# DRUMOAK PUBLIC HALL (FORMER FREE CHURCH), PARK, DRUMOAK, AB31 5AU Report on Level 1 Standing Building Survey



Alison Cameron Cameron Archaeology 5 December 2014

### **CONTENTS**

1	INTRODUCTION	3
	THE LEVEL 1 STANDING BUILDING SURVEY	
3	CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	13
4	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	13
5	REFERENCES	13
ΑP	PPENDIX 1 FEATURES RECORDED IN THIS SURVEY	14
ΑP	PPENDIX 2 PHOTOGRAPHS	14
ΑP	PPENDIX 3 MAPS	31

### **ILLUSTRATIONS**

Cover: (top) SE façade; facing NNW. (bottom) SW façade facing NNE

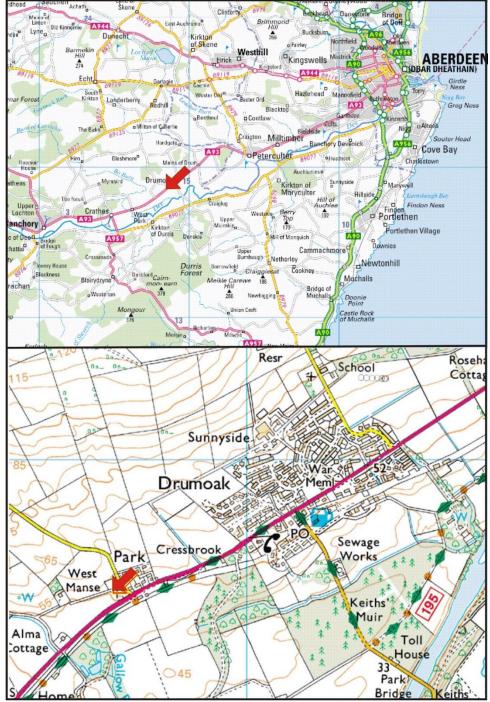
Illus 1 Location plan	G
Illus 2 NW church wall with Window W21 (top) and hall extension	4
Illus 3 Windows 17 (left) 16 (right); facing SW	
Illus 4 Buttesses 9 (left) 8 (right) at south corner of church; facing N	5
Illus 5 Round recesses on either side of Door D2	6
Illus 6 Floral terminal of hood mould over Door D2	6
Illus 7 NW wall of church with Window 21 (centre)	7
Illus 8 SW elevation showing features recorded in this survey (from copyright cmdesign)	7
Illus 9 NW and SE elevations showing features recorded in this survey	8
Illus 10 Ground floor plan showing features recorded in this survey	8
Illus 11 First floor plan showing features recorded in this survey	g
Illus 12 Original light fitting (right) with modern chain from Phase 2 strip lighting	g
Illus 13 Window 11 showing glazing and leading and lower shutter in situ; facing SW	
Illus 14 Detail of lower section of Window W20; facing SE	
Illus 15 Window 5 (converted to fire door); facing SW	
Illus 16 Window 17 partially covered by Phase 2 stairs to gallery; facing E	. 11
Illus 17 Window 18 boxed into Phase 2 stairway; facing SE	
Illus 18 Cast iron pillars P1 (right) and P2 (left) supporting the gallery above; facing SE	
Illus 19 Ventilator on SW wall marked 'Hayward Brothers/Union Street Borough'	
Illus 20 Ground floor plan of church showing camera points used in this survey	
Illus 21 First floor plan showing camera points used in this survey	
Illus 22 Plan showing camera points around church used in this survey	
Illus 23 Ordnance survey maps of the proposed	31

### SUMMARY

A Level 1 standing building survey was carried out on 2 December 2014. Several phases of construction were recorded and it is recommended that no further archaeological work is required during the current planning application.

### 1 INTRODUCTION

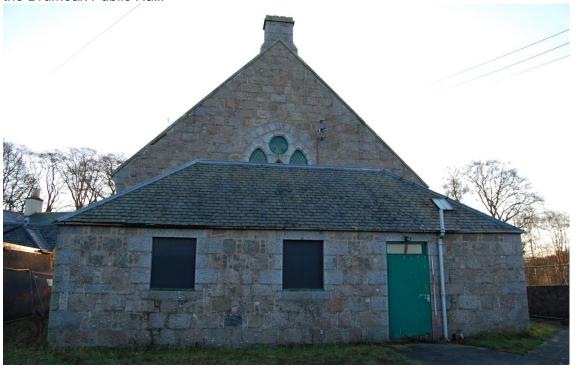
- 1.1 The site (Illus 1) is located on the north side of the A93 Peterculter to Banchory road on the west edge of Park, Drumoak. It is centred on NGR NO 7852 9849 at 50-55m OD (Illus 1) and in the parish of Drumoak.
- 1.2 The work was commissioned by the current owner. An Aberdeenshire planning application 2014/3475 for conversion and alterations of hall to domestic dwellinghouse and change of use of land to domestic garden ground was granted on 12 November 2014 with an archaeology condition (condition 3) for a Level 1 standing building survey.
- 1.3 All the archaeological work was carried out in the context of Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) Planning Advice Note (PAN 2/2011) and Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP), which state that archaeological remains should be regarded as part of the environment to be protected and managed.



