th February 1873 there was a letter read out stating that the Local Government board sanctioned the additional expenditure of £7-16-4 to complete the new infirmary.

At the beginning of March 1873 Mr Kirkland requested a pay rise, something he felt justified in asking due to the additional "*correspondence and trouble with reference to the new infirmary*" (index description of MH 12/9535/269).

The ledgers of the Guardians show that a building account was established to keep track of the money spent on the infirmary. Payments were made instalments. In April 1871 to William Duke of £200 and to Sudbury of £20 who also received a further payment in July of £25. On the 1st of August Duke received £250 and on the 12th of September Sudbury was granted another payment of £15. Duke received a further two payments in November of £132 and £78 and in December of £68 and £36. Payments in February 1872 were for a further total of £231-12-10 with Sudbury receiving a further £10. Further payments made in December 1872 were to Duke for £79-16-4 and to the architect in January 1873 of £37-10-10 (SO/PUS/1/5/12).

JOHN SUDBURY - THE ARCHITECT OF FIRBECK HOUSE

John Sudbury's name appears as architect for a number of projects in the late 19th century.

In 1856 John Sudbury is recorded as the builder of the Loughborough Cemetery Chapels (Nottinghamshire Guardian July 31st; 2). In The Building News and Engineering Journal dated 2nd December 1870 he is recorded as being the architect of the increased infirmary accommodation at the Loughborough Union workhouse where 2 wings of four rooms each had been added. He also designed the new hospital workhouse for Radford Union (Stamford Mercury 24/2/ 1871; 2). We know little about his life; he is not clearly identified in the census or in the trade directories of the period. He may have been the builder at Southfields, Loughborough listed in Buchanan & Co.'s Directory of Leicester and Market Towns 1867 (p266) but there appear to be no other references to an architect by that name.

WILLIAM DUKE – THE BUILDER OF FIRBECK HOUSE

William Duke was born in Newark around 1831. In 1861 he appeared in the census as a master builder aged 27, and employing 3 men. He was living at 158 Parliament Street, Newark with his mother in law Sarah Wigley and his wife Elizabeth aged 29. Their son William Henry was aged 11 months.

William Duke is recorded in the 1881 census as a builder aged 50 employing 100 men and 16 boys living at 6 Victoria Street, Newark and farming 600 acres. He was married to Elizabeth, now aged 49 and they had a son named William aged 20 recorded as joiner who lived with wife Alice, aged 19. They employed two domestic servants Amy North and Emmey Armstrong both aged 16 and also had living with them Hugh Baxter and William Garbutts both 19-year-old joiner's

apprentices and William Rutford, 20 a bricklayer. Despite what looks like a substantial business William Duke and his family appeared to have hit hard times by mid 1880s.

He is listed in the White's 1885 Kelly's Directory as *builder, contractor, cement and lime stone, sanitary pipe, tube &c. merchant and brick and tile maker 6 Victoria Street; and Hawton Road, Lay Lane and Lowdham*. A year later on the 17th August 1886 a 2nd meeting of creditors of William Duke, *builder, contractor and merchant of Newark* revealed debts of £3378-16-11 and £1244-6-9 assets. The causes of failure were cited as loss of property, law expenses, bad trade and loss on fires and he was adjudicated bankrupt. (Nottingham Evening Post 17 August 1886; p4). His son also had substantial debts as cited in the Nottingham Journal (20 October 1886 p6).

In this case William Duke, Builder of Middlegate, Newark was bankrupt and an application was made for an order for the proof of debt of Wm. Hy. Duke for sum of £686-3-3 to be admitted.

Other buildings recorded as being built by William Duke during the late 19th century include the Grade II listed (List number 1196406) Trent Navigation Warehouse and adjoining maltings built in 1870, Alliance Street terrace built in 1855 (Newark Civic Trust Trail) possibly built with his father, also William Duke who died in 1857 and the waiting rooms on the down platform of the Midland Station 1881 (Nottingham Journal 16/2/1881; 6). The same newspaper also cites his laying of drains in Parish Lane Newark for houses he erected in Massey Road or Cross Lane (Nottingham Journal 29/3/1873; 6).

THE INFIRMARY 1870-1914

With the addition of the infirmary more staff were required, however it appeared hard for the Union at Southwell to retain new staff. This report focused on the development of the structure rather than daily operation of the infirmary, however the minute books record the appointments and resignations and newspapers the adverts for new staff. Examples include a nurse employed in 1869 called Elizabeth Herring at a salary of £15. The 1871 census reveals Elizabeth was the daughter of the Matron appointed in 1868, Mrs Mary Herring whose husband had been dismissed from position of Master in January 1868 to be replaced with Mr George Shaw of Rolleston under whose watch the new infirmary was built. Elizabeth Herring was requested to resign by the board in August 1873 as she had left her 16-year-old sister in charge of the infirmary and she did not get on with the Master and Matron (MH 12/9536/22). An advert was placed in the Nottinghamshire Guardian on the 12 September 1873 for a female nurse for a salary of £15 with rations, unfurnished apartment and washing in house. The candidate had to be single and aged over 25. Also advertised were the positions of Master and Matron (p4).

The Stamford Mercury 15 November 1878 advertised for a nurse for a salary £20 per annum this time with the benefits of a furnished apartment in addition to rations and washing in house. Candidates had to be single or a widow without children aged under 45 and be "*able to read and write and competent to perform all the duties of office and make herself generally useful and assist the Matron*"(p1).

In 1880 Mary Jane Sheridan, aged 32 of Hull, although born in Dublin was employed as a nurse. She had previous been engaged at the Driffeld workhouse but had been forced to resign as she had not worked well with the porter there (MH 12/9539/118). In the 1881 census she is described as a nurse in the sick ward at the workhouse. She left Southwell just over a year later and in November 1881 Sarah Brooks, 30 was employed as a nurse (MH 12/9539/232). Her reference from the Leicester Infirmary remarked she had "*very satisfactory conduct*" (MH 12/9539/235). Sarah resigned on the 17th May 1888. She had been paid £25 per annum (MH 12/9541/218). She was replaced by Emma Sharpe aged 29 who was employed for day and night duties (MH 12/9541/220) on £25 per annum and 1/- a week for beer. She resigned in May 1890 (MH 12/9542/121) and was replaced by Elizabeth Ann Ashford. Elizabeth is described as a nurse at the workhouse in the 1891 census, a widow aged 30. She resigned in January 1892 (MH 12/9543/123). By the 1890s most workhouse infirmaries employed trained nurses rather than pauper nurses (Morrison 1999, 171).

It was not just the nursing staff that moved on regularly. The Medical officers also seemed to change on a regular basis. For example on the 28th April 1871 the Nottingham Guardian reported that Mr. Osbourne, medical officer to the Southwell District and the workhouse resigned. It appears he had only been in post a fortnight as the report says he had been appointed on the previous board day (p8).

Mr. Campion Calvert, workhouse medical officer was appointed in May 1875. On the 6th of April the following year the Guardians requested that they raise his salary from £35-£50 as the duties of the medical officer had increased from when it was fixed 30 years ago, especially after the opening of the new infirmary (MH 12/9537/229). A later report in 1877 revealed he visited the workhouse three times a week (MH 12/9538/40).

The quick turn over of staff may have reflected the working conditions. Things appear to have come to a head in 1897 when a letter to the Local Government Board revealed friction between the nurse, Miss Wotherspoon and the matron and master. The nurse had been refused leave and had not been allowed to set when she was allowed time off during the week, She also charged the master with misconduct (MH 12/9545/89). In a later record of an interview with Lady Laura Ridding one of the Guardians it transpired the nurse accused the master of assault but there had

been a counter claim that of misconduct between the nurse and the porter who had also been allowed in to watch the female patients bathe (MH 12/9545/99). It also transpired that a patient named Wilson, suffering from bronchitis, was given 30 ounces of whisky in 24 hours and then died. The nurse was also accused of drinking whisky from the infirmary bottle. The nurse was required to resign and the master reprimanded (MH 12/9545/107 & 109). She was replaced by Annie Gouden aged 32 from Southport in February 1898.

Like the other nurses Annie resigned after only a few months. She was replaced by Ellen Benzie on the 23rd September 1899 for £25 per annum who had been sent by the Northern Workhouse Nursing Association (MH 12/9546/118). After only a year Ellen too had resigned to be replaced by Annie Sugden formerly of the Mill Road Infirmary Liverpool. She was aged 24 and employed like the other for £25 a year. It was also noted she would receive the usual officer rations, an apartment and washing plus 1/- a week in lieu of beer (MH 12/9546/193). In the 1901 census Annie is described as the hospital nurse. By 1911 three nurses were employed. These were Ellen Casey (50), described as the hospital nurse and two assistant nurses Evelyn Hunter (34) and Elsie Coleman (27).

While the scope of the research that has been undertaken during the preparation of this report did not allow for the detailed analysis of patients using the new infirmary, some glimpses are revealed in letters and reports held in The National Archives. On the 9th February 1874 a report by the Commissioners of Lunacy to Southwell revealed 2 men and 1 woman were in the new infirmary (MH 12/9536/127). In 1877 there were 4 people listed as residing in the infirmary (MH 12/9538/40). There were some long lived inmates on the 11th February 1876 the Nottingham Guardian reported 12 men who were aged between 76 and 92 and whose combined age was 993. A female patient in 1889 was reported as being a harmless imbecile but she was so noisy at night her roars could be heard from the public road and thus she was noted as affecting the other infirmary patients (MH 12/9542/23).

In 1887 a letter from the Southwell Rural Sanitary Authority notified the Local Government Board that the infirmary at the Workhouse would be available for any infectious diseases found on those working on canal boats (MH 12/9541/47).

IMPROVEMENTS AND ADDITIONS TO THE INFIRMARY

Once the infirmary was completed there were still issues to be resolved. In a report on a visit on the 6th July 1874 by J. Standish Haly, Assistant Poor Law Inspector to the Local Government Board revealed that the new infirmary "was deficient in hot and cold water and the receiving wards were not as clean as they should be" (index to M12/9536/232).

In 1878 the Southwell Union was still struggling to impress the inspectors. Mr Dashwood reported that there was a good detached infirmary but the accommodation for infectious cases was inadequate (MH 12/9538/263). Just over a year later it was noticed the Workhouse Medical Officers Report Book was not filled in (MH 12/9538/460) and was cause for concern. By his visit in February 1888 however there was a noticeable improvement. The workhouse was found to be clean and satisfactory and it was noted that a paid nurse was employed in the separate infirmary (MH 12/9541/200).

By 1891 the infirmary was in need of repairs. On the 3rd July 1891 a committee formed to '*consider the drains and other sanitary matters in the workhouse and infirmary*' made their report to the Guardians and were directed to advertise for tenders. By the 31st July plans had been drawn up by Mr Taylor, an architect. (SO/PUS/1/1/11). A letter from John Kirkland to the Local Government Board reported that the Guardians were arranging to repair the drains to the workhouse and infirmary and that new baths and water closets for the infirmary were to be included (MH 12/9543/54). On the 20th August he submitted plans and specifications for the proposed changes including the privies in the infirmary and the provision of a hot water boiler for the infirmary and a bathroom (MH 12/9543/73). Plans were submitted to the Local Government Board for approval on the 5th April 1892 with the proposed cost of £300 to be payable from the Common Fund for manholes, flushing tanks, iron pipework on the sewer from the infirmary, ventilation on the sewer tanks and the sewer from the vagrant's ward (MH 12/9543/160). Mr Wheatly the builder was contracted to undertake the work and a contract was drafted by the 29th July 1892 (SO/PUS/1/1/12). His tender amounted to £291.

In November of that year the House Committee considered the case of infectious diseases. On the 18th November 1892 they reported to the Guardians that they considered the erection of an isolation hospital of 2 rooms, not costing more than £50 necessary to isolate small pox and other infectious diseases. They proposed an iron building and submitted their ideas to the Local Government Board. A letter was issued asking if there had been consideration for cooking, water supply and washing, and requested that the medical officer made a report as to whether the accommodation would be sufficient (16th December 1892 SO/PUS/1/1/12).

Dr Needham carried out an inspection in 1894 and after his visit suggested the addition of a fire exit to the infirmary and the use of blankets under spring mattresses (MH 12/9544/146). Mr Urmsen reported in 1898 that there was no second fire exit on the male side of the infirmary. He did find that there was chaff bedding in the mattresses used in the infirmary and house (MH 12/9545/188). In July (31st) 1895 plans were drawn up by Mr R.D. Noble for the proposed line of a new water main. Mr Jenkins, Water Engineer was appointed on the 1st November to supply the

3" main for a cost of £169. The appointment and main were approved by the Local Government Board and reported to the Guardians on the 7th Feb 1896 (SO/PUS/1/1/12).

In 1898 it was reported Drugs were purchased in the 11th Week Christmas Quarter from Mr G Drury, Chemist to the value of £0-15-8 (23/12/1898; SO/PUS/1/1/13). For the Michaelmas half year 1899 the total expenditure on Drugs and Surgical appliances was £4-15-0 (28/10/1898; SO/PUS/1/1/13).

Further improvements were made in 1900 when 3 earth closets were converted to water closets in the infirmary and a wooden partition had been erected on the female landing with hot and cold water installed for a bath as in the male section (MH 12/9546/180). On the 14th March 1902 the Board of Guardians received a letter from the Annie Sugden, cook Beatrice Downing and Caretaker Harriet Challand asking them to provide them with uniforms. The board agreed as long as the cost was no more than 50/- a year.

A decade later, the care provision was under review and changes were being made to the people resident in workhouses. In 1912 a number of unions which included those of Derby, Gasford, Chesterfield, East Retford, Mansfield, Newark and Southwell, joined together to provide new accommodation for the "feeble-minded and epileptic cases". The new building was to house 200 people and cost £50,000 although no mention is mentioned in the report as to its location (Sheffield Daily Telegraph 8th May, 1912; 11)

Insurance documents shed some light on the value of the buildings, although unfortunately the schedules and associated plans are no longer surviving. Issued in 1904 from the The Liverpool, London and Globe Insurance Company (PUS 1/24/1) the certificate of insurance records that the infirmary was insured for a sum of £1000 and £200 contents (the list was generic and included household goods, fixtures, fittings, linen, wearing apparel, printed books, plate, wine and liquors, china, glass, looking glasses, jewels, clocks, watches, trinkets, medals, curiosities, prints, paintings, drawings, sculptures, musical, mathematical and philosophical instruments (none greater in value than £15)).

FURTHER EXPANSION – 1914 TO 1930s

In 1914 the infirmary was extended to the north. Discussions about the extension had arisen in November 1913 when at the Board of Guardians meeting Mr Browne stated that he "*considered the accommodation of the workhouse infirmary unsatisfactory as the inmates had to take their meals in the same room as inmates suffering from objectionable diseases and proposed the matter to be inquired into by the house committee*" (SO/PUS/1/1/18). After due consideration the House Committee reported back on the 19th December 1913 that they recommended an extension to

the women's side which would be extended by the an "*addition of two new maternity wards and the present maternity wards be utilised for other cases*". They were directed by the Guardians to instruct Mr H.H. Sands, Engineer, of Nottingham to draw up the plans. The House Committee (SO1/3/1) reported on the 16th January 1914 that they had examined the existing infirmary with Mr Sands and decided that additions should be to the same height.

Plans were submitted on the 30th January 1914 with a proposed cost of £820 not including the architect's fees. Nineteen Guardians voted in favour of the extension and the motion was carried. The Nottingham Evening Post reported the "*plans were submitted by the House Committee for the erection of four new wards*" (30/1/14 p6). Two months later on the 13th March the Guardians resolved to ask the Local Government Board to sanction a loan of £900. Messrs Sands and Walker were appointed as engineers at 5% of the cost and for a further 2.5% of the cost they were asked to draw up the quantities.

On the 8th May the Guardians received approval from the Local Government Board that suggested that the first floor should be used for the maternity wards. The Guardians decided to apply to the Public Loans Work Board for £900 to be repaid in ten years (approved 9/10/1914). Mr John Beckett was appointed for the erection of additional wards at the Workhouse Infirmary for a cost of £812 on the 5th June 1914. The Public Loans Work Board granted the loan in January 1915 and the seal of the Guardians attached to the mortgage on the 26th February at a rate of 4% per annum (SO/PUS/1/1/18).

The new maternity ward was also accessible to those outside the workhouse. Children that were admitted, would have been located as follows: boys on the first floor, and girls and nursing mothers on the ground floor at the southern end of the infirmary building (Smith 2001, 8). A photograph held by Nottingham Archives shows the infirmary building after the 1914 extension (**Appendix I.2**).

The National Trust holds a number of oral histories some of which refer to the infirmary. In the 1920s one resident recalled:

"The younger children... there was the little nursery belonging to the infirm, you know up off of the infirm, the other end, the infirm, yes there was a nursery nurse up there and some assistance and..., they were looked after..... Maternity ward as well above the nursery" (NT/TW3).

Another recalled there were approximately 20 children in the workhouse occupying the new 1914 extension when they was there in the 1920s and the children were separated from their mothers almost as soon as they arrived, with separate rooms for boys and girls (NT/NW25). The bed were described as being made of iron with "*white sheets and blankets*" (NT/TW 21/22) the

beds were also described as “straw mattresses ya see, made ‘em very ‘ard and about that thick”, but “...they were good for you” (NT/TW25).

There were strict rules about how the children were to sleep, but this interviewee then described the room as being warm (NT/TW25).

“We all had to sit, sleep one way, all faced round because the old lady that used to sleep in the room with us said it was bad to breathe one another’s breath and we were miles apart... There was an outbreak of scarlet fever and they took us to the isolation hospital, it was the same there. She put you all in bed, she makes everybody turned the same road, and...”

She was a resident: “but she was more, what shall I say, a helper than actually the same as some of them. And she used to bath us on a Friday or Saturday night. Two in the bath, one, there’d be two holding you, one to dry us and one used to bath us...”

“But I mean, when you think about Dickens workhouses, this was nothing like it, no a lot better”.

“It wasn’t a cold place. We always had big fires there”. (NT/TW 21/22 (1920s)).

The 1920 insurance policy reflected the increased provision. The surviving records include an outline schedule listing medicines, bandages, surgical appliances and other infirmary requisites insured for a value of £20. The building, described as two storeys, was valued at £5300 (PUS 1/24/3). A general note on the whole site noted buildings were heated by ordinary fires and paraffin lamps, the paraffin for which was stored in metal tanks in another building. In the Nottingham Journal dated 24th July that year recorded “43 inmates in the 6 wards and 21 in the other parts of the house.” (p6). One of the Guardians thought they had enough staff but the house committee and the rest of the board agreed to advertise for another assistant nurse.

The minutes of the Board of Guardians (SO/PUS/1/1/21) reveal the next development for the infirmary. At the end of October 1924 a report about the Board meeting of the 24th appeared in the newspapers revealing that *patients were eating and dying in the same ward at the infirmary*.

On the 5th November 1924 a new Dr Smith sent a report to the Board based on his latest visit, recording that he had seen the nuisance caused by Thomas Barratt’s mental condition to other inmates and suggested as a first measure a separate side ward be established. The Board however “resolved that the advisability of extending the infirmary be considered by the house committee and H.H. Sands be asked to make a report.”

On the 21st November 1924 Mr H.H. Sands attended the board meeting and submitted plans and estimates for the extension of the Infirmary. He proposed that the cost of a two-storey extension

would be £450 on the women's side and £400 on the men's side. A single-storey building would be £325 and £300 respectively. The House Committee had already reviewed the plans ahead of the meeting and decided that both sides of the infirmary be extended by one room at two stories for a total cost of £850. This was sent back to the House committee for further consideration.

The House committee decided that just extending the infirmary would not be sufficient and on the 30th January 1925 Mr H.H. Sands submitted plans for a new separate infirmary block containing 40 beds and administrative accommodation. The cost for the new building he estimated to be between £5,500 and £6,000. The House committee recommended that the building of the new block begin as soon as possible *because of the present overcrowding in the infirmary*. Messrs. Sands and Walker were employed to prepare the detailed plans and estimates for the Ministry of Health. These plans have survived (**Appendix I.12**) and show the layout of both the old and the proposed new infirmary at this date (MP/XBP/48/I-3L and MP/XMP/64/L).

On the 17th July, having met with George Walsh, Minister for Health, the chairman, Clerk and Mr Sands reported that the Ministry had suggested '*That the new block should be used for one class of patient only, male or female, and the present infirmary be used for the other class of patient, that provision should be made for small wards a ward for minor operations, provisions made for nurses and the block constructed to allow for any necessary extensions.*' It was therefore proposed that the ministry's suggestions be adopted and new plans submitted to them for approval. Further minutes dated 16th July 1925 revealed the cost of the new building. A loan of £8,850 was given the London Savings Bank and secured against the common Fund of the Union.

On the 23rd April 1926 a letter dated the 13th April from Mr Sands to the Board revealed that the contractor Mr W. Smith had commenced setting out the new infirmary on the 12th April. Mr Unwin started his job as Clerk of Works for which he had been appointed on the 26th March at a salary of £5 per week. The Ministry of Health had also sanctioned that the Guardians could borrow £8,850 for a period of 30 years. The board proposed that an application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for the loan.

By the 4th June 1926 the clerk submitted further quotations for a loan of £8850 from Messrs. Charles Seymour Taylor and Co and Messrs. Charles Dagnall and Co. of Birchington in Kent. Messrs. Charles Seymour and Taylor were selected as although both companies wanted a 5.5% return they had requested a £51 fee rather than £100. The Clerk was instructed by the board to tell them a further £2000 was also likely to be needed and to ask if the rate could be reduced to 5%.

