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**RED HALL SCHOOLS**

**ZOAR STREET  
LOWER GORNAL  
DUDLEY  
WEST MIDLANDS**

Archaeological  
Desk-Based  
Assessment

and

Historic Building  
Record

**August 2009**

UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM



**Project No. 1961**

August 2009

**Red Hall Schools, Zoar Street, Lower Gornal,  
Dudley, West Midlands**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT  
and  
HISTORIC BUILDING RECORD**

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for

**Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council**  
Children's Services Department

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## Red Hall Schools, Zoar Street, Lower Gornal, Dudley

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Historic Buildings Record

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

|           |  |           |
|-----------|--|-----------|
|           | Summary .....  | v         |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>INTRODUCTION.....</b>                                   | <b>1</b>  |
| 1.1       | Background to the Project .....                            | 1         |
| 1.2       | Reasons for Work .....                                     | 1         |
| 1.3       | Scope of Report.....                                       | 1         |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....</b>                            | <b>1</b>  |
| 2.1       | Desk-Based Assessment .....                                | 1         |
| 2.2       | Historic Building Assessment .....                         | 2         |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>METHODOLOGY .....</b>                                   | <b>2</b>  |
| 3.1       | Desk-Based Assessment .....                                | 2         |
| 3.2       | Walkover Survey .....                                      | 2         |
| 3.3       | Historic Building Assessment .....                         | 3         |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>SITE LOCATION AND GEOLOGY.....</b>                      | <b>3</b>  |
| 4.1       | Site Location .....  | 3         |
| 4.2       | Geology.....   | 3         |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>GENERAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT .....</b> | <b>4</b>  |
| 5.1       | The Prehistoric and Roman Periods.....                     | 4         |
| 5.2       | The Anglo-Saxon Period.....                                | 4         |
| 5.3       | The Medieval Period .....                                  | 4         |
| 5.4       | The Post Medieval Period .....                             | 5         |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE STUDY AREA.....</b>   | <b>5</b>  |
| 6.1       | Known Archaeological Sites .....                           | 5         |
| 6.2       | Map Regression .....                                       | 6         |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK.....</b>                   | <b>9</b>  |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>RED HALL SCHOOLS: BUILDING DESCRIPTIONS .....</b>       | <b>10</b> |
| 8.1       | Overview .....   | 10        |
| 8.2       | The Southern School Buildings.....                         | 11        |
| 8.3       | The Nursery Block.....                                     | 15        |
| 8.4       | The Northern School Buildings .....                        | 15        |
| 8.5       | No. 11 Zoar Street .....                                   | 19        |
| <b>9</b>  | <b>SITE ASSESSMENT.....</b>                                | <b>20</b> |
| 9.1       | Walkover Survey .....                                      | 20        |
| <b>10</b> | <b>DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS .....</b>                    | <b>21</b> |
| 10.1      | The School Buildings .....                                 | 21        |

|                    |  |           |
|--------------------|--|-----------|
| 10.2               | Archaeological Potential .....                         | 21        |
| 10.3               | Relevant Legislation and Policy Guidelines .....       | 22        |
| 10.4               | Archaeological Mitigation .....                        | 23        |
| <b>11</b>          | <b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....</b>                           | <b>23</b> |
| <b>12</b>          | <b>SOURCES .....</b>                                   | <b>24</b> |
|                    |  |           |
| <b>APPENDIX A:</b> | <b>DMBC Brief (Removed).....</b>                       | <b>27</b> |
| <b>APPENDIX B:</b> | <b>Written Scheme of Investigation (Removed) .....</b> | <b>32</b> |
| <b>APPENDIX C:</b> | <b>Glossary of Terms .....</b>                         | <b>36</b> |

**List of Figures**

- Figure 1: Location plan.
- Figure 2: Site Layout.
- Figure 3: Study area and DMBC HBSMR data.
- Figure 4: Historic County Maps (a) Morden, 1695 and (b) Gower, 1749.
- Figure 5: Map of Sedgley Parish in the County of Stafford, 1843 (copy of 1859)
- Figure 6: Ordnance Survey County Series 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1:2500 map of 1882.
- Figure 7: Ordnance Survey County Series 1<sup>st</sup> Revision 1:2500 map of 1903.
- Figure 8: Ordnance Survey County Series 2<sup>nd</sup> Revision 1:2500 map of 1919.
- Figure 9: Ordnance Survey County Series 3<sup>rd</sup> Revision 1:2500 map of 1937-8.
- Figure 10: Ordnance Survey National Grid Series 1:2500 map of 1961-7.
- Figure 11: Ordnance Survey National Grid series 1:2500 map of 1971.
- Figure 12: Modern aerial view of Red Hall Schools (© Google Earth).
- Figure 13: South school buildings; development from historic Ordnance Survey maps.
- Figure 14: North school buildings; development from historic Ordnance Survey maps.
- Figure 15: Historic Photographs (a) South school, early 20<sup>th</sup>-century and (b) North school late 1950s.
- Figure 16: South School Building; floor plan including phasing.
- Figure 17: South School building: conjectural fenestration of west elevation.
- Figure 18: Nursery Block, ground plan
- Figure 19: North School Building; floor plan including phasing
- Figure 20: No. 11, Zoar Street; floor plans.

**List of Plates**

- Plate 1: South school building; north (Zoar St.) elevation 1880 with early 20<sup>th</sup>-century additions.
- Plate 2: Eastern projecting gable.
- Plate 3: Western projecting gable.
- Plate 4: South school building; north (Zoar St.) elevation, central section.
- Plate 5: Eastern (girls) entrance door.
- Plate 6: Western (infants) entrance door.
- Plate 7: Eastern gable; apex detail.
- Plate 8: Western gable; apex detail.
- Plate 9: Primary window jamb detail.



- Plate 10: Secondary window jamb detail.
- Plate 11: South school building; south elevation - 1880 with later additions.
- Plate 12: South school building; south elevation (west) oblique view.
- Plate 13: South school building; south elevation (east) oblique view.
- Plate 14: South school building; eastern elevation oblique view.
- Plate 15: East elevation; stepped string.
- Plate 16: East elevation, blocked window.
- Plate 17: South school building; western elevation viewed from Zoar Street.
- Plate 18: West elev.; window→door.
- Plate 19: West elev.; inserted windows.
- Plate 20: Classroom Rm. **25**.
- Plate 21: Hall Rm. **17**.
- Plate 22: Primary glazed dado detail.
- Plate 23: Primary door (Rm. **17**).
- Plate 24: Primary observation window.
- Plate 25: Timber boarding detail.
- Plate 26: Variant door details, Rm. **23** (NE).
- Plate 27: Window detail, Rm. **23**.
- Plate 28: Representative classroom interior (Rm. **28**).
- Plate 29: Former lancet window openings, Rm. **23**.
- Plate 30: Roof structure observed above Rm. **28**.
- Plate 31: Ceiling vent.
- Plate 32: Blocked windows in former front wall (Rms. **04-07**).
- Plate 33: Secondary roof structure over Rm. **03/01**.
- Plate 34: Hinged partition (Rms **21/22**).
- Plate 35: Peace & Norquoy handle plate.
- Plate 36: Nursery (Block F), c. 1930; as seen from south school playground.
- Plate 37: Nursery (Block F); west elevation looking north-east.
- Plate 38: Nursery (Block F); east elevation looking south-west .
- Plate 39: Nursery (Block F); window detail.
- Plate 40: Nursery (Block F), corridor.
- Plate 41: Nursery (Block F); door detail.
- Plate 42: Nursery (Block F); classroom.
- Plate 43: North School Buildings, south (Zoar St) elevation; 1890/1.
- Plate 44: North School Buildings, datestone February 17<sup>th</sup> 1891.
- Plate 45: South elevation, central gable.
- Plate 46: South elevation, window detail.
- Plate 47: Central gable; terra-cotta apex detail.
- Plate 48: Smaller window gable - terra-cotta apex detail.
- Plate 49: South School, main block east elevation.
- Plate 50: Adjacent gables in east elevation; lhs = 1891, rhs = 1903-19.
- Plate 51: Boys entrance door (east).
- Plate 52: Phase break in brickwork.
- Plate 53: North school buildings, west elevation oblique.
- Plate 54: Main west gable; apex detail.
- Plate 55: Boys entrance door (west).
- Plate 56: Primary door, Rm. **26/01** (ext.).
- Plate 57: Primary door, Rm. **26/01** (int.).
- Plate 58: Axial corridor, Rm. **01**.
- Plate 59: Primary dado detail.
- Plate 59: North school buildings, representative classroom interior (Rm. **07**).
- Plate 60: North school buildings, representative classroom interior (Rm. **05**).
- Plate 61: Hall interior (Rm. **06**).

- Plate 62: Re-used ceiling vents.  
 Plate 63: Detail of primary, inverted pyramid dado rail moulding.  
 Plate 64: Secondary foliated dado band.  
 Plate 65: Junction of dado rails at Phase I/II boundary (Rm. **07**).  
 Plate 66: Roof structure above inserted ceiling in Rm. **10**.  
 Plate 67: Surviving upper section of glazed partition (1 of 2), above suspended ceiling Rm **07**.  
 Plate 68: Single storey block, added to east of school between 1919-37.  
 Plate 69: Single-storey entrance block, added 1958.  
 Plate 70: Two-storey entrance block, added 1968.  
 Plate 71: 1968 block, GF corridor.  
 Plate 72: 1968 block, stair.  
 Plate 73: 1968 block; representative classroom interior.  
 Plate 74: Technology Block, added 1972, west elevation.  
 Plate 75: Technology Block added 1972, south/east elevation oblique.  
 Plate 76: Technology Block, interior.  
 Plate 77: South school; double gate detail.  
 Plate 78: North school; gate detail.  
 Plate 79: No.11 Zoar Street, east elevation overlooking school yard.  
 Plate 80: No.11 Zoar Street; south elevation, oblique view.  
 Plate 81: No.11 Zoar Street; rear elevation.  
 Plate 82: No.11 Zoar Street; west elevation.  
 Plate 83: No.11 Zoar Street; gable detail.  
 Plate 84: No.11 Zoar Street; stair detail.  
 Plate 85: Abbey Street recreation ground, looking south towards Red Hall Schools.  
 Plate 86: Abbey Street recreation ground, looking west from Gornal Youth Centre towards Red Hall Schools (centre left). Note landscaping of football fields.  
 Plate 87: Abbey Street recreation ground, looking east towards Red Hall Schools.  
 Plate 88: Abbey Street recreation ground, looking east towards Gornal Youth Centre.

## **Red Hall Schools, Zoar Street, Lower Gornal, Dudley**

### Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Historic Buildings Record

#### **SUMMARY**

*Birmingham Archaeology was commissioned in June 2009 by the Children's Services Department of Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council (DMBC) to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment and historic building assessment in respect of the Red Hall Schools, Zoar Street, Lower Gornal, Dudley, West Midlands (NGR SO 91401 91112). The desk-based assessment and building record were required by DMBC to inform discussions related to the possible redevelopment of the site.*

*A search was made of all relevant and readily available published and unpublished documentary source material held by the Dudley MBC Archives and Local Studies Service, Staffordshire County Record Office, the local history sections of the Gornal and Sedgley local libraries and by the libraries of the University of Birmingham. The DMBC Historic Buildings Sites and Monuments Record was also consulted. Subsequent to the completion of initial documentary research, a walkover survey of the study area was undertaken in order to assess the topography and any above-ground archaeology, and a 'Level 2/3' drawn and photographic record of the standing buildings was made.*

*The study has established that the buildings of the Red Hall School originated in the last two decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, occupying sites on formerly undeveloped land used for agricultural purposes and for probable small scale mineral extraction. The schools were built, from 1880 on, under the auspices of the Sedgley School Board in response to Forster's Education Act of 1870. The early elements of the school buildings represent an interesting, though by no means exceptional, example of educational architecture of the School Board era. Together with contemporary residential development of Zoar Street and the locally listed Zoar Chapel of 1906, the schools make a significant contribution to the character of the area.*

*Early extensions to the school buildings were made, with the historic core of the complex essentially in place by 1919. Subsequent additions to the school buildings are of no special architectural merit or historical significance.*

*Although the Historic Buildings Sites and Monuments Record records no known archaeology within the area of the Red Hall Schools and Abbey Street recreation ground to the north, mining activity is known historically in the general area while documentary evidence points to such activity, albeit on a small scale, within the site boundary itself. It is thus likely that remains related to such activity may be encountered during any significant groundworks related to redevelopment of the site.*

*Decisions regarding the necessity for, and the nature and extent of any further programme of archaeological work lie with the DMBC Planning Archaeologist.*

## **Red Hall Schools, Zoar Street, Lower Gornal, Dudley**

### Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Historic Buildings Record

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background to the Project**

1.1.1 Birmingham Archaeology was commissioned in June 2009 by the Children's Services Department of Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council (DMBC) to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment and Historic Buildings Record at the site of the Red Hall Schools, Zoar Street, Lower Gornal, Dudley, West Midlands (NGR: SO 91401 91112; see Figure 1).

### **1.2 Reasons for Work**

1.2.1 The desk-based assessment and building assessment were required by DMBC to inform pre-planning discussions in relation to potential redevelopment of the site possibly including demolition of existing buildings and including the construction of a new school building.

1.2.2 The buildings of the Red Hall Schools, which date in part to the 1880s and 1890s, with a number of phases of alteration and expansion, are not statutorily listed but are recognised as being of local historical significance and, while not included upon the DMBC non-statutory list, they are included upon the DMBC Historic Buildings, Sites and Monuments Record (HBSMR), refs. 4170 and 4171.

### **1.3 Scope of Report**

1.3.1 The project was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), prepared by Birmingham Archaeology (2009) and approved by the Planning Archaeologist of DMBC, in response to a brief issued by DMBC dated 20<sup>th</sup> April 2009. A copy of the project brief and WSI are included below as **Appendices A** and **B** respectively.

1.3.2 This report outlines the results of the assessment, which has been prepared in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment* (IfA, 2008a) and *Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures* (IfA, 2008b).

1.3.3 This report has been prepared based upon information current and available as of August 2009. Details of archaeological terms used in this report are given in the glossary appended as **Appendix C**.

## **2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **2.1 Desk-Based Assessment**

2.1.1 The general aim of the archaeological desk-based assessment, as defined by the WSI, was to collate existing archaeological and historic information relating to site and its immediate environs, to enable informed decisions to be made regarding any further

archaeological input which may be required by means of mitigation as the proposed development at the site proceeds.

## **2.2 Historic Building Assessment**

- 2.2.1 With regard to the standing buildings within the study area, the assessment aimed to provide a detailed analysis, development and assessment of the importance of the school buildings with a view to informing future decisions regarding proposals for alterations and potential selective demolitions. Further, the assessment sought to provide an interpretative assessment of the significance of the buildings to the historic environment in national, regional and local terms and to consider the school buildings in their wider townscape context.

## **3 METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Desk-Based Assessment**

- 3.1.1 A search was made of all relevant and readily available published and unpublished documentary source material, including historic maps, early photographs and drawings, written descriptions, and primary and secondary sources related to the study area held by the Dudley MBC Archives and Local Studies Service (DALs), Staffordshire County Record Office, the local history sections of the Gornal and Sedgley local libraries and by the libraries of the University of Birmingham. The DMBC Historic Buildings Sites and Monuments Record (HBSMR), the principal source of archaeological data for the Borough and standard on-line resources such as A2A, were also consulted. A full list of sources consulted is included below at section §.12.
- 3.1.2 For the purposes of the current assessment, a study area of 500m radius centred on the Red Hall Schools has been considered (see Figure 3), to place the site within a local physical and historical context.
- 3.1.3 The physical survey of the school buildings (§.3.3) has been enhanced by a series of documents held by the DALs, in particular a number of architects drawings relating to alterations and modifications to the northern school site. A single plan held by the Staffordshire County Record Office<sup>1</sup> details minor proposed internal modifications to the southern school buildings undertaken in 1935 and is of little use in identifying significant changes; a search for original plans (by the architect A.P. Brevitt) for both schools at the County Record Office, and the Dudley Archives has, however, proved fruitless and it appears likely that any original drawings were probably destroyed with much of the Sedgley Parish records in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century (Roper 1952, 66 quoted in Kelleher 2006, 10). Original log books for the schools, which may include relevant information, are held by the DALs but were unfortunately not available for examination under the terms of the Data Protection Act (1998).

### **3.2 Walkover Survey**

- 3.2.1 Subsequent to the completion of initial documentary research as outlined above, a walkover survey of the study area was undertaken in order to assess the topography and any above-ground archaeology, including standing buildings.

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<sup>1</sup> SCRO ref. C/A/3/18.

### 3.3 Historic Building Assessment

- 3.3.1 The building assessment comprised an examination of the entire building stock within the study area. Each building was briefly described, photographed and its position mapped and assessed. The photographic record comprised high resolution digital photography using a Nikon D50 single lens reflex camera and was commensurate with a 'Level 2/3' record as defined by English Heritage (2006, 14), extending to include both general and detail shots, contextual views and accessible exterior elevations, visible structural and decorative details (interior and exterior), and general interior views of principal rooms and circulation areas. Where possible, photographs included graded photographic scales. A selection of photographs is included below.
- 3.3.2 Written notes were compiled on *pro forma* record sheets as a basis for compiling the written description. Existing survey drawings of the buildings (supplied by DMBC) were annotated with significant archaeological detail.

## 4 SITE LOCATION AND GEOLOGY

### 4.1 Site Location

- 4.1.1 The three conjoined though formerly autonomous settlements of Gornal (Lower Gornal, Upper Gornal and Gornal Wood) are located c.3.5km to the west of the town centre of Dudley in the West Midlands.
- 4.1.2 The Red Hall Schools are split over two sites located to the north and south sides of Zoar Street which rises steeply from Gornal Wood to the south-west towards the former centre of Lower Gornal at Five Ways and onwards as Roberts Street and Jews Lane to Upper Gornal to the north-east. The schools are centred upon NGR SO 91401 91112 (Figure 1).

### 4.2 Geology

- 4.2.1 The varied geology of Sedgley parish comprises impure limestone shales, calcareous marls, clays, sandstones, coal seams and nodular beds of clay ironstones. The oldest rocks of the parish are the bluish 'Wenlock' limestones and shales, deposited during the Silurian period.
- 4.2.2 In Gornal itself, the Silurian limestone outcrops at Turner's Hill, north-west of the study area, overlaid by Devonian sandstones and the rich carboniferous series, which includes the 'ten yard coal seam' and associated fire-clays which covers much of the village (Barnett 1975, 12); the coal measures also contain valuable deposits of clay and ironstone.
- 4.2.3 The place name of 'Red Hall' itself, in its earliest form 'Raddle Rough' or 'Redwall Rough' (1614), derives from the burnt condition and vivid colouration of the Coal Measure clays (Barnett 1975, 16), being known as 'Redhall' by 1780, although as late as 1844 a field name of 'Raddle Rough Piece' is recorded (*ibid.*).

## **5 GENERAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

### **5.1 The Prehistoric and Roman Periods**

- 5.1.1 Little is known of the area in the prehistoric period. One of the oldest roads of the district is the ridgeway leading from Dudley to Sedgley and beyond and passing through Upper Gornal, which probably formed an ancient 'salt way' (Barnett 1975, 17; 1991, 4). A flint core was found in relation to this track (*ibid.*), however, no archaeological sites from the Prehistoric period are recorded within the vicinity of the current study area.
- 5.1.2 Likewise, no direct evidence of Roman occupation is known from the locality; a single coin, a sestertius of Lucilla Augusta (c.AD164-182) found at Russell's Hall, south-east of the study area, being the only find of the Roman period to have been made within the bounds of the Borough (Hemingway 2009, 24; fig.5). Further reported finds of Roman coins at Woodsetton have not been substantiated (Barnett 1991, 6).

### **5.2 The Anglo-Saxon Period**

- 5.2.1 In the pre-Conquest period, the manor of Sedgley formed part of the Kingdom of Mercia; Underhill (1941, 18) relates an exchange dating to AD866 between Burgred, King of the Mercians and Wulferd of *Wulferduleh* (Wolverley) of land at 'Soeges Lea' (Sedgley).
- 5.2.2 The prevalence of 'ley' endings to place names in the vicinity (eg. Dudley, Coseley, Sedgley, Himley) suggests an area of forest, heaths and marshes with discrete clearings, *lea* being an Anglo-Saxon term for an area of open, untilled land used as pasture.

### **5.3 The Medieval Period**

- 5.3.1 Sedgley is recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086 as follows:

*In SEISDON Hundred:*

*William, son of Ansculf,<sup>2</sup> holds Sedgley (Segleslie), from the King. Earl Edgar held it. 6 hides, land for 12 ploughs: 3 slaves, 45 villagers with a priest and 2 smallholders have 18 ploughs. Meadow, 16 acres. Woodland 2 leagues long and 1 league wide. Value before 1066 £10, now the same. The priests of Wolverhampton claim part of the woodland of this manor.'* (Morris J (ed.) 1976, 12:249d)

- 5.3.2 The place name 'Gornal' is first recorded in the 14<sup>th</sup> century as 'Gornhal', and later appears as 'Goronhale' (1375), 'Gwarnell' or 'Guarnell' (C15th) and 'Gwomolde' in 1565 (Horovitz 2005, 280). In 1590, the distinctions of Over Gornall and Nether Gornall are first recorded (*ibid.*). It probably derives from the OE *cweorn-halh*; the element 'halh' normally refers to water-mills, though in this case the name may alternatively refer to the locality as a source for grinding stones (querns).<sup>3</sup>
- 5.3.3 Historically, Gornal lay close to the boundary of Pensnett Chase to the south-west, established by Roger de Somery, Earl of Dudley, in the later 13<sup>th</sup> century and one of

<sup>2</sup> William fitz Ansculf was the first Lord to control Dudley following the Conquest.