Illus 1 Location plan (Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2014)

### 2 THE LEVEL 1 STANDING BUILDING SURVEY

This large church was built in 1880 as a Free Church (Canmore NO79NE 73) and is situated along the main road which runs through Drumoak and the adjoining Park. It was designed by Ellis and Wilson (Geddes 2001, 87). It is aligned NW-SE and is 20m long and 11.6m wide. It is surrounded by small grounds with a hall and kitchen to the rear (NW; Illus 2) 11.6m wide and 5.6m wide. The church became a community hall after the congregation united with Drumoak East (as Drumoak) in 1934. The church is rectangular on plan with slightly projecting transepts and entrance gable. There are a number of Gothic features, including the pointed-arch (lancet) windows, bellcote and doorway. The church was built with large, roughly-finished granite blocks with cherry cocking and the roofs are slated. The principal elevation faces the road to the SE with a cast iron railing and steps up from the pavement. The entrance gable is centrally placed and has attached transepts. There is a recessed pointed-arch doorway (D2, cover) with three small lancets creating a fanlight. The doorway has a simple hood mould with floral terminals (Illus 6). Flanking the doorway are small round recesses (F1 and F2; Illus 5) and there are stepped corner buttresses. Above the doorway and a thick stringcourse is a group of three lancet windows below a relieving arch. Three narrow lancets are set in the gablehead. On top of the gable is a tall bellcote with a metal finial. The transepts on either side of the gable have a single lancet window in the SE face (W20), along with small corner buttresses (B8/9 and B4/5). The side elevations have gabled transepts at the SE end with the nave and hall to the NW. The transepts have small lancet windows at ground floor level (W10 and 11, W16 and 17; Illus 3) with a twin-lancet window above (W9 and W22), framed by a stepped stringcourse (Illus 8). The nave has three bays with large lancet windows and a taller NW bay has a side door (opened as a fire door but presumably originally a window, W5; Illus 15) with a three-light window above. The side elevations also have a number of small buttresses (B1-3, 10-12). The rear gable of the church has a single large window (W21), which is partly obscured by the single storey attached hall and kitchen. There is a stone platform for a finial but the finial is missing. The hall has a hipped roof and rectangular windows (including information from http://www.scottishchurches.org.uk/). The Free Church Manse (Canmore NO79NE 62) survives as a house 200m to the west of the former church which has latterly been used as the Drumoak Public Hall.



Illus 2 NW church wall with Window W21 (top) and hall extension (foreground with D1, W1, W2 (I-r); facing SE



Illus 3 Windows 17 (left) 16 (right); facing SW



Illus 4 Buttesses 9 (left) 8 (right) at south corner of church; facing N



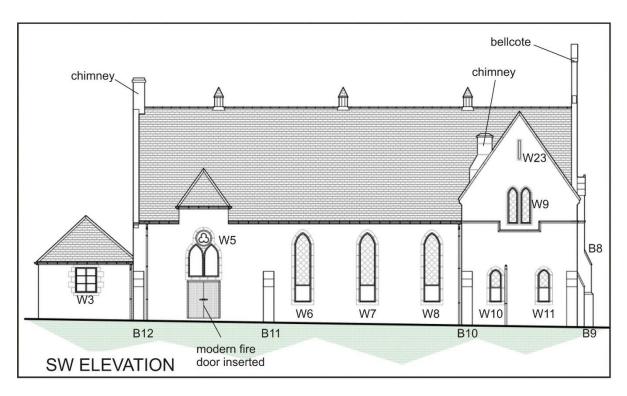
Illus 5 Round recesses on either side of Door D2



Illus 6 Floral terminal of hood mould over Door D2



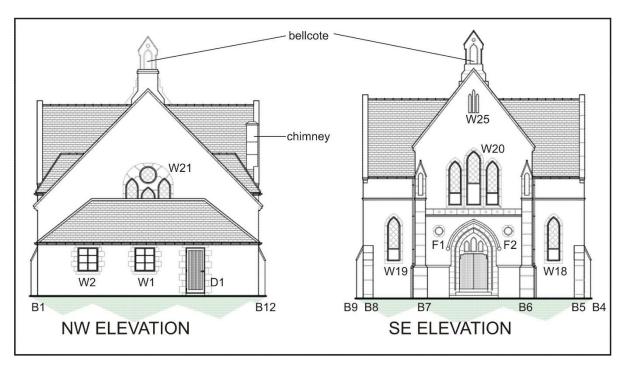
Illus 7 NW wall of church with Window 21 (centre) showing original church ceiling (top); facing NW



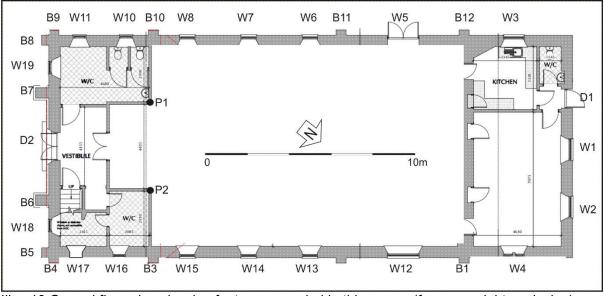
Illus 8 SW elevation showing features recorded in this survey (from copyright cmdesign)

The Church was constructed in 1880 and at a later date a hall and kitchen were added to the NW end of the church partly obscuring the NW gable window, W21 (Illus 9). A gallery on the SE end of the church above the vestibule and toilets was probably original to the building but may have been inserted in Phase 2. In Phase 2 the stair to the Gallery was inserted in the east corner of the church partly obscuring Window W17 (Illus 16). Cast iron pillars (P1 and P2; Illus 18) suggest a late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup>-century date for the construction of the gallery.

