



KDK ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Historic Building Recording & Historic Building Watching Brief

Old Town Hall

St Albans

Hertfordshire



Quality Check

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Summary

Between June 2016 and October 2017 KDK Archaeology Ltd carried out Historic Building Recording and a Historic Building Watching Brief of The Old Town Hall, St Albans, Hertfordshire as a condition of Planning Permission and Listed Building Consent for the development of the building. The Old Town hall is a Grade II* building, designed by George Smith and completed in 1831. Built on the site of the medieval moot hall, which was superseded by almshouses in 1605, The Old Town Hall provided an imposing venue for the corporation and justices of St Albans to attend to the civic and judicial needs of the district. Latterly, however, the building has been used as a coffee shop, Tourist Information Centre and to house the library of the St Albans and Hertfordshire Architectural and Archaeological Society. Occasional use was also made of other parts of the building. The conversion to a museum and gallery will redefine the role of the building and reassert its significance within the town.

1 Introduction

1.1 Between June 2016 and October 2017 KDK Archaeology Ltd carried out Historic Building Recording and a Historic Building Watching Brief of The Old Town Hall, St Albans, Hertfordshire. The project was commissioned by St Albans City and District Council, and was carried out according to a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by KDK (Kaye 2016), and approved by Simon West, the District Archaeological Office (DAO) on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA) St Albans City and District Council. The relevant planning application references are 5/2015/2208 and 5/2015/2212/LB.

1.2 *Planning Background*

This project has been required under the terms of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) as a condition of Planning Permission and Listed Building Consent for the development of the building.

Location

The Old Town Hall is located close to the historic centre of St Albans on National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 14754 07247 (Fig. 1). It falls within the administrative district of St Albans City and District Council and lies within area AS.R.25 on the Local Plan which includes Saxon Kingsbury, the Saxon and medieval town of St Albans and Sopwell Nunnery.

Description

The Old Town hall is a Grade II* building (Listed Building number 9/59). It is situated alongside Market Place, in the historic heart of the city (Fig. 2).

Development

The development comprises the conversion of the current building into a Museum, including the construction of a basement gallery (Fig. 3).

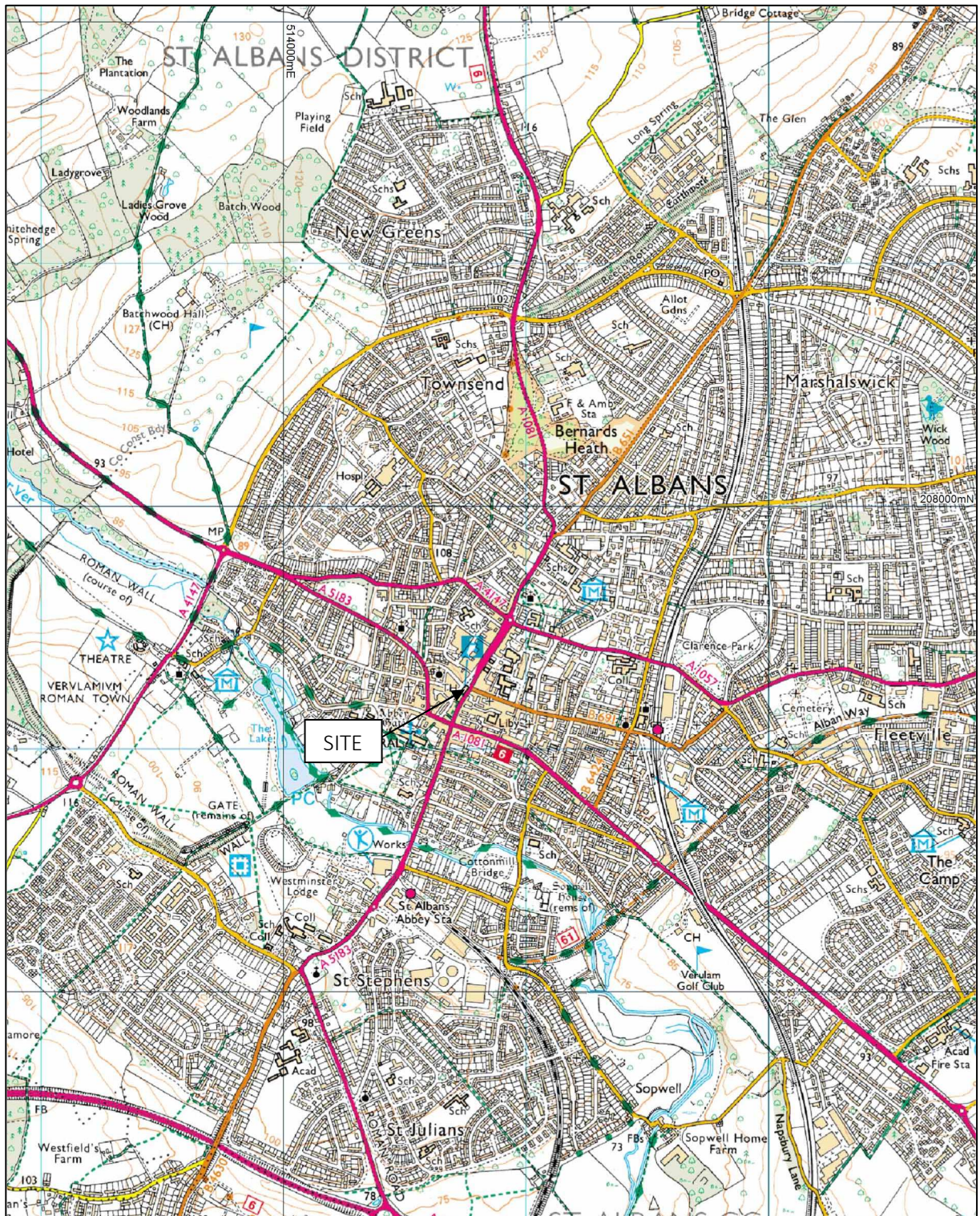


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)

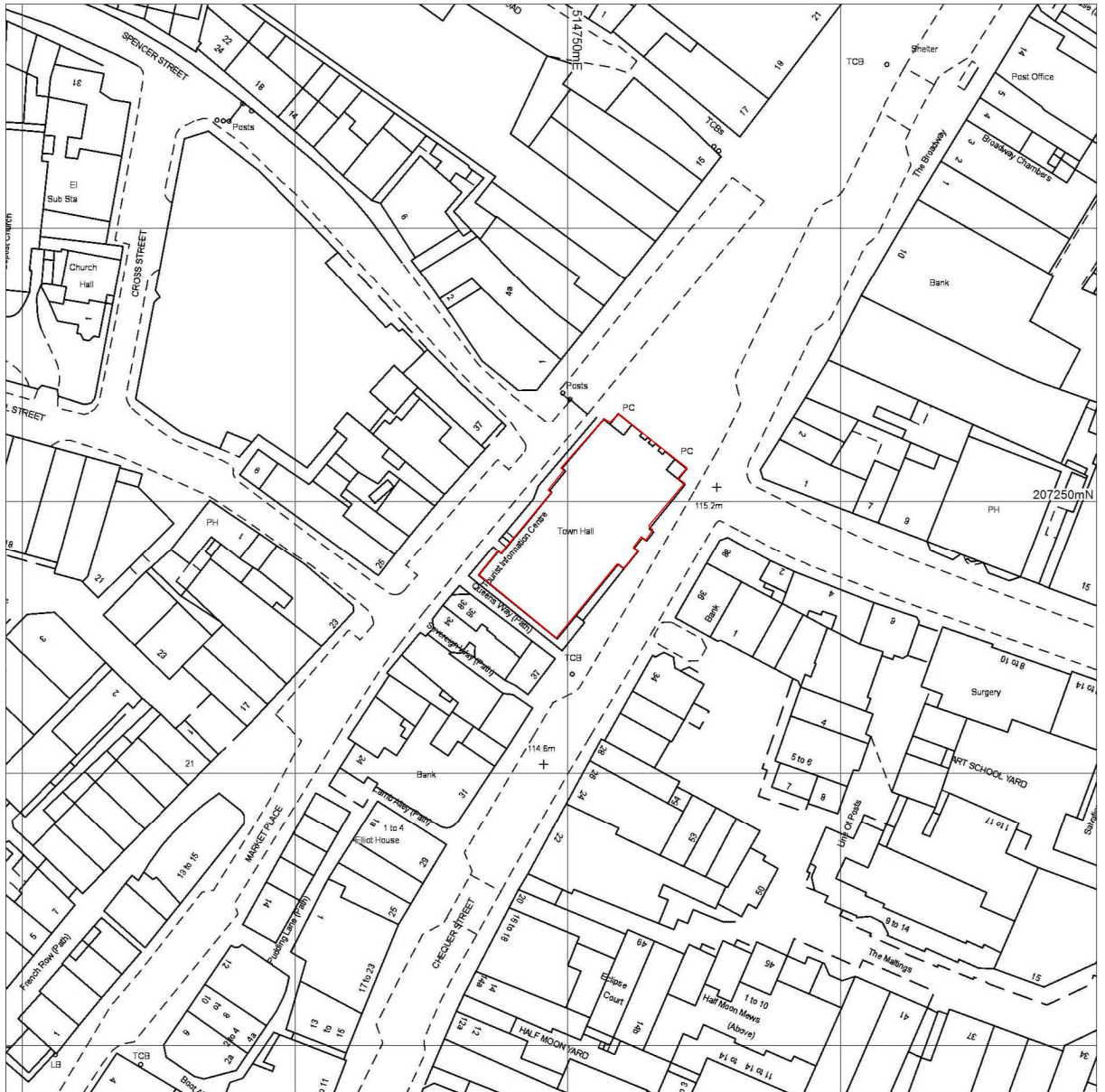


Figure 1: Site location (scale 1: 500)

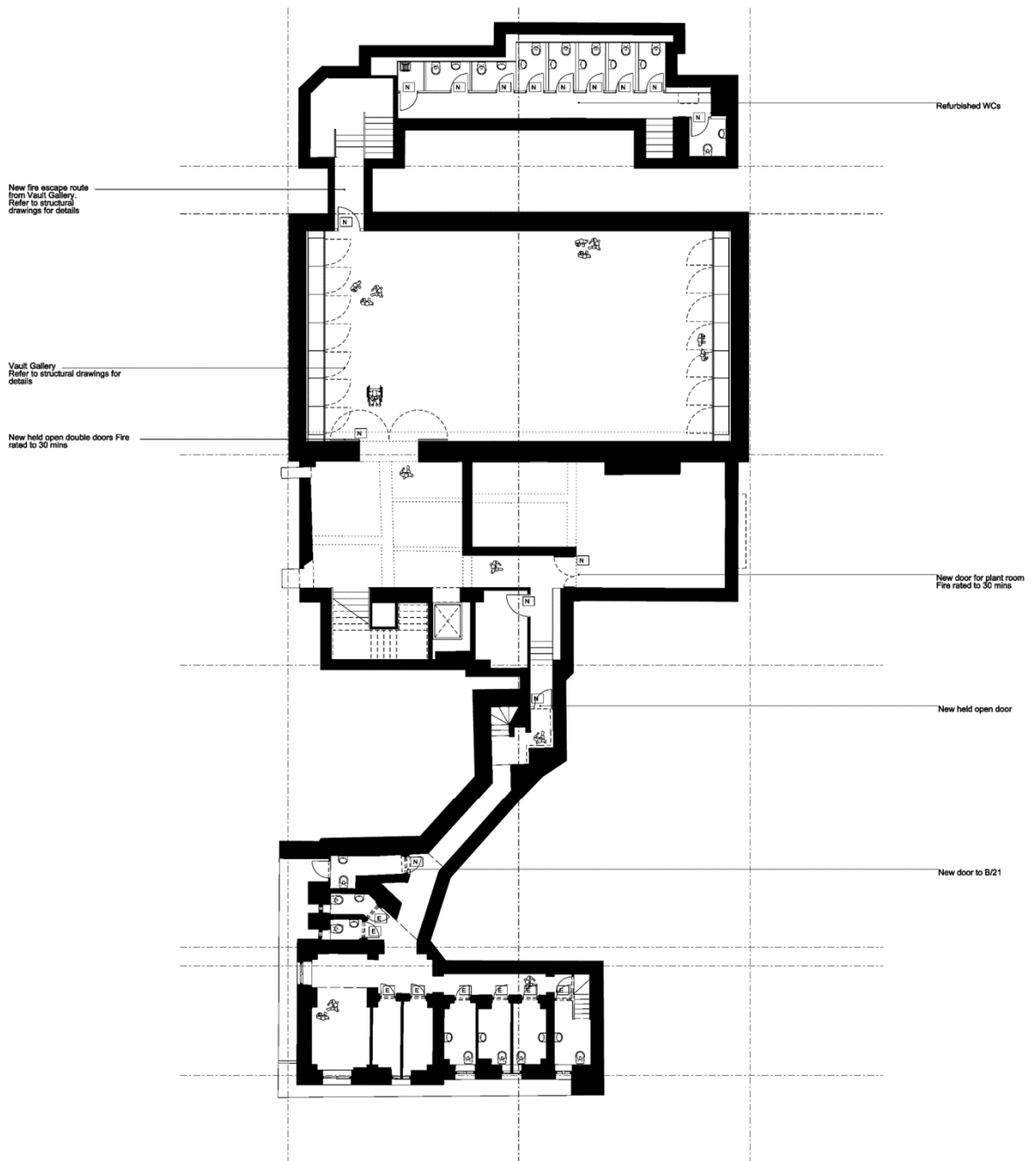


Figure 3: Proposed basement (not to scale)



2 Aims & Methods

2.1 Aims

As described in the Written Scheme of Investigation, the aims of the project were:

- To compile a photographic record of the building prior to the building works taking place
- To examine the structural history and development of the building in relation to its historical and topographical context
- To provide a report that meets the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework

2.2 Standards

The work conformed to the following requirements:

- The Design Brief (West 2016)
- The relevant sections of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance Notes* (CIfA 2014)
- The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014)
- Current English Heritage guidelines (HE 2015, EH 2008)
- The Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers East of England Region *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (ALGAO 2003)

2.3 Methods

The work was carried out according to the Written Scheme of Investigation (Section 2), which required:

- The archaeological monitoring of works to the fabric and fixtures and fittings of the building, to record any significant changes and/or findings that may be uncovered during the course of the works
- Any additional recording/research necessary to place the findings in the context of the building as a whole, including its history and setting. This took place prior to, during and after works as appropriate

2.4 Constraints

Although the memorial to the World War 1 fatalities was removed before final recording to take place and some recording had to be accomplished at a little distance from the exposed features due to health and safety considerations, the overall record of the alterations to the historic fabric have not been compromised as a result.



