

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT AND
HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING:**

**WALKERGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL, SUTTON STREET,
WALKERGATE, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE,
TYNE AND WEAR**

**Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Historic Building
Recording:
Walkergate Primary School, Sutton Street, Walkergate,
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Tyne and Wear**

Central National Grid Reference: NZ 2832 6553

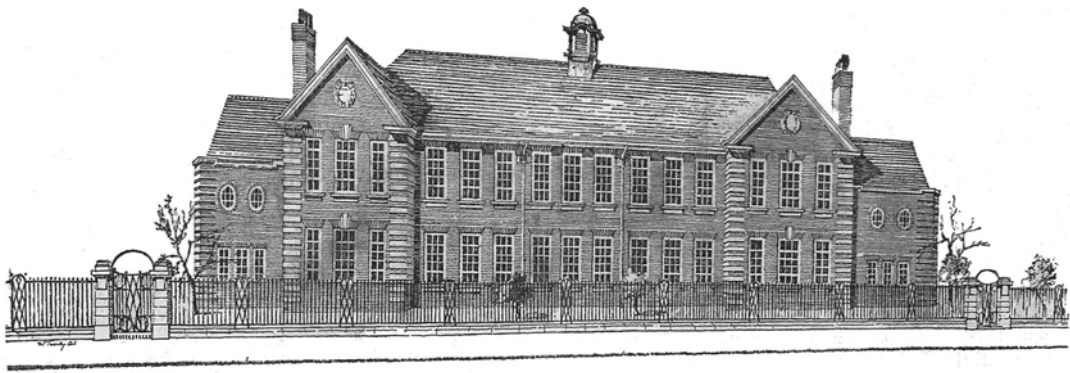
Site Code: WPS 06

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The New Walker Gate Council School (Marshall & Tweedy Architects, 1909)

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1. NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- 1.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment and historic building recording exercise have been commissioned by Parsons Brinckerhoff, as part of a planning application process to Newcastle City Council, in respect of the proposed re-development of Walkergate Primary School, Sutton Street, Walkergate, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
- 1.2 The desk-based assessment and building recording exercise were undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology in June-July 2006.
- 1.3 The school site lies in the Walkergate suburb of Newcastle, east of the city centre, and is centred at National Grid Reference NZ 2832 6553. It is currently occupied by the buildings and associated grounds of Walkergate Primary School. The school site is bounded by Sutton Street to the west, Cou tts Road to the east, a terrace of houses fronting onto Shields Road to the north and a back lane skirting Ellesmere Avenue to the south. An additional area, to the south-west of the school site and currently public playing fields bounded by Trojan Avenue to the north and Fossway to the south, is likely to be taken in as sports pitches attached to the new school.
- 1.4 Desk-based research was required in order to assess the potential of the proposed development areas for archaeological remains of all eras. The sites lie on the northern margin of the Hadrian's Wall corridor, sections of which have Scheduled Ancient Monument status in this area. Walkergate lies to the north of Walker, which was known as a small settlement in the medieval period, but by the mid 19th century had been reduced to a hamlet and farmstead. Since the late 19th century, the area has been incorporated into the urban sprawl of the city.
- 1.5 The area of playing fields off Trojan Avenue has evidently never been developed, while there has been a school on Sutton Street, Walkergate since 1909, when pupils were accommodated in temporary buildings until a permanent school building opened in 1913. Further buildings were added before and after the Second World War, with Walkergate Primary School being established in 2002, following the merger of the existing infant and junior schools at the site. The existing school buildings are considered to be of sufficient character and architectural merit to warrant historic building recording, including the compilation of a photographic record, which was undertaken as part of this project.
- 1.6 In summary, the archaeological potential for prehistoric remains in the proposed development areas is considered **low**. The potential for Roman remains is considered **moderate** for the school site and **high** for the playing fields off Trojan Avenue. The potential for Anglo-Saxon remains in both areas is considered **low**. The potential for medieval remains in both areas is considered **low** to **moderate**. The potential for post-medieval remains prior to the late 19th century is considered **low** for both areas and the potential for remains after this date is considered **high** for the school site and **low** for the playing fields off Trojan Avenue.

1.7 An important consideration for the school site is the possible impact previous land-use may have had on buried archaeological remains. Prior to the construction of the school, terraced housing of late 19th century date occupied the north-eastern part of the site, although such houses tend not to have had basements. The Edwardian period temporary school, which formerly occupied the south-western portion of the site, was of iron and wood construction with shallow foundations. The existing main school building, built in 1913, is not basemented, neither is the former infant block or the two blocks that were added to the site in 1936.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 General

- 2.1.1 This archaeological project, comprising desk-based assessment and building recording exercise, has been commissioned by Parsons Brinckerhoff, as part of a planning application process to Newcastle City Council, in respect of the proposed re-development of Walkergate Primary School in the Walkergate area of Newcastle (Figures 1 and 2).
- 2.1.2 Walkergate Primary School is one of a number of schools identified by the Local Education Authority as in need of modernisation, and the scheme forms part of Newcastle City Council's Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme, funded through the Newcastle Schools Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Project.
- 2.1.3 The existing school site, at just under 1 hectare in size, is large enough to accommodate the proposed new building, car parking and some playground areas. In addition, an area of more than 2 hectares of existing public playing fields, off Trojan Avenue to the south-west of the school, has been earmarked for use as school fields for sports events.
- 2.1.4 As the development areas - the school site and the Trojan Avenue playing fields - lie within an area of archaeological interest, close to the Hadrian's Wall corridor, an archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) has been requested by the Historic Environment Section of Newcastle City Council (NCC). The DBA has been carried out in accordance with a Specification¹ prepared by the Tyne and Wear Archaeology Officer (T&WAO) and was researched and written by Pre-Construct Archaeology (PCA) in June-July 2006. In addition to the desk-based research, elements of the existing school complex were considered to be of sufficient character and architectural merit to warrant photographic recording before demolition and a Brief for this work was included within the aforementioned Specification. None of the buildings in the complex are listed and the school does not lie within a Conservation Area.
- 2.1.5 The purpose of the DBA is to inform NCC, as the Local Planning Authority, of the archaeological and historical importance of the site. The report will assess the potential for archaeological deposits in the development areas and appraise the possible impact on those deposits by development groundworks. There may be a requirement for a further stage of archaeological work in light of the findings of the DBA.
- 2.1.6 The DBA was completed following a visit to the development areas and an examination of documentary, photographic and cartographic sources, in order to ascertain the archaeological and historical background of the area, and to assess the potential for archaeological remains and their survival. The building recording exercise comprised photographic recording of structures at the school site, compilation of a description of each building and a discussion of the historical development of the complex, through an examination of documentary evidence.
- 2.1.7 The **Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS)** reference number for the project is: preconst1-16569.

¹ Newcastle City Council, 2006.

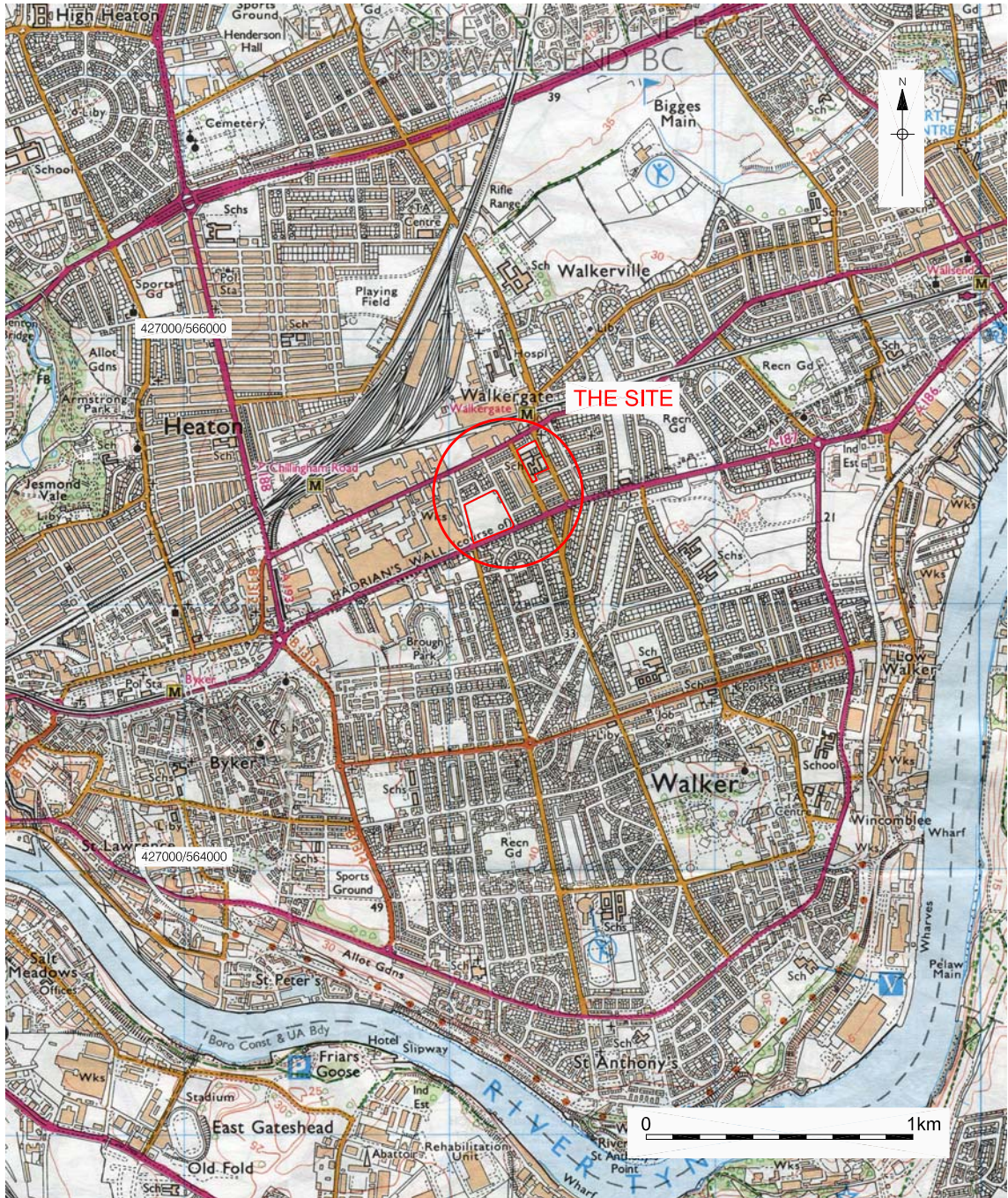


Figure 1. Site location
Scale 1:25,000



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Figure 2. Area of development at the school site
Scale 1:1250

2.2 Site Location and Description

- 2.2.1 The proposed development areas have an urban setting in Walkergate, north-east of Newcastle city centre. The school site is centred at National Grid Reference NZ 2832 6553 (Figures 1 and 2). The school premises occupy a rectangular plot of land, with a small extension at the south-western corner, with maximum dimensions of c. 105m NW-SE by c. 75m NE-SW, covering an area of c. 9,400m² (Figure 2). The additional area, proposed for school playing fields, lies c. 150m to the south-west of the school site and is centred at National Grid Reference NZ 2815 6534, covering an area of c. 22,360m² (Figure 1; Plates 64-65).
- 2.2.2 The development areas lie in a corridor of mostly developed land between Shields Road to the north and Fossway to the south. The school site is bounded by Sutton Street to the west, Coutts Road to the east, terraced housing fronting onto Shields Road to the north and a back lane skirting Ellesmere Avenue to the south. The proposed site of the school playing fields, currently an undeveloped grassed area, in use as public playing fields, is bounded by Trojan Avenue to the north, Pembroke Avenue to the east, Fossway to the south and Valentia Avenue to the west.
- 2.2.3 The school site is occupied by the existing complex of buildings forming Walkergate Primary School (Figure 2). The main building, the former junior school, is a SE-NW aligned brick range built c. 1913 occupying the southern central portion of the site. A detached house, No. 15 Sutton Street, within the south-western extension to the site, is the house of the school caretaker. A separate school for infants was added in the north-western portion of the site before 1936 and, in that year, blocks were added to the west (the former secondary modern school) and north-east (the gym block) of the junior school. Since the Second World War, there have been a number of alterations to the complex, the most notable being the addition of a kitchen block at the south-western corner of the former secondary modern block. Tarmaced playgrounds surround the main buildings, with an area of car park to the east of the former infant block. The northernmost portion of the site is occupied by a rectangular open grassed area and a wildlife garden, the latter having dense tree cover (Figure 2).
- 2.2.4 The school buildings are described in detail below (Section 7) and illustrated in a set of photographic images (Appendix 1), which show the main elements of the proposed development areas when the project was undertaken in June-July 2006.

2.3 Planning Background

- 2.3.1 The proposed modernisation of Walkergate Primary forms part of the City Council's BSF programme and will be funded as part of the Newcastle Schools PFI Project. Although precise details of the proposals were not known at the time of writing, it is known that the preferred approach involves complete demolition of the existing buildings and the construction of a new school, in order to provide sufficient modern accommodation with associated facilities. The existing site is large enough to accommodate a new building, car parking and some playgrounds, but provision for sports pitches would need to be located elsewhere. The Local Education Authority has proposed land south of Trojan Avenue for such a purpose.

- 2.3.2 The need for early consultation in the planning process in order to determine the impact of development schemes upon the archaeological resource is identified in '*Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: 'Archaeology and Planning' (PPG16)*'.² This assessment of the archaeological potential of the site has been commissioned by Parsons Brinckerhoff, part of the consortium that will manage the BSF programme, as part of a planning application to NCC.
- 2.3.3 The Historic Environment Section of NCC has responsibility for monitoring planning applications throughout Tyne and Wear and identifying instances that require archaeological mitigation. This DBA was compiled in accordance with the aforementioned Specification prepared by the T&WAO, attached to the Historic Environment Section.
- 2.3.4 The proposed development areas lie in the Walkergate area, north-east of Newcastle city centre. The village of Walker dates back to the medieval period, and Walkergate was established as a small settlement by the end of the 19th century, but became incorporated into the sprawl of the city during early 20th century urbanisation. Of particular note is the fact that the proposed development areas lie on the northern margin of the Hadrian's Wall corridor, the area at Trojan Avenue being directly adjacent to it. Within this area there is a strong likelihood of encountering remains of the Wall, northern Wall ditch and defensive (cippi) pits.
- 2.3.5 Because of this likely archaeological sensitivity, as outlined above, a baseline consideration of the archaeological potential of the proposed development areas is required as part of the planning process. The compilation of an archaeological DBA will facilitate an appraisal of the impact of the proposed development on the potential archaeological resource.
- 2.3.6 Measures to mitigate the impact of the proposed development upon the archaeological resource are usually formulated through discussion between developers and the LPA following the submission of a DBA. In many cases, a DBA highlights the need for further archaeological work, such as trial trenching evaluation in advance of development or archaeological monitoring ('watching brief') during the initial ground-disturbing phase of construction.
- 2.3.7 In considering any proposal for development, the LPA will be mindful of the policy framework set by government guidance, in this instance PPG16, by current Development Plan policy and by other material considerations.
- 2.3.8 The Development Plan framework is provided by the '*Newcastle City Unitary Development Plan*' (UDP), adopted in 1998.³ The UDP contains the following general policies:

POLICY C04

DEVELOPMENT WHICH WOULD HARM SITES OR AREAS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST AND THEIR SETTINGS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED.

POLICY C04.1

THE FOLLOWING SITES AND AREAS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST IDENTIFIED FOR THE PURPOSES OF POLICY C04 INCLUDE:

² Department of the Environment, 1990.

³ www.planningportal.gov.uk.

Scheduled ancient monuments

7. Hadrian's Wall, Vallum and associated works

Other sites and areas of archaeological interest, as defined on the Proposals Map

18. Unscheduled areas of the known and presumed line of Hadrian's Wall, Vallum, Ditch and fortifications.

POLICY C04.2

WHERE A PROPOSAL MAY AFFECT A SITE OR AREA OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST, THE DEVELOPER WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT AN APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT OF ITS POTENTIAL IMPACT UPON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS AND WHERE NECESSARY UNDERTAKE AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION.

POLICY C04.3

WHERE ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION HAVE ESTABLISHED THAT PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT WILL ADVERSELY AFFECT A SITE OR AREA OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST, DEVELOPERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PRESERVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS IN SITU UNLESS THIS IS CLEARLY INAPPROPRIATE OR THE DESTRUCTION OF THE REMAINS IS DEMONSTRABLY UNAVOIDABLE, IN WHICH CASE A PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO AND AGREED WITH THE COUNCIL BEFORE THE START OF DEVELOPMENT.

POLICY C04.4

WHERE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT WOULD INVOLVE LARGE SCALE GROUND DISTURBANCE IN CURRENTLY UNDEVELOPED AREAS DEVELOPERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A PRELIMINARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT TO IDENTIFY ANY SITES OR POTENTIAL AREAS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST.

POLICY C04.5

WHERE ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS OR ARTEFACTS ARE DISCOVERED ACCIDENTALLY DURING THE COURSE OF DEVELOPMENT ON PREVIOUSLY UNIDENTIFIED SITES, SUCH FINDS SHOULD NOT BE UNNECESSARILY DAMAGED OR REMOVED.

2.3.9 Although none of the school buildings are listed and the school does not lie within a Conservation Area, guidance on the future of historic school buildings has been set out recently by English Heritage, in light of the substantial ongoing Government and local education authorities investment programme in school buildings.⁴ It is the view of English Heritage that heritage specialists (both historic buildings and archaeological officers) based in local authorities are usually best placed to provide initial advice on the historical and architectural significance of a particular site. In this instance the T&WAO considered the existing school complex, the earliest element of which dates to 1913, to be of sufficient character and architectural merit to warrant photographic recording before demolition. Accordingly, a Brief for such a recording exercise formed part of the overall Specification for the desk-based archaeological research.

⁴ English Heritage, 2005.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The broad aims of the DBA and building recording exercise are:
- to identify the impact of the proposed development upon the historic environment;
 - to identify parts of the proposed development areas for which further archaeological work may be appropriate;
 - to provide an adequate record of the architectural features of the school buildings prior to their demolition;
 - to assist in the formulation of recommendations for any further archaeological work considered necessary to inform the planning decision.
- 3.2 The results of the DBA and building recording exercise will be used to make an informed decision on the necessity, or otherwise, for an archaeological mitigation strategy in relation to the proposed development.
- 3.3 Where there is potential for important remains on a site, which may merit preservation *in situ*, then the results of an archaeological field evaluation may be required, if feasible, prior to determination of a planning application. Forms of archaeological field evaluation include surface artefact collection ('field walking'), geophysical survey and trial trenching/test pitting.
- 3.4 Where field evaluation reveals important archaeological remains, their protection and preservation *in situ* will be the primary objective. This can be achieved, in the first instance, by modification of the development proposals. The primary method, if the resource warrants protection *in situ*, is to avoid archaeological remains by preserving a development-free buffer zone around them.
- 3.5 Where important archaeological remains cannot be preserved, or where remains do not merit preservation, then NCC will use planning conditions to ensure excavation and recording of the remains prior to the development, *i.e.* preservation by record.
- 3.6 Where a DBA highlights only limited potential for the survival of important archaeological remains at a development site, or where the threat to such remains is only minimal due to the limited extent of construction groundworks, there is more likely to be a requirement for archaeological monitoring ('watching brief') during the initial ground-disturbing phase of a development programme.

4. METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

4.1 Research and Data Collection

4.1.1 The methodology employed during the research phase of the DBA comprised consultation of a variety of sources for data relating to the proposed development areas and surroundings, including a map regression exercise and consultation of the Historic Environment Record (HER) maintained by NCC.

4.1.2 Listed below are the main sources consulted during the compilation of this DBA:

- County HER, West Chapel, Jesmond Cemetery Gardens, Jesmond Road, Newcastle - visited 14th June 2006;
- Newcastle City Library, Local Studies Section, Princess Square, Newcastle - visited 15th June 2006;
- Tyne and Wear Archives, Blandford House, Newcastle - visited 15th June 2006.

4.1.3 Full details of all the material examined for the DBA are set out in Section 11.

4.2 Site Visit and Photographic Recording

4.2.1 In addition to the research described above, site visits were undertaken on 28th June and 13th July 2006, in order to carry out a visual inspection of the proposed development areas and to undertake the building recording exercise. Photographic recording of the existing structures was undertaken in accordance with the relevant guidance document from English Heritage.⁵

4.2.2 A comprehensive photographic record of the existing school buildings, in colour print format and digital formats, was compiled during the site visits and Appendix 1 contains either actual colour prints in storage pages or plates derived from digital images. Three copies of the report contain actual colour prints held in plastic storage pages, one of these copies also contains the photographic negatives from which the prints were derived, this being the copy submitted to the Tyne and Wear HER, as required by the project Specification.

⁵ English Heritage, 2006.

5. GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 Geology

- 5.1.1 The underlying geology of the study area comprises Coal Measures rocks of Upper Carboniferous Age. These rocks comprise essentially a succession of shales and sandstones with numerous coal seams.
- 5.1.2 In the vicinity of the study area, the underlying rocks are overlain by a mantle of glacial debris, mainly boulder clay or till, deposited by the ice sheets which covered the area during the last glacial period. Archaeological investigations undertaken at Fossway Fire Station, c. 30m to the south-east of the school site, encountered natural boulder clay at a depth of 0.70m below present ground level, at a height of 26.80m OD.⁶

5.2 Topography

- 5.2.1 The study area lies to the north-east of Newcastle city centre and is located north of the point where the River Tyne changes from a roughly easterly course to flow northwards before flowing back to the east close to its confluence with the North Sea. The river lies c. 2.2km to the south and c. 1.7km to the east of the study area. The steep-sided valley of Jesmond Dene is located c. 2km to the west and Wallsend Burn is c. 1.3km to the north-east.
- 5.2.2 The study area is basically flat. To the north-west of the school site, the surface of Shield Roads stands at 31.70m OD at the junction with Sutton Street, while the surface of Coutts Road adjacent to the south-eastern corner of the site stands at 32.0m OD.

⁶ Tyne and Wear Museums, 2001.

6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 In order to assess the archaeological potential of the proposed development areas, a programme of documentary and cartographic research was undertaken. The starting point for such research was the Tyne and Wear HER, with entries within the vicinity of the overall study area being examined. A specific search area was then refined to sites within a 0.5km radius of the school site, since that area is likely to see extensive re-development as part of the proposals, while impact on the Trojan Avenue playing fields is likely to be of a far lesser magnitude, given the proposed land-use. Relevant HER entries are listed in Appendix 2, with their locations having been mapped (Figure 3). The locations of scheduled sections of Hadrian's Wall and HER information has been supplemented by data gathered from a variety of other sources, archaeological, documentary and cartographic, as described above, in order to compile this section of the report.

6.1.2 It is not the purpose of this study to set out a comprehensive history of land usage in Walkergate. The broad intention is simply to predict and extrapolate likely archaeological conditions within the proposed development areas from finds and research in the vicinity. However, analysis of archaeological discoveries made nearby is important, as is a thorough examination of historical and archaeological records, where they exist, since it is recognised that finds and sites entered onto the HER are at best a small and unrepresentative sample of the total buried heritage.