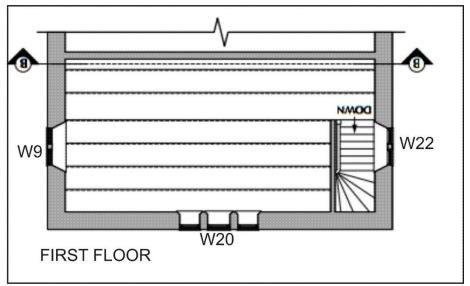
The church was closed following the congregation uniting with another church and converted into a community hall. A fire door was opened in the NW wall through window W5 and internal alterations made. Although the soft strip had taken place prior to this survey, photos taken prior to the soft strip show that the gallery was boxed in and strip lights added (the current owner, pers comm; copies of photos in Appendix 3). The rafters for the lowered ceiling can be seen in Illus 7.



Illus 9 NW and SE elevations showing features recorded in this survey (from copyright cmdesign)



Illus 10 Ground floor plan showing features recorded in this survey (from copyright cmdesign)



Illus 11 First floor plan showing features recorded in this survey (from copyright cmdesign)



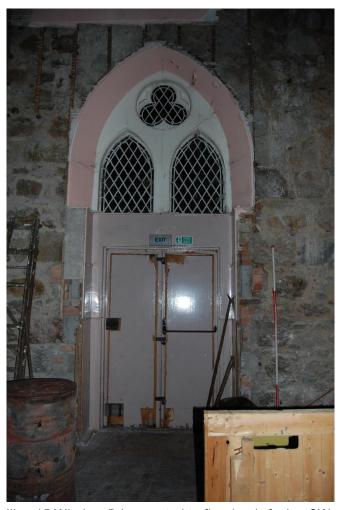
Illus 12 Original light fitting (right) with modern chain from Phase 2 strip lighting (left); facing WNW. The light fitting leads to the roof and may also have operated as a vent.



Illus 13 Window 11 showing glazing and leading and lower shutter in situ; facing SW



Illus 14 Detail of lower section of Window W20; facing SE



Illus 15 Window 5 (converted to fire door); facing SW



Illus 16 Window 17 partially covered by Phase 2 stairs to gallery; facing E



Illus 17 Window 18 boxed into Phase 2 stairway; facing SE



Illus 18 Cast iron pillars P1 (right) and P2 (left) supporting the gallery above; facing SE



Illus 19 Ventilator on SW wall marked 'Hayward Brothers/Union Street Borough'; facing NE

### 3 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A Level 1 standing building survey was carried out on 2 December 2014. Several phases of construction were recorded and it is recommended that no further archaeological work is required during the current planning application.

### 4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to The current owner for commissioning this project and to Claire Herbert for her advice during the work.

### 5 REFERENCES

Geddes, J 2001 Deeside and The Mearns: An Illustrated Architectural Guide. Edinburgh, Rutland Press.

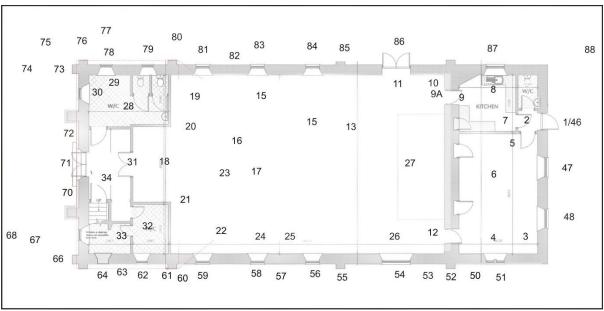
Places of Worship in Scotland website (<a href="http://www.scottishchurches.org.uk/">http://www.scottishchurches.org.uk/</a>) visited 21.11.14

Cameron Archaeology
45 View Terrace
Aberdeen
AB25 2RS
01224 643020
07581 181057
cameronarch@btinternet.com
www.cameronarchaeology.com
Company registration no 372223 (Scotland)
VAT registration no 990 4373 00

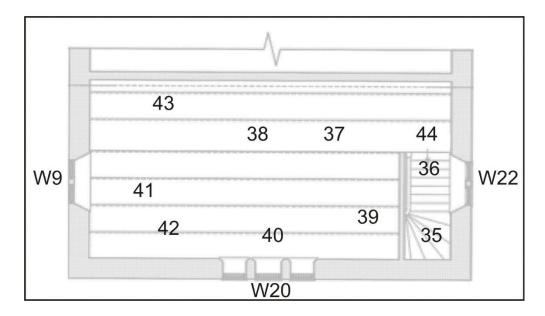
# **APPENDIX 1 FEATURES RECORDED IN THIS SURVEY**