Figure 5: The Almshouses in 1829 (Reproduced from McSweeney 2004: 91)

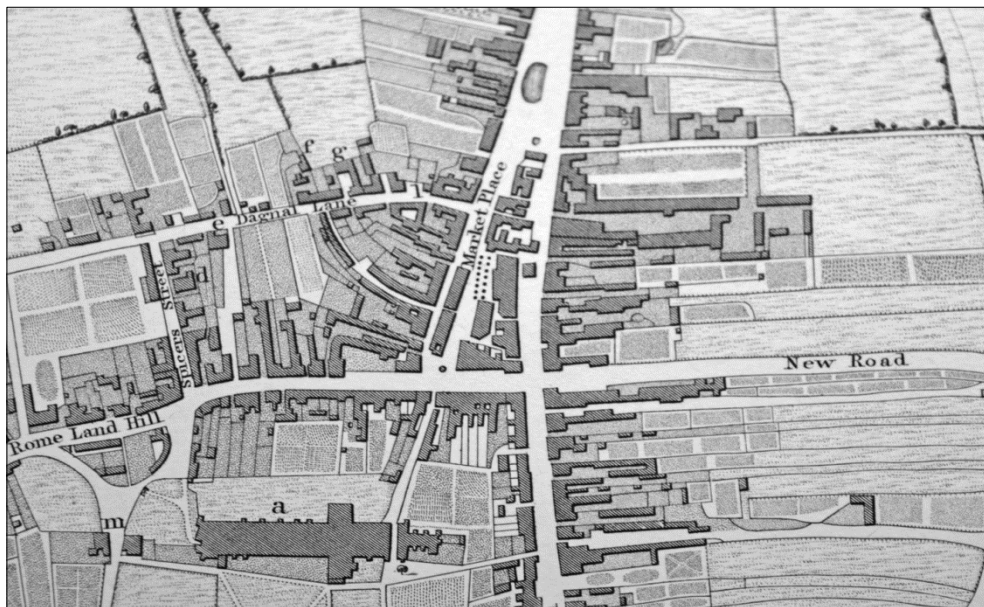


Figure 6: Town map of 1822 (Reproduced from Clutterbuck's County History)

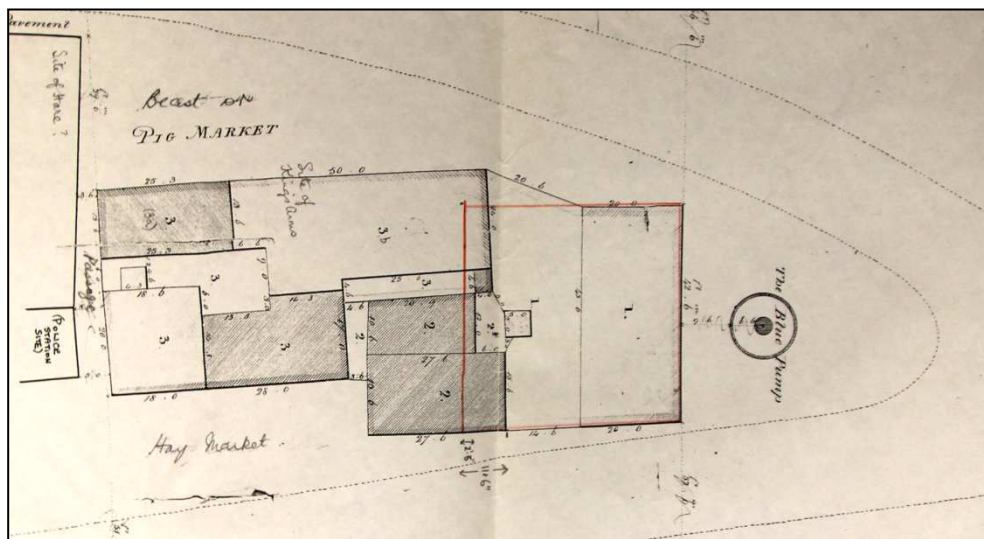


Figure 7: Annotated 1828 plan (Courtesy of SAHAAS)

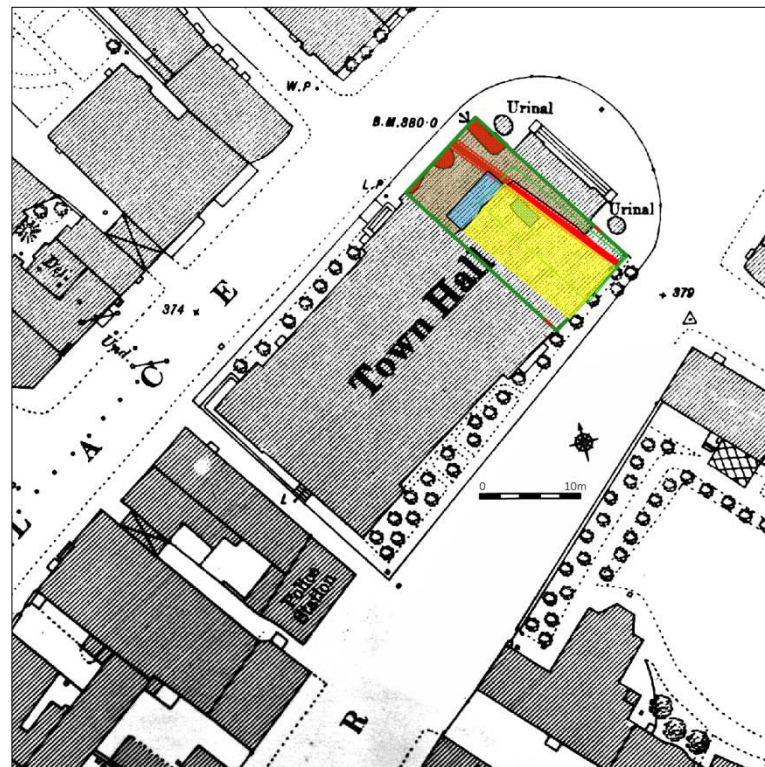


Figure 8: 1879 OS map showing archaeological features revealed during present investigations. Location of Almshouses shown in yellow (scale 1:750)

The need for a new centre for both civic and judicial proceedings in St Albans became clear by the turn of the 18th century and following several years of discussions and the production of at least two series of architectural drawings, it was agreed to build on the present site. The architect responsible was George Smith, a relatively local man having been born in Aldenham, who had worked under James Wyatt and subsequently established his own practice in London (Caroe & Musson 2015: 13; Green 2017: 9: HER 16380). He received the freedom of the borough for his work on the Old Town Hall (Corbett 1997: 83), which was designated a Grade II* Listed Building in 1950. It is described as follows (NHLE List entry Number: 1296135):

Facing north up St Peter's Street. Large, classical building of 1826 by George Smith. 2 storeys, the upper a piano nobile with central portico of 4 fluted, Ionic columns, entablature and pediment with acroterion. This rests on projecting, ground floor podium, with 3 sash windows. The side bays on ground floor are blank. On first floor 3 large windows with glazing bars framed by flat pilasters. Broader pilasters at angles also support entablature behind which a low pitched, leaded roof ends in a pediment on each return (NHL 1296135).

Although the main facade of the building is in the Greek Ionic Style, the Court buildings appear to have been inspired by Egyptian Architecture (Green 2017: 15-16). The building has inevitably undergone a number of alterations and adaptations since it was first constructed, but the architect's drawings (Figs.10-14) clearly show how the building was intended to be used. The entire ground floor was given over to the Justices of the Liberty of St Albans (Fig. 12). The main entrance at the front of the building was open fronted and led into a stone floored hall with the Grand Jury Room to the left and the Magistrates Room to the right. At the far end of the hall was an inner hall with a staircase to the right and the office for the Clerk of the Peace to the left. The Court Room opened off the inner lobby and behind it was the Petty Jury Room and Counsel Rooms. In between these two larger rooms was a room for the



Keeper and an Engine House. Precisely what the Engine House was is not certain, but it has been proposed that it was intended to house a penal treadmill (Green 2017: 31-2).

The first floor housed the meeting room for the Corporation of St Albans, which also served as the Assembly Room for social gatherings. Three smaller rooms provided a refreshment room, card room and Ladies Room when being used for social functions. On the other side of the building were the Keeper's rooms (Fig. 13).

There were two series of subterranean rooms; those to the north were in essence the service rooms (Fig. 14). There was a large kitchen at the eastern end, a pantry and coal store at the western end and a wine store a stove room in between. Within the southern series of rooms was a communal cell for men and another for women. There was also a coal store and a WC. Both areas were altered. The cells were reconfigured in the late 19th century to provide individual cells and the cellars to the north of the courtroom were extended southwards in 1915 providing a Boiler Room to heat the building and a dumb waiter to make sure the food got to the Assembly Room still warm.

There were four main periods when considerable changes occurred to the Old Town Hall. In 1875 the courtroom was modified and the prison accommodation was altered as described above. In 1889-1900 the entrance hall and the grand jury room were combined into a single space and six years later the east elevation was extended to provide a fire escape with WCs in the passage beneath. The most significant structural alterations were undertaken in 1914-15 when the service cellars were extended southwards providing structural support to the rebuilt north wall of the courtroom as well as additional service rooms mentioned above. These alterations are shown in Figure 15 and discussed in more detail in Chapter 4.



Figure 9: Early 19th century view of the Old Town Hall

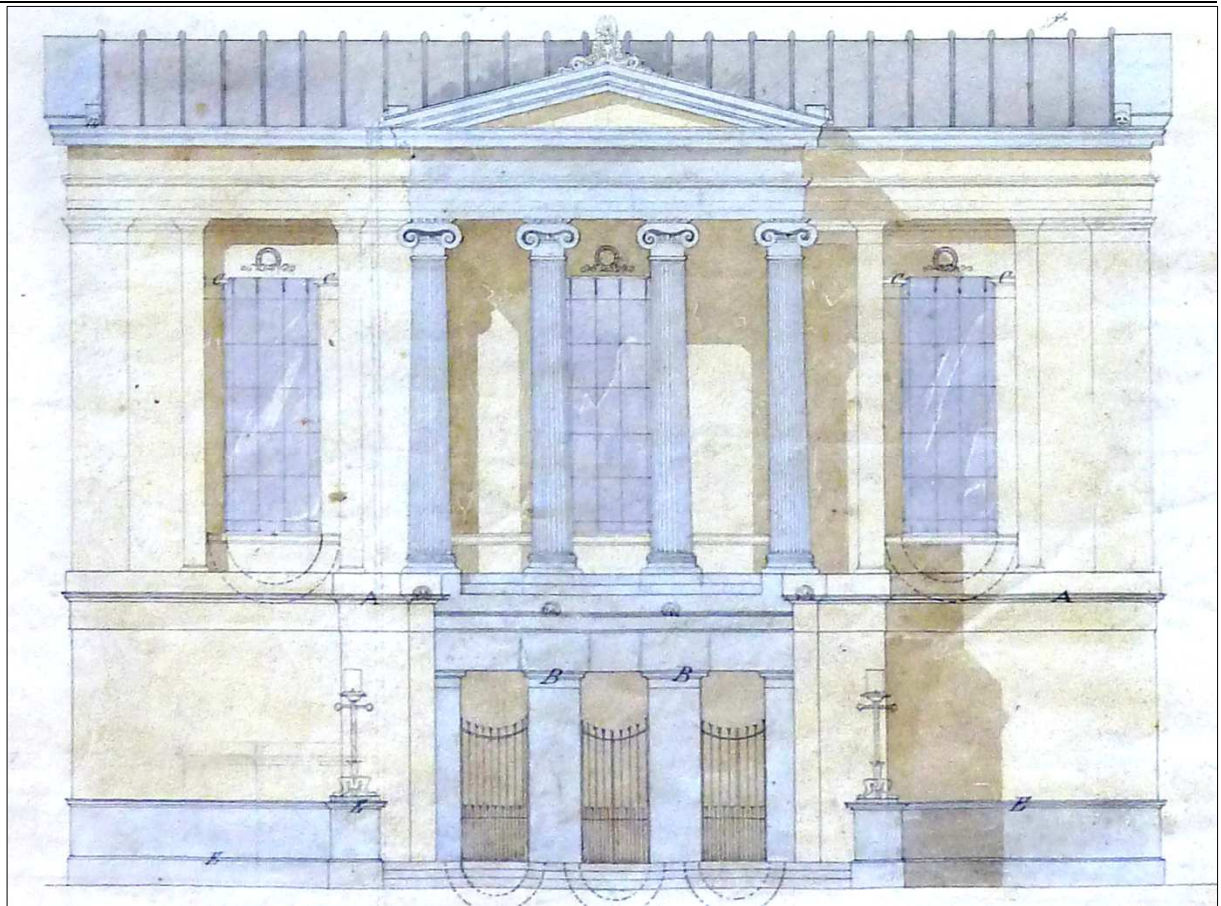


Figure 10: Smith's drawing of the north elevation (not to scale)

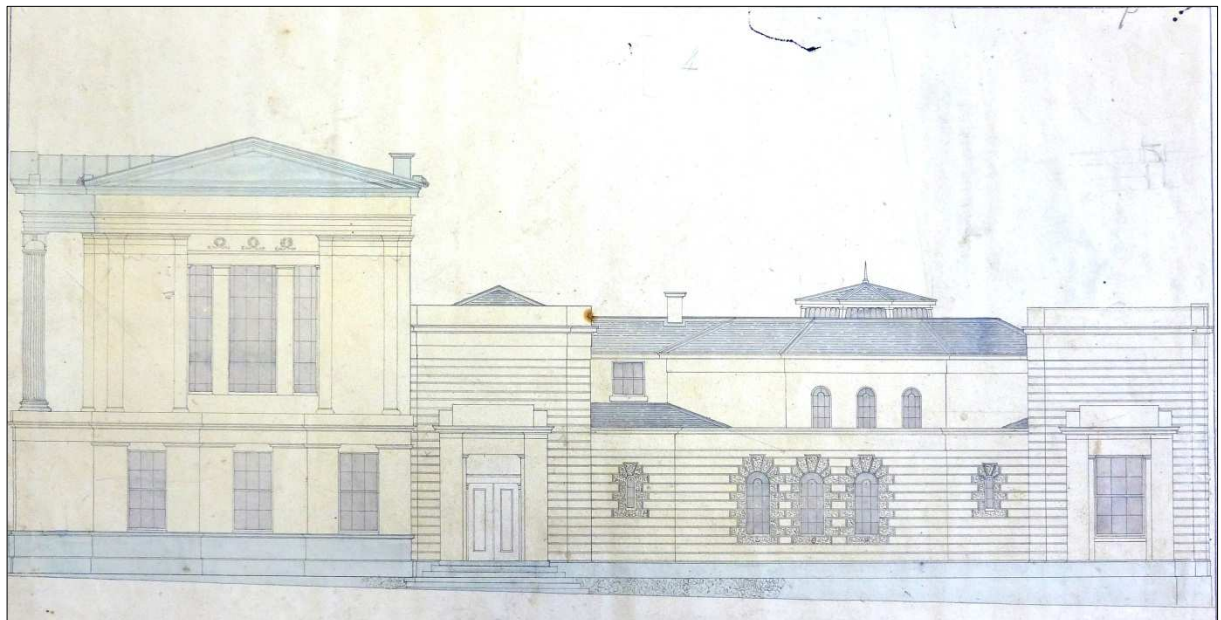


Figure 11: Smith's drawing of the west elevation (not to scale)