While the building work was going on the minutes of the 4th June 1926 also reveal that the medical officers were to be asked to *'refrain from sending any patients to the infirmary unless absolutely necessary owing to the overcrowding'*.

On the 16th June 1926 Mr. Sands submitted plans for the 2nd story of the new infirmary block costing £1,800-£2,000. These too were sent to the Ministry of Health for approval.

The block took two years to build. On the 5th April 1928 the suppliers for the new infirmary block were decided upon.

Supplier	Equipment	Cost
Messrs. Waring and Gillow, London	Furniture	£50-14-6
Messrs. Foster Cooper & Foster, Nottingham	Furniture	£85-9-0
Mr. F Harrington, Nottingham	Furniture and bedding	£113-19-3
Messrs. Hoskins and Sewell, Birmingham	Ward Screens	£19-4-0
Mr. Wm. Dowse, Southwell	Bedsteads and bedding	£409-16-9
Messrs. Jessop & Son, Nottingham	Bedding, Macintosh sheeting and cutlery	£70-17-1
Messrs. Huggins Son and Co Ltd, Bristol	Blankets etc.	£14-0-0
Messrs. James Morris and Son, Nottingham	Bedding etc.	£56-11-6
Mr. G. M. Edwards, Southwell	Patients towels	£6-6-0
Messrs. Ainley brothers, Halifax	Clothing	£52-10-0
Messrs. Wagstaff and Brunt, Longton, Staffs.	Crockery	£6-5-0
Messrs. Restall & Co, Birmingham	Ward medicine chests	£120-0-0
	Total	£1007-13-1

Table 2: Equipment suppliers for the new infirmary in 1928

The insurance document for 1928 (PUS 1/24/4) noted the new infirmary was lit by electric light and heated by a low-pressure hot water system. It was valued at £8,000. This new building is also referred to as the hospital (**Appendix I.12**).

HARRY SANDS – ARCHITECT/ENGINEER OF THE 1920S AND 1930S ALTERATIONS

Mr Harry Hall Sands, described as a civil engineer when he died, was a partner in the firm Sands and Walker of Nottingham. The partnership had begun in 1898 at Dudley Chambers in Angel Row and later they had moved to Milton Chambers on Milton Street in Nottingham. Mr Sands was a consultant engineer to a number of local authorities and designed a number of drainage, water supply and drainage schemes. For example in 1922 he was involved in establishing a water supply to six parishes in the Southwell Rural District (Nottingham Journal 6/10/1922; 5) and later in 1928 he was involved in the in a new sewage works at Southwell (Nottingham Journal 12/11/1928; 7 and 13/8/1930; 5).

He was responsible for many of the designs and costings of alterations and additions in the 1920s and 1930s at Southwell Workhouse. In addition to the new infirmary building the Nottingham Evening Post 8th September 1928 reported that H.H. Sands had been instructed by the Board of Guardians at Southwell to sketch a plan and estimate the cost of converting a building into a “*temporary casual ward*” to cope with the large number of people seeking assistance (p5). Since the previous meeting 259 men, 5 women and a child had been admitted (Nottingham Journal 8/9/1928; 7).

Mr Sands died at his home, Wivenhoe, Ratcliffe-on-Trent on the 19th December 1935 aged 68. (Nottingham Journal 20/12/1935; 7). He was reported to have been interested in shooting, fishing and golf and was Master of the Castle Lodge Freemasons in 1911 and founder of the Ratcliffe Lodge (Nottingham Evening Post 20/12/1935; 9).

THE INFIRMARY 1930 TO PRESENT DAY – INCLUDING ORAL HISTORY

In 1929 the Local Government Act abolished the Poor Law Guardians. Around this time the site became known as the Southwell County Institution. In 1935 it was reported in the Nottingham Evening News on the 31st July (p4) that the Public Assistance Committee had approved the principle of the erection of a new children's nursery block for 28 children in the grounds of the Southwell County institution. This was known as Caudwell House. The National Trust Archive holds an image of the staff at this time (**Appendix I.5**).

Oral histories once again help us understand life in the infirmary in the 1930s and 40s. The building is described by one interviewee (NT/TW28) as having a dining room, a maternity ward “*used for delivery and for the mother lying in until... she went out again*”. There were also “*two little private wards as well upstairs*.” The newer hospital building had highly polished floors but in the old infirmary they were described by the interviewee as “*wooden floors but they weren't polished like that, they might have been treated with something, I can't remember*”. They also remembered that

the infirmary decoration was very plain with no curtains and the porter used to live in the centre of the block. On night duty there were also some unwelcome visitors:

"When we were on night duty, oh yes we did have to be on night duty in the infirm block, because at one time there was just a little kitchen in there, used to sit there with this old cold [cold], stove ya know, and in the middle of the night ya could see these mice coming out and I don't know where they didn't come from, or where they went to..."(NT/TW28).

At the nursery end of the building in this period there were also some nurses bedrooms:

"cos, they made a lot of nurses bedrooms up at the nursery, five or six or whatever there...."
(NT/TW28).

The Poor Law was abolished in 1948 and replaced by Public Assistance and Public Health committees (Richardson 1998, 75). Southwell continued to provide institutional care while the infirmaries at Nottingham, Mansfield, Newark and Workshop became the foundation of NHS provision. Mr. and Mrs. Freeman, employed from the 1930s as master and matron, remained until the 1950s. In February 1948 an advert appeared in the Nottingham Evening Post (February 21st 1948; 3) for assistant nurses. Female nurses could be resident or non-resident, male nurses had to be non-resident. The advert noted Rushcliffe salaries were to be paid and applicants could apply to the Matron at the institution or to the Public Assistance Officer in Nottingham.

The site had become known as Greet House (Onion and Ball 2017, 25 & Nottingham Journal 3rd November 1948, 4). The Nottingham Journal reported that in November 1948 £600 of furniture had been purchased to make the residents more comfortable, although there is no indication as to which building this was for. The old infirmary building became a care home for elderly men whilst women were housed in the new infirmary.

A contract between the County Council and Beckett and Thacker for £169-0-8 dated the 25th June 1949 (CC6/3/11/306) mentions interior alterations were planned for 'interior alterations at Greet House' although the contract has no further details which parts of the site were affected. In 1950 a report in the Nottingham Journal dated January 13th reported on their plans for "hotels" for old folk defined by the National Assistance Act of 1948 as "in need of care and attention that cannot otherwise be provided". It noted that Greet House had 79 beds for the infirm, compare to other former workhouses at Bingham renamed Stanhope, 69 and Hillcrest at Retford 116 (p6).

In the 1960s all accommodation became used by females. The infirmary blocks were renamed Firbeck (old infirmary) and Minster View (new infirmary) by the residents and matron to reduce the feel of an institution (pers. Comm. S. Ball, NT researcher, Southwell).

The Matron at the time was later interviewed and described how the renaming had come about:

"..well, when we went there it was "block 1 and block 2" but we asked the residents about it and talked to, and asked the committee's permission and we called them by names and it, the top one, the one that used to be a hospital was "Minster View" and the other was "Firbeck". We thought it was more friendly. Less institutional" (NT/TW5)

Some other recollections recall the number of residents and layout of the building:

"Well as I say block 2 (Firbeck) was for 42 old ladies and there were two dining rooms, two sitting rooms and I think, there was, there'd be about three or four single rooms, it's difficult to remember that. And the rest were and bigger rooms there was maybe about 6 or 8 people".

[Were they local people?] "No, it actually, they were fairly local the one's that were in block 2 and block 1 (Minster View) tended to be from anywhere in the county" (NT/TW5).

There were about 40 members of staff at the workhouse in the 1960s. This included:

"My husband and I and his clerk and my, I had two assistant matrons and, for the most time we were all state registered, but that wasn't a requirement it just happened that way"(NT/TW 9).

In the late 1960s a hairdresser described life in 'the good block' Firbeck in her oral history. She remembered that there were carpets in the sitting rooms, comfy chairs and a piano.

"They were nice in there, they were nice ladies, an you could have a conversation with them, you could joke with them and everything and the staff, ... all the staff were nice,... I'm sure these to be once a week, when I first started anyway, some member of the clergy used to go, and they had a piano there, and they used to have a weekly service..."

"..they'd be given their tablets at certain times of the day, and if I go outside to perhaps shake a towel or something else...all the drains would be full of these different coloured tablets they'd thrown down the sink, I mean they weren't daft on that block' (NT/TW 20).

Children from temporary accommodation at Greet House sometimes used to play outside Firbeck in the 1960s. One interviewee recalled:

"There was the odd time that you find the children would come out as children do and play here instead of going ... which was alright as long as they didn't, but when there were families coming for instance, relatives coming up to see the old folks, say maybe on a Sunday afternoon, it was a bit embarrassing to see all these kids, it gave an awful look of a workhouse!"(NT/TW 9).

In 1999, Firbeck House was acquired by the National Trust and remodelling of part of the first floor into offices were completed in 2012. A temporary 'pop-up' café was opened downstairs in 2017.

STAFF AT THE INFIRMARY

Whilst undertaking the research into the history of Firbeck House, it has been possible to create a table of the various medical positions that were advertised for various member of staff (**Appendices 1.3-1.7**); see below:

Date and source	Details of position
Nottingham Journal 11 April 1863	The Guardians of this Union intend at their meeting to the held on Tuesday 21 st instant 11 o'clock...to appoint a Medical Officer for the workhouse in the place of Mr Warwick, resigned. Salary £35 p.a. exclusive of the extra medical fees allowed under the general orders of the Poor-law Board.
Stamford Mercury 22 May 1863	Re-advertised for 2 nd June
Nottinghamshire Guardian 11 June 1869	Decided at meeting on 8 th June to appoint a nurse for the workhouse. Must be single or widow, not less than 21 years nor more than 40. Must be fully qualified to perform the duties connected and set forth in the orders of the Poor Law board and to generally assist the Matron. Salary £15p.a. including the usual rations allowed to officers, including lodging and washing.
1871 Census	Elizabeth Herring, daughter of the matron recorded as being employed as a nurse (Minutes note her employment from 1869)
Nottinghamshire Guardian 31 March 1871	Mr Cooke resigned as Medical Officer to the Workhouse and Southwell District. Appointment to be made at next meeting 11 th April. Position advertised for Southwell District Medical Officer (workhouse role not mentioned in advert) 11766 acres and population 4914. Salary £65pa exclusive of Vaccination fees and extra medical expenses permitted by the Poor Law Board.
Nottinghamshire Guardian 28th April 1871	Mr Osborne resigned after a fortnight as medical officer to Southwell and the workhouse
Nottinghamshire Guardian 12 September 1873	To be appointed at meeting on the 23 rd September. Female nurse. Salary £15 with rations, unfurnished apartments and washing in house. Must be single or widow without children between ages of 25 and 45, able to read and write and competent to perform all the duties of office and maker herself generally useful

Date and source	Details of position
	and assist the Matron
MH12/9537/229	Mr Campion Calvert appointed as workhouse medical officer in May 1875
Stamford Mercury 15 November 1878	Advert for Female nurse to be appointed on 26 th November. Salary 20l with rations, furnished apartments and washing in house. Candidates single or widow without children under 45 able to read and write and competent to perform all the duties of office and make herself generally useful and assist the Matron
Nottinghamshire Guardian 17 January 1879 and Nottinghamshire Guardian 31 January 1879	Advert for female Nurse to be appointed 4 th February. Salary £25 with rations, furnished apartments and washing in house. Candidates single or widow without children under 45 able to read and write and competent to perform all the duties of office and make herself generally useful and assist the Matron
Nottinghamshire Guardian 21 February 1879	Post re-advertised to be appointed 4 th March 26 th October
Nottinghamshire Guardian 22 October 1880	Female Nurse to be appointed 25 th October. Salary £25 with rations, furnished apartments and washing in house. Candidates single or widow without children under 45 able to read and write and competent to perform all the duties of office and make herself generally useful and assist the Matron
MH12/9539/118 (1880)	Mary Jane Sheriden employed. She had formerly been at Driffeld workhouse.
Nottinghamshire Guardian 28 October 1881	Female Nurse to be appointed 8 th November. Salary £25 with rations, furnished apartments and washing in house. Candidates single or widow without children under 45 able to read and write and competent to perform all the duties of office and make herself generally useful and assist the Matron
MH12/9542/121 (1881) & MH12/9543/123	Elizabeth Anne Ashford employed as a nurse. In the 1881 Census she is described as a widow aged 30. She resigned in January 1892
MH12/9545/89 (1897)	Miss Wotherspoon, nurse, involved in a case against the master and requested to resign
Leicester Chronicle 21 August 1897	Mention of appointment to the Loughborough Union of a nurse named A. Twigg who had moved to the infirmary at Amphil from Southwell after serving 5 years. Mr. Fryer the Loughborough Master had been Master at Southwell when Nurse Twigg was there.

Date and source	Details of position
MH12/9546/118 (1898)	Annie Goulden appointed nurse
MH12/9546/118 (1898)	Ellen Benzie appointed on 23 rd September 1899
MH12/9546/193 (1900)	Annie Sugden appointed nurse with rations, apartment and 1/- in lieu of beer. In 1901 she was described as the hospital nurse
1911 Census	A nurse Ellen Cassey, and two assistant nurses Evelyn Hunter and Elsie Coleman employed
Sheffield Independent 12 March 1908	Nurse Casey mentioned in a report about Percy Parkin being removed from his parents to the Southwell Union Infirmary owing to lack of nourishment.
Nottingham Evening Post 30 January 1914	Article announcing infirmary extension also states that there had been no response to the advert for position of assistant nurse and it was to be re-advertised.
Nottingham Evening Post 29 April 1926	Assistant Nurse required at the Infirmary, Southwell, Salary £45 per annum with uniform, apartments, rations etc. in the institution. Apply to John Ellis, Clerk to the Guardians, Southwell. Notts
Nottingham Journal 10 December 1929	Report that Southwell Board of Guardians was seeking to reduce the amount of compensation paid to Miss Harrop, formerly a nurse at the Southwell Infirmary. On 13 th February she had fallen down 20 steps carrying a tray and hurt her right wrist.
Southwell Oral Histories	Nellie Bradbury - nurse (1930s), Nurse Merrin (1930s)
Nottingham Evening Post 21 February 1948	Nottingham County Council Southwell County Institution. Assistant nurses are required, female, resident or non- resident, male, non-resident. Also women capable of carrying out simple nursing duties; full or part time. Rushcliffe salaries and conditions of service apply to appointments.

Table 4: Staff employed at Southwell Infirmary

ANALYSIS OF HISTORIC MAPPING

The first edition 25" OS map for the area is dated 1885 (**Appendix 1.8**). It clearly shows the infirmary behind the main workhouse block surrounded by walls and set back from the road. The building is clearly split into two parts with associated courtyards. Little change is shown on the 1900 (**Appendix 1.9**) and 1910 editions (**Appendix 1.10**), but on later editions the layout of the old and new infirmary building and further outbuildings have been added. Notably the northern extension and the air-raid shelter has been built by the mid 20th century (**Appendix 1.11**).

ARCHITECTURAL PLANS OF FIRBECK HOUSE

The infirmary was designed to accommodate 32 inmates, almost a third of the average number of occupants of the workhouse. The size of the infirmary was small compared to those in London whose beds were listed in journals such as the *Lancet* in 1881; for example, Newington had enough beds for 1010, Holborn 617 and Camberwell 232 (Ayres 1971, 68). Provincial provision was usually for less than 100 beds but the linear plan, like that at Southwell often resulted in long narrow buildings. That at Holbeck, erected in 1882-2 for 100 patients was 300ft in length (Morrison 1999, 168). The design of the Southwell Infirmary is very similar to one in Wells also built in 1871 and designed for 60 patients. It too had a central nurses area with wards on either side and separate entrances (Richardson 1998, 68).

The plans surviving in Nottingham archives show the layout of the workhouse site and the division of rooms of the old and proposed infirmaries for the period 1925-1928. The block plan (**Appendix I.12**) by Sands and Walker dated 1928 shows the old infirmary block laying to the north of the main block, its orientation westward with a number of outbuildings on the east side. The new infirmary is orientated southwest. Also shown are a stable block, mortuary and piggeries. The long block behind the main block was the laundry and in front of the main block gardens are laid out. A site plan (**Appendix I.13**) by the county architect L. Maggs c.1930 identified asphalt paths and the whole workhouse site consisting of 10.450 acres. Behind the piggeries was a tramp ward and a garage is identified in the stable block.

The detailed plans of the building (**Appendices I.14, I.15**) show the strict male, female segregation. Each sex had their own entrance into a tiled hallway. On the ground floor male patients had a single ward and day room which lay to the south of the building while the two women's wards and with nurseries were to the north. Each had their own yards, although by this date there was one inside bathroom and toilet for the women. In the yard there was an external washroom. In the men's yard there was a toilet and a number of storerooms. Between the wards there were two halls allowing separate access to the wards, a nurses' room and kitchen, W.C. and store. On the first floor there were 3 women's wards and a nursery, together with 2 bathrooms and W.C.s. For the men there was a single large ward with bathroom and W.C. The two wards were again separated by 2 further bedrooms, possibly for staff. All the wards had windows on both sides of the room.

The plans for the proposed new infirmary to the northwest of Firbeck House illustrate that there were to be two large wards on the ground floor both with verandas, the benefits of sunshine and fresh air now being recognised, separated by the Nurses dining and sitting room, duty room, office and day room as well as bathrooms and W.C.s and an operating room.

5 UNDERSTANDING THE SITE – HISTORIC FABRIC

INTRODUCTION

This section of the report presents the results of the archaeological analysis of the exposed historic fabric that comprises Firbeck House. To accompany the written description a series of drawings have been prepared (**Figures 4 to 7**) and digital photographs of the various structural elements are included as **Appendix 2**.

Firbeck House (Building 1) is described first, followed by the Outbuilding or potting shed (Building 2) and then the Air Raid Shelter (Building 3) (see **Figure 2**).

PHASED DEVELOPMENT

The development of Firbeck House can be sub-divided in to six phases of development and alteration (see **Figure 3**).

STRUCTURAL PHASES

Phase 1 Construction of the southern two-thirds of the Infirmary and Outbuildings.
(1871-72) The building comprises separate wards for men and women and ancillary accommodation for nurses.

Phase 2 Provision made for water-closets and bathrooms, replacing former earth-closets.
(1891-1900)

Phase 3 Extension of the infirmary to the north adding an additional four wards.
(1914)

Phase 4 Construction of the air-raid shelter.
(1930s/40s)

Phase 5 Addition of single storey extensions to the east elevation and subdivision of
(1940s/50s) **F17-F21** to create nurses bedrooms.

Phase 6 Alterations by the NT to form cafe in **G1-G2**, install new toilets in **G6**, a
(2012 and 2017) kitchen in **G7-G8** and installation of partition walls to form offices **F1-F2**.



Figure 3: Phased development of Firbeck House

DESCRIPTION OF FABRIC – FIRBECK HOUSE

INTRODUCTION

Firbeck House is a narrow two storey rectangular building with external dimensions of 10m x 45.8m (**Appendices 2.1, 2.1, 2.11**). The building is a traditional solid wall structure of machine made red brick laid in English Wall Bond with pale yellow lime mortar, repointed in a cementitious mortar in places. Three short two-storey wings extend from the eastern elevation in addition to three later single-storey flat roofed extensions.

The building rises to 6.7m above ground level at its eaves where the brickwork is corbelled out, with a cogged brick course and plain brick band, supporting the guttering (**Appendix 2.5**). The roof is hipped and covered with Welsh slate and sandstone ridge tiles. Brick chimney stacks rise at either gable end, with two from the ridge, and a further three in line with the eastern elevation. The stacks are corbelled out by three courses at their top, the final course being in blue brick. The upper section of the southern-most chimney has been rebuilt.

WEST ELEVATION

The west elevation is the principal façade of the building, and whilst not notably grander than the rear elevation has survived with few alterations (**Appendix 2.7**).

The southern two-thirds of the building correspond to the first phase of Firbeck House, comprising a projecting central pedimented pavilion (**Appendix 2.4**) of three bays flanked by wings to north and south. The central pavilion projects forward beyond the building line and is symmetrical with two six-panel doors (**Appendix 2.6**) with arch-headed fanlights at ground floor flanking a double set of sash windows, and a row of three evenly spaced sashes at first floor. A date stone bearing the inscription “BUILT 1871” is located within the triangular pediment (**Appendix 2.5**), articulated by a stringcourse and raking cornice both with a cogged brick course and plain brick band. The wings are of four bays defined by regularly spaced identical sash windows. The cases of the sash windows, similar throughout this phase of the building, are set back from the plane of the external wall and recessed into the brickwork, the window itself subdivided by glazing bars into eight panes, with plain sandstone sills and flat arched heads of gauged brickwork painted. The window in the southwest corner of the southern wing has been converted to a doorway (**Appendix 2.7**). Cast iron ventilation grills are spaced regularly across the elevation.

The northern third of the building corresponds to a subsequent extension to Firbeck House in 1914 (**Appendix 2.1**). The southern bay of this phase is gabled (**Appendix 2.3**) and projects from the principal building line with raking cornice at eaves rising from moulded corbels. Within this bay

is a six-panelled timber door with narrow over-light at ground floor adjacent to a small sash window, whilst above at first floor is a large small paned sash window with arched head. The elevation continues four bays north, comprising regularly spaced sash windows of two panes with rebated case, rounded horns, upper slim casement, and flat sandstone sills and lintels.