Feature no	Description	Size	
D1	NW face hall extension, Phase 2	1.1m wide, 2.6m high	
D2	SE gable main entrance door	2.3m wide, 4m high including 4	
	-	steps	
W1	NW face hall extension, Phase 2	1.25m high, 1m wide	
W2	NW face hall extension, Phase 2	1.25m high, 1m wide	
W3	SW face hall extension, Phase 2	1.2m wide, 1.25m high	
W4	NE face hall extension, Phase 2	1.2m wide, 1.25m high	
W5	SW wall, converted to fire door in Phase 3	1.65m wide, 4.95m high	
W6	SW wall	0.85m wide, 3.2m high	
W7	SW wall	0.85m wide, 3.2m high	
W8	SW wall	0.85m wide, 3.2m high	
W9	SW wall upper gable	1.75m wide, 1.85m high	
		internally	
W10	SW wall lower gable	0.6m wide, 1.2m high	
W11	SW wall lower gable	0.6m wide, 1.2m high	
W12	NE wall	1.65m wide, 4.95m high	
W13	NE wall	0.85m wide, 3.2m high	
W14	NE wall	0.85m wide, 3.2m high	
W15	NE wall	0.85m wide, 3.2m high	
W16	NE wall lower gable	0.6m wide, 1.2m high	
W17	NE wall lower gable, partially covered by Phase 2	0.6m wide, 1.2m high	
	stairs internally		
W18	SE gable	2.1m wide, 2.3m high	
W19	SE gable	2.1m wide, 2.3m high	
W20	SE gable above door D2	3m wide, 2.85m high internally	
W21	NW gable, partially obscured by hall and kitchen	2.85m wide internally	
	extension		
W22	NE wall upper gable	1.75m wide, 1.85m high	
		internally	
W23	Slit window SW wall upper gable	-	
W24	Slit window NE wall upper gable	-	
W25	SE gable upper window above W20	1	
P1	Cast iron pillar supporting gallery	2.5m high, c. 20cm diameter	
P2	Cast iron pillar supporting gallery	2.5m high, c. 20cm diameter	
F1	Recessed roundel SE gable above Door D2	c. 30cm diameter	
F2	Recessed roundel SE gable above Door D2	c. 30cm diameter	
B1-B5, B8-	NE and SW wall buttresses	0.53m wide, 0.5m deep, 2-	
B12		2.9m high	
B6, B7	SE gable buttresses on SW and NE sides of main	0.73m wide	
	door D2		

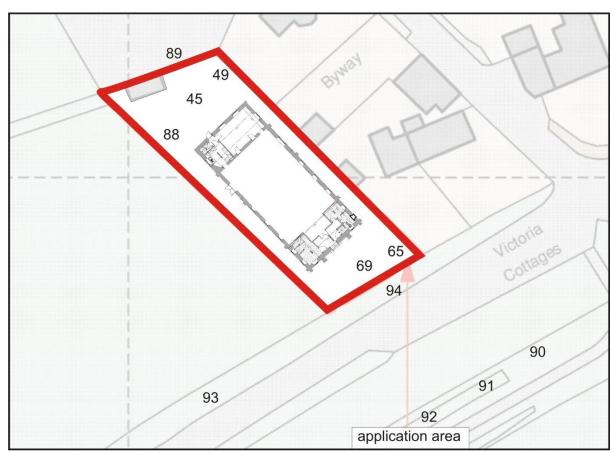
## **APPENDIX 2 PHOTOGRAPHS**



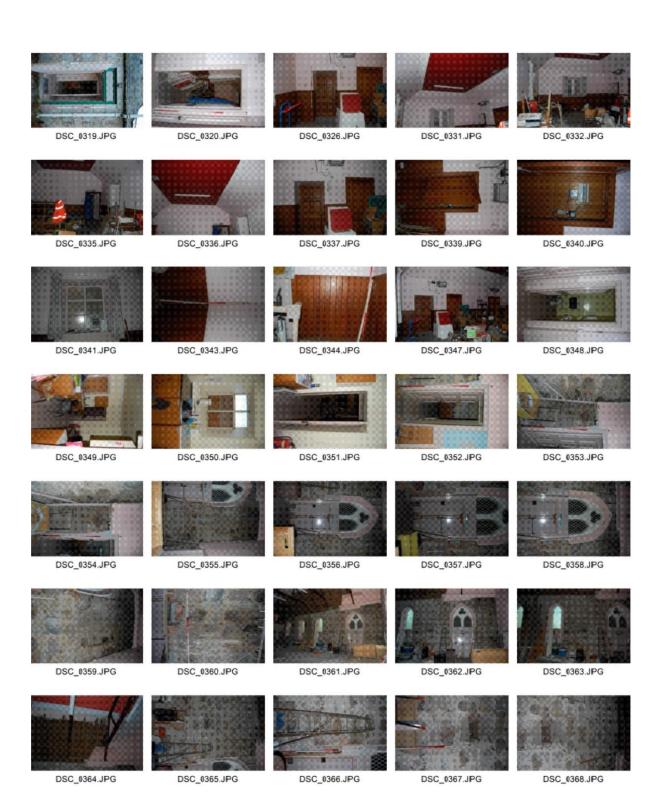
Illus 20 Ground floor plan of church showing camera points used in this survey