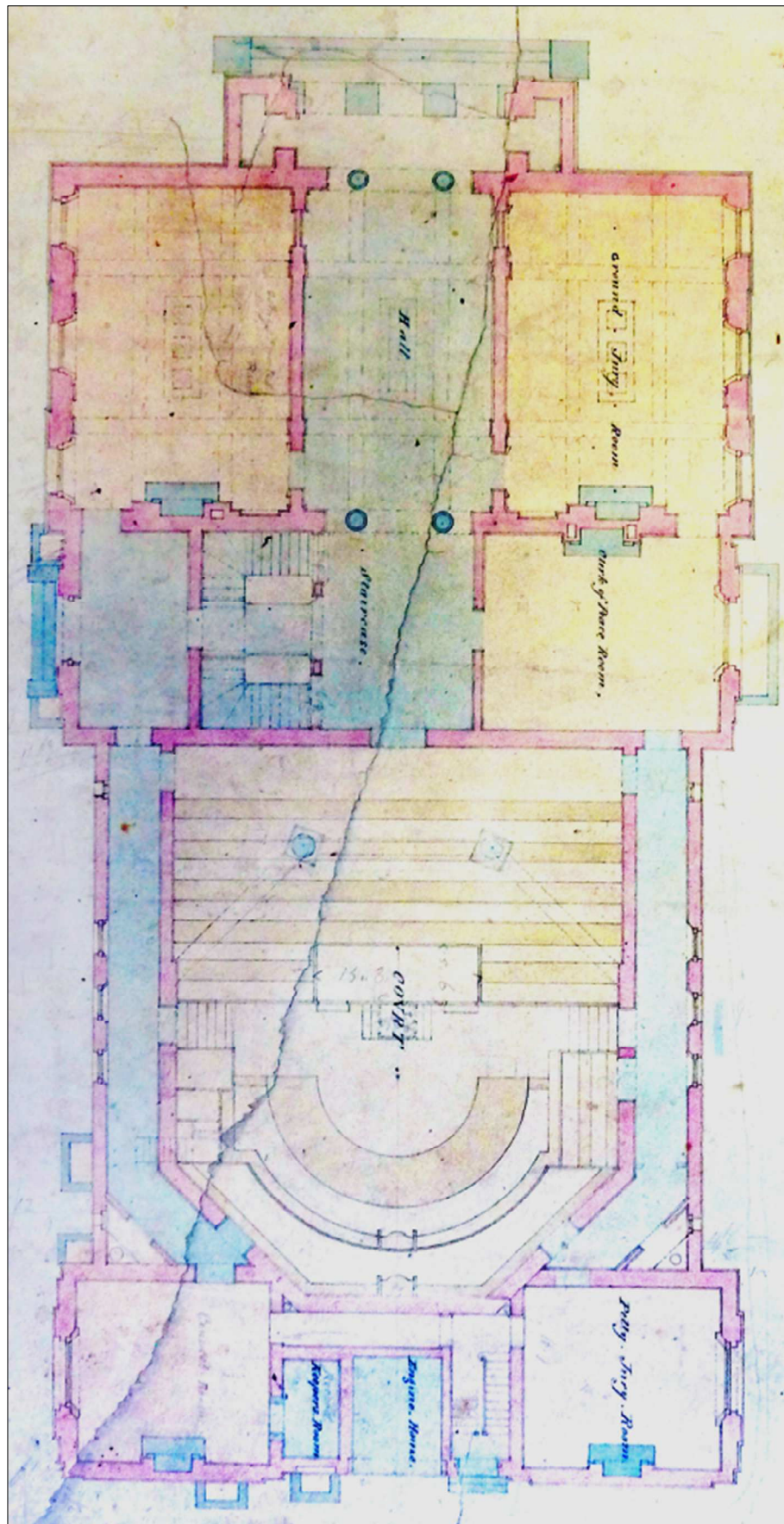


Figure 12: Smith's ground floor plan (not to scale)

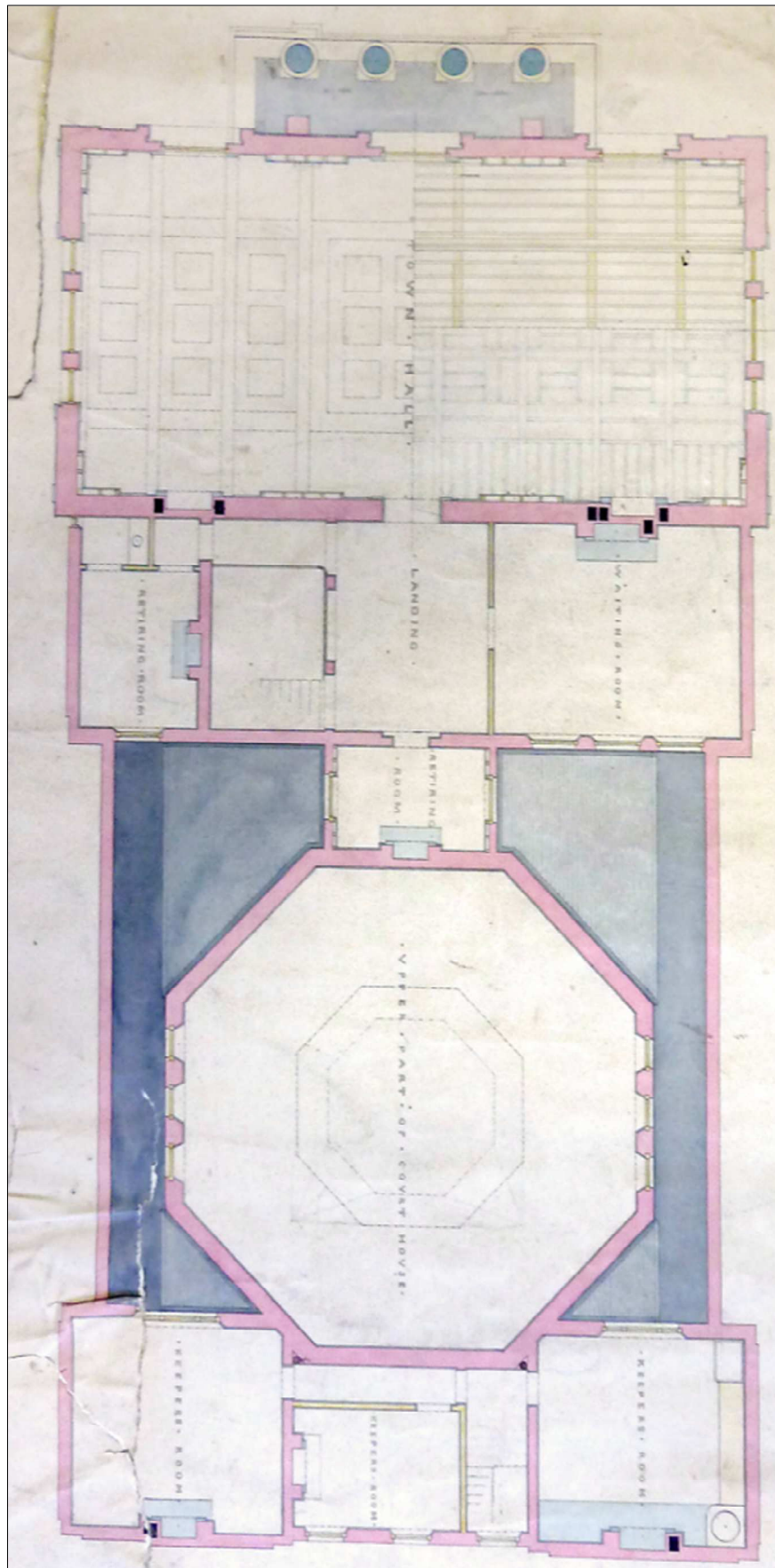


Figure 13: Smith's first floor plan (not to scale)

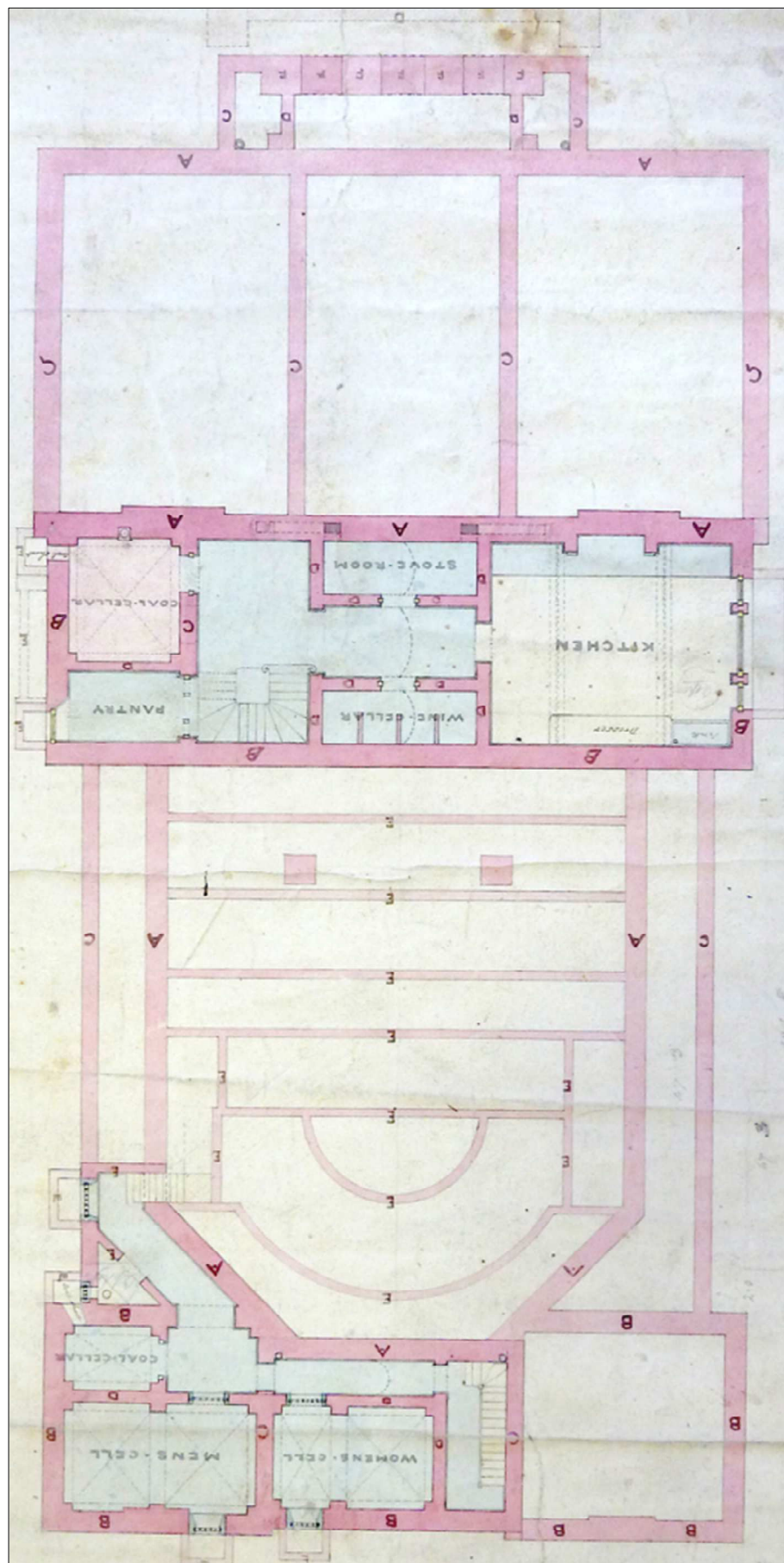


Figure 14: Smith's basement plan (not to scale)



Figure 15: Phase plan (not to scale)
 (Reproduced from Caroe Architecture's Conservation Plan 2015:21)



4 Description

The captions for the photographs below include the shot number. Red signifies a DSLR and 35mm shot and blue is indicative a medium format photograph. The photo views are shown on figures 52-55.

4.1 Exterior (Figs. 17-19, Plates 1-9)

The Old Town Hall is a rendered brick building, which presents two very distinct faces to the town. The north elevation faces a largely open space that is the Market Place and can be seen from some distance. Its classical façade clearly marks it out as a municipal building of importance. The main entrance to the building and the Assembly Room above are given the architectural detailing considered appropriate at the time. In contrast the rear elevation is rather stark, as befits the entrance to the cells. It is also very close to buildings that were already standing behind it when the town hall was built and it was therefore not capable of being seen from some distance. The elevation was altered in 1875 when the large doors that formerly gave access to the Engine House were removed (Green 2017: 31). A sash window is now in their place. The sides have both been extended since the building was first erected. The addition to the east dates from 1906 and provides a fire escape from the first floor and WCs beneath. The west elevation was altered in the 1980s when the original west wall was demolished and the present arched windows installed (Green 2017: 42).

A photograph taken in the early 1880s shows one of the pillar urinals that were on either side of the main entrance and a gas candelabrum (HALS DE/X1024/1/125/44). An Ordnance Survey plan from 1879 clearly shows the urinals, as well as the narrow garden beds along the east and west walls of the building (Fig. 8). Some of the iron railings that fronted the beds have survived, and a section to the south of the building in front of what was the Engine House could be slid back on castors (Green 2017: 31).

The roofline also expresses the relative significance of the three parts of the Old Town Hall. The Assembly Room is provided with a pitched roof that stands higher than that of the rooms immediately behind it. At the rear of the building are two tall pitched roofs within a parapet over the former Counsel and Petty Jury Rooms, whilst the roof over the rooms in between, which served the prison, are both lower and clearly distinct from those on either side. The courtroom is singled out by having a large octagonal roof complete with lantern windows.



