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Warwickshire County Cricket Club  
Edgbaston Road  
Edgbaston  
Birmingham  
West Midlands  
Historic Building Recording  
September 2009

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September 2009

### Warwickshire County Cricket Club, Edgbaston Road, Birmingham, West Midlands

### HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING

by

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for

**Rider Levett Bucknall UK Ltd on behalf of:  
WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB**

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## Warwickshire County Cricket Club, Edgbaston Road, Birmingham

### Historic Building Recording

#### 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.....	2
<b>2</b>	<b>AIMS AND OBJECTIVES .....</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1	Historic Building Recording .....	3
<b>3</b>	<b>METHODOLOGY .....</b>	<b>3</b>
3.1	Historic Building Recording .....	3
<b>4</b>	<b>SITE DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION .....</b>	<b>3</b>
4.1	Site Location.....	3
4.2	Present Character .....	3
<b>5</b>	<b>GENERAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL Background .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>COMPARATIVE STUDY .....</b>	<b>4</b>
6.1	Introduction.....	4
6.2	Pavilions- form and function .....	5
6.3	The Influence and Influences of the Edgbaston Pavilion .....	5
<b>7</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION OF THE REMAINS OF THE ORIGINAL PAVILION.....</b>	<b>8</b>
7.1	Introduction.....	8
7.2	The present character .....	8
7.3	Surviving Historic Elements .....	8
7.4	The original roof structure .....	9
7.5	Timber uprights/stanchions .....	10
7.6	Gabled structure.....	10
7.7	Internal walls.....	11
<b>8</b>	<b>DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>SOURCES.....</b>	<b>13</b>
	<b>APPENDIX A:</b> Birmingham City Council Brief (Removed).....	<b>i</b>
	<b>APPENDIX B:</b> Written Scheme of Investigation (Removed).....	<b>v</b>
	<b>APPENDIX C:</b> Glossary of Terms.....	<b>ix</b>

### ***List of Figures***

- Figure 1: Location plan and site layout.
- Figure 2: Warwickshire County Cricket Club schematic ground plan.
- Figure 3: Aerial photograph of central pavilion (oblique from south).
- Figure 4: Ordnance Survey County Series 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1:2500 map of 1889.
- Figure 5: Ordnance Survey County Series 1<sup>st</sup> Revision 1:2500 map of 1904.
- Figure 6: Ground floor plan Centre Pavilion as existing (produced in 1995).
- Figure 7: First floor plan Centre Pavilion as existing.
- Figure 8: Surviving elements of the early/original cricket pavilion.
- Figure 9: Exterior photographic survey location points.
- Figure 10: Location points of photographic survey of original roof structure.
- Figure 11: Location points of photographic survey of original structural uprights/stanchions.
- Figure 12: Location points of photographic survey of gabled structure.
- Figure 13: Interior photographic survey location points.

### ***List of Plates***

- Plate 1: Edgbaston Pavilion c 1895
- Plate 2: Edgbaston Pavilion c 1899
- Plate 3: Westminster School Pavilion, London built c 1871
- Plate 4: The Parks, Oxford University, built 1881
- Plate 5: The Saffrons, Eastbourne, built 1884
- Plate 6: Broughton, Worcester, built 1878
- Plate 7: Trent Bridge, Nottinghamshire, built 1885
- Plate 8: Lord's, St Johns Wood, London, built 1890
- Plate 9: Old Trafford Pavilion, Manchester, built 1895
- Plate 10: The Kennington Oval Pavilion, London, built 1897
- Plate 11: Headingley Pavilion, Leeds, built 1895
- Plate 12: New Marine Road, Scarborough, built 1897
- Plate 13: The County Ground, Bath, Somerset, built 1894
- Plate 14: New Road, Worcester, built 1897
- Plate 15: Aigburth, Liverpool, built c 1887
- Plate 16: The Grange, Edingburgh, built 1894
- Plate 17: The Bournville Cricket Pavilion, Birmingham, built 1902
- Plate 18: The Bombay Gymkhana, India, built 1876
- Plate 19: Edgbaston mid-20<sup>th</sup> century
- Plate 20: Edgbaston early to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century
- Plate 21: Edgbaston late-19<sup>th</sup> early 20<sup>th</sup> century
- Plate 22: Edgbaston early 20<sup>th</sup> century
- Plate 23: Edgbaston late-19<sup>th</sup> century
- Plate 24: Edgbaston early 20<sup>th</sup> century

### ***Photographic Survey***

- Photo 1: Centre Pavilion (field side) from north.
- Photo 2: Centre Pavilion (field side) from north.
- Photo 3: Centre Pavilion (field side) from northeast.
- Photo 4: Centre Pavilion (field side) from southwest.
- Photo 5: Centre Pavilion (east, field side) from north.
- Photo 6: Centre Pavilion (centre, field side) from north.
- Photo 7: Centre Pavilion (west, field side) from north.
- Photo 8: Centre Pavilion (field side) from northeast.

- Photo 9: Centre Pavilion (field side) from northwest.  
 Photo 10: Centre Pavilion (field side) lower stand from west.  
 Photo 11: Centre Pavilion (field side) lower stand from east.  
 Photo 12: Centre Pavilion (field side) upper stand from east.  
 Photo 13: Centre Pavilion (road side) from southwest.  
 Photo 14: Centre Pavilion (road side) from southwest.  
 Photo 15: Centre Pavilion (west, road side) from south.  
 Photo 16: Centre Pavilion (centre west, road side) from southeast.  
 Photo 17: Centre Pavilion (centre east, road side) from south.  
 Photo 18: Centre Pavilion (east, road side) from southwest.  
 Photo 19: Centre Pavilion (road side) from east.  
 Photo 20: Original pavilion roof structure oblique aerial from south.  
 Photo 21: Original pavilion roof structure from south.  
 Photo 22: Original pavilion roof structure bell tower from southeast.  
 Photo 23: Original pavilion roof structure bell tower from west  
 Photo 24: Original pavilion roof structure from east.  
 Photo 25: Original pavilion roof structure from west.  
 Photo 26: Original pavilion roof structure from northwest.  
 Photo 27: Original pavilion roof structure terracotta finial from southeast.  
 Photo 28: Original pavilion roof structure bell tower weather vane from north.  
 Photo 29: Original upright/stanchion brackets from west.  
 Photo 30: Original upright/stanchion brackets from east.  
 Photo 31: Sole surviving complete original stanchion and bracket from north.  
 Photo 32: Sole surviving complete original stanchion and bracket from north.  
 Photo 33: Sole surviving complete original stanchion and bracket from northeast.  
 Photo 34: Sole surviving complete original stanchion and bracket from east.  
 Photo 35: Sole surviving complete original stanchion and bracket from northwest.  
 Photo 36: Partially surviving original stanchion and bracket from north.  
 Photo 37: Partially surviving original stanchion and bracket from northwest.  
 Photo 38: Partially embedded original stanchion and bracket (west) from north.  
 Photo 39: Partially embedded original stanchion and bracket (east) from north.  
 Photo 40: Embedded original stanchion and bracket from north.  
 Photo 41: Gabled structure from southwest.  
 Photo 42: Gabled structure from east.  
 Photo 43: Gabled structure roof from northeast.  
 Photo 44: Gabled structure from west.  
 Photo 45: Gabled structure from southwest.  
 Photo 46: Gabled structure detail from west.  
 Photo 47: Stairwell in gabled structure from west (interior ground floor).  
 Photo 48: Chief Executive's Office from southwest (interior ground floor).  
 Photo 49: Hallway to players' Dining room from west (interior ground floor).  
 Photo 50: Players Dining Room from southwest (interior ground floor).  
 Photo 51: Players' Dining Room from northwest (interior ground floor).  
 Photo 52: Players' Dining Room from north (interior ground floor).  
 Photo 53: Players' Dining Room from south (interior ground floor).  
 Photo 54: Players' Dining Room from northeast (interior ground floor).  
 Photo 55: Players' Dining Room from west (interior ground floor).  
 Photo 56: Players' Viewing Rooms from west (interior ground floor).  
 Photo 57: Museum lobby from east (interior ground floor).  
 Photo 58: Museum from northwest (interior ground floor).  
 Photo 59: Museum from east (interior ground floor).  
 Photo 60: Museum cornice detail from north (interior ground floor).  
 Photo 61: Museum from south (interior ground floor).

- Photo 62: Museum from west (interior ground floor).
- Photo 63: Museum from west (interior ground floor).
- Photo 64: Committee Room from west (interior first floor).
- Photo 65: Committee Room from east (interior first floor).
- Photo 66: Committee Room from northeast (interior first floor).
- Photo 67: Committee Room from northwest (interior first floor).
- Photo 68: Hospitality Suite from southwest (interior first floor).

## Warwickshire County Cricket Club, Edgbaston Road, Birmingham

### Historic Building Recording

#### SUMMARY

*Birmingham Archaeology was commissioned in August 2009 by Rider Levett Bucknall UK Ltd on behalf of Warwickshire Country Cricket Club to undertake historic building recording of the original pavilion of Warwickshire County Cricket Grounds at Edgbaston (NGR40668 28425). The historic building recording was required as a condition of planning consent to provide a record of the surviving historic standing remains prior to demolition.*

*The principle objective of the historic building recording was to preserve by record the remains of the standing historic buildings prior to their demolition. This involved the production of a photographic record of the surviving parts of the original pavilion, a written description of the remains of the original pavilion, and a comparison study with other pavilion buildings of a similar date.*

*The historic building recording established that the original late Victorian pavilion, which forms part of the current Centre Pavilion, has undergone numerous alterations and additions throughout its lifetime. The extent of these changes means that its external and internal appearance, layout, and form have been almost completely transformed, with much of its historic fabric removed or greatly altered. These extensive alterations have served to erode the significance of the structure to the extent that it could not be described as an intact or significant example of sporting stadia architecture. Despite this high level of attrition, the historic building recording did identify a number of original structural elements; these include sections of the original pavilion roof (complete with bell tower); original pitch-side timber stanchions/ uprights with brackets; a gabled structure which formed part of a late 19<sup>th</sup> century/early 20<sup>th</sup> century stand; and some original internal walling.*

*The comparative study revealed that the construction of the pavilion was most likely to have been influenced by earlier pavilions at The Parks, Oxford University and Trent Bridge, Nottinghamshire. It was part of an Arts and Crafts influenced vernacular tradition displayed in cricket pavilions throughout the late-19<sup>th</sup> and into the 20<sup>th</sup> century and probably helped influence local pavilions at New Road, Worcester and at Bournville, Birmingham as well as other grounds throughout the country.*

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

## **Warwickshire County Cricket Club, Edgbaston Road, Birmingham**

### Historic Building Recording

#### **1 INTRODUCTION**

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

- 1.1.1 Birmingham Archaeology was commissioned in September 2009 by Ryder Levett Bucknall UK Ltd. on behalf of Warwickshire County Cricket Club to undertake historic building recording at the Centre Pavilion of Warwickshire Country Cricket Club grounds at Edgbaston, Birmingham, West Midlands (NGR: 40668 28425; see Figure 1).