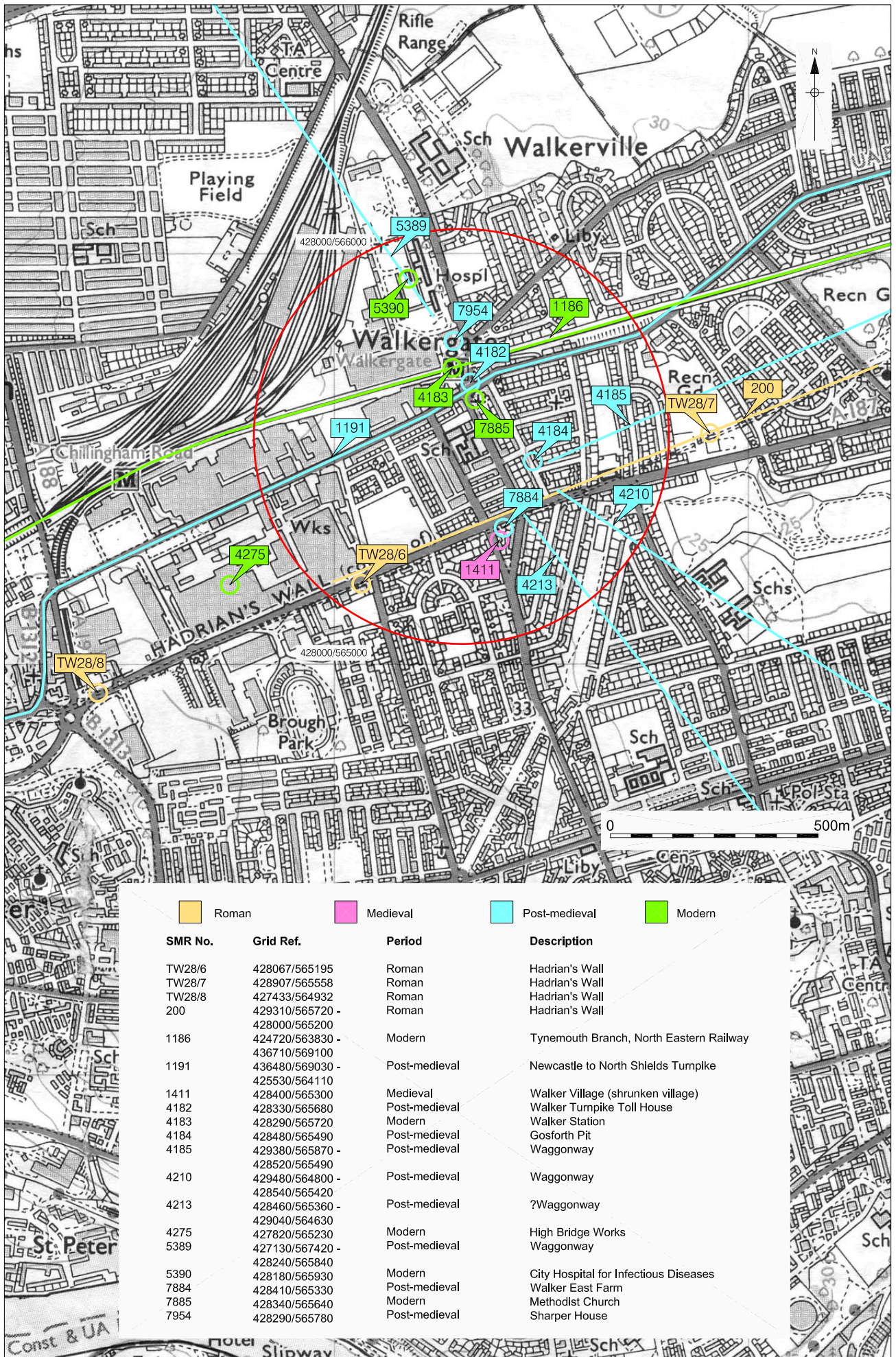
6.1.3 Time scales used in this section:

Prehistoric

Palaeolithic	450,000–12,000 BC
Mesolithic	12,000–4,000 BC
Neolithic	4,000–2,300 BC
Bronze Age	2,300–700 BC
Iron Age	700 BC–AD 43

Historic

Roman	AD 43–410
Anglo-Saxon	AD 410–1066
Medieval	AD 1066–1485
Post-medieval	AD 1486–present



SMR No.	Grid Ref.	Period	Description
TW28/6	428067/565195	Roman	Hadrian's Wall
TW28/7	428907/565558	Roman	Hadrian's Wall
TW28/8	427433/564932	Roman	Hadrian's Wall
200	429310/565720 - 428000/565200	Roman	Hadrian's Wall
1186	424720/563830 - 436710/569100	Modern	Tynemouth Branch, North Eastern Railway
1191	436480/569030 - 425530/564110	Post-medieval	Newcastle to North Shields Turnpike
1411	428400/565300	Medieval	Walker Village (shrunken village)
4182	428330/565680	Post-medieval	Walker Turnpike Toll House
4183	428290/565720	Modern	Walker Station
4184	428480/565490	Post-medieval	Gosforth Pit
4185	429380/565870 - 428520/565490	Post-medieval	Waggonway
4210	429480/564800 - 428540/565420	Post-medieval	Waggonway
4213	428460/565360 - 429040/564630	Post-medieval	?Waggonway
4275	427820/565230	Modern	High Bridge Works
5389	427130/567420 - 428240/565840	Post-medieval	Waggonway
5390	428180/565930	Modern	City Hospital for Infectious Diseases
7884	428410/565330	Post-medieval	Walker East Farm
7885	428340/565640	Modern	Methodist Church
7954	428290/565780	Post-medieval	Sharper House

Figure 3. HER entries
Scale 1:12,500

6.2 Prehistoric

- 6.2.1 There are no HER entries for the various prehistoric eras in the vicinity of the proposed development areas.
- 6.2.2 In the wider area, the earliest evidence for human activity are the Stott's House Mounds (HER 1393), c. 1.4km east of the school site. These two mounds formerly existed either side of a stream running into Stote's Powe in Walker and were published by Horsley in 1732 as tumuli. The eastern feature survived as late as the Ordnance Survey 2nd edition map and was described in 1929 by Wake as 72 feet (22m) in diameter by 6½ feet (2m) high. Excavations at the time revealed charcoal and a platform of stones, which Wake interpreted as a barrow. The mound was excavated by Jobey in 1964 in advance of levelling and was described as a grass-grown mound with no evidence recovered for its date or function. Beneath the mound, Jobey recorded plough marks (HER 1417). The plough or ard marks underlay the Military Way, therefore dating them to before the AD 160s. Similar plough marks were also found underlying *Segedunum* Roman fort at Wallsend.⁷ The broad suggestion of these findings is that cultivation was taking place in the general area during the prehistoric period.
- 6.2.3 Excavations on the south side of Shields Road, Byker, at the site of the new swimming baths, revealed a native settlement, evidenced by a series of drainage ditches and stakeholes, beneath the remains of Hadrian's Wall.⁸
- 6.2.4 In summary the potential for prehistoric remains in the proposed development areas is considered **low**.

6.3 Roman

- 6.3.1 The Hadrian's Wall corridor lies just over 150m to the south-east of the school site and skirts the southern boundary of the Trojan Avenue playing fields (HER 200). The Wall, constructed on the orders of the Roman Emperor Hadrian from AD 122, marked the northern frontier of the Roman Empire. The Wall and its associated features represent the best-preserved frontier of the Roman world and consequently the Hadrian's Wall corridor has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- 6.3.2 The Wall as originally planned ran from *Pons Aelius* in Newcastle, but at some stage it was decided to build an extension from the original terminus at the Tyne Bridge a further 3½ miles (5.6km) further east to Wallsend to a new fort at *Segedunum* ('The Strong Fort'). The Wall was built of coursed rubble, the two outer faces of roughly dressed stones retaining a core of rubble usually bonded with mortar, sometimes with clay.⁹ The Wall is thought to have been up to 4.5m in height and although foundations 3m wide were laid, the Wall itself was not always completed to this width and in many places a narrower gauge wall stands on this broad initial foundation. In the vicinity of the study site, the eastern extension of the Wall was of the narrower gauge.¹⁰

⁷ Tyne and Wear Museums, 2003.

⁸ Information from HER 201.

⁹ Breeze and Dobson, 1987, 31.

¹⁰ *ibid.*, 58.

- 6.3.3 Within the 0.5km search area, the section of the Hadrian's Wall skirting the Trojan Avenue playing fields, and c. 150m to the south-west of the school site, has Scheduled Ancient Monument status (SAM TW28/6). The line of the Wall in this area was confirmed by excavations in 1928 and comprises a section of curtain wall 30m long under the forecourt of The Fosse Hotel public house, which is situated on the south side of Fossway, south-west of the Trojan Avenue playing fields. Two further sections of the Wall in the general vicinity of the study area, but beyond the 0.5km search area, are also scheduled, these lying to the south-west (SAM TW28/8) and to the north-east (SAM TW28/7) (Figure 3).
- 6.3.4 The structural fabric of Hadrian's Wall has been identified at several locations within designated Wall Mile 1, which runs from *Segedunum* fort at Wallsend, past the study area, to Tunstall Avenue, west of Brough Park stadium.¹¹ In 1978, the Wall was located in two places between Stott's Road and Finchley Crescent, c. 1km north-east of the Trojan Avenue playing field. Foundations of Broad Wall gauge (10 feet or 3m) rather than the usual Narrow Wall gauge (8 feet or 2.44m) were recorded. An archaeological watching brief in 2005 revealed a 2.40m section of Hadrian's Wall in Tunstall Avenue, c. 0.5km south-west of the Trojan Avenue playing fields.¹² The exact width of the Wall could not be determined due to truncation by modern services, but it was in the range of 2.30m-2.90m. An archaeological evaluation and watching brief in 2005, on Fossway at Byker, c. 1km to the south-west of the Trojan Avenue playing fields, revealed the north side of the Wall foundation, the robbing trench of the Wall and the Wall ditch, which was over 8m wide in this area.¹³ Prior to these investigations, it had been thought that the construction of Fossway in the 1920s had destroyed all structural remains of the Wall in this area. A watching brief carried out in 2003 at the junction of Courtfield Road and Vauxhall Road, c. 0.5km ENE of the Trojan Avenue playing fields, revealed a mixed deposit containing fragments of sandstone.¹⁴ This material may have been associated with Hadrian's Wall, possibly derived from robbing out or demolition of the Wall.
- 6.3.5 To the north of the Wall was a substantial V-shaped defensive ditch with a square-cut drainage or clearing out channel at the base. This varied in width from 8m to 12m and in depth from 2.7m to 3m and the distance between the Wall and ditch, the berm, was usually 6m wide.¹⁵ Material dug out from the ditch was mounded on the north side, effectively increasing the depth of the ditch. The Wall ditch in Wall Mile 1 was still visible in 1930, at the time the hollow of the feature ran through gardens and was referred to as Double Dykes. Fossway has always thought to have covered the ditch in the western part of this section of the Wall and upper levels of ditch fill were seen in a trench under the southern pavement from 174 Fossway to Barret Road.¹⁶

¹¹ Information from HER 200.

¹² Tyne and Wear Museums, 2005a.

¹³ Tyne and Wear Museums, 2005b.

¹⁴ Information from HER 200.

¹⁵ Breeze and Dobson, 1987, 31.

¹⁶ Information from HER 200.

- 6.3.6 Recent excavations on the south side of Shields Road in Byker revealed a 29m length of Wall foundations, measuring 2.5m in width.¹⁷ These investigations also uncovered evidence of defensive pits lying within the berm between the Wall and the northern ditch. Three rows of pits were encountered over a distance of 32m, the southernmost of which was 1.4m-1.6m north of the Wall. The features comprised shallow scoops with post-pipes at either end interpreted as evidence for anti-personal features with sharpened stakes. An archaeological evaluation conducted in advance of a retail park development on Fossway at Byker in 2004 revealed a number of cut features thought to represent Roman features situated in the berm between the berm and Wall, at a depth of only 0.10m below present ground level.¹⁸
- 6.3.7 A further defensive element was added to the Wall after the decision had been taken to construct forts along its length, as described below. The 'Vallum' comprised a broad flat-bottomed ditch flanked by a pair of linear banks, formed from the upcast from the excavation of the ditch. The commonly accepted interpretation for the function of the Vallum is that it represented a demarcation of the militarised zone from civilian land to the south. The Vallum was constructed at a variable distance to the south of the Wall, sometimes adjacent to the Wall, and in some places up to 1km to its south. In the vicinity of the study area, the Vallum was not constructed to the south of the eastern extension to the Wall, possibly because of the proximity of the River Tyne, which effectively served the same purpose as the Vallum.¹⁹
- 6.3.8 From its inception, the Wall was planned with regularly spaced fortlets ('milecastles') at intervals of about 1 mile, these being large enough to house a small unit of soldiers and with access points to the land north of the Wall. The original design also planned for two equally spaced towers ('turrets') between each milecastle. At some point a fundamental change of plan occurred and forts were constructed along the line of the Wall; there are now known to be 16 forts either attached to the Wall or in close association with it. Three milecastles are thought to have been built on the section of Wall between the fort in Newcastle and *Segedunum*, but their spacing is uncertain. One milecastle may be situated at Stott's Pow, c. 1.4km to the east of the school site. Surveys carried out by Horsley in 1732 and MacLauchlan in 1858 placed Milecastle 2 in different positions and their relative locations have been much debated. At present, the most likely location is at Stott's Pow as suggested by MacLauchlan. No turrets have been discovered to date within the stretch of Wall located within the vicinity of the study area.
- 6.3.9 No direct evidence of Roman occupation has been found in the wider area around the study area. Forts along Hadrian's Wall were always the focus of military and civilian activity and civilian settlements, known as *vici*, have been identified at all forts along the Wall. However, such settlements were usually positioned to the south of the Wall, within the area directly protected by the Wall and Vallum and the relevant fort. On this basis, given the known line of the Wall and the absence of a fort in the vicinity of the study area, settlement activity of this type is probably unlikely.

¹⁷ Information from HER 201.

¹⁸ Information from HER 200.

¹⁹ Breeze and Dobson, 1987, 58.

- 6.3.10 Although the Hadrianic frontier remained operational following the establishment of the Antonine frontier from c. AD 140, its role changed from one of control to one of support. Some of the forts remained in use and most milecastles may have had their gates removed to facilitate access through the barrier.²⁰ The Antonine Wall was abandoned some time around AD 157-8 and troops retreated to Hadrian's Wall by the end of the AD 150s. Within a short space of time, the Antonine frontier was briefly reoccupied before being finally abandoned c. AD 163.²¹ The Hadrianic frontier was reoccupied and rebuilding and consolidation took place. A road known as the Military Way, which linked all elements of the Wall defence, was constructed from fort to fort to the south of the wall.
- 6.3.11 Current knowledge of the line of Hadrian's Wall therefore suggests that the northern edge of the structure will run beneath Fossway, close to the southern boundary of the Trojan Avenue playing fields. Therefore, the northern defensive ditch should run on a NE-SW alignment very close to, if not within, the southern portion of the playing fields. There is also a strong possibility that other defensive elements associated with the Wall, such as entanglement pits on the berm between the Wall and northern ditch, will be located within the southern portion of the Trojan Avenue playing fields.
- 6.3.12 In summary, the potential for Roman remains within the Trojan Avenue playing field is considered **high**. Although the existing Walkergate Primary School lies c. 150m beyond the northern margin of the Hadrian's Wall corridor, evidence of Roman occupation could be present within that part of the study area, although the potential is considered **moderate**.

6.4 Anglo-Saxon

- 6.4.1 No entries relating to the Anglo-Saxon Period are recorded on the County HER within the 0.5km search area, or within the broader area in the vicinity of the proposed development areas.
- 6.4.2 The potential for remains from the Anglo-Saxon period within the proposed development areas is considered **low**.

6.5 Medieval

- 6.5.1 One HER entry dating to the medieval period is situated within the 0.5km search area. The shrunken medieval village of Walker (HER 1411) lies c. 250m to the south of the school site and c. 150m south-east of the Trojan Avenue playing field. The village was part of the 12th century barony of Morpeth. In 1242 it was named *Waucre*, derived from *Walkiarr*, which means 'Marsh by the Roman Wall'. The wetter ground conditions indicated by the place name may have implications for the amount of settlement activity taking at this time. The settlement had five taxpayers in 1296, seven in 1312 and only two in 1336.

²⁰ Johnson, 1989, 73.

²¹ *ibid.*, 74.

- 6.5.2 An archaeological evaluation undertaken in 1996 at Stott's Road playing fields, just over 1km to the east of the school site, uncovered ridge and furrow, probably dating to the medieval period. No evidence for more intensive medieval occupation, including settlement activity, or remains from earlier archaeological eras was found at the site.²²
- 6.5.3 The proposed development areas may have been utilised for agricultural land throughout the medieval period and any remains from this date, if present, could include improved agricultural soils, drainage gullies or boundary ditches, all of moderate archaeological significance at best. In summary, the potential for archaeological remains of medieval date at the proposed development areas is considered **low to moderate**.

6.6 Post-medieval (including map regression evidence)

- 6.6.1 There are nine HER entries within the 0.5km search area dating to the post-medieval period and five from the early modern period.
- 6.6.2 The earliest mapping to show the settlement area of Walker is probably Saxton's map of 1576 (not reproduced herein). After the medieval period, the township of Walker passed to the Fenwick family who retained it until 1692.²³ After a few changes of ownership, the estate of Walker was bought by the Corporation of Newcastle-upon-Tyne in 1725, partly to endow the Holy Jesus Hospital and partly to acquire more ballast shores. The Corporation used the estate for the disposal of ship's ballast, which was used to infill the steep ravines that ran into the Tyne. During the 18th and early 19th centuries, the settlement nucleus remained small, appearing on mapping such as Gibson's map of 1788 and Lambert's map of 1807 (neither reproduced herein) By the mid 19th century, the settlement area, shown as Old Walker on Bell's map of 1847 (not reproduced herein), was reduced to a hamlet abutting the south side of Hadrian's Wall.
- 6.6.3 The expansion of shipbuilding in 19th century Newcastle saw the population of Walker rise from 1,000 in 1836 to 14,000 by 1894. Walker Urban District Council was formed in 1894 and operated until 1904 when Walker became part of the Newcastle Corporation. Following the surge in industry in the area, the area of the old village in Walker was covered with housing.
- 6.6.4 Coal mining on an industrial scale started in the Walker area during the 18th century, certainly by 1713, and during the early part of the 19th century there were ten pits in operation. Staiths on the riverside were supplied by waggonway with coal from the pits at Walker and beyond. The site of Gosforth Pit (HER 4184), which lay immediately to the south-east of the school site, is shown on small-scale late 18th and early 19th century mapping (not reproduced herein). A NE-SW aligned waggonway (HER 4185) which serviced the pit is shown on Greenwood's map of 1828 (not reproduced herein). A plan of the Great Northern Coalfield and Bell's map (neither reproduced herein), both from 1847, indicate the pit was disused by this date; it is annotated as 'Old Pit' on Bell's map.

²² ASUD, 2005.

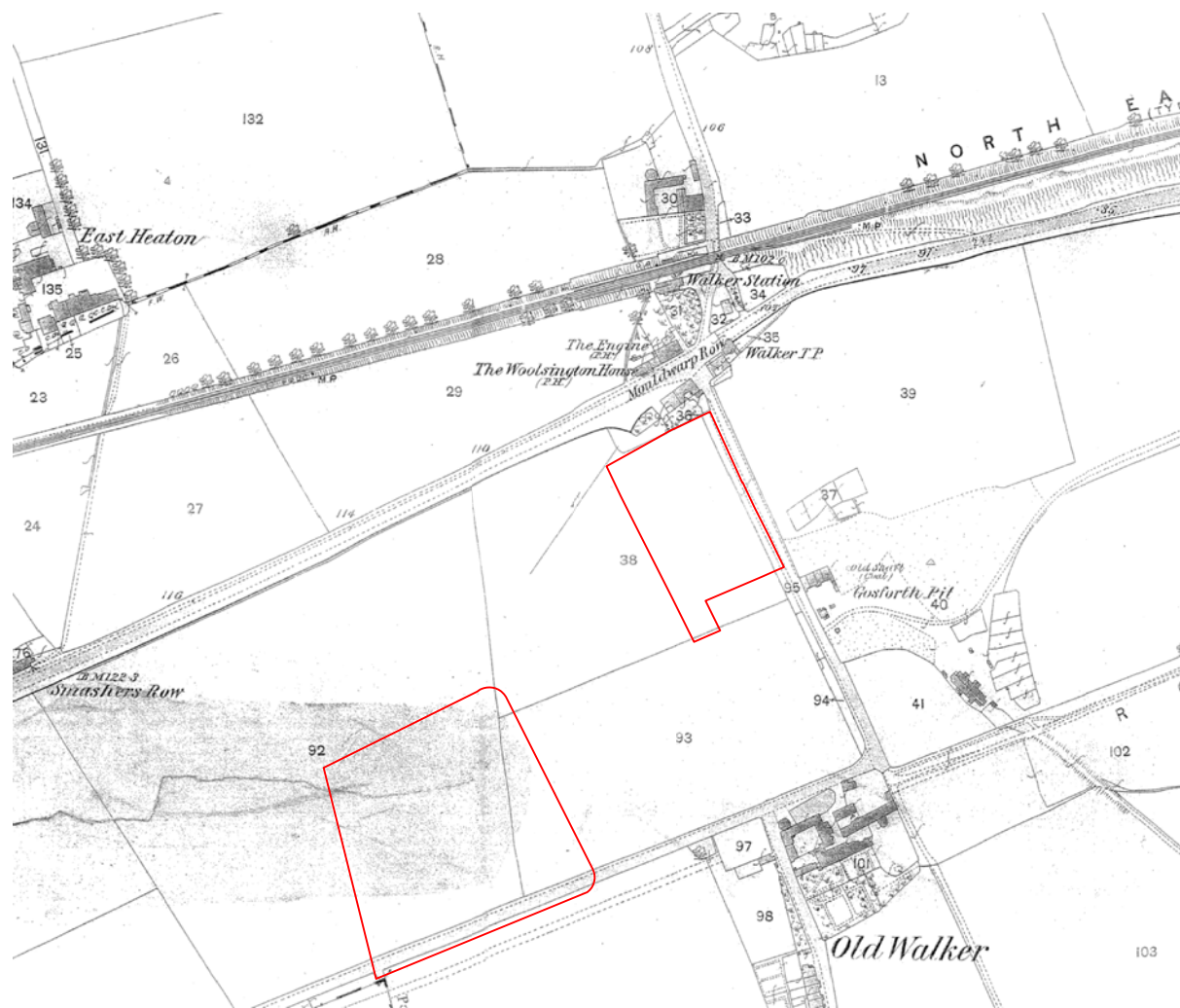
²³ Information from HER 1411.

- 6.6.5 A NW-SE aligned waggonway servicing Gosforth Pit (HER 4210) is annotated 'Old' on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map of 1858. This shows the line of another possible waggonway (HER 4213) running to the south-east from the pit, although this would also have been disused by the time of the 1st edition. Structural features associated with Gosforth Pit are shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st and 2nd edition maps of 1856 and 1897, respectively, (Figures 4 and 5), although these had been demolished by the time of the 3rd edition in 1912 (Figure 6).
- 6.6.6 Benton Colliery, to the north-west of the study area, was serviced by a waggonway (HER 5389), which is shown on a map of 1745. Annotated as an 'old waggonway', it was probably disused at this time, and was certainly redundant by 1788. An archaeological evaluation undertaken in 2003 in the grounds of Walkergate Hospital recorded the truncated remains of the 6m wide embankment, constructed with industrial debris, and trackside ditches, which had been re-cut and maintained throughout the use of the waggonway.²⁴
- 6.6.7 The availability of fuel and clay (a by-product of the coal industry) stimulated the development of brick making in this part of Newcastle during the 19th century and several brick works were established within the vicinity of the study area, although none within the 0.5km search area. Other industries were also established in the general area, including oil works, ironworks, chemical works and ship builders.
- 6.6.8 The Newcastle to North Shields Turnpike (HER 1191) formed a very important post-medieval transport route and the section of the Turnpike probably follows the course of Shields Road, immediately to the north of the school site. The date of its opening is unknown but it remained an important route until the opening of the Newcastle to North Shields Railway in 1939. One Toll House was situated at the bottom of Byker Bank and another, the Walker Turnpike (HER 4182), lay on Shields Road a short distance to the north-east of the school site. The Walker Turnpike is shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map of 1856, but the was out of use by the time of the 2nd edition in 1895.
- 6.6.9 An Act of Parliament in 1836 gave consent for a railway line between Newcastle (Pilgrim Street) and North Shields. The Newcastle and North Tyneside Railway (HER 1186) was built by Robert Nicholson at a cost of £160,000 and included the Ouseburn Viaduct, an 80ft embankment at Pandon Dene and a ¾ mile cutting at Heaton. The line opened in 1839 and the Tynemouth section of the line was completed in 1847. In 1854 the line became part of North Eastern Railway and in 1904, this line became the first in the country to operate electric trains. Walker Station (HER 4183), shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map of 1856 (Figure 4), lies c. 200m north of the school site in the area now occupied by Walker Metro station.
- 6.6.10 The railway works known as High Bridge Works (HER 4275) were built, 0.3km to the north-west of the school site, some time between the Ordnance Survey 1st and 2nd editions, between 1858 and 1897 (Figure 5). A Brass Works was also built in the same period immediately to the north-east of High Bridge Works.

²⁴ Northern Archaeological Associates, 2003.

- 6.6.11 The Walkergate City Hospital for Infectious Diseases (HER 5390) is located c. 0.4km to the north-west of the school site. This opened in 1888 on an 11-acre site previously utilised as agricultural land. The hospital was one of the first to be built on the single storey pavilion system and was set in its own gardens. By 1896, grounds had been acquired for two additional pavilions. These and other unidentified buildings are shown on the Ordnance Survey 2nd edition map of 1897. The hospital is still in use today as Walkergate Hospital.
- 6.6.12 The site of Walker East Farm (HER 7884) was located c. 150m to the south-east of the school site. Demolished c. 1937, the farm is shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st-3rd edition maps (Figures 4-6). The farm buildings were said to have incorporated much Roman masonry and the last tenant found four Roman coins at the site. The date of origin of the farm is not known, but it is said to appear on a plan of 1675. Another farm was located at Sharper House (HER 7954), c. 250m to the north of the school site. This is shown, with a green and pond, on Thompson's map of 1745 and on the Tithe Map of 1843. A complex of farm buildings shown on early Ordnance Survey mapping had been demolished by c. 1960. Walkergate Methodist Church (HER 7885), built by the time of the Ordnance Survey 2nd edition map of 1897, lies to the north of the school site and within 100m.
- 6.6.13 As for the school site itself on 19th century and later mapping, the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map of 1856 (Figure 4) shows it as wholly occupied by the eastern portion of a field, No. 38, with a NW-SE aligned lane, possibly the route of a former waggonway (HER 4213) skirting the eastern margin of the site. The NE-SW aligned Turnpike Road, named as 'Mouldwarp Row' (now Shields Road), lay to the north of the school site with Walker Station and the North Eastern railway beyond. A small settlement, including two public houses, The Wolsington House and The Engine, was centred around the crossroads of the Turnpike Road and the lane leading south-eastwards to Old Walker. The site of Gosforth Pit is shown to the south-east of the school site, with the hamlet of Old Walker further south on the line of Hadrian's Wall. The area of the Trojan Avenue playing fields is shown on the north side of the Wall corridor, occupying parts of two fields, Nos. 92 and 93, within what remained an essentially rural setting.
- 6.6.14 Industrialisation and urbanisation of the Walkergate area was underway by the time of the Ordnance Survey 2nd edition of 1897, this map being the first to show the name 'Walker Gate' (Figure 5). The NW-SE aligned road to Old Walker, which bounds the eastern margins of the school site, is called 'Little Benton Road South' on this map. There had been some development on the eastern side of this road, including the aforementioned Methodist Chapel, which remains in place today. The southern part of a row of houses on the western side of this road, towards the junction with the old Turnpike Road, occupied the north-eastern corner of the school site. Defined backlot areas, off a back lane, skirted the houses and the remainder of the school site was occupied by part of a substantial field, No. 80, an amalgamation of two earlier fields, Nos. 38 and 93, and part of another field, formerly No. 92, to the west. The Trojan Avenue playing fields occupied the south-western corner of Field 80 and part of Field 72, further to the west.