<sup>3</sup> See, for example, VCH Staffs I, 192: 'At Gornal in the parish of Sedgely...mention is made of grindstones or querns being found..'



four chases in medieval Staffordshire (together with Needwood, Sutton and Cannock). Although established primarily for hunting and as a source of timber, Pensnett chase was subject to alternative exploitation by the 15<sup>th</sup> century when its chief wealth arose from coal mining and forges (Birrell 1991, 46).

## 5.4 The Post Medieval Period

5.4.1 The early economy of the area would have been essentially agricultural, though the exploitation of the mineral wealth of the vicinity is recorded as early as 1272, when 'four pits of sea-coal<sup>4</sup> worth £4 per year' were recorded in the manor (Barnett 1975, 13). Mines (probably bell-pits) are also recorded on Pensnett Chase in 1292, together with 'two great smithies' indicating early iron-making (Hemingway 2009, 56-7). Together with associated sources of ironstone and fire-clay, coal mining allowed for a transformation of the economy with trades such as nail, lock, chain, hinge and scythemaking being undertaken on a domestic level in cottage 'shops'.

5.4.2 An examination of early Ordnance Survey mapping clearly illustrates the prevalence of mineral extraction in the 19<sup>th</sup> century with workings at Dibdale Colliery (1 and 2), Grosvenor colliery and Graveyard colliery (HBSMR **12017**), located to the south-east of the current study area. Numerous small scale workings are also indicated within the general area with old shafts and pits being marked on historic maps (see §.6.2 below). Dunphy (1975, 48) records pits owned by one John Bradley located between Bull Street and Red Hall Lane to the south-west of the study area, operational until 1910; disturbed ground is indicated on the OS map of 1919, though no surface structures are indicated on earlier editions. Closer to the school site, Dunphy (1975, 69; Map F) also records pits belonging to the Earl of Dudley and to Howard Mills at Red Hall, while the western tip of the Abbey Street recreation ground is annotated 'small colliery started here but abandoned - no coal found'.

5.4.3 The Mines Department 'Catalogue of Plans of Disused Mines, Vol. II' (1929) records abandoned workings of heathen coal and gubbin and white ironstone at Red Hall, Sedgley (p.141), together with coal (thick, flying reed, brooch and heathen) and white ironstone at Red Hall Gornal (p.79-80). Further abandoned mines within the area are recorded as having worked the coal measures extensively, together with ironstone and fire-clay.

## 6 THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE STUDY AREA

*This section of the assessment describes the known archaeological and historical development of the study area. It is based upon information current and available as of August 2009. Other areas of archaeological or historical importance, not presently recorded, may be identified during subsequent phases of field investigation. For the purposes of this report, a study area of 500m radius has been created, centred upon the site of the Red Hall Schools (see Figure 3).*

### 6.1 Known Archaeological Sites

6.1.1 A total of 33 sites are recorded on the DMBC HBSMR within the study area; the sites are summarised in tabulated form below and locations are illustrated in Figure 3.

| <u>HER Ref. No.</u> | <u>Type*</u> | <u>Site name/description</u>    | <u>NGR</u>            | <u>Period/Date</u> |
|---------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| <u>4170</u>         | <u>HB</u>    | <u>Red Hall Schools (south)</u> | <u>SO 91383 91076</u> | <u>1880→</u>       |
| <u>4171</u>         | <u>HB</u>    | <u>Red Hall Schools (north)</u> | <u>SO 91398 91155</u> | <u>1891→</u>       |

<sup>4</sup> 'Sea-coal' was the medieval term for coal, distinguishing it from charcoal (Hemingway 2009, 57).



|              |         |   |                 |              |                     |
|--------------|---------|---|-----------------|--------------|---------------------|
| <u>4157</u>  | HB      | <u>42 Zoar Street</u>                     | SO <u>91483</u> | <u>91101</u> | <u>Early C20th</u>  |
| <u>4186</u>  | LB (II) | <u>Old Bulls Head PH</u>                  | SO <u>91509</u> | <u>91093</u> | <u>c.1900</u>       |
| <u>12356</u> | AS      | <u>Site of Alexandra Cinema (dem.)</u>    | SO <u>91414</u> | <u>91020</u> | <u>1912</u>         |
| <u>4176</u>  | HB      | <u>50 Red Hall Road</u>                   | SO <u>91299</u> | <u>90933</u> | <u>1938</u>         |
| <u>12090</u> | HB      | <u>30-32 Bank Street</u>                  | SO <u>91363</u> | <u>90902</u> | <u>p-med</u>        |
| <u>4204</u>  | HB      | <u>28 Temple Street</u>                   | SO <u>91679</u> | <u>91174</u> | <u>Pre-1919</u>     |
| <u>4188</u>  | HB      | <u>Memorial Hall, Temple Street</u>       | SO <u>91691</u> | <u>91185</u> |                     |
| <u>4164</u>  | LB (II) | <u>St. James Parish Church</u>            | SO <u>91646</u> | <u>91285</u> | <u>1815-23</u>      |
| <u>4203</u>  | HB      | <u>Former White Gables and The Limes</u>  | SO <u>91723</u> | <u>91306</u> | <u>Pre-1887</u>     |
| <u>4152</u>  | LLB     | <u>40 Abbey Street</u>                    | SO <u>91227</u> | <u>91161</u> | <u>Pre-1919</u>     |
| <u>4153</u>  | LLB     | <u>1 New Street</u>                       | SO <u>91206</u> | <u>91143</u> | <u>Pre-1919</u>     |
| <u>4154</u>  | LLB     | <u>JR Bower's and Sons</u>                | SO <u>91205</u> | <u>91119</u> | <u>Pre-1887</u>     |
| <u>4166</u>  | LLB     | <u>Zoar Chapel</u>                        | SO <u>91249</u> | <u>91103</u> | <u>1906</u>         |
| <u>4212</u>  | HB      | <u>5 Louise Street</u>                    | SO <u>91171</u> | <u>91062</u> | <u>?early C20th</u> |
| <u>4208</u>  | HB      | <u>21 Prospect Road</u>                   | SO <u>91141</u> | <u>91030</u> | <u>?C19th</u>       |
| <u>4211</u>  | HB      | <u>4 Princes Road</u>                     | SO <u>91114</u> | <u>91018</u> | <u>Pre-1882</u>     |
| <u>12086</u> | HB      | <u>20 Prospect Road (manufactory)</u>     | SO <u>91098</u> | <u>90989</u> | <u>C19th</u>        |
| <u>7065</u>  | HB      | <u>New Inn PH</u>                         | SO <u>91847</u> | <u>91254</u> | <u>Pre-1882</u>     |
| <u>4173</u>  | AS      | <u>Site of Gornal Gasworks</u>            | SO <u>91037</u> | <u>91244</u> | <u>Pre-1874</u>     |
| <u>12837</u> | HB      | <u>Former slaughter house, 84 New St.</u> | SO <u>91008</u> | <u>91129</u> | <u>C19th</u>        |
| <u>12351</u> | HB      | <u>Woodman Inn PH, Louise St.</u>         | SO <u>91028</u> | <u>91101</u> | <u>C19th</u>        |
| <u>4207</u>  | HB      | <u>18 Bull Street</u>                     | SO <u>91139</u> | <u>90889</u> | <u>Pre-1887</u>     |
| <u>7148</u>  | LLB     | <u>30-33 Bank Road (dem. 2001)</u>        | SO <u>91363</u> | <u>90902</u> | <u>?C19th</u>       |
| <u>4158</u>  | HB      | <u>Slaughter House, Musk Lane</u>         | SO <u>90977</u> | <u>91145</u> | <u>Pre-1887</u>     |
| <u>4207</u>  | HB      | <u>18 Bull Street</u>                     | SO <u>91137</u> | <u>90864</u> | <u>Pre-1887</u>     |
| <u>7816</u>  | AS      | <u>Site of Safe Works</u>                 | SO <u>91106</u> | <u>90862</u> | <u>?C19th</u>       |
| <u>4814</u>  | AS      | <u>Site of Kinver Street Gas Works</u>    | SO <u>91110</u> | <u>90789</u> | <u>?C19th</u>       |
| <u>4147</u>  | HB      | <u>379-381 Himley Road</u>                | SO <u>91114</u> | <u>90748</u> | <u>C19th</u>        |
| <u>4210</u>  | HB      | <u>359 Himley Road</u>                    | SO <u>91214</u> | <u>90707</u> | <u>C19th</u>        |
| <u>12299</u> | AS      | <u>Site of Horse Trough (dem. 2004)</u>   | SO <u>91601</u> | <u>91433</u> | <u>?C19th</u>       |
| <u>12017</u> | AS      | <u>Site of Graveyard Colliery</u>         | SO <u>91662</u> | <u>90673</u> | <u>?C19th</u>       |

**\* Site Classification:**

|                                  |                                     |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| SAM: S cheduled Ancient Monument | PAW: P revious Archaeological Work  |
| HPG: H istorical Park or Garden  | LB: L isted Building                |
| AS: A rchaeological Site         | LLB: L ocally Listed Building       |
| FS: A rchaeological Findspot     | HB: H istorical Building (unlisted) |

**TABLE 1:** Sites registered with the DMBC HBSMR within/adjoining the Study Area (see **Figure 2**).

6.1.2 Recorded archaeological activity within the study area can be seen to be exclusively 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century in origin, and overwhelmingly takes the form of historic buildings (listed, locally listed and unlisted); archaeological 'sites' where recorded, take the form of known sites of demolished late 19<sup>th</sup>- and early 20<sup>th</sup>-century buildings, viz. the Alexandra Cinema in Red Hall Road (HBSMR **12356**) and the Gornal Gas Works (formerly the Dudley Gas Light Company) at Bird Street, Gornal Wood (HBSMR **4173**). The one exception to this is the site of the Graveyard Colliery (HBSMR **12017**), the name of which refers to a former Quaker burial ground said to have occupied the site (Cockin 2000, 328).

## 6.2 Map Regression

### *Early Maps*

6.2.1 Early county maps (Saxton, 1557; Speed, 1610; Blaeu, 1648; Stent, 1665; Morden, 1695 and Gower, 1749)<sup>5</sup> are of too large a scale to be of any tangible use in tracing the detailed development of Gornal as a settlement. 'O(ver) Gournall' and 'N(ether)

<sup>5</sup>

WALS MAP/469; MAP/471d; MAP/473a; MAP/474, MAP/478b and MAP/487 respectively.

Gournall' are illustrated on Morden's view while Gower shows 'New Gounall' and 'Old Gournall' (Figure 4).<sup>6</sup> A further 17<sup>th</sup>-century depiction, Ogilvy's plan of 1675 (Hemingway 2009, 74; fig. 17), shows the main road leading from Himley to Dudley passing through the settlement of Gornal, with a number of 'coal pits' labelled to either side of the route.

- 6.2.2 The first map to show the study area in detail is a map of Sedgley parish dated 1826.<sup>7</sup> The block of land bordered by Zoar Street, Abbey Street/Summer Lane and Church Street is shown to have been mainly undeveloped with the exception of St James's Church (and adjacent vicarage) to the east and a group of buildings to the south-west around Abbey Farm. Reference to the accompanying schedule indicates that while much of the land was set to arable use, continuing or former coal and ironstone mining activity is indicated for a number of plots, specifically numbers 340, 341 and 347 (see Table 1, below). Plot 341, the site of the future southern school buildings, was in the ownership of one Edward Guest, a beer retailer (Post Office Directory 1850, 309), and was described as 'Old Colliery Land' while the plot immediately adjacent to the east (No. 340) in the ownership of Philip Hickin, a local surgeon (*ibid.*), records a single gin pit 'drawing a small amount of coal and ironstone'.<sup>8</sup> The site of the future northern school buildings (Plot 333) was described simply as 'meadow' while that to the east (Plot 347) was described as 'colliery land' with two active gin shafts; both plots were in the ownership of one Mary Tongue.

| <b>No.</b> | <b>Occupier</b>              | <b>Proprietor</b>            | <b>Description</b>   |
|------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| <u>333</u> | <u>Mary Tongue</u>           | <u>Mary Tongue</u>           | <u>Big Meadow; Arable</u>  |
| <u>340</u> | <u>Philip Hickin</u>         | <u>Philip Hickin</u>         | <u>'Old Colliery Land'; 1 gin pit drawing a small quantity of coal and ironstone</u> |
| <u>341</u> | <u>Edward Guest</u>          | <u>Edward Guest</u>          | <u>'Old Colliery Land'</u>   |
| <u>347</u> | <u>George Cartwright</u>     | <u>Mary Tongue</u>           | <u>'Coal Pit Leasow'; Arable and colliery land, 2 gin shafts.</u>                    |
| <u>348</u> | <u>George Cartwright</u>     | <u>Mary Tongue</u>           | <u>High Field; Arable</u>  |
| <u>354</u> | <u>Rev. Theo. Theodosius</u> | <u>Rev. Theo. Theodosius</u> | <u>Croft</u>   |
| <u>355</u> | <u>Rev. Theo. Theodosius</u> | <u>Rev. Theo. Theodosius</u> | <u>Croft</u>   |

**TABLE 1:** Relevant extracts from schedule accompanying 1826 Parish Map (see Figure 5).

- 6.2.3 A further map of Sedgley parish, dated 1843 (Figure 5),<sup>9</sup> shows an essentially similar arrangement, the main modification being the beginnings of residential development along the eastern side of Red Hall Road (East and West Street). Reference to the accompanying schedule shows the site of the future southern school buildings (Plot 2958) to have been still in the hands of Edward Thomas Guest, though referred to only as a 'nursery' by this date, while the site of the future northern school buildings (Plot 2968) had changed hands from Mary Tongue to John Cartwright.

| <b>No.</b>  | <b>Occupier</b>              | <b>Proprietor</b>            | <b>Description</b>            |
|-------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <u>2946</u> | <u>Rev. Theo. Theodosius</u> | <u>Rev. Theo. Theodosius</u> | <u>---</u>                    |
| <u>2947</u> | <u>Rev. Theo. Theodosius</u> | <u>Rev. Theo. Theodosius</u> | <u>---</u>                    |
| <u>2953</u> | <u>Thomas Bull</u>           | <u>Mary Tongue</u>           | <u>House/Brewhouse/Garden</u> |
| <u>2954</u> | <u>John Cartwright</u>       | <u>John Cartwright</u>       | <u>Lower Leasow</u>           |
| <u>2955</u> | <u>John Cartwright</u>       | <u>John Cartwright</u>       | <u>??</u>                     |
| <u>2956</u> | <u>Philip Hickin</u>         | <u>Philip Hickin</u>         | <u>'Old Colliery Land'</u>    |

<sup>6</sup> Gower's map clearly indicates the mill at Ruiton.

<sup>7</sup> DAL5 MAP/898A; the map seen was a poor quality copy and is not reproduced here.

<sup>8</sup> Philip Hickin's will dated 1868 (DAL5: DSCAM/3/205/1) leaves various areas of land around Lower Gornal together with 'all their minerals' to his four children.

<sup>9</sup> DAL5 MAP/612A.

|             |                            |                                 |                          |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <u>2957</u> | <u>Catherine Greenway</u>  | <u>Trust. Of Earl of Dudley</u> | <u>House/Shop/Garden</u> |
| <u>2958</u> | <u>Edward Thomas Guest</u> | <u>Edward Thomas Guest</u>      | <u>Nursery</u>           |
| <u>2968</u> | <u>John Cartwright</u>     | <u>John Cartwright</u>          | <u>---</u>               |

**TABLE 2:** Relevant extracts from schedule accompanying 1843 Parish Map (see Figure 5).

*Ordnance Survey Maps*

- 6.2.4 The first edition Ordnance Survey County Series 1:2500 map of 1882 (Figure 6). The original building of the Red Hall School (south), erected in 1880, is clearly indicated to the south side of Zoar Street occupying the plot of land formerly recorded as being in the ownership of Edward Thomas Guest (ref. 2958, Table 2). The early school occupied an E-shaped ground plan (Figure 13a) with three parallel ranges extending south-westwards away from a perpendicular range aligned at an angle to Zoar Street, flanking two open rectangular yards; the central of the three rear ranges was approximately half the length of the eastern and western ranges, the latter projecting slightly proud of the front elevation. Both front and rear yards were divided by walls with a small building to the centre of the rear yard; the buildings are clearly labelled 'School (Boys and Girls)'. Adjacent to the school buildings to the east, evidence for former coal mining activities was shown in the form of hachures indicating uneven land; this would tie in with the description of the land in the 1843 tithe apportionment as being 'Old Colliery Land'; Dunphy (1975, 69; Map F) records these workings as having belonged to the Earl of Dudley. Further areas of disturbed ground, together with two 'Old Shafts (Coal)' existed to the east of Redhall, again workings of the Earl of Dudley (*ibid.*). The open area of land to the north of Zoar Street/Temple Street remained essentially unchanged and retained its field boundary pattern from the time of the 1843 survey, the exception being the construction of a short terrace of probable residential buildings with backbuildings opposite the junction of Abbey Street and Brook Street and a further short terrace on Temple Street to the east of the churchyard. The plot to the future Red Hall School (north) itself remained undeveloped at this date; a single 'Old Air Shaft' being indicated adjacent to the road.
- 6.2.5 The Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> Revision map of 1903 (Figure 7) shows significant developments had occurred at the school site and within the immediate vicinity. The three parallel ranges of the southern school building had been extended to the south-west and short transverse blocks added, facing inwards. A pair of long narrow structures had been erected in the rear yard, to the south of the free-standing structures visible on the earlier edition. To the north of Zoar Street, the first phase of the Red Hall School (north) had been erected (in 1890/1, see below), together with related house at No. 11 Zoar Street, located in the south-west corner of the site and which presumably originally functioned as a headmaster's house/office. Beyond the school site to the south-west, residential development had begun along the northern side of Bank Road with the construction of a short terrace (Nos. 11-19) backing on to the boundary of the school yard while to the north side of Zoar Street and Temple Street residential development had been extended eastwards from the school site as far as the pre-existing terrace adjacent to the churchyard. To the south, buildings had been erected on the corner of Red Hall Road and Zoar Street (including HBSMR **4157**). The open area to the north of Zoar Street/Temple Street continued essentially unchanged, retaining its former field boundaries; the north-east field is annotated as 'Allotment Gardens'. Continuing mineral extraction is evidenced to the south and east, with a new mineral railway serving the Dibdale Collieries and Brick and Retort works at Bagley's Lane on the far side of Five Ways.

- 6.2.6 By the time of the 2<sup>nd</sup> revision Ordnance Survey map of 1919 (Figure 8), further extensions to both north and south schools had taken place. To the south, the terminal gables of the side ranges had been extended northwards towards Zoar Street while to the rear, the former open yards between the three projecting ranges had been covered over and further transverse blocks added to the south-west terminals. The free standing structures within the rear yard had been removed though the long narrow structures, previously noted, survived. The northern school had also been extended to the north and east. Beyond the school site, the north-western side of Redhall Road had been developed for terraced residential housing and included a 'Picture Theatre' (later the Alexandra Cinema, HBSMR **12356**, since demolished), while further development had occurred on the eastern side of Abbey Street to the north-west, reaching almost to Abbey Farm at the junction of Abbey Street and Zoar Street. The open areas to the south and east saw continued mineral extraction activity with a 'Gravel Pit' and 'Old Clay Pit' labelled.
- 6.2.7 The 3<sup>rd</sup> Revision map of 1937-8 (Figure 9) shows few major changes to the school buildings; a small rectangular block had been added to the east end of the northern school (see §.8.4.13) while to the south, the school yard buildings had been removed to the southern boundary wall and the nursery block erected to the south-west of the southern site (see §.8.3). Further afield, however, increasing urbanisation is evident with major residential development particularly to the north-west at the Stickley estate (incl. Brookdale, Boundary Hill, Wood Road). To the south and east, continuing exploitation of the coal measures is indicated, including the apparent reopening of the Graveyard Colliery (renamed Grosvenor Colliery).
- 6.2.8 The Ordnance Survey National Grid Series edition of 1961-7 (Figure 9) again shows limited alteration to the school layout, the single major development being the introduction of an entrance block at the south-east corner of the north school (see §.8.4.14).<sup>10</sup> The north school is annotated 'County Junior School' while the south is labelled 'County Infants and Secondary School'. The area of land to the north of Zoar Street/Temple Street had undergone radical alteration involving the removal of all the relic field boundaries evident on earlier maps accompanied by significant soft landscaping to form level areas for sports pitches ('Abbey Street Recreation Ground') and playground facilities; to the north-east, the graveyard of St James's Church had expanded into the area of former allotment gardens. Further afield, the Stickley Estate had been extended while in the areas to the south and east, the landscape was characterised by abandoned mine workings, spoil heaps, refuse tips and a network of former trackways.
- 6.2.9 The Ordnance Survey edition of 1971 (Figure 11) indicates the expansion of the northern school with the addition of a large block at the north-east corner (see §.8.4.16).<sup>11</sup> Little significant change had occurred in the wider area, save the open-cast exploitation of the areas to the south and east of Red Hall. Opencast workings to south-east.

## **7 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK**

- 7.1 The DMBC HBSMR records no previous archaeological fieldwork events within the boundary of the school or within the wider study area.

<sup>10</sup> John Weller and Silvester (Architects); drawing dated October 1957, revised February 1958 (DALs: S/G/RED 7/1).

<sup>11</sup> Scott and Clark (Architects); drawing dated January 1968 (DALs: S/G/RED 7/2).

- 7.2 Two previous studies undertaken in relation to Sedgley Board Schools at Mount Pleasant, Coseley (Kelleher, 2006) and at Roberts Street, Lower Gornal (LUAU, 1999) have been referred to and taken into consideration in the preparation of the current report.