##### **1.2 Reasons for Work**

- 1.2.1 A planning application (Planning application reference no. S/05827/08/OUT) has been accepted by Birmingham City Council for the proposed development of Warwickshire County Cricket Club, Edgbaston Road, Birmingham. As the proposed development site contains archaeological remains and buildings of historic significance that are due for demolition, archaeological work and historic building recording were recommended by the City Archaeologist, Birmingham City Council. This is in accordance with government advice contained within PPG 15 (DoE 1994) and PPG16 (DoE 1990).

- 1.2.2 The specific elements of the planning approval aimed to be discharged by the following report are;

*B23 – No development shall commence until there is written approval granted by the local planning authority for a programme of archaeological work, consisting of sampling, analysis and dating of deposits containing palaeoenvironmental data, and the publication of results. The programme shall be implemented as approved.*

*REASON: The site is of known archaeological significance and it is important that archaeological remains are appropriately recorded prior to their damage or destruction by development, in accordance with PPG16 and the Archaeology Strategy Supplementary Planning Guidance.*

*B24 – An annotated photographic survey, inside and out, of the original pavilion building to be undertaken by the applicant, with the survey to be conducted in line with a brief supplied by the council.*

*REASON: In order to record features of historic interest.*

*C6 – No demolitions or alteration shall be commenced until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of structural recording in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing to the local planning authority.*

*REASON: In order to ensure that features that will be destroyed, removed or altered in the course of the works for which consent has been given are properly recorded in advance of destruction removal or alteration.*



### 1.3 The Archaeological Work (B23)

- 1.3.1 Element B23 of the planning consent will not be discharged by the current work. However, agreement has been approved by the Birmingham City Council City Archaeologist to delay the requirement for this element of this work to subsequent phases of work (see letter ref: S05827/08/OUT dated 28 July 2009 see Appendix D);

This is because the new stand that forms the first phase of development does not affect the former river course, it is acceptable that the building recording alone is undertaken as part of this phase.

- 1.3.2 However the Birmingham City Council Archaeologist reiterates;

*The other archaeological work described in the brief, palaeoenvironmental sampling of the former river course. A written scheme of investigation for the palaeoenvironmental must however be submitted to and approved by the council before any part of the development.*

### 1.4 The Historic Building Recording Work (B24, C6)

- 1.4.1 The Centre Pavilion, which contains elements of the original pavilion constructed c.1885/6, forms the centre of the southern arc of the cricket ground. This is not statutorily listed and has undergone numerous alterations throughout its history, ensuring that it does not survive as an intact example of sporting architecture. In addition, a previous archaeological desk-based assessment of the area noted that:

“at first glance this building (i.e. the original pavilion) would appear to be simply encapsulated by surrounding structures, almost all of the original roof survives intact (complete with bell tower) and some of the timber uprights facing the ground itself also appear to be original. However, internal inspection shows that the structural integrity of the building has been entirely compromised by the removal of all original walls (except fragments of the rear wall) at ground and first floor levels” (Wallis 2008, 18).

- 1.4.2 Thus, a condition of the planning consent was that historic building recording and photographic record of the surviving historic fabric is carried out prior to demolition.

### 1.5 Scope of Report

- 1.5.1 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 Birmingham City Council, in response to a brief issued by Birmingham City Council dated 14<sup>th</sup> July 2009. A copy of the project brief and WSI are included below as **Appendices A** and **B** respectively.
- 1.5.2 This report outlines the results of the Historic Building Recording, which has been prepared in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures* (IfA, 2008).

- 1.5.3 This report has been prepared based upon information current and available as of September 2009.

## **2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **2.1 Historic Building Recording**

- 2.1.1 The principal objective of the historic building recording was to preserve by record the remains of the standing buildings prior to their demolition.
- 2.1.2 More specific aims were to:
- Produce a photographic record of the surviving parts of the original pavilion, including internal and external views.
  - Produce a written description of the remains of the original pavilion.
  - Compare the remains with other pavilion buildings of the same date.

## **3 METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Historic Building Recording**

- 3.1.1 The historic building recording followed guidelines published by English Heritage (2006) and was conducted to a level equivalent to Level 2 record (*ibid*, 14).
- 3.1.2 The photographic record was carried out with a high resolution digital camera and included both general and detail shots. All photos included a graduated photographic scale, where possible, and were recorded on *pro forma* index sheets, detailing subject orientation, photographer and date.
- 3.1.3 The written survey was compiled on *pro forma* building and room record sheets, and information included, where appropriate, location, building type, date, architect/style, materials, plans, elevations, room by room internal description noting significant architectural features, historical information.
- 3.1.4 Annotation of existing drawings was carried out in order to aid interpretation.
- 3.1.5 Comparative data for the pavilion buildings was sought from the libraries of the University of Birmingham, Birmingham Central Library and the Birmingham Archives. Comparison to distinctive local Cricket Pavilions was also undertaken, as well as comparison with regional, national and international venues of a similar era.

## **4 SITE DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION**

### **4.1 Site Location**

- 4.1.1 The site, which is located on the north side of Edgbaston Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, is part of the Warwickshire County Cricket Ground and is centred on NGR 40668 28425 (Figure 1).

### **4.2 Present Character**

- 4.2.1 The present character of the site is in the form of the upstanding Centre Pavilion of Warwickshire County Cricket Ground (Figures 2 and 3). The historic building recording relates to the elements that survive of the original pavilion building within the Centre

Pavilion. Elements of the pavilion buildings are shown on the 1889 1<sup>st</sup> edition and 1904 1<sup>st</sup> Revision Ordnance Survey maps (Figures 4 and 5). Almost the entire original roof survives intact (complete with bell tower) and some of the timber uprights facing the ground itself also appear to be original. However, other than fragments of the rear wall all original walls have been removed.

## 5 GENERAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 5.1.1 The archaeological and historical development of the Warwickshire County Cricket Ground at Edgbaston has been covered extensively elsewhere (Wallis 2008). This archaeological desk-based assessment noted that:
- 5.1.2 The Edgbaston Mill site, to the immediate south of the cricket ground, dates back to 1231 and is located immediately south of the development area. Excavations were undertaken on this site in 2004 (Mitchell 2007).
- 5.1.3 The site was essentially rural farmland until the late 19<sup>th</sup>-century. The area of the Cricket Ground itself remained an open field despite the encroachment of 19<sup>th</sup> century suburbs. The main feature running through the site was the watercourses of the River Rea and Elan Aqueduct.

## 6 COMPARATIVE STUDY

### 6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 The establishment of the newly formed Warwickshire County Cricket Club in Leamington Spa in 1883 was shortly followed by its movement to Edgbaston in 1886. The reasons were predominantly financial as a base in Birmingham offered greater support, better transport links and crucially a higher concentration of professional players to swell the ranks of the gentlemen (Beauchampé and Inglis 2006, 22). The pavilions were built by 1888 and are marked on the 1889 1<sup>st</sup> edition maps (Plate 1 and 2; Figure 4 and 5).
- 6.1.2 The late-Victorian era was one of substantial change in the social background of society. In particular the advent of leisure time, usually associated with the Sunday rest day meant that sport thrived, both in the sense of participation and entertainment. This led to the formation of the official County Championship in 1890, although Warwickshire CCC itself did not join until 1895. An unofficial County Championship had probably existed since the early-18<sup>th</sup> century but the status of the newly formed league may have led to an impetus for a better structure to the game in both an administrative and a physical sense.
- 6.1.3 It was into this atmosphere of professionalism that the pavilion at Edgbaston should be placed. By the 1880s a more professional structure to the game at large was desired and this revolved around a county set-up. The move to Edgbaston and subsequent construction of the pavilion expressed Warwickshire CCC desire not only to be taken seriously as a cricket club but also as an expression of its status.

*"...large enough for all requirements and easy of access to both town and country. It will be their own fault if cricketers of Birmingham and neighbourhood do not achieve for themselves a leading position in the national cricket field"* Birmingham Post 1885.

- 6.1.4 The era also represented a period when the newly formed championship would allow the construction of more and more prestigious pavilion structures. In order to seek suitable parallels for the late-1880s pavilion at Edgbaston, we are required not only to view the local area, but also a wider remit that includes the early participants in the county championship, the great universities and international stadium from the late-19<sup>th</sup> century.

## **6.2 Pavilions- form and function**

- 6.2.1 The pavilion as a building type is a relatively simple structure. In its essence it represents a space for players to change, the taking of tea, and the viewing of the ongoing match. In small village club terms these functions are often fulfilled by low single-storey structures, where the players changing rooms stand to one side, with wash facilities to the rear, a function room with attached kitchen that doubles as the bar.

- 6.2.2 However, the function of a structure such as the Edgbaston pavilion is more than its use. It often forms the centrepiece of the grounds facilities and along with the state of the playing surface it will be how the club is judged and remembered. It is for this reason that the higher status facilities such as the viewing balcony, the members enclosure, and decorative items including the clock tower began to be part of the make-up of the pavilion.

- 6.2.3 The pavilion, particularly in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, represented a eyeglass to the social divisions of the period. Gentlemen (amateurs) were separated from Players (professionals) and the pavilion and surrounding club formed the area for the elite, much as today the members are separated from the '*hoi polloi*'.

## **6.3 The Influence and Influences of the Edgbaston Pavilion**

- 6.3.1 The influences for the pavilion at Edgbaston are elusive as few pavilions of this era survive intact in the country. This is for two reasons. Firstly the status of Edgbaston as the principal ground of the county of Warwickshire was paralleled by only a few other grounds throughout the country, including Gloucestershire, Kent, Lancashire, Middlesex, Nottinghamshire, Surrey, Sussex and Yorkshire from the initial county championship, and Somerset, Derbyshire, Essex, Hampshire and Leicestershire from the years that followed in the 1890s. Apart from these grounds it would only have been the major universities at Oxford and Cambridge, or the private schools that would have had the money or the status to build ostentatious pavilions. The second is more prudent in the light of the current developments; piecemeal and wholesale redevelopment of grounds has resulted in the loss or obscuring of the elements of the original pavilion. Edgbaston is a case in point where later development has obscured the pavilion as a feature of the ground.

- 6.3.2 The pavilion at Westminster School, London dates to 1871 and adopts the vernacular style within its fabric, with a half-timbered gable facing the pitch mounted by a bell tower (Rice 1991, 108-9; Plate 3). It was perhaps the pavilion at The Parks, Oxford University that displays the closest parallels to that at Edgbaston (Plate 4). Built in the decorative vernacular style and designed by architect Sir Thomas Jackson in 1881, some of the earliest features, the pillared veranda, the gabled ends with half-timbering and the decorative bell tower, associated with the Edgbaston Pavilion are clearly visible (Rice 1991, 88-9).