- 6.6.15 Parcels of land to the immediate south-east of the school site are annotated (by hand on the copy of the 2nd edition map seen as part of the research), seemingly ahead of imminent development. To the east of Little Benton Road South remained the site of Gosforth Pit, with structural remains still extant at this date. Substantial railway sidings, annotated as a 'Repairing Shed' on later maps, had been built by this date to the north of the railway, c. 150m north-west of the school site. The aforementioned High Bridge Works and the adjacent Brass Works had been built between the railway line and the old Turnpike Road and a brickworks had been built to the south-west of the Trojan Avenue playing fields; all evidence of late 19th century industrialisation of the area.
- 6.6.16 The Ordnance Survey 'special edition' map of 1912 shows further development in the vicinity of the school site (Figure 6). Sutton Street, which forms the western boundary of the school site, had been established by this date, with some housing along its western side. A chapel is also shown on the western side of Sutton Street and there had been development of back-to-back terraced housing to the south of the old Turnpike Road in this area. Although the school site is shown as undeveloped, except for the aforementioned terraced housing in the north-eastern portion, the area has been divided into parcels, probably by pathways, and Ellesmere Avenue was in place, skirting its southern boundary. The area known to have been occupied by a temporary school since 1909, as described in detail in Section 7, is outlined in the south-western portion of the site. The Trojan Avenue playing fields occupied parts of Fields 80, 80a and 72, north of the lane that would become Fossway. To the east of Little Benton Road South, the structures associated with the old Gosforth Pit had been demolished by this date and the area returned to fields.
- 6.6.17 By the time of the Ordnance Survey 'emergency edition' of 1938, large areas of Walkergate and Walker were occupied by residential development (Figure 7). The modern street layout was essentially in place by this date, with the school site bounded by Sutton Street to the west, Coutts Road (previously Little Benton Road South) to the east, properties fronting Shields Road (the old Turnpike Road) to the north and Ellesmere Avenue to the south. Within the site itself, the main structural elements of the former junior and infants' schools are evident, with the north-eastern portion still occupied by residential housing. The area of the Trojan Avenue playing fields remained undeveloped north of Fossway, bounded on its other sides by the streets, Trojan Avenue, Valentia Road and Pembroke Avenue, that remain in place today. Part of a former field boundary crossed in the eastern portion of the playing fields, running roughly north-south.
- 6.6.18 Further discussion of the development of the school site during the 20th century forms part of Section 7.
- 6.6.19 In summary, the potential for post-medieval remains at the school site - other than those directly related to the former terraced housing and school - is considered **low**. There is clearly **high** potential for archaeological remains of the former developments. Sub-surface remains of the temporary school in existence between 1909-1913 would be of **moderate to high** archaeological significance. The potential for post-medieval remains at the Trojan Avenue playing fields is considered **low**.



0 250m

Figure 4. Ordnance Survey 1st edition, 1856
Scale 1:5,000

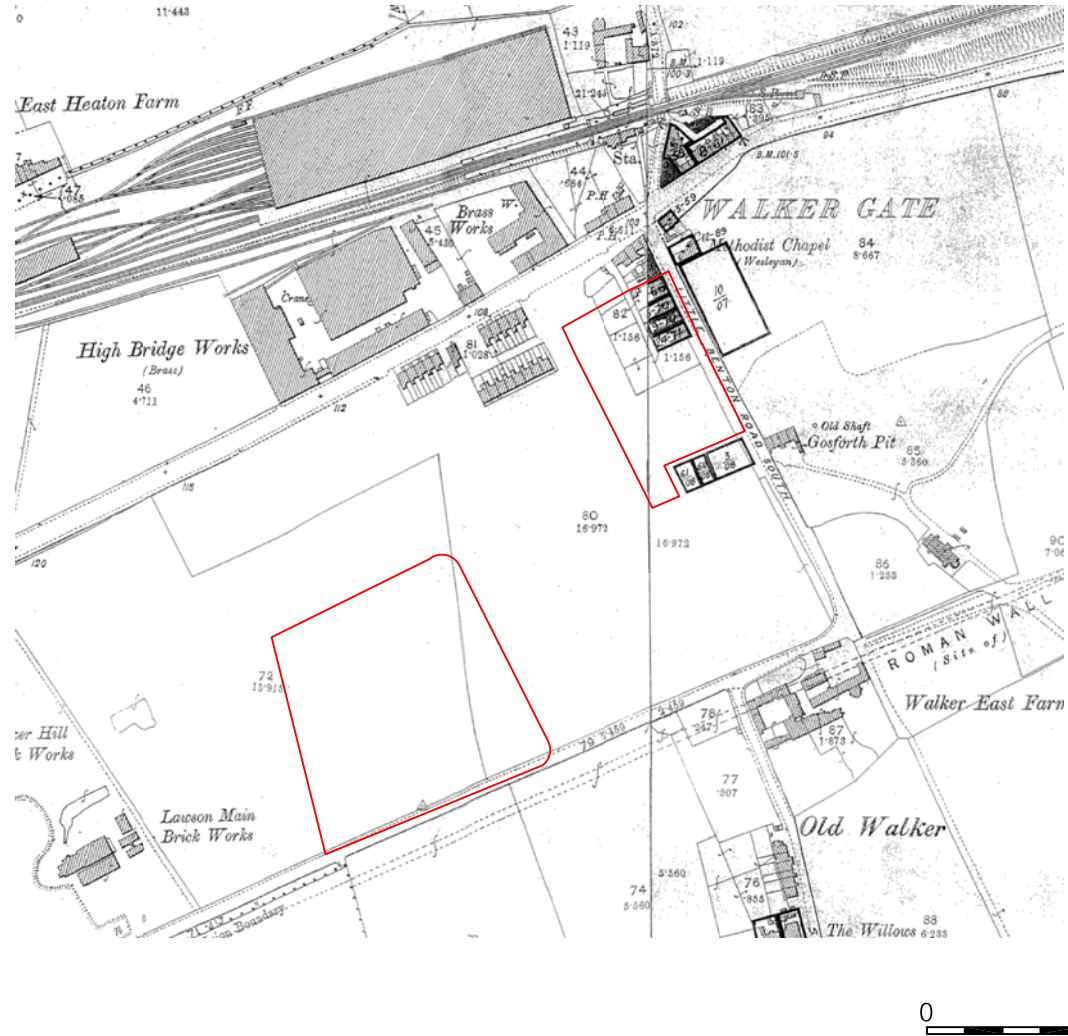


Figure 5. Ordnance Survey 2nd edition, 1897
Scale 1:5,000



Figure 6. Ordnance Survey special edition, 1912
Scale 1:5,000

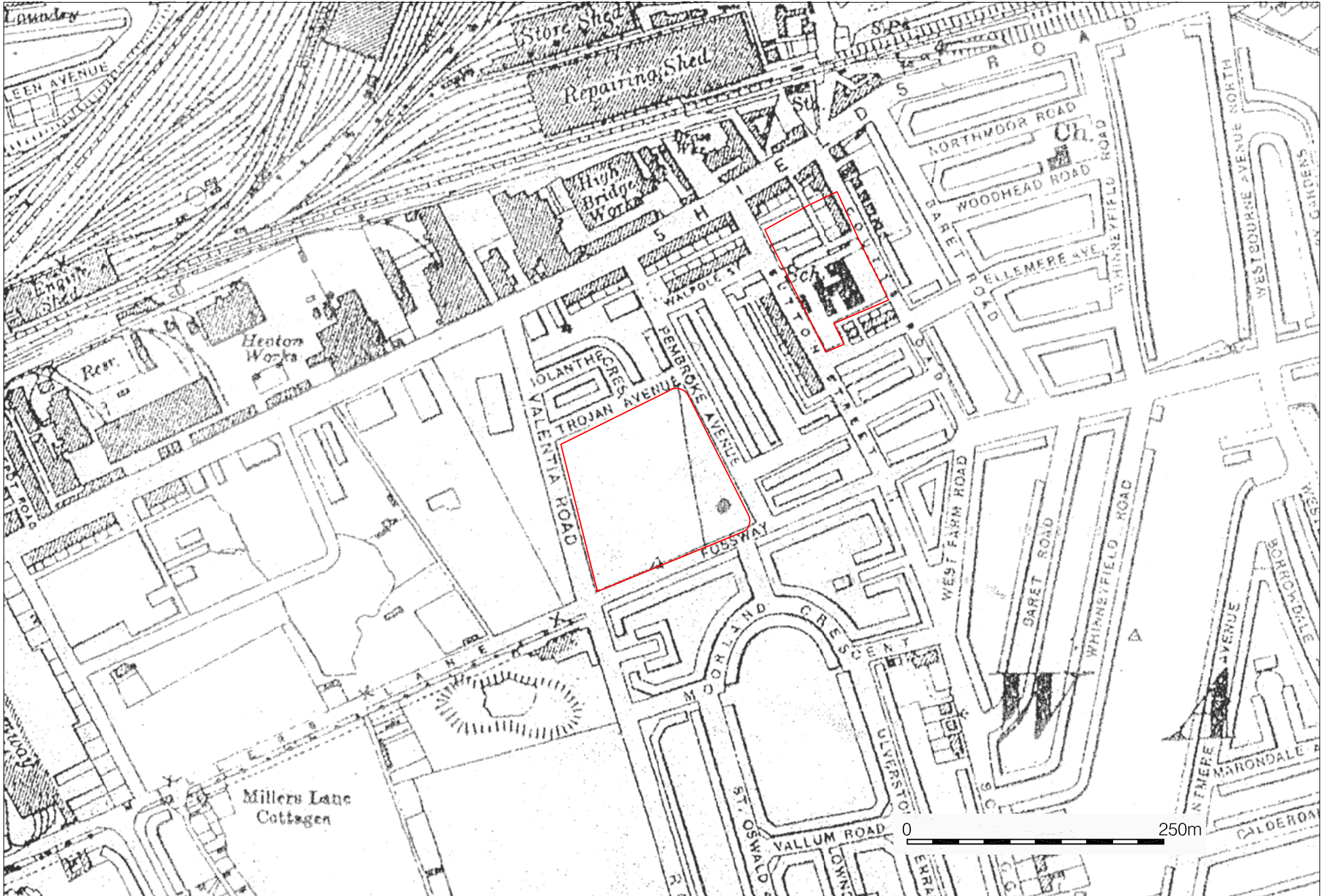


Figure 7. Ordnance Survey emergency edition, 1938
Scale 1:5,000

7. BUILDING RECORDING

7.1 Historical Development of Walkergate Primary School (Figure 8)

7.1.1 *The 1909 Temporary Walker Gate Council School*

- 7.1.1.1 The first school at the site of Walkergate²⁵ Primary School was a temporary building constructed in 1909 in corrugated iron and timber, building control drawings being submitted for the proposals in October 1908 (Figures 9-11). Aligned NW-SE and fronting Sutton Street, in the area now occupied by the kitchen block, the building measured 92 feet 6 inches (c. 28.30m) long by 46 feet 6 inches (c. 14.30m) wide. It was a one-storey building of twelve bays with a six-bay central range and wings projecting from the east elevation at each end, each three bays long with double-pitch gable-ended roofs perpendicular to the pitched roof of the central range. The roofing material was exclusively corrugated iron, with felt underlining, with evenly spaced lights along the roof of the central range. Four evenly-spaced cupolas housing 'patent exhaust air pump ventilators' protruded from the ridge line of the central range.
- 7.1.1.2 The facades of the building were, for the most part, corrugated iron, on five-inch by two-inch timber framing, set on brick dwarf walls - incorporating air bricks - on shallow concrete strip footings. In both wings and the gable-end of a short central projection in the east elevation, the timber framing remained exposed in the apex of the gable, this probably a stylistic touch. Five-inch by two-inch timber floor joists supported 'F9G' flooring material, this possibly a type of 'wallboard'. The roof was of box-frame type construction, with collar rafters supporting V-struts and iron tie rods linking the collar rafters and wall plates.
- 7.1.1.3 The building control drawings indicate that the school catered for both boys and girls. The sexes were educated separately, the boys occupying three classrooms in the northern half of the building, two in the wing and one in the main range, and girls occupying the corresponding three classrooms in the southern half of the building. Each classroom was square on plan and was to house 56 pupils, giving a total of 336 pupils in the school. Access to the building was via two doors, one for girls and one for boys, at the ends of the central range in the east elevation. The eastern part of the central range comprised a linking corridor, off which were cloakrooms and lavatories, a storeroom, and a centrally-placed teachers' room – this occupying the central projection from the east elevation - with an adjacent separate lavatory. All six classrooms and the teachers' room were heated by stoves, with ventilation provided by the previously described mechanisms in the roof. Other constructional details, such as external drinking fountains, rainwater goods and windows are shown on the building control drawings (Figures 10 and 11).

²⁵ The area, and school, is referred to as 'Walker Gate' on documents prior to the Second World War. Thereafter it becomes 'Walkergate', as it is known today.

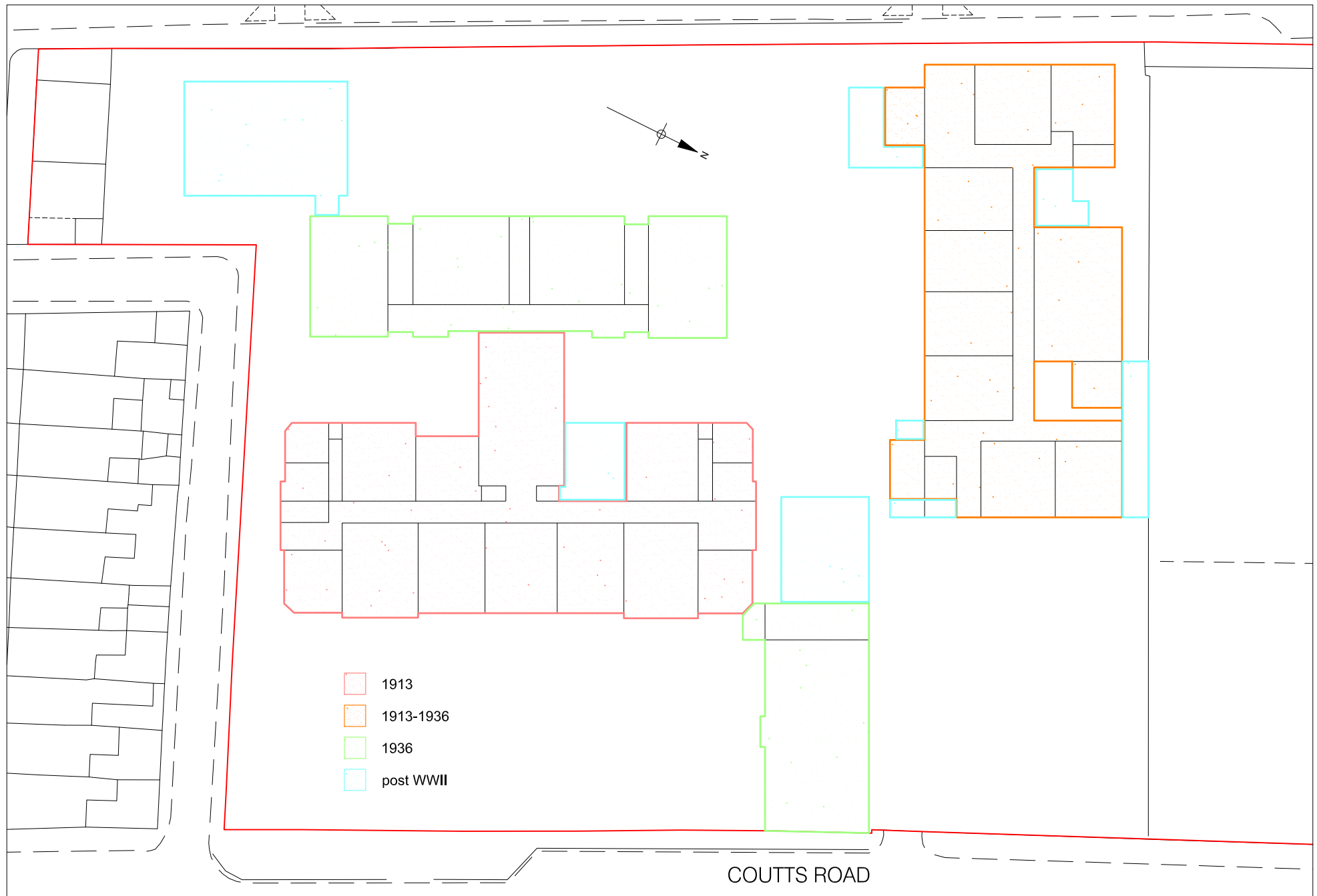


Figure 8. Phasing of buildings at the school site
Scale 1:500

- 7.1.1.4 The building control block plan of the temporary school shows a playground area to be set out to the north and east of the building, with an external latrine block in the south-eastern corner of the plot (Figure 9). This plan also shows details of an amendment to the location and alignment of a 20 feet (c. 6m) wide back lane which ran east-west, to the north of the proposed school and playground. The new lane was to connect Sutton Street and Little Benton Road South, running perpendicularly to these two streets compared to the existing lane, which ran at an oblique angle.
- 7.1.1.5 A building control plan dated June 1910 shows proposed alterations to the temporary school, in the form of new 'military' fencing to divide the boys' and girls'/infants' playgrounds and the creation of an external mistresses' lavatory, to the south of the building (Figure 12).

7.1.2 The 1913 Walker Gate Council School

- 7.1.2.1 Building control drawings dated March 1912 and produced by Marshall and Tweedy Architects of 17 Eldon Square, Newcastle, show proposals for a new school at the study site (Figures 13-17). The new Walker Gate Council School was opened by the Lady Mayoress of Newcastle (Mrs John F. Weidner) on Tuesday 15th July 1913 (Appendix 3). The main school building from this development is the existing main block of Walkergate Primary School and a description of its architectural features at the time of recording exercise forms part of Section 7.2. The following paragraphs summarise the main elements of the 1913 school, highlighting original features or elements that have been altered or have not survived.
- 7.1.2.2 The 1913 school was sited in the southern central part of the site, with blocks for latrines/playsheds on the margins of the separate boys' and girls'/infants' playgrounds to the north-east/east and north-west/west, respectively. Three entrance gates to the playgrounds were provided from Sutton Street and two from Little Benton Road South. An addition to the school site was a brick detached house for the school caretaker in the extreme south-western corner of the site, where it remains today as No. 15 Sutton Street. As designed, the caretaker's house was to have a rear yard and garden. The building control block plan shows the outline of the 1909 temporary school in the south-western part of the site, annotated 'to be removed', suggesting that it remained in use until the new school was completed in 1913.
- 7.1.2.3 The school as built was a two-storey building with a NW-SE aligned central range with pitched slate roof and double-pitch gable-ended wings, projecting to the west, these abutted by further extensions in which were situated the main northern and southern entrances to the building. The north extension was flat-roofed throughout, although the building control drawings indicate it was originally proposed as flat-roofed to the east, with a pitched roof gable-end in its western part, as described below. The south extension was of such a form, with a two-and-a-half storey pitched roof south-facing gable end to the west and flat-roofed to the east. An elongated two-storey pitched roof extension - the hall block - was placed centrally in the west elevation of the central range. At the western end of this extension was an external flat-roofed projection, housing a dog-leg staircase, and with the only entrance in the west elevation. The area enclosed by the south wing and the hall block was occupied by an underground heating chamber.

- 7.1.2.4 The programme for the opening ceremony for the school (Appendix 3) gives details of construction materials, these being red pressed Penshaw bricks, with dressings, such as door surrounds and window sills, of pulpstone manufactured artificial stone, and grey roofing slate. The contractor was Mr. George Douglass of Northumberland Road, Newcastle and the heating engineers for the works were Messrs. R.J. Ward and Co. of Newcastle. The recording exercise noted that steelwork within the frame was provided by Dorman Long of Middlesbrough.
- 7.1.2.5 In terms of internal layout, the ground and first floors were largely identical throughout the building, allowing for separate departments to educate boys on the ground floor and girls on the first floor, the design also allowing for separate entrances for the sexes. Three classrooms, sub-square on plan and each for 56 pupils, occupied the central range, with two similar classrooms, each for 50 pupils, in each end wing. Therefore the school could educate 368 girls and 368 boys. A corridor ran along the western side of the central range, with the classrooms to the east of this, and continued through the centre of the wings, with a classroom either side. The north and south extensions to the wings housed cloakrooms, 'crush' lobbies, lavatories, teacher' rooms and storerooms, precise details being shown on the building control drawings (Figures 14 and 15). At either end of the building, a ground floor lobby inside the girls' entrance gave way to a four-flight well stairway, framed with iron railings, leading up to a first floor lobby, from which a flight of stairs led up to the higher floor level in the corridor along the central range. An attic room, with dormer window above eaves level, occupied the upper floor of the two-and-a-half storey element of the south extension. The elongated west central extension of the central range housed lower and upper halls.
- 7.1.2.6 There are some discrepancies between a sketch, prepared by the architects, of the east elevation of the school (frontispiece) and the building control drawings, which the same company prepared, which were manifest as the finished structure. There are two particular features which either did not appear in the school when it was built, or have since been removed. Firstly, the aforementioned pitched roof two-and-a-half storey element to the north extension, similar to that which remains in the south extension, and, secondly, a domed cupola with louvred sides to ventilate the roof space, located centrally along the ridge line of the central range.

7.1.3 The Infants' School

- 7.1.3.1 Between 1913 and 1936, an infants' school was added, occupying the north-western part of the study site, between Sutton Street and the back lane to the housing that occupied the north-eastern corner of the site at the time. A double height, single-storey building in brick with stone detailing, its main range and end wings had slate hipped roofs, while a gable-ended northern hall extension had a slate pitched roof.
- 7.1.3.2 No building control drawings were available for this building, so its date of construction is uncertain. The infants' school is more similar in architectural terms to the 1913 building, which became the junior school, and the stylistic touches suggests it was built in the 1920s or early 1930s. The building remains in place today, having seen only minor alterations since it was built, and is described further in Section 7.2.

7.1.4 The 1936 Secondary Modern School and Gymnasium

- 7.1.4.1 Building control drawings dated November 1935 show proposals for additions to Walker Gate School (Figures 18-21), with the development being undertaken in 1936. The first addition comprised a NW-SE aligned two-storey brick range, with slightly projecting wings at both ends, all with hipped roofs, with flat-roofed connecting bays, the block as a whole lying to the west of, and parallel, to the 1913 building. The central ranges of the new building and the 1913 building were connected through the removal of the external stairwell at the western end of the hall block.
- 7.1.4.2 The second addition was a brick gymnasium block, with double pitched roof, to the north-east of, and perpendicular to, the 1913 building. At the western end of the gymnasium was a single-storey flat-roofed changing room, with toilet block extension. A lobby extended to the south of the changing room, this abutting the north-eastern corner of the 1913 block. Construction materials for the 1936 additions were red bricks from the Birtley Station and St. Bede's Works operated by T. Blythe and Sons²⁶ (Plates 18 and 19) with dressings, such as door surrounds and window sills, evidently again in pulpstone manufactured artificial stone. Grey slate and ceramic ridge tiles were again used for the roof.
- 7.1.4.3 Building control drawings indicate that, as a result of the development, the ground floor of the 1913 building became the junior school, with separate boys and girls entrances maintained at either end of the building, while the first floor was for secondary (senior) children, the new interconnected western block becoming the secondary modern school. The latrine block ('out offices') on the western edge of the girls and infants playground was to be removed as part of the development, although the boys' latrines towards the south-eastern corner of the boys' playground, were evidently to remain.
- 7.1.4.4 The secondary modern block was designed, with a corridor along the eastern side of the central range, so that boys could be educated in the southern half of the building on both floors, while girls occupied both floors in the northern half. In the boys' department, the corridor gave way to a rectangular classroom and science laboratory on each floor of the central range, with the south wing occupied by single, large rectangular rooms for metalwork on the ground floor and woodwork on the first floor. In the girls' department, the rooms in the north wing were for cookery/laundry on the ground floor and needlework on the first floor. At ground floor level, the corridor had separate entrances for the sexes, while at first floor level it gave access, via a mezzanine staircase, to the higher floor level in the upper hall of the now connected hall block. Internally, the secondary modern block had two sets of dog-leg stairs within the flat-roofed bays that connected the central range to the end wings, these also housing storerooms on both floors on the western side of the building.

²⁶ Thomas Blythe set up a brick-making business at Birtley station in 1858 and the firm of Blythe and Sons was well known in north Durham and Tyneside for its advertising slogan 'Blythe's Best Birtley Bricks'. The brickworks remained in operation until 1978 when production ceased (www.wintrip.org.uk). The Victoria Tunnel in Byker has a stamped brick from Blythe's Birtley Station works, dated 1939, in the passage wall of a former air raid shelter (www.sine.ncl.ac.uk).