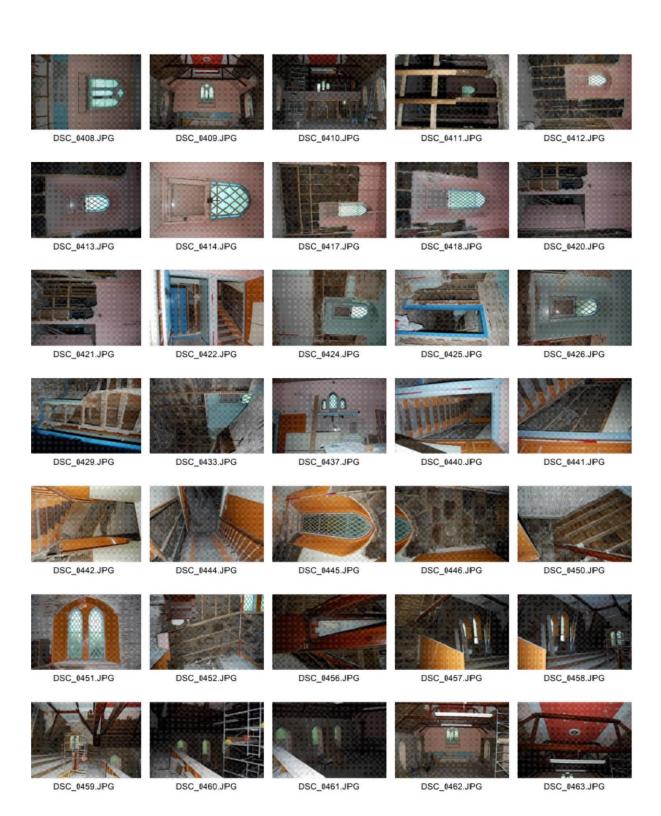
Illus 21 First floor plan showing camera points used in this survey

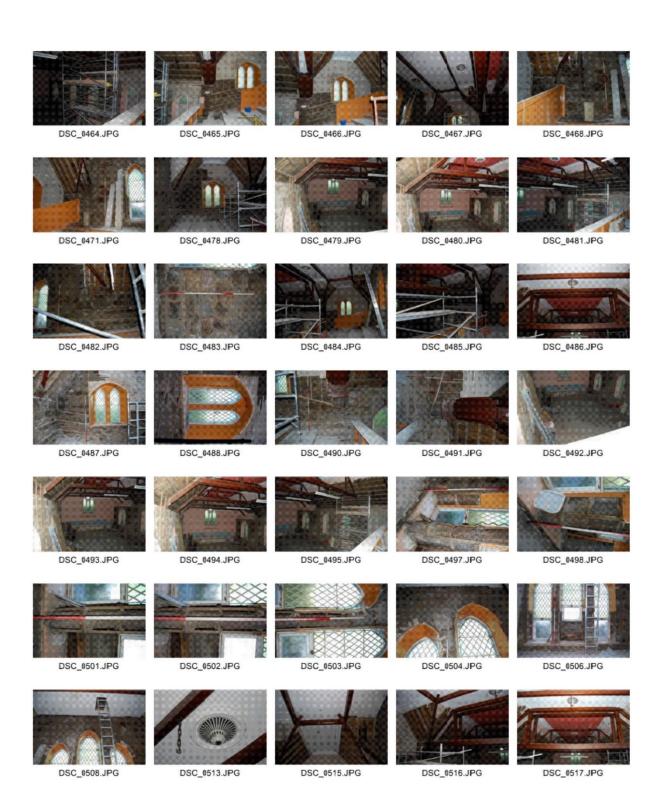


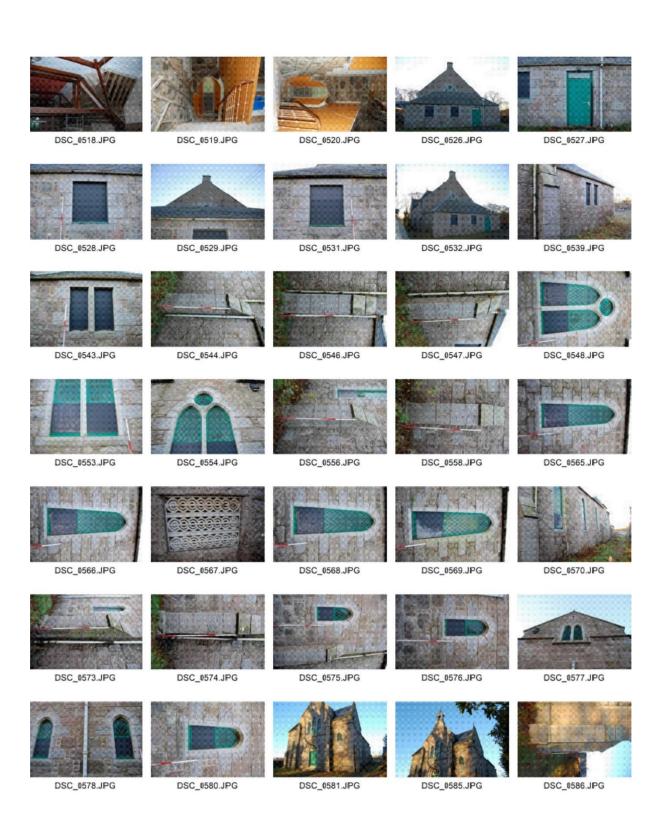
Illus 22 Plan showing camera points around church used in this survey