Plate 1: Main entrance (88) (29)



Plate 2: Old Town Hall from the northwest (89) (30)



Plate 3: West elevation (90)



Plate 4: East elevation (91) (31)



Plate 5: Old Town Hall from the southeast (92)



Plate 6: Western walkway looking south (79) (28)



Plate 7: Western walkway looking north (80)



Plate 8: Cupola from the southwest (81)



Plate 9: Fire escape (82)

4.2 **Basement** (Fig. 20, Plates 10-46)

There are three series of basements to the building. The northernmost were constructed in the early 20th century and house public conveniences at the front of the building. No features of architectural or historical interest were observed during the survey or the Watching Brief. The second series of basements lie below the hall and the northwestern part of the courtroom. These were the working rooms for servicing the building and its users. The third series of basements are the cells below the southern end of the building, which have not been used since 1970.

The cells are linked to the courtroom by a long passage that culminates in a steep timber stair that leads to the dock. To the east of this stair is a small enclosed room of uncertain function. Another timber staircase is located at the eastern end of the southern section behind a very heavy plank and batten door with a viewing grill and lock, heavy bolts at top and bottom and long strap hinges. There are 6 narrow cells in a row, all with gridded doors. In the southwest corner is a large room with a window in the south wall and another in the west wall, all under a vaulted ceiling. To the north of this are two WCs and finally a third, long L-shaped room. The brickwork is fully exposed within these rooms and illustrates the historical development of the cells.

When first constructed there was a single communal cell for men in the southwest corner, to the north of which was a coal store. A communal cell for women lay to the east of the men's cell. Both had a window in the south wall and a stone floor. The only other room *per se* was a WC to the north of the coal store (Green 2017: 21, 34). In 1875 the cells were subdivided to form solitary cells (*ibid*:36). The clean lines of the barrel vaulting and arch in the corridor to the north of the cells have inevitably been truncated. The original passage to the courtroom was also modified at a later date allowing the creation of the long room to the north of the former single WC that has now been made into two. The cells have not been impacted during the present building programme.



Plate 10: Cellar: stairs leading to the courtroom (1)
(8,9)



Plate 11: Cellar: passage to the court view to south (2)



Plate 12: Cellar: side room, looking west (3)

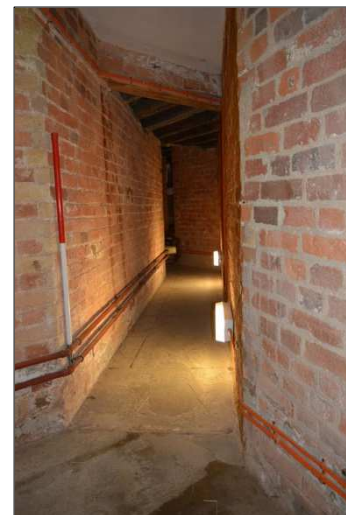


Plate 13: Cellar: Passage to the court view to north (4)



Plate 14: Cell doors with relieving arch above (5)



Plate 15: Cellar: WC (6)



Plate 16: Cellar: southern end of passage (7)

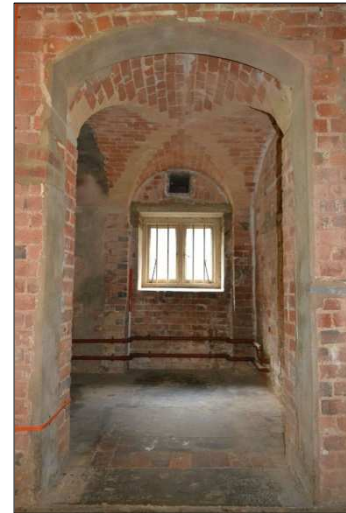


Plate 17: Cellar: former coal cellar (8)



Plate 18: Cellar: former men's cell looking south (9)



Plate 19: Cellar: former men's cell looking north (10)
(7)



Plate 20: Cellar: view to east along cell frontage (11)



Plate 21: Cellar: single cell looking south (12) (3,6)



Plate 22: Cellar: view to north from the cells entrance (13)



Plate 23: Cellar: cell frontage from the east (14)

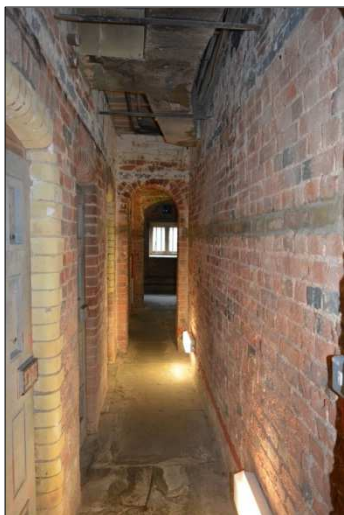


Plate 24: Cellar: passage towards coal cellar (15) (2,5)



Plate 25: Cellar: main door into cells (16)



Plate 26: Cellar: cell under the stairs (17)



The centrally located basement rooms were largely unused at the time of the survey, with the exception of B3, which housed the boilers. This room lay to the east of the metal staircase that was installed in 1914-15 when the southernmost rooms of the cellar were added. Until this time the stairs had opened into Room B4, which is located immediately to the north of B3. In the southeast corner was a dumb waiter, which had also been installed in 1914-15. The two rooms to the west of B4 had barrel vaulted ceilings and openings to allow provisions into the pantry to the south and coal into the store to the north. A passage (B7) to the east of B4 led to the kitchen at the far end, which had a tiled area to the north where the range or cooker had once been and to the south where the water pipes suggest the washing up facilities had been located. The tiles both on the walls and the floor were 20th century. A metal ladder fixed to the east wall provided a rudimentary fire escape. Room B8/B9 to the north of the passage appears to have been used as a wine cellar. The room on the opposite side of the passage from B8/B9, which according the original drawings had been built as the wine cellar had a hatch rather than a door opening into the boiler room beyond. The wine cellar no doubt was moved when the boiler room was added in the early 20th century. The original flagstones survived in the later wine cellar and Rooms B1, B4, B5 and B7.

Several areas of ground reduction were monitored during the building works. Two areas were reduced in the kitchen revealing a 7cm thick concrete floor over an earlier brick one. This was on a dry sand base. An L-shaped slot in the wine store (B9) exposed the stepped foundations that were three courses high on a red sand bed. The flagstones in B4 were also seen to have been set on a single course of bricks.



Plate 27: B1: staircase to service cellar (20)



Plate 28: Room B3: boiler room looking east (21) (41)



Plate 29: Room B3: boiler room looking west (22)



Plate 30: B1: steps into main service area (23)



Plate 31: B4: north wall (24)



Plate 32: B4: south wall (25)



Plate 33: B4: east wall (26)



Plate 34: B5: former pantry, view to west (27)



Plate 35: B6: former coal store, northwest corner (28)
(40)



Plate 36: B7: view to east (29)



Plate 37: B7: hatch in south wall (30)



Plate 38: B10: view to west (31)



Plate 39: B8/B9: view to west (32) (19)

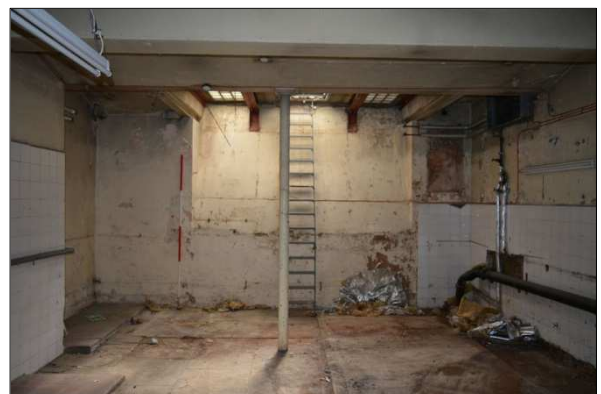


Plate 40: B10: east wall (17) (37)



Plate 41: B10: north wall (18) (38)



Plate 42: B8 & 9: north wall (20)



Plate 43: B4: south wall with the dumb waiter to the left (21)

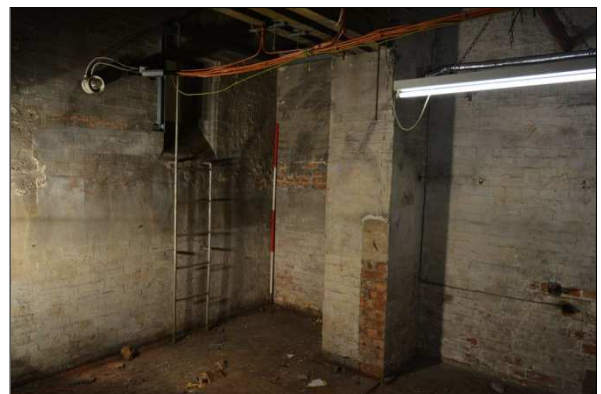


Plate 44: B3: north wall (22)



Plate 45: B3: north wall (23)



Plate 46: B5: beneath the floor (48)



4.3 Ground Floor (Figs. 16, 21 -22)

GO1: North entrance (Plates 47-48)

The north entrance is a simple lobby with glass doors to the market square to the north and the coffee shop to the south. Doors set in deep architraves in the east and west walls open into tall storage rooms, the western one of which houses a full height Milners 212 safe. The lobby was originally open fronted with iron gates preventing access into the building. Doors were not installed until 1889-1900 (Green 2017: 37).



Plates 47 - 48: Milner safe (59-60)

Room GO2: Coffee Shop (Plates 49-77)

The front of the building, which includes the coffee shop, has undergone considerable alteration since 1832, when the main entrance opened into a hallway with a York stone floor. On both sides of the hall was a large room; that to the east was for the Grand Jury and the Magistrates had the room to the west. These two rooms had wooden floors and all three rooms had coffered ceilings with paterae decoration as survives on the northern portico (Green 2017: 20). In 1899-1900 a single council chamber was formed by uniting the entrance hall and the grand jury room and further alterations took place in 1976 when all the Georgian features in the room except the columns and skirting boards were removed as part of a larger programme of works to the front of the building (*ibid*: 37, 41).

Disregarding the coffee shop related furniture, which is clearly a much later installation, the characteristic features within the room at the time of the survey consisted of a deep cornice with egg and dart moulding, a panelled ceiling in each of the three sections of the room with large circular floral motifs set between rectangular panels, fluted columns defining the doorways to the north and south and high skirting boards with reed moulding. The walls, which were painted in bold colours, replicated the panelled theme of the ceiling by judicious use of moulding in the various expanses of walling. The floor was boarded throughout. There are 6 over 6 light sash windows in the east wall. Only the skirting boards and columns date from the 1832 build.



To the west of the coffee shop was the associated kitchen, which had a suspended ceiling and rubberised flooring. The same skirting boards and panelled effect to the walls as in the coffee shop itself survived. This room was also lit by three 6 over 6 sash windows.

As part of the present building works the internal walls and floor were removed and various areas of the building fabric exposed. Where exposed, the use of Fletton bricks indicated that considerable repair and rebuilding had taken place to the base of the walls in the 1970s. The tops of the walls appeared to have been largely untouched despite the extensive steelwork that had been installed in the late 20th century.

A series of brick dwarf walls, approximately 0.53m high above the offset and orientated north-south, were exposed beneath the floorboards. The bricks were hand made with horizontal skintlings and measured approximately 22 x 10.5 x 6.5cm (8⁵/₈ x 4¹/₈ x 2¹/₂ inches). They had been set in lime mortar, but the two easternmost walls had been rebuilt or simply repointed using cement mortar. Other modern interventions were apparent in wall abutting the western column of the north door. The northern end was original, but the southern end was offset and had been rebuilt in Fletton bricks, presumably in 1976 (Fig. 16). The eastern section of the room, which was originally the Grand Jury's Room had several areas of later brickwork. The north wall had been rebuilt in Fletton brick, as had the eastern side of the pilasters to the east of the doors. The wall that ran between the two eastern pilasters, was double skin with a tongue of Fletton brickwork 1.10m long at the northern end. In contrast the north wall to the west of the door had simply been repointed but the base of the pilaster to the west of the north door was also built of Fletton bricks. At 0.83cm, the dwarf wall between the two pilasters to the west of the door was even wider than its counterpart to the east, and was of reinforced concrete. The south wall in the western section was also partially exposed, showing modern Fletton brickwork in the recess which had recently been a WC for the customers. In the south wall of the kitchen itself the original building fabric had been disturbed by the installation of vents.

Various runs of pipework and ducts were exposed inside the spaces between the dwarf walls.



Plate 49: G2b: facing northwest (57)



Plate 50: G2b: facing southwest (58)



Plate 51: G2b: facing southeast (61)



Plate 52: G2b: facing southwest (62)



Plate 53: G2b: facing southeast (63)



Plate 54: G2a & b: view to west



Plate 55: G2a & b: southwest corner (1)



Plate 56: G2a & b: northwest corner (2)



Plate 57: G2a & b: east wall (3)



Plate 58: G2a & b: southeast corner (4)



Plate 59: G2a & b: northeast corner (5)



Plate 60: G2b: south wall detail (6)



Plate 61: G2b: south wall detail (7)



Plate 62: G2b: ceiling detail (8)



Plate 63: G2a & b: ceiling detail (9)



Plate 64: G2b: northeast corner (31)



Plate 65: G2b: view towards door to north (32)



Plate 66: G2: northwest corner (33)



Plate 67: G3: supporting wall detail (34)



Plate 68: G2a & b: view to southwest (35)



Plate 69: G2a & b: view to northeast (36)



Plate 70: G2: north wall (37)



Plate 71: G2a & b: ceiling detail (38)



Plate 72: G3: north wall (39)



Plate 73: G2: north wall detail (40)



Plate 74: G2: supporting wall detail (42)



Plate 75: G2a: view to northeast (43)



Plate 76: G2b: ceiling detail (44)



Plate 77: G2b: ceiling detail (45)