## **8 RED HALL SCHOOLS: BUILDING DESCRIPTIONS**

### **8.1 Overview**

- 8.1.1 The Red Hall Schools were constructed under the direction of the Sedgley School Board, established in response to Forster's Education Act of 1870 and first elected on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1876 (Kelly's Directory 1892, 284).
- 8.1.2 The school buildings are arranged over two discrete sites, located to the northern and southern sides of Zoar Street. The earliest buildings are located on the southern site, originating with a school building of 1880; construction on the northern site followed soon afterwards and was developed from 1891 onwards. The southern school building was officially opened on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1880,<sup>12</sup> with the first admissions being registered on 29<sup>th</sup> June.<sup>13</sup> Underhill (1941, 203) cites an announcement of 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1880 in the local press which reported:

*'On Monday afternoon, Board Schools to accommodate 450 children were opened at Red Hall in the presence of a large concourse of people. Amongst those present were Dr Eagleton (chairman of the School Board), Rev. J.Y. Rooker, Rev. H. Eachus, Rev. Ed. Hughes, Messrs. S. Wilkes, J. Cornfield, G.M. Morgan, J. Lane, W. Bassett, E.F. Guest and A.P. Brevitt (Architect).<sup>14</sup> The schools and playground are pleasantly situated and extend to over 4,000 sq. Yards. There are three departments, each capable of accommodating 150 children. The desks, benches and fittings for the buildings were supplied by Messrs. Larmouth and Sidebotham of Salford and the gas fittings by Messrs. Brown and Co. of Birmingham. The builders were Messrs. Horton<sup>15</sup> of Brierley Hill and the cost was £3,300.'*

- 8.1.3 The construction of the northern school is commemorated in a foundation stone set within the south elevation, dated February 1891.
- 8.1.4 Each site retains a number of distinct phases of expansion and addition to the primary school buildings, covering over 100 years of chronological development. The development of the two school sites will here be described separately, following a chronological framework where possible.

<sup>12</sup> 'Gornal goes to School', Black Country Bugle, July 1980.

<sup>13</sup> Original Admissions registers S/G/RED 2/13

<sup>14</sup> Archibald Paul Brevitt appears to have been regularly employed as architect to the Sedgley Board, having completed designs for the Mount Pleasant School, Coseley in 1879 (Kelleher 2006, 10).

<sup>15</sup> Charles Arthur Horton is listed as a builder at Church Street, Brierley Hill in Kelly's Directory of 1896 (p.59); this is presumably the same Charles Horton who went on to become Coseley UDC surveyor and carried out additions and alterations to the Sedgley Board School at Mount Pleasant, Coseley in 1913 (Kelleher 2006, 10-11).

## **8.2 The Southern School Buildings** (see Figure 16)

- 8.2.1 The initial construction of the south school comprised a single-storey building, built on an E-shaped plan with three parallel ranges extending south-westwards from a front range aligned approximately north-west/south-east, at an angle to Zoar Street to the north.<sup>16</sup> The longer, eastern and western ranges extended north, terminating in gable ends projecting slightly from street elevation of the front range, while to the rear, the central range was approximately half the length of the flanking ranges.
- 8.2.2 Four distinct phases of development have been identified within the standing buildings, three of which cover the period from 1880 to 1919. The fourth phase is necessarily broad and incorporates a number of undated internal alterations.

### *Exterior*

- 8.2.3 The principal elevation of the school faces to the north, towards Zoar Street (Plate 1). Construction is in mid orange/red brick laid to English bond with a chamfered plinth, simple roll moulding at cill level and an eaves detail of superimposed bands of dentil, dog-tooth and ¼ brick oversail (NB: in the gables, the upper course of the eaves detail comprises hollow chamfered brick; see Plates 7/8). The pitched roof is hipped to east and west and clad in plain red tiles. The current projecting gables to east and west (Plates 2 and 3) represent secondary modifications, though they reflect an original arrangement of gables which formerly terminated further to the south and survive within the standing structure as the northern walls of Rooms [26] and [04]-[07] respectively (in both cases, blocked lancet windows are visible at high level above inserted ceilings - see Plate 32). The extended gables (added between 1903 and 1919) each include groups of three lancets with an upper, rounded string moulding, above which the apexes include panels of diagonally set herringbone brickwork<sup>17</sup> and inset sandstone bands inscribed 'RED HALL SCHOOLS' (east; Plate 7) and 'SEDGLEY BOARD SCHOOLS' (west; Plate 8).<sup>18</sup> The recessed jambs of the secondary lancets display a ¼ round brick moulding with a curved stop detail (Plate 10).
- 8.2.4 Between the two projecting gables, an original section of the north elevation survives (Plate 4), though with partially modified fenestration. A low gable, again displaying an apex detail of herringbone brickwork, rises above the central section of the elevation with grouped lancets as per the side gables previously described; original lancet windows again have recessed ¼ rounded jambs, though terminating in pointed chamfer stops (Plate 9). To the east and west of the central gable, fenestration comprises large rectangular openings beneath chamfered sandstone lintels which cut through the primary eaves band and house three-light timber windows which combine fixed central sections with upper and lower hoppers. These windows would appear to have been introduced at some point early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century; original lancet openings serving Room [15] are discernible on an historic photograph showing the interior of

<sup>16</sup> So as to avoid overly long orientational descriptions, the alignment of this building will hereafter be described as being north-south; thus the main Zoar Street elevation will be referred to as facing to the north, while the rear ranges extend to the south.

<sup>17</sup> Similar inset panels of herringbone brickwork were employed at Mount Pleasant School, Coseley, though the latter examples were set orthogonally as opposed to diagonally (Kelleher 2006, pl. 11/12).

<sup>18</sup> The inclusion of the 'Sedgley Board Schools' legend in this context is somewhat anomalous as, although the extended gables clearly post-date the OS map of 1903 (Figure 13b), the School Board system had been abolished by the Education Act of 1902 which transferred control of elementary education to County or County Borough Councils in the form of Local Education Authorities (LEAs). It is possible that the bands may perhaps have been reused from the gables of the earlier building.



Room [17] (Figure 15a)<sup>19</sup> which clearly post-dates the covering over of the original rear yards and must therefore date to after 1903. A single, brick ridge-stack rises towards the western end of the roof, serving Room [15] internally.

- 8.2.5 Flanking the projecting secondary gables are matching, longitudinal flat-roofed entrance blocks with doorways facing to Zoar Street. Doorways have brick jambs with ¼ round chamfers and lower brooch stops supporting shouldered sandstone 'Caernarfon' arched heads; that to the east is surmounted by a sandstone panel inscribed 'GIRLS' (Plate 5), that to the west 'INFANTS' (Plate 6). Both doorways are blocked in English bond brickwork. Modern polygonal entrance blocks with extensive UPVC glazing units have been appended to the inner sides of the entrance blocks (Plate 4).
- 8.2.6 The rear elevation of the school presents a composite elevation with a number of discrete blocks dating to different phases of extension to the school (Plate 11), though all being essentially in place by 1919. To the east and west, matching brick gables housing groups of four lancet windows represent the early southern extension of the eastern and western ranges, work accomplished by the time of the 1<sup>st</sup> revision Ordnance Survey map of 1903 (Figure 13b). The extensions share the characteristics of the original build, maintaining the details of chamfered plinth, plain rolled string and decorative eaves band. The lancet windows are however, wider here than in the north elevation and lack the recessed secondary chamfered jambs and upper string moulding of the earlier openings (Plate 13). Contemporary with the extension of the side ranges, the central rear range was extended to the original length of the side ranges (Figure 13b), again terminating in a gable end housing five, stepped narrow lancets (Plate 11). Short, transverse blocks were added to the inner faces of the extended side ranges; that to the east survives with a blocked central lancet window, that to the west has been subsequently removed and replaced by a flat-roofed kitchen block (Fig.16, Room [18]) though a roof scar in the west range wall indicates its former location. Further additions were made to the inward facing elevations of the side ranges between 1903 and 1919; to the east a short, single-storey transverse range was introduced (Fig.16, Room [34]; Plate 13) while to the west a larger, north-south aligned block was built (Fig.16, Room [19]) with a stack in its eastern wall and a narrow window-gable projecting above the eaves band (Plate 12). Fenestration of the Phase III additions is of large rectangular openings with chamfered sandstone cills and lintels, housing timber frames with upper hoppers; that within the south wall of Room [34] may be inserted, elsewhere they appear original.
- 8.2.7 The eastern and western facades, which each encompass three different phases of construction, present fairly unified elevations (Plates 14/17) although fenestration has been partially and not always sympathetically renewed (Plate 19). The elevations again share the characteristics of the original build, maintaining the details of chamfered plinth, plain rolled string and decorative eaves band. Each elevation includes three gables along its length and combines original lancet and inserted rectangular window openings (Plate 18); the northern gable of the west elevation was rebuilt at the time of the extension of the side ranges, evidenced by a clear change in brick colouration and the use of an inset herring-bone brick panel at the apex (Plate 17). Analysis of the two elevations together allows for a conjectural reconstruction of the original scheme of fenestration, which would appear to have comprised paired lancets along the full length of the elevation (Figure 17). The pattern was repeated in

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<sup>19</sup> Genge 2001, 85.

the Phase II extensions to the south (Plate 14) which included an attractive stepped string detail over the heightened lancets of the southern projecting gables (Plate 15).

*Interior*

- 8.2.8 Internally, the Phase I school building comprises two classrooms within each of the side ranges ([09]/[10] and [28]/[29] to west and east respectively) with a smaller, square room at the north end of each wing ([04]-[07] and [26]), possibly originally serving as office or cloakroom facilities. The northern walls of the latter rooms represent the original northern extent of the Phase I building and groups of three blocked lancet windows can be seen at high level in each range (Plate 32). The main east-west closing range also comprises two classrooms ([15] and [16]), flanked by opposing entrance corridors, aligned north-south, to the east and west ([27] and [08]). Here, the classrooms are separated by a single-skin brick wall laid to stretcher bond and located slightly off-centre to the west; the positioning of this division is somewhat unusual and it may be that this range originally constituted an open hall, with a primary fireplace in the centre of the west wall, being divided to form classroom accommodation only when additional hall areas were created to the south (ie. Rooms [17] and [23]).<sup>20</sup> Rooms [15] and [16] are entered from corridors [08] and [27] respectively via doorways set within wide 'observation' windows, comprising multi-panel glazing (Plate 24) over a solid dado comprising diagonally set boarding (Plate 25).
- 8.2.9 Located off the centre southern side of the northern closing range is a further small, square room ([20]/[21]) lit by three grouped lancets in the west wall and a single, rectangular window to the east (lancet arches are visible above the flat lintel of this opening from within Rm. [23]; Plate 29). The original function of this room remains unclear; it was extended southwards in Phase II to the full length of the flanking ranges at which point the lower brickwork of the south wall was removed and replaced by a timber, hinged partition by Peace and Norquoy of Manchester (Plates 34/5).<sup>21</sup>
- 8.2.10 The classrooms of the side ranges are of three bays and were originally open to collar level; an original panelled classroom partition survives within the eastern range where it can be seen to extend above the present inserted ceiling (Plate 30). Classrooms are lit by a combination of narrow lancet and wider, inserted flat-headed windows previously described; a number of lancet windows retain iron-framed windows with centrally hinged opening panels while rectangular apertures retain timber cross-windows with upper hoppers (Plate 27); in both instances, survival of early window details is confined to 'interior' contexts, those within exterior walls have tended to be replaced with UPVC units.
- 8.2.11 Phase I interior finishes and details survive in parts; these include the general use of an 11 course glazed-brick dado (laid to stretcher bond) surmounted by a projecting, rounded brick rail (Plate 22); quadrant or plain, angled-fillet skirtings and herringbone woodblock flooring (exposed within Room [15], elsewhere interiors have been carpeted, possibly obscuring original finishes). Suspended ceilings have been introduced throughout, though, where possible, inspection above these has revealed the roofs of the Phase I building, both side ranges and northern closing range, to comprise simple A-frame trusses with one visible tier of butt purlins, principal members being plain chamfered and stopped and with iron tie-rods extending between

<sup>20</sup> No definitive evidence for the insertion of this dividing wall was recorded during the current, non-intrusive survey.

<sup>21</sup> See Clay 1906, 76; fig.16.



principal rafter feet and collar. All observed primary spaces were ceiled over with lath and plaster render at collar level. Primary ventilation was provided by wall mounted inlet boxes and by circular ceiling vents (Plate 31).

8.2.12 Phase II (1880-1903) additions to the school comprised the extension of each of the north-south ranges of the original E-shaped plan (see Figure 13b, 16). As was the case externally, the internal detailing of these additions reflected closely the Phase I structure.

8.2.13 Phase III (1903-1919) saw the extension northwards of the east and west ranges, to provide additional classroom and (?) office accommodation, together with the flanking entrance corridors and associated doorways (Plates 5/6). The roofs over the Phase III extensions to the side ranges ([01]/[03] and [25]) are essentially similar to the Phase I structures, though the details of chamfer-stops and iron tie-bars vary (Plate 33) and are additionally provided with a collar purlin. Interior detailing of these extensions appears plain, although this may be the result of the extensive remodelling undertaken in the intervening years, bringing the spaces up to contemporary standards (Plate 25); for example, evidence for the roll-profile brick dado rail survives only within cupboard [24], representing the entrance lobby from the northeast door, the detail having been apparently lost elsewhere.

8.2.14 Contemporary with the northward extension of the side ranges, the exterior yards between the southern ranges were closed off to the south and covered over to form two new halls ([17]; Plate 21, and [23]). The roof structure of these areas, each of five equal bays, was not accessible at the time of survey, though it may be assumed that they would have been open to the apex and furnished with some form of skylight or dormer windows (as survives within Room [20]/[21]) so as to allow adequate light to reach the interior of the room, which would have been furnished with only one exterior wall, that to the south. Historic photographs indicate pendant gas lighting within room [17] (Figure 15a), while it may be at this stage that some of the former exterior lancet windows were adapted to larger rectangular openings to allow more efficient transference of light between adjacent spaces. Both halls are furnished with redwood block floors laid to a herringbone pattern and display characteristic details including the glazed brick dado and roll-moulded rail recorded elsewhere.

8.2.15 Further work at this date included the addition of small blocks to the inward facing elevations of the side ranges ([19] and [34]), described above (§.8.2.7). Block [34] is compact, with a fireplace in the east wall, and rectangular windows within the south and west walls; the north wall includes a blocked window and door. The dado is again of 11 courses of glazed brick, laid to stretcher bond, though the roll-profile rail is here replaced by a tile band comprising a foliated Vitruvian scroll motif, identical to that employed within the Phase II elements of the north school building (see §.8.4.12 below) and, incidentally, as in 1913 work at Mount Pleasant School, Coseley (Kelleher 2006, 15; plate 17). The interior of block [19] was not accessed.

8.2.16 Later phases of work within the south school include the making of new openings within walls, the blocking of a number of primary doors and windows and the introduction of ephemeral stud partitions. The introduction of carpet and linoleum floor surfaces has served potentially to obscure much early flooring, while suspended ceilings have both obscured high level detail and significantly altered the overall interior proportions of the buildings.

### *Bounding Wall*

8.2.17 The school site is bounded to the north by a low wall of red-brick construction with chamfered blue brick plinth and capped by round section blue brick copings supporting a plain iron railing fence. A double entrance gate to the west (Pate 77) is flanked by brick piers with two-course, chamfered blue-brick plinth sandstone banding and copings. The double gate reflects the former division of the school between 'girls' and 'infants' departments (the 'ghost' on the eastern jamb of the west entrance door indicates a former low dividing wall that survived at least until the OS edition of 1971; Figure 13d).

### **8.3 The Nursery Block** (see Figure 18)

8.3.1 Located to the south of the principal southern school buildings and aligned with the eastern range of the main building is a small nursery block (Plate 36), constructed at some point between the Ordnance Survey editions of 1919 and 1937-8 (Figure 13c/d). The block is rectangular in plan of seven bays with a pitched pantile clad roof, hipped to north and south (Plate 38), and with a shorter, flat-roofed projection to the centre of the west elevation (Plate 37), all of a single storey; two ridge stacks rise above the central section of the roof. The block is of red brick construction throughout, with roughcast render above cill level, exposed stretcher bond brickwork below; bay divisions are expressed externally by shallow projecting piers of brickwork, laid to English bond. The block is generously fenestrated with large rectangular openings within the east and west elevations, housing timber cross windows with upper, centrally hinged opening lights (Plate 39); the north and south elevations are free of window openings while to the east, two windows have been enlarged to form double fire door exits.

8.3.2 The building is accessed via opposing doorways within the north and south walls of the flat-roofed western block which give onto a lateral corridor (Fig.18, [01]; Plate 40). Doorways off corridor [01] give onto office [02] and toilet accommodation [03/4] to the west and onto classrooms [07/9], stores [05/6] and staffroom [08] to the east. The classrooms (Plate 42) are symmetrically arranged to the north and south of the range, each occupying three bays, liberally lit by windows in the east and west walls and originally with fireplaces within the transverse walls to the central bay of the block. Survival of original features internally is somewhat limited, with herringbone woodblock flooring in part only of classroom [07], otherwise floor surfaces comprise modern carpet or, in the case of [03/4], linoleum.<sup>22</sup> The roofspace above inserted ceilings was not inspected. Original timber panelled doors with brass fittings survive to the eastern rooms (eg. Plate 41), those to the classrooms being part glazed. Other primary features include a simple, low tile skirting detail throughout, save room [08] which displays an angled timber fillet detail.

### **8.4 The Northern School Buildings** (see Figure 19)

8.4.1 The primary phase of construction on the northern school site dates to 1891: a datestone in the southern (Zoar Street) elevation, inscribed with the date February 17<sup>th</sup> 1891 (Plate 44), names the architect again as A.P. Brevitt and the builders as Messrs. H. Gough and Sons of Wolverhampton.<sup>23</sup> A set of original building accounts for

<sup>22</sup> Original block flooring may survive beneath later finishes.

<sup>23</sup> H Gough and Sons were a long established firm of builders (est. 1840) based in Dudley Road, Wolverhampton who worked, amongst other projects, on the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton built to the

the school in the name of H. Gough survive,<sup>24</sup> running from October 1890 to May 1891 and extending to 16 pages. Weekly purchases are itemised including materials such as brick, roofing tiles, timber, paving, iron, lime, sand, nails and laths, as well as finished items such as stop-chamfered timber beams, architraves, moulded skirting, chamfered fillets, four-panel doors, hinges, drop latches and redwood floor blocks (*'laid and fixed complete'*).

- 8.4.2 Additions to the original building were made early on with significant work being completed before 1919; a total of 8 phases of development have been identified from an analysis of the fabric and documentary research, though the majority of the later phases are of negligible architectural interest, mostly post-dating the late 1950s. A programme of interior alterations in the early 1980s is evidenced by a collection of surviving design drawings held by DMBC Archives.<sup>25</sup>

*Exterior*

- 8.4.3 The principal block of the school building comprises a single-storey, brick-built range, rectangular in plan and aligned approximately east-west (parallel to Zoar Street) with a pitched roof, clad in plain red tile and gabled to east and west. Extending northwards from the principal range are three perpendicular ranges, that to the east somewhat longer than the two to the west, all with tile-clad pitched roofs, gabled to the north. At the north end of the building are a series of late 20<sup>th</sup>-century additions which will be described separately (see §.8.4.14-18 below).
- 8.4.4 The main elevation faces south towards Zoar Street (Plate 43); it is of orange-red brick laid to English bond with a low, two-course chamfered plinth, and decorative eaves band of dentilation below three shallow oversail courses.<sup>26</sup> The elevation is symmetrically arranged with a large, central gable (Plate 45) over three stepped windows flanked by two smaller gables each to east and west (Plate 46) over single windows breaking the eaves line. All gables include panels of decorative terracotta work of floral and geometric design and are topped by decorative finials (Plates 47/8), the central gable being furnished with projecting brick 'kneeler' details with terracotta floral boss (Plate 45). Fenestration is of tall rectangular openings throughout with chamfered stone cills and lintels, the cills being enhanced by roll moulded aprons with nail head terminals, again similar to Brevitt's work at Mount Pleasant. Window jambs are unchamfered and are formed of a more highly fired, orange brick. All windows have been replaced with UPVC units, though historic photos (Figure 15b) indicate earlier fixed lights with upper and lower hoppers. Paired date stones are located towards the western end of the elevation, one representing an original foundation stone (February 1891; Plate 44), the other, of 1991, recording the centenary of the schools foundation.
- 8.4.5 The eastern aspect of the school presents a composite elevation comprising three different phases of construction (Plate 49). To the south is the gable end of the Phase I (1891) front range previously described, partially obscured by a late 20<sup>th</sup>-century, single-storey infill corridor. The gable end reflects the central gable of the south front with an inset terracotta panel of geometric design to the apex, though here

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designs of Charles J Phipps and opened on 10<sup>th</sup> December 1894. It is understood that, at the time of writing, the company has only recently ceased trading.

<sup>24</sup>

DALS S/G/RED 3/36.

<sup>25</sup>

DALS S/G/RED 7/4-23.

<sup>26</sup>

Similar to the eaves detail of Brevitt's Mount Pleasant School, Coseley of 1879 (Kelleher 2006, 11; pl.14) and to that recorded at the Roberts Street School, Lower Gornal (HBSMR 4169) of 1894 (DMBC 2009; LUAU 1999), both Sedgley Board schools.

surmounting a single, wide window opening beneath a chamfered stone lintel. This window would appear to be a secondary adaptation as internally, the lower sections of three separate openings (blocked) survive within the west wall of corridor [26] and it thus seems that the window was adapted to admit more light into classroom [04] when the covered corridor was formed in 1958.<sup>27</sup> Immediately north of the gable end is a primary, square headed entrance doorway beneath a small decorated gable surmounted by a stone panel inscribed 'BOYS' (Plate 51), giving access to internal corridor [01]. To the north of the doorway, the facade is slightly set back and includes two further large gables; the southern gable again includes a single large opening (here housing a multi-panel timber window) and again represents a 1958 adaptation of three original grouped openings (see DALs S/G/RED 7/1), while the northern gable retains three stepped rectangular window openings; both openings display chamfered stone cills and lintels, and roll moulded aprons with nailhead brick terminals. Midway between the two gables, a distinct change in brickwork denotes a phase change (Plate 52), the northern (Phase II) work being undertaken at some point between 1903 and 1919 (see Figure 14b/c). North of the Phase II gable are two small, contemporary window openings with chamfered stone cills and lintels (Plate 49).