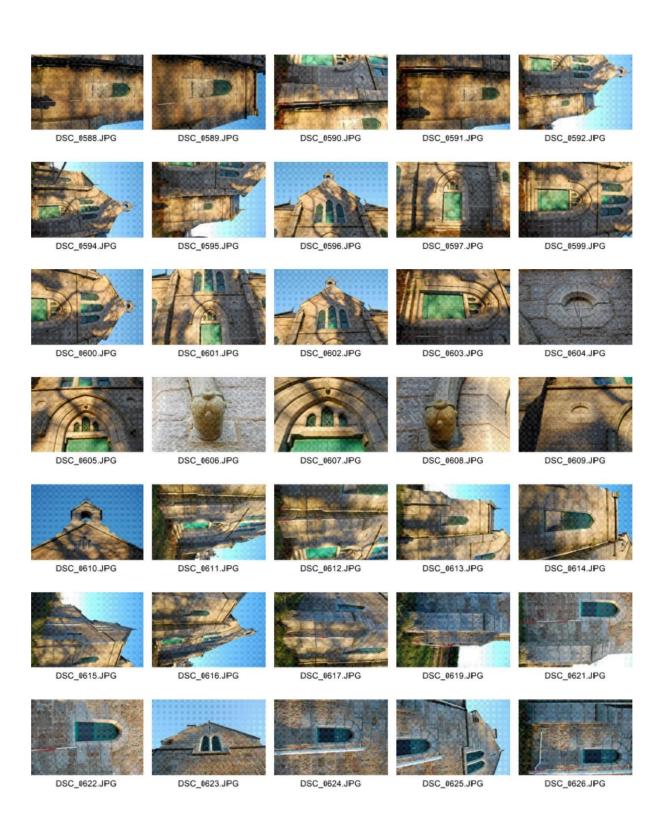












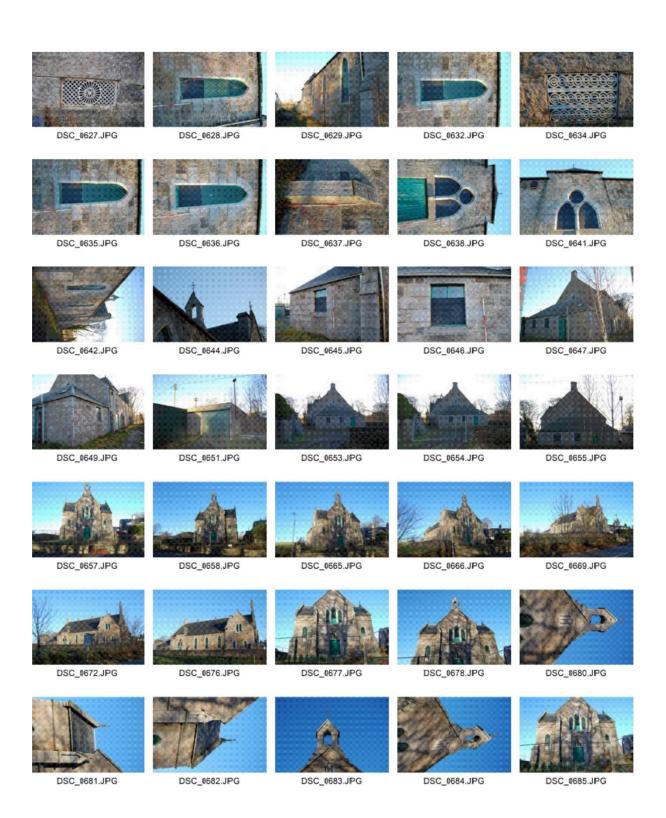


Photo no	Description	Facing	Camera point
DSC0318-19	Door 1 N wall N extension	SE	1
DSC0320-21	Internal door into NE room - vestry?	NE	2
DSC0322-23	NE room - vestry?	S	5
DSC0324	NE room - vestry?	SW	4
DSC0325	NE room - vestry?	S	3
DSC0326	NE room - vestry?	SW	4
DSC0327	NE room - vestry?	SW	4
DSC0328	NE room - vestry?	N	4