7.1.5 Post-1936 Alterations

- 7.1.5.1 Building control plans for Walkergate Council School dated August 1943 show proposals for the partial conversion of the ground floor lobbies at either end of the junior school building into sculleries (Figure 22). At the north end, this may never have been implemented since there is no trace of such an alteration. The 1943 plans are also of interest as they indicate that the cloakrooms were being used as air raid shelters. In addition, a scullery and additional room were added to the north of the assembly hall in the infants' school.
- 7.1.5.2 Building control plans for Walkergate Secondary Modern School dated August 1947 show proposals for the addition of temporary classrooms to the north of the gymnasium block under the H.O.R.S.A. (Hutted Operation for Raising of the School-leaving Age²⁷) programme (Figure 23). This area had been previously occupied by back lane and terraced housing, which was presumably cleared to allow the work.
- 7.1.5.3 Other alterations to the school site and its buildings since 1936 comprise: the addition of a kitchen block in the south-western part of the school site, this connecting to the south-western corner of the former secondary modern block (c. 1960); conversion of cloakrooms at the north-eastern and south-eastern corners of the junior school (the 1913 building) into more spacious lavatories (pre-1988); the addition of a single-storey flat-roof extension for a staff room on the west elevation of the junior school (pre-1988); the addition of lavatories to the north elevation of the infants' school (pre-1988); the addition of a single-storey staff room extension to the south-western corner of the infants' block (pre-1988); taking-in of the area to the north of the infants' school for the creation of wildlife garden (pre-1988); removal of the H.O.R.S.A. temporary classrooms (c. 1990); removal of the latrine block at the western end of the gymnasium block, thereby creating a small garden (c. 1990); sub-division of the wildlife garden into a larger, western grassed area and a smaller, eastern wildlife garden (post-1990).

²⁷ This arose as a result of Butler's 1944 Education Act which raised the school-leaving age to 15, thereby greatly - and instantly - increasing the number of children in secondary education.

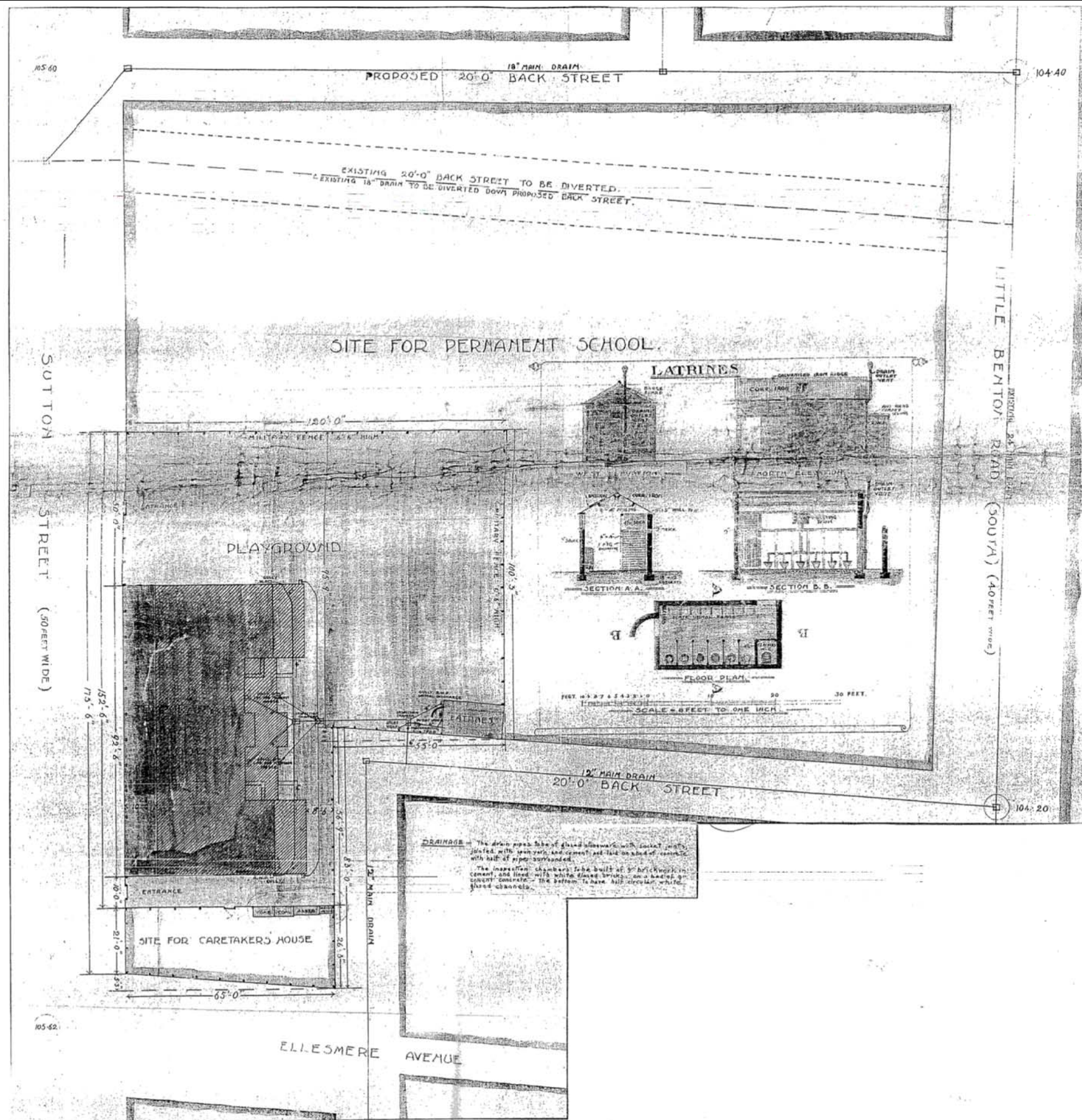


Figure 9. Amended Block Plan. Proposed Temporary Iron and Wood School to be erected on Walker Gate Council School site
 October 1908, Newcastle-upon-Tyne Education Committee
 Original scale: 16 feet to 1 inch (with detail of latrine block at 8 feet to 1 inch)

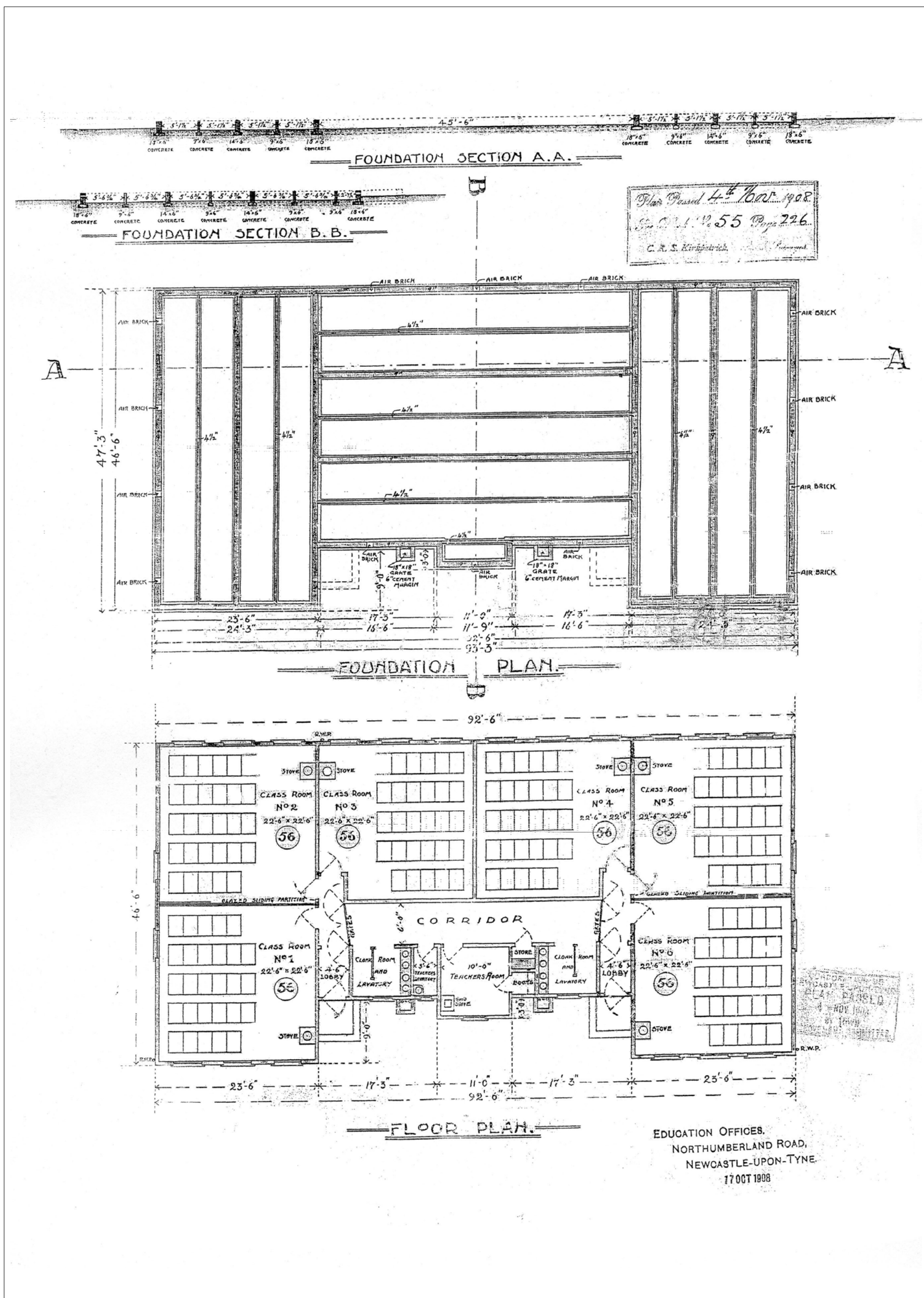
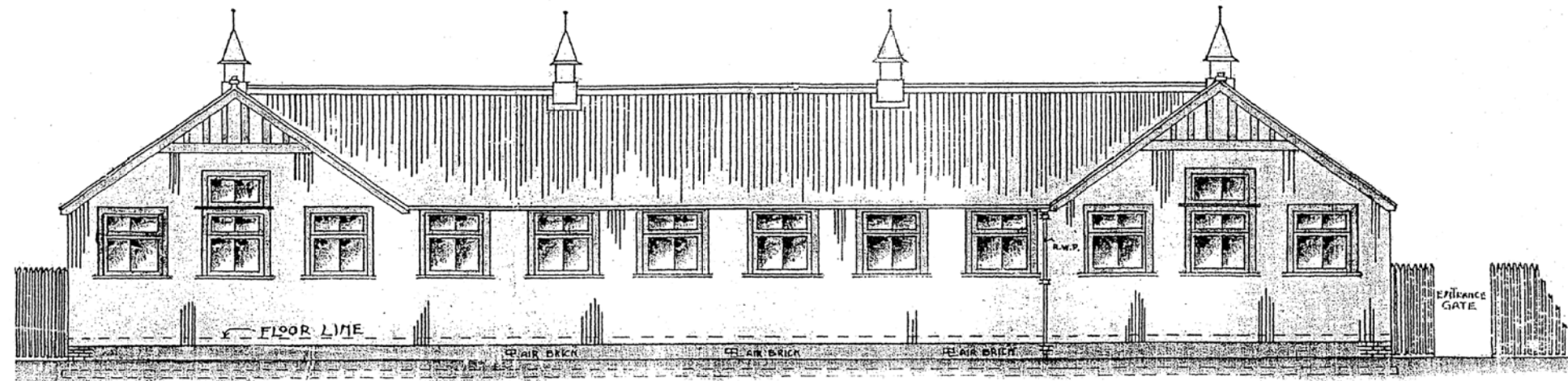
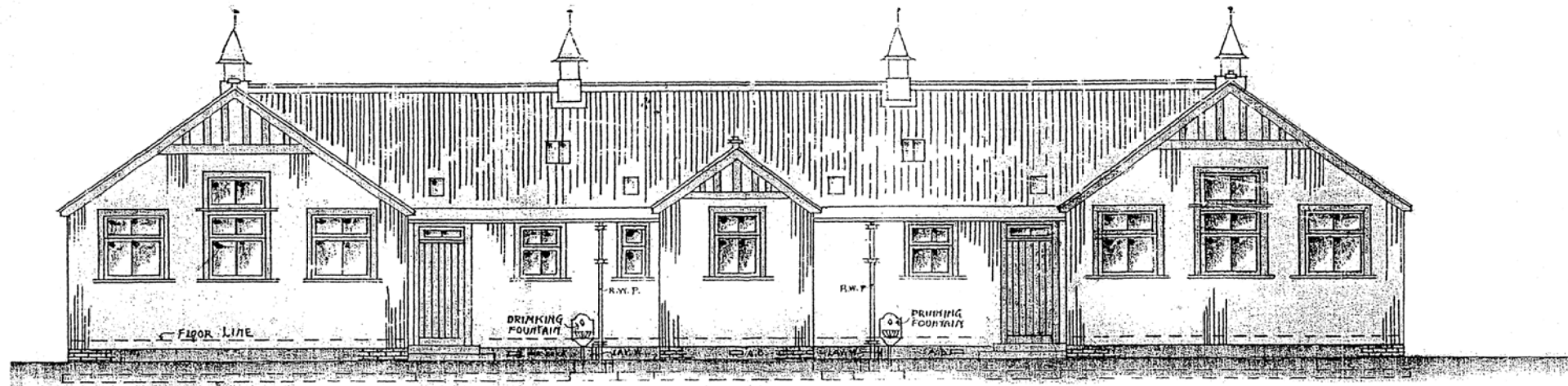


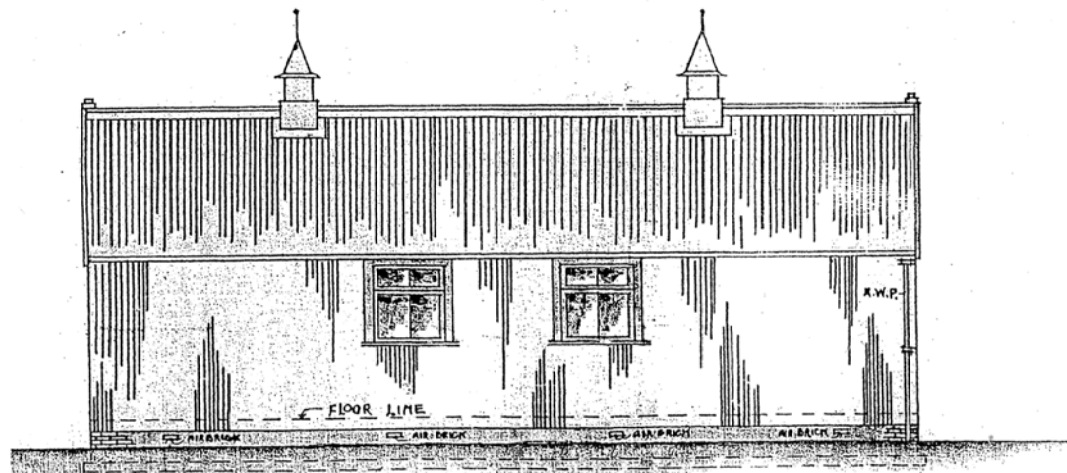
Figure 10. Floor and foundation plans, with sections through foundations Proposed Temporary Iron and Wood School to be erected on Walker Gate Council School site October 1908, Newcastle-upon-Tyne Education Committee Original scale: 8 feet to 1 inch



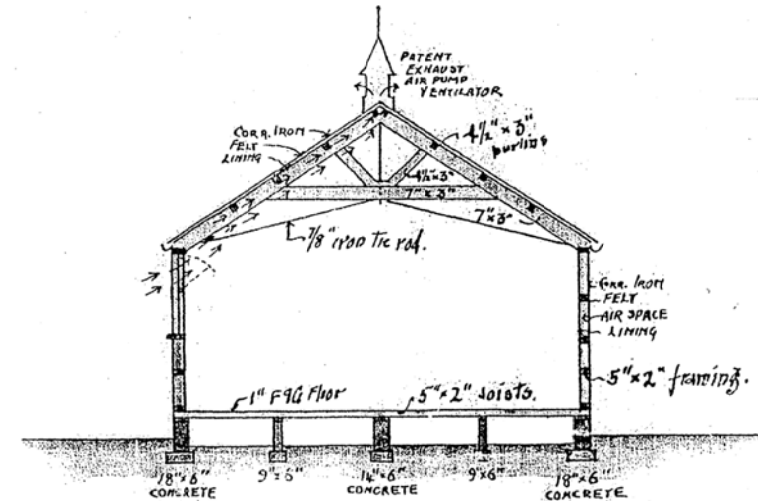
— ELEVATION TO SUTTON STREET —



— BACK ELEVATION. —



— END ELEVATION. —



— SECTION THRO CLASS ROOM. —

Figure 11. Elevations. Proposed Temporary Iron and Wood School to be erected on Walker Gate Council School site October 1908, Newcastle-upon-Tyne Education Committee
Original scale: 8 feet to 1 inch

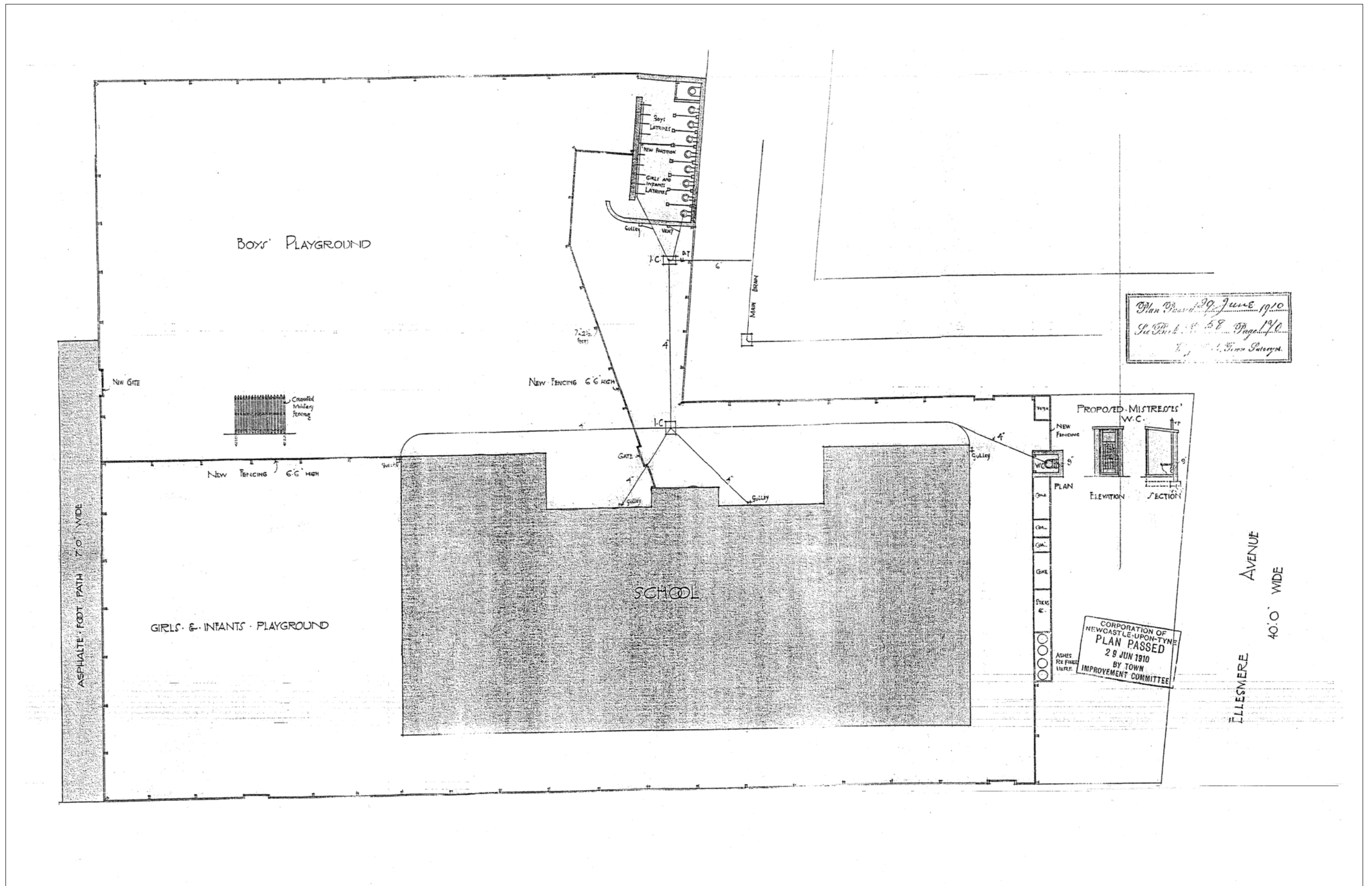
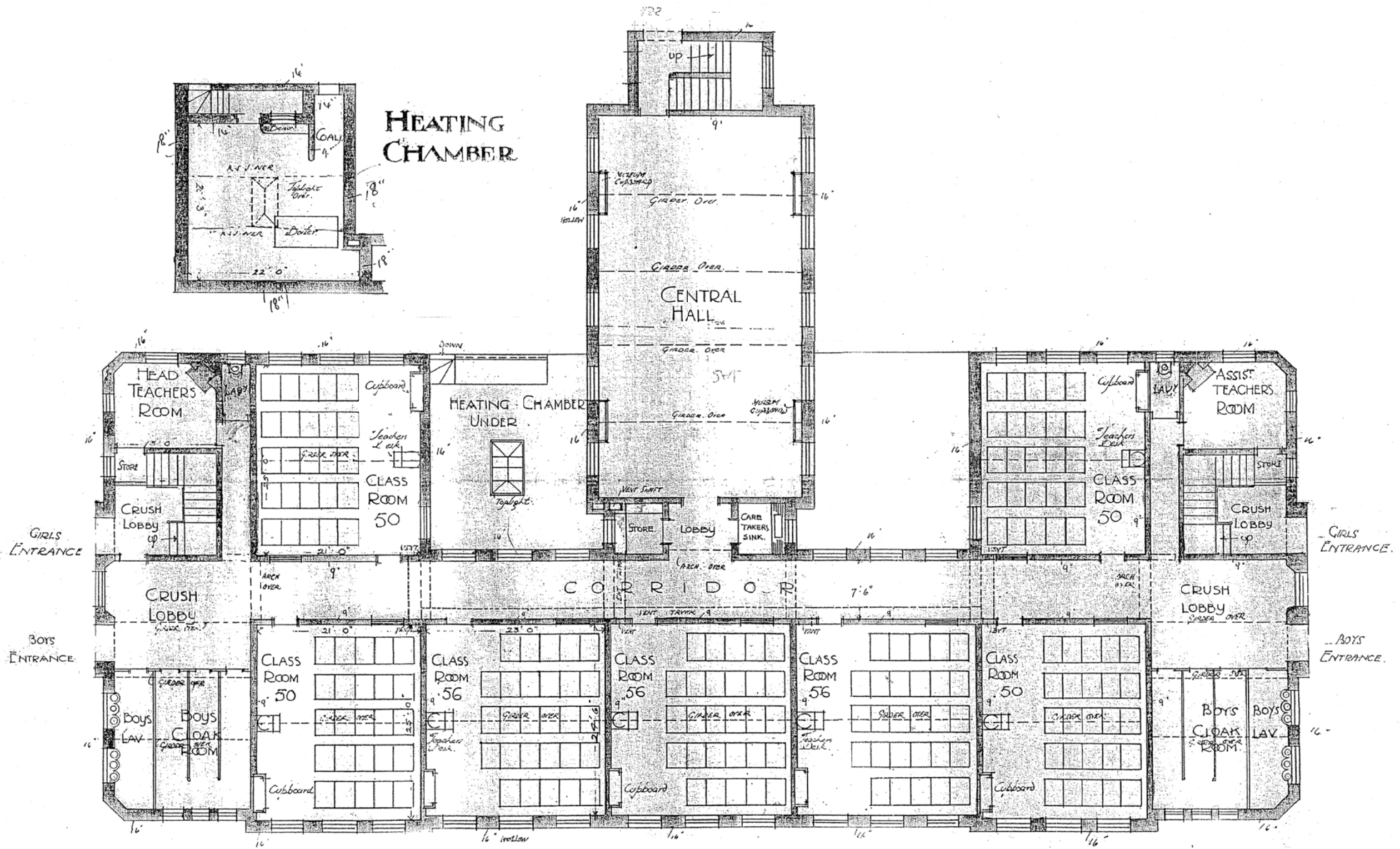
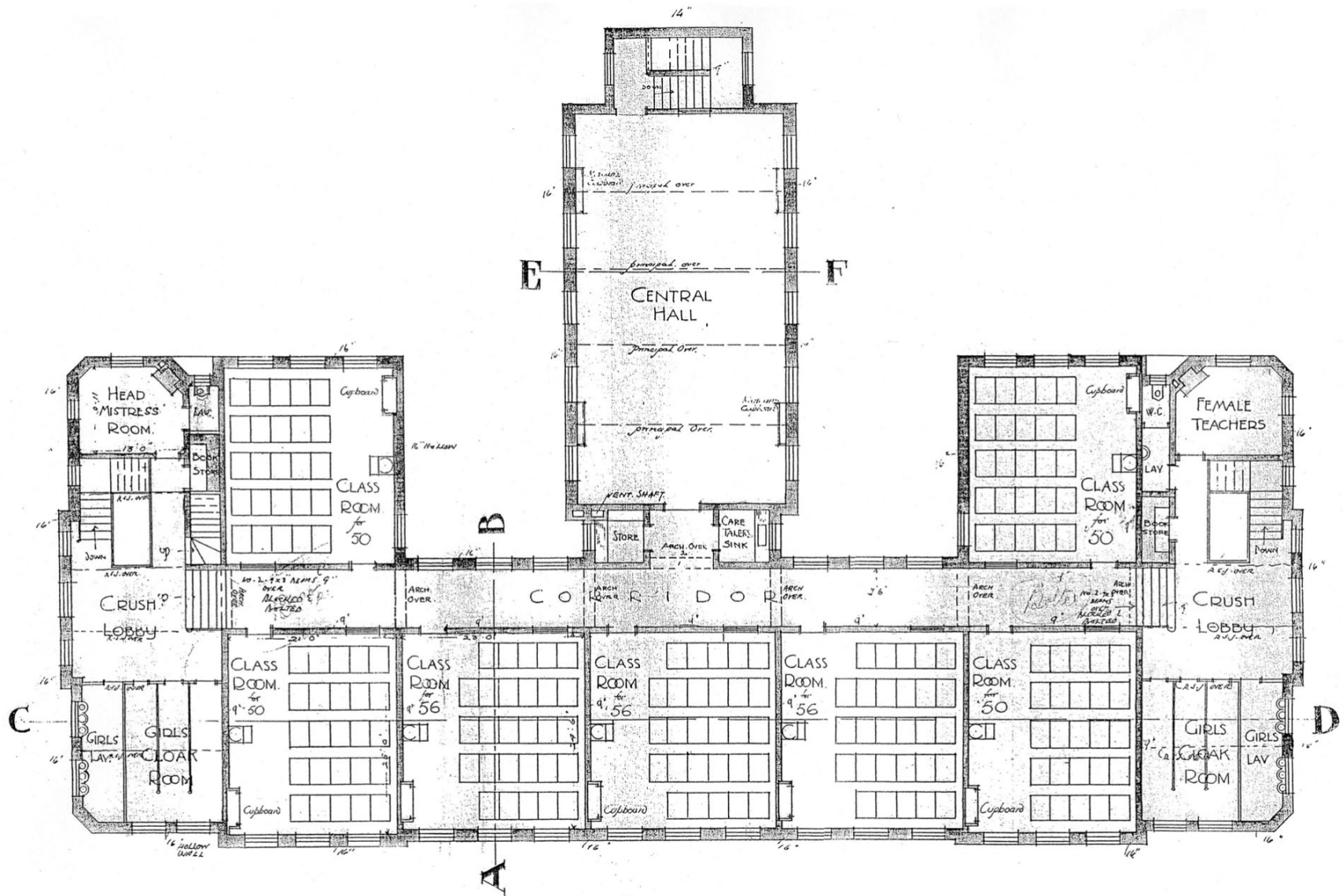