- 8.4.6 At the northern end of the east elevation is a late 20<sup>th</sup>-century, plain two-storey teaching block (Plate 70; see §.8.4.16).
- 8.4.7 The north elevation of the school comprises three unequal brick gables all dating to Phase II extensions of 1903-1919, the western two being set back considerably from the eastern range and all much obscured by late 20<sup>th</sup>-century additions. Each gable includes grouped, tall window openings though they lack the terracotta apex details recorded elsewhere.
- 8.4.8 The west elevation (Plate 53) reflects fairly closely that to the east. The original layout of three narrow windows survives to the gable end of the south range which is again flanked to the north by an original entrance doorway surmounted by a panel inscribed 'BOYS' (Plate 55). To the north, the elevation includes five rectangular window openings, two large openings to the south (one breaking the eaves line and gabled) and three smaller openings to the north; all display standard details of chamfered stone cills and lintels, the three smaller openings house timber casement windows with upper hoppers. A brick stack rises adjacent to the gabled window bay to the south, serving a basement boiler room below [05].
- 8.4.9 At the northern end, the west elevation is abutted by a small utilitarian, single-storey toilet block dating to the 1970s ([41]/[42]).

#### *Interior*

- 8.4.10 Internally, the Phase I school comprised three rooms to either side of a central, east-west aligned axial corridor ([01]); [02]-[04] within the main south range and [05]-[07] to the north. Corridor [01] (Plate 58) was accessed to east and west by opposing, identical doorways (Plates 51/55; previously described), the eastern doorway retaining its original, heavy timber door (Plate 56/7) with iron drop-handle. Primary classrooms and corridor all display original glazed, stretcher bond brick dado (painted over) with projecting rail over inverted pyramidal dado band (Plate 59). Classrooms [02]-[04] and [06] retain herringbone woodblock flooring while [04] and [07] retain original 'observation' windows adjacent to their doors displaying stop-

<sup>27</sup> [26] is annotated 'new corridor' on architect's drawing DALs S/G/RED 7/1, which also indicates three gable window openings to be blocked at ground floor level.

chamfered posts and rails and diagonally set planking dado infill. The classrooms of the main south range are interconnected by wide openings with the northern side of their common walls, currently housing UPVC sliding doors though demonstrably primary, possibly originally housing some form of hinged partition.

8.4.11 As to the south, suspended ceilings have been introduced throughout (Plates 59/60), though inspection above these again revealed roofs of simple A-frame construction with one visible tier of butt purlins and collar purlin, and with iron tie-rods extending between principal rafter feet and collar; chamfer stop details match those of the Phase II work of the south school buildings.

8.4.12 Phase II additions to the building (1903-1919) entailed the extension of the three ranges to the north of axial corridor [01]. Within the eastern range, this created three classrooms of equal size and, though the original timber and glazing partitions have been lost at ground level to subsequent adaptation in 1958, the upper parts of the screens survive above the suspended ceilings (Plate 67). While the Phase II work reflected the earlier building in many respects, secondary work is clearly recognised by its interior use of foliated Vitruvian scroll dado tile bands (Plate 64), identical to Phase III work in the southern buildings (see §.8.2.16); the interface of Phase I and Phase II work is clearly expressed in the juxtaposition of the two dado rail treatments, for example within [07] (Plate 65). The western range was extended to provide further classroom accommodation ([10]), while the central range was elongated to form an exercise hall ([06]; Plate 61) with a wide opening onto corridor [01] to the south (Plate 62).<sup>28</sup>

*1920/30s Addition*

8.4.13 A small, single-storey, free-standing block ([12]/[13]; Plate 68) was introduced at the eastern end of the south range at some point between the Ordnance Survey editions of 1919 and 1937 (Figure 14c/d). The block is plain, brick built in orange-red brick laid to stretcher bond, rectangular in plan, aligned north-south and with a tile-clad pitched roof, gabled to north and south. Internally, the block has been updated for contemporary office use, and conjoined to the main school building by the creation of corridor [26], leaving little exposed to evidence its original form and function; historic plans annotate the building as comprising a 'Boys Cloakroom' in 1958. A photograph from the time of the construction of the adjacent entrance block (Figure 15b) illustrates the former south elevation.

*Entrance Block, 1958*

8.4.14 Appended at the south-east corner of the principal elevation is a single-storey entrance block ([14]-[25]; Plate 69) dating to 1958.<sup>29</sup> The block is brick-built in dark brown brick, laid to stretcher, with flat roof and is strictly utilitarian in nature, originally constructed to provide staff room, cloakroom and toilet/wash-up facilities. It currently houses offices ([21], [23]-[25]), toilets ([15]-[19]), storerooms ([14]/[20]) and a small library area ([24]).

8.4.15 A contemporary block ([28]-[31]) was added at the north end of hall [06], providing kitchen and server facilities, subsequently encased within further extensions.

<sup>28</sup> A number of cast-iron roof vents, identical to those observed within the southern school buildings (see Plate 31) have been displayed above this opening (Plate 62), presumably originating from the Phase I roof structure.

<sup>29</sup> DAL S/G/RED 7/1.

*Teaching Block, 1968*

8.4.16 At the north-east corner of the school building is located a two-storey utilitarian teaching block ([33-40]; Plate 70) dating to 1968.<sup>30</sup> The structure is of brick construction, in brown brick laid to stretcher bond with flat roof and houses superimposed, symmetrically arranged classrooms ([34]/[35]; Plate 73) to the east with a hallway ([33]; Plate 71) stair ([40]; Plate 72) and toilet facilities ([36]/[37]) to the west. Fenestration is of large, three-light windows set within slightly recessed bays above panels of beige brick. The block is entered via a covered corridor ([43] to the west and via a doorway at the south-west corner.

*Technology Block, 1972*

8.4.17 A simple, free-standing timber stud and panel constructed 'practical room' ([D1]-[D4]; Plates 74-6), located to the east side of the school, dates to 1972.<sup>31</sup> The building occupies an elevated site relative to the main school buildings, being approached via a wide flight of brick steps to the north-west (Plate 74). The building is rectangular in plan, aligned north-south, with a low pitched roof, gabled to north and south with a projecting entrance canopy at the north-east corner. It is of five equal bays with extensive fenestration to the east and west long elevation. Internally, the block comprises a principal teaching room to the south ([D2]; Plate 76), occupying three and a half bays, with subsidiary teaching room ([D3]) to the north-west together with a storeroom ([D4]) and entrance lobby ([D1]).

*Later additions and alterations*

8.4.18 Recent additions to the school include a new toilet block at the north-west corner ([41]/[42]), dating to between 1972 and 1980 and replacing a former detached toilet block located against the north site boundary (shown on historic OS mapping and on proposal drawings of 1972; DALs S/G/RED 7/3). A number of internal alterations also post-date design drawings of 1980, including the removal at ground level of early wood and glazed partitions to the east classroom range ([07-[09]) though these survive above the level of the inserted suspended ceilings (see Plate 67).

*Bounding Wall*

8.4.19 The school site is bounded to the south by a low wall of red-brick construction with chamfered blue brick plinth and capped by round section blue brick copings supporting a plain iron railing fence. A gateway to the west (Plate 78), adjacent to No.11 Zoar Street, is flanked by brick piers with two-course, chamfered blue-brick plinth sandstone banding and copings of a different design to those employed in the southern school.

**8.5 No. 11 Zoar Street** (see Figure 19)

8.5.1 No. 11 Zoar Street, situate within the grounds of the school at the south-west corner adjacent to Zoar Street, would appear to be contemporary with the main building (ie. 1891), first being indicated on the Ordnance Survey edition of 1903 and perhaps originally functioning as a headmaster's or caretaker's residence (DMBC 2009, see **Appendix A**).

<sup>30</sup> DALs S/G/RED 7/2.

<sup>31</sup> DALs S/G/RED 7/3.



- 8.5.2 The house is of two storeys, of orange-red brick construction laid to English bond, with two-course chamfered plinth and eaves detail of four oversail courses (Plates 79/80). It occupies an approximately 'T'-shaped plan with an east-west aligned range of domestic aspect facing to the north (Plate 81), pitched-roofed and gabled to east and west with two ridge stacks (one to the west gable) and a further gabled range extending southwards to front onto Zoar Street, the latter with a projecting bay window at ground floor level (Plate 80). A small gabled projection housing an internal stair is set in the south-west angle of the two ranges, adjacent to a third stack rising against the exterior wall of the south range (Plate 82).
- 8.5.3 Gables are treated with oversail brick 'kneelers' and decorative panels of stack bond brick divided by projecting vertical header bands (Plates 79/80 and 83). Fenestration is of plain rectangular openings with straight jambs, chamfered stone lintels and cills; in all but the north elevation, the cill of the upper window and head of the lower are continued as flush strings. The cill of the lower window is also continued as a string but this was noted to be formed of concrete render applied over brickwork. All windows have been replaced with UPVC units.
- 8.5.4 The house is entered via doorways set centrally within the north elevation (Plate 81) and within the east elevation of the southern range (Plate 79). Internally, the house displays a uniform plan to each level with two rooms within the north range ([G2]/[G3], [F2]/[F3]) and a single room to the south ([G4]/[F4]) all accessed from a central lobby([G1]) and landing ([F1]); the upper floor over [G1] houses a WC ([F5]). The interior of the house has been refitted throughout to provide contemporary office/storage accommodation and retains little of interest, save an unusual and attractive banister/newel detail to stair [G6] at first floor level (Plate 84). The stair extends to a basement room below [G4].

## **9 SITE ASSESSMENT**

### **9.1 Walkover Survey**

- 9.1.1 A walkover survey of the open area of land to the north of Zoar Street/Temple Street (the Abbey Street Recreation Ground) was made as, although detail designs were not available at the time of commissioning of the current study, it is understood that parts of this land may be under consideration within future redevelopment plans.
- 9.1.2 The Recreation Ground covers an area of approximately 3.2 hectares. It is bounded to the south by the rear boundaries of properties fronting Zoar Street and Temple Street (including Red Hall School north; Plate 85/7), to the east by the lands of St James Church and the premises of the Gornal Youth Centre, and to the north and west by the rear of properties fronting Abbey Street and Summer Lane. The land slopes generally from east to west in a series of banks and terraces (Plate 86/8), laid to predominantly to turf and having clearly undergone significant soft landscaping in recent years to form level areas for sports field facilities. As a result of this landscaping, no features of obvious archaeological significance were noted during the walkover survey.

## **10 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**

### **10.1 The School Buildings**

- 10.1.1 The current study has established that the Red Hall School buildings originate in the last two decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, occupying sites formerly used for agricultural purposes and for probable small scale mineral extraction.
- 10.1.2 The Red Hall School buildings were constructed, from 1880 on, under the auspices of the Sedgley School Board, itself formed in 1876 in response to Forster's Education Act of 1870. The early elements of the school buildings represent an interesting, though by no means exceptional, example of educational architecture of the School Board era. They retain a good selection of both decorative and practical detailing of the time, from the decorative brick and terracotta work of the exterior elevations to the detailing and surviving joinery of the interior.
- 10.1.3 The 1870 Act sought to establish a network of schools at the level of the civil parish, particularly in areas where church school provision was seen to be inadequate, and this switch from ecclesiastic to secular provision of education tended to be reflected in an attendant move away from the use of quasi-religious architectural styles in school design (Seaborne and Lowe, 1977, 3). In this respect, the Red Hall schools are of particular interest and it is unusual that the south school was constructed with apparent extensive use of paired lancet windows at this date (especially considering Brevitt's use of wider segmental arches at Mount Pleasant School, Coseley one year earlier; see Kelleher, 2006). The development of school design during the latter years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century are well illustrated by the changes apparent between the southern and northern schools at Gornal, the latter building making extensive use of taller, wider window openings; the insertion of the large rectangular openings into both north and south school buildings in the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century reflects the culmination of this evolution.
- 10.1.4 The gradual expansion and enlargement of the Red Hall schools encapsulates the changing academic and structural approaches to educational architecture over the course of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, culminating in the more utilitarian teaching blocks of the late 1960s, eminently more practical though lacking the architectural pretension and attention to detail of the earlier work.
- 10.1.5 It is important that the school buildings should not be assessed in isolation, but should be seen as forming an integral part of a late 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup>-century streetscape including, for example, the residential development of Zoar Street east of the schools and the locally listed Zoar Chapel of 1906 (HBSMR **4166**) to the west. In this context, the schools can be seen to make a significant contribution to the character of the area, especially when losses to undistinguished 20<sup>th</sup>-century development around Gornal Wood centre are taken into consideration.

### **10.2 Archaeological Potential**

- 10.2.1 The DMBC HBSMR records no known archaeology within the area of the Red Hall Schools and Abbey Street recreation ground. However, mining activity is known historically in the general area and while the site appears to be at some remove from the principal areas of mineral extraction and the major concerns such as the Himley and Baggeridge Collieries, documentary evidence points to such activity, albeit on a smaller scale, within the study area and the school boundaries themselves. It is thus



likely that remains related to such activity may be encountered during any significant groundworks related to redevelopment of the site. In this respect, the results of a salvage watching brief undertaken by the DMBC Historic Environment Team during demolition work at Robert Street Schools, c.1.5km north-east of the current study area should be born in mind (HBSMR **7647**). Here, evidence of several periods of mining activity from bell pits and adits exploiting surface measures through to deep mining using shafts and pillar and stall working were exposed (DMBC Brief 2009, see **Appendix A**). Several examples of metal tramway rails were unearthed relating to the latter operations (*ibid.*).

### **10.3 Relevant Legislation and Policy Guidelines**

10.3.1 Although the buildings of Red Hall Schools are unlisted and are extended no statutory protection, their importance on a local level is reflected in their inclusion on the DMBC HBSMR and the retention of the earlier elements of the school buildings within any proposed development may be seen to be desirable.

10.3.2 The DMBC Unitary Development Plan was adopted in October 2005.<sup>32</sup> In respect of historic and cultural heritage, the following policies can be seen to be pertinent:

#### Policy S4: Heritage Assets

(The) Borough's heritage assets will be protected, conserved and where possible, enhanced through the direct action of the Council and through the support of the local community and environmental agencies. The Borough's heritage assets include:

- Conservation areas and statutorily listed buildings;
- Canals
- Locally important buildings and structures
- Archaeological sites and remains; and
- Public art

The definition of built heritage is clarified at Para 1.29 as follows:

Dudley Borough's built heritage is by no means confined to conservation areas, nationally important buildings and canals. The distinctive character and interest of the Borough's many individual settlements is often enhanced and given definition by 'keynote' buildings that may not meet national standards but nevertheless have a distinct local resonance, and make a highly valuable contribution to the locality. Such buildings are also worthy of an appropriate level of individual protection.

#### Policy HE1: Local Character and Distinctiveness

Proposals that would result in the loss of physical features whether man-made or natural that strongly contribute to the local character and distinctiveness of the Borough's landscape and townscape will be resisted.

**In cases where changes of character or demolition are unavoidable the Council will seek to ensure that provision is made for an appropriate level**

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<sup>32</sup> <http://www.dudley.gov.uk/environment--planning/planning/unitary-development-plan/adopted-unitary-development-plan>

**of archaeological building recording to take place prior to the alteration or demolition of the features concerned.**

The Council will ensure that all proposals take full account of, and are compatible with, locally distinctive character types and respect the relevant attributes of character areas.

Policy HE8: Archaeology and Information

In respect of Scheduled Ancient Monuments, non-scheduled sites of national or regional importance, and other sites of archaeological significance, which may from time to time be registered in the Dudley Historic Buildings Sites and Monuments Record, and areas of high archaeological potential as may be defined by the Council, applicants for new development will be required to provide, as part of any planning application, adequate information to allow the full and proper consideration of the impact of the proposed development on archaeological remains.

**10.4 Archaeological Mitigation**

10.4.1 The current study has established an historical and archaeological context for the interpretation of the Red Hall school buildings, as required by Policy HE8 of the DMBC UDP and has created a visual and interpretive record of the structures commensurate with a Level 2/3 survey as defined by English Heritage (2006), representing an 'appropriate level' of archaeological recording as defined by Policy HE1 of the DMBC UDP (see above).

10.4.2 Any further programme of archaeological mitigation will need to be designed as detailed development proposals for the site become available. All decisions regarding the necessity for, and the nature and extent of any further programme of archaeological work lies with the Historic Environment team of Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council.

**11 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

11.1 The project was commissioned by the Children's Department of Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council; thanks go to Mr Martin Yates (Buildings and Estates Officer) of DMBC for help throughout the course of the project. Thanks also to Mr John Hemingway (DMBC, Historic Environment), Ms Alison Peddar (Red Hall School) and to the staff of the Staffordshire County Record Office, Dudley Archives, and Gornal and Sedgley public libraries.

11.2 The project was managed for Birmingham Archaeology by Ric Tyler AIfA who also undertook the historical research and site recording/assessment, and collated and illustrated the current report. The report was reviewed and edited by Dr Malcolm Hislop (Project Manager and Research Fellow) of Birmingham Archaeology.

## 12 SOURCES

### (a) Cartographic Sources (in chronological order)

*Abbreviations: DALs: Dudley Archives and Local Studies; SCRO: Staffordshire County Record Office. WALS: Wolverhampton Archives and Local Studies*

- 1577 Saxton's map of Staffordshire (WALS Map/469).
- 1610 Speed's map of Staffordshire (WALS Map/471b).
- 1648 Blaeu's map of Staffordshire (WALS Map/473a).
- 1665 Stent's map of Staffordshire (WALS Map/474).
- 1695 Morden's map of Staffordshire (WALS Map/478b).
- 1749 Gower's map of Staffordshire (WALS Map/487).
- 1775 Yates's map of Staffordshire (WALS Map/491).
- 1812 Plan of the mines of Lord Dudley and others. (WALS Map/500).
- 1826 Plan of the Parish of Sedgley in the County of Stafford, with accompanying book of reference (DALs: Map/898A).
- 1843 Plan of the Parish of Sedgley in the County of Stafford, with accompanying book of reference (DALs: Map/612A).
- 1882 Ordnance Survey County Series 1:2500 map, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition.
- 1903 Ordnance Survey County Series 1:2500 map, 1<sup>st</sup> Revision.
- 1919 Ordnance Survey County Series 1:2500 map, 2<sup>nd</sup> Revision.
- 1937-8 Ordnance Survey County Series 1:2500 map, 3<sup>rd</sup> Revision.
- 1961-7 Ordnance Survey National Grid Series 1:2500 map, Edition
- 1971 Ordnance Survey National Grid Series 1:2500 map, Edition

### (b) Other Graphic Sources

- 1935 Proposed New Cookery Rooms; Heating plan and window schedule. GC Longbridge Council Education Architect, dated March 1931, signed 21/1/1935. (SCRO ref. C/A/3/18).
- 1957/8 Ground plan, sections and elevation for addition of staff rooms, cloakroom and wash-up. Architects: John Weller and Silvester, Wolverhampton, drawing no. 23/3e, dated October 1957, revised February 1958 (DALs: S/G/RED 7/1).
- 1968 Block and detail plan for additional 2-storey block, annotated 'Red Hall Junior School - Stage I'. Architect Scott and Clark, Wednesbury, drawing no. 3118/4, dated January 1968 (DALs: S/G/RED 7/2).
- 1972 Block plan and detail drawing for addition of 'New Practical Room'. Architects Scott and Clark, Wednesbury, drawing no. 3161/1, dated Sept. 1972 (DALs: S/G/RED 7/3).
- 1980 Various architects drawings regarding internal alterations. Architect: WR Skelton, Director of Architectural Services, Dudley Metropolitan Borough, dated May/Dec. 1980 (DALs: S/G/RED 7/4-12).
- 1981 Various architects drawings regarding internal alterations. Architect: WR Skelton, Director of Architectural Services, Dudley Metropolitan Borough, dated Jan/Feb. 1981 (DALs: S/G/RED 7/13-23).

### (c) Primary Sources

- 1868 Will of William Hickin, Surgeon, of Lower Gornal (DALs: DSCAM/3/205/1).
- 1890/1 Building Accounts for 'New Boys School', Lower Gornal (DALs: S/G/RED 3/36).
- 1880-89 Admission Registers; Red Hall Boys School (DALs: S/G/RED 2/13).

(d) *Secondary Sources*

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Birmingham Archaeology Client Report No. **1566**.

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Underhill EA, 1941. *The Story of the Ancient Manor of Sedgley*. Atkins Bros., Tipton.

(e) *Trade Directories* (in chronological order)

- 1834 White's Directory of Staffordshire.
- 1850 Post Office Directory of Birmingham, Staffordshire and Worcestershire.
- 1892 Kelly's Directory of Staffordshire.
- 1896 Kelly's Directory of Staffordshire.
- 1924 Kelly's Directory of Staffordshire.

(f) *On-line Resources*

[www.dudley.gov.uk](http://www.dudley.gov.uk)

[www.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk)

[www.sedgleylocalhistory.org.uk](http://www.sedgleylocalhistory.org.uk)

[www.sedgleymanor.com](http://www.sedgleymanor.com)

## APPENDIX C: Glossary of Terms

### **Archaeological Periods and Date Ranges**

| <b>Period</b>                     | <b>Date Range</b>             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b><i>Prehistoric</i></b>         |                               |
| <u>Paleolithic</u>                | <u>500,000 BC - 10,000 BC</u> |
| <u>Mesolithic</u>                 | <u>10,000 BC - 4,000 BC</u>   |
| <u>Neolithic</u>                  | <u>4,000 BC - 2,400 BC</u>    |
| <u>Bronze Age</u>                 | <u>2,400 BC - 700 BC</u>      |
| <u>Iron Age</u>                   | <u>700 BC - AD 43</u>         |
| <b><i>Historic</i></b>            |                               |
| <u>Roman</u>                      | <u>AD 43 - AD410</u>          |
| <u>Anglo-Saxon/Early Medieval</u> | <u>AD410 - AD 1066</u>        |
| <u>Medieval</u>                   | <u>AD 1066 - AD1539</u>       |
| <u>Post Medieval</u>              | <u>AD 1540 - AD 1900</u>      |
| <u>Modern</u>                     | <u>AD 1901 - present</u>      |

### **Statutory Designations**

#### **Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM)**

'Scheduling' is the process through which nationally important sites and monuments are given legal protection. A schedule has been kept since 1882 of monuments whose preservation is given priority over other land uses. The current legislation, the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, supports a formal system of [Scheduled Monument Consent](#) (SMC, see below) for any work to a designated monument.