- 6.3.3 Some of the best parallels for the Edgbaston pavilion can be found at the smaller county grounds and in localised clubs. The historic pavilion at The Saffrons, Eastbourne used by Sussex CCC is of a single-storey variation of the vernacular style. The ground was first used for cricket in 1884 and the pavilion in style dates to this period. The structure is single-storey with hipped roof, and a wood veranda and balcony to the fore (Plate 5; <http://www.cricinfo.com/>). A good local parallel is the Broughton Cricket Pavilion in Worcester dating to 1878, the original home of Worcestershire CCC prior to their move to New Road in 1896 but continued in use until recent years as the sporting facilities for the nearby Cinderella Shoe Factory. The structure is again single-storey with hipped roof and half-timbered façade. (Plate 6; [http://www.sapling.info/newsletter/200607\\_cricket.shtml](http://www.sapling.info/newsletter/200607_cricket.shtml)).
- 6.3.4 Perhaps the best parallel for the pavilion comes from Trent Bridge, Nottingham. The ground dates to 1838 but the pavilion was built in 1886 and at the time was the country's largest. Like the Edgbaston pavilion it is of two-storey design with hipped roof, centrally arranged with a first floor balcony cum veranda. Alterations have occurred to facilitate the media centre on the first floor. The close date of the pavilion suggests it probably influenced the design of the Edgbaston pavilion (Plate 7).
- 6.3.5 Of the remainder of the major test and county grounds the major pavilions post-date the Edgbaston pavilion. The pavilion at Lord's, St. John's Wood, London, probably represents the most famous pavilion in the game (Plate 8). The pavilion with its famous Long Room, was built in 1889-90 to the designs of architect Thomas Verity and is grade II\* listed. The *Pevsner* description of the pavilion is thus:
- "...a stately composition in brick and terracotta enlivened by corbel-head portraits and much ornamental ironwork. Two balconies (the lower one enlarged, with a new plainer balustrade). On the ground floor, the Long Room, with handsome plaster ceiling, flanked by Committee Room and Member's Writing Room, all with very large windows overlooking the pitch"* (Cherry and Pevsner 1973, 608)
- 6.3.6 The use of terracotta and brick at Lord's represented a break from the vernacular tradition and clearly had an influence on two later pavilions. The pavilion at Old Trafford, Lancashire was constructed in 1895 by T. Muirhead and in scope and grandeur exceeds the Edgbaston pavilion (Plate 9). Like Lord's twin brick towers flank two balconies. The grandeur of the Old Trafford pavilion appears to have influenced the Kennington Oval, London who employed the same architect Muirhead for the construction of their pavilion dated 1895-7 (Plate 10, Cherry and Pevsner 1983, 370).
- 6.3.7 The simple vernacular style displayed by the Edgbaston pavilion, however, appears to have continued elsewhere. Yorkshire CCC moved to Headingley, a multi-sport facility including rugby, cycling and tennis on land was purchased from the Cardigan Estate in 1890. The original pavilion dated to this period (Plate 11). It was a simplistic one-storey building that was destroyed by fire in 1932. Elsewhere in Yorkshire the Cricket Pavilion at New Marine Road, Scarborough dates to 1895 and exhibits simplistic tastes but suggests a continuation of the vernacular traditions of Trent Bridge and Edgbaston (Plate 12; <http://www.cricinfo.com/>).
- 6.3.8 The County Ground at Bath has a low single-storey pavilion dating to 1894, with decorative embellishments in the form of a single bell tower (Rice 1991, 26-7; Plate 13). Worcester County Cricket Club moved to its current location at New Road in 1898 and the former pavilion dates to that period (Plate 14). In order to combat the continual threat of flooding faced by the low lying ground, a new pavilion replaced it

built in 2008, with plans to resurrect the old pavilion as a museum (Lacey 2006; Peter Wardle pers comm.). The original plans of the pavilion bear a typical design, the long room separated by gentlemen's dressing room to one side and players to the other.

- 6.3.9 Elsewhere the Arts and Crafts movement of the late-19<sup>th</sup> century was adopted as an adaptation of the vernacular tradition of Edgbaston. The Arts and Crafts movement with its use and emphasis of traditional techniques was well suited to the rural respectability that cricket pavilions attempted to represent. A good example is the pavilion of the Liverpool Cricket Club at Aigburth. The ground itself was purchased in the 1880s as a new home for the Liverpool CC (itself formed in 1804). A covered stand was erected in 1887 and the pavilion buildings would appear to have followed this development (Plate 15; <http://www.cricinfo.com>). The lower ground floor appears altered but four bays of gables and associated balcony and veranda are stylistically half-timbered and now painted a distinctive olive green. The Arts and Craft influence is again visible in the pavilion at The Grange, Edinburgh, dated to 1894 (Plate 16; Rice 1991, 56-7).
- 6.3.10 Within Birmingham the pavilion at Cadbury's Factory in Bournville continues the Arts and Craft tradition. Dated to 1902 by H. Bedford Tyler, it displays the Arts and Crafts influence visible in much of the Bournville Estate, with picturesque half-timbering and a turret (Plate 17; Foster 2006, 264).
- 6.3.11 Internationally parallels for the design of cricket pavilions can be found in the Gymkhana's of many of the larger colonial centres. In particular the Bombay Gymkhana, India, a Swiss chalet style club house and pavilion were designed by John Adams and completed in 1876 at the southern end of the Maiden (an open area of ground) near the Esplanade (Mahatma Gandhi) Road. Although, clearly far removed from the rural idyll of Edgbaston, the influence of returning colonials can not be underestimated in the tastes and designs of the day. The design, outlay and scope of the Bombay Gymkhana could well have influenced early large pavilions like Trent Bridge and Edgbaston. It is one of the first examples of a two-storey pavilion and displays a viewing balcony and veranda that would have been more suited to colonial climates than a cold misty morning in May in England (Plate 18; Guha 2002, 17-8; <http://www.bombaygymkhana.com/history.asp>).
- 6.3.12 Overall it would appear that the greatest influence on the Edgbaston pavilion was likely to have been the pavilions at The Parks, Oxford University and Trent Bridge. Earlier pavilions such as Westminster School, The Bombay Gymkhana and smaller village pavilions such as Broughton appear to have led to a gradual acceptance of an Arts and Crafts influenced vernacular style. Key architectural elements, included the viewing balcony, the veranda, as well as the bell tower a distinctive feature of the Edgbaston pavilion. In comparison the grounds of Lord's, Old Trafford and The Oval sought to break this tradition with large terracotta masterpieces. The vernacular style appears to have survived and the influence of the Edgbaston ground can be seen in local grounds in particular New Road, Worcester as well as the minor masterpiece that is the Bournville pavilion. The style of the Edgbaston pavilion and its contemporaries was perhaps ultimately more suited to the sedate nature of the County Cricket scene.

## 7 DESCRIPTION OF THE REMAINS OF THE ORIGINAL PAVILION

### 7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 The original late Victorian pavilion of Warwickshire County Cricket Club, located at Edgbaston, Birmingham, has undergone numerous alterations and additions throughout its lifetime (Figures 6 and 7). Forming part of the current Centre Pavilion, these significant changes have ensured that its external and internal appearance, layout, and form have been almost completely transformed, with much of its historic fabric removed or greatly altered. These extensive alterations have served to erode the significance of the structure to the extent that it could not be described as an intact or significant example of sporting stadia architecture. The pavilion, as it currently stands, can be at best described as utilitarian in appearance, the result of numerous 'improvements' to the original scheme to incorporate the changing needs and requirements of an 'international class' cricket venue particularly in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. These changes and alterations include the addition of stadia seating, corporate viewing facilities, office space, and commentary positions for TV and radio coverage. Even a perfunctory comparison of the current pavilion with one of a number of existing historic views (Plates 1 to 2, 19 to 24) of the structure would be enough to delineate the extent of this erosion of historic fabric, transforming a once aesthetically pleasing 'Arts and Crafts' inspired half-timbered pavilion into the piecemeal, utilitarian and aesthetically displeasing conglomeration of structures that make up the Centre Pavilion today.

### 7.2 The present character

7.2.1 Field-side, *i.e.* the north facing side, of the Centre Pavilion comprises ground floor and first floor seating areas, behind which at ground floor level (from east to west), are the players' viewing area, the players' dining room, a number of offices, and the museum (Photos 1 to 12). Behind the first floor level seating balcony are a number of suites and committee viewing rooms, which occupy the east side of the stand, whilst a TV commentary position occupies a flat roof structure behind the western section of the stand. Further flat roof commentary positions project from above the eastern section of the stand, one of which is the infamous 'potting shed' used by BBC Radio Test Match Special commentators over the past 30 years<sup>1</sup>. To the west of the 'potting shed' are the remains of the bell tower and roof structure of the original pavilion.

7.2.2 Road-side, *i.e.* the south facing side, is a conglomeration of mid/late 20<sup>th</sup> century one and two storey structures containing offices, utility and committee rooms, and the players' dressing rooms (Photos 13 to 19). Also visible on this side is the bell tower and roof structure, and the upper storeys of a gable ended structure, complete with mock timber framing, which would appear to be of a late 19<sup>th</sup>/ early 20<sup>th</sup> century date.

### 7.3 Surviving Historic Elements

7.3.1 Despite the highly accretive and unsympathetic development of the pavilion, there are a number of surviving tangible remnants belonging to the original architectural scheme (Figure 8). On initial external inspection it would appear that a sizeable proportion of the original pavilion structure survives in a severely truncated form 'encapsulated' by the later additions and extensions (Figure 9). However, an

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<sup>1</sup> For a firsthand account of working in the 'potting shed' see <http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport1/hi/cricket/8179227.stm>

inspection of the interior revealed that the extent of the internal degradation and removal of the original fabric was even more pronounced than that of the exterior. This level of alteration and attrition has been to such an extent that "the structural integrity of the building has been entirely compromised" (Wallis 2008, 18) by the removal of all original walls, apart from fragments of the rear wall, at both ground and first floor levels of the pavilion.

- 7.3.2 The surviving elements of the original/early architectural scheme include the original pavilion roof structure, a number of timber uprights/stanchions facing the field, fragments of original walling, and the upper storey of a gable ended structure to the rear which appears to have been part of a late 19<sup>th</sup>/ early 20<sup>th</sup> century addition to the grandstand.