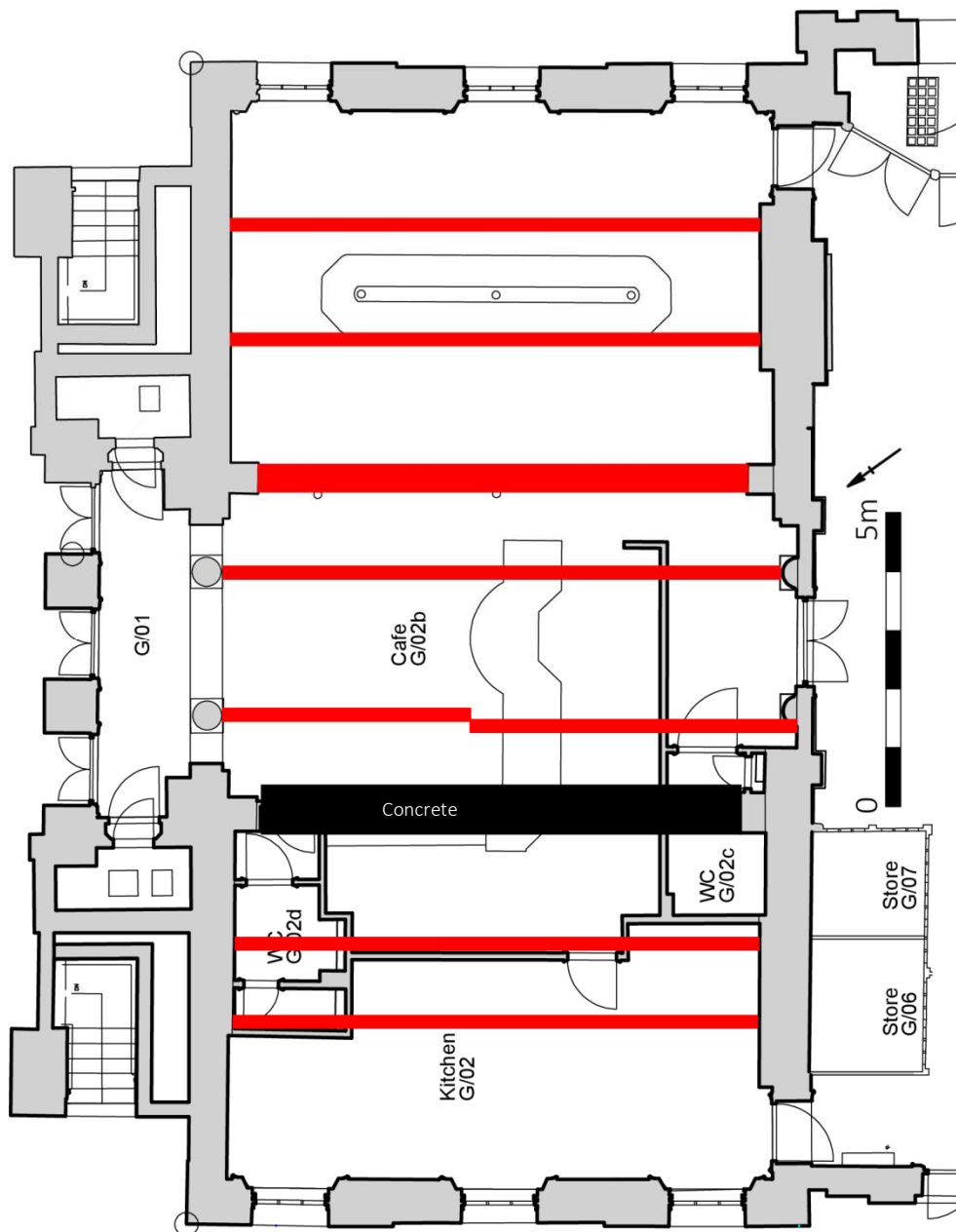


Figure 16: Supporting walls below the coffee shop floor (Scale 1:125)

G03: Hallway (Plates 78-89)

The present hall is located between the coffee shop to the north and the courtroom to the south. This became the main entrance in 1899-1900 when the entrance hallway to the north was remodelled to create a Council Chamber, and the Clerk of the Peace was obliged to surrender his office on the eastern side of the present hall (Green 2017: 38). All that survives of his room is the fireplace that was exposed behind the World War I memorial on the north wall during the present building works.

The staircase, which was relocated from the western side of the hall in 1914-15, is stone built, open string with an iron and mahogany balustrade. The handrail terminates in an ornate fern. On either side of the staircase is a column carrying an iron lamp stand bearing the coat of arms of St Albans. Pilasters with Corinthian capitals support principal beams in the ceiling. The



importance of the room is also defined by high skirting boards, this time with three orders of roll moulding rather than reed moulding, and a deep cornice. The use of roll moulding would suggest that the skirting boards are early 20th rather than early 19th century.

At the time of the survey there were timber and glass screens at either end of the hall, built at the same time as the new staircase and designed to keep the draught out. The marble floor was also installed at this time. A small timber and glass office was located in the northwest corner of the hall. More recent additions to the hall include the lift to the west of the staircase.



Plate 78: G3: facing west (51) (21)



Plate 79: G3: facing northwest (52)



Plate 80: G3: facing east (53)



Plate 81: G3: facing north (54)



Plate 82: G3: facing north (87)

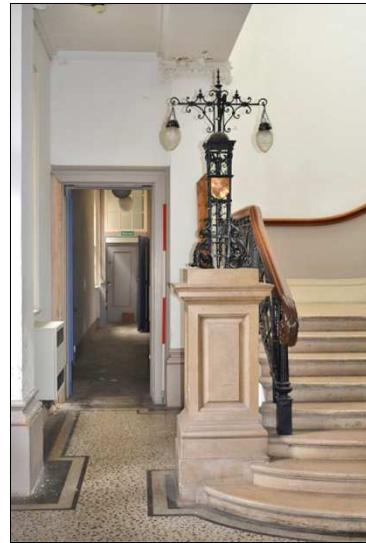


Plate 83: G3: facing south (55)



Plate 84: G3: facing southwest (56) (23)



Plate 85: G3: northwest corner after the office was removed (10)



Plate 86: G3: detail of former partition wall (11)



Plate 87: G3: stripped column (53)



Plate 88: G3: stripped pillar (54)



Plate 89: Lift shaft stripped

Room G18: Eastern Passage

In the southeast corner, immediately next to the staircase is a passage giving access to the side doors of the courtroom and the rooms to the rear of the Old Town Hall. Modern WCs are located off the northern end of the passage in an extension to the Old Town Hall erected in 1906 primarily to house a fire escape from the first floor. At the southern end of the passage is a small room (G17) where a WC originally had been constructed (Green 2017: 34).

Courtroom (Room G13) (Plates 90-107)

This is clearly the most important room on the ground floor. The Judge's seat is to the south, the dock to the north and galleries with simple benches line the east and west walls. Behind the dock is another gallery, which is little more than a passage providing access to the main hall and café beyond. In the centre of the room is a considerably lower area with a large table in front of a podium which has a bench and seat integrated into the walling. The witness stand is to the east of the podium and is also raised.

The room was originally octagonal, but as will be described in more detail below, the northern section was rebuilt in the early 20th century. The octagonal element survives in the lantern, which has an anthemion and palmette frieze within the panels, floral motifs in the soffits and bracing in the form of an iron frame. Three arched windows in the east and west walls provide additional lighting.

There is half height panelling above which the walls are banded horizontally and painted white. This banding extends as far as the window sills where there is a dogtooth frieze, and above this the walls are unadorned other than a very deep cornice around the lantern.

There are a number of doors into the courtroom, of which the most prominent are the double doors in the north wall and the most reviled that in the dock leading to the cells in the basement below. The door behind the Judge's chair has a stone sculpture of the coat of arms of England above the lintel. Low timber gates separate the various sections of the gallery.

The dock is in essence a timber enclosure with a rail to the front of the plaintiff's stand, and spiked railings on the other sides. There is just enough room for the plaintiff and a guard to



stand in the dock, which would have been reached by a steep staircase leading up from the cells. There are open fronted wooden benches to east and west of the dock and enclosed benches behind them.

The courtroom was last used c. 1970 and little appears to have changed within the room since then, although the timber work was decorated by a film company in the mid-1990s (Caroe & Musson 2015: 19) and newspaper revealed beneath the table covering dates from 1988. Of interest is the analysis of the timberwork undertaken in 2015 by Luard Conservation. It would appear that the woodwork was taken out in its entirety in 1914-15 and re-installed once the alterations to the building had been completed. Although not all the changes to the woodwork can be attributed to that date, the following summarises the most significant of the alterations. The dock has been deepened and shortened and the protruding section of the dock is a later replacement. The ironwork and tongue and groove panelling is not historical. The bench beneath the curved panelling is original, but those in front of the Jury boxes are not. The stairs to east and west are 1990s, though there has always been a set of stairs on the west side (Luard 2015: 33-34).

The courtroom has, nonetheless, changed considerably since it was first built. Indeed, the original design was not followed through. Instead, the 40 x 40ft octagonal room design was replaced by a 40 x 50ft space, which resulted in structural weaknesses as the north wall was simply supported by two iron pillars and three stout beams. These were replaced by the present north wall in 1914-5 when the public gallery was foreshortened and cellars constructed below, in effect underpinning the octagon (Green 2017: 37,39). These were not the first alterations to the courtroom. In 1875 it had been found necessary to move the dock and the witness stand because of the poor acoustics. In addition, the windows had been designed to be fixed and there was no heating in the room. To improve the ventilation and prevent condensation on the lantern, the stonework behind the friezes in the lantern was opened and a fan light was added. Heating wasn't installed until 1915 (*ibid*: 34). The ironwork beneath the lantern was also added at this time to give it additional support (*ibid*: 39).



Plate 90: G13: stair from the cells (18)



Plate 91: G13: dock from the cell stairs (19) (10)



Plate 92: G13: view to east (40)



Plate 93: G13: dock from the southwest (41)



Plate 94: G13: view to southeast (42)



Plate 95: G13: cupola detail (43)



Plate 96: G13: view to west behind the dock (44)



Plate 97: G13: view to southwest towards the judge's seat (45)



Plate 98: G13: view to west (46)



Plate 99: G13: view to southeast (47)



Plate 100: G13: view to northwest (48)



Plate 101: G13: judge's seat detail (49)



Plate 102: G13: view to east after the floor was stripped (24)



Plate 103: G13: newspaper from 1953 lining the table (25)



Plate 104: G13: newspaper from 1953 lining the table (26)



Plate 105: G13: newspaper from 1988 lining the table (27)



Plate 106: G13: the table half stripped (28)



Plate 107: G13: cupola detail (52)

To the west of the courtroom is a passage that, like its counterpart to the east, provides access to the courtroom itself as well as the rooms to the north and south of it. Immediately north of the courtroom is a door to a metal staircase to the basement and beyond that is an enclosed stair to the first floor. The floor of the passage is stone and it is lit by a series of full height arched windows to the west that had been installed in 1984 (Green 2017: 42). The passage opens into a section of the hallway that had been partitioned off in 1914-15 and had an office/store room in the northeast corner. This was removed during the present building works.

Room G12: Tourist Information Centre (Plates 108-113)

The southwest corner of the building had most recently been used by the local Tourist Information Centre (TIC) and a small office was partitioned off towards the eastern end of the space. The space housing the shop had deep moulded cornices and high skirting boards. The full height sash window in the west wall was set within in deep architrave and had panelling below. The windows in the south wall were, in contrast very plain and unpanelled. The cornice in the eastern section of the room was also plain although the skirting boards were the same. The southwest corner of the building has also been extensively re-worked since 1832. The Counsel Chamber was originally located in what later became the Tourist Information Centre



shop (Green 2017:21). To the east of the chamber were two rooms; the space between the shop counter Keeper and the office partition was the Keeper's room and the office itself was the Engine House. Despite its name there was no water or chimney within this room and it is thought that this could have originally housed a penal treadmill as is known to have existed in the prison at the Abbey Gatehouse (*ibid*: 31-32). Although the documentary evidence for this is scant, the hypothesis is supported by the size of the doors depicted in the original plans and the fact that the railings immediately in front of them could be slid to one side (*ibid*: 31). The doors were removed and the walls bricked up in 1875 when the Engine House was reconfigured to form a women's cell (*ibid*: 37).



Plate 108: G12: south wall (33) (18)



Plate 109: G12: view to east (34)



Plate 110: G12: west passage and entrance to courtroom from G12 (35)



Plate 111: G12: southeast corner (36)



Plate 112: G12: view to east once stripped (12)



Plate 113: G12: view to west once stripped (13)



Room G16: SAHAAS Library (Plates 114-116)

This room has the same recessed window, cornice and ceiling as in TIC main room but is otherwise dissimilar in that there is a fireplace in the south wall, a dado rail and the skirting boards have reed rather than roll moulding. It was originally built for the petty jury (Green 2017: 21).



Plate 114: G16: southeast corner (37)

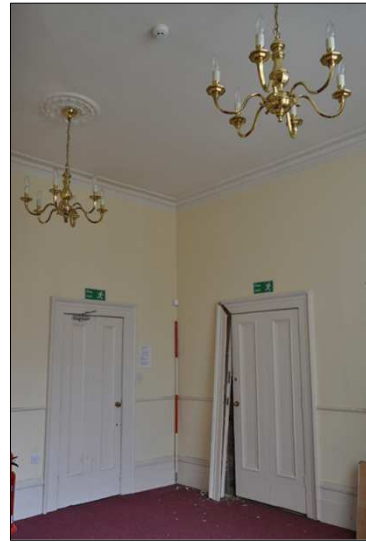


Plate 115: G16: northwest corner (38)



Plate 116: G16: fireplace detail (39)

4.4 First Floor (Fig. 23)

Room F2: Staircase Hall (Plates 117-118)

There are three internal staircases giving access to the first floor and one external one added to the eastern side of the building in 1906 to provide a fire escape (Green 2017: 38). The main staircase open into a large and airy hall (Room 1/02) which provides access to the Assembly Room to the north (Room 1/03) and the Assembly Room Annex to the east (Room 1/05). The hall has tall skirting boards with reed moulding throughout, recessed doors in a panelled architrave to the north and a simpler set of double doors to the smaller room to the east. At



the western end of the hall is a door leading to the ladies and gents WCs via a small lobby that also opens into the Assembly Room. The western end of the hall has a skylight and a different style of cornice, as if to define two separate areas. To some extent this is the case, as the original staircase opened in this part of the hall, and the present staircase has replaced a retiring room (Green 2017: 21).



Plate 117: F2: northeast corner (69) (24)



Plate 118: F2: view towards the stairs (70)

Room F2: Assembly Room (Plates 119-123)

This takes up the entire northern end of the first floor. It has French doors, installed in 1875 by Miskin, opening onto the balcony overlooking the Market Square and large multi-paned windows to either side and in the east and west walls. The room has two fireplaces in the south wall which were given overmantles in 1914-15 (Green 2017: 39). They both have a stone surround and hearth with a garland motif on the side panels. The walls are painted taupe to dado rail height, above which they are lighter in colour. Each section of walling is panelled with garlands above the shorter panelling. The deep cornice has egg and dart moulding with an anthemion and palmette frieze above. The ceiling is coffered with three rows of three paterae in each section except the central one which has a vent and a central light. The floor is modern timber. The alterations to this room appear to have been more restrained than in some other parts of the building, but include the installation of the French doors in 1875, the two doors on either end of the south wall in 1906, the overmantles as well as the refenestration and installation of vents in 1914-15 (cf Green 1027: 39).