EAST ELEVATION

The southern two-thirds of the building comprises 11 bays (**Appendix 2.12**), and is symmetrical with short projecting two-storey wings from the sixth and eighth bays and projecting chimney breasts between bays 4/5 and 9/10 (**Appendix 2.17**). The chimneys rise uniformly to eaves level whereupon they reduce in width over two stages with sloping sandstone shoulders. The projecting bays have hipped roofs and narrow off-centre sash windows. At the southern corner of the elevation is a tall square section brick built chimney (**Appendices 2.13,2.14**), most-likely corresponding to a former boiler house which no longer survives. Scarring around windows indicates that some have undergone alteration, including the reinstatement of a window that removed a formerly inserted doorway – that would have most likely served as a fire escape.

Flat roofed single storey red-brick built extensions (**Appendix 2.12**) have been constructed between the two storey bays and south of the southern two-storey bay, keyed into the original structure. These extensions have slim profiled steel frame casement windows of mid twentieth century date. The southern and central extensions included the creation of high level casement windows into the original structure.

The northern third of the east elevation represents an extension of the original Firbeck House, comprising, from the north, three regularly spaced windowed bays, a short projecting two-storey bay and a narrow bay of windows between that and the end of the southern phase where there is a vertical construction joint (**Appendix 2.18**). A First floor door off the northeastern corridor has been inserted within a former window opening, and leads out onto a modern steel fire escape staircase. A later single-storey flat roofed extension has been built within the angle north of the projecting bay. Differences in door design confirm the phased development of the building (see (**Appendices 2.15, 2.16**).

NORTH ELEVATION

The north elevation is blind with no evidence of alteration.

SOUTH ELEVATION

The southern elevation is blind with a projecting central chimney breast which rises uniformly to eaves level whereupon it reduces in width over two stages with sloping sandstone shoulders.

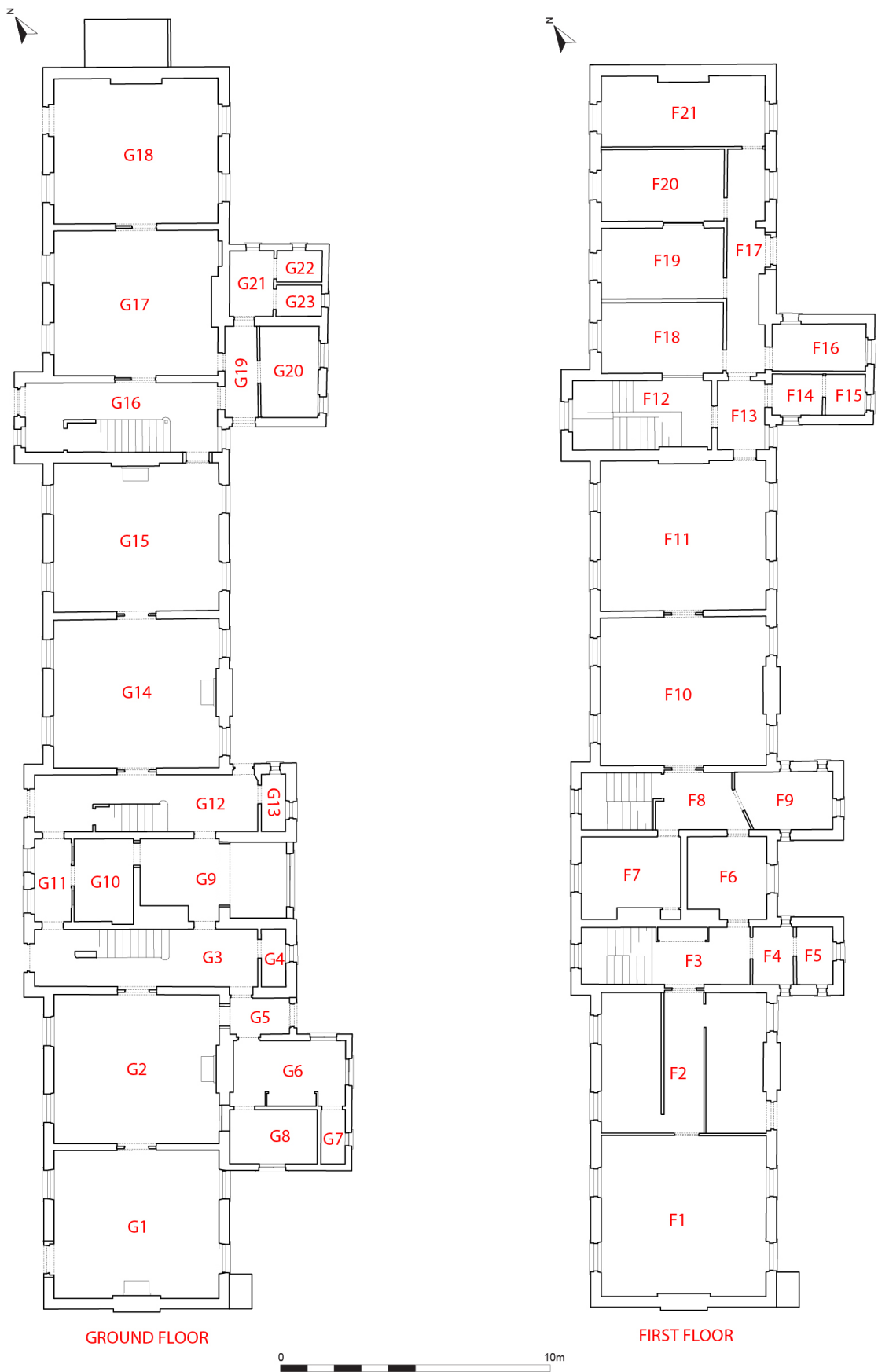


Figure 4: Ground and first floor plans of Firbeck House

DESCRIPTION OF FABRIC – FIRBECK HOUSE GROUND FLOOR

ROOM G1

G1 is depicted on the 1925 infirmary plan as a ward, and is now the temporary café dining room, measuring 5.5m x 6.1m (**Appendix 2.19**). The flooring of the room is (linoleum/wooden boards), with walls and ceilings plastered and painted. A robust plain wooden skirting board, comprising a modern replacement in the style of the original, and a simple picture rail are present across all walls. Cast iron ventilation grills are evident within the skirting and above the picture rail, four to each of the west and east walls.

A chimney breast projects from the southern wall, containing a mid-20th century tiled fire surround and hearth the fireplace of which has been boarded over. The western wall contains two sash windows, with a slight splay to the jambs. The eastern wall is similarly divided, although a doorway has been inserted through an original window opening (**Appendix 2.20**). The insertion of a door here may have been to provide an alternative fire escape route, and reflects the insertion of openings in **G18**, **F2** (now reinstated as a window) and **F17**. The requirement for further fire exits was noted in a report by Dr Needham in 1894, but does not appear to have been undertaken until the mid-20th century. The northern wall is a brick built partition with a central wide doorway having lost its doors but retaining a moulded architrave with evidence in the form of scars and redundant bolt lock socket indicating it had been designed to contain a set of narrow double doors (**Appendix 2.21**).

ROOM G2

G2 is depicted on the 1925 infirmary plan as a day room, measuring 5.5m x 6.1m, and is now used as a temporary café (**Appendix 2.22**). The finish of the room is the same as, and contemporary with, **G1** with the addition of a modern raised counter area along the eastern wall.

A chimney breast projects from the eastern wall, where a fireplace is considered to survive boxed over. The wall either side of the chimney breast has been altered, most likely following the addition of **G5-8**, with the bricking in of the southern window, the insertion of a door in the northern window, and the insertion of high level narrow steel frame casement windows. The western wall contains two sash windows, with a slight splay to the jambs and cast iron ventilation grills are evident within the skirting and above the picture rail.

A doorway within the centre of the northern wall retains the same form of architrave as that between **G1/G2**, with additional inserted narrow timber framed side-lights along the internal edges of the frame.

ROOM G3

G3 is a hallway measuring 2.1m x 8.3m (**Appendix 2.23**). The room is plastered and plainly painted with a concrete floor (covered over with linoleum/carpet?).

The principal external entrance lies in the western wall, and would have provided segregated access into the men's wards of the infirmary. A staircase rises from west to east along the northern wall, with regular stone steps triangular in section and cantilevered out. The balustrade is of iron (**Appendix 2.25**), with plain square banisters, plain flat rail overlain by sections of moulded timber rail, and cast iron moulded newel post. A small store is formed beneath the stairs. Doorways in the northern and eastern wall provide access to ancillary rooms **G4**, **G9** and **G11**. An original exterior door in the eastern end of the southern wall now leads into **G5**.

ROOM G4

G4 has been converted to a toilet, although was originally used as storeroom (**Appendix 2.26**). It measures 2.1m x 0.9m. Narrow sash windows are present within the east wall.

ROOMS G5-G8

G5- G8 represents an extension to the east of the infirmary building, with **G5** comprising a lobby , **G6** a toilet block (**Appendix 2.27**), and **G7-8** a kitchen. Throughout the rooms are plastered and painted with a red tile floor and skirting.

ROOM G9

G9 represents a former kitchen, now used as a store (**Appendix 2.24**). The room has been extended to the east, involving the insertion of a wide opening, and the creation of new wall set further back with a large thin profile steel frame casement window. Above the lintel (most likely a boxed in RSJ) of the inserted opening is a continuous narrow steel frame casement window. The floor throughout the room is of red tiles which continue to form the skirting.

The southern wall of the room contains a chimney breast, the fireplace having been blocked. Doors within the northern and southern walls are modern fire doors. Two RSJs cross above the southern doorway.

Rooms G10-G11

G10 represents a former office accessed from a corridor **G11** (**Appendix 2.5**), now out of use and inaccessible due to the removal of the floor. Where the floor boards have been removed the structure below was exposed, comprising a compacted earth platform onto which a row of bricks had been lain supporting a floor joist. A picture rail circles the room.

Dividing **G10** from **G11** is a timber framed screen with solid lower panels, glazed mid panels and louvered vents in narrow upper panels (**Appendix 2.26**). A central doorway within the screen has been boarded over. There was no access to this room during the survey.

G11 comprises a narrow corridor lit from two windows in the west wall (**Appendix 2.26**). The doors at either end of the corridor are of two phases, comprising a mid-twentieth century panelled door to the north and a modern fire door to the south.

ROOM G12

G12 is a hallway measuring 2.1m x 8.3m, and is a mirror image of **G3** (**Appendix 2.31**). The room is plastered and plainly painted with a concrete floor.

The principal external entrance lies in the western wall (**Appendix 2.34**), and would have provided segregated access into the women's and infant's wards of the infirmary. A staircase rises from west to east along the southern wall (**Appendix 2.32**), and is identical to that of **G3**, with a metal newel post (**Appendix 2.33**). A small store is formed beneath the stairs.

ROOM G13

G13 is a water closet (toilet), measuring 2.1m x 0.9m (**Appendix 2.28**). Narrow sash windows are present within the east and north walls (**Appendix 2.29**). The room retains a dado rail and wainscoting in the form of vertical match-boarding (**Appendix 2.30**).

ROOM G14

G14 is a former day room now disused, measuring 5.5m x 6.1m (**Appendix 2.38**). A robust skirting and moulded picture rail circle the room, with a timber floor covered over with fibreboard sheets. The room is papered in a floral design below the picture rail, and painted above.

The southern wall contains a wide opening with a moulded architrave. Within the opening is a later inserted door frame with side lights (**Appendix 2.39**). The door itself is plain with a square glazed panel. A similar opening is also present in the north wall, although the architrave and door have been removed.

The east and west walls have identical sash windows with splayed jambs. Within the centre of the eastern wall is a chimney breast (**Appendix 2.40**) with tiled fire surround and hearth of mid-twentieth century date. The fireplace has been boarded over. Ventilation grills are evident at skirting level and above the picture rail in both walls.

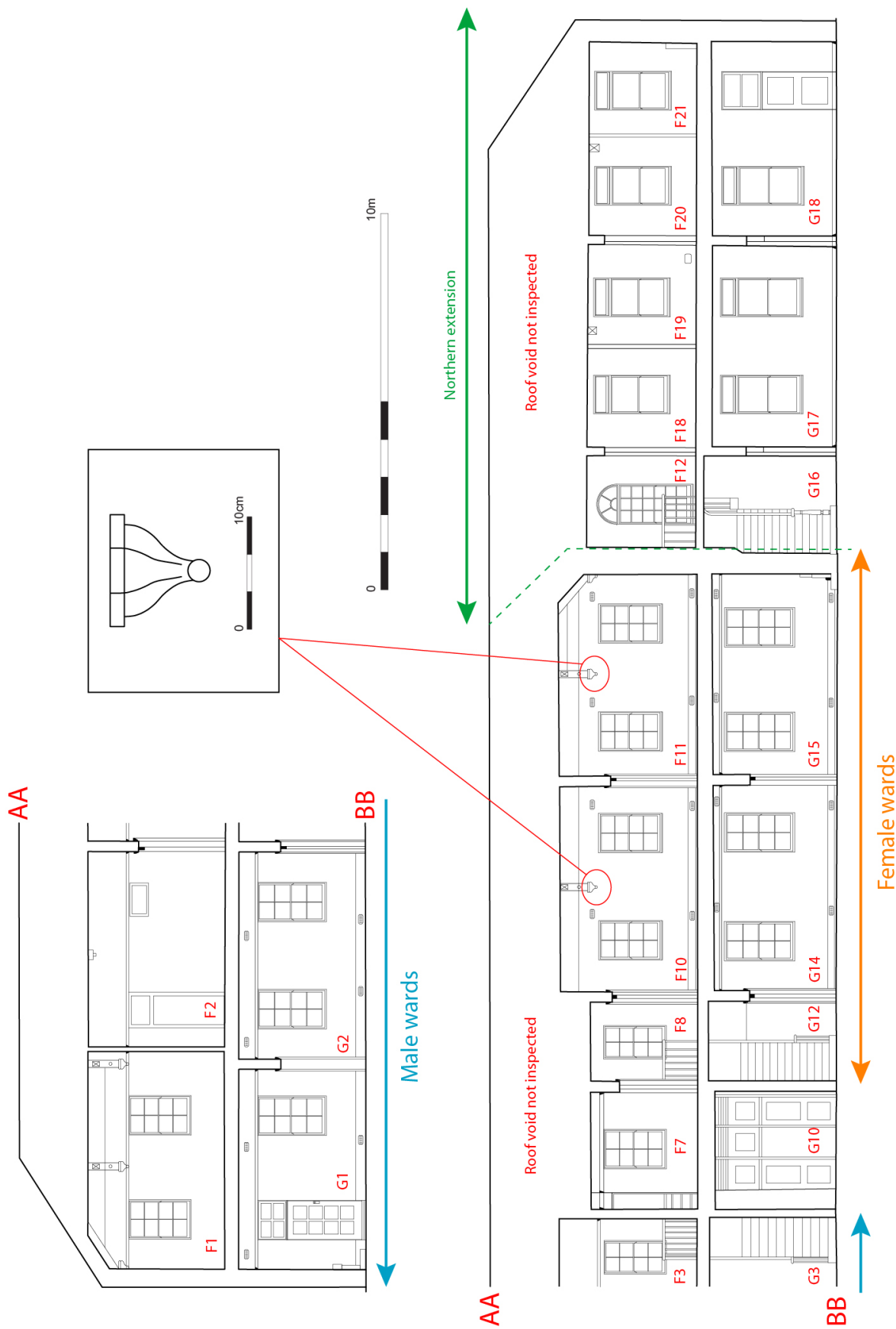


Figure 5: North-south cross section through Firbeck House

ROOM G15

G15 is a former ward that measures 5.5m x 6.1m (**Appendix 2.43**). As with **G14** the room has a robust skirting board and moulded picture rail, although the floor boards and skirting are recent replacements. The room is papered below the picture rail and painted above.

The wide opening in the southern wall retains its architrave within **G15**, whilst an additional single width door has been inserted in the eastern side of the northern wall. In the centre of the northern wall is a chimney breast (**Appendix 2.42**) with tiled fire surround and hearth and cast iron fire grate of mid-twentieth century design. Beneath the hearth is a sandstone slab.

The east and west walls have identical sash windows with splayed jambs. Ventilation grills are also evident at skirting level and above the picture rail in both walls

ROOM G16

G16 is a hall, measuring 7.1m x 2.5m (**Appendix 2.44**), and represents the principal entry into the later northern extension of the infirmary. The room is plastered and painted with a concrete floor. Corners of walls, in particular those around windows and doors, are bull-nosed (**Appendix 2.45**). The main part of the room is taken by the staircase which rises from the east to the west along the southern wall of the room, and comprises stone steps, square in section, with a moulded wooden newel post (**Appendix 2.46**), plain wooden banisters and a moulded hand-rail. There is a small store beneath the stairs and three horizontal batons containing coat hooks (**Appendix 2.45**).

A chimney breast in the southern wall has been truncated for the inserted staircase, projecting out again at first floor level.

ROOM G17

G17 is a former ward, now used for storage of historic fixtures and fittings, measuring 6.1m x 5.4m. The floor of the room is boarded over in fibreboard, which has come away in places to reveal an earlier herringbone pattern parquet floor (**Appendix 2.51**). Plain skirting circles the room, and unlike the wards of the earlier phase there is no picture rail. The room is finished with a floral wallpaper.

Within the eastern wall is a blank chimney breast (**Appendix 2.52**), the fireplace within having been blocked. South of the chimney is a doorway with plain architrave, into **G19**, and to the north is a high level steel casement window. Within the north (**Appendix 2.53**) and south walls (**Appendix 2.47**) are identical wide low arched openings with plain surroundings and inserted door with paired window of modern date. Scars on the architrave of the openings indicate they had previously contained narrow double doors.

ROOM G18

G18, as with **G17**, comprises a former ward now used for storage, measuring 6.1m x 5.4m (**Appendix 2.54**). The floor is over-boarded with fibreboard. The room has wallpaper on walls to the east, west and south, whilst the northern wall is painted (**Appendix 2.55**).

There are two sash windows in the eastern wall, mirrored to west except where a door has been inserted within a former window opening. A blank chimney breast is present within the northern wall, the original fireplace having been blocked.

ROOMS G19-20

G19-20 comprises what was originally one bathroom, measuring 3.4m x 3.4m, now subdivided to form a corridor (**G19**) (**Appendix 2.48**) through to **G21-23** (**Appendix 2.49**). The floor of the room is covered in linoleum, whilst the walls are tiled to dado level with painted plaster above. The tiles are glazed and coloured, comprising a course of green tiles dado, three course red tiles skirting, and white tiles field in-between. The tiles continue around the bull-nosed jambs and sills of windows and doors within the room.

ROOMS G21-23

G21-23 is a former toilet block, measuring 3.5m x 2.4 m, and represents an extension onto the main building (**Appendix 2.49**). The floor of the room is covered with linoleum with red tile skirting and painted walls. A glazed ceramic double Belfast-style sink (**Appendix 2.50**) and cistern survives in the northwest corner of the room. Windows in the north and east walls are steel frame casements.

DESCRIPTION OF FABRIC – FIRBECK HOUSE FIRST FLOOR

ROOM F1-F2

F1-F2 were depicted on the 1930 infirmary plan (**Appendix 1.15**) as a single ward, measuring 6.1m x 11.2m, and is now sub-divided into modern offices.

F1, measuring 6.1m x 5.9m, is carpeted with plastered and painted walls with plain skirting, and moulded picture rail (**Appendix 2.97**). Sections of the skirting and picture rail have been renewed. The ceiling is vaulted rising into the roof space (**Appendix 2.96**), exposing principal rafters and a raised collar beam. The principals are supported at eaves level on gothic -style faceted sandstone corbels.

The south wall of **F1** contains a chimney breast with blocked fireplace. The east and west walls have two regularly spaced sash windows with shallow spays, whilst a single central doorway with modern frame and door is present in the north elevation.

F2 contains a central corridor (**Appendix 2.95**), 1.1m wide, linking **F1** and **F3** and two partitioned offices along the east and west side of the **F2**. A wide doorway in the north wall of the corridor has inserted side lights and a modern door. The partitions are studwork. Skirting and picture rail survive along the original walls of the rooms and have been matched along inserted walls. The office east of the corridor (**Appendix 2.94**) has two evenly spaced sash windows either side of a chimney breast with a blocked fireplace. The office west of the corridor has two evenly spaced sash windows.

Room F3

F3 is a landing (**Appendix 2.93**) at the top of the staircase from **G3** that rises to a half landing along the west wall before turning and continuing along the southern wall. Within the west wall is a single sash window of identical proportions to those elsewhere in this phase of the building. A modern cupboard has been installed along the north wall, with a surviving timber panelled door to its east entering into **F6**. The eastern wall of the hall is an inserted partition with modern door into **F4**.

Room F4

F4 is a small washroom, and represents a former bathroom. The alignment of the western wall varies from that shown on the 1925 infirmary plan and likely comprises a modern insertion. The room is unadorned with red tile skirting. The room is lit by two narrow sash windows in the northern and southern walls. Along the southern wall is a double Belfast-style glazed ceramic sink.

Room F5

F5 is a water closet. The room is unadorned, with red tile skirting. The partition wall separating the room from **F4** is of brick and most-likely represents an original wall. The room is lit by two narrow sash windows in the southern and eastern walls.