#### **Conservation Area (CA)**

Conservation Areas are any areas of '*special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance*' and are designated by Local Authorities. There are now more than 8,000 conservation areas in England. Designation introduces a general control over the demolition of unlisted buildings and provides the basis for policies designed to preserve or enhance all the aspects of character or appearance that define an area's special interest.

#### **Listed Building (LB)**

A 'Listed Building' is a structure that has been placed on the statutory lists of buildings of '*special architectural or historic interest*' compiled by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport on advice from English Heritage. When a building is listed, it is listed in its entirety, which means that both the exterior and the interior are protected. In addition, any object or structure fixed to the building, and any object or structure within the curtilage of the building, which although not fixed to the building, forms part of the land and has done so since before 1 July 1948, are treated as part of the listed building.

#### **Locally Listed Building (LLB)**

A Locally Listed Building is a building, structure or feature which, whilst not Statutorily listed by the Secretary of State, a local authority feels to make a significant contribution to the local environment and an important part of an area's heritage due to its architectural, archaeological significance or historical associations. Inclusion on a Local List does not give a building any statutory protection

#### **Registered Parks and Gardens (RPG)**

The *Register of Parks and Gardens of special historic interest in England*, compiled and maintained by English Heritage, currently includes nearly 1450 sites, divided into three grade bands. The majority of the sites identified through the *Register* as being of a sufficiently high level of interest to merit a national designation, are designated Grade II. Around 30% of the 1450 are considered to be of exceptional historic interest and are awarded a star giving them Grade II\* status while a further 10% are of international importance, and are classified as Grade I.

### **Archaeological Priority Area (APA)**

An Archaeological Priority Area is an area specified by Local Planning Authorities to help protect archaeological remains that might be affected by development. This means that a site in such an area should be assessed for their archaeological potential when application is made for their redevelopment.

### ***The Planning Process***

#### **Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC)**

The Secretary of State must be informed about any work which might affect a monument above or below ground, and English Heritage gives advice to the Government on each application. In assessing each application the Secretary of State will try to ensure that damage done to protected sites is kept to a minimum. **Written consent must always be obtained before any work can begin.** Some development may also need planning permission.

#### **Listed Building Consent (LBC)**

Listed Building Consent (LBC) is required in order to carry out any works to a Listed Building which will affect its special value for listing purposes. This will almost certainly be necessary for any major works, but may also be necessary for minor alterations and possibly even repairs and maintenance. LBC may also be necessary for a change of use of the property. **It is a criminal offence to carry out work which needs listed building consent without obtaining it beforehand.**

### ***The Archaeological Process***

The Principle Stages for handling archaeology within the planning process, in line with the Government's Planning Policy Guidance notes PPG 15 and PPG16 are:

- **Pre-determination:** desk-based assessment, archaeological evaluation
- **Post-determination:** preservation *in situ*, preservation by record (excavation)

### ***Stages of Archaeological Work***

#### **Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)**

Any programme of archaeological work will normally be undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), clearly stating the scope and extent of work, the aims and objectives, and the methodology to be employed during the course of work. The WSI will be prepared by the contracted archaeological organisation and approved in advance of work by the archaeological officer of the relevant LPA.

#### **Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (DBA)**

An archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) constitutes a first stage, non-invasive assessment of the archaeological potential of a site, undertaken in advance of any development. Research will normally comprise a search of all readily available documentary and archival sources pertaining to a site combined with an on-site 'walkover' survey to assess surviving archaeological remains / built heritage of the area.

#### **Archaeological Evaluation**

An archaeological evaluation is a limited programme of intrusive or non-intrusive fieldwork undertaken to establish the extent of survival of archaeological deposits within a site and to determine the character, date, state of preservation and potential significance of any buried remains. An evaluation is often required prior to the determination of a planning application for development and will normally be undertaken subsequent to a desk-based assessment. A variety of techniques may be employed including geophysical survey, fieldwalking, trial trenching and test pitting. The results of evaluation will be used to establish the necessity for and determine the requirements of any further stage of archaeological work.

**Archaeological Excavation**

An archaeological excavation is a programme of controlled, intrusive fieldwork, normally undertaken by means of open area excavation, with the purpose of examining and recording archaeological deposits, features and structures identified by documentary research and/or archaeological evaluation. Archaeological excavation will normally lead on to a programme of post-excavation analysis and publication.

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

An archaeological watching brief is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons within an area or site where there is a possibility of archaeological deposits being disturbed or destroyed. Groundworks will normally be undertaken by a principal contractor under the supervision of an attending archaeologist.

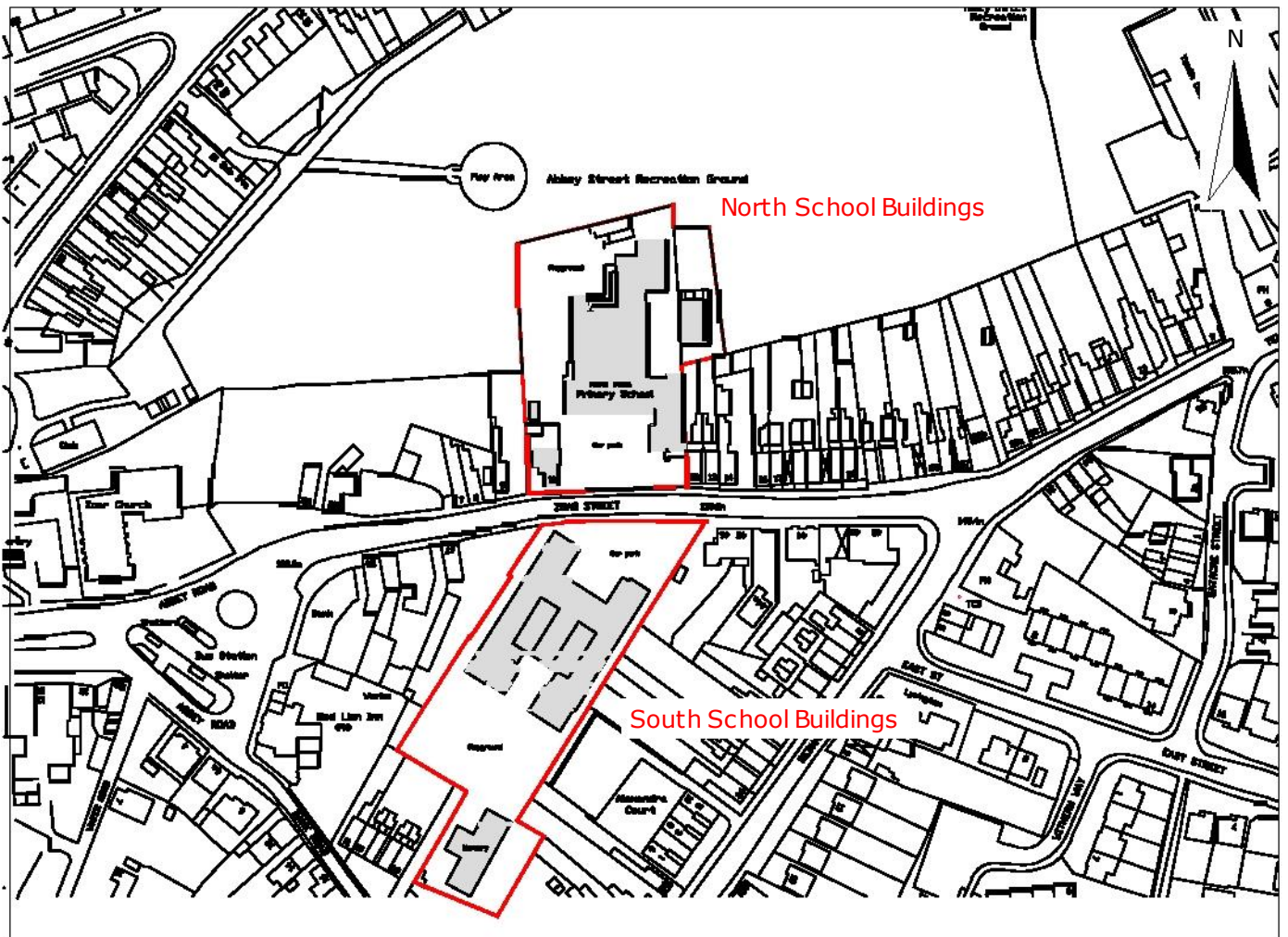
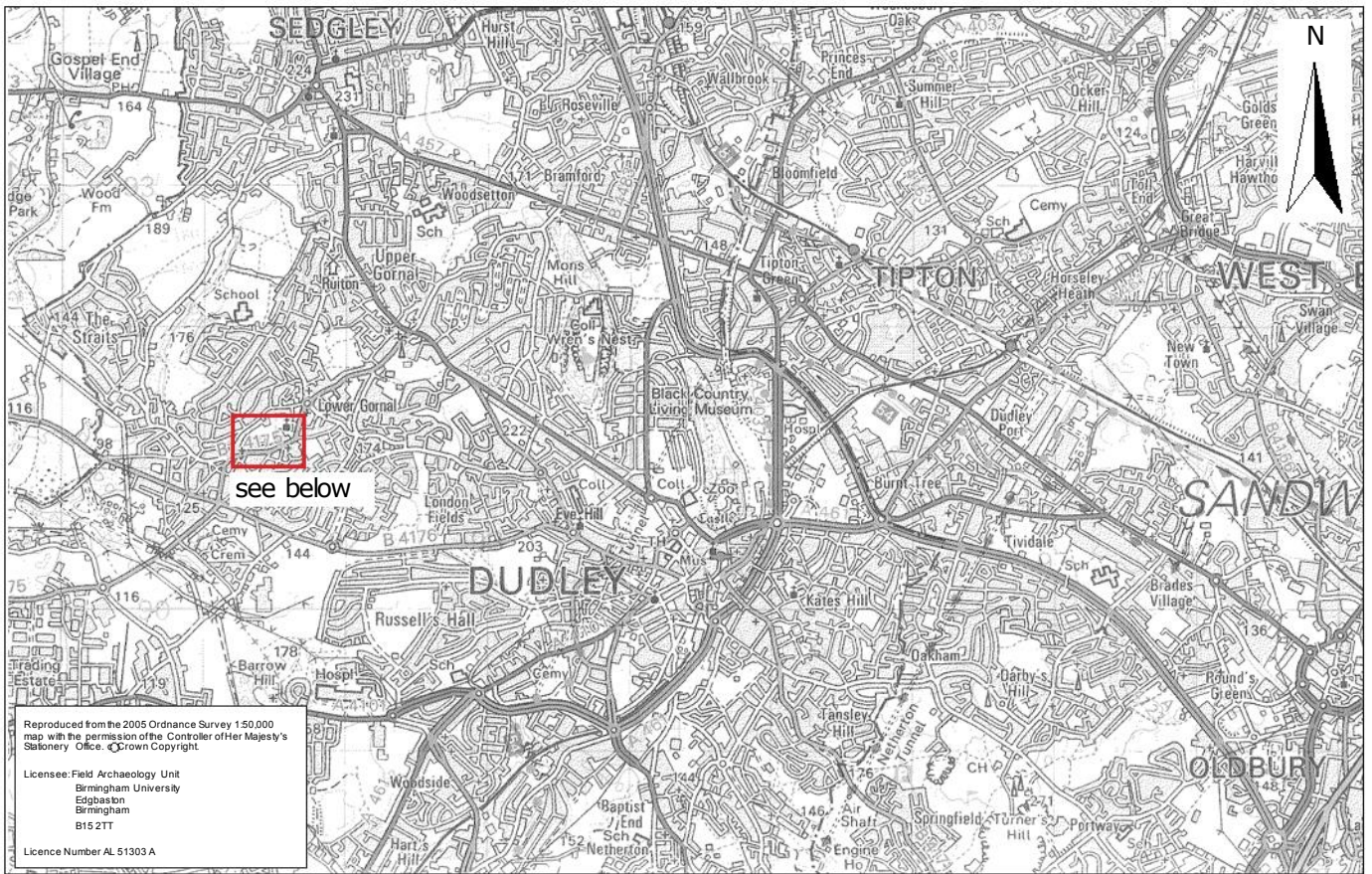
**Preservation *in-situ***

Foundation design to avoid or minimise impact on archaeology may be sought. This might include locating buildings to avoid archaeology; display of remains; sympathetic location of piled foundations and piling techniques; raising floor or ground beam levels; the routing of services; management of ground water. Landscaping and planting may also be constrained. Monitoring over a number of years after completion may be needed to assess if the preservation techniques have been successful.

***Historic Building Recording (HBR)***

A Historic Building Record (HBR) is a programme of work intended to establish the character, history, dating, form and archaeological development of a specified building, structure or complex and its setting. A programme of historic building recording will often be required as a condition of planning consent / listed building consent, to be taken in advance of (pre-determination) and/or during building refurbishment / alterations / demolitions (post determination). HBR can be undertaken to a range of different levels (Levels 1 - 4 as defined by English Heritage) dependent upon the significance of the building under consideration and the extent of the proposed works.

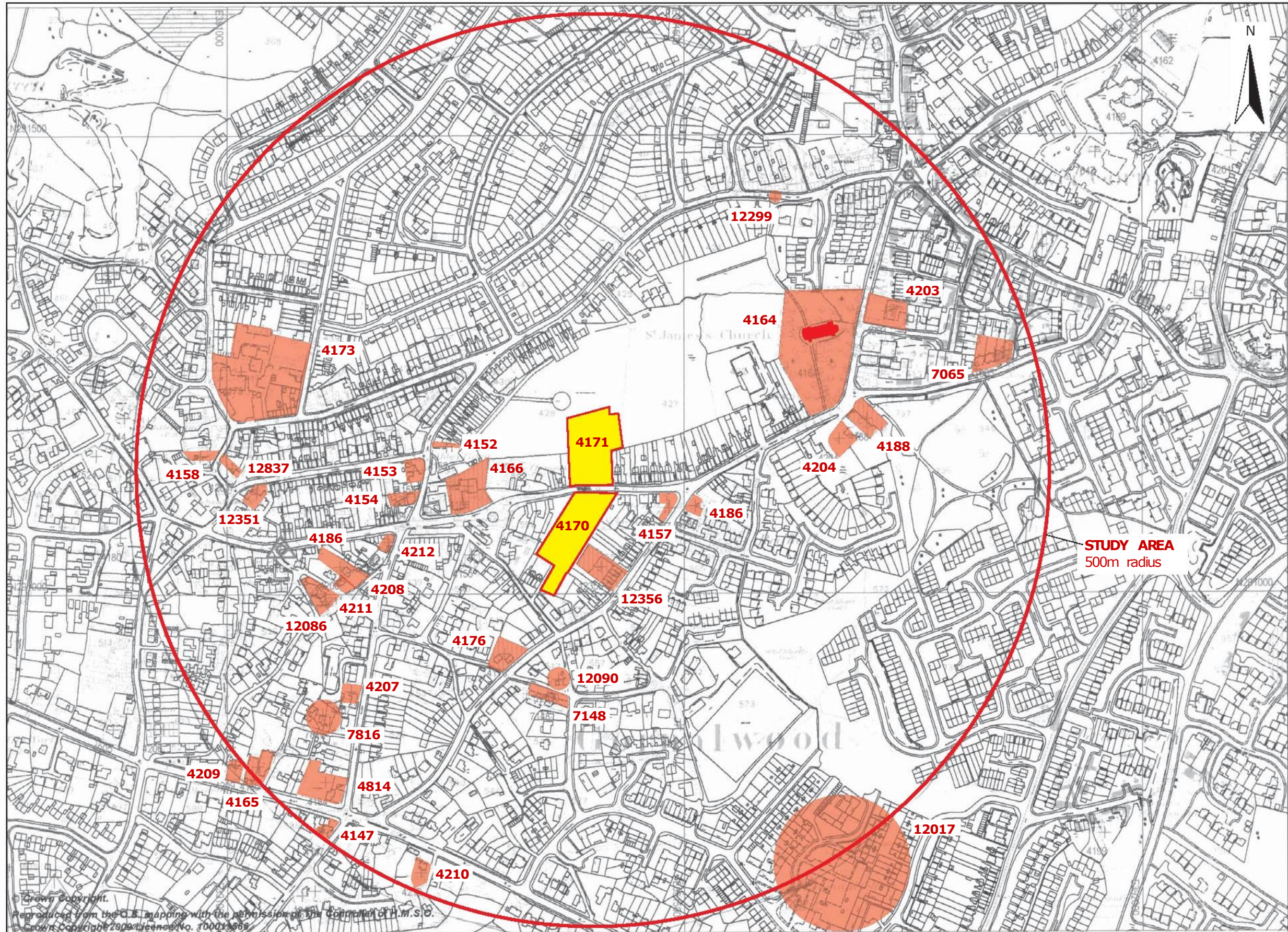












Basemap and data provided by DMBC





(a) Extract from Morden's County map of 1695 (WALS MAP/478b).



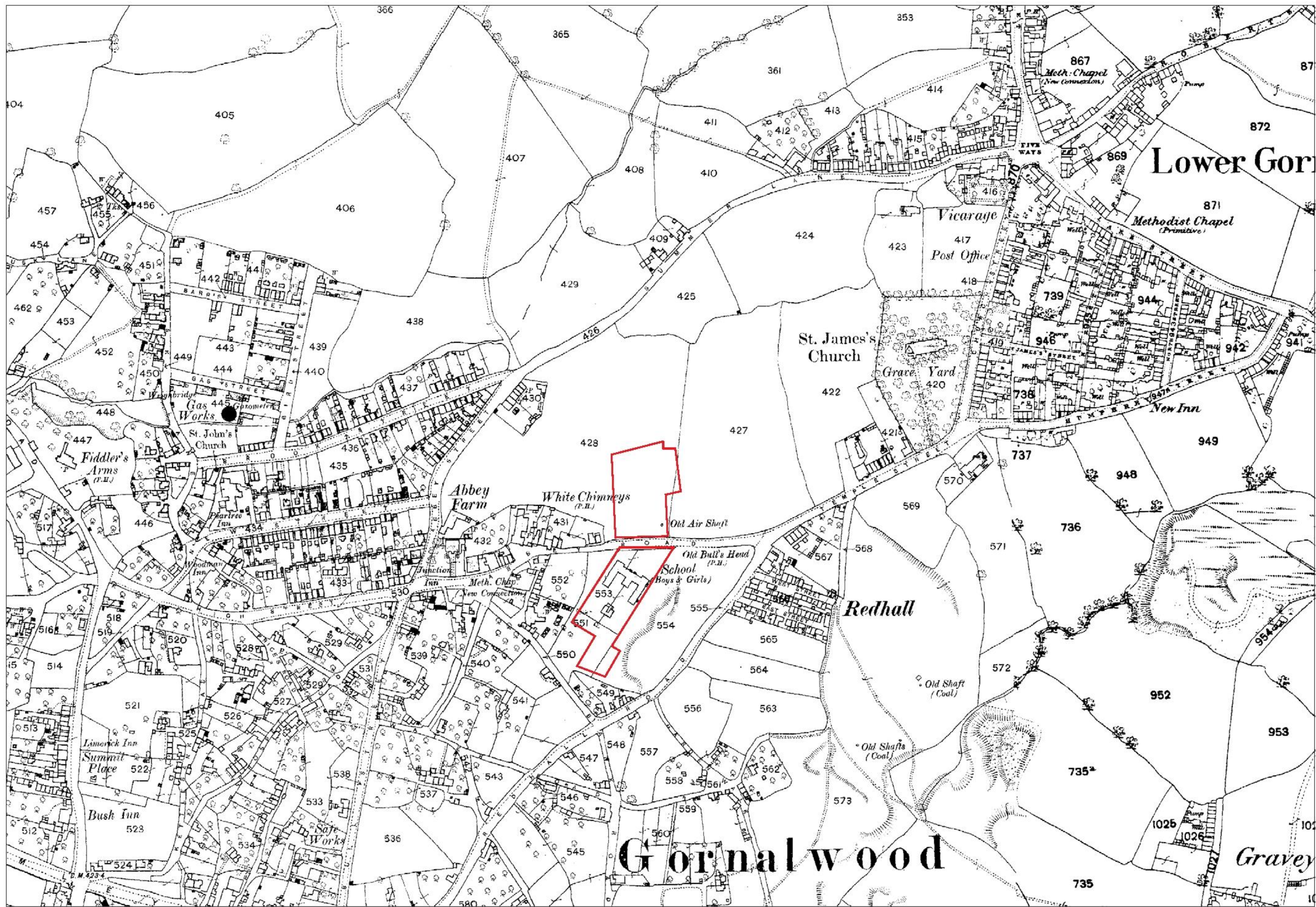
(b) Extract from Gower's county map of 1749 (WALS MAP/487).