Plate 119: F3: facing west (74)



Plate 120: F3: facing northeast (75)



Plate 121: F3: fireplace in south wall (76)



Plate 122: F3: cornice detail (57)



Plate 123: F3: cornice and moulding detail (58)

Room F5: Assembly Room Annexe (Plates 124-125)

This room has a marble fireplace in the north wall, with garlands on the side panels. In the wall opposite is a set of double half glazed doors leading to the masonry fire escape built in 1906. The deep protruding cornice and high moulded skirting boards indicate a room of some status, which accords well with its original function as a Waiting Room (Green 2017: 21). A modern sink recorded during the survey is an unattractive modern addition to the room.



Plate 124: F5: northeast corner (77) (27)



Plate 125: F5: Southwest corner (78)

Rooms F6 – F8: Western passage and Gents WC (Plates 126-131)

These rooms were originally a retiring room with a small WC in the northwest corner. Reed moulded skirting boards and egg and dart cornice were observed during the survey on the walls that had not been truncated by the installation of the modern partitioning. A 6 over 6 sash window with panelling below, lights the passage.



Plate 126: F8: facing southeast (71)



Plate 127: F8: facing northwest (72)

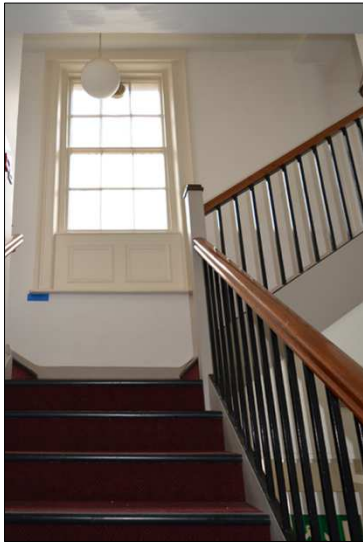


Plate 128: F8: facing west (73)



Plate 129: F7-8: facing south once stripped (14)



Plate 130: F7-8: east wall once stripped (15)



Plate 131: F8: facing north once stripped (16)

Rooms F9 – F10: Disabled and Ladies WCs (Plates 132)

The disabled WC is immediately to the west of the lift and the Ladies WC lies at the southern end of Passage F8. Both are later installations created within the void above the western passage to the west of the courtroom and the public gallery of the courtroom itself (cf Green 2017: 21). The present building works exposed some of the historical and modern brickwork in the lift shaft.



Plate 132: F10: view to south once stripped (30)

Rooms F11 – F21: Rooms at the southern end of the building (Plates 133-136)

These rooms are directly accessible by a timber staircase to the south of the courtroom. In the southeast corner is an office that could not be recorded during the survey. Between the office and the staircase are WCs and a store room. To the west of the staircase and accessed by a narrow passage is a staff kitchen which is lit by two 3 over 6 timber sash windows in the south wall. Between the kitchen and the office at the western end is another set of WCs and store. The end office is plainly adorned with torus moulded skirting and no cornice but is well lit by a 6 over 6 timber sash with sidelights in the north wall. A small blocked fireplace in a timber surround is in the south wall. These rooms were originally the Keeper's Rooms (cf Green 2017: 21).



Plate 133: F11: facing south (83)



Plate 134: F17: south wall (84)



Plate 135: F21: northeast corner (85)



Plate 136: F21: south wall (86)



Figure 17: North and south elevations (scale 1:125)



Figure 18: West elevation (scale 1:125)



Figure 19: East elevation (scale 1:125)

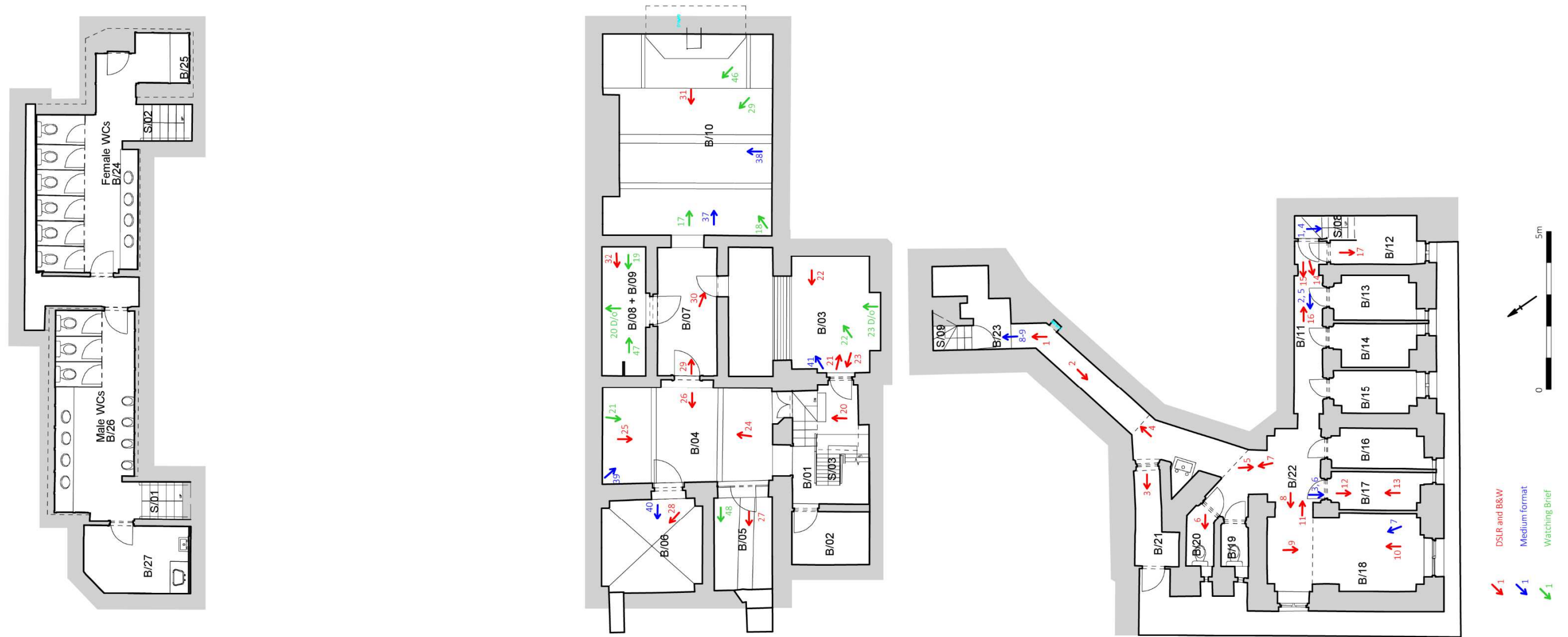


Figure 20: Basement building survey and Watching Brief photo plan (scale 1:135)

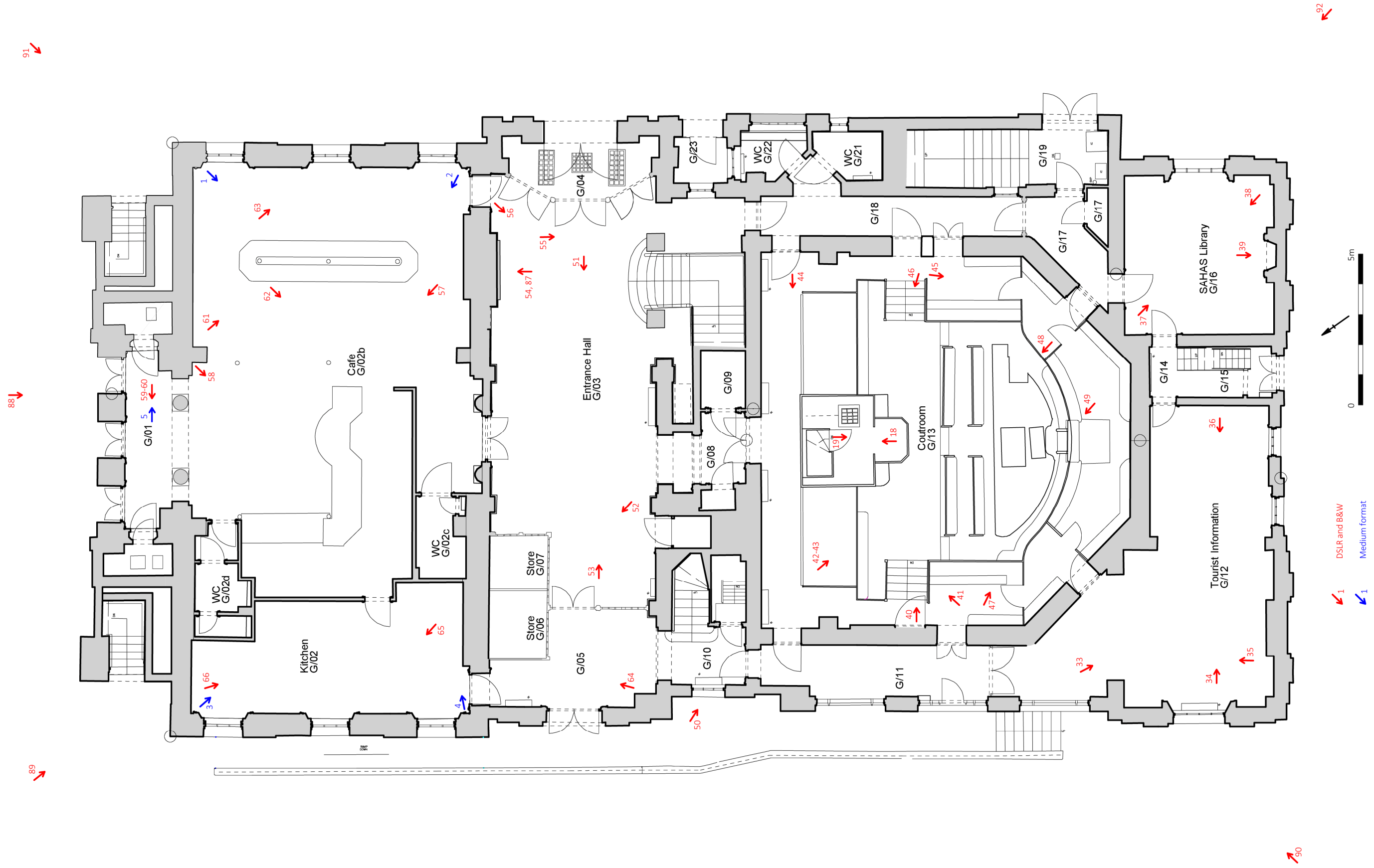


Figure 21: Ground floor building survey photo plan (scale 1:125)

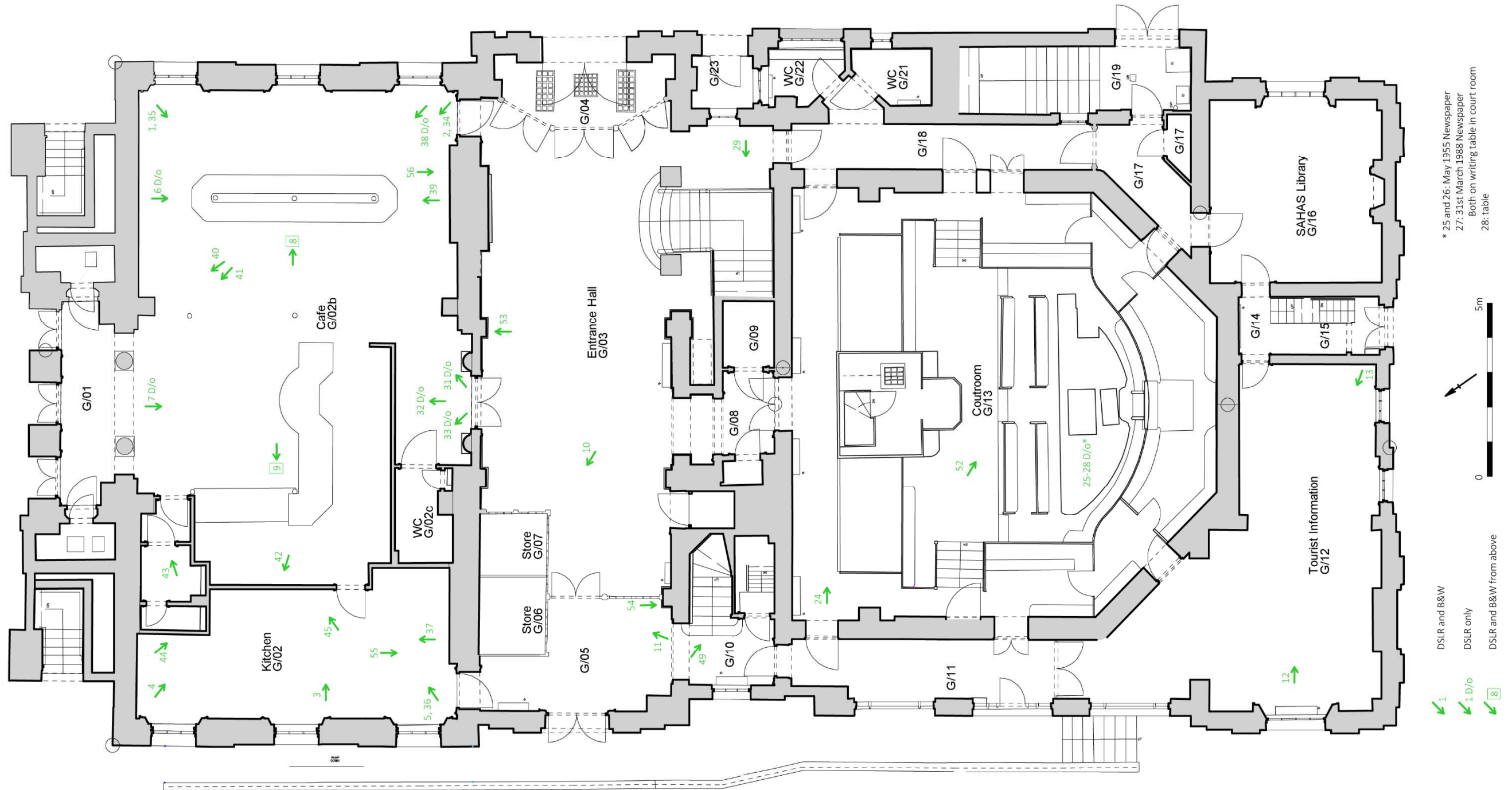


Figure 22: Ground floor Watching Brief photo plan (scale 1:125)