Figure 12. Proposed Alterations. Walker Gate Council School (Temporary)
 June 1910, Newcastle-upon-Tyne Education Committee
 Original scale: 8 feet to 1 inch

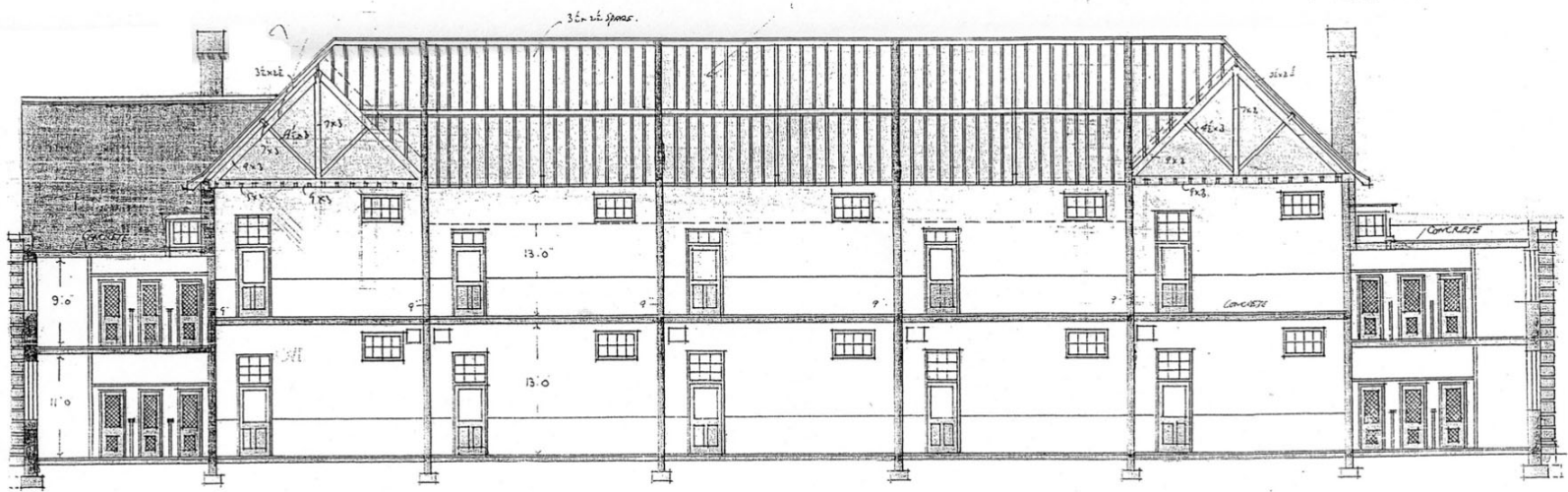


GROUND FLOOR PLAN

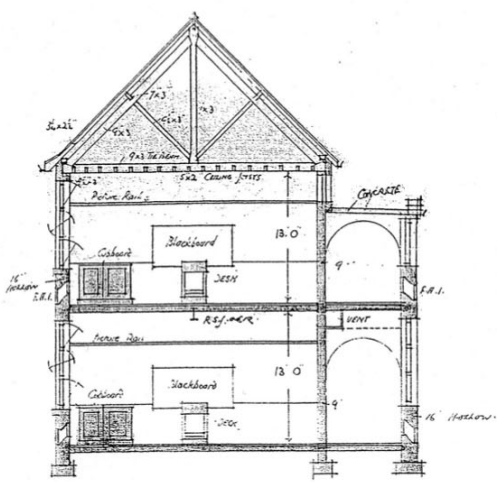
Figure 14. Ground Floor Plan. Proposed Schools, Walker Gate, Newcastle-upon-Tyne
 March 1912, Marshall and Tweedy Architects for the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Education Committee
 Original scale: 8 feet to 1 inch



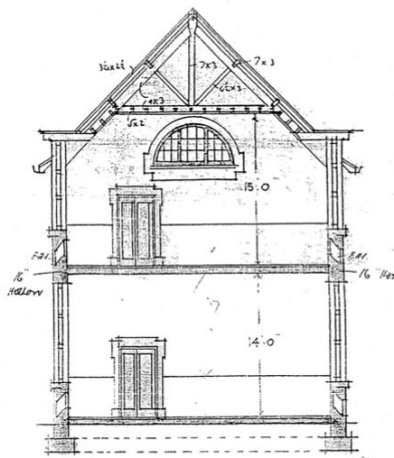
FIRST FLOOR PLAN



SECTION C D

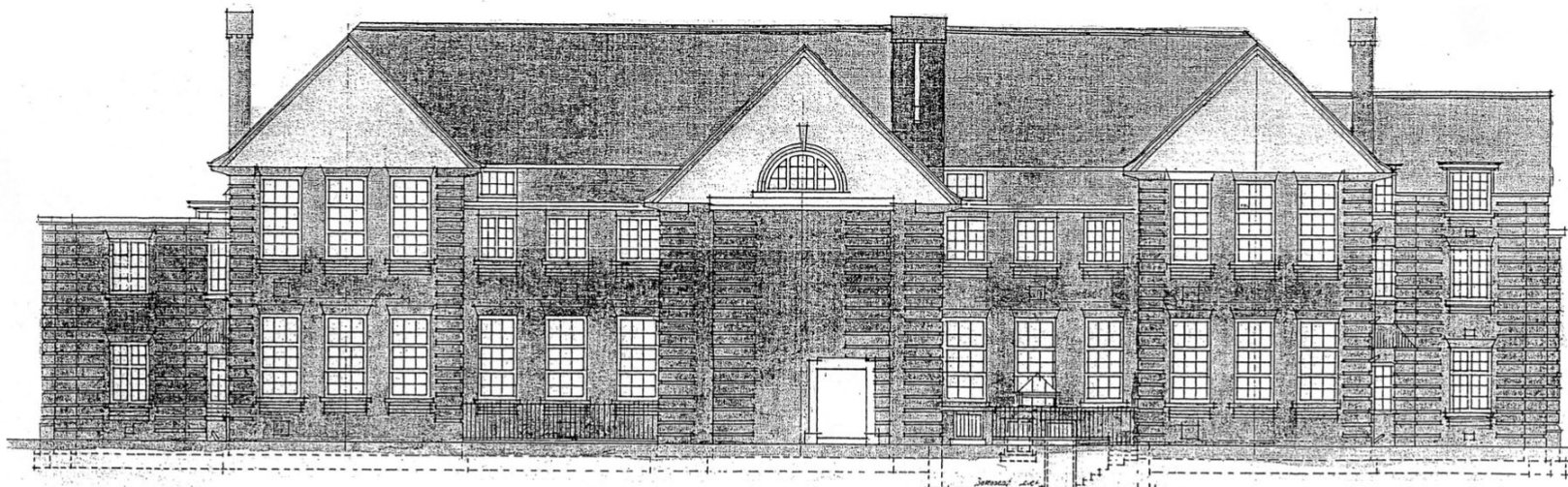


SECTION A B



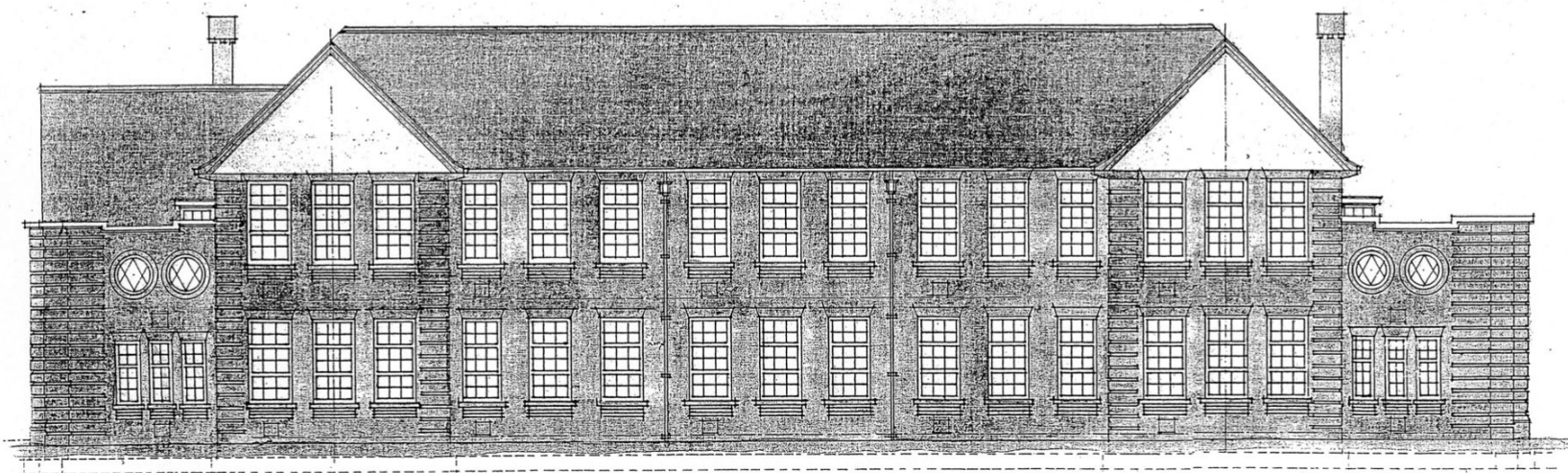
SECTION E F

Figure 15. First Floor Plan and Sections. Proposed Schools, Walker Gate, Newcastle-upon-Tyne March 1912, Marshall and Tweedy Architects for the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Education Committee
Original scale: 8 feet to 1 inch



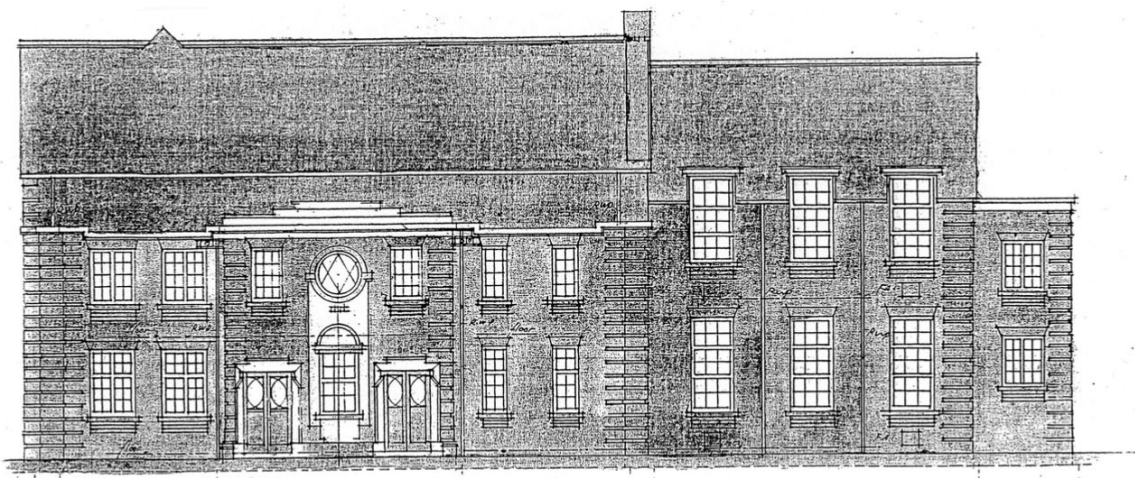
WEST ELEVATION

TOWARDS SUTTON ST.

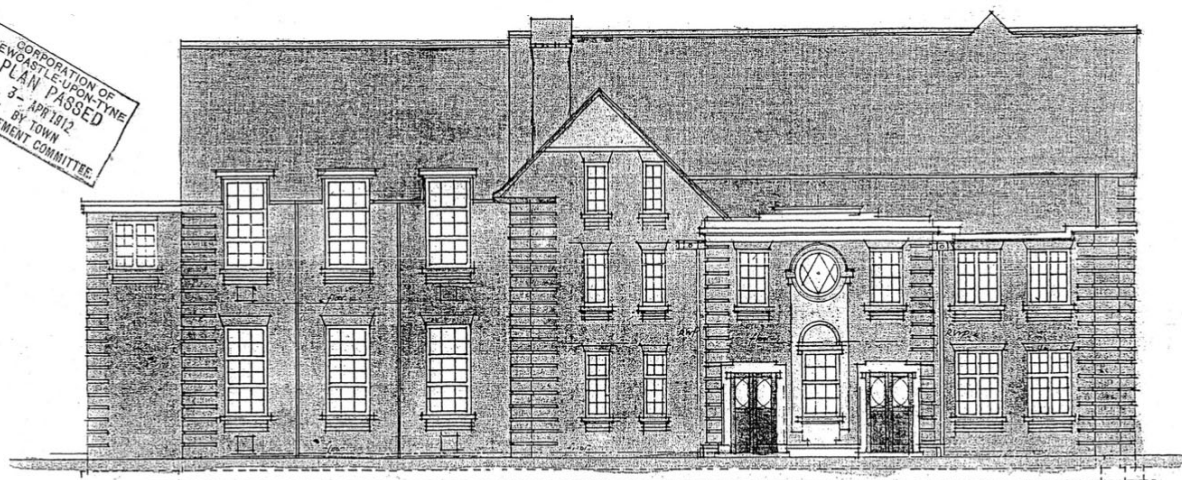


EAST ELEVATION

TOWARDS LITTLE BENTON ROAD



NORTH ELEVATION

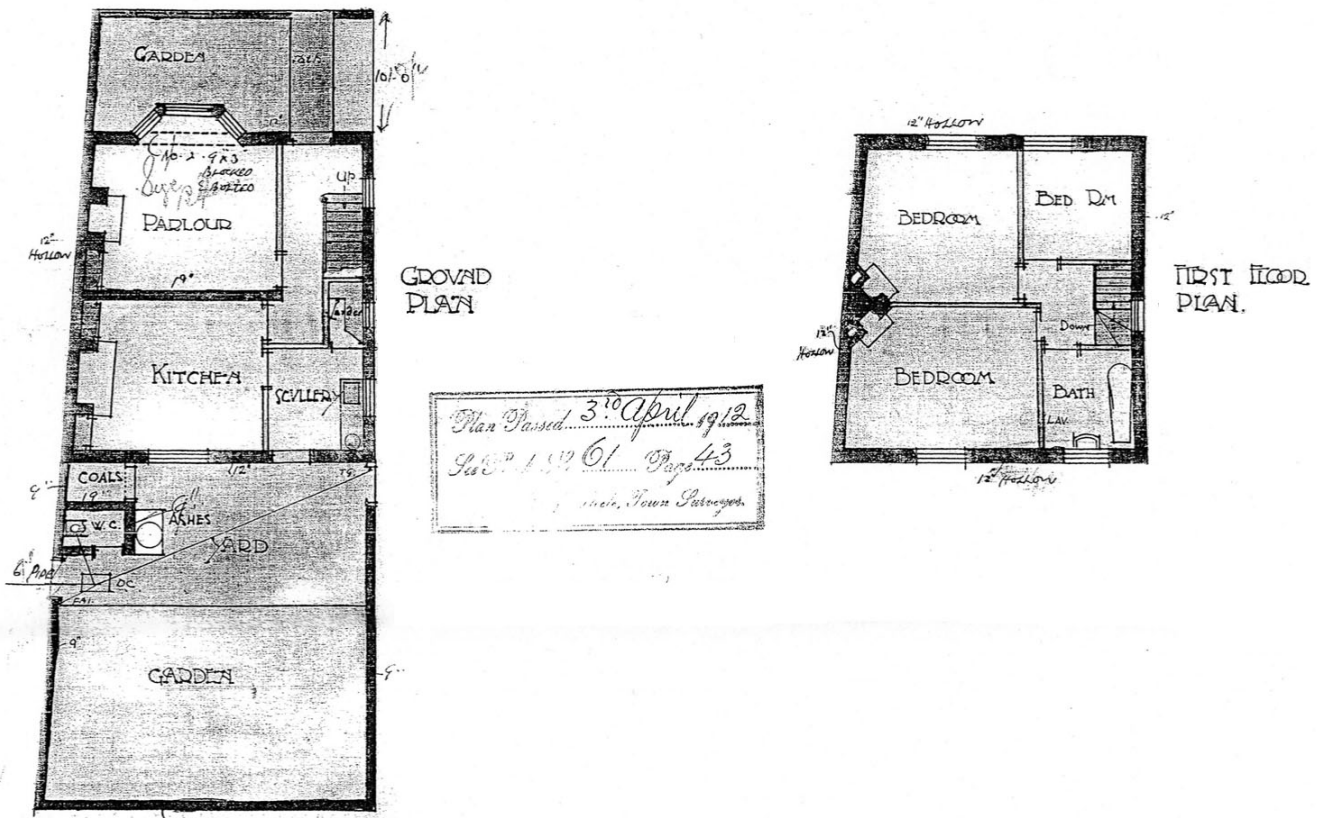
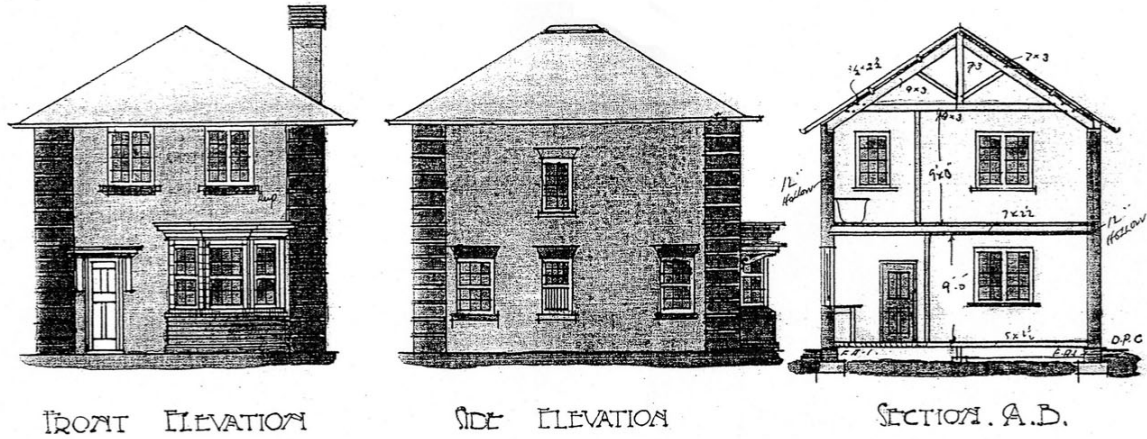


SOUTH ELEVATION

CORPORATION OF
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE
PLAN PASSED
3 - APR 1912
BY TOWN
IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE.

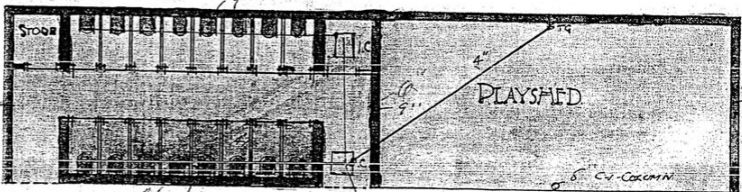
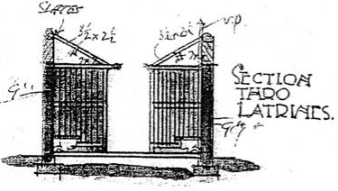
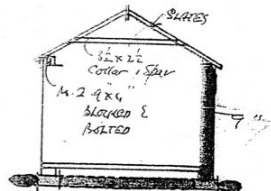
Figure 16. West, East, North and South Elevations. Proposed Schools, Walker Gate, Newcastle-upon-Tyne
March 1912, Marshall and Tweedy Architects for the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Education Committee
Original scale: 8 feet to 1 inch

CARETAKER'S HOUSE



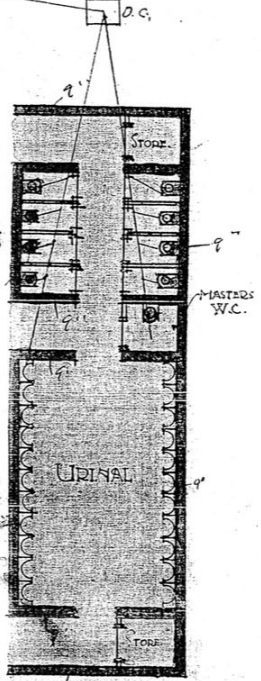
Plan Passed 3rd April 1912
 Sec. 117 of 43
 in the Town Patagon

CORPORATION OF
 NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE
 PLAN PASSED
 3- APR 1912
 BY TOWN
 IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE



GIRLS LATRINES

BOYS LATRINES



Alterations in red lines
 A.S. Jones 24th March 1912

SCALE: 8 FT = 1 INCH

MARSHALL & TWIEDY
 ARCHITECTS
 17 ELDON SQ 24/C

Figure 17. Plans and Sections. Caretaker's House, Latrine Blocks and Playshed. Proposed Schools, Walker Gate, Newcastle-upon-Tyne March 1912, Marshall and Tweedy Architects for the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Education Committee Original scale: 8 feet to 1 inch

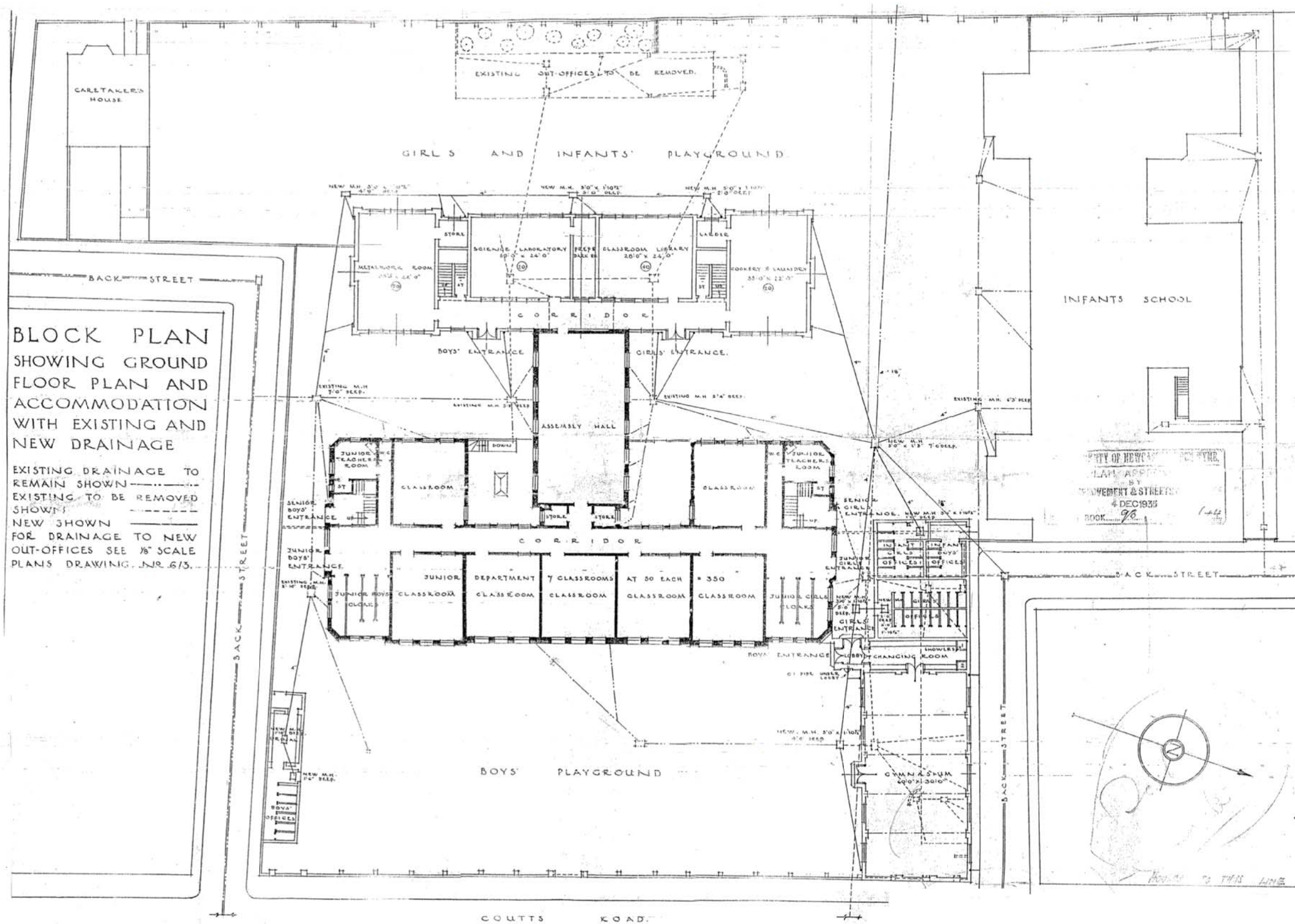


Figure 18. Block Plan showing Ground Floor Plan and accommodation with existing and new drainage. Walker Gate School, Alterations and Additions Drawing No. 6/1. November 1935, Newcastle-upon-Tyne Education Committee Original scale: 16 feet to 1 inch