Room F6

F6 is fitted out as a modern kitchen, having formerly been shown on the 1930 infirmary plan as a bedroom (**Appendix 1.15**). The room has a sash window in the eastern wall, and a chimney breast in the southern wall where any earlier fireplace has since been blocked. Doors in the northern and southern walls communicate between the halls **F3** and **F8**, with an original panelled door to the south and modern fire door to the north.

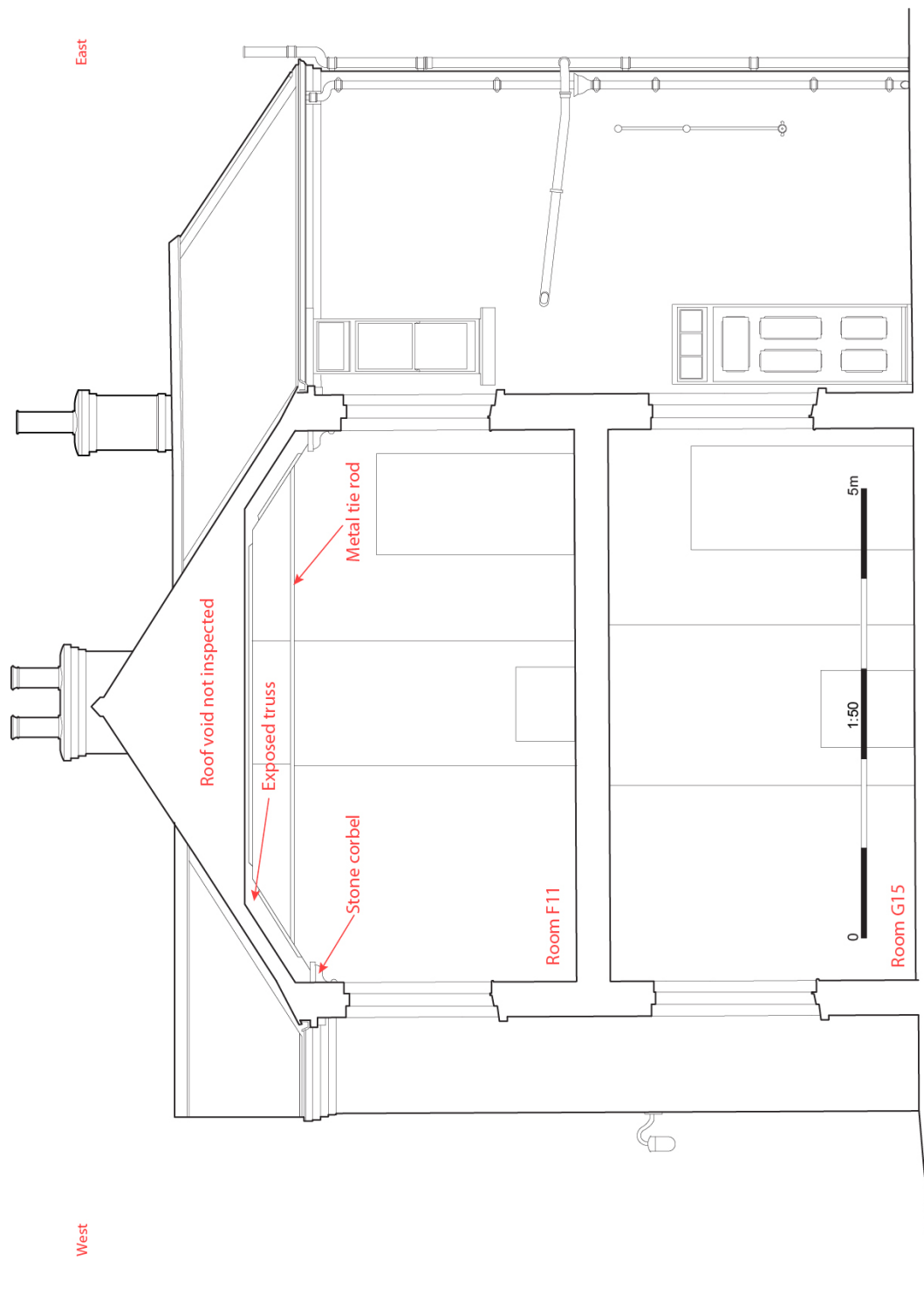


Figure 6: west-east cross section through Firbeck House

On the west wall is a buzzer board with bells connected to the various bedrooms/wards (**Appendix 2.92**). The location of the buzzer board on the wall confirms the interpretation that this was one of the rooms occupied by the nursing staff.

ROOM F7

F7 is currently disused and used as a store, measuring 3.8m x 3.1m, and is shown on the 1930 infirmary plan as a bedroom (**Appendix 1.15**). The room retains its original skirting and moulded picture rail and has a linoleum floor covering over timber boards. A sash window is situated in the western wall (**Appendix 2.86**), with a chimney breast in the southern wall with blocked fireplace. To the east of the chimney breast is a fitted cupboard with panelled door, probably original, and later draws.

ROOM F8

F8 is a landing (**Appendix 2.85**). The staircase from **G12** (**Appendix 2.87**) rises to a half landing along the west wall before turning and continuing along the northern wall. The balustrade at the head of the stairs has been incorporated into a partition enclosing the stairwell (**Appendix 2.91**). The original plain skirting survives, whilst the floor is covered by linoleum over timber boards. Within the west wall is a single sash window of identical proportions to those elsewhere in this phase of the building. The eastern wall of the hall is a timber frame partition, crossing the room at an angle, with modern door into **F9**. This partition is potentially that referred to in 1900 in reference to the addition of a bath to the female section of the infirmary. A wide doorway with original moulded architrave and inserted door frame with side lights provides access north into the former wards **F10** and **F11**.

ROOM F9

F9 is a water closet, measuring at its largest point 3.7m x 2.1m (**Appendix 2.88**), and is shown on the 1930 infirmary plan (**Appendix 1.15**) as having been two rooms utilised as a bathroom and water closet. A scar is visible in the ceiling of the room relating the location of the earlier dividing wall. Typical plain skirting survives. The room is lit by narrow sash windows: two in the northern wall, one in the eastern wall and one in the southern wall. The latches of the sashes are evidently of several phases, with two different styles of ceramic bead knobs (**Appendices 2.89, 2.90**).

ROOM F10

F10 is not currently used, measuring 6.1m x 5.5m. It is however shown on the 1930 infirmary plan (**Appendix 1.15**) as having been a Women's Ward. The room is wallpapered, and retains a robust plain skirting (**Appendix 2.81**) and picture rail (**Appendix 2.84**). The wallpaper has come away in

the northeast corner of the room revealing a stencilled pattern at dado level (see **Appendix 3.1**), which appears to extend further beneath the wallpaper on either side. The floor of the room is covered by linoleum over wooden boards. The ceiling of the room is vaulted exposing principal rafter and collar beam, both with chamfered edges and stops. The principals are supported on faceted gothic-style sandstone corbels.

Wide doorways are centred in the north and south walls with moulded architraves and inserted door frames with side lights. Within the east and west walls are evenly spaced sash windows with slight splays. A chimney breast projects between the windows in the east wall, the fireplace having been blocked (**Appendix 2.83**).

ROOM F11

F11 is not currently used, measuring 6.1m x 5.5m. It is shown on the 1930 infirmary plan (**Appendix 1.15**) as a Women's Ward. The room is wall-papered, and retains a robust plain skirting and picture rail. The floor of the room is covered by linoleum over wooden boards. The ceiling of the room is partially vaulted (**Appendix 2.78**) exposing principal rafter and collar beam, both with chamfered edges and stops. The principals are supported on faceted gothic-style sandstone corbels (**Appendix 2.80**).

A wide doorway is centred in the south wall (**Appendix 2.79**) with moulded architrave and inserted door frame with side lights. Within the east and west walls are evenly spaced sash windows with slight splays (**Appendix 2.76**). A chimney breast projects in the centre of the north wall (**Appendix 2.77**), the fireplace having been blocked. East of the chimney breast is an inserted doorway with modern fire door.

ROOM F12

F12 is a landing, measuring 5.1m x 6.7m. The staircase from **G16** rises to a half landing along the west wall before turning and continuing to the landing along the northern wall (**Appendix 2.56**). The floor of the room is linoleum over concrete. Within the west wall is a large sash window with arched head containing radial glazing. A partition wall to the east divides **F2** and **F13** with a central panelled door of a design typical to this phase of the building.

The wall is not however depicted on the 1930 infirmary plan (**Appendix 1.15**) suggesting it is an insertion and that the door may have been reused or matched. Within the north wall is a blocked low arched opening with a plain architrave.

ROOM F13

F13 is a small hall (**Appendix 2.58**). The room is an insertion, and provides communication with adjacent rooms including inserted doorways in the southern wall into **F11** and in the northern wall into **F17**. An original doorway, with panelled door, communicates with **F14** to the east.

ROOMS F14-16

F14-F16 comprises of what was originally a single room, measuring 3.4m x 3.4m, shown as a bathroom on the 1930 infirmary plan (**Appendix 1.15**) and now subdivided to form a washroom (**F14**) (**Appendices 2.73, 2.74**), water-closet (**F15**) (**Appendix 2.75**) and bathroom (**F16**) (**Appendices 2.59, 2.60**). The walls are tiled to dado level with painted plaster above. The tiles are glazed and coloured, comprising a green tile dado, three courses of red tiles at the skirting, and white tiles in-between. The tiles continue around the bull-nosed jambs and sills of windows and doors within the room.

ROOMS F17-21

F17-F21 comprise a flat formed within two of the former wards. The ceiling of the room does not rise into a vault as in the earlier phase of the building but does rise sufficiently high to expose two chamfered tie beams with square bolts below king-post position. The wall between **F19** and **F20** comprises an original brick partition wall and contains a low arched doorway retaining two narrow panelled doors (**Appendix 2.67**), the upper glazed panels having been replaced with solid panels.

To either side the former wards are divided into two smaller rooms (**F18/19** to the south (**Appendices 2.61, 2.62, 2.64, 2.65**) and **F120/21** to the north (**Appendices 2.66, 2.68, 2.69**)) by timber studwork with sawn lathes and gypsum plaster. **F21** possesses a central chimney breast in the northern wall with a late twentieth century gas fire (**Appendix 2.68**). Damp scars within the wallpaper around the fireplace reveal the silhouette of a tall and narrow surround and mantle place.

F17 forms a corridor (**Appendix 2.57**) along the eastern side of **F18-F20**, with an inserted opening through the original brick partition and a blocked fireplace in a chimney breast in the east wall. There is a decorative high-level ventilation grill in the east wall (**Appendix 2.63**).

DESCRIPTION OF FABRIC – THE OUTBUILDING/POTTING SHED

This building is small rectangular brick structure measuring c.1.7m x 4.4m (**Appendix 2.98**). It has a monopitch slate roof, with blue ceramic copings. There is a raised brick buttress against the northwest corner, adjacent to which is a double planked door (possibly inserted) and an eight light timber framed window. No internal access was possible during the survey.

DESCRIPTION OF FABRIC – THE AIR-RAID SHELTER

EXTERIOR

Located in the northeast corner of the rear yard is a solidly built single-storey structure that was purpose built as an air-raid shelter during WWII (**Appendix 2.100**). Externally it measures 5.7m x 9.6m and is built from machine pressed red brick laid in a random garden wall bond. It has a flat reinforced shuttered concrete slab roof, 2.2m above the ground (**Appendix 2.100**). The corners of the building and the doorways have rounded edges using bull-nosed bricks. There is a damp proof course of dark blue engineering bricks.

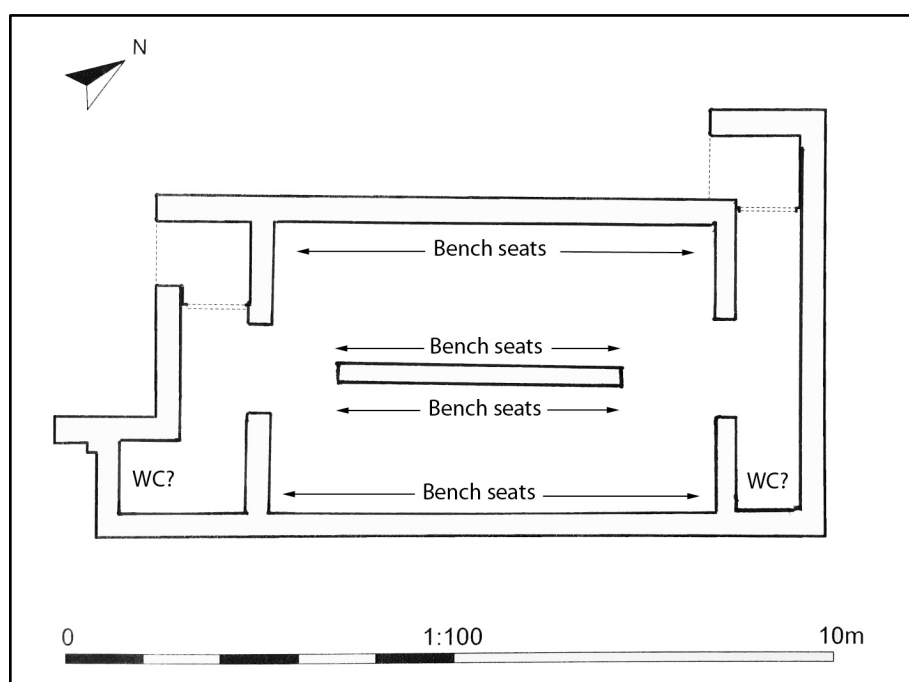


Figure 7: Ground plan of the air-raid shelter

INTERIOR

The interior of the building is accessed by two doorways, one in the northwest and the other to the southwest. Both are protected by right-angled blast walls, thus ensuring that there was no direct line of access to the interior. There are external timber baton doors, however it is likely that there would have been secondary black-out curtains. The floor throughout is concrete.

The central area of the building measured 3.8m x 5.2m and was formed by two narrow rooms separated by a central brick spine wall (**Appendix 2.101**). This would have helped strengthen the roof and also may have provided a rudimentary means to separate male and female occupants of the hospital, thus offering a degree of privacy that mirrored the separate wards. There were rows of timber bench seats along each of the side walls of the two central rooms (**Appendix 2.102**), the metal support brackets are still in-situ.

DECORATIVE SCHEMES

Surviving throughout the ground and first floors of Firbeck House are sections of wallpaper and wall paint that provides an insight into the former use and appearance of the various rooms. As part of this survey a basic catalogue has been produced in **Appendix 3**, accompanied by high resolution digital photography of each sample that was noted.

A total of 25 samples of decoration were noted, some forming a whole scheme within a room, others were isolated examples representing the fragmentary remnants of earlier schemes. The majority of the designs are floral and would have been located in the female dayrooms and bedrooms, but they are consistent with the changing fashions of domestic interior decoration from the early-mid 20th century, which coincided with the introduction of widespread affordable designs with the development of machine printing.

Beneath the wallpaper, traces of bright blue and olive green paint were identified painted directly over the wallplaster. It is suggested that these are remnants of earlier schemes that may date to the original appearance of the rooms, or since the various alterations undertaken in the 1920s-30s.

Perhaps the most significant fragment of decoration is an area of stencilled paint with a dark brown/red circular motif on the north wall of room **F10 (Appendix 3.1)**. The design continues beneath the later wallpaper on either side, but appears to have been an attempt to create a decorative border at dado height around the room.

Preserved behind a former wall mounted telephone was a small patch of painted wall with a thin horizontal black band at the base and a yellow ochre paint above. The surface of the paint had a high sheen and it may represent a covering that was intended to be scrubbed clean, an important aspect to maintain cleanliness within the infirmary. It was common for factories, offices and public buildings to have such a decorative design in the mid-late 19th century. Usually, below the horizontal band the wall was painted a darker colour to hide scuffs and the general dirt. The impression of this thin band was also noted along the south wall of the stairwell **G12 (Appendix 3.32)**.

A comprehensive record of these various forms of decoration is currently underway by the NT Paper Conservator. In particular the section of stencilled decoration in **F10 (Appendix 3.1)** appears to be an early design.

6 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

Firbeck House
<p>EVIDENTIAL VALUE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A purpose built infirmary block which still retains original joinery, room layouts and staircases from the original design, c.1871-2; ▪ The building retains decorative glazed tiles, wallpaper and wallpaint that help explain the differing functions of each room; ▪ The building is multi-phase, each of which is clearly evident and demonstrates a continued process of development; ▪ The external air-raid shelter is in good condition and represents a good example of the building type, which are becoming rare survivals.
<p>HISTORICAL VALUE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Forms part of the 1860-70s growth of the Southwell Workhouse; ▪ The building is associated with two prominent architects and designers; ▪ The buildings contains an original carved datestone in the external pediment; ▪ The changing nature of the internal layout of the infirmary reflects advances in medical care and the changing needs of the community; ▪ The huge body of historical records and oral history add a considerable 'lost' dimension to the building; ▪ Continued use of the building by the NT, which intends to re-present the history of the building to visitors.
<p>AESTHETIC VALUE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The treatment of the principal external elevation with a projecting central pediment reflects the involvement of an architect, but also a desire to create a building of status and pride within the Workhouse and respects elements of Victorian fashions in architecture; ▪ The internal layout and design of the building forms a mirrored layout, which confirms with the requirement to separate men and women within the community; ▪ The use of many forms of interior decoration (wallpaper, paint schemes and light fittings) was intended to create a peaceful and homely interior for the residents, many of whom lived in the building for considerable periods of their life.
<p>COMMUNAL VALUE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It forms an important aspect of the Workhouse community; ▪ It was used by members of the surrounding populous, especially before the establishment of the NHS; ▪ The surviving oral historical accounts demonstrate that the building was of considerable importance to the residents and visitors; ▪ Today the building is only partially used, however the imaging project offers excellent opportunities for telling the story of Firbeck's story and history.

7 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

AUTHORSHIP

The fieldwork was undertaken by Oliver Jessop MCIFA, James Thomson MCIFA and Helen Martin-Bacon MCIFA, with digital photography taken by Simon Jessop.

This report has been prepared by Oliver Jessop, in conjunction with James Thomson (building description) and Victoria Beauchamp PhD (archive Research). The graphics were produced by David Watt MCIFA. Editing has been provided by Manda Forster PhD MCIFA.

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The staff at the Nottinghamshire record office and local studies libraries are thanked for their advice regarding the identification of archive material for Firbeck House.

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- 1839 Kemthorne plan for 200 paupers
- 1928 plan of New Infirmary by Sands & Walker
- 1930 plan of Southwell Workhouse by L.Maggs
- 1930 floor plans of Firbeck House by L.Maggs
- Ordnance Survey maps (25'') 1885, 1900, 1904, 1919, 1967
- British Geological Map of Britain (digital data), 2017

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NT/TW3 (1920s); NT/TW5 (1960s); NT/TW 9 (1960s); NT/TW 20 (late 1960s/early 1970s); NT/TW 21/22 (1920s); NT/TW25 (1920s/30s); NT/TW28 (1940s/50s); NT/TW28 (1940s/50s)

PRIMARY SOURCES CONSULTED: SOUTHWELL WORKHOUSE ARCHIVES - PHOTOGRAPHS:

Pictures used with kind permission of Mr. Dixon son of Nurse Merrin and are used with kind permission of The Todd family.

- Nurse Merrin back brow, second from the right outside Minster View
- Nurse Merrin in the garden of the infirmary, with the stable block clearly shown behind
- Nurses at the hospital
- Nurse Nellie Bradbury –c1930s and is taken outside of the children's section of the infirmary (the 1914 extension).
- Staff & residents in the '30s.