		1
•		6
		6
•		6
NE room - vestry? South wall alcove doors	SE	6
NE room - vestry? East wall Window 4	NE	4
NE room - vestry? Panelling NE corner	Z	3
NE room - vestry? Panelling NE corner	NW	3
NE room - vestry?	S	3
Internal door into NW room	SW	2
Kitchen	S	7
Kitchen window 3	SW	8
Internal door from kitchen into church	SE	8
Internal door from kitchen into church	NW	9
NW corner church	W	9a
NW corner church	NW	10
NW corner church west wall W5 later	W	9a
converted in to a firedoor (left)		
		10
Wall N of W5	SW	9a
West wall interior with W5 (right) W6, W7, W8	SW	12
West wall interior with W5 (right) W6 (left)	SW	13
West wall interior with W5 (right) W6 (centre) W7 (left)	SW	14
Roof above W5	W	11
Wall with W5 (right)	SW	13
W6	SW	14
W7	SW	15
Roof above W7	SW	15
W7 (right) W8 (left)	SW	16
W8	SW	17
W7 (left) W6 (centre) W5 (right)	NW	16
W8 (left) W7 (centre) W6 (right)	NW	16
Church north wall with W21 (centre)	NW	16
Church original ceiling (red) with frame for lowered ceiling for church hall (dark wood)	NW	17
East wall W15 (right) W14, W13, W12 (left)	N	18
East wall with W16 with cast iron pillar P2	Е	18
SW corner with W8	W	16
SW corner with W8 (right) and gallery	W	17
SW corner gallery	WSW	17
SW room	SE	17
South wall west end W19	SE	19
Gallery SW end	SE	19
Cast iron pillars supporting gallery P1	SE	17
P1	SE	20
D0		04
P2	S	21
	NE room - vestry? Panelling NE corner NE room - vestry? Panelling NE corner NE room - vestry? Internal door into NW room Kitchen Kitchen window 3 Internal door from kitchen into church Internal door from kitchen into church Internal door from kitchen into church NW corner church NW corner church NW corner church west wall W5 later converted in to a firedoor (left) W5 later converted in to a firedoor Wall N of W5 West wall interior with W5 (right) W6, W7, W8 West wall interior with W5 (right) W6 (left) West wall interior with W5 (right) W6 (centre) W7 (left) Roof above W5 Wall with W5 (right) W6 W7 Roof above W7 W7 (right) W8 (left) W8 W7 (left) W6 (centre) W5 (right) Church north wall with W21 (centre) Church original ceiling (red) with frame for lowered ceiling for church hall (dark wood) East wall with W16 with cast iron pillar P2 SW corner with W8 SW corner with W8 SW corner gallery SW room South wall west end W19 Gallery SW end Cast iron pillars supporting gallery P1 (right) P2 (left) P1	NE room - vestry? East wall NE room - vestry? West wall NE room - vestry? South wall alcove doors NE room - vestry? East wall Window 4 NE room - vestry? Panelling NE corner NE room - vestry? Panelling NE

14 NE SE	23 24 25 26 27
NE NE NE NE	25 26 27
NE NE NE	26 27
NE NE	27
NE	
	+
	17
	17
	18
	28
	29
	28
_	30
	29
	31
NE	32
lly S	32
NE	32
vering S	33
SE	31
NE	34
SW	35
g no flash SE	36
NE	36
S	36
SE	36
SE	37
	37
W	37
SE	37
S	37
S	38
SE	38
	38
	38
NE	38
	38
SE	39
	39
	40
	40
	40
	41
	WSW SW SW SW SS SE NE NE To Phase NE

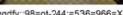
DSC0481	Church with north wall W21 (left) and east wall (right)	N	41
DSC0482	South wall west of W20	SE	41
DSC0483	South wall west of W20	SE	42
DSC0484	east wall with W22	NE	41
DSC0485	east wall with W22	N	41
DSC0486	Original church ceiling with light fittings	NW	40
DSC0487-89	W9	SW	41
DSC0490-91	Wall north of W9	SW	43
DSC0492-95	Church	NNW	43
DSC0496	W20	SE	40
DSC0497	W20	Е	40
DSC0498-500	W20	S	40
DSC0501-503	W20	SE	40
DSC0504-511	W20	SE	40
DSC0512-513	Ceiling light detail	N/W	38
DSC0514-515	Gallery ceiling detail	SW	38
DSC0516	Gallery (left) Church (right) ceiling	W	38
DSC0517	Church ceiling	SW	38
DSC0518	Gallery (right) Church (left) ceiling	N	38
DSC0519-20	Stairs with W18	SE	44
DSC0521-26	North wall with W21 above and extension W2, W1, D1 (L-R)	SE	45
DSC0527	D1	SE	46
DSC0528	W1	SE	47
DSC0529-30	Church NW gable above W1	SE	47
DSC0531	W2	SE	48
DSC0532-38	Church hall (foreground) Church (background)	S	49
DSC0539-41	Church hall NE wall with W4 (right) and buttress B1 (left)	W	50
DSC0542-43	W4	SW	51
DSC0544	B1	S	52
DSC0545-46	B1	SW	51
DSC0547	B1	NW	53
DSC0548	W12	SW	54
DSC0549-51	W12	S	53
DSC0552-55	W12 details	SW	54
DSC0556	B2	S	54
DSC0557-58	B2	SW	55
DSC0559-564	Cast iron ventilator marked MAYNARD BROTHERS/UNION STREET BOROUGH	SW	54
DSC0565-66	W13	SW	56
DSC0567	Cast iron ventilator marked MAYNARD BROTHERS/UNION STREET BOROUGH	SW	57
DSC0568	W14	SW	58
DSC0569	W15	SW	59
DSC0570-72	NE wall B3, W15, W14, W13, W12 (L-R)	NW	60
DSC0573	B3, W16 (left)	SE	60