#### **7.4 The original roof structure**

- 7.4.1 The original pavilion roof structure, complete with decorative bell tower, survives despite some additions, alterations and attrition, in a relatively complete and coherent condition. This roof structure, which is the most tangible and emblematic surviving element of the original pavilion, provides an excellent insight into the nature and scale of the original design (Figure 10, Photos 20 to 28).
- 7.4.2 This roof structure consists of an east-west orientated, hipped red clay tiled roof, with a central projecting bell tower which is surmounted by a weather vane. The hipped roof is detailed with moulded red clay ridge tiles which have tall decorative terracotta finials at both the east and west terminals. These finials, which, despite the loss of much of the western example, appear to have been identical to each other, have floral/foiled detailing/ornamentation. The belfry, which rises from the centre of the hipped roof, takes the form of a tiered pyramidal hipped roof with hanging clay tiles, lead flashing, and a decorative pegged timber bell-cage with notched detailing. Structurally, this bell tower consists of a tapering narrow hipped red tiled roof projecting from the centre of the main roof structure. Surmounting this is the pegged ornamental timber bell-cage complete with surviving bell. Above this is a two-tiered pyramidal red clay tiled room terminating at a point from which projects a cast iron/tubular steel weather vane with Arts and Crafts inspired curved detailing.
- 7.4.3 There are three projections from the south side of the roof. The two western projections are inserted dormers of varying appearance; the most westerly has a flat felt covered roof, whilst the other has a lightly sloping clay tile roof. The third projection appears to be part of the original scheme, this takes the form of a north-south oriented gablet with pitched red clay tile roof with ridge tiles akin to those found on the main section of the original roof structure. Emanating from the eastern corner of the bell tower, this gablet also has a truncated former chimney, which may be the remains of the chimney seen to the east of the bell tower in a number of the historic photographs of the ground (Plate 1, 2, 20, and 22).
- 7.4.4 Much of the lower hipped sections of the original roof appear to have been truncated or incorporated within the later additions. Historic photographs/paintings show that the original north side (i.e. facing the playing surface) of this roof was characterised by four gabled dormers with projecting finials (Plates 23 and 1). The central two of these appear to have been removed quite soon after construction to accommodate the insertion of a wide mullioned viewing window (Plates 19-23 and 2). The east and west hipped sections of the roof had similar dormers. There is no apparent evidence for any of these dormers in the current fabric, perhaps suggesting that the roof has been



historically re-tiled or that evidence for these is obscured by the recent additions and scaffolding<sup>2</sup>.

## 7.5 Timber uprights/stanchions

- 7.5.1 The ground floor seating section of the Centre Pavilion contains a number of timber uprights/stanchions, complete with decorative brackets, which were very important to the aesthetic and structural nature of the original architectural scheme of the pavilion (Figure 11, Photos 29 to 40). These provided the load bearing capacity for carrying the viewing balcony above without being too inhibitive to those watching the action from the ground floor seating. Unfortunately only one of these timber uprights survives in its complete form today. The remainder of these have either been truncated or embedded within later walling or window frames.
- 7.5.2 An examination of historic photographs and paintings (Plates 1, 23 and 24) shows that nine of these uprights carried the first floor balcony in the original pavilion. Interestingly, however, the built fabric suggests that there are c. 13 uprights surviving in varying levels of completion. This uncertainty is answered by a further appraisal of the historic photographs which show that in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century an extension was built to the east of the original pavilion containing uprights similar in design to those on the original pavilion. This infers that the nine westernmost surviving uprights formed part of the original pavilion, with the remainder belonging to the later extension.
- 7.5.3 The single surviving complete timber stanchion comprises a cluster of three thin squared and stopped chamfered timber vertical posts which supports three chamfered and stopped curved brackets which project to the north, east and west. The upright is tied to the bracket with a number of iron pegs, and is in turn tied to the pavilion building behind with a tie beam complete with chamfered runout stops.
- 7.5.4 The remainder of the stanchions are in varying states of completion. Interestingly, posts four to six (from the east) have plain brackets devoid of detail. This may suggest that this area is a section of infill between the original pavilion and the original stand to the east, the outline of which can be seen on the 1889 and 1904 Ordnance Survey maps (Figures 4 and 5), signifying that this earlier stand was incorporated into the later stand in this position, and that the three easternmost stanchions actually formed part of the earlier stand.

## 7.6 Gabled structure

- 7.6.1 This late 19<sup>th</sup>/ early 20<sup>th</sup> century gable ended structure is located at the extreme west end of the south side of the Centre Pavilion (Figure 12, Photos 41 to 46). It seems likely from its position and from historic photographs and paintings (Plates 1, 19, 20, 21 and 23) that this building formed part of a viewing stand, which also included what is now the museum, located immediately to the west of the original pavilion. The ground floor of this building has now been encased by additions to the south and infill to the north, leaving the first floor level to provide an understanding of its external form and fabric. This is a single-pile two-storey gable ended east-west orientated structure. The roof has three sections; the principal central section has a red clay tile

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<sup>2</sup> The current scaffolding was erected for TV purposes in advance of the 2009 Ashes match between England and Australia.

pitched roof with semi-circular ridge tiles. The west gable of this contains some timber framing and has a small fixed timber-framed window with a splayed and moulded brick sill. The opposite gable is of red brick. Both these gable ends have decorative moulded timber bargeboards. To the east of the eastern gable is another pitched roof section, with identical ridge tiles and a bargeboard. The gable end is plain apart from a small timber-framed window which is partially obscured by infilling. This structure also has a red clay tile covered lean-to, which projects to the east of the central roof section. This also appears to be part of the initial phase of construction of this structure, and can be clearly seen on a number of historic photographs. There is no real evidence of the original fenestration scheme on the south elevation as two flat roof bay windows has been added to the east and a upvc window and door combination have been inserted to the west.

## 7.7 Internal walls

7.7.1 As noted above, the vast majority of the original internal walls of the pavilion have been removed as part of the extensive alterations to the structure throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century (Figure 13, Photos 47 to 68). The extent of this attrition means that it is impossible to gain any understanding of the original ground plan or circulatory scheme. Likewise, it is impossible to surmise upon the specific internal delineations and divisions of space, such as the physical separation of changing and viewing areas for gentlemen and professional cricketers, which are often commonplace in historic cricket pavilions.

7.7.2 Analysis of the historic fabric has helped identify some possible sections of original internal walling. However, these sections of walling contain minimal diagnostic information, and provide little insight into the original internal plan. These sections include a possible section of the original rear wall on the south side of the players' dining room at ground floor level and the committee room at first floor level, and potential historic sections of internal walling within the gabled structure. It is also likely that sections of walling in the museum are part of an early 20<sup>th</sup> century stand located to the west of the original pavilion (currently forming the northwest corner of the Centre Pavilion). These sections of walling include four wide piers which appear commensurate with the fenestration scheme on historic photographs of this structure. Decorative corncicing suggests that the majority of the other walls in this room are contemporaneous with these piers. This corncicing is also present on plastered beams spanning the ceiling between the two central piers to the north and two engaged pilasters on the south wall.

7.7.3 An excellent example of the extent of the removal of original walls can be seen in the players' dining room, where iron columns have been inserted to support the ceiling and upper floor following the removal of the original north wall in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## 8 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

8.1.1 This programme of historic building recording of the original late Victorian pavilion at Warwickshire County Cricket Club, Edgbaston, has shown that this once aesthetically pleasing cricket pavilion, whose Arts and Crafts inspired half-timbered design, which was very much the *de rigueur* of its time, has been greatly altered and changed throughout the course of its lifetime. The extent of attrition of its original fabric has ensured that its external appearance and internal layout have been altered to such an

extent that this structure could in no way be described as an intact or significant example of sporting stadia architecture.

- 8.1.2 Despite the extensive denudation of original and historic fabric, which meant that it is close to impossible to gain an understanding of the original external and internal form from the fabric alone, a number of original/historic features remain. These include the remnants of the original pavilion roof structure, pitch-side timber uprights/stanchions, a gabled structure, and a number of possible original internal walls.
- 8.1.3 Given the importance of the Warwickshire County Cricket Club grounds at Edgbaston to the history of Birmingham and to history of Cricket as a sport, it would be appropriate to suggest that some of these surviving elements are preserved, if not in the new design nor elsewhere in the ground, perhaps as part of the extensive museum collection that the club has built up over the course of its history.
- 8.1.4 The Club recognises the historical significance of the Pavilion and wishes to retain a number of the features of the building fabric. The list of features the Club proposes to retain are as follows:
- Bell Tower and weather vane.
  - The remaining undamaged terracotta finial to the roof.
  - The sole surviving timber stanchion and bracket to the Pavilion facade.
  - Original internal staircase post.
- 8.1.5 Plans are being made to incorporate some of the retained features in the construction of the new stand and its surroundings. Where this is not possible (and where practical) these features will be displayed in the new Club Museum.

## 9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 9.1 The project was commissioned by Mr Peter West (Consultant) of Rider Levett Buckall UK Ltd on behalf of Warwickshire County Cricket Club; thanks go to Mr Martin Pratley (Stadium Manager), Mr Phil MacDonald (Project Manager) and Mr K V Cooke (Cricket Operations Manager) of Warwickshire County Cricket Club for help throughout the course of the project. Thanks also to Dr Mike Hodder (Birmingham City Council).
- 9.2 The ground plans adapted and used in this report were provided by Warwickshire County Cricket Club, and were produced by David C. Bryant Ltd. in 1995.
- 9.3 The project was managed for Birmingham Archaeology by Mr Chris Hewitson AIfA who also undertook, compiled and wrote the historical comparative research for this report. The historic building recording was carried out by Mr Shane Kelleher AIfA who also contributed to the current report and collaborated with Mr Nigel Dodds to produce the illustrations. The report was reviewed and edited by Mr Chris Hewitson AIfA of Birmingham Archaeology.

## 10 SOURCES

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

- 1889 Ordnance Survey County Series 1:2500 map, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition.
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### (b) *Primary Sources*

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### (d) *On-line Resources*

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## APPENDIX C: Glossary of Terms