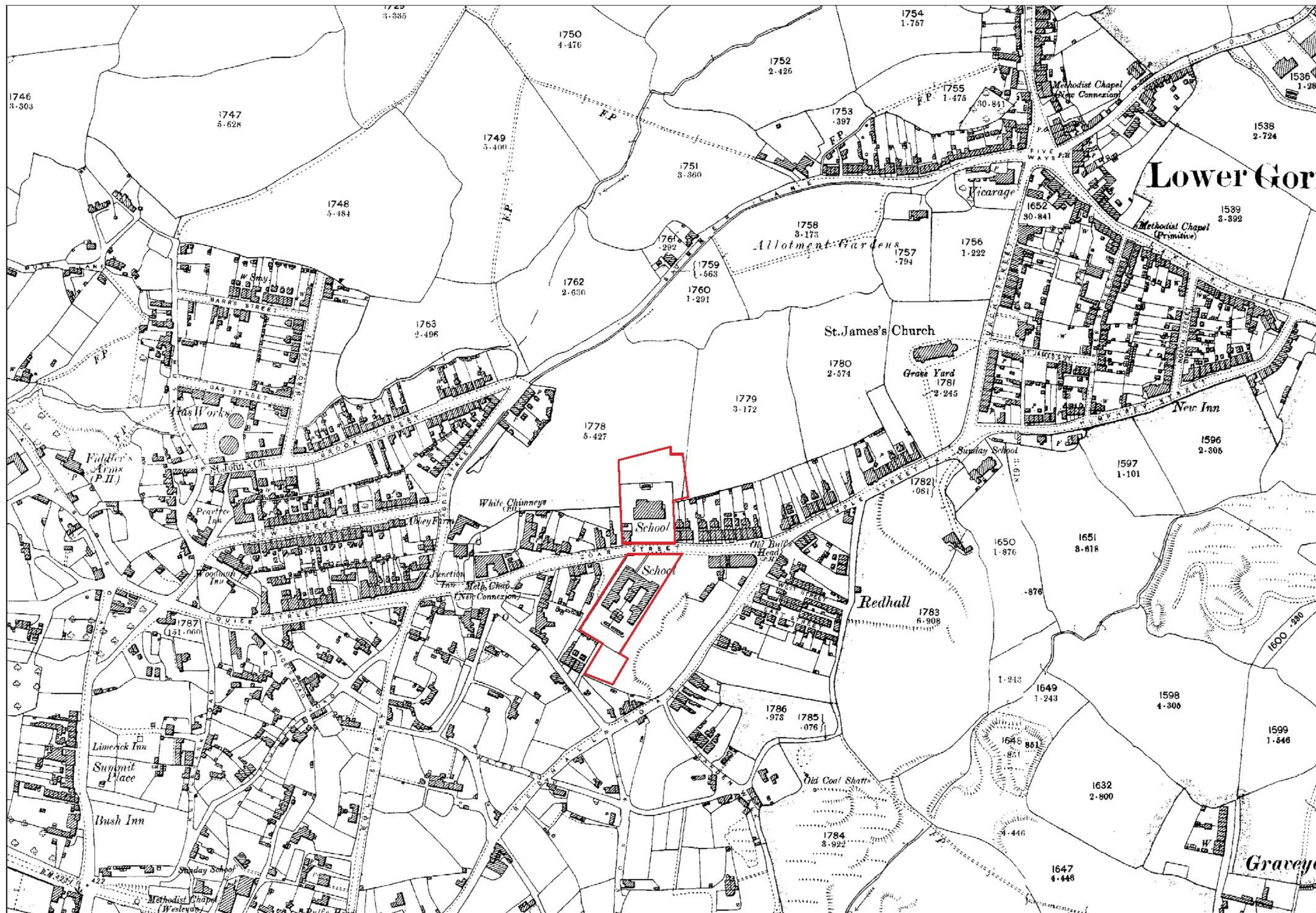


**NB:** figures in red refer to plot numbers on 1826 Parish map

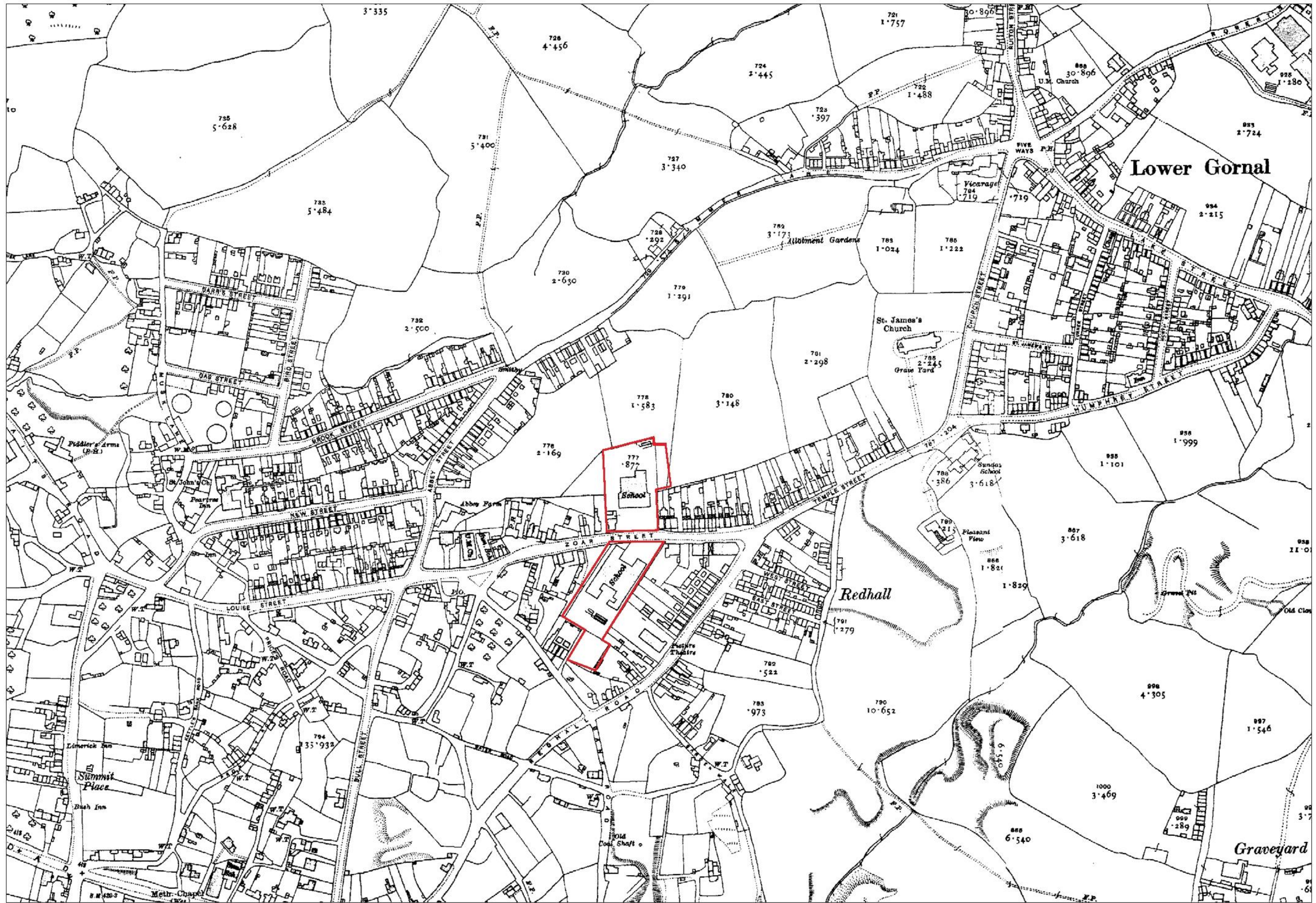




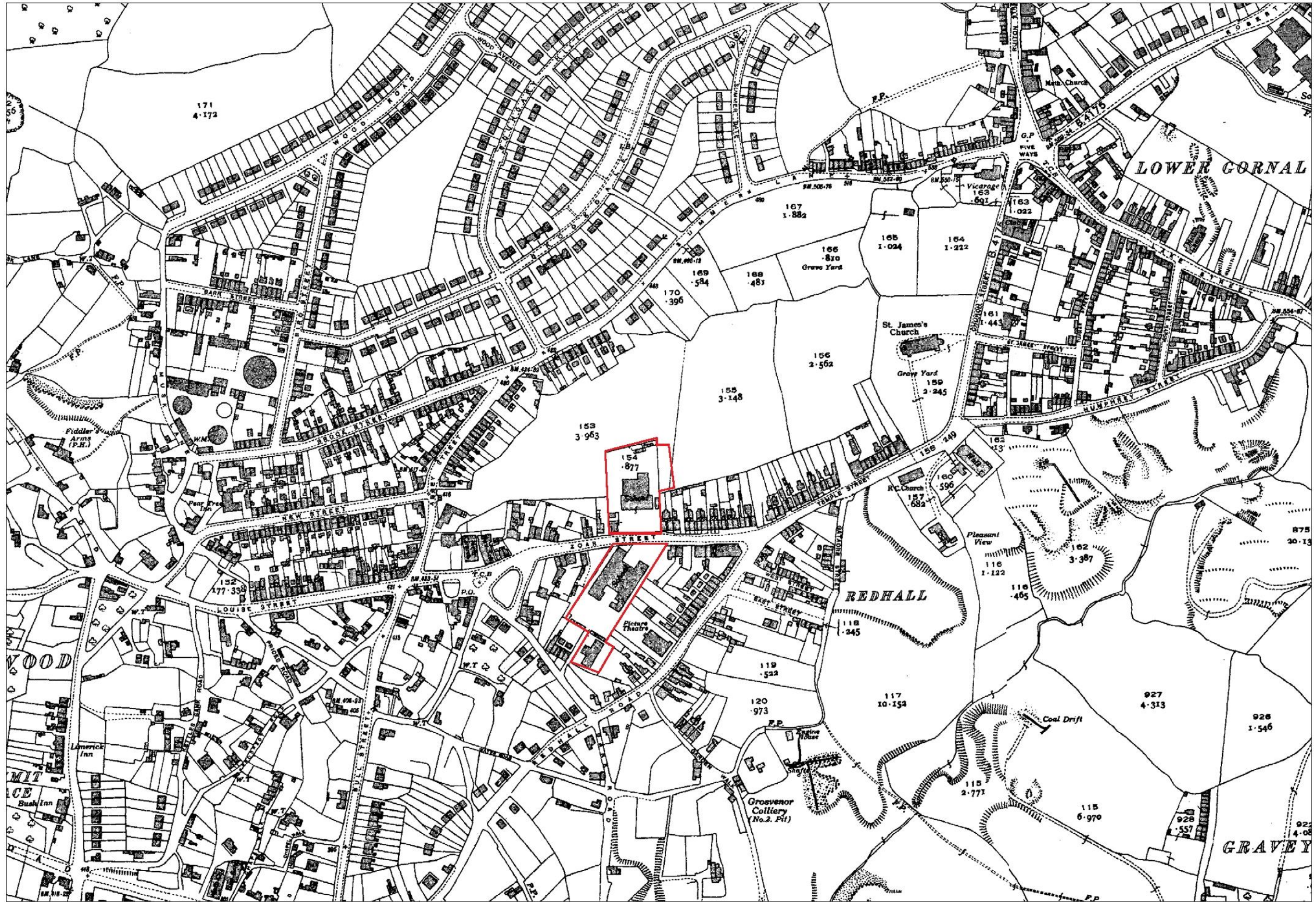




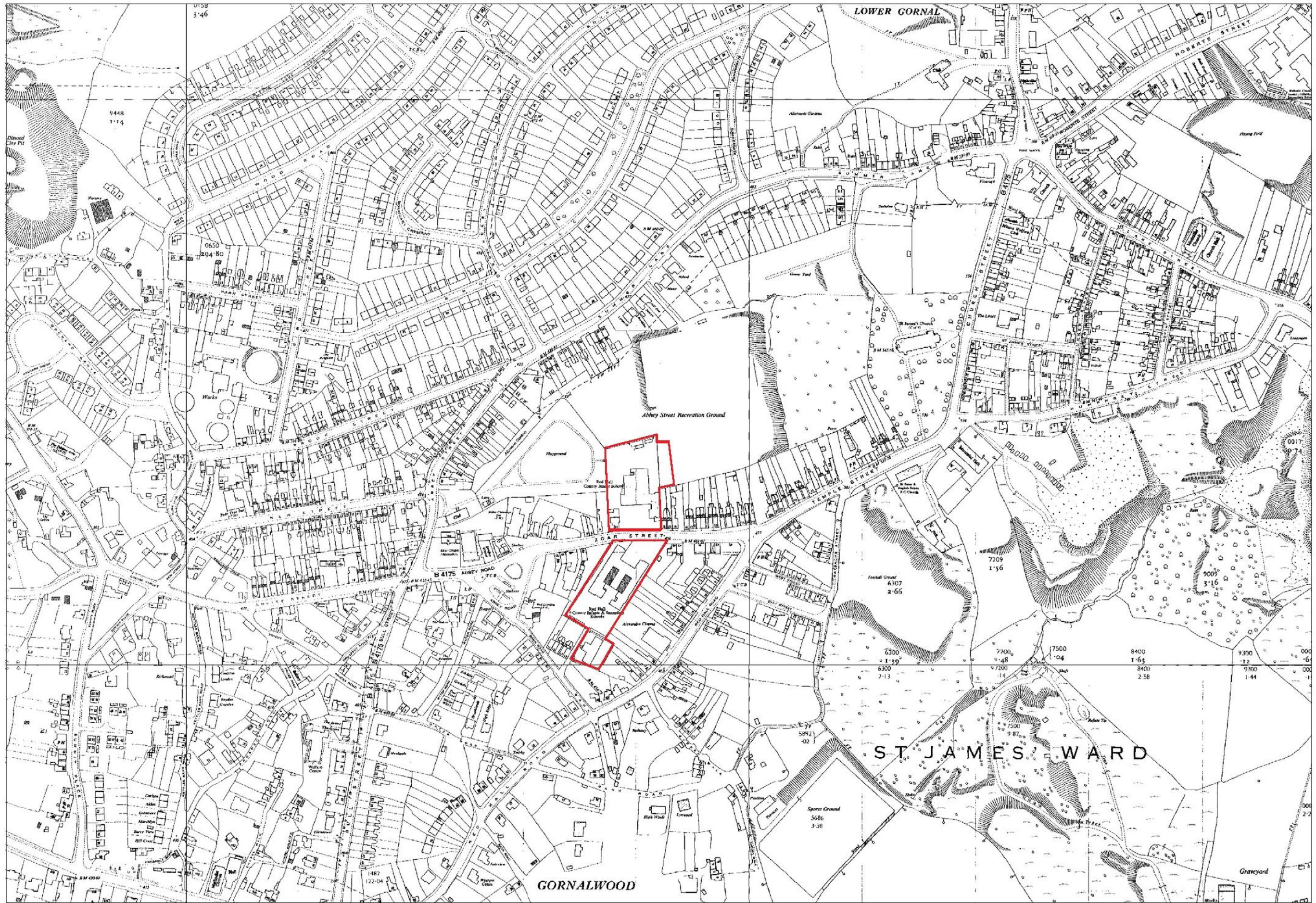




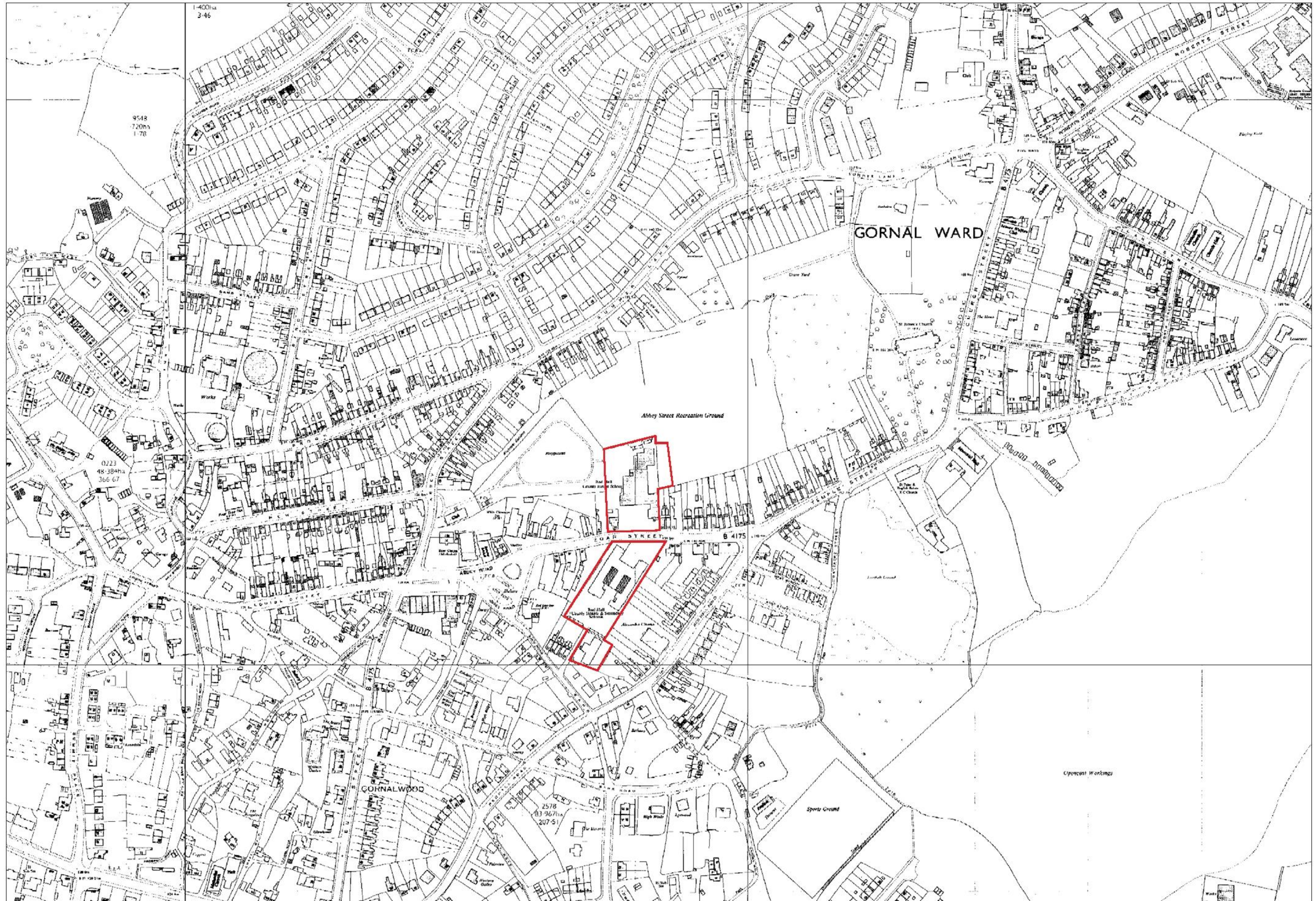




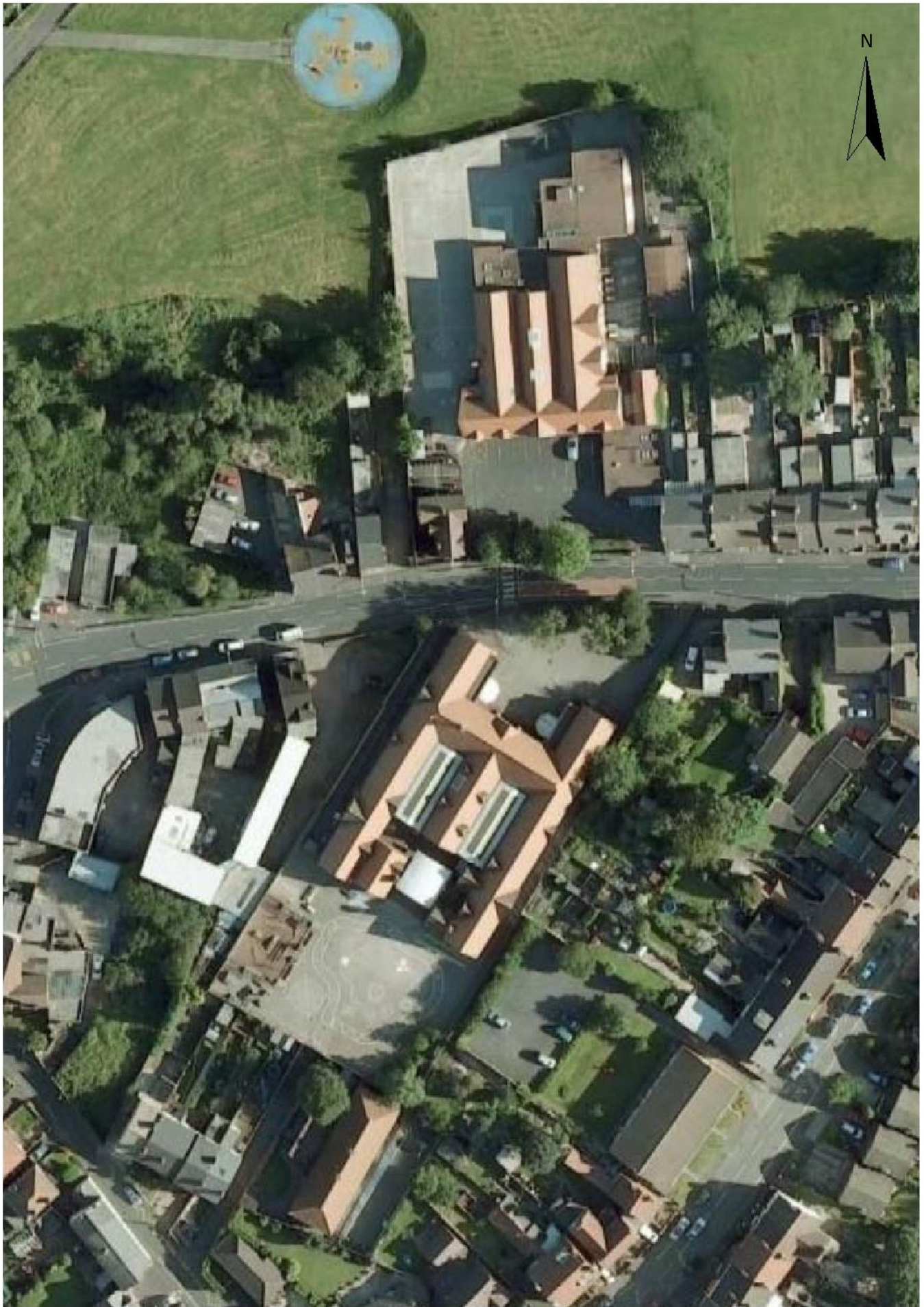




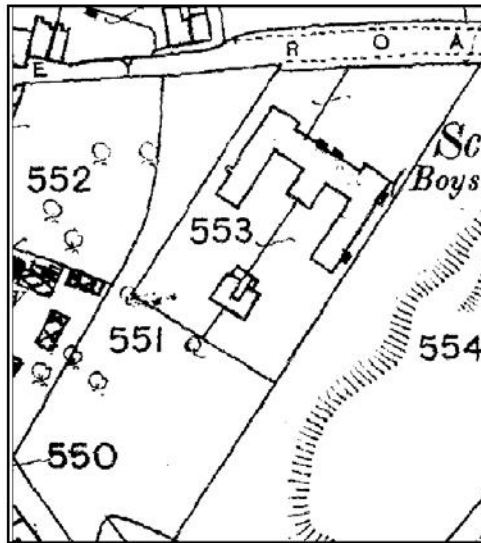




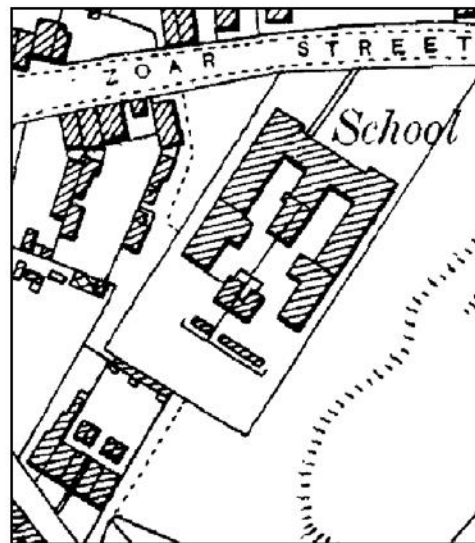




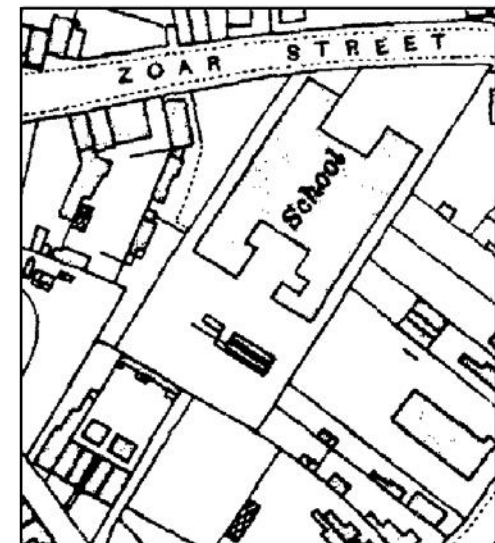




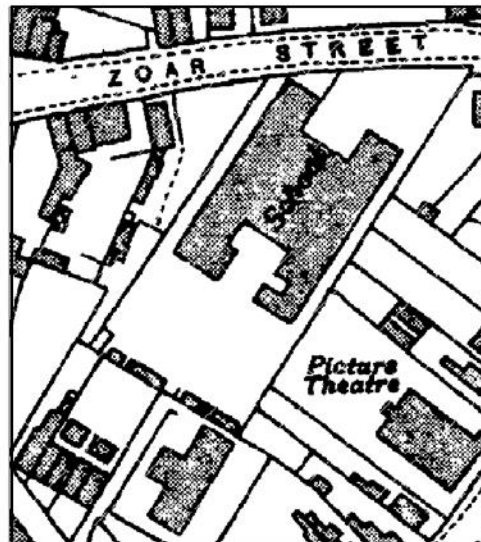
(a) 1882



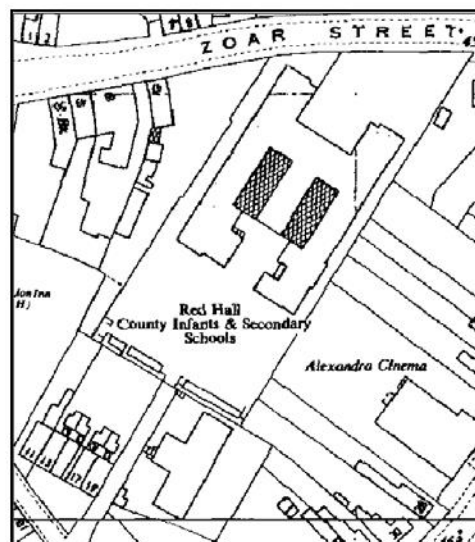
(b) 1903



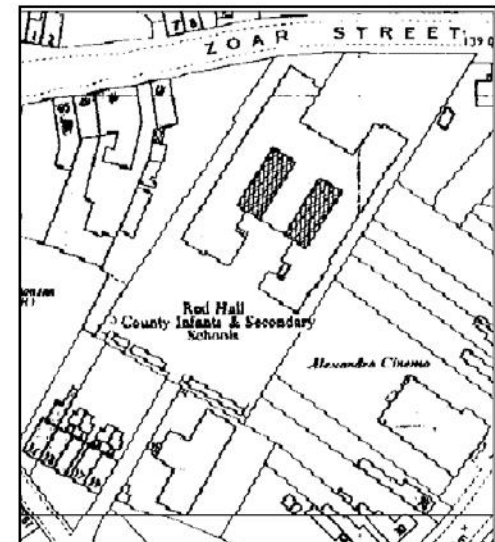
(c) 1919



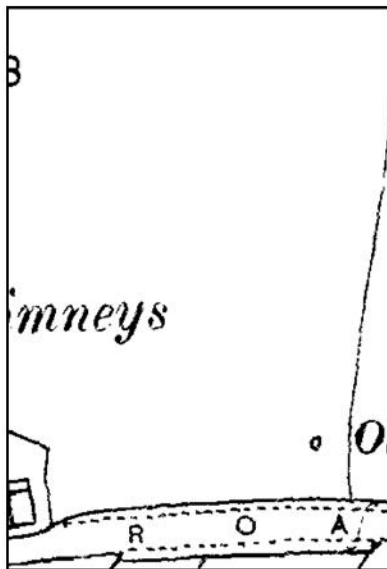
(d) 1937-8



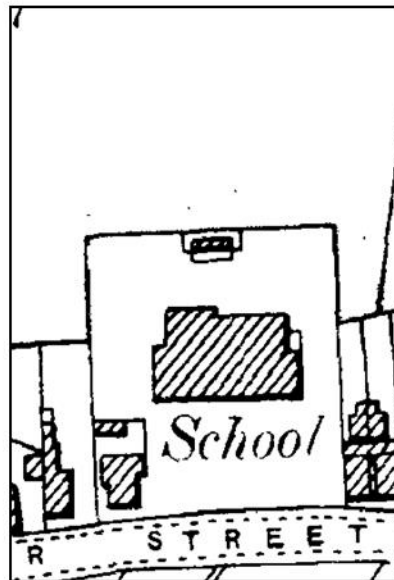
(e) 1961-7



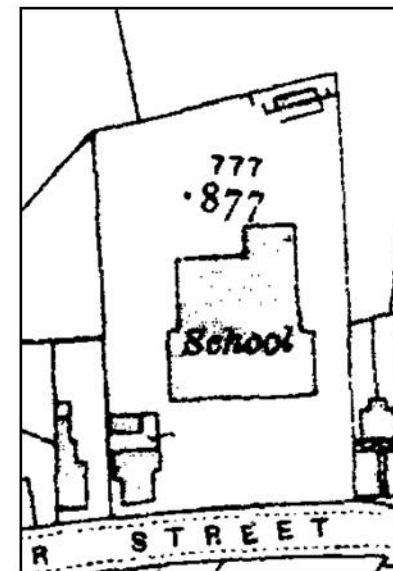
(f) 1971-3



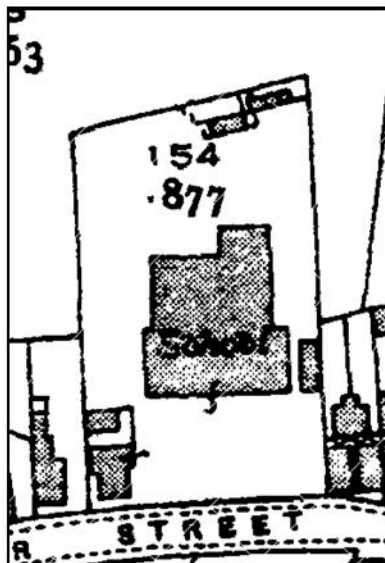
(a) 1882



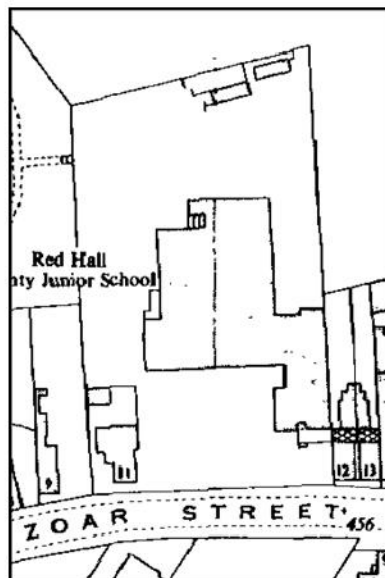
(b) 1903



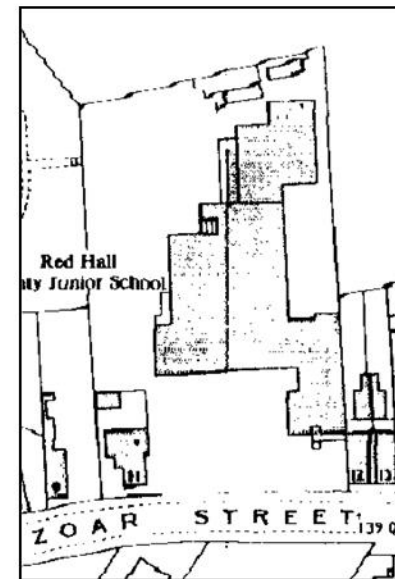