DSC0574	B3	SW	61
DSC0575	W16 (left) B3 (right)	SW	62
DSC0576	W16	SW	63
DSC0577	Gable above W16 and W17	SW	63
DSC0578-79	W16 (right) and W17 (left)	SW	63
DSC0580	W17	SW	64
DSC0581-85	Church SE façade	WNW	65
DSC0586-7	Buttress B5	NW	66
DSC0588-89	Buttress B5 (right) B6 (left)	NW	67
DSC0590	Buttress B6 (centre) Door D2 (left)	WNW	67
DSC0591	Buttress B5 (right) B6 (left)	NW	67
DSC0592-93	Church SE façade NE end	NW	68
DSC0594	Church SE façade SW end	WNW	68
DSC0595	Church SE façade NE end		
DSC0596	Church SE façade window W20 above Door D2	NW	69
DSC0597	D2	NW	69
DSC0598	Church SE façade SW end	WNW	69
DSC0599-602	Church SE façade window W20 above Door D2	NW	69
DSC0603	D2	WNW	67
DSC0604	Roundel decoration F2	NW	70
DSC0605	D2	NW	71
DSC0606	Terminal of stone rib over D2 on NE side	NW	70
DSC0607	D2	NW	71
DSC0608	Terminal of stone rib over D2 on SW side	NW	72
DSC0609	Roundel decoration F1	NW	72
DSC0610	Bell-cote above SE gable	NW	71
DSC0611-2	SE façade Buttress 8 detail	NNW	73
DSC0613-14	SE façade Buttress 8 (left) Buttress 7 (right) W19 (centre)	NW	74
DSC0615	South corner and SW wall (left)	NW	75
DSC0616	SE façade	NNE	75
DSC0617-18	Buttress 9 (left) 8 (right)	N	75
DSC0619	Buttress 9	NE	76
DSC0620	Free Church manse (now a house)	NW	76
DSC0621	Buttress 9 (right) W11	NE	77
DSC0622	W11	NE	78
DSC0623	Window 9 above	NE	77
DSC0624-25	W10	NE	79
DSC0626	W10 with Buttress B10 (left)	NE	80
DSC0627	ventilator	NE	80
DSC0628	W9	NE	81
DSC0629-31	SW wall of church with Buttress B10 (right)	NW	80
DSC0632	W8		
DSC0633-34	ventilator	NE	82
DSC0635	W7	NE	83
DSC0636	W6	NE	84

DSC0637	Buttress B11	N	85
DSC0638-41	W5 later converted in to a firedoor	NE	86
DSC0642-43	SW wall of church with Buttress B11 (left)	SE	86
DSC0644	Bell-cote and decorative ironwork	SE	84
DSC0645	SW wall hall extension with W3	N	86
DSC0644	W3	NE	87
DSC0644-50	SW wall hall extension with D1, W1, W2	SE	88
DSC0651-52	Modern shed	NW	45
DSC0653-55	Church (rear) hall (foreground)	SE	89
DSC0656-57	Church SE facade		90
DSC0658-64	Church SE facade		91
DSC0665	Church SE facade		92
DSC0666-69	Church from South		92
DSC0670-76	SW wall		93
DSC0677-86	Church SE front façade with details of bell- cote		94
DSC0687-89	Church SE front facade		91
DSC0690-98	Church SE front facade		94

# Photos supplied by the current owner prior to soft strip







qdfv;;98=ot-244;=536=966=X qdfv;4;9=ot-244;=536=966=X qdfv;-77=ot-244;=536=966=X qdfv;-98=ot-244;=536=966=X









 $qdfv;873 = ot-244; = 536 = 966 = X \quad qdfv3-;7 = ot-244; = 536 = 966 = X \quad qdfv3-;3 = ot-244; = 536 = 966 = X \quad qdfv5;43 = ot-244; = 0t-244; = 0t-244$ 













 $qdfv6-57=ot-244; = 536=966=X \quad qdfv7; 6-nu=335--445-875-WS \quad qdfv9; 53=ot-244; = 536=966=X \quad qdfv45; -=ot-244; = 536=966=X \quad qdfv45-5=ot-244; = 536=966=X$ 













qdfv57--=ot-244;=536=966=X qdfv65--=ot-244;=536=966=X qdfv785--=ot-244;=536=966=X qdfv785--=ot-244;=536=966=X















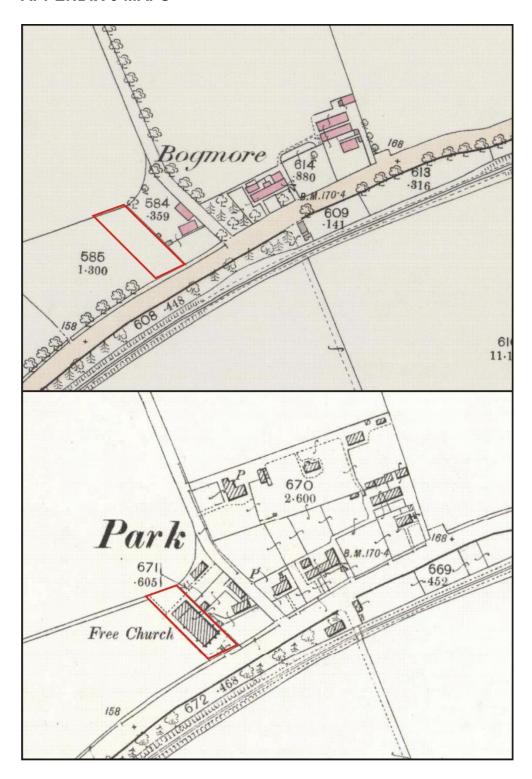


qdfv8534=ot-244;=536=966=>



Photos of lath supplied by the current owner

### **APPENDIX 3 MAPS**



Illus 23 Ordnance survey maps of the proposed development with site outlined in red (top) First Edition OS map Aberdeen Sheet LXXXV.13 (Combined) Survey date: 1865 Publication date: 1869 (bottom) Second Edition Aberdeenshire, Sheet 085.13 Publication date: 1900 Revised: ca. 1899 (copyright national Library of Scotland)