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

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

### **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***

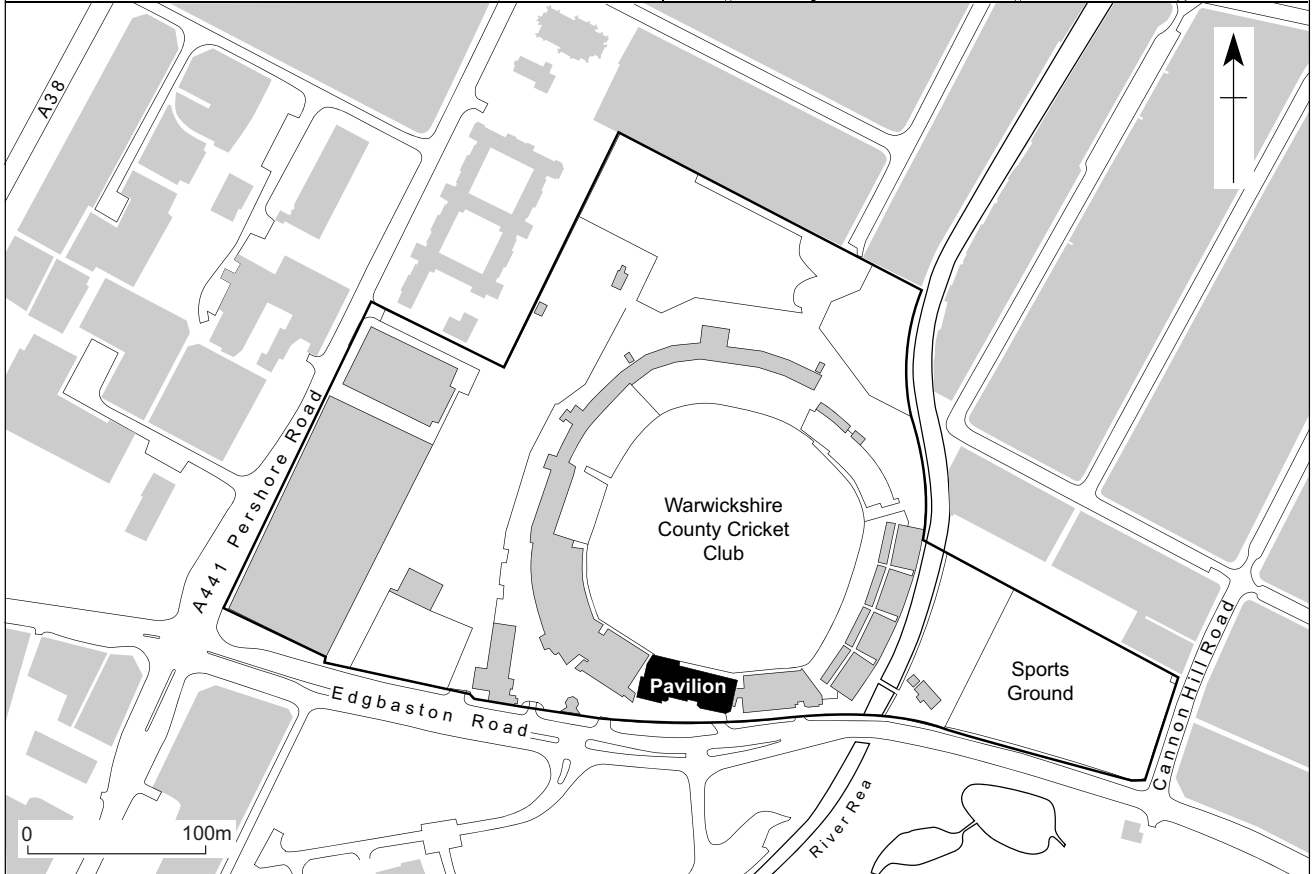
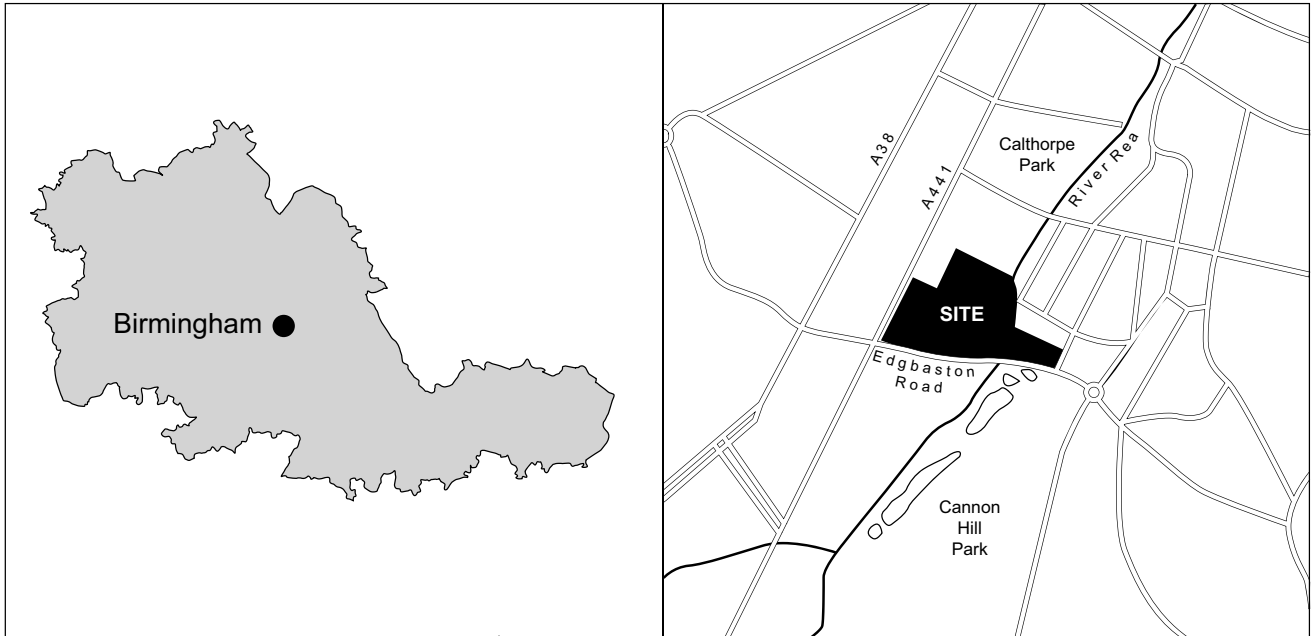
Foundation design to avoid or minimise impact on archaeology may be sought. This might include locating buildings to avoid archaeology; display of remains; sympathetic location of piled foundations and piling techniques; raising floor or ground beam levels; the routing of services; management of ground 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.

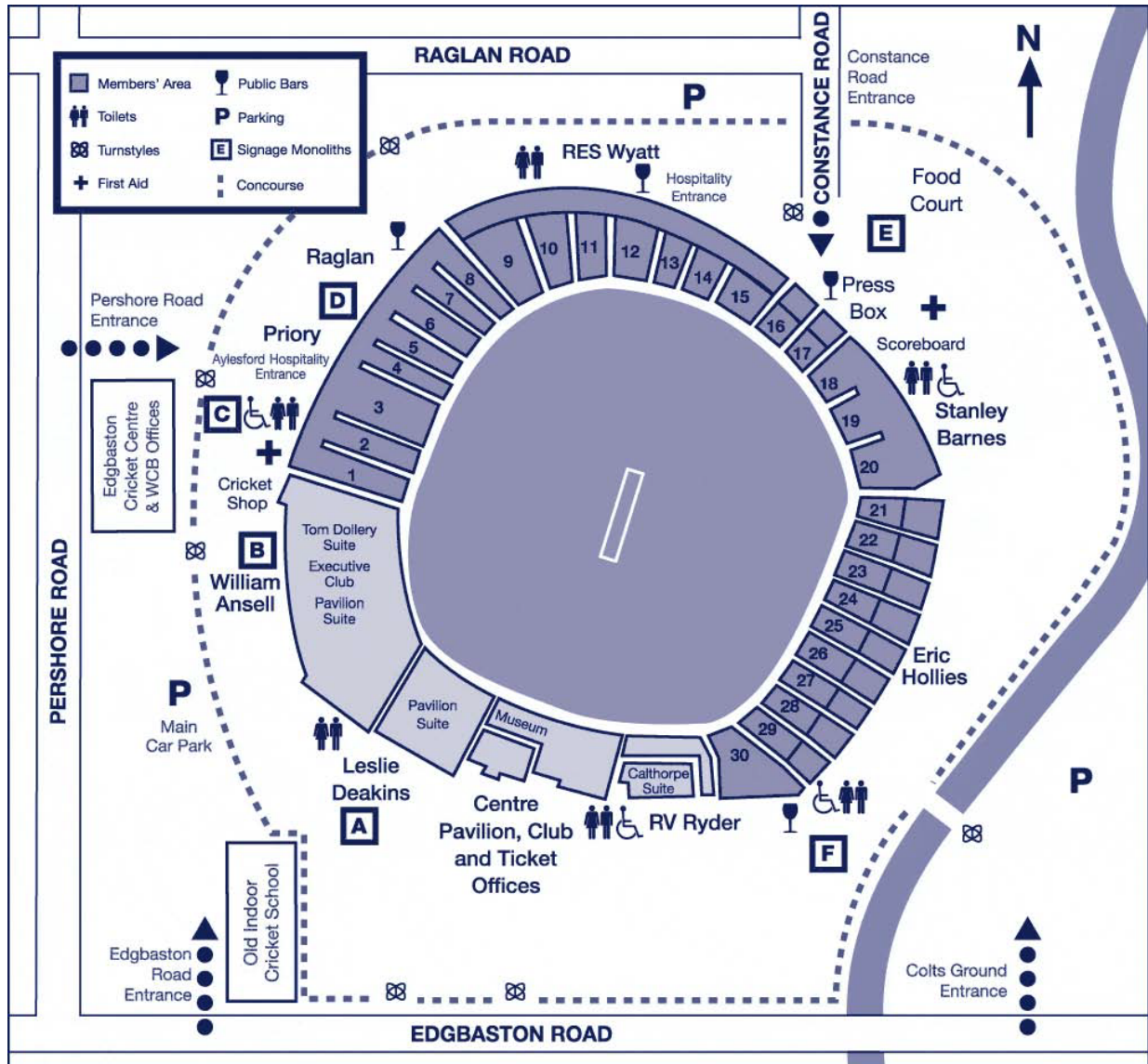
***Historic Building Recording (HBR)***

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.