(c) 1919



(d) 1937-8



(e) 1961-7

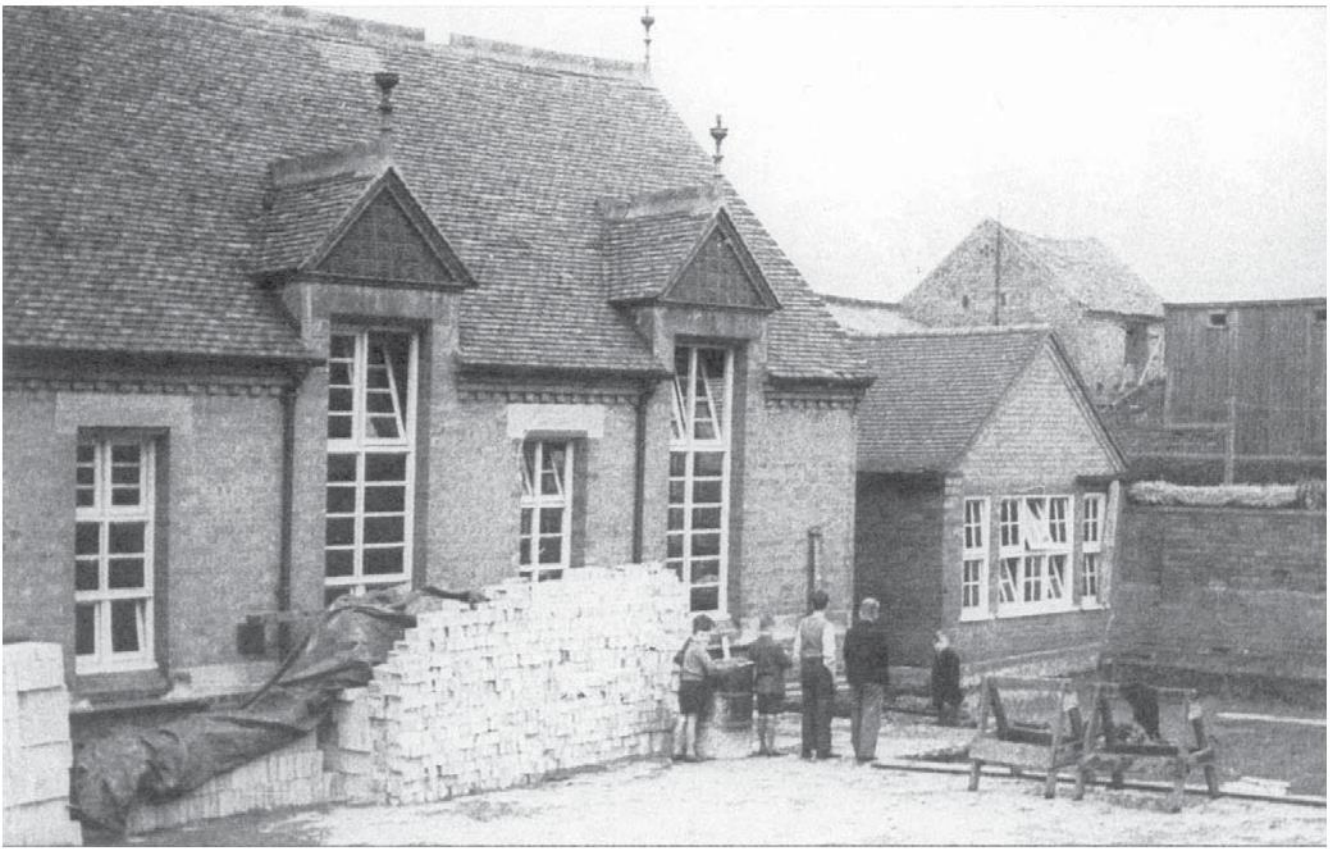


(f) 1971-3






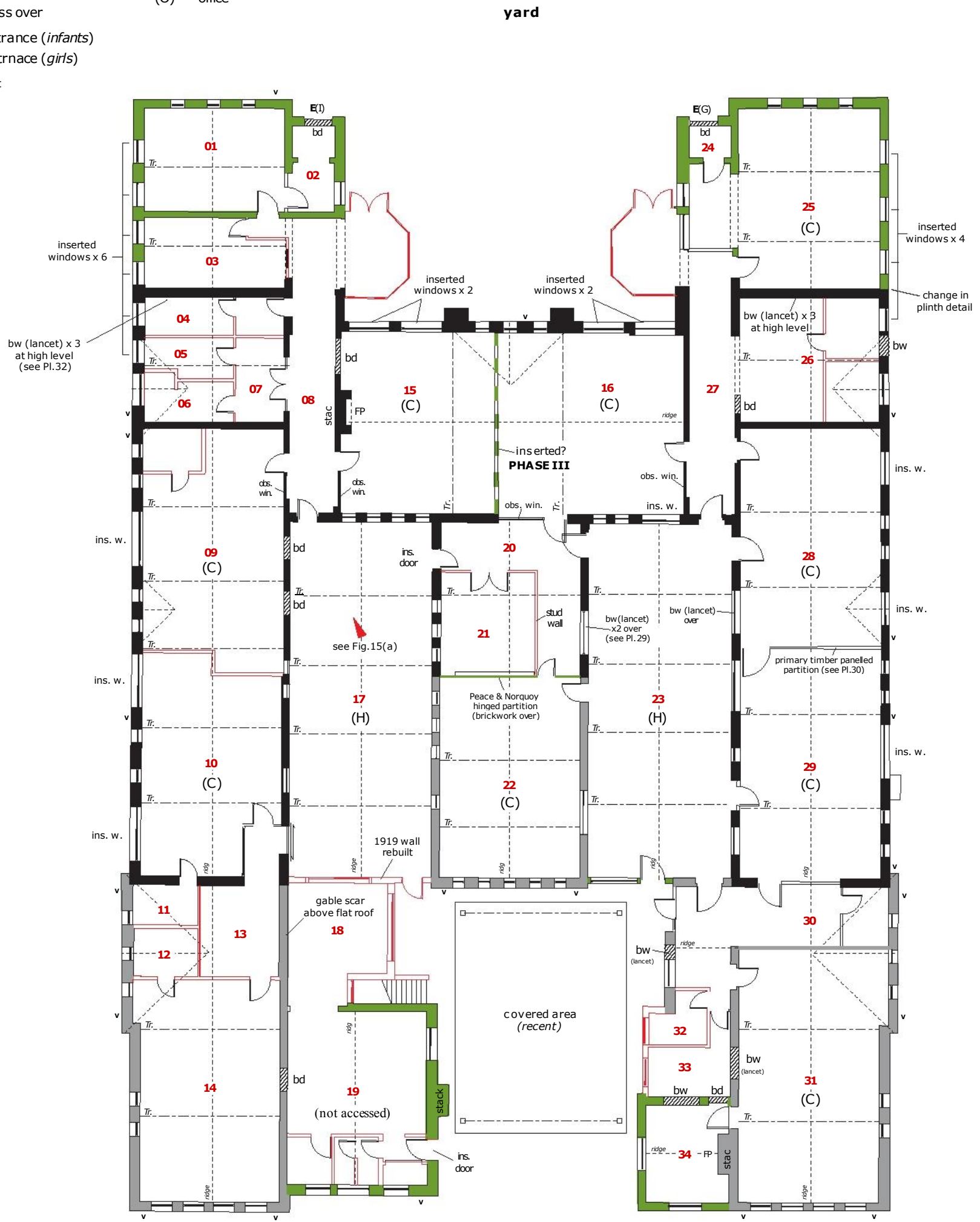
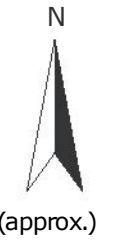
(a) South School, early 20th century; Rm. 17 looking north. NB. doors in west wall, now blocked; also original lancet in front wall of Rm. 15 beyond (source: Genge 2001, 86).







(b) North School, south elevation before addition of new entrance block (1958) (source: Genge 2001, 85).

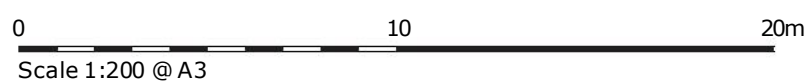
**KEY**

-  blocking
- bw blocked window
- bd blocked door
- ins. w. inserted window
- Tr. truss over
- E(I) entrance (*infants*)
- E(G) entrance (*girls*)
- v vent
- 123** room reference
- (C) classroom
- (H) hall
- (O) office

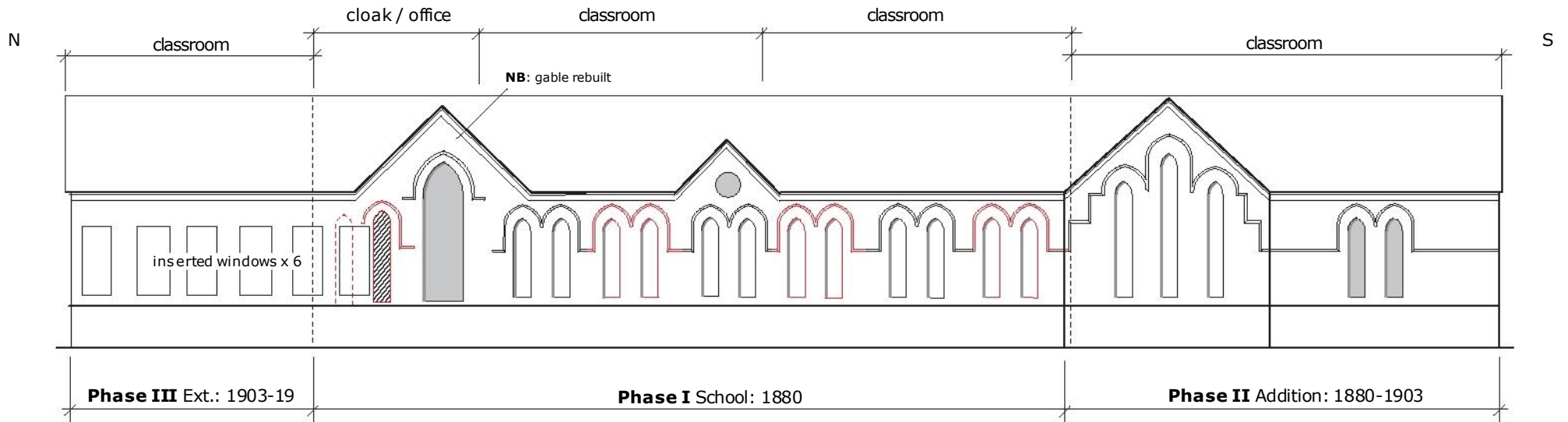


**PHASING**

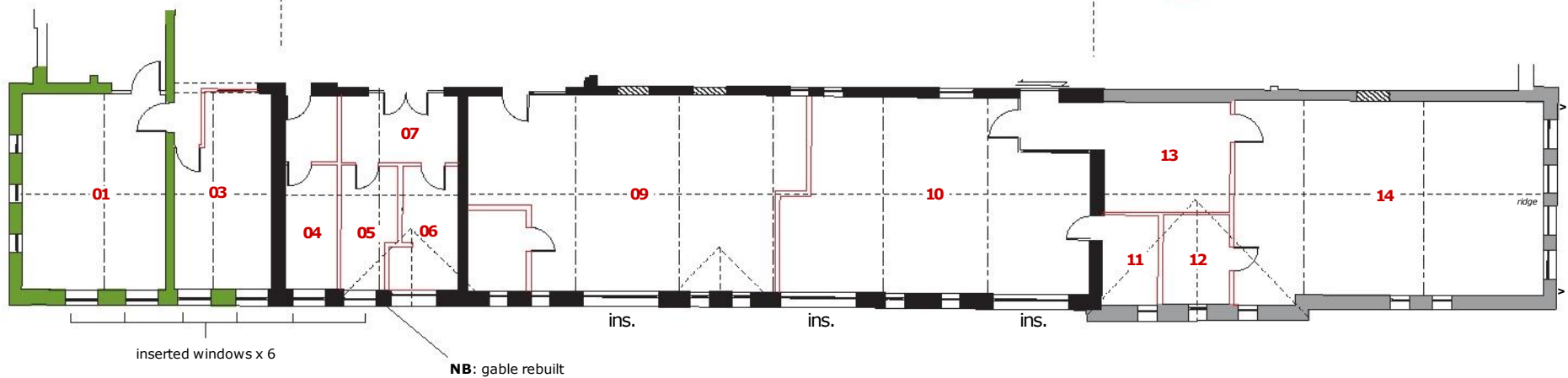
-  Primary Build, 1880
-  1880-1903
-  1903-19
-  unphased additions/ alterations (mainly recent)