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- SO/PUS/11112 Guardian Minute Books 1892-1896
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- MH 12/9533/122 Draft letter from the Poor Law Board, to John Kirkland, Clerk to the Guardians of the Southwell Union, regarding Dr. Smith's inspection report.
- MH 12/9533/135 From the Edward Smith, Poor Law Inspector, to the Poor Law Board regarding visit on 15th September 1865.
- MH 12/9534/465 Letter from A G Chamberlin, District Auditor, to the Poor Law Board, requesting permission to hold audit meetings in the Crown Hotel, Southwell

- MH12/9534/403 Draft letter re concerns of Dr. Smith, Poor Law Inspector, regarding the irregular attendance of the workhouse medical officer
- MH12/9534/407 Letter to the Poor Law Board confirming the appointment of John Sudbury, architect
- MH12/9534/408 Letter to the Guardians says the Board are satisfied with the decision to build an infirmary at Southwell
- MH12/9534/411 Letter relating to the resignation of Mr. Cooke
- MH12/9534/411 Letter outlining the plans for the infirmary
- MH12/9534/414 Letter to the Guardians saying the plans will be examined as soon as the Poor Law Board are able
- MH12/9534/415 Letter concerning the omissions in the plan regarding drainage and convalescent yards
- MH12/9534/416 Letter with draft order granting permission for the infirmary
- MH12/9534/420 Letter accepting revised plans and stating the height of the walls around the yards
- MH12/9534/430 Letter from Kirkland asking for consent to start as soon as possible
- MH12/9534/431 Letter to the Guardians containing the Workhouse order
- MH12/9534/437 Letter to the Board advising Duke had been awarded the contract for building the infirmary
- MH12/9534/438 Approval of the Poor Law Board for the appointment of William Duke to build the infirmary
- MH12/9534/439 Letter to the Board about borrowing money and cost to build the infirmary
- MH12/9534/440 Letter to the Guardian responding to the issue of the cost of the infirmary
- MH12/9534/467 Letter to the Board saying it would be 4 or 5 months before the infirmary could be used
- MH12/9534/469 Letter to the Board informing them of the increase in size of the infirmary
- MH12/9534/470 Letter to Board stating the Guardians were using the Common Fund for the building costs
- MH12/9534/478 Letter to the Board stating the Guardians hoped to pay the money from the Common fund and that the building work was progressing.
- MH12/9534/479 Letter to the Guardians approving the sale of stock to help pay off the loan
- MH12/9534/524 Letter to the Board with details of the plans and additional costs for finishing the building from John Sudbury
- MH12/9534/525 Letter of approval for additional costs from the Board to the Guardians
- MH12/9534/526 Order from the Board to the Guardians approving the increased costs
- MH12/9534/529 13th June 1871 Report by Dr. Smith on the Workhouse and progress of the infirmary.
- MH12/9534/562 Letter from Kirkland to the Board stating the consent of 41 guardians was enclosed.
- MH12/9534/563 Additional spend authorising the spend on the infirmary to be £1250

- MH/12/9534/564 Official letter confirming the amount to be spent on completing the infirmary
- MH/12/9535/17 Report dated 10th October on a visit to the Infirmary by Dr Smith on the 4th October
- MH 12/9535/71 Letter from Kirkland advising the board of further costs
- MH 12/9535/72 Letter from Local Government Board approving costs
- MH 12/9535/152 Letter from G Shaw to the Poor Law Board about a number of concerns at the workhouse
- MH 12/9535/165 Letter to Local Government Board stating the contractor had still not been paid his final sum
- MH 12/9535/175 Letter from the Local Government Board to the Guardians regarding the letter from G Shaw
- MH 12/9535/186 Letter confirming no money had been borrowed to build the infirmary
- MH 12/9535/251 Letter regarding Mr. Duke's final bill
- MH 12/9535/269 Mr. Kirkland's letter regarding a pay rise
- MH 12/9536/22 Letter regarding nurse Elizabeth Herring
- MH 12/9536/127 Report of the Commissions of Lunacy 9th February 1874
- MH 12/9536/232 Comments on the inspection of Southwell Union Workhouse 6th July 1874
- MH 12/9537/229 Letter regarding the wage of Mr. Calvert, medical officer to the workhouse
- MH 12/9538/40 Report on a visit of the Commissioner of Lunacy dated 7th March 1877
- MH 12/9538/263 Report of inspection by Mr. Dashwood 4th April 1878
- MH 12/9538/460 Report of inspection by Mr. Dashwood 31st July 1879
- MH 12/9539/118 Appointment of Mary Jane Sheridan 26th October 1880
- MH 12/9539/232 Appointment of Sarah Brooks
- MH 12/9539/235 Letter of reference regarding Sarah Brooks 17th November 1881
- MH 12/9541/47 Letter to the Local Government Board regarding infectious diseases on canal boats
- MH 12/9541/200 Report on the inspection of Mr. Dashwood 28th February 1888.
- MH 12/9541/218 Resignation of Sarah Brooks 17th May 1888
- MH 12/9541/220 Appointment of Emma Sharpe 8th June 1888
- MH 12/9542/23 A report from Mr. Moorsam, Local Government Inspector March 18th 1889
- MH 12/9542/121 resignation of Emma Sharpe
- MH 12/9543/54 Letter from John Kirkland 7th July 1891 reporting the drains were to be repaired
- MH 12/9543/73 Letter from John Kirkland regarding the proposals to alterations at the workhouse
- MH 12/9543/123 Resignation of nurse Elizabeth Ann Ashford 29th Jan 1892

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- MH 12/9545/89 Letter re complaints by the nurse at the workhouse
- MH 12/9545/99 Details of misconduct by the master, nurse and porter given in an interview of Lady Laura Ridding 16th Nov 1897.
- MH 12/9545/107 Report by Henry Steven, inspector, into the matter of conduct of the nurse, master and porter December 1897
- MH 12/9545/109 Letter from the Local Government Board to John Kirkland regarding Henry Stevens's findings
- MH 12/9545/137 Appointment of Annie Goulden 18th February 1898
- MH 12/9545/188 Report on inspection by Mr. Urmson Aug 1898
- MH 12/9546/118 Report dated 3rd October 1899 of Appointment of Ellen Benzies on 23rd September
- MH 12/9546/180 Improvements to the infirmary 31st August 1900
- MH 12/9546/193 Appointment of Annie Sugden October 20th 1900

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- 1891 - RG 12/2708 Southwell Union Workhouse
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- *East Midlands History*: www.eastmidlandsnamedbricks.blogspot.co.uk/2017/04/newark-orston-kelham-ossington-caunton.html
- Heritage Gateway: www.heritagegateway.org.uk
- National Archives: www.discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk
- National Heritage List: www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/protection/process/national-heritage-list-for-england/
- National Trust HBSMR: www.heritagerecords.nationaltrust.org.uk/home
- Newark Civic Trust: www.newarkcivictrust.org.uk/public/documents/trails/victoriantrail.pdf
- *NHS History*: www.nhshistory.net
- Workhouses: www.workhouses.org.uk/life/medical.shtml

PROJECT ARCHIVE

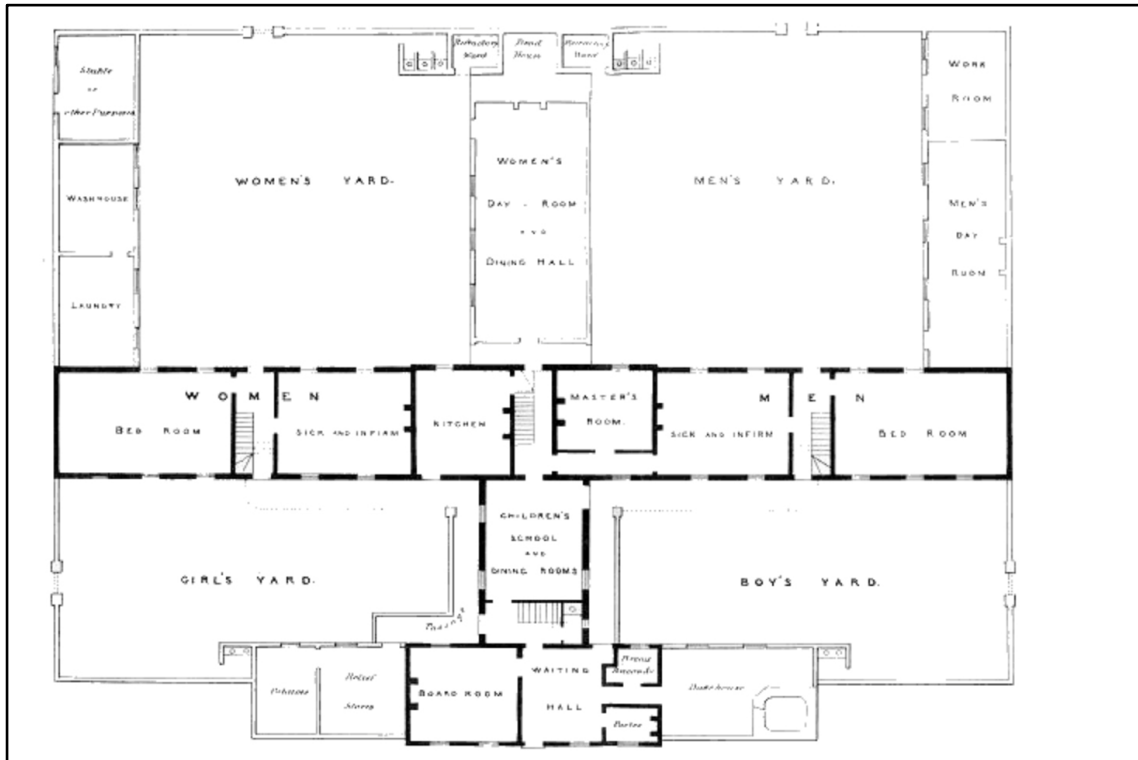
The fieldwork archive will be deposited with the National Trust (August 2017).

Its contents include:

- *Field survey drawings*
- *Site notes*
- *Archive research*
- *Prints of record photographs*
- *Copy of final report*

Appendix I:

Historic sources: mapping, illustrations and photographs



Appendix I.1: Kempthorne plans for 200 paupers published in 1839 showing sick wards on central access on ground floor
Reproduced with permission of Syndics of Cambridge University Library © Peter Higginbotham



Appendix I.2: Photograph of the Old Infirmary, c.1920
Reproduced with kind permission of Nottinghamshire Archives



Appendix I.3: Photograph of Nurse Nellie Bradbury with children outside the new extension, c.1930s
© Mr Dixon used with permission. Southwell Workhouse Archives



Appendix I.4: Photograph of Nurse Merrin in the garden of the infirmary
© Todd Family used with permission. Southwell Workhouse Archives



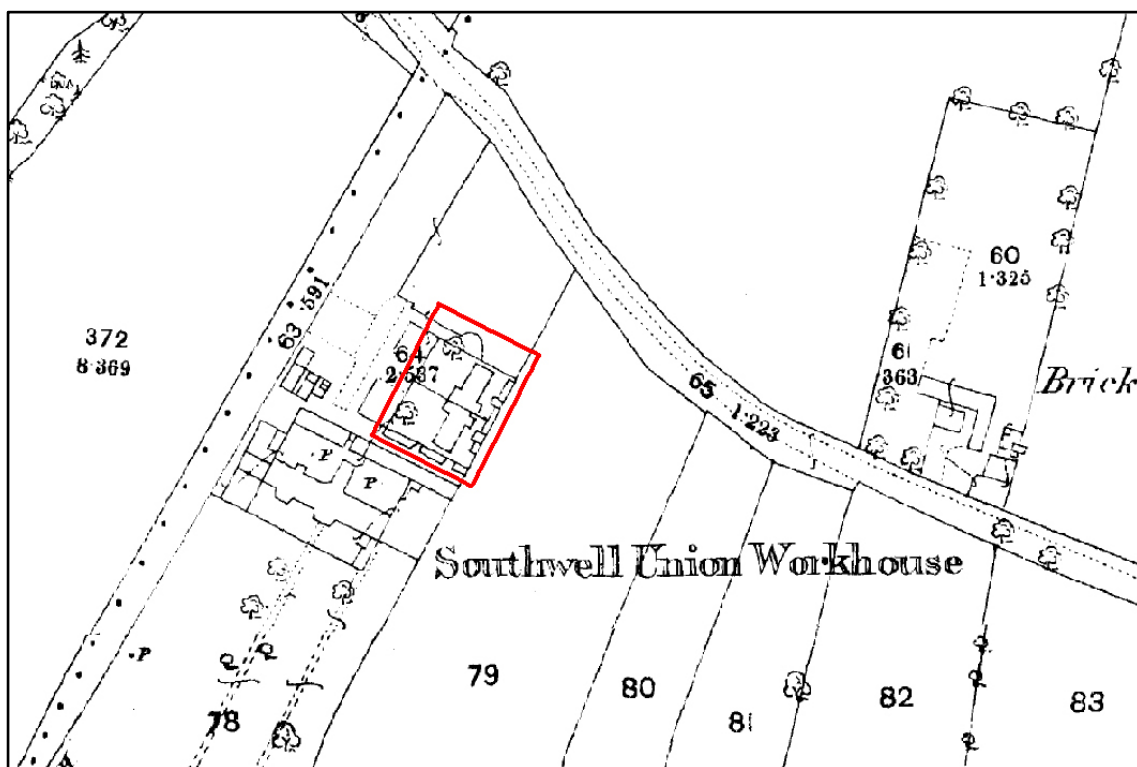
Appendix 1.5: Picture of nurses and visitors outside the new infirmary, known as the hospital and later Minster View
© Todd Family used with permission. Southwell Workhouse Archives



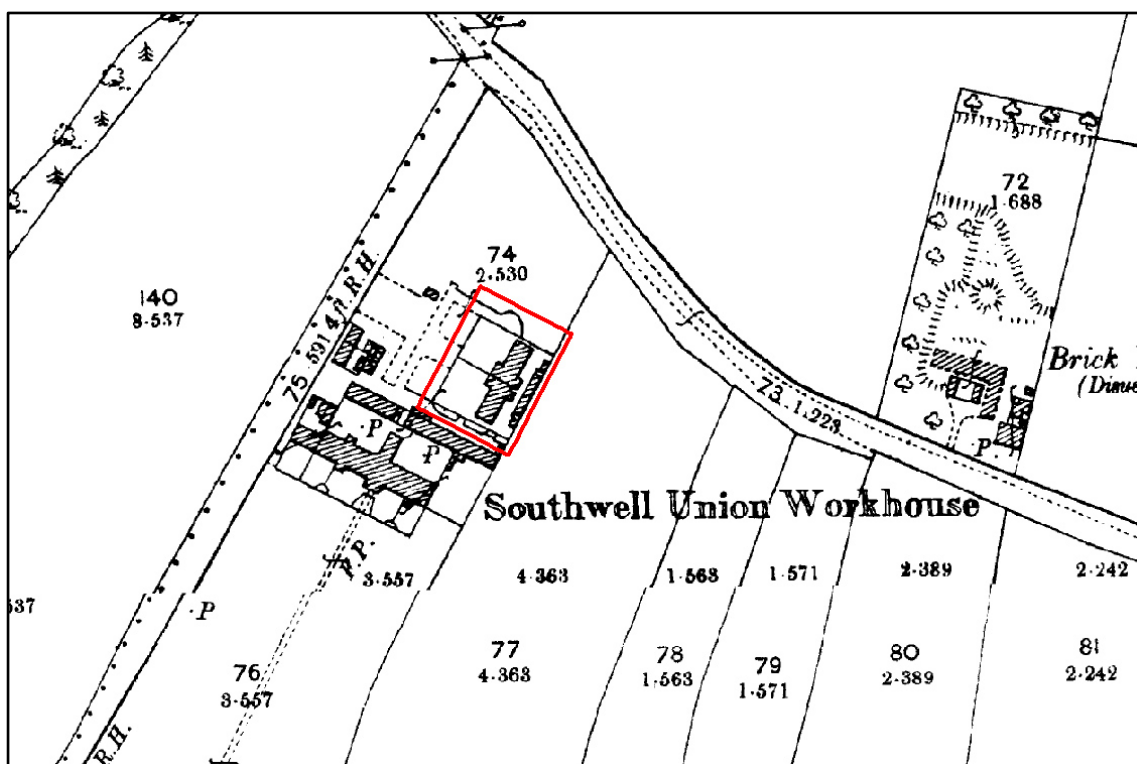
Appendix 1.6: Staff & residents in the 1930s of Firbeck House
© Todd Family used with permission. Southwell Workhouse Archives



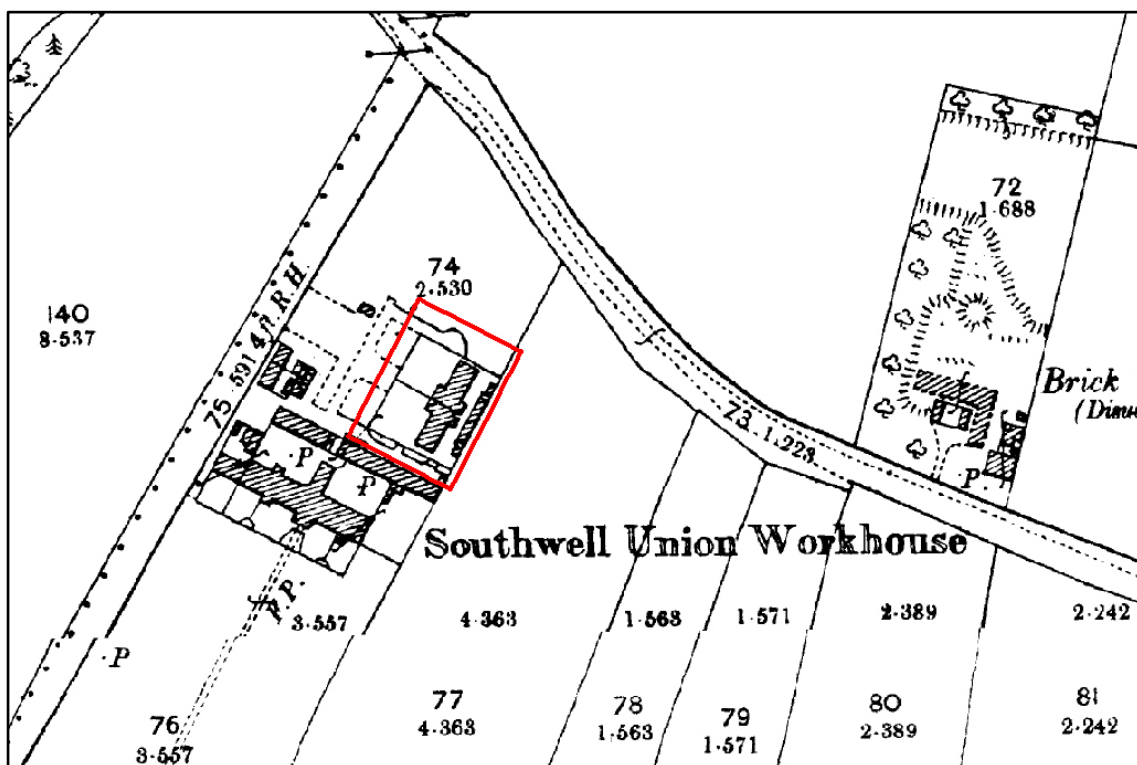
Appendix I.7: Group of nurses taken in the 1930s
© Todd Family used with permission. Southwell Workhouse Archives



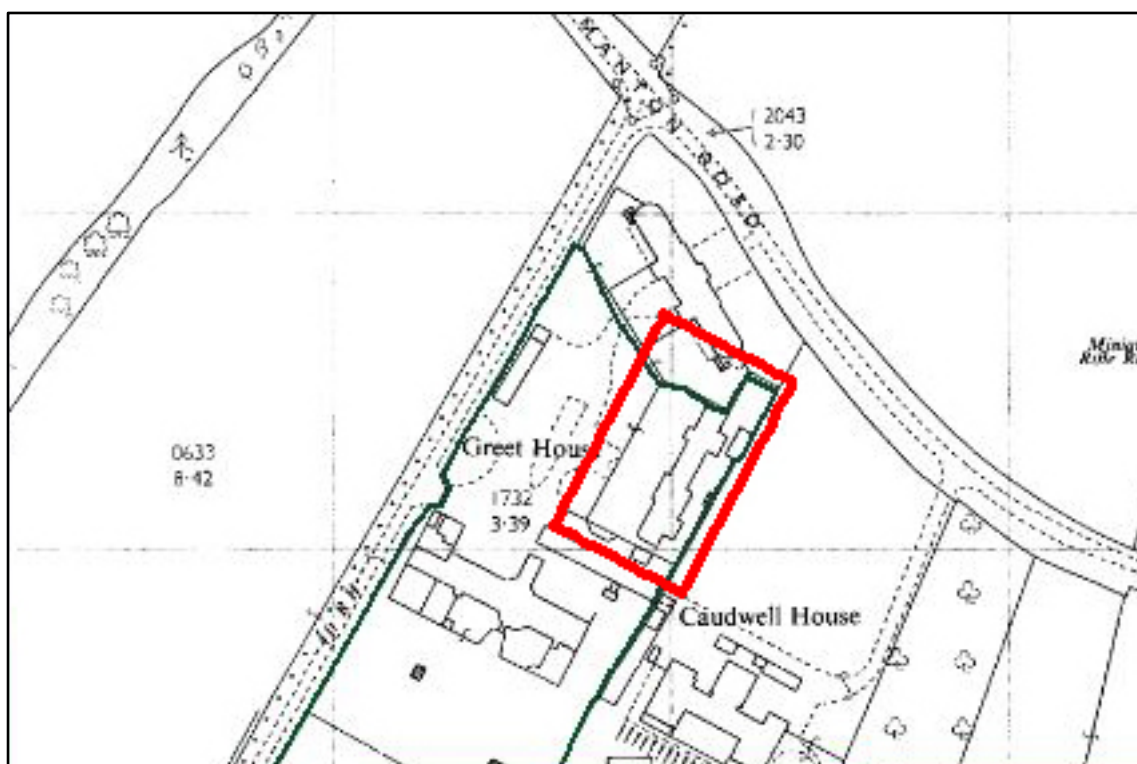
Appendix I.8: Extract from 1885 OS map
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Appendix I.9 Extract from 1891 OS map
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Appendix I.10: Extract from 1904 OS map
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Appendix I.11: Extract from 1967 OS map
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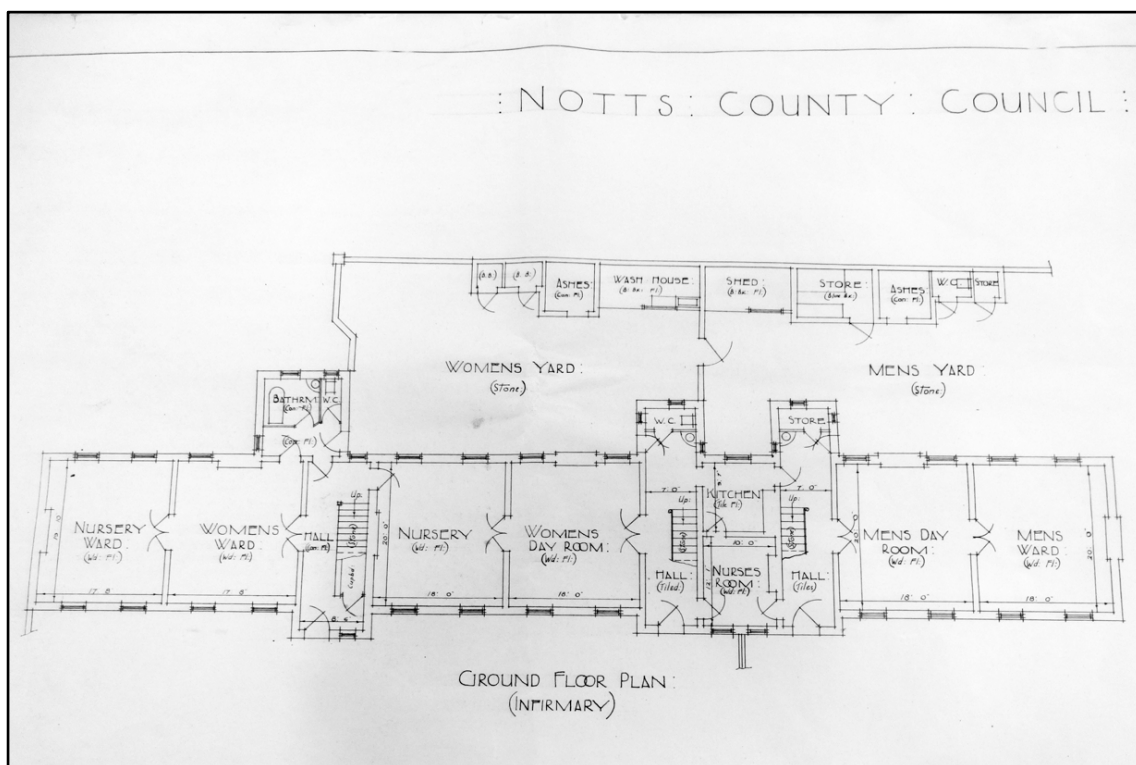