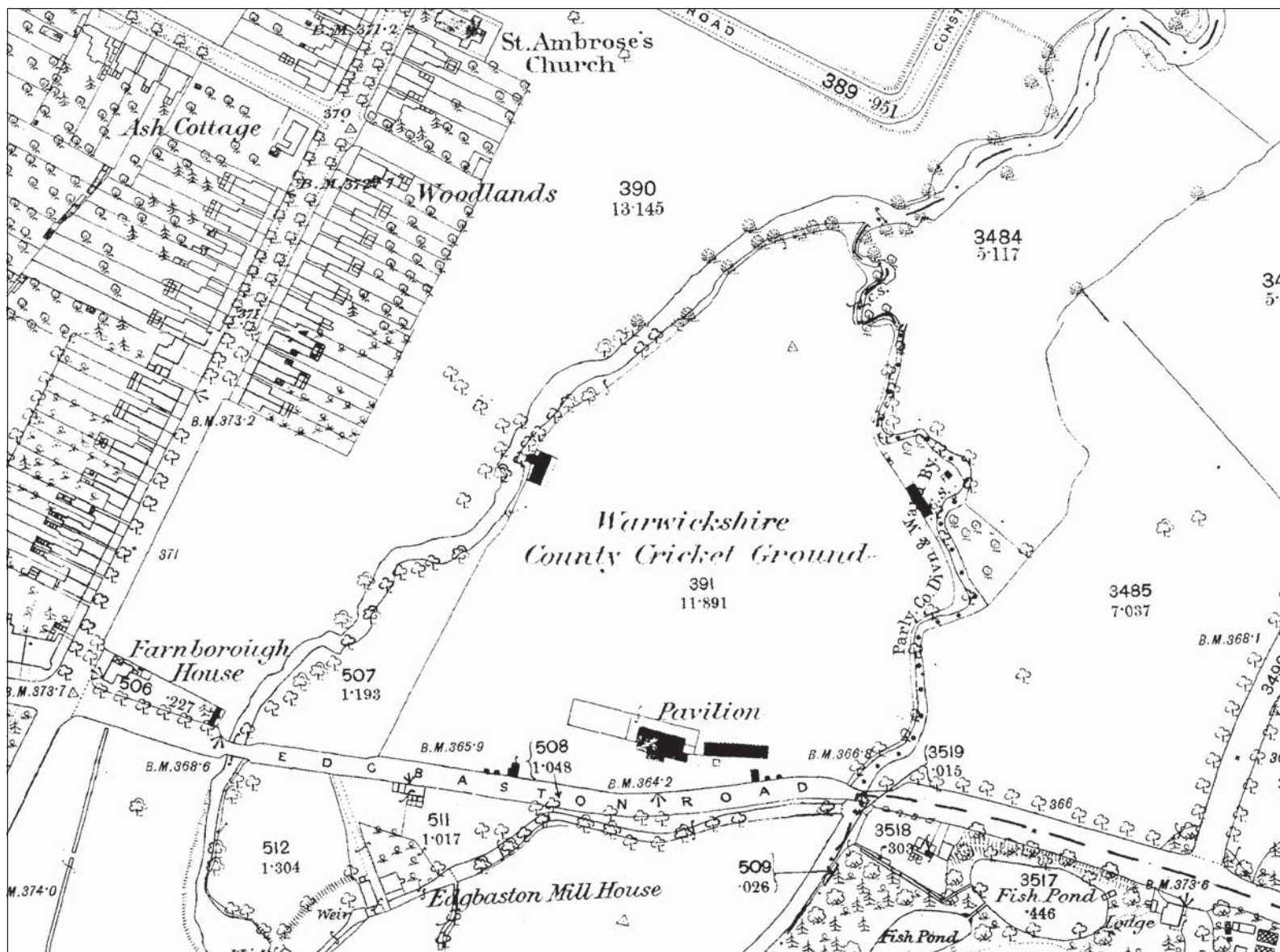


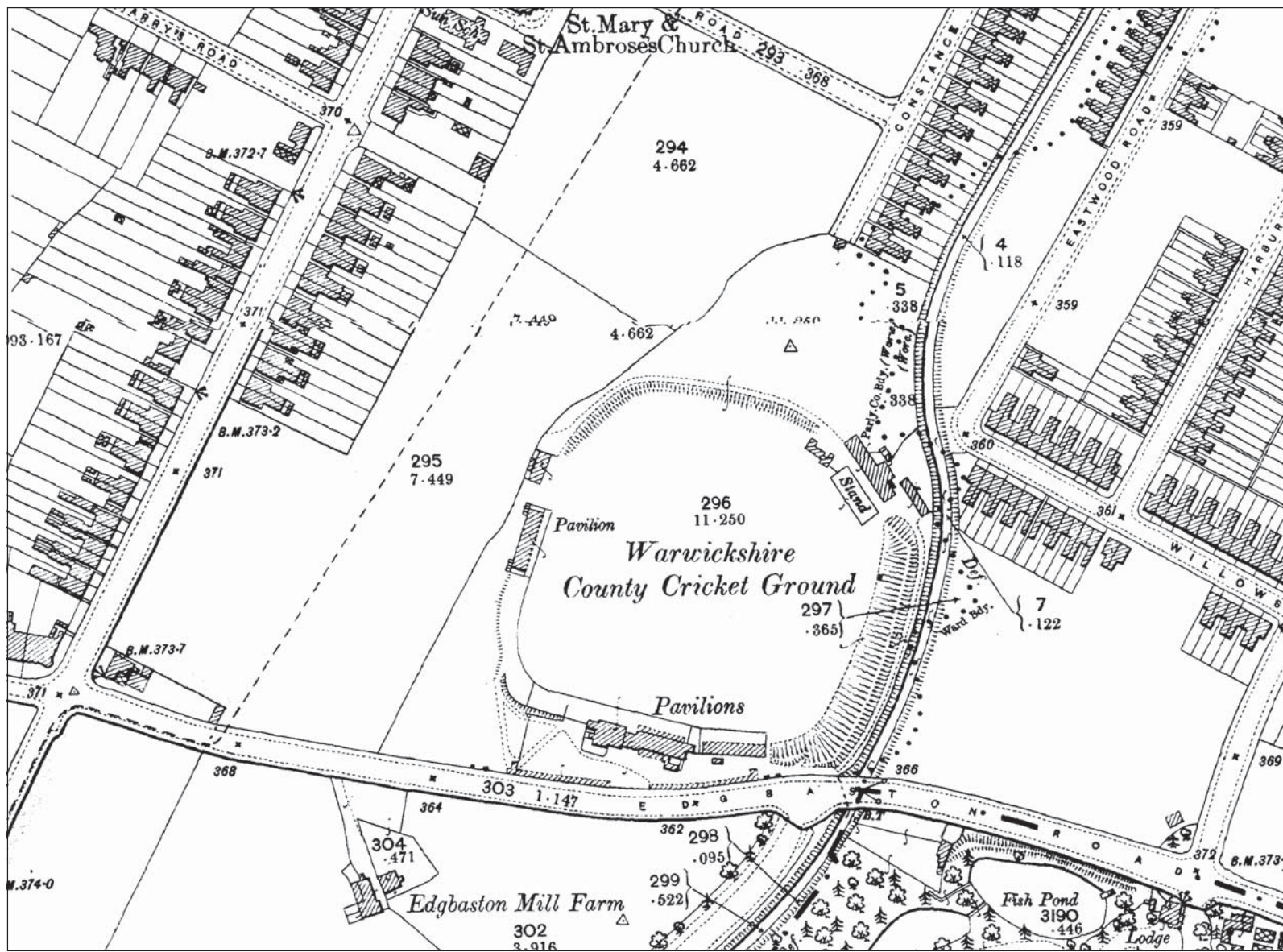
## **Appendix D: Letter of Dispensation for Archaeological Work prior to development of New Stand**