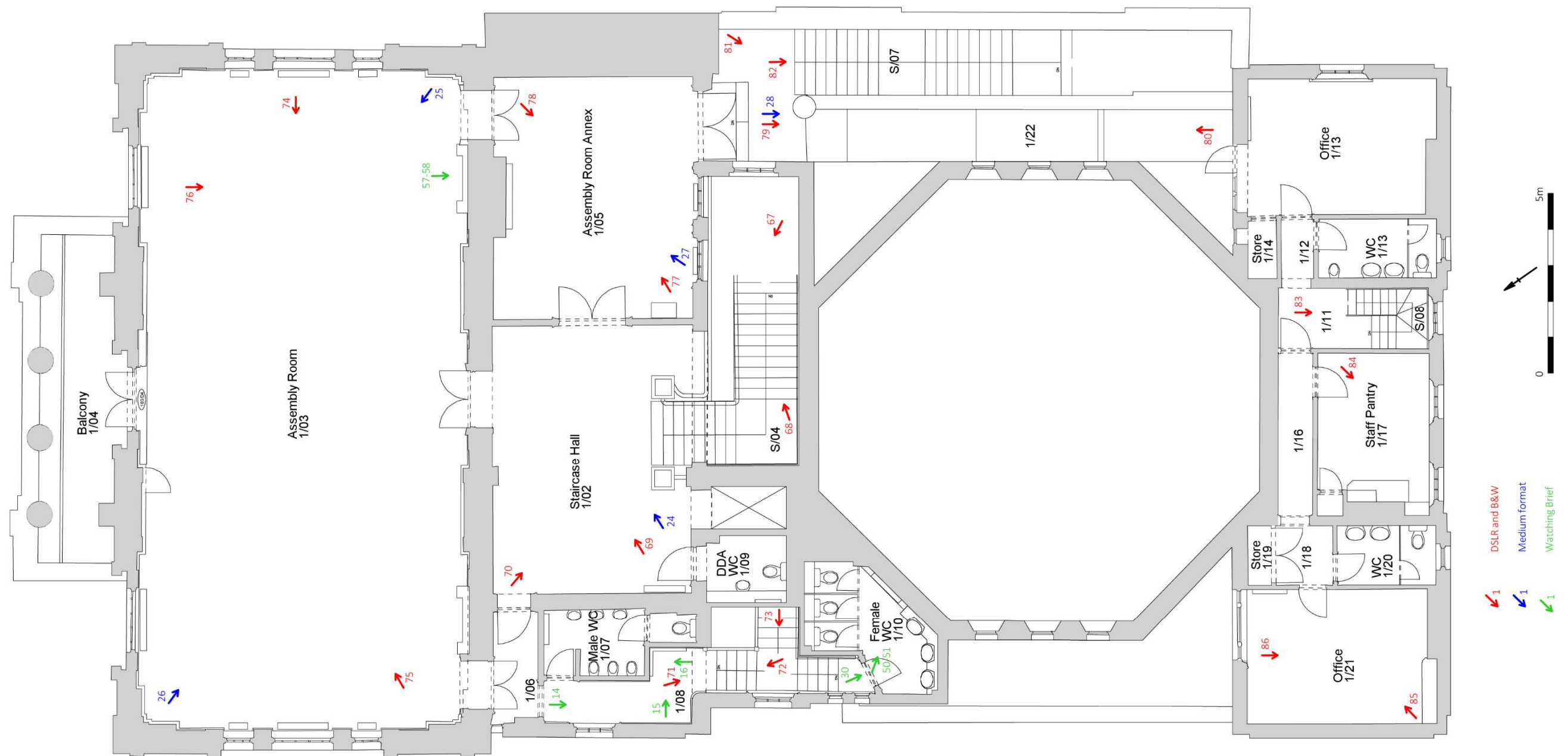


Figure 23: First floor building survey and Watching Brief photo plan (scale 1:125)



5 Conclusions

The Watching Brief on the alterations to the Old Town Hall, which was undertaken alongside an archaeological Watching Brief of the ground reduction beneath the coffee shop, offered a rare view of the original building fabric as well as later additions and alterations. Some primary written evidence for the structural chronology of the building and many drawings and photographs, largely of the main façade, have survived. In addition, specialist analysis of the timberwork in the courtroom and the paintwork throughout the building have recently been undertaken and there is now a considerable body of work in various formats and publications that, in combination, provide a detailed account of the building. By its very nature, this report provides only a limited addition to the body of information which is already available. It should be read in conjunction with the report for the archaeological Watching Brief (Kaye 2018), where the medieval and early post-medieval antecedents of the Old Town Hall are discussed in greater detail. It is clear that the building and the site on which it stands is of considerable historical significance, and the conversion of the building to house a museum should not only ensure the successful reincarnation of the building but also promote the importance of the site to a wider audience.



6 Acknowledgements

KDK Archaeology is grateful to Robbie Hazlehurst for commissioning this report on behalf of St Albans City and District Council. Thanks are also due to Isobel Thompson of Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Team for providing historic environment records and other relevant documents; the staff of Hertfordshire Archive and Local Studies Library and Jon Mein of the St Albans and Hertfordshire Architectural and Archaeological Society for their assistance in the historic research and to Simon West, District Archaeologist for SADC for monitoring the project.

Thanks are also due to Tom Lusby of SADC and John Allworth of Willmot Dixon for their assistance during the course of the project. KDK is also indebted to Chris Green and Oliver Caroe who both allowed generous use of their researches.

The fieldwork was carried out by Karin Kaye MA MCIfA and David Kaye BA ACIfA. The report was written by Karin Kaye with the assistance of Becca Bradford BSc and edited by **David Kaye**.



7 Archive

7.1 The project archive will comprise:

- Brief
- Written Scheme of Investigation
- Report
- Historical & Survey notes
- Architect's survey drawings
- List of photographs
- B/W prints
- B/W negatives
- CDROM with copies of all digital files.

7.2 The archive will be deposited with St Albans Museum (Accession Number OTH/17).



8 References

Standards & Specifications

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Maps

Goodman's map of 1822 (In Clutterbuck 1827)
John Oliver's town plan of 1700 (in Chauncy 1826)
1828 Annotated Town Plan (SAHAAS)
Ordnance Survey 1:500 map of 1879 OSXXXIV.15

HALS Resources

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Postcard of the Old Town Hall (Late 19 th century) | DE/X1024/1/125/44 |
| Miskin's plan of the new cell layout | Q/MISC/B/87 |
| Smith's original drawings | 513/575 |



Appendix 1: List of Photographs

Initial Historic Building Recording

| Shot | B&W | DSLR | View | Subject |
|------|-----|------|------|--|
| 1 | X | X | NNE | Cellar: stairs leading to the courtroom (1m scale) |
| 2 | X | X | SW | Cellar: Passage to the court view to south (1m scale) |
| 3 | X | X | WNW | Cellar: side room, looking west |
| 4 | X | X | NE | Cellar: Passage to the court view to north (1m scale) |
| 5 | X | X | SSW | Cell doors with relieving arch above (1m scale) |
| 6 | X | X | W | Cellar: WC (1m scale) |
| 7 | X | X | NNE | Cellar: southern end of passage (1m scale) |
| 8 | X | X | W | Cellar: former coal cellar (1m scale) |
| 9 | X | X | SW | Cellar: former men's cell looking south (1m scale) |
| 10 | X | X | NE | Cellar: former men's cell looking north (1m scale) |
| 11 | X | X | ESE | Cellar: view to east along cell frontage (1m scale) |
| 12 | X | X | SSW | Cellar: single cell looking south (1m scale) |
| 13 | X | X | NNE | Cellar: view to north from the cells entrance (1m scale) |
| 14 | X | X | WSW | Cellar: cell frontage from the east |
| 15 | X | X | W | Cellar: passage towards coal cellar |
| 16 | X | X | ESE | Cellar: main door into cells (1m scale) |
| 17 | X | X | SSW | Cellar: cell under the stairs (1m scale) |
| 18 | X | X | NNE | G13: stair from the cells (1m scale) |
| 19 | X | X | SSW | G13: dock from the cell stairs (1m scale) |
| 20 | X | X | NNE | B1: staircase to service cellar |
| 21 | X | X | SE | Room B3: boiler room looking east (1m scale) |
| 22 | X | X | W | Room B3: boiler room looking west (1m scale) |
| 23 | X | X | NW | B1: steps into main service area (1m scale) |
| 24 | X | X | NNE | B4: north wall (1m scale) |
| 25 | X | X | SSW | B4: south wall (1m scale) |
| 26 | X | X | WNW | B4: east wall (1m scale) |
| 27 | X | X | WNW | B5: former pantry, view to west (1m scale) |
| 28 | X | X | NNW | B6: former coal store, northwest corner (1m scale) |
| 29 | X | X | ESE | B7: view to east (1m scale) |
| 30 | X | X | SE | B7: hatch in south wall |
| 31 | X | X | WNW | B10: view to west (1m scale) |
| 32 | X | X | WNW | B8/B9: view to west (1m scale) |
| 33 | X | X | S | G12: south wall (2m scale) |
| 34 | X | X | ESE | G12: view to east (2m scale) |
| 35 | X | X | NNE | G12: west passage and entrance to courtroom from G12 |
| 36 | X | X | WNW | G12: view to west (2m scale) |
| 37 | X | X | SSE | G16: southeast corner (2m scale) |
| 38 | X | X | NNW | G16: northwest corner (2m scale) |
| 39 | X | X | SSW | G16: fireplace detail (1m scale) |
| 40 | X | X | ESE | G13: view to east |



| Shot | B&W | DSLR | View | Subject |
|------|-----|------|------|---|
| 41 | X | X | NE | G13: dock from the southwest (2m scale) |
| 42 | X | X | S | G13: view to southeast |
| 43 | X | X | N/A | G13: cupola detail |
| 44 | X | X | WNW | G13: view to west behind the dock |
| 45 | X | X | SW | G13: view to southwest towards the judge's seat |
| 46 | X | X | NW | G13: view to west |
| 47 | X | X | SSE | G13: view to southeast (2m scale) |
| 48 | X | X | NNW | G13: view to northwest |
| 49 | X | X | NNW | G13: judge's seat detail |
| 50 | X | X | NE | G10: view of western staircase |
| 51 | X | X | WNW | G3: facing west (2m scale) |
| 52 | X | X | NNW | G3: facing northwest (2m scale) |
| 53 | X | X | ESE | G3: facing east (2m scale) |
| 54 | X | X | NNE | G3: facing north (2m scale) |
| 55 | X | X | SSW | G3: facing south (2m scale) |
| 56 | X | X | SW | G3: facing southwest (2m scale) |
| 57 | X | X | NNW | G2b: facing northwest |
| 58 | X | X | SW | G2b: facing southwest |
| 59 | X | X | WNW | Milner safe (2m scale) |
| 60 | X | X | WNW | Milner safe (2m scale) |
| 61 | X | X | SE | G2b: facing southeast |
| 62 | X | X | SW | G2b: facing southwest |
| 63 | X | X | SE | G2b: facing southeast (2m scale) |
| 64 | X | X | NE | G5: View towards the timber office |
| 65 | X | X | NW | Kitchen G2: view to northwest |
| 66 | X | X | SE | Kitchen G2: view to southeast |
| 67 | X | X | W | Main stair S4: view to west |
| 68 | X | X | E | Main stair S4: view to east |
| 69 | X | X | NE | F2: northeast corner (2m scale) |
| 70 | X | X | SE | F2: view towards the stairs (2m scale) |
| 71 | X | X | SSE | F8: facing southeast (2m scale) |
| 72 | X | X | NNW | F8: facing northwest (2m scale) |
| 73 | X | X | WNW | F8: facing west |
| 74 | X | X | WNW | F3: facing west (2m scale) |
| 75 | X | X | NE | F3: facing northeast (2m scale) |
| 76 | X | X | SSW | F3: fireplace in south wall (2m scale) |
| 77 | X | X | NE | F5: northeast corner (2m scale) |
| 78 | X | X | SW | F5: Southwest corner (2m scale) |
| 79 | X | X | SW | Western walkway looking south (2m scale) |
| 80 | X | X | NE | Western walkway looking north (2m scale) |
| 81 | X | X | SW | Cupola from the southwest |
| 82 | X | X | SSW | Fire escape |
| 83 | X | X | SSW | F11: facing south |
| 84 | X | X | SW | F17: south wall (2m scale) |



| Shot | B&W | DSLR | View | Subject |
|------|-----|------|------|----------------------------------|
| 85 | X | X | NE | F21: northeast corner (2m scale) |
| 86 | X | X | SSW | F21: south wall |
| 87 | X | X | NNE | G3: facing north (1m scale) |
| 88 | X | X | SSW | Main entrance |
| 89 | X | X | SSE | Old Town Hall from the northwest |
| 90 | X | X | ENE | West elevation |
| 91 | X | X | SW | East elevation |
| 92 | X | X | NNW | Old Town Hall from the southeast |



Historic Building Watching Brief

| Shot | B&W | DSLR | View | Subject |
|------|-----|------|------|--|
| 1 | X | X | SW | G2a&b: southwest corner (2m scale) |
| 2 | X | X | N | G2a&b: northwest corner (2m scale) |
| 3 | X | X | ESE | G2a&b: east wall (2m scale) |
| 4 | X | X | S | G2a&b: southeast corner (2m scale) |
| 5 | X | X | NE | G2a&b: northeast corner (2m scale) |
| 6 | | X | SSW | G2b: south wall detail (2m scale) |
| 7 | | X | SSW | G2b: south wall detail (2m scale) |
| 8 | X | X | N/A | G2b: ceiling detail |
| 9 | X | X | N/A | G2a&b: ceiling detail |
| 10 | X | X | NNW | G3: northwest corner after the office was removed (2m scale) |
| 11 | X | X | NE | G3:detail of former partition wall |
| 12 | X | X | SE | G12: view to east once stripped (2m scale) |
| 13 | X | X | NW | G12: view to west once stripped (2m scale) |
| 14 | X | X | SSW | F7-8: facing south once stripped (2m scale) |
| 15 | X | X | ESE | F7-8: east wall once stripped (2m scale) |
| 16 | X | X | NNE | F8: facing north once stripped (2m scale) |
| 17 | X | X | SE | B10: east wall (2m scale) |
| 18 | X | X | NE | B10: north wall (2m scale) |
| 19 | | X | W | B8&9: west wall |
| 20 | | X | N | B8&9: north wall |
| 21 | X | X | SSW | B4: south wall with the dumb waiter to the left (2m scale) |
| 22 | X | X | E | B3: north wall (2m scale) |
| 23 | | X | NE | B3: north wall (2m scale) |
| 24 | X | X | SE | G13: view to east after the floor was stripped (2m scale) |
| 25 | | X | N/A | G13: newspaper from 1953 lining the table |
| 26 | | X | N/A | G13: newspaper from 1953 lining the table |
| 27 | | X | N/A | G13: newspaper from 1988 lining the table |
| 28 | | X | NE | G13: the table half stripped |
| 29 | X | X | NW | Lift shaft stripped |
| 30 | X | X | S | F10: view to south once stripped |
| 31 | | X | NE | G2b: northeast corner |
| 32 | | X | NNE | G2b: view towards door to north |
| 33 | | X | NW | G2: northwest corner |
| 34 | X | X | NNW | G3: supporting wall detail |
| 35 | X | X | SW | G2a&b: view to southwest |
| 36 | X | X | NE | G2a&b: view to northeast |
| 37 | X | X | NNE | G2: north wall |
| 38 | | X | N/A | G2a&b: ceiling detail |
| 39 | X | X | NE | G3: north wall |
| 40 | X | X | N | G2: north wall detail (1m scale) |
| 41 | X | X | NNW | G2: supporting wall detail (1m scale) |
| 42 | X | X | NW | G2: supporting wall detail (1m scale) |
















| Shot | B&W | DSLR | View | Subject |
|------|-----|------|------|---------------------------------|
| 43 | X | X | NE | G2a: view to northeast |
| 44 | X | X | N/A | G2b: ceiling detail |
| 45 | X | X | N/A | G2b: ceiling detail |
| 46 | X | X | NE | B10: view to northeast |
| 47 | X | X | E | B09: view to east |
| 48 | X | X | W | B5: view to west |
| 49 | X | X | N/A | View to G5 to first floor level |
| 50 | X | X | SW | View into F10 from north |
| 51 | X | X | SW | Floor joist in F10 from north |
| 52 | X | X | N/A | G13: cupola detail |
| 53 | X | X | N | G3: stripped column |
| 54 | X | X | SW | G3: stripped pillar |
| 55 | X | X | SW | G2: facing south |
| 56 | X | X | SW | G2: facing south |
| 57 | X | X | N/A | F3: cornice detail |
| 58 | X | X | N/A | F3: cornice and moulding detail |


