Appendix I.12: Block plan of the New Infirmary by Sands & Walker, c.1928

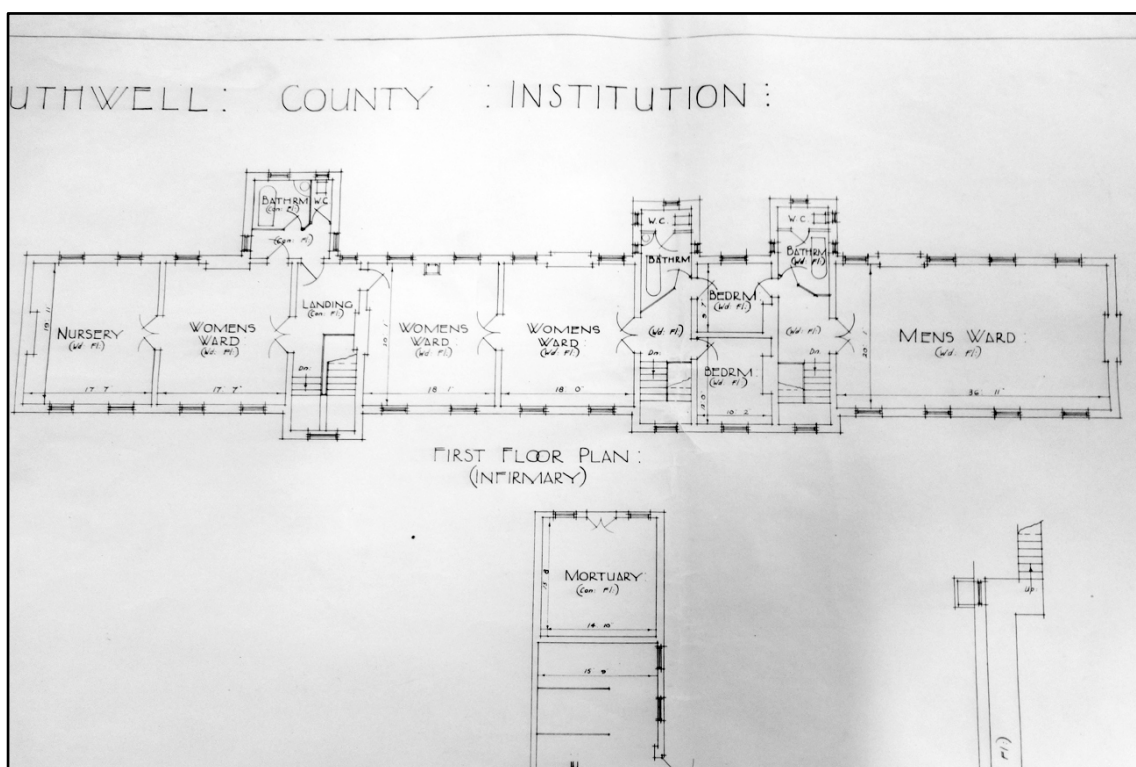
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Appendix I.14: Ground floor plan of Firbeck House by L.Maggs, c.1930
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Appendix I.15: First floor plan of Firbeck House by L.Maggs, c.1930
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Appendix 2:

Site Photographs



Appendix 2.1: General view of northern extension to Firbeck House, Looking southeast (2mm scale). **Photo No.8**



Appendix 2.2: Detail view looking southeast along western boundary wall; note removed railing (20cm scale). **Photo No.9**



Appendix 2.3: Detail of entrance door in northern extension, leading to stairwell **G16**, looking east (2m scale). **Photo No.10**



Appendix 2.4: Detail of central entrances to former infirmary, looking northeast (2m scale). **Photo No.11**



Appendix 2.5: Detail of carved datestone in brick pediment above west elevation. **Photo No.12**



Appendix 2.6: Detail of original doorway into G12 (2m scale). **Photo No.13**



Appendix 2.7: General view of southwest corner of Firbeck House; note inserted door (2m scale). **Photo No.14**



Appendix 2.8: General view up staircase from lower yard of Workhouse, looking north (1m scale). **Photo No.17**



Appendix 2.9: Detail of cast-iron railings around southwest boundary. **Photo No.16**



Appendix 2.10: Detail of original railings and stay around southwest boundary to Firbeck House (20cm scale). **Photo No.15**



Appendix 2.11: General view of main façade of Firbeck House from the southwest. **Photo No.18**



Appendix 2.12: General view looking north along rear yard; note different phases of construction (2m scale). **Photo No.19**



Appendix 2.13: Detail of chimney at southeast corner of the building (2m scale). **Photo No.20**



Appendix 2.14: General view of chimney at southeast corner of the building (2m scale). **Photo No.21**



Appendix 2.15: Detail of doorway in original block leading to **G12** (2m scale). **Photo No.23**



Appendix 2.16: Detail of doorway in northern extension leading to **G19** (2m scale). **Photo No.24**



Appendix 2.17: General view of rear yard, looking southwest (2m scale). **Photo No.26**



Appendix 2.18: General view of external east elevation of rooms G14/G15/F10/F11; note vertical construction joint (2m scale).
Photo No.28



Appendix 2.19: General view of room **G1**, looking south; note 1920s fireplace (1 m/2m scale). **Photo No.1**



Appendix 2.20: Detail of inserted door in southwest wall of **G1** (1 m/2m scale). **Photo No.2**



Appendix 2.21: General view of doorway between rooms **G1/G2**, looking north (1m/2m scale). **Photo No.4**



Appendix 2.22: General view of room **G2**, looking northeast (2m scale). **Photo No.5/6**



Appendix 2.23: General view looking up stairwell G3 (1m/2m scale). Photo No.30



Appendix 2.24: General view of room G9 (former kitchen), looking southeast. Photo No.35



Appendix 2.25: Detail of original metal newel post at base of stairwell G3 (20cm scale). **Photo No.31**



Appendix 2.26: Detail of original door to toilet (former store) **G4** (2m scale). **Photo No.32**



Appendix 2.27: Detail of door to toilets in **G6** (2m scale). **Photo No.33**



Appendix 2.28: Detail of original door to toilet **G13** (2m scale). **Photo No.38**



Appendix 2.29: Detail of timber match boarding in toilet **G13**, looking north (20cm scale). **Photo No.37**



Appendix 2.30: Detail of timber match boarding in toilet **G13** (1m scale). **Photo No.36**



Appendix 2.31: General view looking up stairwell **G12**, looking west (1m/2m scale). **Photo No.39**



Appendix 2.32: Detail up stairwell **G12**; note painted band from earlier decoration above handrail (2m scale). **Photo No.45**



Appendix 2.33: Detail of original metal newel post at base of stairwell G12 (20cm scale). Photo No.40



Appendix 2.34: General view of entrance door in stairwell **G12**, looking west (1m/2m scale). **Photo No.41**



Appendix 2.35: Detail of cast-iron radiator in stairwell **G12** (1m scale). **Photo No.42**



Appendix 2.36: General view of corridor **G11**, looking south; note glazed screen to office (2m scale). **Photo No.43**



Appendix 2.37: Detail of painted decoration below stairs **G12** (preserved behind telephone) (20cm scale). **Photo No.44**



Appendix 2.38: General view of room **G14**, looking north (2m scale). **Photo No.46**



Appendix 2.39: General view of room **G14**, looking south; note inserted door (2m scale). **Photo No.47**



Appendix 2.40: General view of room **G14**, looking north; note large windows (2m scale). **Photo No.49**



Appendix 2.41: Detail of light fitting in room **G15**. **Photo No.50**



Appendix 2.42: Detail of north wall of room **G15**; note 1920s hearth and replaced flooring (2m scale). **Photo No.51**



Appendix 2.43: General view of room **G15**; note light fittings (2m scale). **Photo No.52**



Appendix 2.44: General view looking west of stairwell **G16** (1m/2m scale). **Photo No.54**



Appendix 2.45: General view looking east along stairwell **G16**; note coat hooks behind door (2m scale). **Photo No.56**



Appendix 2.46: Detail of staircase in **G16**, looking west (20cm scale). **Photo No.55**



Appendix 2.47: Detail of doorway between G17/G16, looking northwest; note inserted door (2m scale). **Photo No.58**



Appendix 2.48: General view of corridor **G19**, looking north; note glazed tiles (2m scale). **Photo No.61**



Appendix 2.49 General view of toilet **G23**, looking east; note metal framed window (2m scale). **Photo No.62**



Appendix 2.50: Detail of double sink in room **G21** (20cm scale). **Photo No.63**



Appendix 2.51: Detail of original parquet (decayed) flooring in entrance of room **G17** (20cm scale). **Photo No.64**



Appendix 2.52: General view of room **G17**, looking southeast; note inserted high-level window (2m scale). **Photo No.65**



Appendix 2.53: General view of room **G17**, looking northwest (2m scale). **Photo No.66**



Appendix 2.54: General view of room **G18**, looking north; note blocked fireplace and inserted radiator (2m scale). **Photo No.67**



Appendix 2.55: General view of room **G18**, looking south; note inserted door in earlier opening (2m scale). **Photo No.68**



Appendix 2.56: Detail of round headed hung-sash window in west wall of stairwell **F12** (1m/2m scale). **Photo No.69**



Appendix 2.57: General view along inserted corridor **F17**, looking north (2m scale). **Photo No.70**



Appendix 2.58: General view along corridor **F13**, looking south (2m scale). **Photo No.71**



Appendix 2.59: General view of bathroom **F16**, looking east (2m scale). **Photo No.72**



Appendix 2.60: General view of bathroom **F16**, looking west; note original tiles and door (2m scale). **Photo No.73**



Appendix 2.61: General view of room **F18**, looking west (1m/2m scale). **Photo No.74**



Appendix 2.62: General view of room **F18**, looking east; note blocked doorway to landing **F12** (2m scale). **Photo No.75**



Appendix 2.63: Detail of high level ventilation grill in east wall of corridor **F17**. **Photo No.76**



Appendix 2.64: General view of room **F19**, looking northeast; note blocked doorway to room **F20** (1m/2m scale). **Photo No.77**



Appendix 2.65: General view of room **F19**, looking east; note hopper style top-light on window (1m/2m scale). **Photo No.78**



Appendix 2.66: General view of room **F20**, looking southeast; note exposed ceiling beam (2m scale). **Photo No.81**



Appendix 2.67: Detail of original double doors between rooms **F19/F20**, looking south (1m/2m scale). **Photo No.80**



Appendix 2.68: General view of room F21, looking northeast (1m/2m scale). **Photo No.83**



Appendix 2.69: General view of room F21, looking west; note gas fire still in-situ (2m scale). **Photo No.84**



Appendix 2.70: Detail of light fitting in room F21. Photo No.85



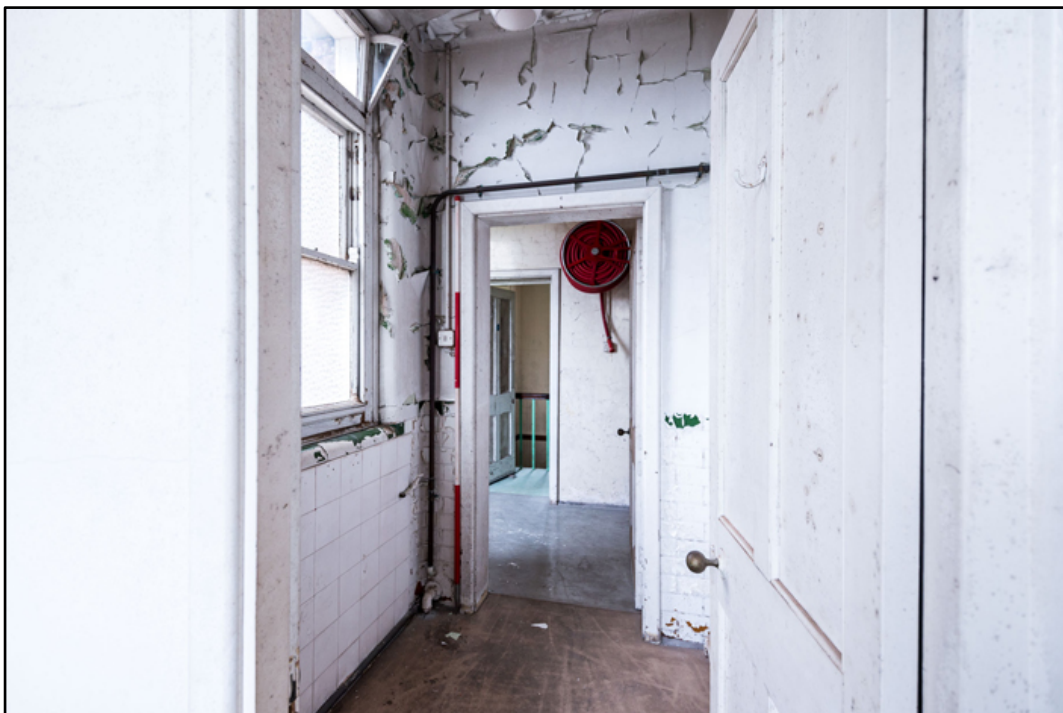
Appendix 2.71: Detail of pendent light fitting in room F21. Photo No.86



Appendix 2.72: Detail of modern graffiti in corridor F17, looking east (0.5m scale). Photo No.82



Appendix 2.73: General view looking into room **F15**, looking west; note cast-iron radiator (2m scale). **Photo No.87**



Appendix 2.74: General view of room **F15**, looking west; note painted over tiles (2m scale). **Photo No.89**



Appendix 2.75: General view of room F15, looking southeast; note original glazed tiles (2m scale). Photo No.88



Appendix 2.76: Detail of hung-sash window in room **F11**, looking west (1m scale). **Photo No.91**



Appendix 2.77: General view of room F11, looking north; note central chimney breast (1m/2m scale). Photo No.92



Appendix 2.78: General view of room F11, looking east; note inserted sink and pipes for heating. Photo No.94



Appendix 2.79: General view of room F11, looking southwest; note inserted door in earlier opening (2m scale). **Photo No.90**



Appendix 2.80: General view of sandstone corbel in room F11; note high level ventilation grill. **Photo No.93**



Appendix 2.81: Detail of skirting and door architrave in room **F10** (20cm scale). **Photo No.95**



Appendix 2.82: Detail of skirting mounted cast-iron ventilation grill in room **F10** (20cm scale). **Photo No.101**



Appendix 2.83: General view of room **F10**, looking northeast; note former chimney breast (2m scale). **Photo No.98**



Appendix 2.84: General view of room **F10**, looking northwest; note large windows and exposed truss (2m scale). **Photo No.99**



Appendix 2.85: General view of corridor/landing **F8**, looking south; note original joinery. **Photo No.102**



Appendix 2.86: General view looking into room **F7**, looking southwest; note built in cupboard (2m scale). **Photo No.107**



Appendix 2.87: General view looking down the upper landing in **F8** (2m scale). **Photo No.106**



Appendix 2.88: General view of room **F9**, looking east; note high skirting (2m scale). **Photo No.103**



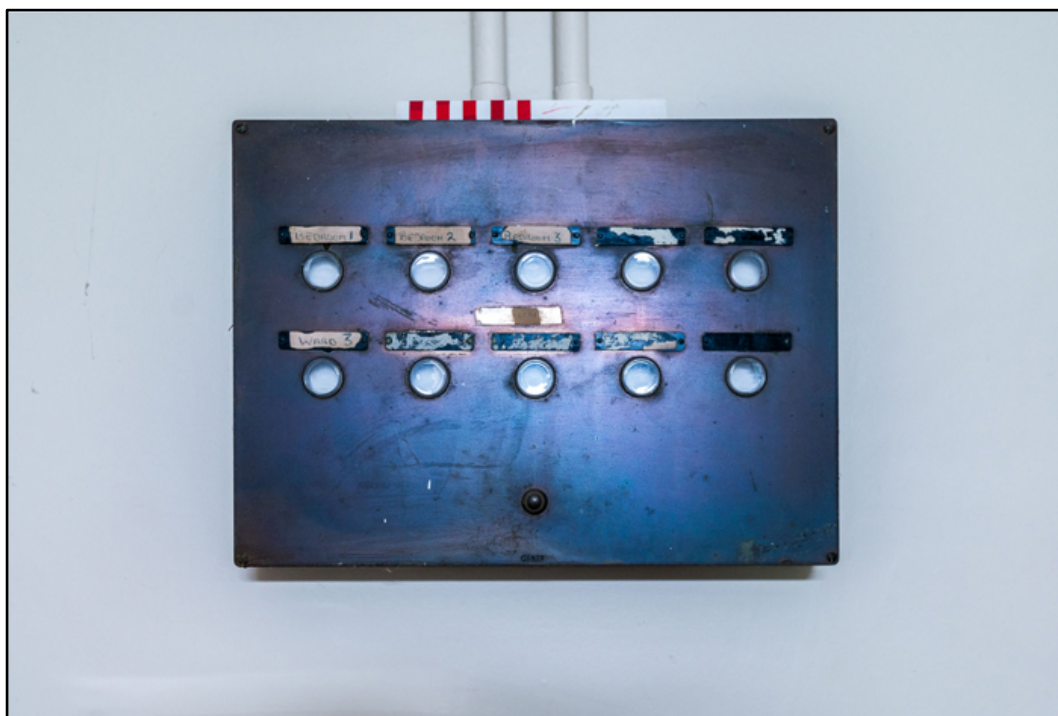
Appendix 2.89: Detail of window catch in room F9. Photo No.104



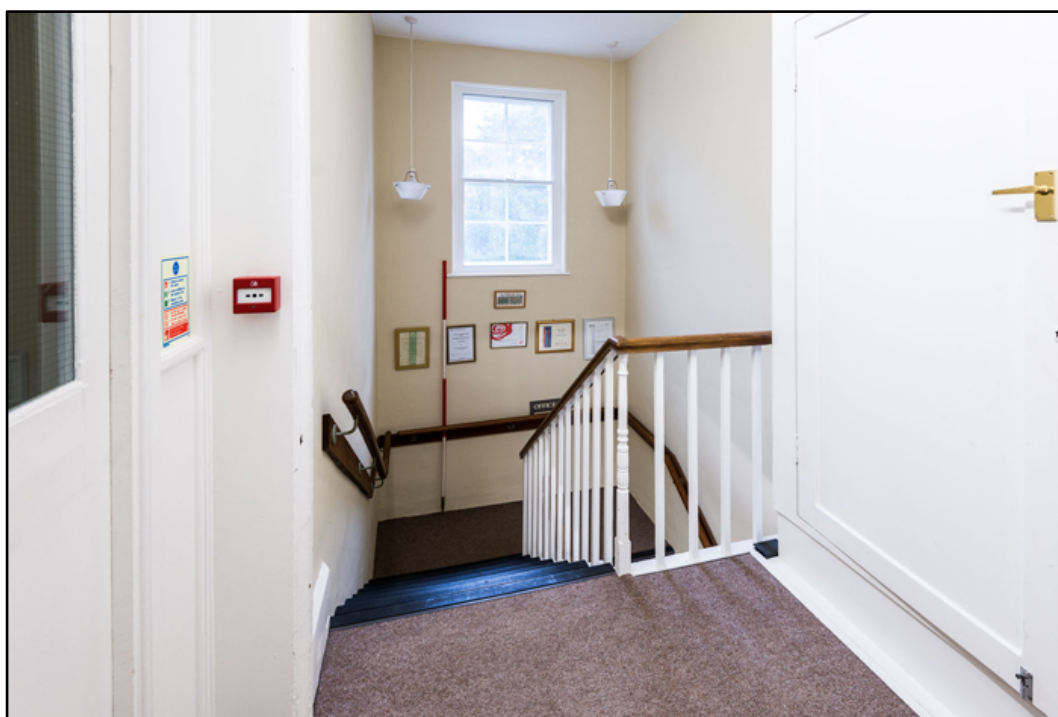
Appendix 2.90: Detail of window catch in room F9. Photo No.105