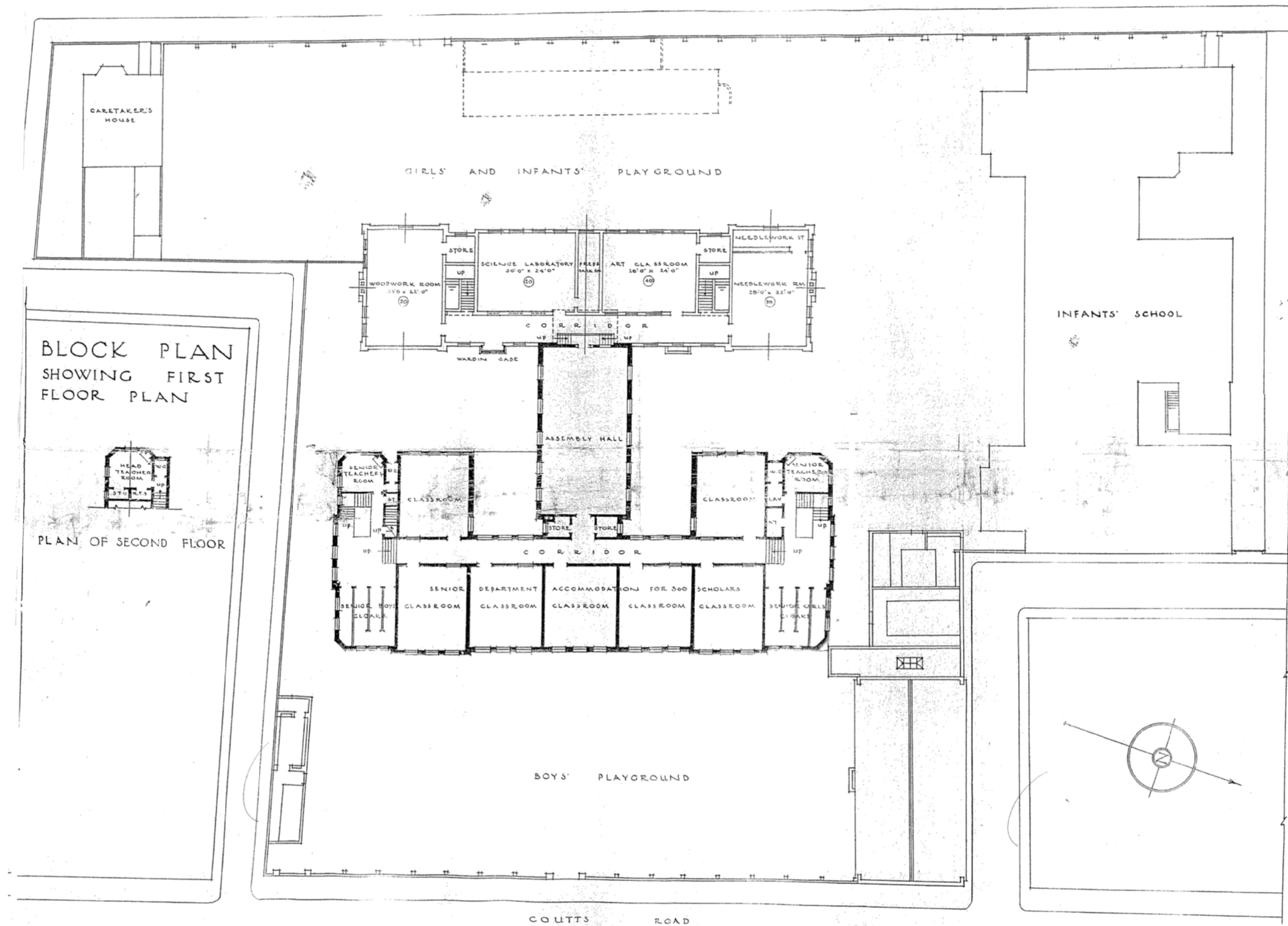
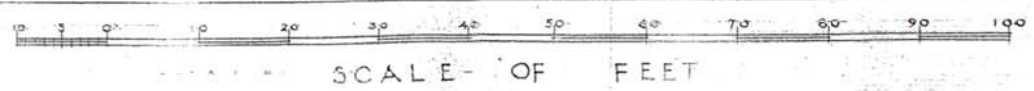
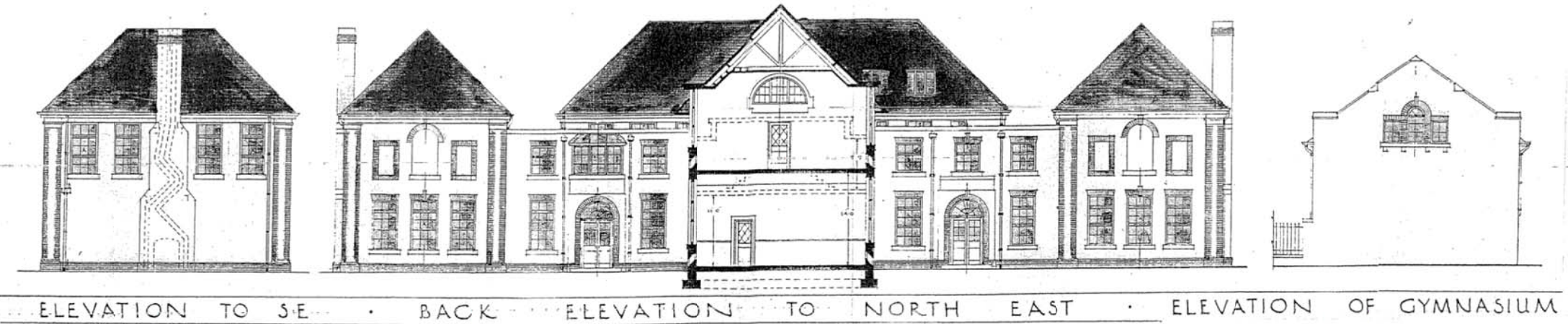
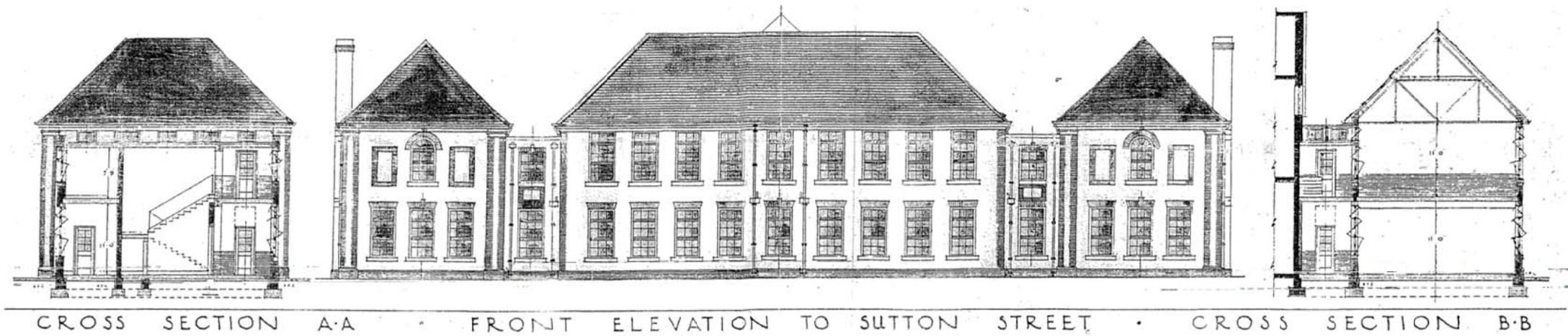


Figure 19. Block Plan showing First Floor Plan. Walker Gate School, Alterations and Additions
 Drawing No. 6/2. November 1935, Newcastle-upon-Tyne Education Committee
 Original scale: 16 feet to 1 inch



RECEIVED
BUILDING SURVEYORS DEPT.
7 NOV 1935
10th FLOOR
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE

CITY OF NEWCASTLE
PLAN APPROVED
BY SURVEYOR & ARCHT. DEPT.
4 DEC 1935
REPORT BOOK 13

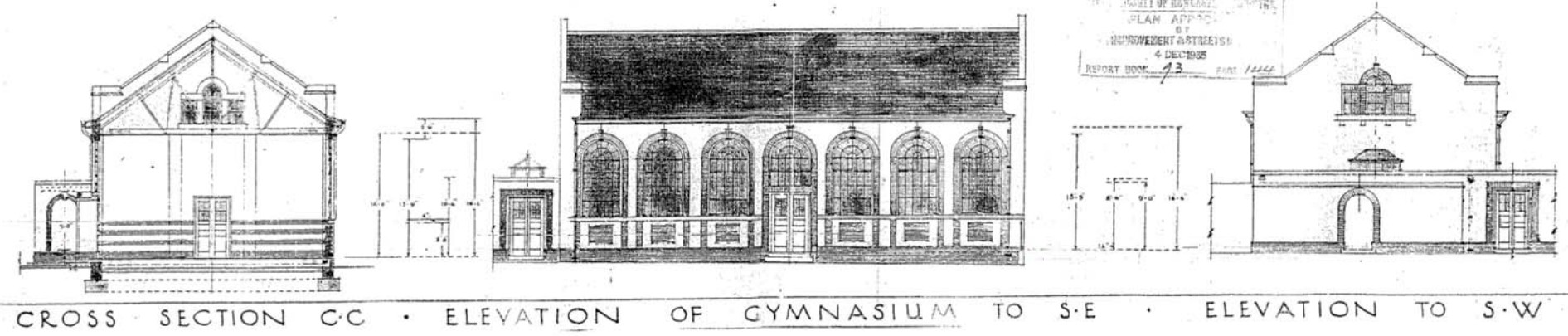


Figure 20. Elevations and Cross-Sections. Walker Gate Council School, Alterations and Additions
Drawing No. 6/4. November 1935, Newcastle-upon-Tyne Education Committee
Original scale: 8 feet to 1 inch

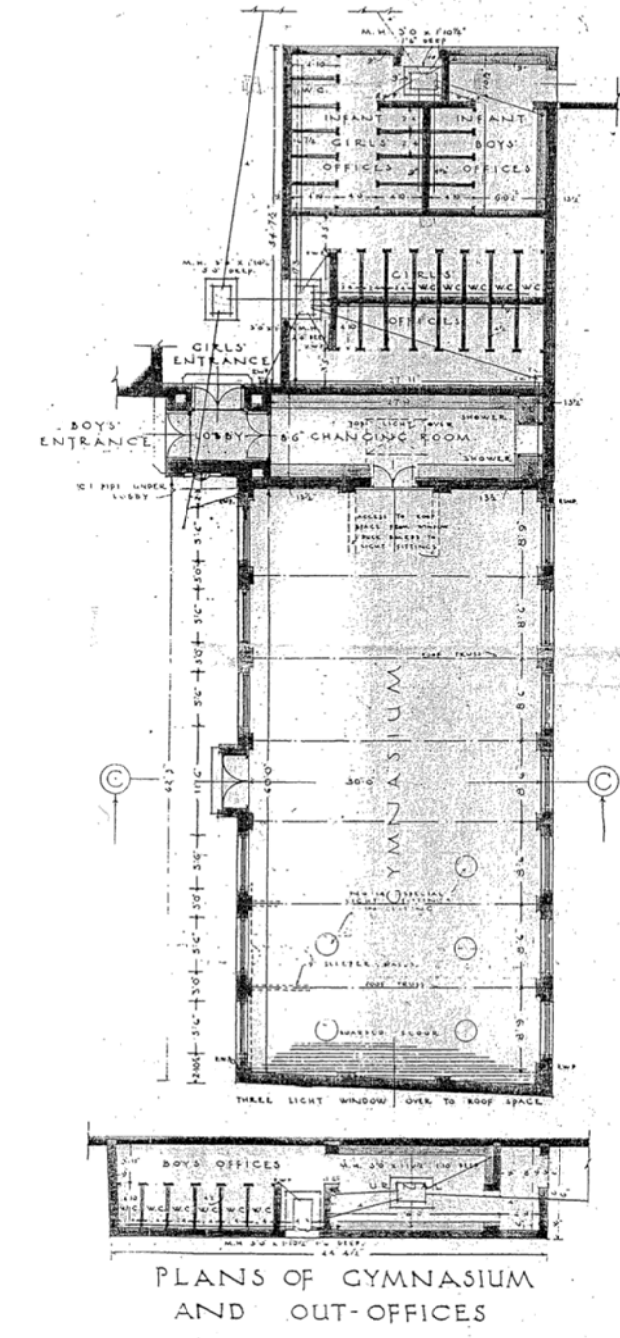
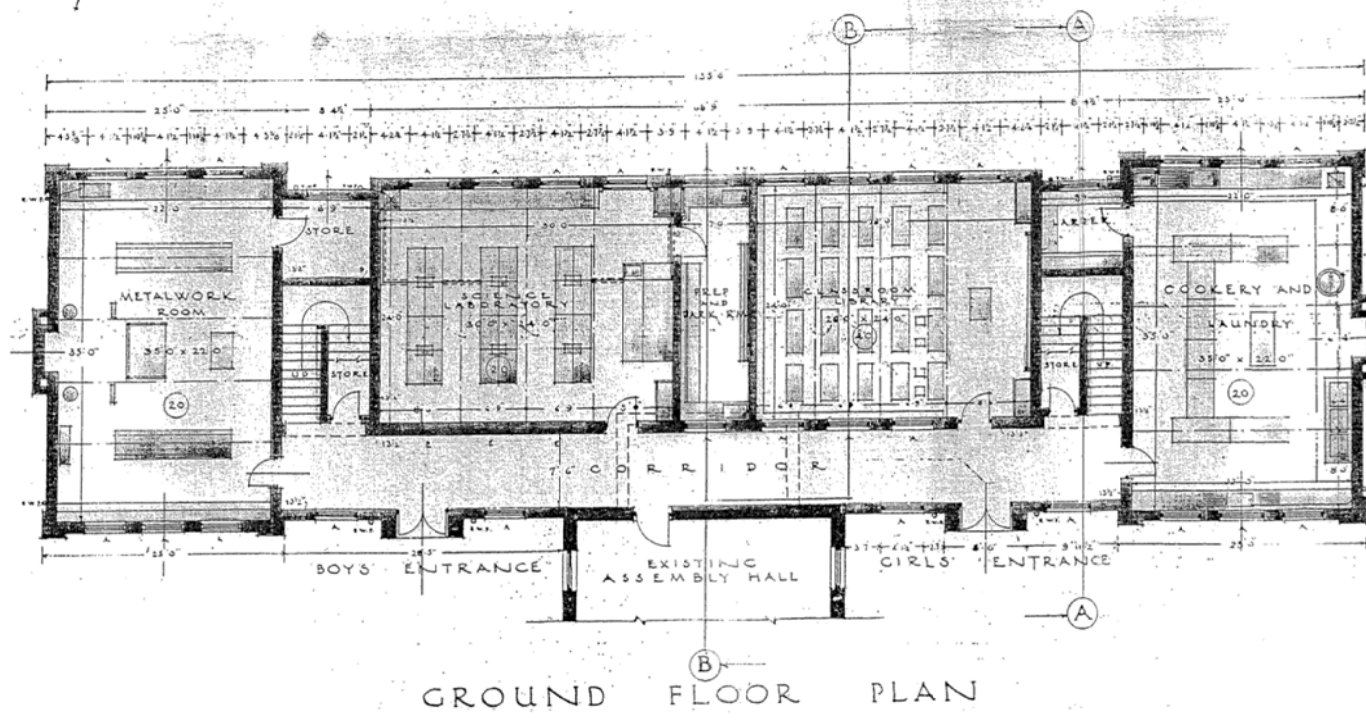
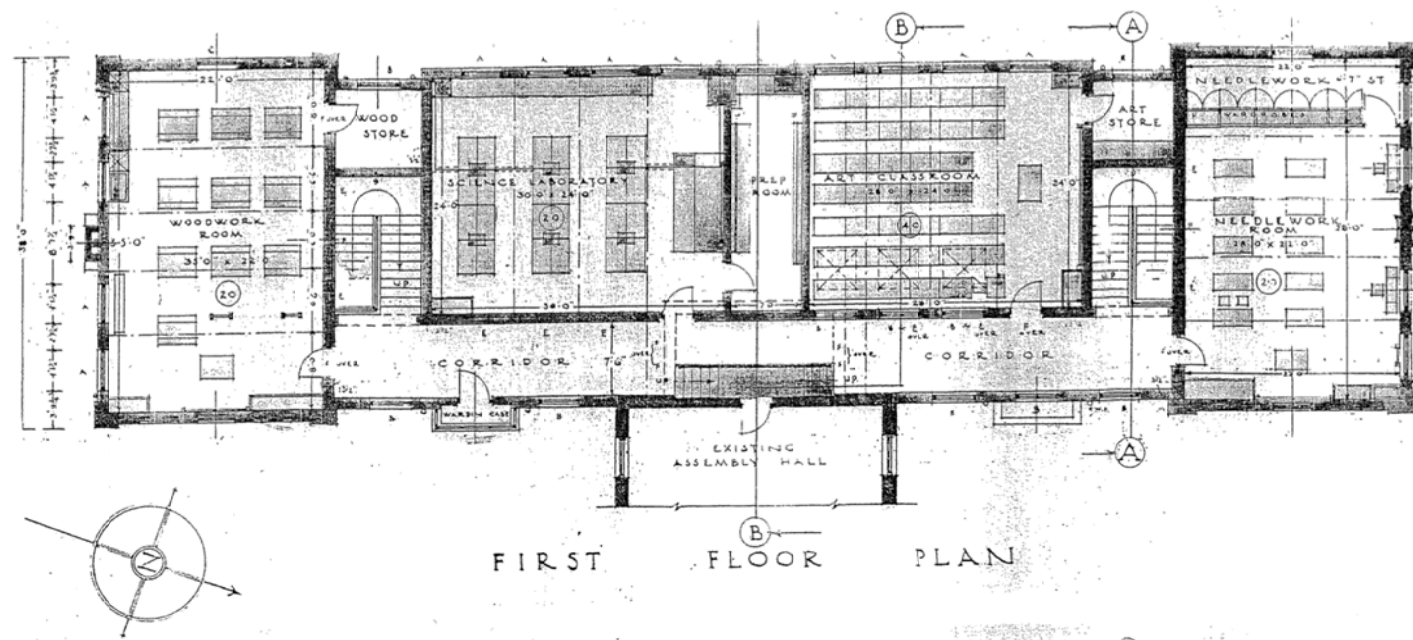


Figure 21. Ground and First Floor Plans, with Plans of Gymnasium and Out-Offices. Walker Gate Council School, Alterations and Additions Drawing No. 6/3. November 1935, Newcastle-upon-Tyne Education Committee Original scale: 8 feet to 1 inch

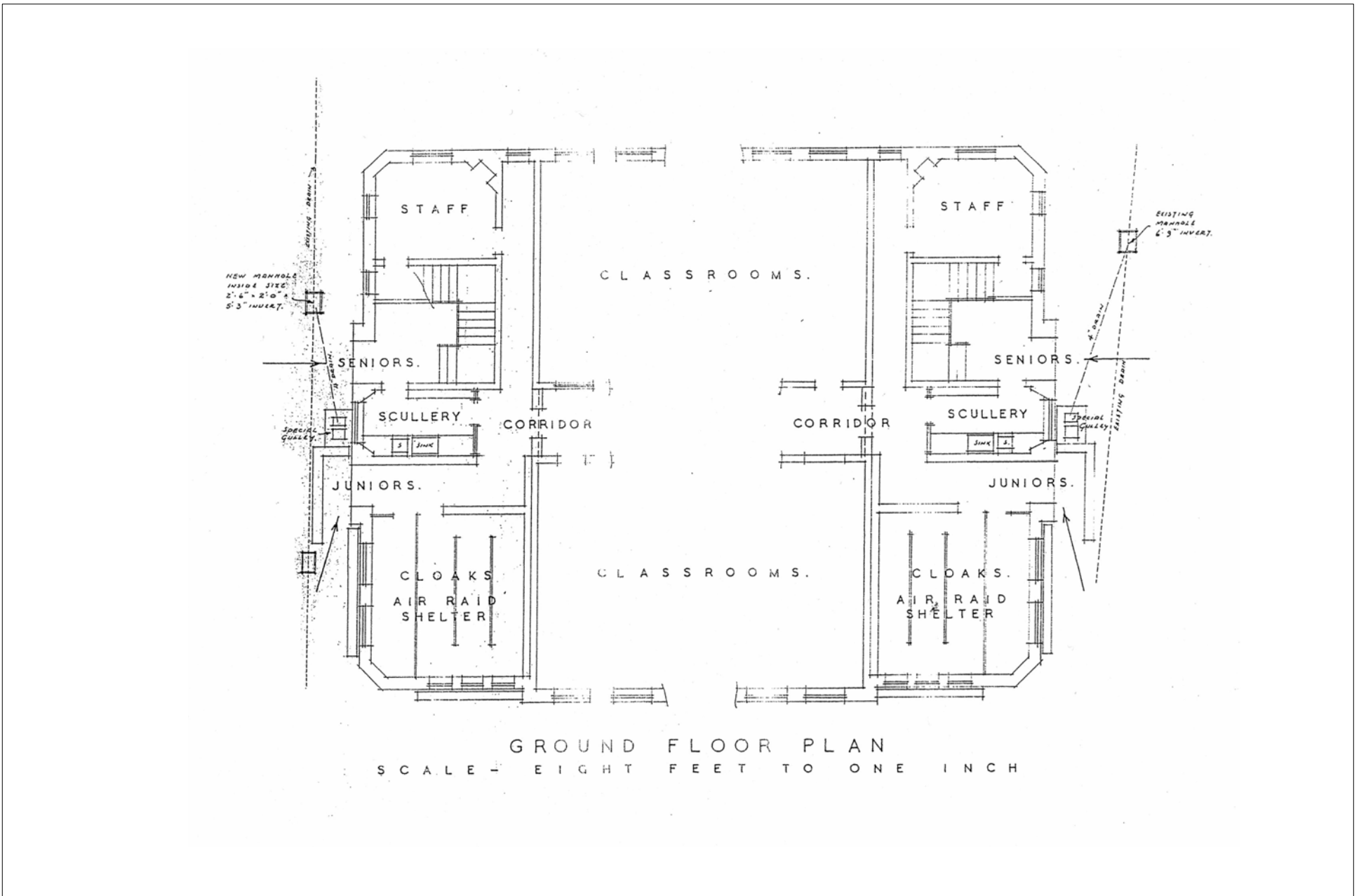


Figure 22a. Ground Floor Plan. Walkergate Council School - Juniors. Half-inch details of Proposed Sculleries August 1943. F.W. Harvey, Education Architect for Newcastle-upon-Tyne Education Committee