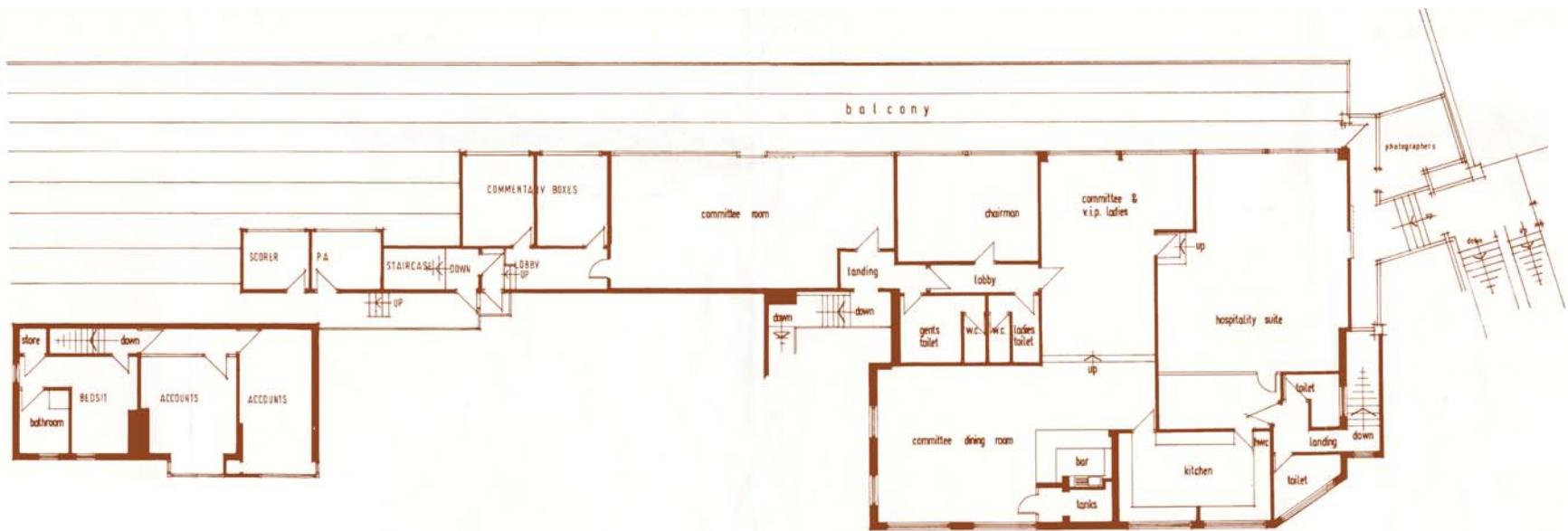




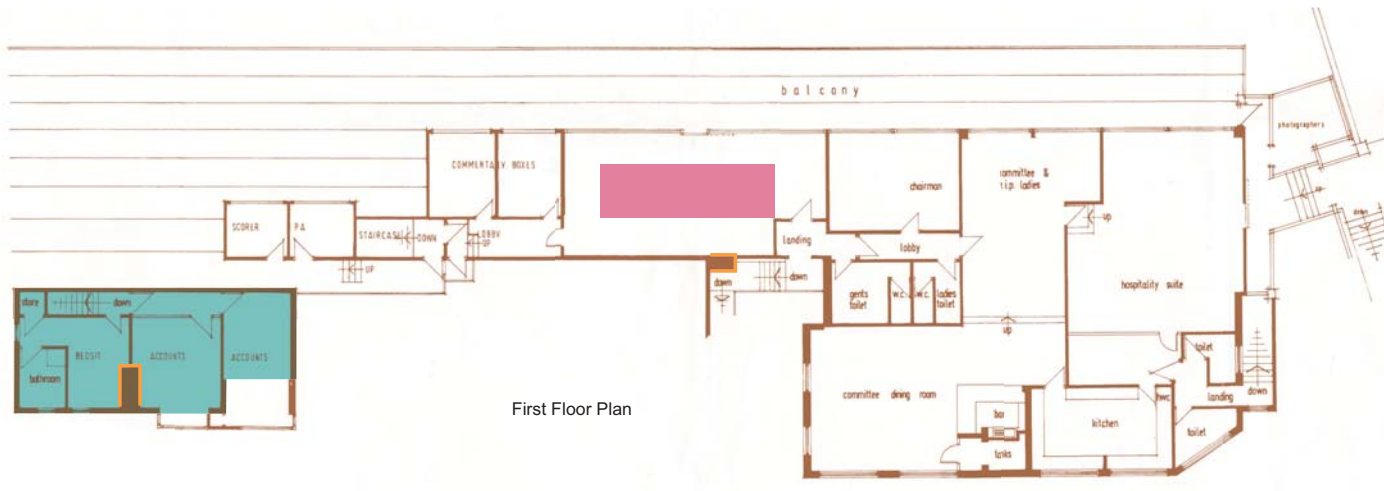




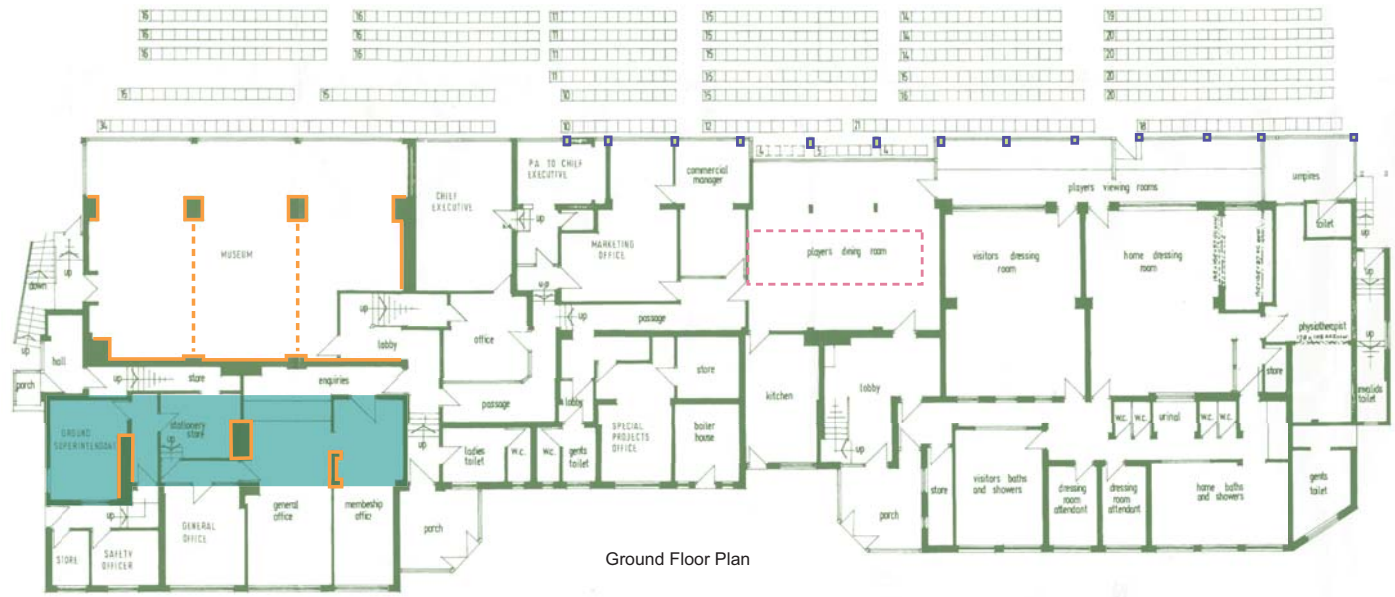






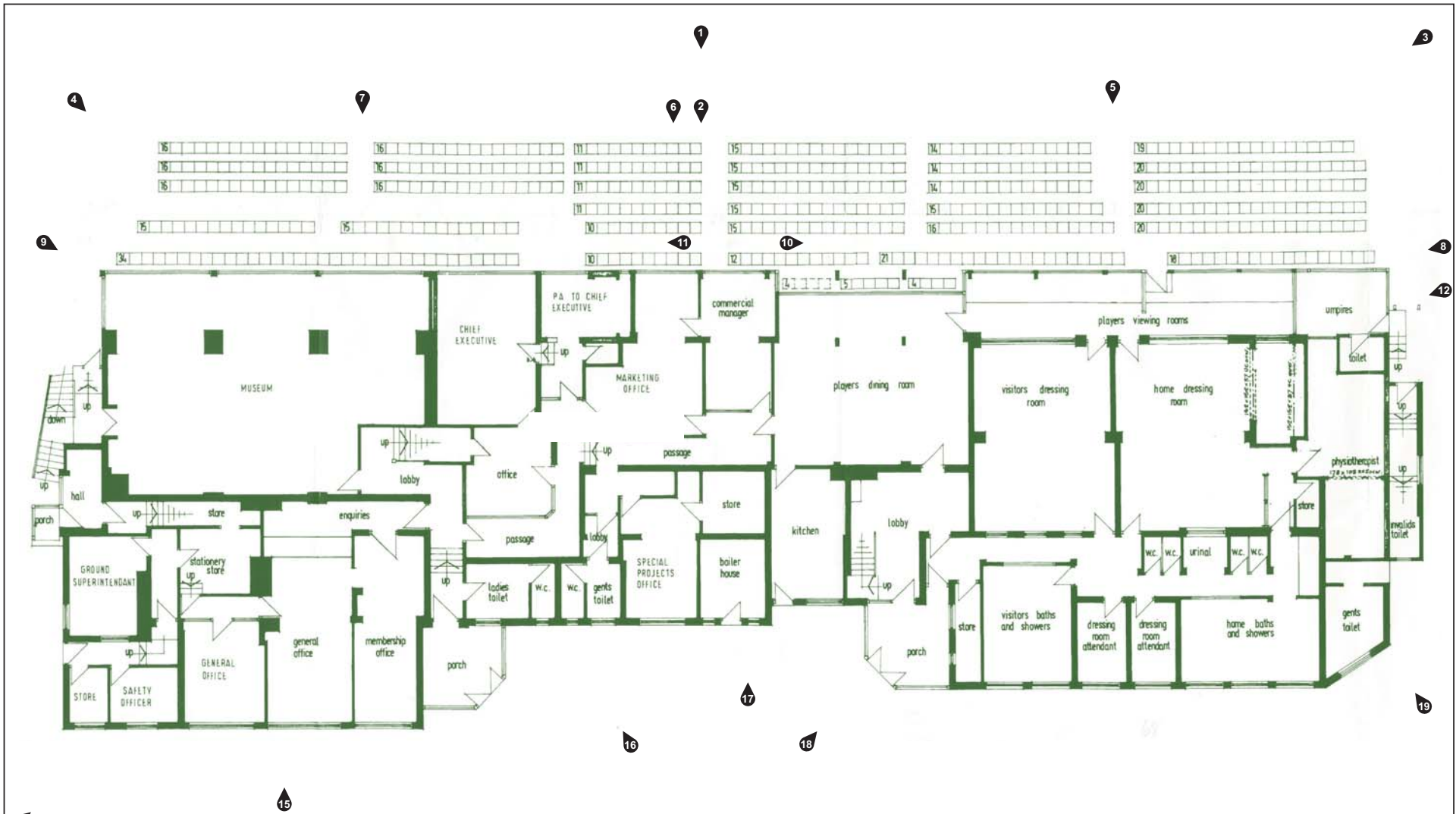


First Floor Plan

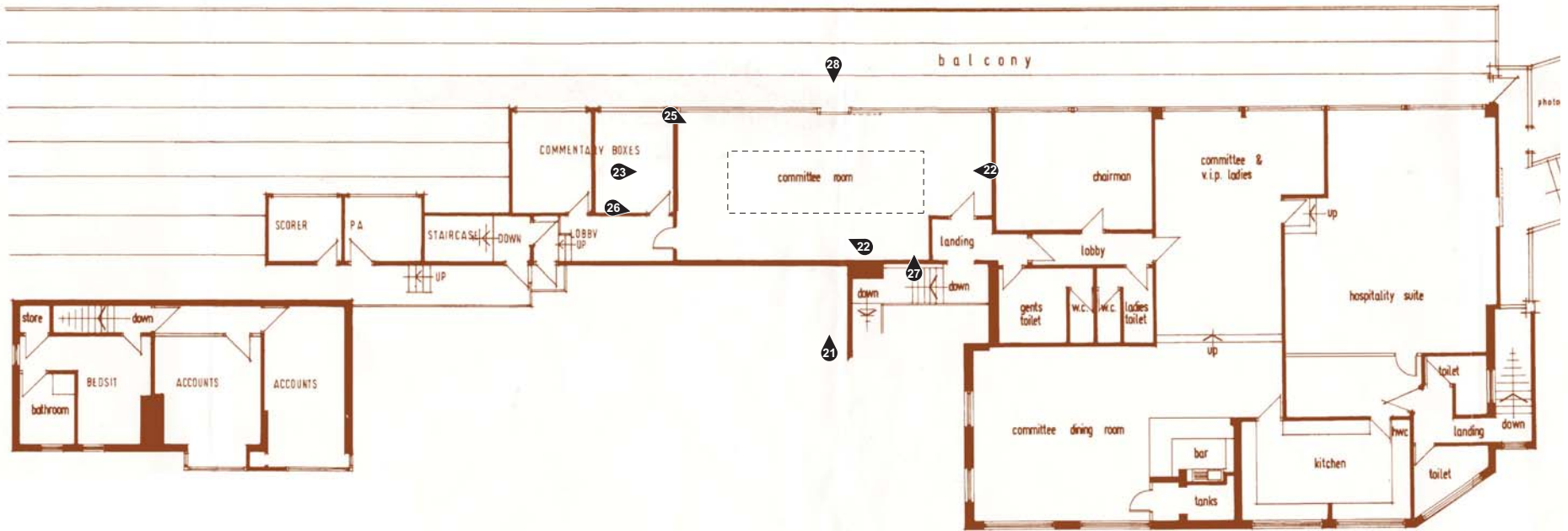


Ground Floor Plan

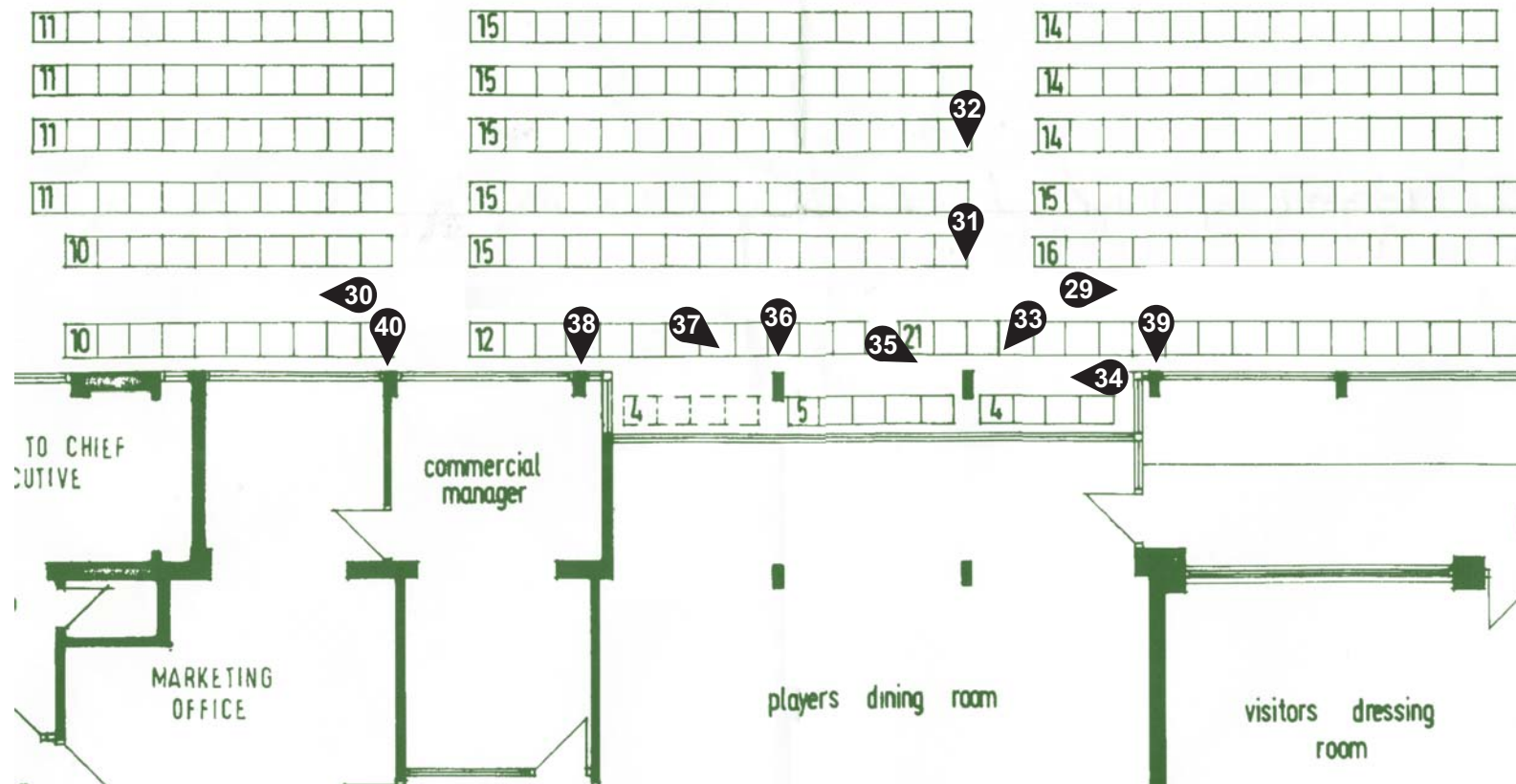
- Original Roof Structure
- Gabled Structure
- Timber Uprights/Stanchions
- Possible Original Interior Walling
- Plastered Beams