Appendix 2.91: General view looking east down stairwell F8 (2m scale). **Photo No.108**



Appendix 2.92: Detail of room buzzer board in room F6 (20cm scale). **Photo No.109**



Appendix 2.93: General view looking down the upper landing in F3; note original banister (2m scale). **Photo No.110**



Appendix 2.94: General view looking southeast of eastern office in room **F2** (2m scale). **Photo No. I 13**



Appendix 2.95: General view looking south along inserted corridor in room **F2** (2m scale). **Photo No. I 12**



Appendix 2.96: General view of the ceiling in room FI looking north; note exposed trusses and tie rods. Photo No.115



Appendix 2.97: General view looking south of room FI following conversion to offices (2m scale). Photo No.114



Appendix 2.98: Detail of outbuilding in rear yard, now used as a store (1m/2m scale). **Photo No.22**



Appendix 2.99: Detail of brick boundary wall along the rear yard, looking southeast (1m scale). **Photo No.29**



Appendix 2.100: Detail of exterior elevation to the air-raid shelter, looking north (2m scale). Photo No.25



Appendix 2.101: General view of interior of air-raid shelter; note spine wall to separate male/female areas and iron bench supports still in-situ (2m scale). **Photo No.117**



Appendix 2.102: View of western section of air-raid shelter looking north (2m scale). **Photo No.116**

Appendix 3:

Wallpaper and decorative finishes

INDEX OF DECORATIVE SAMPLES

No.	Room	App.	Description	Location
D1	F10	3.1	Pale blue floral wallpaper with light grey ground with hand painted stencil beneath	North wall
D2	F10	3.2	Pale blue floral wallpaper with light grey ground with blue paint beneath	North wall
D3	F10	3.3	Pale blue floral wallpaper with light grey ground	North wall
D4	F10	3.4	Pale blue floral wallpaper with light grey ground with dark brown paint/varnish beneath	West wall
D5	F10	3.5	Pale blue floral wallpaper with light grey ground with pale green paper beneath	South wall
D6	F8	3.6	Pale cream painted paper with blue paint beneath	North wall
D7	F11	3.7	Pale blue floral wallpaper with light grey ground with pale blue/green paint beneath	South wall
D8	F11	3.8	Pale blue floral wallpaper with light grey ground with pale green paper and ochre colour beneath	North wall
D9	F11	3.9	Pale blue floral wallpaper with light grey ground with pale green paper beneath	North wall
D10	F18	3.10	Tight pattern of pale blue floral wallpaper	North wall
D11	F17	3.11	Wallpaper with a brown diamond lattice pattern intertwined with a vine on a cream ground	West wall
D12	F19	3.12	Bright floral wallpaper with yellow, blue and pink flowers on a cream ground with coloured butterflies	South wall
D13	F20	3.13	Pale blue, grey and white floral wallpaper with light grey ground	North wall
D14	F21	3.14	Wallpaper with a tight delicate pattern of brown and orange flowers on a cream ground	South wall
D15	G18	3.15	Wallpaper with pale blue flowers with green/brown leaves on a cream ground	South wall
D16	G17	3.16	Wallpaper with large pale pink flowers with olive green leaves on a cream ground over dark green and ochre paint	North wall
D17	G17	3.17	Wallpaper with large pale pink flowers with olive green leaves	South wall

No.	Room	App.	Description	Location
			on a cream ground	
D18	G16	3.18	Cream painted paper over layers of green and cream paint	North wall
D19	G15	3.19	Wallpaper with a bunches of pale white and blue flowers arranged vertically on a pale grey stripy ground	South wall
D20	G15	3.20	Wallpaper with a bunches of pale white and blue flowers arranged vertically on a pale grey stripy ground over pale green paint	South wall
D21	G14	3.21	Wallpaper with delicate sprigs of spiky leaves and small flowers on a pale cream ground over blue paint	North wall
D22	G14	3.22	Wallpaper with delicate sprigs of spiky leaves and small flowers on a pale cream ground	South wall
D23	G12	3.23	Painted wall plaster beneath cream paint, with thin black strip c.1.2m above the floor, with an ochre paint/varnish above	South wall
D24	G11	3.24	Wallpaper with a tight orange and brown weave design	West wall
D25	G11	3.25	Wallpaper with dense pattern of large pale orange and blue/brown flowers	South wall



Appendix 3.1: Detail of wallpaper on north wall of room F10 (20cm scale). Decorative sample No.1



Appendix 3.2: Detail of paint on north wall of room F10 (20cm scale). **Decorative sample No.2**



Appendix 3.3: Detail of wallpaper on north wall of room F10 (20cm scale). Decorative sample No.3



Appendix 3.4: Detail of wallpaper on west wall of room **F10** (20cm scale). **Decorative sample No.4**



Appendix 3.5: Detail of wallpaper on south wall of room F10 (20cm scale). Decorative sample No.5



Appendix 3.6: Detail of paint on north wall of room F8 (20cm scale). Decorative sample No.6



Appendix 3.7: Detail of wallpaper on south wall of room F11 (20cm scale). Decorative sample No.7



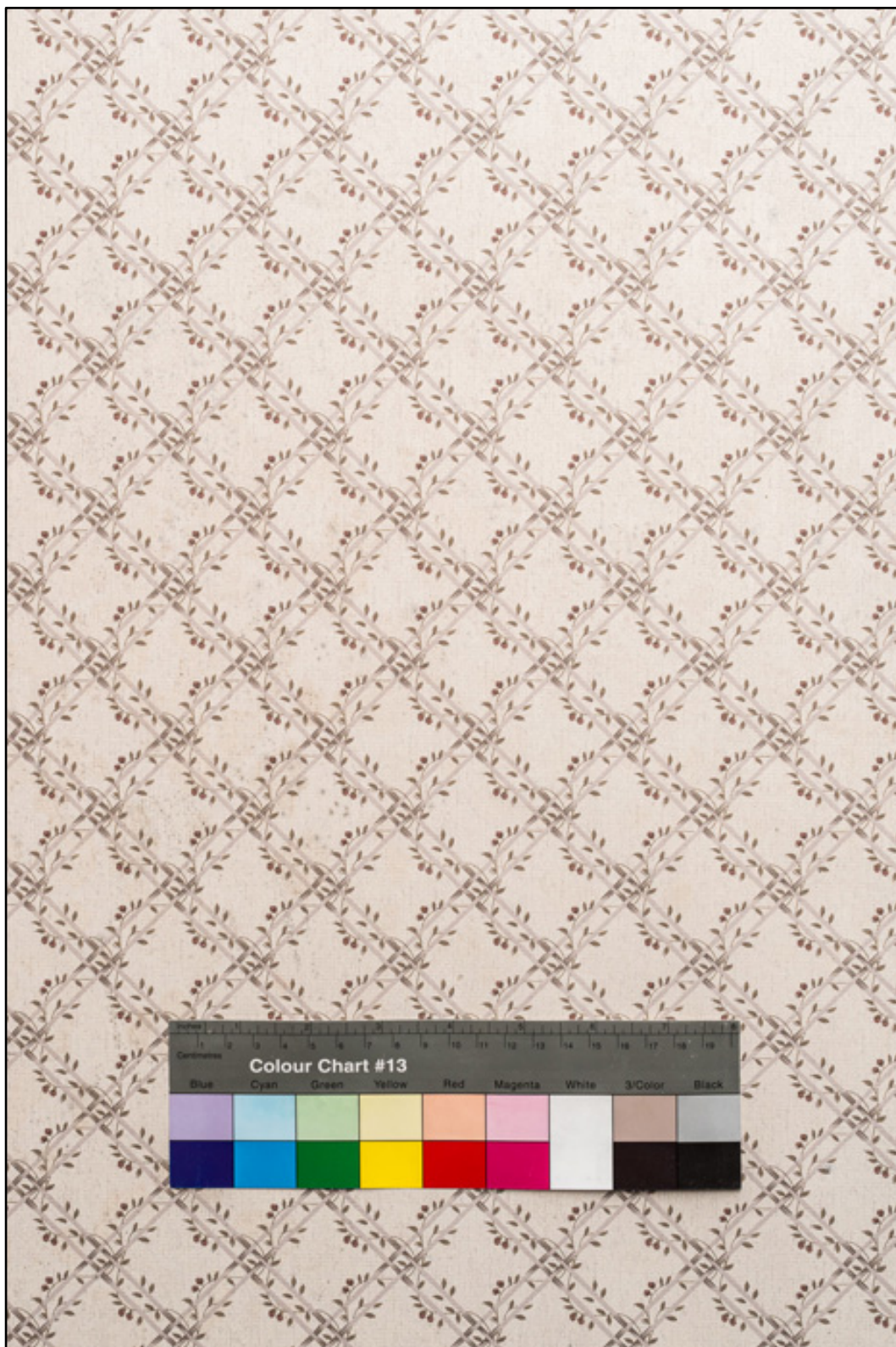
Appendix 3.8: Detail of wallpaper on north wall of room F11 (20cm scale). Decorative sample No.8



Appendix 3.9: Detail of wallpaper on north wall of room F11 (20cm scale). Decorative sample No.9



Appendix 3.10: Detail of wallpaper on north wall of room **F18** (20cm scale). Decorative sample No.10



Appendix 3.11: Detail of wallpaper on west wall of room F17 (20cm scale). Decorative sample No.11



Appendix 3.12: Detail of wallpaper on south wall of room F9 (20cm scale). Decorative sample No.12



Appendix 3.13: Detail of wallpaper on north wall of room **F20** (20cm scale). **Decorative sample No.13**



Appendix 3.14: Detail of wallpaper on south wall of room F21 (20cm scale). Decorative sample No.14



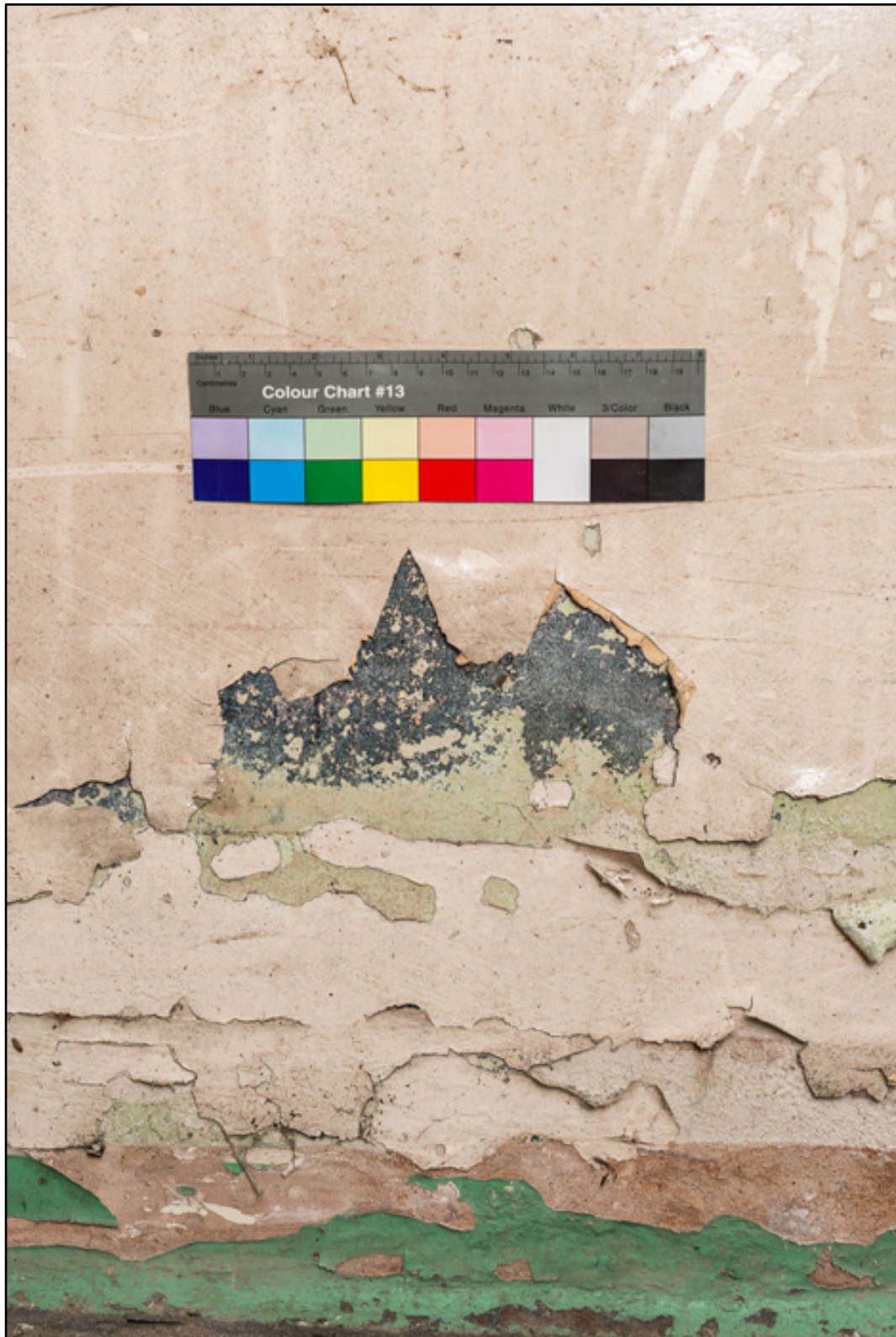
Appendix 3.15: Detail of wallpaper on south wall of room G18 (20cm scale). Decorative sample No.15



Appendix 3.16: Detail of wallpaper and paint on north wall of room G17 (20cm scale). Decorative sample No.16



Appendix 3.17: Detail of wallpaper on south wall of room G17 (20cm scale). Decorative sample No.17



Appendix 3.18: Detail of paint on north wall of room **G16** (20cm scale). **Decorative sample No.18**



Appendix 3.19: Detail of wallpaper on south wall of room G15 (20cm scale). Decorative sample No.19



Appendix 3.20: Detail of wallpaper on south wall of room **G15** (20cm scale). **Decorative sample No.1**



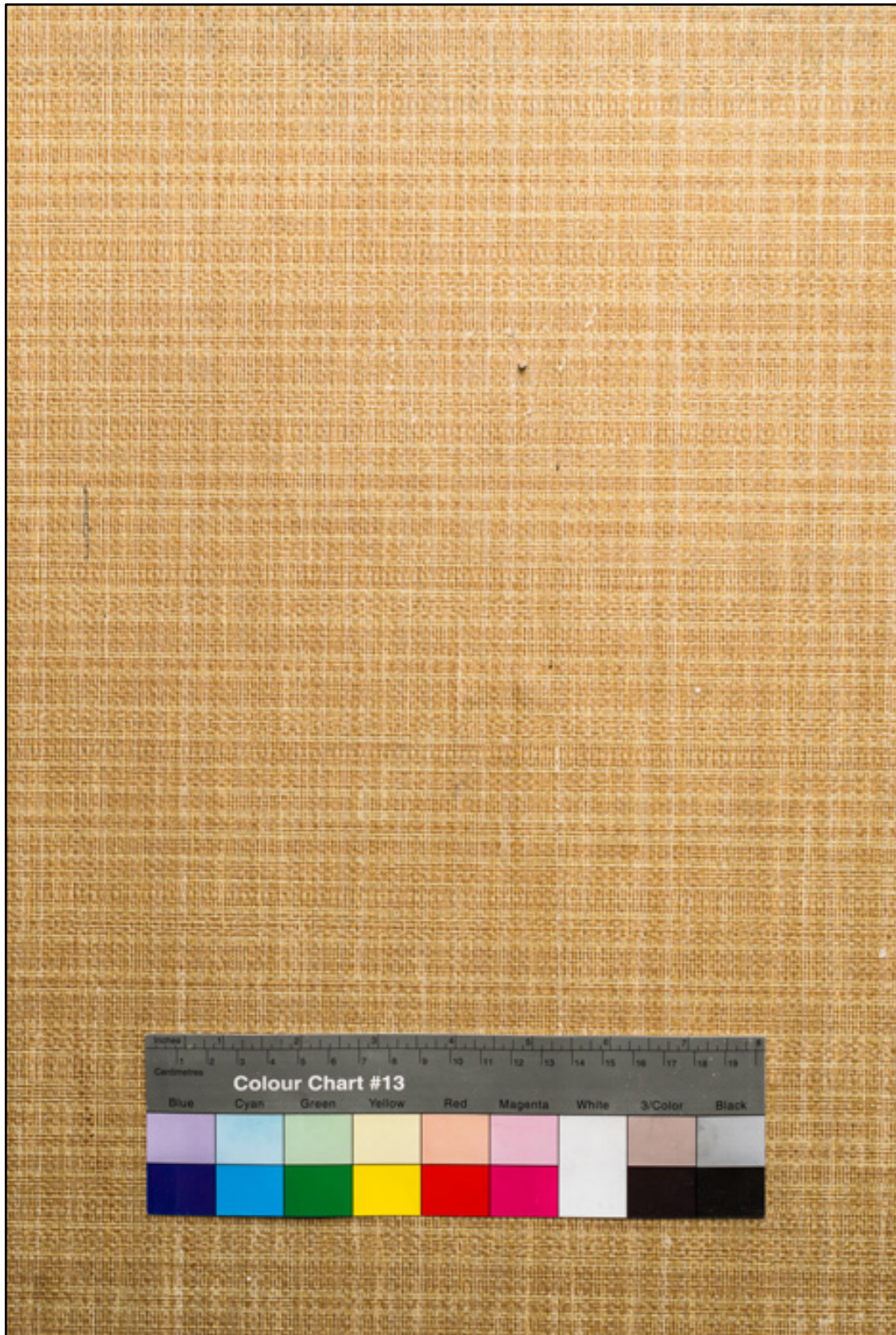
Appendix 3.21: Detail of paint and wallpaper on north wall of room G14 (20cm scale). Decorative sample No.21



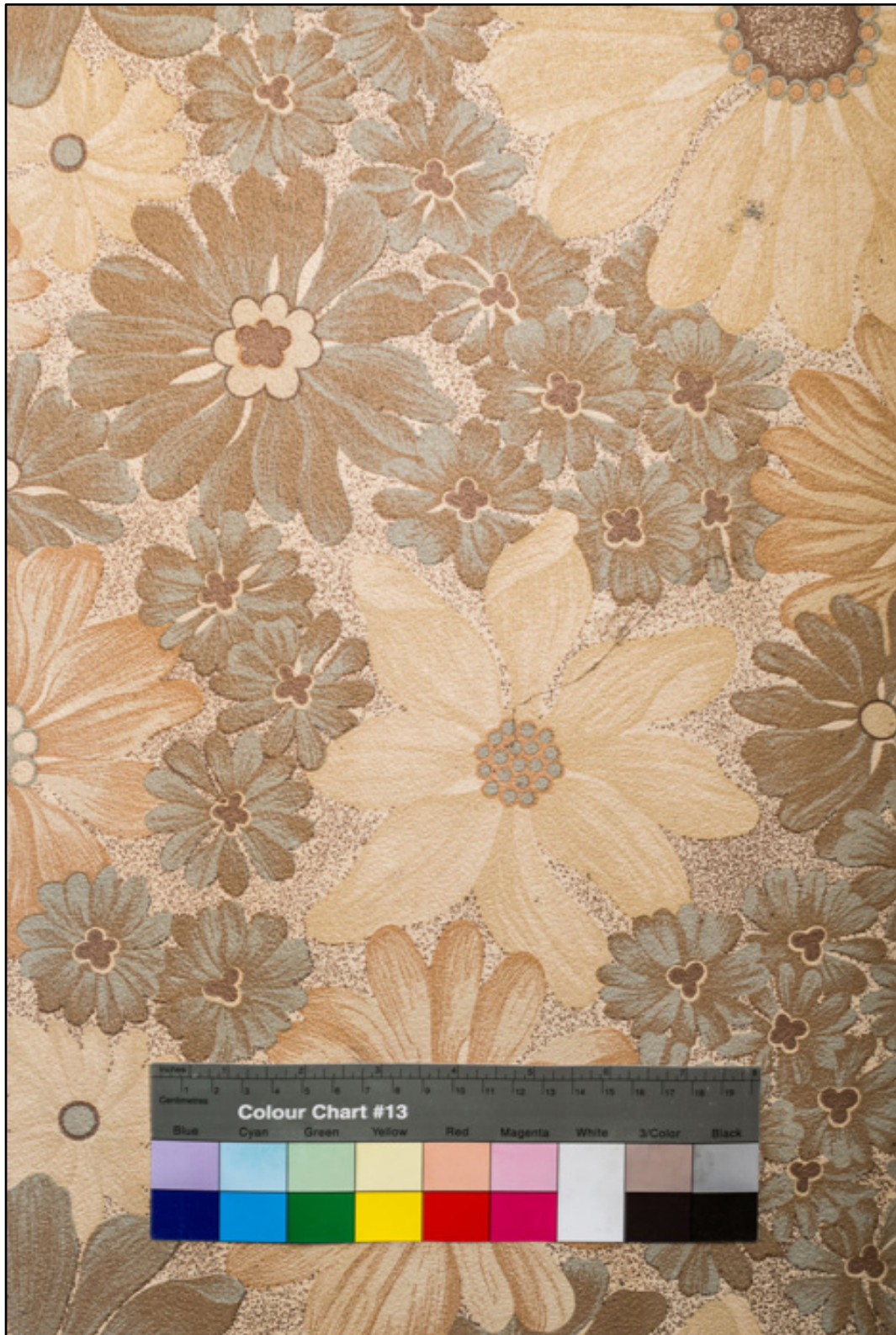
Appendix 3.22: Detail of wallpaper on south wall of room G14 (20cm scale). Decorative sample No.22