Medium Format Photograph Register

| Roll | Shot | Date | View | Subject |
|------|------|----------|------|--|
| 1 | 1 | 07.07.16 | S | S8: Entry staircase from south door to cells |
| 1 | 2 | 07.07.16 | W | B11: Cell corridor |
| 1 | 3 | 07.07.16 | S | View into cell B17 |
| 1 | 4 | 07.07.18 | S | S8: Entry staircase from south door to cells |
| 1 | 5 | 07.07.16 | W | B11: Cell corridor |
| 1 | 6 | 07.07.16 | S | B17: View into cell B17 |
| 1 | 7 | 07.07.16 | NE | B18: View into west door from B18 |
| 1 | 8 | 07.07.16 | N | B23: View towards court staircase |
| 1 | 9 | 07.07.16 | N | B23: View towards court staircase |
| 1 | 10 | 07.07.16 | S | G13: Courtroom view towards judge |
| 1 | 11 | 07.07.16 | E | G13: Dock |
| 2 | 12 | 07.07.16 | SE | G13: Dock, Witness stand and judges chair |
| 2 | 13 | 07.07.16 | S | G13: Dock from judges' chair |
| 2 | 14 | 07.07.16 | S | G13: Cupola |
| 2 | 15 | 07.07.16 | S | G13: Cupola |
| 2 | 16 | 07.07.16 | S | G10/G11: Passage to TIC |
| 2 | 17 | 07.07.16 | S | G10/G11: Passage to TIC |
| 2 | 18 | 07.07.16 | SE | G12: TIC |
| 2 | 19 | 07.07.16 | NW | G12: TIC and passage |
| 2 | 20 | 07.07.16 | N | G5: Rear lobby and store |
| 2 | 21 | 07.07.16 | W | G3: Main hall towards lobby |
| 3 | 22 | 07.07.16 | SE | G3: Main hall towards staircase |
| 3 | 23 | 07.07.16 | S | G3: Eastern end |
| 3 | 24 | 07.07.16 | NE | F2: Staircase hall towards assembly room |
| 3 | 25 | 07.07.16 | NW | F3: Northwest corner |
| 3 | 26 | 07.07.16 | SE | F3: Southeast corner |
| 3 | 27 | 07.07.16 | E | F5: East view |
| 3 | 28 | 07.07.16 | S | View over external walkway |
| 3 | 29 | 07.07.16 | S | North elevation |
| 3 | 30 | 07.07.16 | SE | West elevation |
| 3 | 31 | 07.07.16 | SW | East elevation |
| 4 | 32 | 16.08.16 | SW | Southwest view of coffee shop/kitchen area |
| 4 | 33 | 16.08.16 | NW | Northwest view of coffee shop/kitchen area |
| 4 | 34 | 16.08.16 | SE | Southeast view of coffee shop/kitchen area |
| 4 | 35 | 16.08.16 | NE | Northeast view of coffee shop/kitchen area |
| 4 | 36 | 16.08.16 | E | Safe in northeast corner on main entrance |
| 4 | 37 | 16.08.16 | E | B10: Former kitchen |
| 4 | 38 | 16.08.16 | N | B10: Former kitchen |
| 4 | 39 | 16.08.16 | SE | B4: Showing dumb waiter, stairs and door frame |
| 4 | 40 | 16.08.16 | W | B6: Former coal store |
| 4 | 41 | 16.08.16 | NE | B3: Boiler Room |


















| | | |
|--|--|--|
|  <p>Shot 1</p> |  <p>Shot 2</p> |  <p>Shot 3</p> |
|  <p>Shot 4</p> |  <p>Shot 5</p> |  <p>Shot 6</p> |
|  <p>Shot 7</p> |  <p>Shot 8</p> |  <p>Shot 9</p> |
|  <p>Shot 10</p> |  <p>Shot 11</p> |  <p>Shot 12</p> |
|  <p>Shot 13</p> |  <p>Shot 14</p> |  <p>Shot 15</p> |



| | | |
|--|--|--|
|  <p>Shot 16</p> |  <p>Shot 17</p> |  <p>Shot 18</p> |
|  <p>Shot 19</p> |  <p>Shot 20</p> |  <p>Shot 21</p> |
|  <p>Shot 22</p> |  <p>Shot 23</p> |  <p>Shot 24</p> |
|  <p>Shot 25</p> |  <p>Shot 26</p> |  <p>Shot 27</p> |
|  <p>Shot 28</p> |  <p>Shot 29</p> |  <p>Shot 30</p> |



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|  <p>Shot 31</p> |  <p>Shot 32</p> |  <p>Shot 33</p> |
|  <p>Shot 34</p> |  <p>Shot 35</p> |  <p>Shot 36</p> |
|  <p>Shot 37</p> |  <p>Shot 38</p> |  <p>Shot 39</p> |
|  <p>Shot 40</p> |  <p>Shot 41</p> |  <p>Shot 42</p> |
|  <p>Shot 43</p> |  <p>Shot 44</p> |  <p>Shot 45</p> |



Shot 46



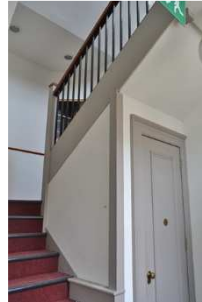
Shot 47



Shot 48



Shot 49



Shot 50



Shot 51



Shot 52



Shot 53



Shot 54



Shot 55



Shot 56



Shot 57



Shot 58


















Shot 59











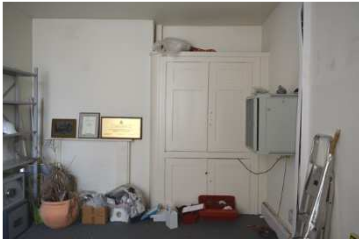






Shot 60









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|--|--|--|
|  <p>Shot 61</p> |  <p>Shot 62</p> |  <p>Shot 63</p> |
|  <p>Shot 64</p> |  <p>Shot 65</p> |  <p>Shot 66</p> |
|  <p>Shot 67</p> |  <p>Shot 68</p> |  <p>Shot 69</p> |
|  <p>Shot 70</p> |  <p>Shot 71</p> |  <p>Shot 72</p> |
|  <p>Shot 73</p> |  <p>Shot 74</p> |  <p>Shot 75</p> |



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|  <p>Shot 76</p> |  <p>Shot 77</p> |  <p>Shot 78</p> |
|  <p>Shot 79</p> |  <p>Shot 80</p> |  <p>Shot 81</p> |
|  <p>Shot 82</p> |  <p>Shot 83</p> |  <p>Shot 84</p> |
|  <p>Shot 85</p> |  <p>Shot 86</p> |  <p>Shot 87</p> |
|  <p>Shot 88</p> |  <p>Shot 89</p> |  <p>Shot 90</p> |



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|---|---|---|
|  <p>Shot 91</p> |  <p>Shot 92</p> |  <p>Shot 93</p> |
|  <p>Shot 94</p> |  <p>Shot 95</p> |  <p>Shot 96</p> |
|  <p>Shot 97</p> |  <p>Shot 98</p> |  <p>Shot 99</p> |
|  <p>Shot 100</p> |  <p>Shot 101</p> |  <p>Shot 102</p> |
|  <p>Shot 103</p> |  <p>Shot 104</p> |  <p>Shot 105</p> |



Shot 106



Shot 107



Shot 108



Shot 109



Shot 110



Shot 111



Shot 112



Shot 113



Shot 114



Shot 115



Shot 116



Shot 117



Shot 118



Shot 119



Shot 120



| | | |
|---|---|---|
|  <p>Shot 121</p> |  <p>Shot 122</p> |  <p>Shot 123</p> |
|  <p>Shot 124</p> |  <p>Shot 125</p> |  <p>Shot 126</p> |
|  <p>Shot 127</p> |  <p>Shot 128</p> |  <p>Shot 129</p> |
|  <p>Shot 130</p> |  <p>Shot 131</p> |  <p>Shot 132</p> |
|  <p>Shot 133</p> |  <p>Shot 134</p> |  <p>Shot 135</p> |



Shot 136



Shot 137



Shot 138



Appendix 1: OASIS and Site Data

| PROJECT DETAILS | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| Project Name & Address | Old Town Hall, St Albans, Hertfordshire | Project Site Code | 193/SAT |
| OASIS reference | kdkarcha1-341232 | Event/Accession no | OTH/17 |
| OS reference | TL 14754 07247 | Study area size | N/A |
| Project Type | Historic Building recording | Height (mAOD) | N/A |
| Short Description | <p>Between June 2016 and October 2017 KDK Archaeology Ltd carried out Historic Building Recording and a Historic Building Watching Brief of The Old Town Hall, St Albans, Hertfordshire as a condition of Planning Permission and Listed Building Consent for the development of the building. The Old Town hall is a Grade II* building, designed by George Smith and completed in 1831. Built on the site of the medieval moot hall, which was superseded by almshouses in 1605, The Old Town Hall provided an imposing venue for the corporation and justices of St Albans to attend to the civic and judicial needs of the district. Latterly, however, the building has been used as a coffee shop, Tourist Information Centre and to house the library of the St Albans and Hertfordshire Architectural and Archaeological Society. Occasional use was also made of other parts of the building. The conversion to a museum and gallery will redefine the role of the building and reassert its significance within the town.</p> | | |
| Previous work | Yes | Site status | Grade II Listed |
| Planning proposal | Construction of a new museum and gallery, ancillary cafe and retail facilities, including the extension of the basement, first floor glazed link extensions, replacement plant, improvement to services and associated internal and external works | Current land use | Coffee Shop, Tourist Information Centre and offices |
| Local Planning Authority | St Albans City and District Council | Planning application ref. | 5/2015/2208 & 5/2015/2212/LB |
| Monument type | Civic building | Monument period | Industrial era |
| Significant finds | N/A | Future work | No |
| PROJECT CREATORS | | | |
| Organisation | KDK Archaeology Ltd | | |
| Project Brief originator | Simon West (SADC) | Project Design originator | KDK Archaeology Ltd |
| Project Manager | Karin Kaye | Director/Supervisor | Karin Kaye |
| Sponsor/funding body | St Albans City & District Council | | |
| PROJECT DATE | | | |
| Start date | | End date | |
| PROJECT ARCHIVES | | | |
| | Location | Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets) | |
| Physical | St Albans Museum | | |
| Paper | | Site notes, 35mm and medium format photos and negatives, WSI report | |
| Digital | | Digital photos WSI, Report | |
| BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report) | | | |
| Title | Old Town Hall, St Albans, Herefordshire: Historic Building Recording | | |



| | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| Serial title & volume | KDK Archaeology Report 193/2 | | |
| Author(s) | Karin Kaye MA MCifA | | |
| Page nos | 85 | Date | 17 th July 2018 |



Appendix 2: Hertfordshire HER Summary Sheet

| | |
|--|--|
| Site name and address: Old Town Hall, St Albans, Hertfordshire | |
| County: Hertfordshire | District: St Albans City & District |
| Village/Town: St Albans | Parish: St Albans |
| Planning application reference: 5/2015/2208 & 5/2015/2212/LB | |
| Client's name, address, & tel. no: St Albans City & District Council St Albans, Hertfordshire 01727 864511 | |
| Nature of application: | Construction of a new museum and gallery, ancillary cafe and retail facilities, including the extension of the basement, first floor glazed link extensions, replacement plant, improvement to services and associated internal and external works |
| Present land use: | Coffee Shop, Tourist Information Centre and offices |
| Size of application area: N/A | Size of area investigated: N/A |
| NGR (to 8 figures): TL 14754 07247 | Site code: 193/SAT |
| Site director: Karin Kaye | Organization: KDK Archaeology Ltd |
| Type of work: Historic Building Recording | |
| Date of work: | Start: 21.06.2016 Finish: 23.10.2017 |
| Curating museum: St Albans | |
| Related HER nos: 6175; 16377; 16380 | Periods represented: Industrial Era |
| Relevant previous summaries/reports: Summerfield Hill, C. 2015. <i>The Old Town Hall St Albans: Archaeological Observation, Investigation & Recording Report</i> KDK Archaeology 193/1.2 | |
| Summary of fieldwork results: Between June 2016 and October 2017 KDK Archaeology Ltd carried out Historic Building Recording and a Historic Building Watching Brief of The Old Town Hall, St Albans, Hertfordshire as a condition of Planning Permission and Listed Building Consent for the development of the building. The Old Town hall is a Grade II* building, designed by George Smith and completed in 1831. Built on the site of the medieval moot hall, which was superseded by almshouses in 1605, The Old Town Hall provided an imposing venue for the corporation and justices of St Albans to attend to the civic and judicial needs of the district. Latterly, however, the building has been used as a coffee shop, Tourist Information Centre and to house the library of the St Albans and Hertfordshire Architectural and Archaeological Society. Occasional use was also made of other parts of the building. The conversion to a museum and gallery will redefine the role of the building and reassert its significance within the town. | |
| Author: Karin Kaye MA MCIfA | Date: 17 th July 2018 |