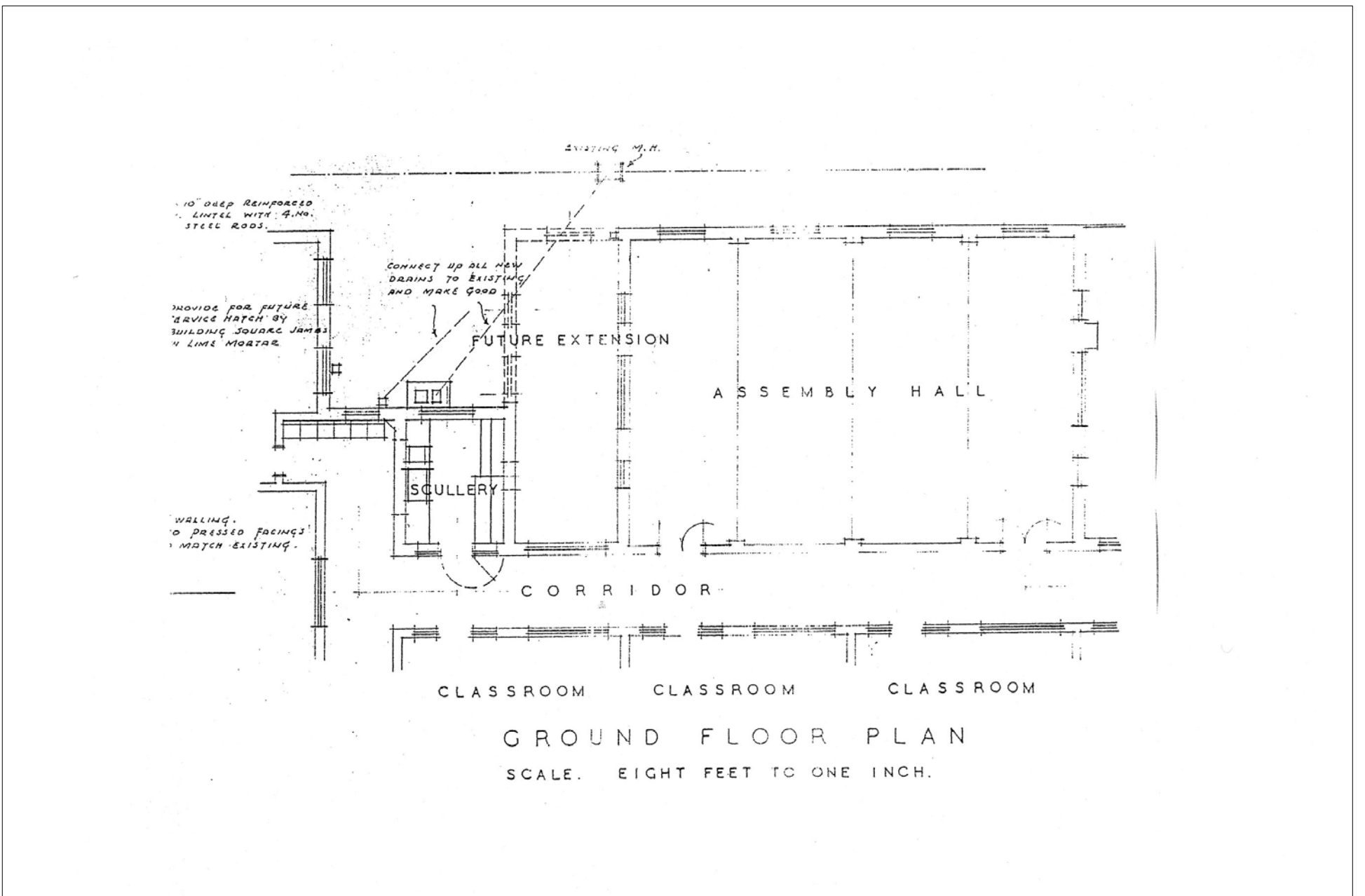


Figure 22b. Ground Floor Plan. Walkergate Council School - Infants. Half-inch details of Proposed Scullery August 1943. F.W. Harvey, Education Architect for Newcastle-upon-Tyne Education Committee

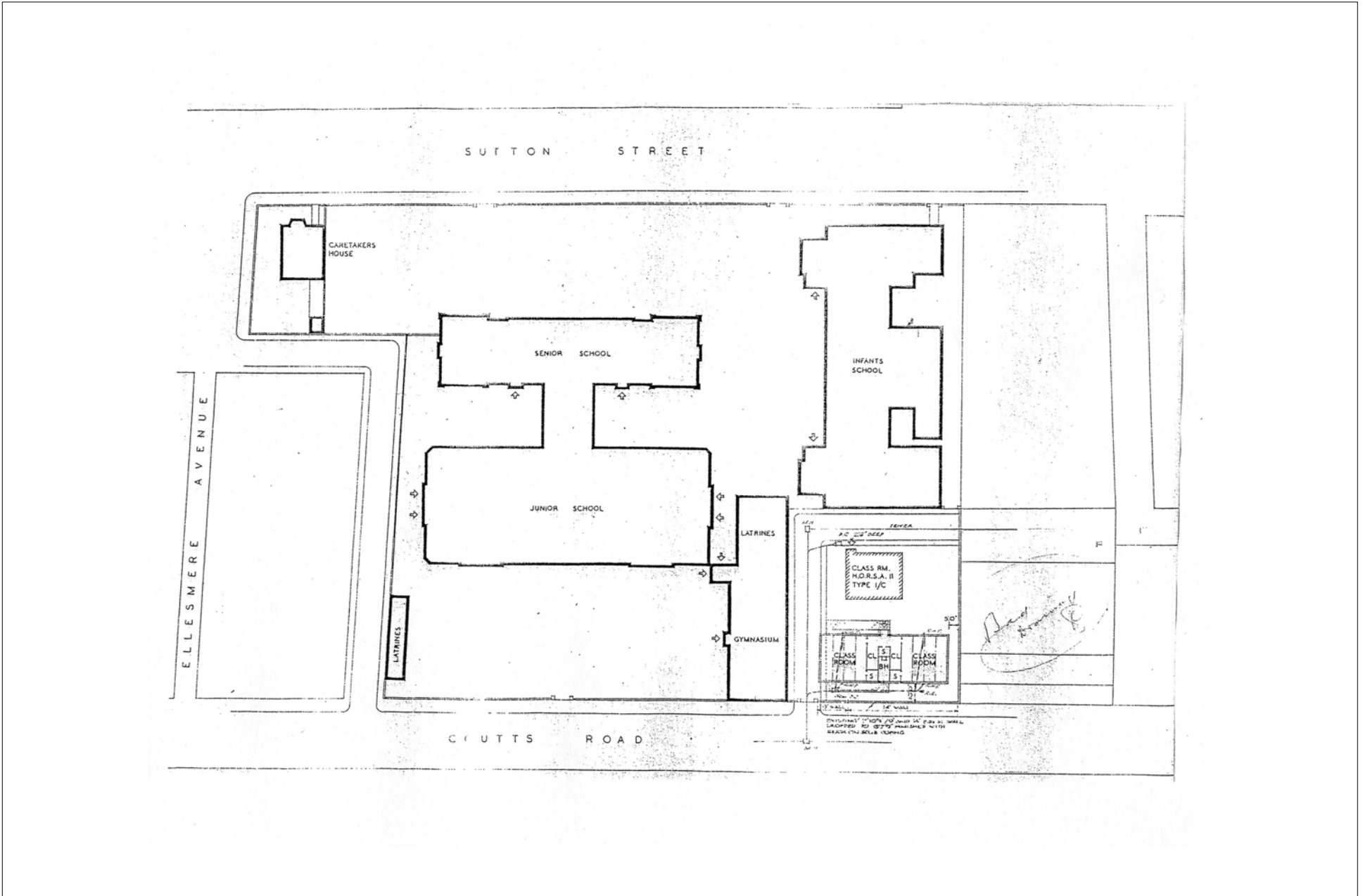


Figure 23a. Additional Classroom - Type 1/C. Walkergate Secondary Modern School
 Drawing No. SBG/1. February 1947, Ministry of Works for Newcastle M. of E
 Original scale: 1/16 inch to 1 foot

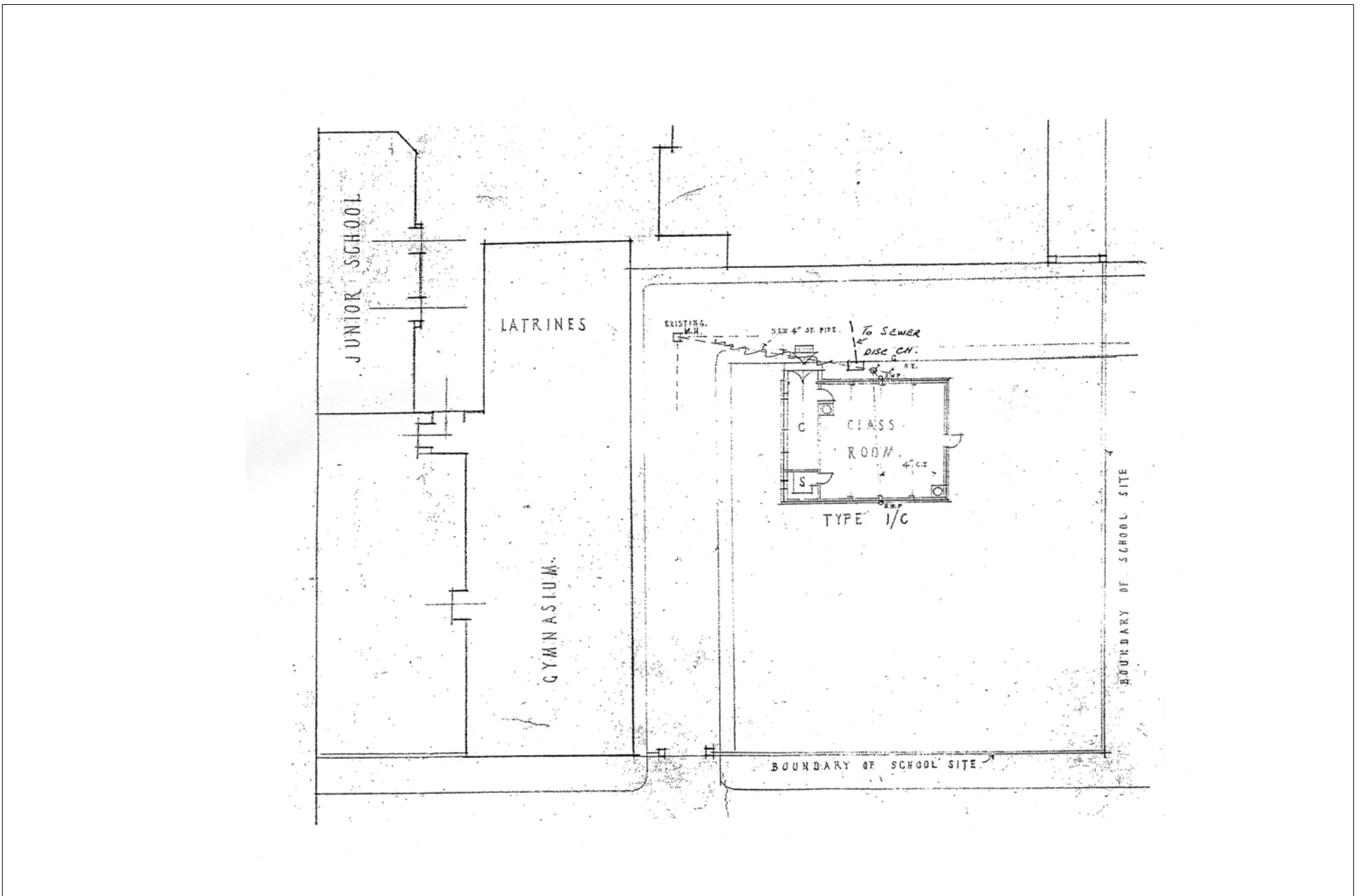


Figure 23b. Additional Classroom - Type 2/C. Programme Period III. Walkergate Secondary Modern School
 Drawing No. 48B/H/1. August 1947, Ministry of Works
 Original scale: 1 inch to 32 feet

7.2 Descriptions of the Buildings

7.2.1 Main Building: Exterior (Plates 1-12)

- 7.2.1.1 The earliest surviving element of Walkergate Primary School is the main building, the former junior school, built in 1913, comprising a NW-SE orientated two-storey building with a central range of three wide three-bay classrooms, and end wings, each a wide three-bay classroom, defined by double-pitched gable-end roofs perpendicular to the main roof, which is also pitched. The roof covering is grey slate with red ridge tiles, possibly like-for-like replacement of original materials. The façades are of wire-cut red brick in a loose classical style with detailing stressed in brick. Most of the windows are rectangular, with flat arches of gauged brickwork above and pulpstone sills with brick detail in relief below. Where earlier, possibly original, windows remain, they are generally neo-Georgian, with an assortment of types, the majority of pivoting transom form.
- 7.2.1.2 The east elevation (Plates 1-3), overlooking the playground off Coutts Road, is of two storeys comprising three wide three-bay classrooms in the main range, three-bay classrooms in each of the gable-ended wings and north and south extensions to the wings, each one-and-a-half-bays. Each of the classrooms in the main range and wings has three tall replacement windows in UPVC on both floors. The central range has a serpentine brick string course at first floor level. The gable in each wing is rendered and there is rusticated detailing (a recessed course every fifth course) in the corner brickwork. The north and south extensions have flat roofs, the lines of which are marked with simple stone parapets, and angled corners, with similar surface modelling as in the corner brickwork of the wings. The extensions have two bull's eye windows outlined in brick above three small rectangular windows in the ground floor.
- 7.2.1.3 The north elevation (Plate 12), including the main entrance, is of two storeys and contains a three-bay central entrance, extending out slightly from the façade, again with rusticated detailing in the corner brickwork. Two doors with sandstone lugged door jambs and hood moulds are positioned either side of a central bay, which has a rendered panel through both storeys, this containing a sash window in the ground floor, with segmental detailing outlined in brick above, and a bull's-eye window with moulded hood, probably sandstone, in the first floor. The remaining, probably original, windows are rectangular, with six- or twelve-lights, in neo-Georgian style. The roof line is marked by a stone parapet of simple lines, emphasised above the entrance bays. Behind the elevation of the north extension, there is a tall brick chimney stack in the pitched roof of the north wing, this having dentil brickwork below the oversailing uppermost section. The south elevation (Plates 4 and 6) is similar to the north, except in the south-west corner of the building where the two westernmost bays are of two-and-a-half storeys in a gable end.
- 7.2.1.4 The west elevation (Plates 5-7; 10-11) includes the gable ends of the wings, each with wide three-bay classrooms, these identical to the east elevation except with the earlier, probably original, windows, and the two-and-half storey pitched roof element of the south extension, with flat-topped dormer window in the uppermost storey. A brick chimney stack appears in the roof of the south extension, similar to that in the roof of the north wing.

- 7.2.1.5 A significant feature of the west elevation is the interruption at the mid point by the two-storey hall extension (Plates 7-10), five bays in length with tall pivoting transom windows on both floors, at first floor level these being flat-topped dormers set into a pitched and gabled slate roof. There is a double stack brick chimney, rising from the east end of the hall extension.
- 7.2.1.6 The remainder of the west elevation comprises the two parts of the central range either side of the hall extension (Plates 7 and 10). In each case there is a flat-roofed section to the fore; to the south, the elevation overlooks a subterranean heating chamber (Plate 7); to the north, the lower part of this elevation is obscured by the flat-roofed staff room extension (Plate 10). Where this extension meets the hall block, the easternmost windows in the ground floor of the hall are blocked.

7.2.2 Main Building: Interior (Plates 43-53)

- 7.2.2.1 Internally, the main building has retained the majority of its original features. Much of the original hardwearing and mostly fireproof construction material is evident, with some stylistic touches of the period. The classrooms are finished with glazed brick dados, while the corridors, staircases and other rooms are finished with terrazzo marble dados although much of this has been over-painted (Plates 45, 47-48). The iron railings in the staircases are original (Plates 46-47), although wooden wall-mounted handrails are probably not. Moulded door surrounds, panelled doors (those to classrooms with nine-light glazing in the upper part) and brass door furniture are original. The parquet flooring in the classrooms and halls is probably original. Steel joists are exposed in the ceilings of the lower hall and classrooms, at least one embossed with the maker's mark 'Dorman Long, Middlesbrough, England'.
- 7.2.2.2 Other architectural features of note in the main building are a series of plain arches spanning the through corridor on the ground floor, each on the line of a principal internal division (Plate 43), the roof of the main hall in the first floor (Plate 51), with deep-arched braces of a collar beam resting on imposts of neo-classical decoration (Plates 52-53). The internal roof spaces were not examined, but building control drawings indicate that, when originally built, the roofs of the main range and hall were both of box-frame form. The main range was to use a twin-angle king-post tie-beam truss technique and the hall was evidently to use a similar technique, but with collar beam to allow the deep-arched effect as described.
- 7.2.2.3 There is little evidence of major internal alteration. At either end of the through corridor on the first floor, former cloakrooms have been converted into larger rooms for storage by moving the timber doorways and surrounds to the line of the corridor wall (Plate 49).

7.2.3 Infants' School: Exterior (Plates 28-36)

- 7.2.3.1 The infants' school is a double-height single-storey building, aligned SW-NE with wings at both ends, both extending to the south and the western extension further extended to the south, and a central extension to the north. The façades are of brick and while the majority of the windows are replacements in UPVC, some original windows survive, these mostly neo-Georgian in style (Plate 35). Some door and window surrounds are detailed in stone in an Art Deco style, suggestive of a date of construction in the 1920-30s. The central range and two separate sections of each wing have hipped roofs, while extensions to the wings, including entrances, are flat-roofed and the northern extension, which houses the hall, is double-pitched with gable ends. The main elements are roofed in slate with red ceramic ridge tiles.

- 7.2.3.2 The south elevation (Plates 28-30) contains the twelve-bay main range of four classrooms, as well as the original single-storey extension to the east wing, this with separate hipped roof and square chimney stack, and the more recent south extension of the west wing. The three westernmost classrooms have doorways in this elevation, while the easternmost has a window, with additional stone panelling below (Plate 31). Other stone detailing includes a plinth course throughout, and a string course at lintel level in the extensions. There are thin pulpstone sills and a continuous lintel running along the elevation of the main range just below the cornice. There is a small bull's-eye window in the south elevation of the projecting entrance to the east wing extension, but the same part of the west wing extension is now obscured having been further extended. The flat rooflines of the extensions are defined with pulpstone copings.
- 7.2.3.3 The main element of the west elevation (Plate 32), fronting Sutton Street, is the six-bay west wing, with Art Deco surround to the central window, stone plinth course and moulded surround to a doorway in the north end. A short brick chimney with string course is located within the building, close to the ridge line. This elevation also includes the original single-storey wing extension, identical to that on the east wing with separate hipped roof and square chimney stack, and the further flat-roofed extension to the south.
- 7.2.3.4 The east elevation (Plate 33) includes the six-bay east wing, with stone lintels and pulpstone sills to the window openings, and a toilet block extension at the north end, this extending along the eastern part of the north elevation, the main element of which is the pitched roof central hall extension.

7.2.4 *Infants' School: Interior (Plates 62-63)*

- 7.2.4.1 The classrooms in the main range remain largely unaltered (Plate 62), except for replacement windows. The through corridor has a low ceiling and is spanned by plain arches at each end, with additional arches where it meets the end corridors. The bracing arches of a possible collar beam truss roof are evident in the ceiling of the hall (Plate 63). There is a timber fire surround of c. 1930s date in a staff room in the west wing.

7.2.5 *Former Secondary Modern Block: Exterior (Plates 20-27)*

- 7.2.5.1 The former secondary modern block is aligned NW-SE, parallel with and to the west of the main building. It is of two storeys, with brick façades featuring polychrome brick and pulpstone detailing. There are hipped slate roofs, with red ceramic ridge tiles, on both the main range and the north and south wings. The eastern corridor of the main range has a flat roof. The main range comprises a wide four-bay classroom either side of a single central bay, with single-bay flat-roofed stairwells joining to the end wings, each of these a wide three-bay classroom. The window openings have stone sills and all ground floor windows, as well as first floor windows in the east elevation of the main range, have a flat arch in polychrome gauged brick. The remainder of the first floor windows have a stone (or concrete) lintel which runs the full length of each elevation below the cornice. Where original windows survive, they are of neo-Georgian style, mostly of pivoting transom form.

7.2.5.2 The west elevation (Plates 20-21), overlooking a playground off Sutton Street, is of two-storeys. The corners of the two wings are stressed with polychrome brick quoins, with brick and moulded stone plinth and simple stone cappings. On both floors of the main range and the ground floors of the joining bays and wings, the tall windows are all replacements in UPVC. On the ground floor of the joining bays, the openings have polychrome brick lintels in a soldier course. In the first floor of both wings, two square windows have been replaced in UPVC, either side of an original neo-Georgian style window with semi-circular radial framed head, in an opening with segmental head in polychrome gauged brick. This has a faux keystone formed from three elongated gauged bricks and corrugated tile, repeated in the flat arches of the window below and the upper window of the joining corridor.

7.2.5.3 The north and south elevations (Plates 22-23) are almost identical, also featuring the stressed corners with stone toppings of the wings. There are four tall windows in the first floor and no windows in the ground floor. An external brick chimney, recessed in raking tiers with stone offsets, divides each five-bay elevation. The north elevation has a lean-to bike-shed.

7.2.5.4 The east elevation (Plates 24-27) is interrupted centrally by the hall extension which connects the block to the main building. The corner detailing of the wings is as described above. The layout of the windows in the wings is reversed from that in the north and south elevations, with three tall windows on the ground floor and no windows in the first floor, the brickwork of which is decorated with simple polychrome diaper work. The entrances to the main range in this elevation are emphasised by extending forwards from the façade, featuring a doorway with semi-circular head in gauged brick, again with faux keystone. Both entrances contain a double door with semi-circular radial framed fanlight, the door itself in south entrance being original. The southern entrance has a bay window above the doorway (Plate 25) while, to the north, there is a single pivoting ransom window, placed centrally (Plate 26).

7.2.6 Former Secondary Modern Block: Interior (Plates 54-60)

7.2.6.1 The interior of the former secondary modern block again appears to be of regulation 1930s construction materials. In this block, the dados of turquoise and light yellow glazed 'hygienic' bricks are entirely typical of the period and appear throughout the building, in corridors and classrooms (for example, Plates 55 and 56). The dog-leg stairs have robust but simple ironwork rails, these set in substantial stone footings (Plate 60).

7.2.6.2 A feature of note is the mezzanine staircase (Plate 56) that allows access from the upper corridor to the upper hall of the adjoining hall block, the simple square profiles of the banisters being typical of the 1930s. There is evidence of small scale alterations to rooms that were designated for specific activities in the former secondary modern school. For example, the outline of a work bench appears in the parquet flooring of a former science laboratory on the first floor of the main range (Plate 57), and an arch in the end wall of a former metalwork room in the south wing represents the location of a former furnace (Plate 59).

7.2.7 *Gymnasium Block (Plates 13-19, 37, 61)*

- 7.2.7.1 The building is a double height, single-storey hall aligned at right angles to the 1913 building. It is in a neo-classical style, with seven bays. The façades (Plates 13-17) are in russet brick with polychrome brick and pulpstone detailing. A continuous sill runs along the south elevation but the windows in the north elevation have individual sills. It has a pitched slate roof, with red ceramic ridge tiles, the gable end parapets having stone coping. No windows are in the short elevations, which are decorated with simple diaper work in polychrome brick, the same as the window surrounds in the south elevation. The windows are neo-Georgian with semi-circular radial framed heads and the look of the whole is perhaps reminiscent of a classical orangery.
- 7.2.7.2 There is an entrance in the central bay of the south elevation (Plate 13), with a double door framed by concrete architrave and a brick surround, with a brick soldier course above. The building is also accessible through a flat-roofed extension at the western end (Plate 14), the interior of which features a dado of turquoise and light yellow glazed bricks, as well as a section of wall finished with white glazed bricks. There has been little alteration to the interior of the gymnasium (Plate 61).
- 7.2.7.3 The stamped bricks of the maker, Thomas Blythe and Sons, appear in the north elevation of the flat-roofed changing room at the west end of the block (Plates 18-19).

7.2.8 *Other Exterior Elements (Plates 33-37; 40-41)*

- 7.2.8.1 Brick and stone columns framing the school gates on Sutton Street and Cou tts Road (Plates 38-39), feature stone and brick plinths, stone cappings and rusticated detailing in the brickwork of the main shafts. The boundaries are formed by low brick walls with moulded stone cappings, topped with iron railings (Plates 36-37).
- 7.2.8.2 The caretaker's house, No. 15 Sutton Street (Plates 40-41), is a detached brick dwelling with hipped slate roof with a rectangular chimney stack in the roof, inside the line of the south wall, in which there are no windows. All corners of the house are stressed with repeated single recessed courses in the brickwork. All the windows are replacements in UPVC. There is a small yard to the rear.

8. POTENTIAL IMPACTS

The following potential impacts upon the archaeological resource at Walkergate Primary School and the Trojan Avenue playing fields are considered:

- Loss of, or damage to, sub-surface archaeological sites and remains.
- Settings and views of and from upstanding remains, listed buildings, Scheduled Ancient Monuments and other archaeological sites affected.
- Changes to ground conditions as a result of changes to the drainage regime, which could affect archaeological remains.
- Loss of landscape features, structures and areas with historic and cultural associations.
- Other possible impacts, such as noise, vibration, compressions and other changed ground conditions.

8.1 Loss of, or damage to, sub-surface archaeological sites and remains

8.1.1 Precise development proposals for the school site are unknown, although the preferred approach is to demolish the existing school, with a new build on the existing site. Initial groundworks, such as removal of existing foundations and hard surfaces, the creation of general 'formation levels' and the setting out and consolidation of access roads for plant and machinery, will impact to a greater or lesser degree upon any buried archaeological remains, depending upon the nature and extent of these works. The excavation of foundation trenches for new buildings, as well as cutting the required network of service trenches, could cause severe localised impact upon any buried archaeological remains. In summary, it is considered likely that the proposed development will threaten the destruction of any buried archaeological remains at the school site. At the Trojan Avenue playing fields, sports pitches attached to the new school are proposed. Minimal impact on sub-surface deposits is likely, dependent on the precise nature and extent of preparatory groundworks.

8.1.2 The assessment had established that the highest potential for archaeological remains of significance within the proposed development areas is for Roman period remains at the Trojan Avenue playing fields and for post-medieval remains related to the temporary school that was in place between 1909-1913 at the school site. An important consideration for the school site is the possibility that previous development, particularly the existing school, may have impacted upon buried archaeological remains. The playing fields have evidently remained undeveloped so previous impact upon archaeological remains could be negligible.

8.2 Settings and views of and from upstanding remains, listed buildings, Scheduled Monuments and other archaeological sites affected

8.2.1 The proposed development will not result in the loss of any Scheduled Monuments or listed buildings. Furthermore, development of the school site will not affect the overall setting of any Scheduled Monuments, listed buildings or other archaeological sites. Although the Trojan Avenue playing fields lie close to a scheduled section of the Hadrian's Wall corridor, the area is to remain as a playing field as part of the development proposals, so the overall setting will not be affected.

8.3 Changes to ground conditions as a result of changes to the drainage regime, which could affect archaeological remains

8.3.1 Construction groundworks could significantly alter ground conditions within the proposed development areas, particularly at the school site, due to changes in the drainage regime. However, geotechnical data pertaining to the sequence of below ground deposits, would be required to elucidate this matter further.