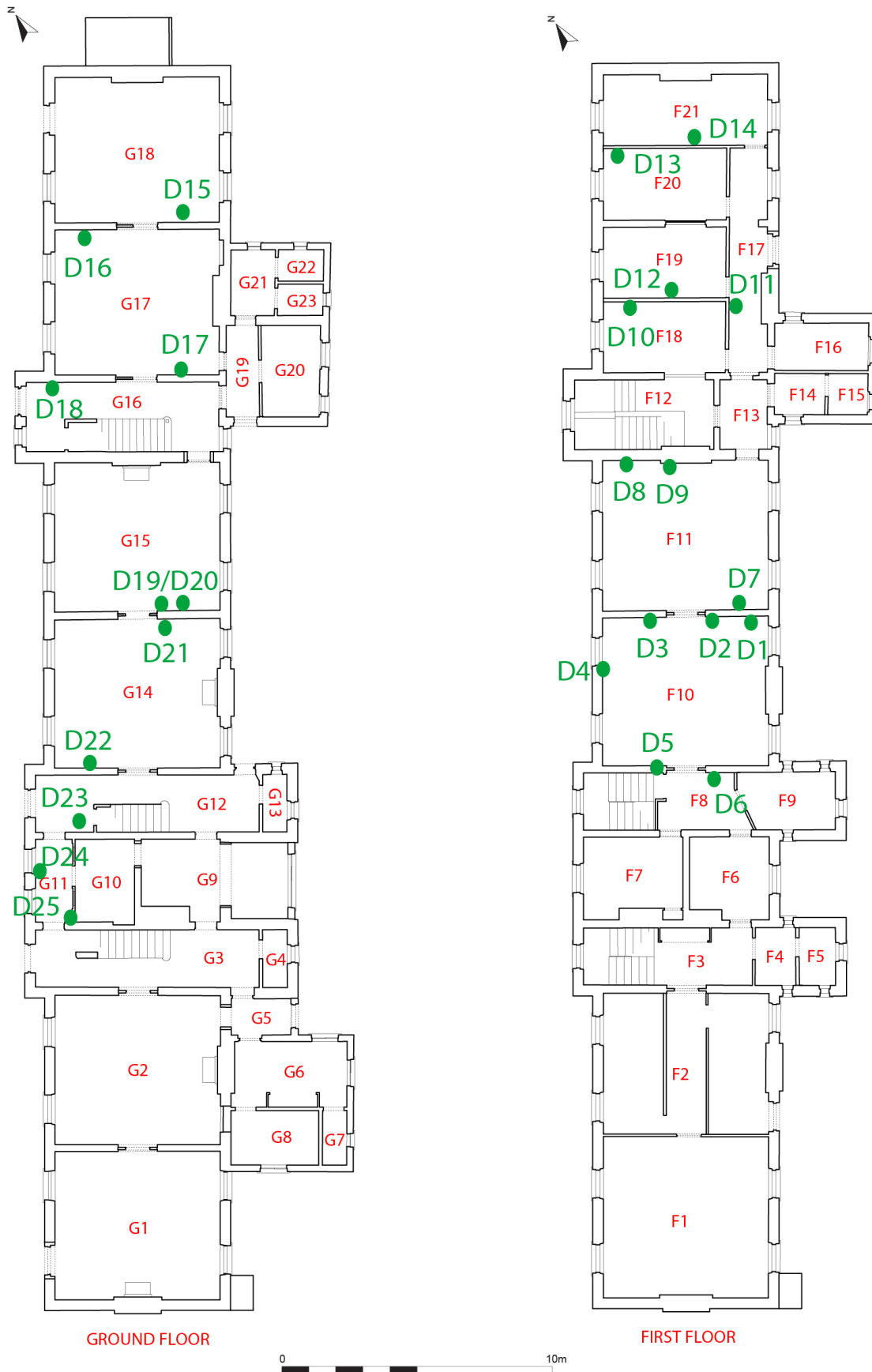
Appendix 3.23: Detail of painted decoration on south wall of room **G12** (20cm scale). **Decorative sample No.23**



Appendix 3.24: Detail of wallpaper on west wall of room **G11** (20cm scale). **Decorative sample No.24**



Appendix 3.25: Detail of wallpaper on south wall of room G11 (20cm scale). Decorative sample No.25



Appendix 3.26: Floor plans of Firbeck House with locations of decorative samples

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Appendix 4:

Photographic registers and viewpoint plans

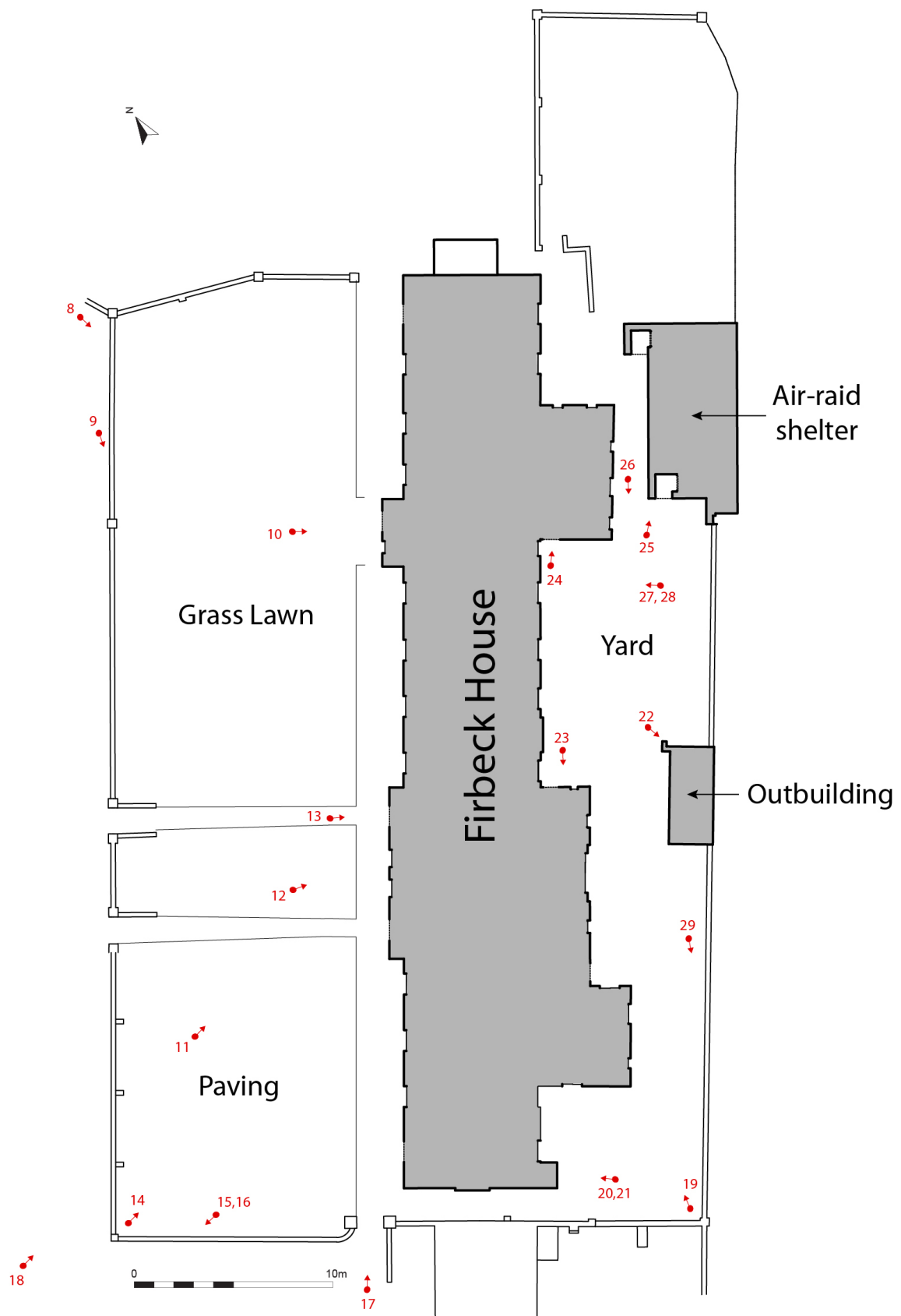
Frame	Appendix	Room	Description	Scale	Direction	Date
1	2.19	G1	General view of room	1m/2m	W	17.05.17
2	2.20	G1	Detail of door	1m/2m	NW	17.05.17
3		G1	Detail of internal doorway	2m	SW	17.05.17
4	2.21	G2	General view of room	2m	E	17.05.17
5	2.22	G2	Detail of internal doorway	2m	NE	17.05.17
6	2.22	G2	Detail of doorway between G1 and G2	2m	SW	17.05.17
7		G2	General view of room	2m	S	17.05.17
8	2.1	External	General view of northern extension	2m	SE	17.05.17
9	2.2	External	Detail of boundary wall with removed railings	20cm	S	17.05.17
10	2.3	External	Detail of entrance door in northern extension	2m	E	17.05.17
11	2.4	External	Detail of former doorways into 1871 infirmary	2m	NE	17.05.17
12	2.5	External	Detail of datestone in pediment	n/a	NE	17.05.17
13	2.6	External	Detail of doorway into 1871 infirmary	2m	NE	17.05.17
14	2.7	External	General view of the southwest corner of Firbeck House	2m	NE	17.05.17
15	2.10	External	Detail of metal railings, southwest boundary	20cm	SW	17.05.17
16	2.9	External	Detail of metal railings, southwest boundary	n/a	SW	17.05.17
17	2.8	External	View up staircase from lower Workhouse yard	1m	N	17.05.17
18	2.11	External	General view of main façade of Firbeck House	n/a	NE	17.05.17
19	2.12	External	General view along rear yard	2m	NW	17.05.17
20	2.13	External	Detail of chimney at southeast corner	2m	W	17.05.17
21	2.14	External	Detail of chimney at southeast corner	2m	W	17.05.17
22	2.98	External	Detail of outbuilding	1m/2m	SE	17.05.17
23	2.15	External	Detail of doorway into G12	2m	S	17.05.17
24	2.16	External	Detail of doorway into G19	2m	N	17.05.17

Frame	Appendix	Room	Description	Scale	Direction	Date
25	2.100	External	Exterior of air-raid shelter	2m	N	17.05.17
26	2.17	External	General view of rear yard	2m	S	17.05.17
27		External	Detail of construction joint for northern extension	2m	W	17.05.17
28	2.18	External	Detail of construction joint for northern extension	2m	W	17.05.17
29	2.99	External	View along rear boundary wall	1m	SE	17.05.17
30	2.23	G3	Detail of stairs	1m	NW	17.05.17
31	2.25	G3	Detail of newel post	n/a	NW	17.05.17
32	2.26	G3/5	General view across room	2m	SE	17.05.17
33	2.27	G6	Detail of door	2m	SW	17.05.17
34		G8	Detail of door	2m	SW	17.05.17
35	2.24	G9	General view of room	2m	S	17.05.17
36	2.30	G13	Detail of paneling and toilet	2m	S	17.05.17
37	2.29	G13	Detail of paneling and sink	2m	E	17.05.17
38	2.28	G12	Detail of door	2m	E	17.05.17
39	2.31	G12	General view across room	2m	NW	17.05.17
40	2.33	G12	Detail of newel post	n/a	S	17.05.17
41	2.34	G12	Detail of internal door	2m	NW	17.05.17
42	2.35	G12	Detail of radiator	1m	NE	17.05.17
43	2.36	G11	General view of room	2m	SW	17.05.17
44	2.37	G12	Detail of wall	n/a	SW	17.05.17
45	2.32	G12	Detail of wall above stairs	2m	NW	17.05.17
46	2.38	G14	General view of room	2m	NE	17.05.17
47	2.39	G14	Detail of doorway	2m	SW	17.05.17
48		G14	Detail of window	2m	SW	17.05.17
49	2.40	G14	Detail of chimney breast	2m	E	17.05.17
50	2.41	G14	Detail of light fitting	n/a	N	17.05.17

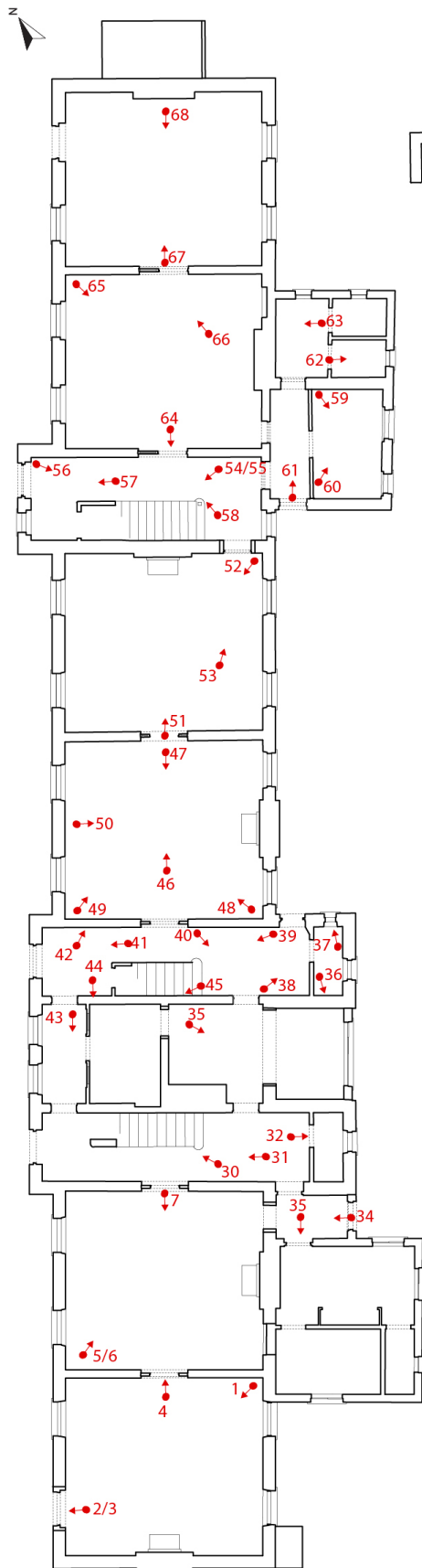
Frame	Appendix	Room	Description	Scale	Direction	Date
51	2.42	G15	Detail of fireplace	2m	E	17.05.17
52	2.43	G15	Detail of doorway and wall	2m	W	17.05.17
53		G15	Detail of doorway	2m	N	17.05.17
54	2.44	G16	General view of room	n/a	W	17.05.17
55	2.46	G16	Detail of door	2m	NW	17.05.17
56	2.45	G16	Detail of doorway	2m	E	17.05.17
57		G16	Detail of window above staircase	2m	W	17.05.17
58	2.47	G16	Detail of former doorway	2m	NW	17.05.17
59		G20	Detail of wash basins	2m	S	17.05.17
60		G20	Detail of windows and towel rail	2m	SE	17.05.17
61	2.48	G19	General view into G21	2m	NE	17.05.17
62	2.49	G23	Detail of toilet	2m	SE	17.05.17
63	2.50	G21	Detail of wash basins	n/a	NE	17.05.17
64	2.51	G17	Detail of floor	2m	SW	17.05.17
65	2.52	G17	Detail of fireplace and vents	2m	SE	17.05.17
66	2.53	G17	Detail of window hopper/fanlight	2m	N	17.05.17
67	2.54	G18	General view of room	2m	NE	17.05.17
68	2.55	G18	General view across room	2m	SW	17.05.17
69	2.56	F12	General view of room	2m	N	17.05.17
70	2.57	F17	General view of room	2m	NE	17.05.17
71	2.58	F11-13	General view of room	20cm	NE	17.05.17
72	2.59	F14	General view of room	20cm	W	17.05.17
73	2.60	F14	General view of room	20cm	SW	17.05.17
74	2.61	F18	General view of room	2m	SE	17.05.17
75	2.62	F18	General view of room	2m	NW	17.05.17
76	2.63	F17	Detail of chimney breast and vent	n/a	SE	17.05.17
77	2.64	F19	General view of room	1m/2m	E	17.05.17

Frame	Appendix	Room	Description	Scale	Direction	Date
78	2.65	F19	General view of room	2m/1m	NW	17.05.17
79		F20	Detail of ceiling beam	n/a	N	17.05.17
80	2.67	F20	Detail of double door	1m/2m	S	17.05.17
81	2.66	F20	General view of room	1m/2m	S	17.05.17
82	2.72	F17	Detail of graffiti on window	n/a	E	17.05.17
83	2.68	F21	General view of room	1m/2m	SE	17.05.17
84	2.69	F21	General view with dressing table	1m/2m	NW	17.05.17
85	2.70	F21	Detail of light fitting	n/a	NW	17.05.17
86	2.71	F14/F15	General view of room	2m	SE	17.05.17
87	2.73	F15	Detail of toilet	2m	SE	17.05.17
88	2.75	F14/F15	General view of room	n/a	NW	17.05.17
89	2.74	F11	General view of room	2m	W	17.05.17
90	2.79	F11	Detail of window	1m	SW	17.05.17
91	2.76	F11	Detail of chimney and blocked fireplace	2m	NE	17.05.17
92	2.77	F11	Detail of ceiling corbel	n/a	SE	17.05.17
93	2.80	F11	Detail of windows and wash basin	2m	SE	17.05.17
94	2.78	F11	Detail of skirting board	20cm	SE	17.05.17
95	2.81	F11	Detail of ceiling	n/a	NE	17.05.17
96		F10	General view of room	2m	SW	17.05.17
97		F10	General view of room	2m	NE	17.05.17
98	2.83	F10	General view of room	2m	NE	17.05.17
99	2.84	F10	Detail of ventilation grill	20cm	SE	17.05.17
100		F10	Detail of ventilation grill	20cm	SE	17.05.17
101	2.82	F8	General view of room	2m	S	17.05.17
102	2.85	F8	General view of room	2m	S	17.05.17
103	2.88	F9	General view of room	2m	SE	17.05.17
104	2.89	F9	Detail of window catch/knob	n/a	SW	17.05.17

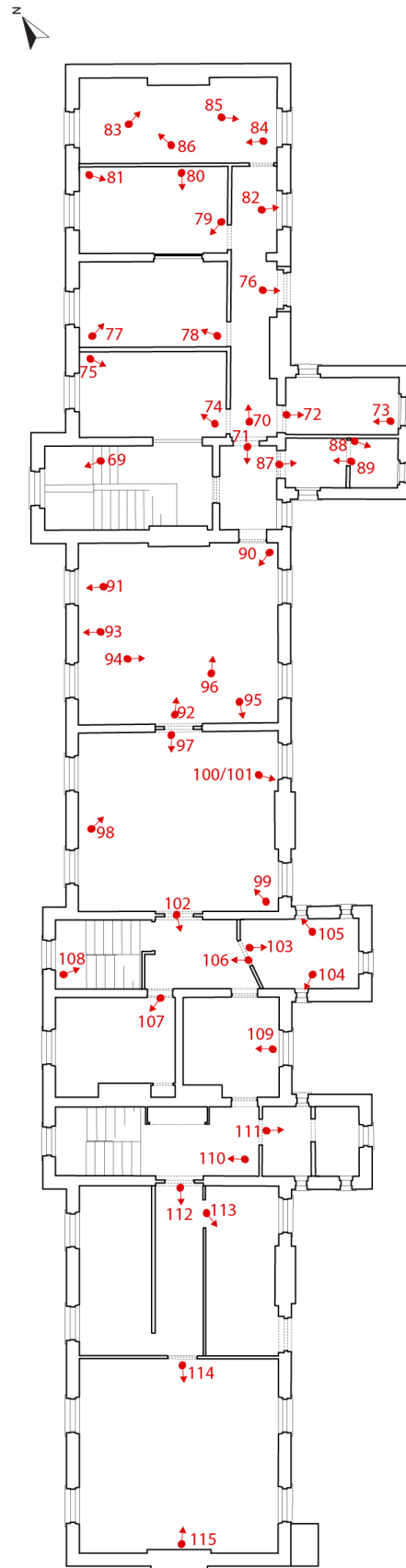
Frame	Appendix	Room	Description	Scale	Direction	Date
I05	2.90	F9	Detail of window catch/knob	n/a	NE	17.05.17
I06	2.87	F8	General view up staircase	2m	W	17.05.17
I07	2.86	F7	General view of room	2m	SW	17.05.17
I08	2.91	F8	Detail of staircase	2m	SE	17.05.17
I09	2.92	F6	Detail of buzzer board	20cm	NW	17.05.17
I10	2.93	F3	Detail of staircase	2m	NW	17.05.17
I11		F3/F4	General view of room	2m	SE	17.05.17
I12	2.95	F1/F2	General view of room	2m	SW	17.05.17
I13	2.94	F2	General view of room	2cm	S	17.05.17
I14	2.97	F1	General view of room	2m	SW	17.05.17
I15	2.96	F1	Detail of ceiling and trusses	n/a	NE	17.05.17
I16	2.102	External	Interior of air-raid shelter	2m	N	17.05.17
I17	2.101	External	Interior of air-raid shelter	2m	N	17.05.17



Photographic viewpoints: external



GROUND FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR



Photographic viewpoints: internal