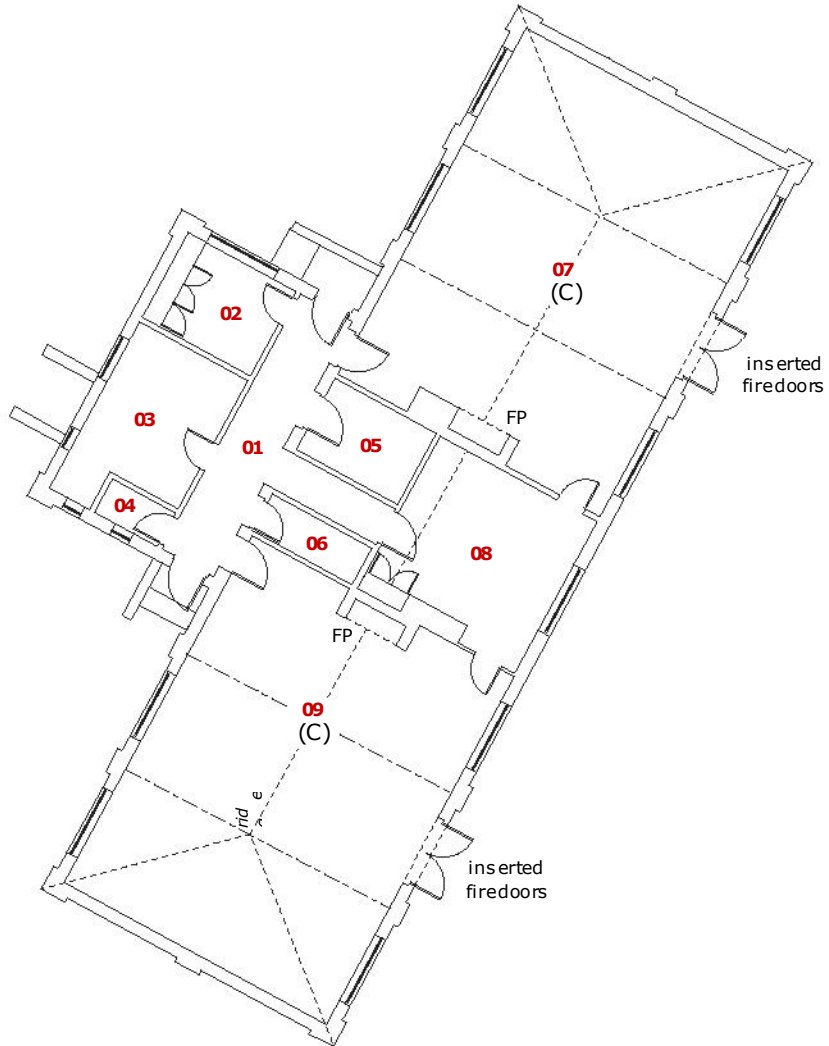




(a) Reconstructed elevation




(b) Part plan (west range)











0 5 10m  
Scale 1:100 @ A4

**KEY**

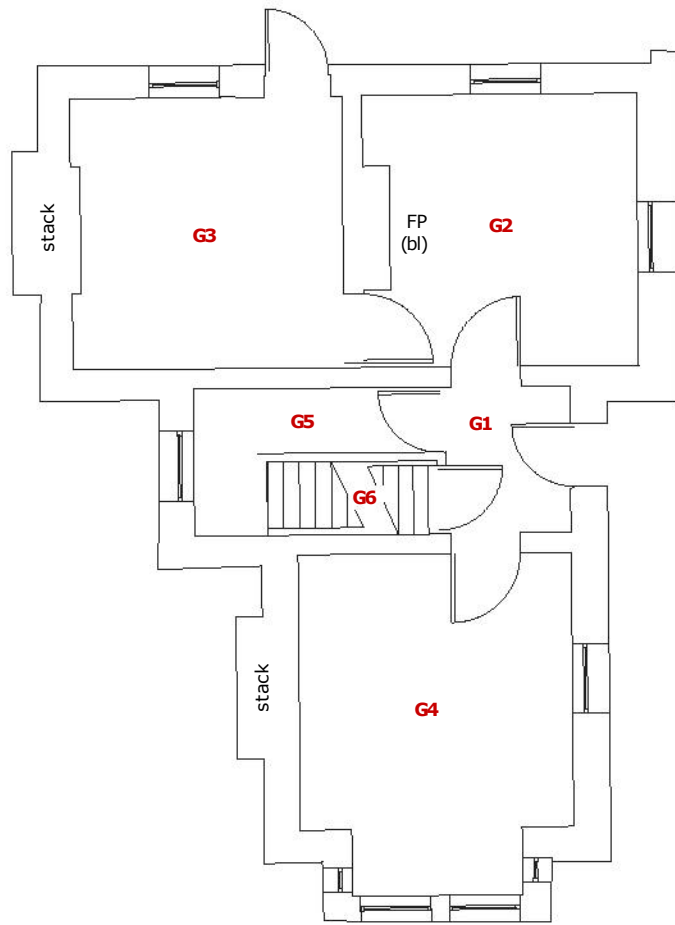
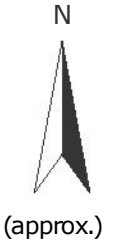
- |   |                         |            |                |
|---|-------------------------|------------|----------------|
|  | blocking                | <b>123</b> | room reference |
| bw  | blocked window          | (C)        | classroom      |
| bd  | blocked door            | (H)        | hall           |
| Tr.   | truss over              | (O)        | office         |
| E(B)  | primary entrance (boys) |            |                |
| v   | vent                    |            |                |



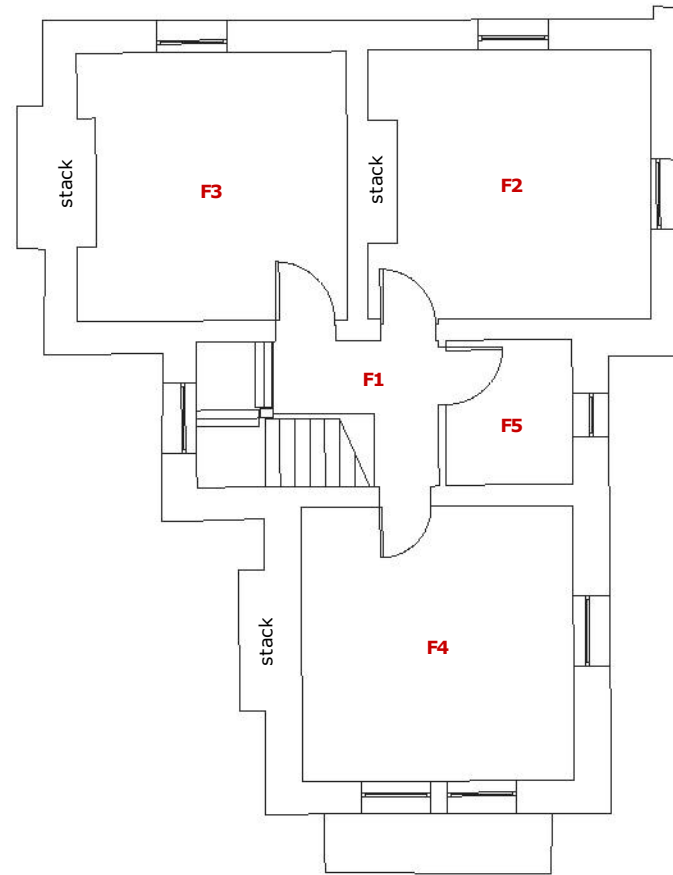
**PHASING**

-  Primary Build, 1890/1
-  Early additions 1903-1919
-  1919-37
-  1958
-  1968
-  1972
-  1972-80
-  post 1980

0 10 20m  
Scale 1:200 @ A3



(a) Ground Floor



(b) First Floor



**Plate 1:** South school building; north (Zoar St.) elevation 1880 with early 20<sup>th</sup>-century additions.



**Plate 2:** Eastern projecting gable.



**Plate 3:** Western projecting gable.





**Plate 4:** South school building; north (Zoar St.) elevation, central section.



**Plate 5:** Eastern (girls) entrance door.



**Plate 6:** Western (infants) entrance door.



**Plate 7:** Eastern gable; apex detail.



**Plate 8:** Western gable; apex detail.





**Plate 9:** Primary window jamb detail.



**Plate 10:** Secondary window jamb detail.



**Plate 11:** South school building; south elevation - 1880 with later additions.





**Plate 12:** South school building; south elevation (west) oblique view.



**Plate 13:** South school building; south elevation (east) oblique view.





**Plate 14:** South school building; eastern elevation oblique view.



**Plate 15:** East elevation; stepped string.



**Plate 16:** East elevation, blocked window.





**Plate 17:** South school building; western elevation viewed from Zoar Street.



**Plate 18:** West elev.; window→door.



**Plate 19:** West elev.; inserted windows.



**Plate 20:** Classroom [25].



**Plate 21:** Hall [17].



**Plate 22:** Primary glazed dado detail.



**Plate 23:** Primary door, Rm [17].





**Plate 24:** Primary observation window.



**Plate 25:** Timber boarding detail.



**Plate 26:** Variant door details, Rm. [23](NE).



**Plate 27:** Window detail, Rm. [23].

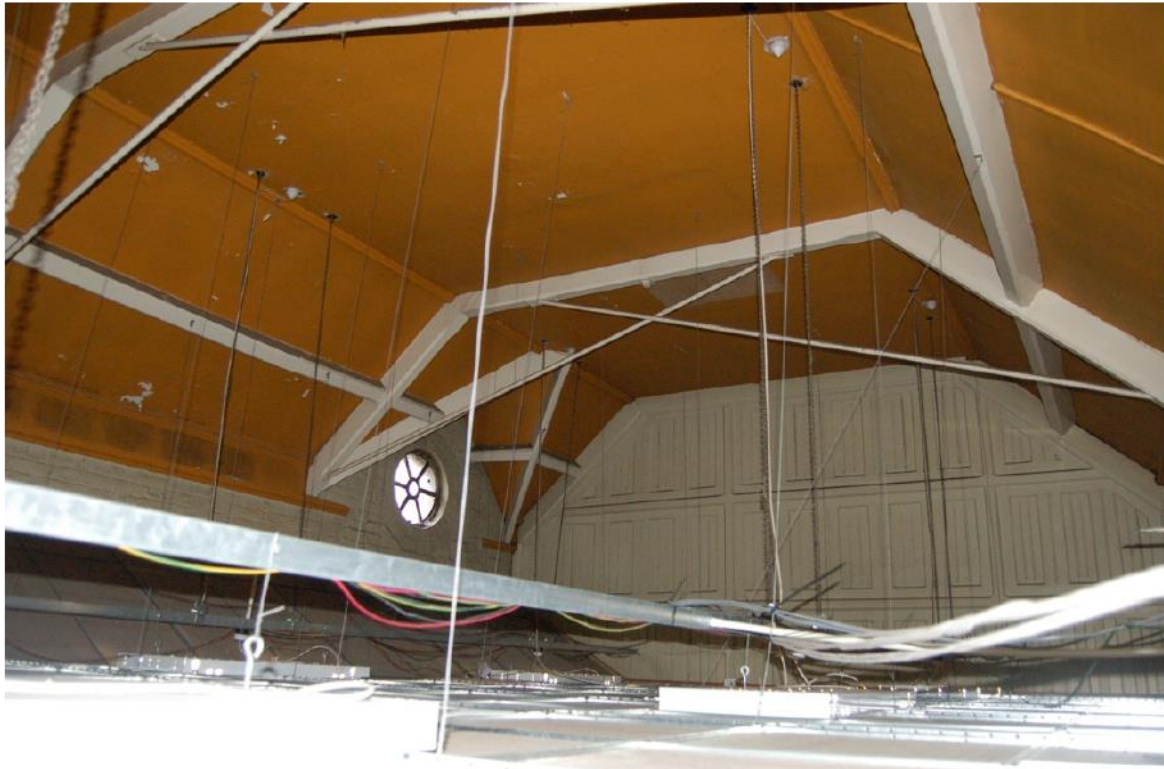


**Plate 28:** Representative classroom interior (Rm. [28]).



**Plate 29:** Former lancet window openings Rm. [23].





**Plate 30:** Roof structure observed above Rm. [28].



**Plate 31:** Ceiling vent.





**Plate 32:** Blocked windows in former front wall (Rms. [04-07]).



**Plate 33:** Secondary roof structure over Rms. [03/01].



**Plate 34:** Hinged partition, Rm [21/22].



**Plate 35:** Peace & Norquoy handle plate.



**Plate 36:** Nursery (c.1930); as seen from south school playground.





**Plate 37:** Nursery; west elevation looking north-east.



**Plate 38:** Nursery; east elevation looking south-west.





**Plate 39:** Nursery; window detail.



**Plate 40:** Nursery, corridor [01].



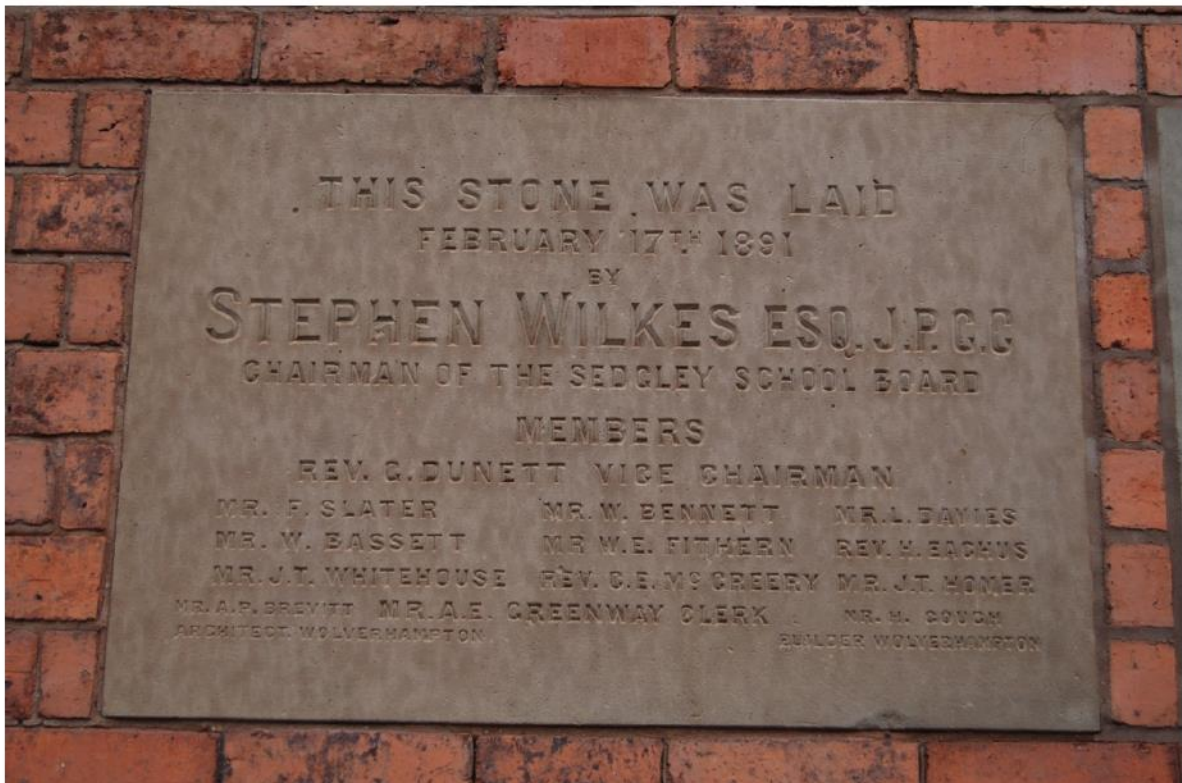
**Plate 41:** Nursery; door detail.



**Plate 42:** Nursery; classroom [09].



**Plate 43:** North School Buildings, south (Zoar St) elevation; 1890/1.



**Plate 44:** North School Buildings, datestone February 17<sup>th</sup> 1891.





**Plate 45:** South elevation, central gable.



**Plate 46:** South elevation, window detail.



**Plate 47:** Central gable; terra-cotta apex detail.



**Plate 48:** Smaller window gable - terra-cotta apex detail.



**Plate 49:** South School, main block east elevation.





**Plate 50:** Adjacent gables in east elevation; lhs = 1891, rhs = 1903-19.



**Plate 51:** Boys entrance door (east).



**Plate 52:** Phase break in brickwork.



**Plate 53:** North school buildings, west elevation oblique.



**Plate 54:** Main west gable; apex detail.



**Plate 55:** Boys entrance door (west).





**Plate 56:** Primary door, Rm. [26/01] (ext.)



**Plate 57:** Primary door, Rm. [26/01] (int.).



**Plate 58:** Axial corridor, Rm. [01].



**Plate 59:** Primary dado detail.



**Plate 59:** North school buildings, representative classroom interior (Rm. [07]).



**Plate 60:** North school buildings, representative classroom interior (Rm. [05]).





**Plate 61:** Hall interior (Rm. [06]).



**Plate 62:** Re-used ceiling vents.



**Plate 63:** Detail of primary, inverted pyramid dado rail moulding.



**Plate 64:** Secondary foliated dado band.



**Plate 65:** Junction of dado rails at Phase I/II boundary (Rm. [07]).





**Plate 66:** Roof structure above inserted ceiling in Rm. [10].



**Plate 67:** Surviving upper section of glazed partition (1 of 2), above suspended ceiling Rm. [07].



**Plate 68:** Single storey block, added to east of school between 1919-37 (see also Figure 15b).



**Plate 69:** Single-storey entrance block, added 1958 (see also Figure 15b).





**Plate 70:** Two-storey entrance block, added 1968.



**Plate 71:** 1968 block, GF corridor.



**Plate 72:** 1968 block, stair.





**Plate 73:** 1968 block; representative classroom interior.



**Plate 74:** Technology Block (1972); west elevation.





**Plate 75:** Technology Block (1972); south/east elevation oblique.

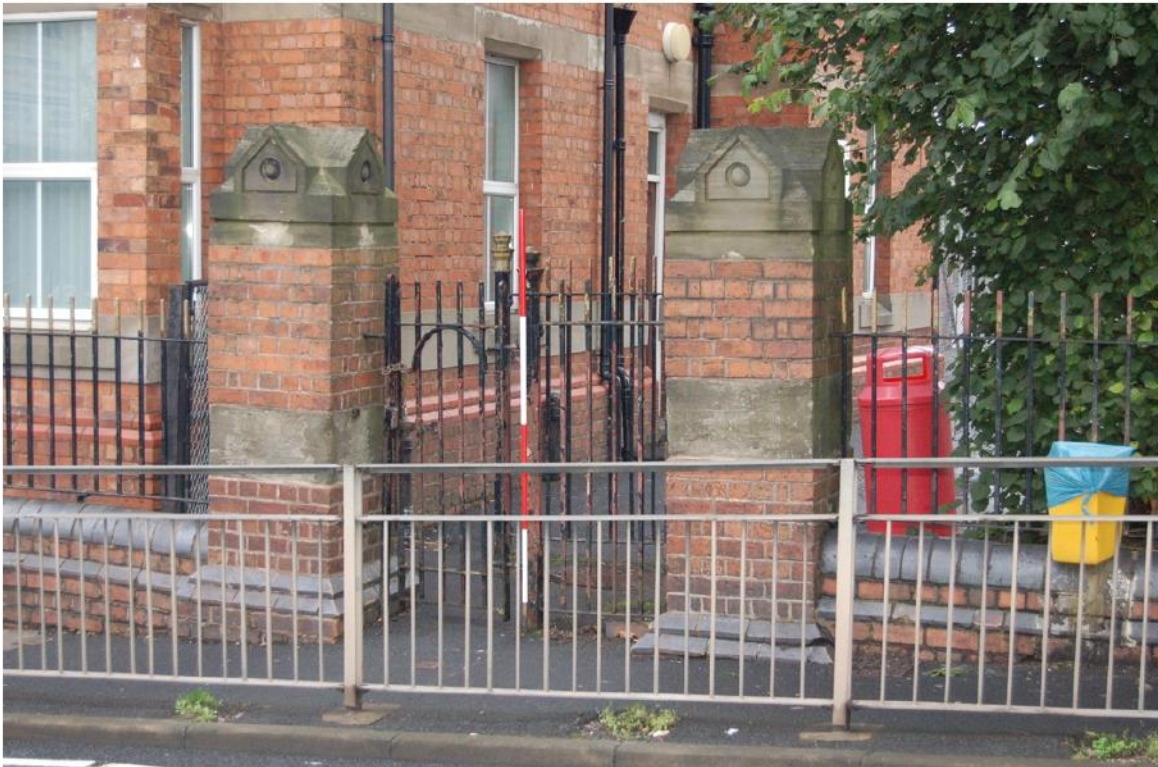


**Plate 76:** Technology Block; interior.





**Plate 77:** South school; double gate detail.



**Plate 78:** North school; gate detail.





**Plate 79:** No.11 Zoar Street; east elevation overlooking school yard.



**Plate 80:** 11 Zoar Street, south (Zoar Street) elevation oblique view.



**Plate 81:** 11 Zoar Street, rear elevation.



**Plate 82:** 11 Zoar Street, west elevation.



**Plate 83:** 11 Zoar Street, gable detail.



**Plate 84:** 11 Zoar Street, stair detail.





**Plate 85:** Abbey Street recreation ground, looking south towards Red Hall Schools.



**Plate 86:** Abbey Street recreation ground, looking west from Gornal Youth Centre towards Red Hall Schools (centre left). Note landscaping of football fields.



**Plate 87:** Abbey Street recreation ground, looking east towards Red Hall Schools.



**Plate 88:** Abbey Street recreation ground, looking east towards Gornal Youth Centre.