8.3.2 In summary, any surviving archaeological deposits within the proposed development areas could potentially be affected by the development proposals in this respect.

8.4 Loss of landscape features, structures and areas with historic and cultural associations

8.4.1 The school itself, particularly the pre-Second World War elements, has important cultural associations, having formed a focus of the Walkergate community for nearly a century. Therefore, demolition of the existing school will result in the loss of an important structure in this respect. However, a new school is to be built at the site and the building recording exercise has allowed a permanent archive record to be compiled of the more significant historic elements, the level of recording reflecting the architectural value of the structures.

8.4.2 In summary, apart from the pre-Second World War elements of the school, it is considered that the development proposals will not result in the loss of any landscape features, structures or areas with historic or cultural associations.

8.5 Other possible impacts, such as noise, vibration, compressions and other changed ground conditions

8.5.1 The groundworks and construction programme associated with the development proposals will have a short-term impact, in terms of noise and vibration, on the immediate environment of the proposed development areas.

9. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Conclusions

- 9.1.1 The assessment concludes that the proposed development areas have **low** potential for archaeological remains from all **prehistoric** eras, the **Anglo-Saxon** period and the **post-medieval** period (excluding activity associated with late 19th century development and 20th century school buildings). The potential for archaeological remains of the **medieval** period is **low to moderate** for both areas. For the Trojan Avenue playing field, the potential for archaeological remains of the **Roman** period is **high**, and the potential for such remains at the school site is **moderate**. The potential for archaeological remains of the **post-medieval** period, specifically late 19th century and 20th century development is **high** for the school site and **low** for the Trojan Avenue playing fields.
- 9.1.2 Archaeological remains of **Roman** date in either area would be of **high** significance. The Trojan Avenue playing fields skirts the Hadrian's Wall corridor, with particular potential for the northern defensive ditch and features such as defensive entanglements on the berm between the ditch and the Wall. Archaeological remains of **post-medieval** date associated with the 1909-1913 temporary school at the school site would be of **high** significance. This building, constructed in timber and iron, occupied the south-western portion of the school site, in the area currently occupied by the kitchen block.
- 9.1.3 Previous development of the school site, particularly the existing school, may have had considerable impact upon buried archaeological remains. The Trojan Avenue playing fields have evidently never been developed.
- 9.1.4 Development of the proposed areas would not affect any Scheduled Monuments or listed buildings.

9.2 Recommendations

- 9.2.1 Where archaeological remains of note, as identified by a DBA, are likely to be encountered at a development site, strategies should be formulated to deal with them. PPG16 states that, where preliminary research suggests survival of archaeological remains,

*"...it is reasonable for the planning authority to request the prospective developer to arrange for an archaeological field evaluation to be carried out before any decision on the planning application is taken. Evaluations of this kind help to define the character and extent of the archaeological remains that exist in the area of a proposed development, and thus indicate the weight, which ought to be attached to their preservation. They also provide information useful for identifying potential options for minimising or avoiding damage. On this basis, an informed and reasonable planning decision can be taken."*²⁸

- 9.2.2 Field evaluations should aim to provide information of sufficient quality and detail that reasoned and informed decisions may be made with regard to the preservation, or not, of buried archaeological material.

²⁸ Department of the Environment 1990, paragraph 21.

- 9.2.3 Some form of archaeological evaluation of the proposed development areas may be considered necessary in the light of the conclusions outlined above. Such evaluation may comprise one or more of the following procedures:
- geophysical survey;
 - surface artefact collection ('fieldwalking');
 - archaeological watching brief;
- 9.2.4 Geophysical survey would not be a suitable method for determining whether or not archaeological remains are present at the school site, due to existing land use. At the Trojan Avenue playing fields such a technique could be of use.
- 9.2.5 Surface artefact collection is not practicable due to current land use. 'Fieldwalking' is only of use across recently ploughed, harrowed or drilled fields.
- 9.2.6 Archaeological evaluation by trial trenching would be required to establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains of significance at the proposed development areas. This could be achieved by investigation of a small number of machine-excavated trenches, opened under archaeological supervision, comprising a sufficient area to fulfil the aims of such a project.
- 9.2.7 Subject to the results of an archaeological evaluation, there may be an additional requirement for further archaeological work, ranging from open area excavation to monitoring of development groundworks, in order to identify and record archaeological remains threatened by development. Such further work, along with associated reporting, would form the final element of the archaeological mitigation strategy for the development.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND CREDITS

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PCA Credits

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Archaeological Report: Kathryn Johnson and Jennifer Proctor

Buildings Report and Photography: Robin Taylor-Wilson with a contribution by John Brown

Illustrations: Adrian Bailey

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Maps, Documents and Other Sources

Tyne and Wear Historic Environment Record (HER), West Chapel, Jesmond Old Cemetery, Newcastle-upon-Tyne

The HER takes the form of digital and paper mapping cross-referenced with indexed files and a computer database. Photocopies of several relevant published and unpublished reports were provided.

Tyne and Wear Archives, Blandford House, Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Ordnance Survey mapping (1st–4th editions) was copied. A series of building control drawings for Walkergate Primary School was obtained.

Walkergate School

The head-teacher, Don Smith, provided documentary records relating to the school.

Websites consulted

'Ancestors of John Alexander Wintrip': www.wintrip.org.uk/biographies/henderson

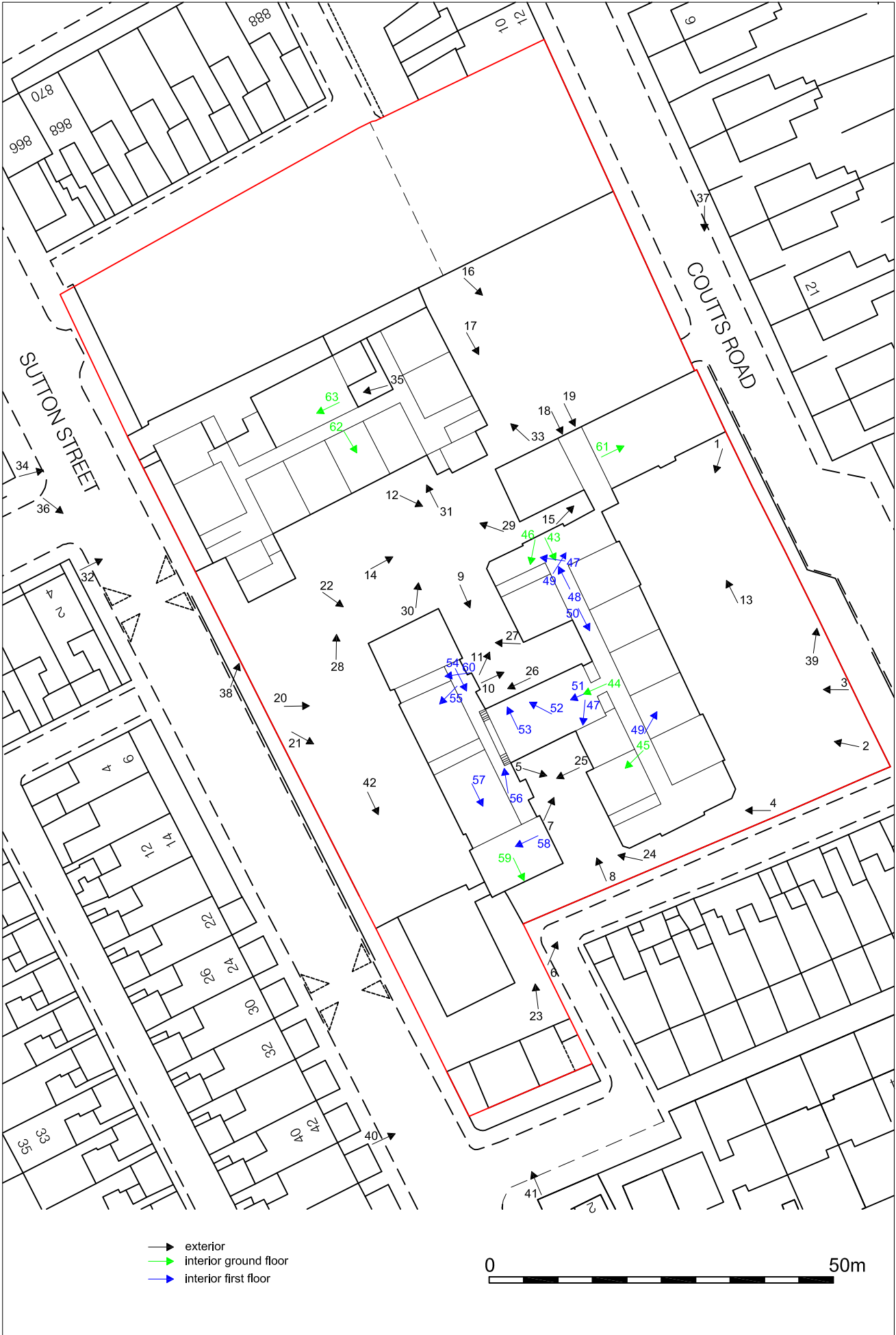
'Durham Mining Museum': www.dmm.org.uk

'Newcastle City Council': www.newcastle.gov.uk

'The Planning Portal': www.planningportal.gov.uk

'SiteLines': www.sine7.ncl.ac.uk

APPENDIX 1
PLATES 1-65



Location of plates
Scale 1:750



Plate 1. Main building, east elevation, from the north-east (*2m scale*).



Plate 2. Main building, east elevation, from the south-east (*2m scale*).



Plate 3. Main building, east elevation (south end), from the east (2m scale).



Plate 4. Main building, south elevation, from the east (2m scale).



Plate 5. Main building, south wing, west elevation, from the north-west (2m scale).



Plate 6. Main building, south wing and extension, west elevation, from the south-west.



Plate 7. Main building, central range (south), west elevation and hall block, south elevation (east end), from the south-west (2m scale).



Plate 8. Main building, hall block, south elevation (west end), from the south-east (2m scale).



Plate 9. Main building, hall block, north elevation (west end), from the north-west (2m scale).



Plate 10. Main building, central range (north), west elevation and hall block, north elevation (east end), from the north-west (2m scale).



Plate 11. Main building, north wing, west elevation, from the south-west (2m scale).



Plate 12. Main building, north elevation, from the north-west (2m scale).



Plate 13. Gym block, south elevation, from the south-east (2m scale).



Plate 14. Garden area beside west elevation of gym block, from the south-west.



Plate 15. Gym block, west elevation, upper part, from the south-west.



Plate 16. Gym block, north elevation, from the north-west.



Plate 17. Gym block, north elevation (west end) and main building, north elevation, from the north-west (2m scale).



Plate 18. Gym block, north elevation (west end), detail of brick stamps, from the north.



Plate 19. Gym block, north elevation (west end), detail of brick stamps, from the north.



Plate 20. Former secondary modern block, north wing, west elevation, from the west (2m scale).



Plate 21. Former secondary modern block, central range and south wing, west elevation, from the north-west (2m scale).



Plate 22. Former secondary modern block, north elevation, from the north-west (2m scale).



Plate 23. Former secondary modern block, south elevation, from the south (2m scale).



Plate 24. Former secondary modern block, south wing, east elevation, from the south-east (2m scale).



Plate 25. Former secondary modern block, central range, south entrance in west elevation, from the north-east (2m scale).



Plate 26. Former secondary modern block, central range, north entrance in west elevation, from the north-east (2m scale).



Plate 27. Former secondary modern block, north wing, west elevation, from the east (2m scale).



Plate 28. Former infants' block, central range, south elevation, from the south.



Plate 29. Former infants' block, south elevation (west end), from the south-east.



Plate 30. Former infants' block, south elevation (east end), from the south (2m scale).



Plate 31. Former infants' block, south elevation (east end), window detail, from the south-east (2m scale).



Plate 32. Former infants' block, west wing, west elevation, from the south-west (2m scale).



Plate 33. Former infants' block, east wing and extension, east elevation, from the south-east (*2m scale*).



Plate 34. Former infants' block, north elevation, from the west (*2m scale*).



Plate 35. Former infants' block, hall extension, east elevation, window detail, from the north-east.



Plate 36. Sutton Street frontage of Walkergate Primary School, from the north-west.



Plate 37. Coutts Road aspect of Walkergate Primary School, from the north.



Plate 38. Detail of school gates (northern set) off Sutton Street, from the south-west (2m scale).



Plate 39. Detail of school gates off Coutts Road, from the south (2m scale).



Plate 40. Caretaker's house, west elevation, from the south-west (2m scale).



Plate 41. Caretaker's house, south elevation, from the south.



Plate 42. Kitchen block, north elevation, from the north-west.



Plate 43. Main building, ground floor, central corridor, from the north-west.



Plate 44. Main building, ground floor, lower hall, from the north-east.



Plate 45. Main building, ground floor, south wing, western classroom, from the north-east.

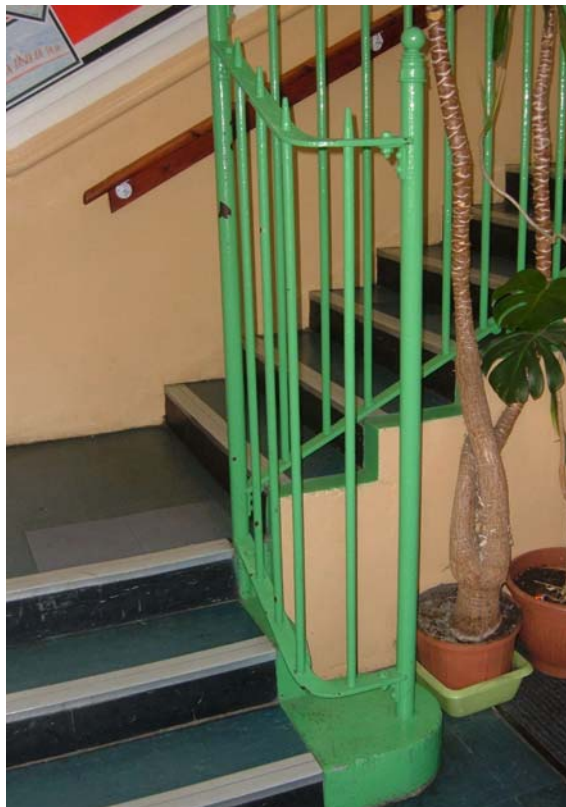


Plate 46. Main building, ground floor (north end), detail of staircase, from the north.



Plate 47. Main building, first floor (north end), detail of staircase, from the south-east.



Plate 48. Main building, first floor (north end), detail of lobby area, from the south-east.



Plate 49. Main building, first floor (north-end), detail of alteration to former cloakroom, from the south-west.



Plate 50. Main building, first floor, main corridor, from the north-west.



Plate 51. Main building, first floor, upper hall, from the north-east.



Plate 52. Main building, first floor, detail of roof in upper hall, from the south-east.



Plate 53. Main building, first floor, detail of impost in upper hall, from the south-east.



Plate 54. Former secondary modern block, ground floor, main corridor, from the north-west.



Plate 55. Former secondary modern block, first floor, main range, eastern classroom interior, from the north-east



Plate 56. Former secondary modern block, first floor, detail of mezzanine staircase in corridor, from the south.



Plate 57. Former secondary modern block, first floor, main range, detail of former work bench in classroom floor, from the north-west.



Plate 58. Former secondary modern block, first floor, south wing, classroom interior, from the north-east.



Plate 59. Former secondary modern block, ground floor, south wing, detail of former furnace in south wall of classroom, from the north-west.



Plate 60. Former secondary modern block, first floor, dog-leg stairs (northern set), from the east.



Plate 61. Gym block, interior, from the south-west.



Plate 62. Former infants' block, main range, classroom interior, from the north-west.



Plate 63. Former infants' block, hall interior, from the north-east.



Plate 64. Trojan Avenue playing fields, southern part, from the north-east.



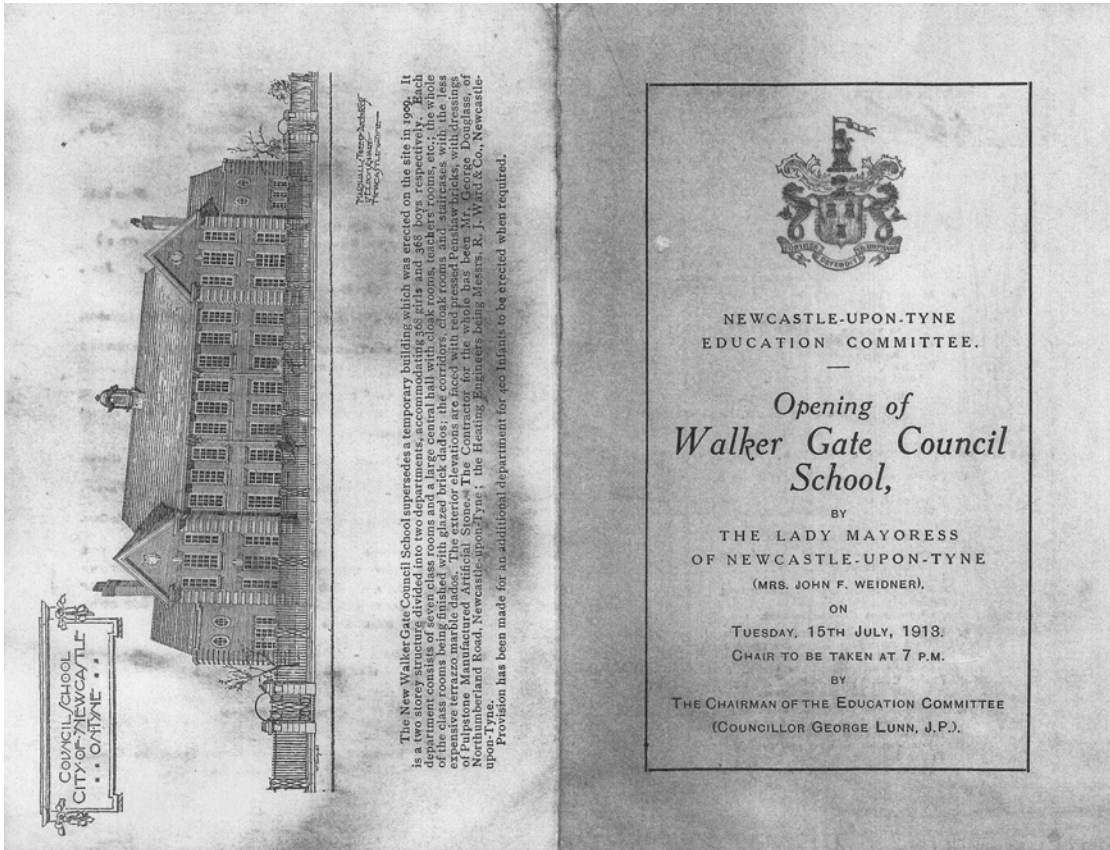
Plate 65. Trojan Avenue playing fields, northern part, from the south-east.


APPENDIX 2
HER ENTRIES

Walkergate Primary School: Catalogue of HER Entries

HER No.	Grid Ref 1	Grid Ref 2	Period	Description
TW28/6	428067/565195	N/A	Roman	Hadrian's Wall in mile 2, Walker section, under the forecourt of The Fosse public house
TW28/7	428907/565558	N/A	Roman	Hadrian's Wall in mile 2, Walker section, 171m long across Millers Dene playing field
TW28/8	427433/564932	N/A	Roman	Hadrian's Wall in mile 2, Walker section, near the junction of Fossway and Shields Road
200	429310/565720	428000/565200	Roman	Hadrian's Wall, St Francis Presbytery-Tunstall Avenue
1063	42472/56383	42572/57449	Modern	Heaton Junction to Berwick, North Eastern Railway
1186	424720/563830	436710/569100	Modern	Tynemouth Branch, North Eastern Railway
1191	436480/569030	425530/564110	Post-medieval	Newcastle to North Shields Turnpike
1392	4280/5650	N/A	Roman	Roman fiblua, coins and mount, Walker
1411	428400/565300	N/A	Medieval	Walker Village (shrunken village)
4181	42839/56593	N/A	Post-medieval	Henry Pit, Walker
4182	428330/565680	N/A	Post-medieval	Walker Turnpike Toll House, Walker
4183	428290/565720	N/A	Modern	Walker Station, Walker
4184	428480/565490	N/A	Post-medieval	Gosforth Pit, Walker
4185	429380/565870	428520/565490	Post-medieval	Waggonway, Walker
4186	42886/56575	N/A	Post-medieval	Windmill, Walker
4187	42903/56581	N/A	Post-medieval	Fair Pit, Walker
4210	429480/564800	428540/565420	Post-medieval	Waggonway, Walker
4212	42889/56515	42846/56505	Post-medieval	Waggonway, Walker
4213	428460/565360	429040/564630	Post-medieval	?Waggonway, Walker
4214	42891/56519	N/A	Post-medieval	Delight Pit, Walker
4275	427820/565230	N/A	Modern	High Bridge Works, Byker
4276	42781/56534	N/A	Modern	Byker Hill Brick Works, Walker
4277	42788/56522	N/A	Modern	Lawson Main Brick Works, Walker
4333	42769/56552	N/A	Modern	Grease Manufactory, Byker
4334	42757/56539	N/A	Modern	Heaton Works, Shields Road, Heaton (C.A. Parsons and Co. Ltd.)
5389	427130/567420	428240/565840	Post-medieval	Waggonway, Walker
5390	428180/565930	N/A	Modern	City Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Walkergate
6853	428/565	N/A	Roman	Celtic Stone Head, Walker Dene
7884	428410/565330	N/A	Post-medieval	Walker East Farm, Walker
7885	428340/565640	N/A	Modern	Methodist Church, Walkergate
7954	428290/565780	N/A	Post-medieval	Sharper House, Walkergate
8003	42773/56537	N/A	Modern	Two-mile Houses, Tynemouth Road, Walker
8004	42772/56505	N/A	Modern	Miller's Lane Cottages, Walker

APPENDIX 3
PROGRAMME FOR THE OPENING CEREMONY OF
WALKER GATE COUNCIL SCHOOL




 NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE
 EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Opening of
Walker Gate Council
School,
 BY
 THE LADY MAYORESS
 OF NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE
 (MRS. JOHN F. WEIDNER).
 ON
 TUESDAY, 15TH JULY, 1913.
 CHAIR TO BE TAKEN AT 7 P.M.
 BY
 THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
 (COUNCILLOR GEORGE LUNN, J.P.).

ONWARD, CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS. *Music by W. H. Jude.*

1. **ONWARD, Christian Soldiers,**
 Marching as to war;
 With the Cross of Jesus
 Going on before
CHRIST the Royal Master,
 Leads against the foe;
 Forward, into battle,
 See, His banners go!
 Onward, Christian Soldiers,
 Marching as to war;
 With the Cross of Jesus
 Going on before.
 Marching, Marching, Marching as to war,
 With the Cross of Jesus Going on before.
2. At the sign of triumph
 Satan's host doth flee;
 On them, Christian Soldiers,
 On to victory.
 Hell's foundations quiver
 At the shout of praise;
 Brothers, lift your voices,
 Loud your anthems raise.
 Onward, Christian Soldiers, etc.

Words by Rev. S. Baring-Gould.

PRAISE, MY SOUL, THE KING OF HEAVEN. *Music by Sir John Goss.*

1. **PRAISE, my soul, the King of Heaven,**
 To His feet thy tribute bring;
 Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
 Who like thee His praise should sing?
 Praise Him, Praise Him,
 Praise the everlasting King.
2. Praise Him for His grace and favour,
 To our fathers in distress;
 Praise Him still the same for ever,
 Slow to chide, and swift to bless;
 Praise Him, Praise Him,
 Glorious in His faithfulness.
3. Father-like He tends and spares us,
 Well our feeble frame He knows;
 In His hands He gently bears us,
 Rescues us from all our foes;
 Praise Him, Praise Him,
 Widely as His mercy flows.
4. Angels in the height, adore Him;
 Ye behold Him face to face;
 Sun and moon bow down before Him,
 Dwellers all in time and space;
 Praise Him, Praise Him,
 Praise with us the God of Grace.

Words by H. F. Lyte.

PROGRAMME.

- OPENING HYMN** "Onward, Christian Soldiers." *Jude.*
 (For words, see opposite page.)
 The Lord's Prayer.
- CHORUS** - "The Wreath." - *Maxtinghi.*
- ADDRESS BY COUNCILLOR WILLIAM BRAMBLE, J.P.**
 (CHAIRMAN OF THE BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT SUB-COMMITTEE.)
- SONG** - "Goodbye." - *Tosti.*
 (By Master Willie Chipchase.)
- DRILL DISPLAY** - Selections from the Government Syllabus.
- FORMAL DECLARATION OF OPENING BY THE LADY MAYORESS**
 (MRS. WEIDNER).
- ADDRESS BY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORD MAYOR**
 (ALDERMAN JOHN F. WEIDNER, J.P.), WHO WILL ACCEPT
 THE SCHOOL ON BEHALF OF THE CITY.
- CHORUS** "I heard a voice in the tranquil night." *Glover.*
- ANTHEM** - "Sun of my soul." - *Turner.*
- CHORUS** "Angels that around us hover" - (*Maritana*) *Wallace.*
- VOTE OF THANKS MOVED BY THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE**
EDUCATION COMMITTEE (COUNCILLOR JOHNSTONE
WALLACE J.P.), AND SECONDED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF
THE EASTERN SCHOOLS' MANAGEMENT SUB-COM-
MITTEE (ROBERT B. BRENTNALL, ESQ.).
- CLOSING HYMN** - "Praise my Soul" - *Goss.*
 (For words, see opposite page.)
- **NATIONAL ANTHEM.**
 —
- (A Special Return Car will leave Sutton Street for Central Station at 9 o'clock.)