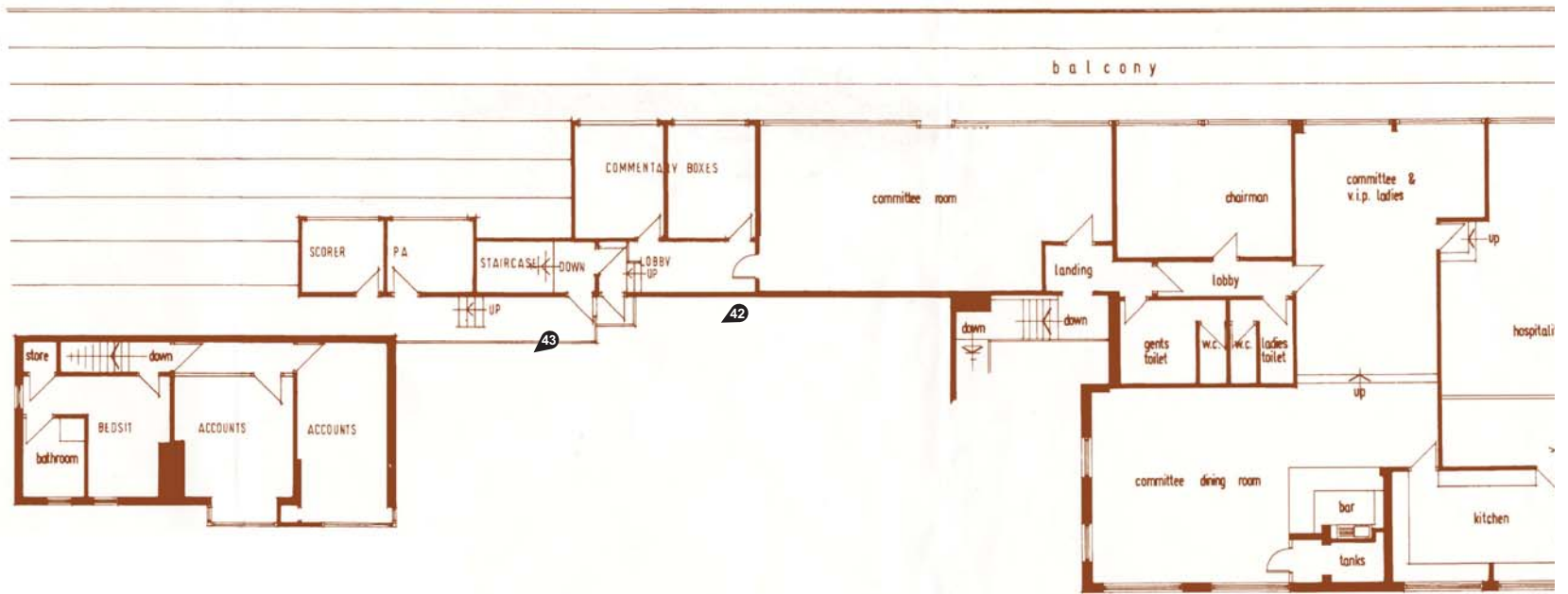


Ground Floor Plan

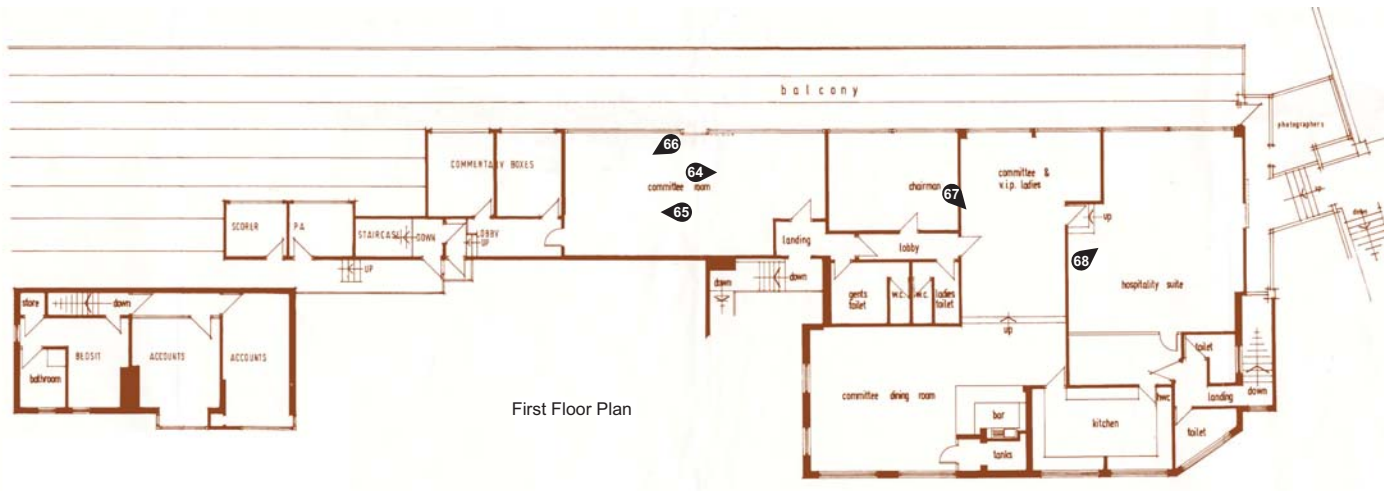


First Floor Plan

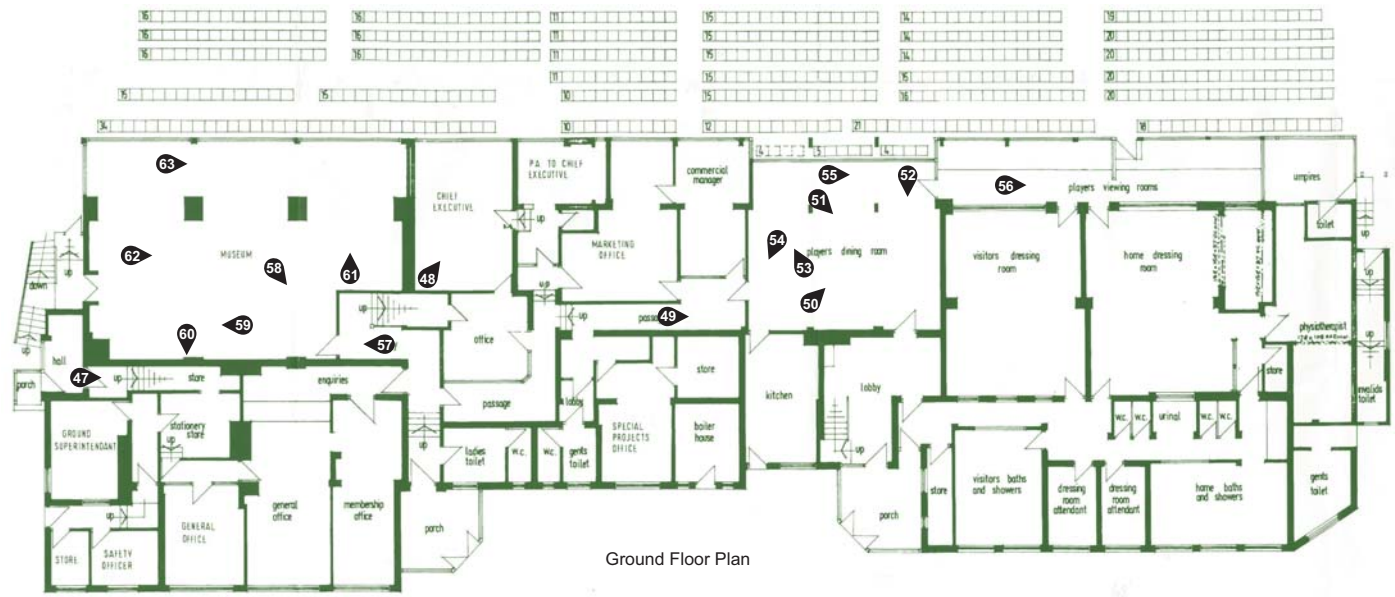




First Floor Plan



First Floor Plan



Ground Floor Plan



Plate 1: Edgbaston Pavilion c 1895



Plate 2: Edgbaston Pavilion c 1899



Plate 3: Westminster School Pavilion, London built c 1871



Plate 4: The Parks, Oxford University, built 1881

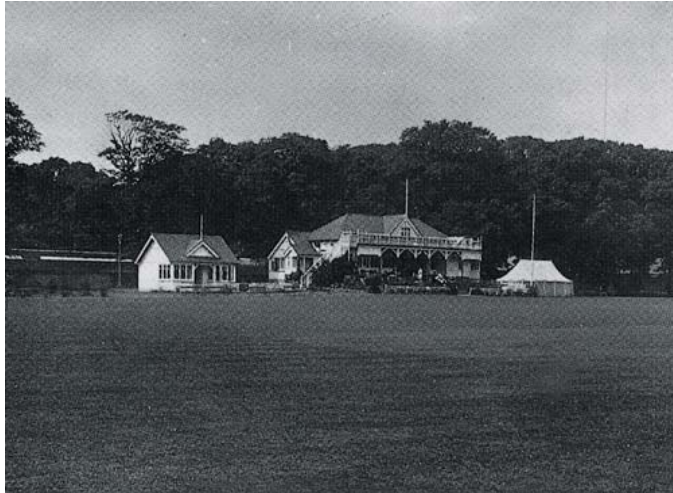


Plate 5: The Saffrons, Eastbourne, built 1884



Plate 6: Broughton, Worcester, built 1878



Plate 7: Trent Bridge, Nottinghamshire, built 1885



Plate 8: Lord's, St Johns Wood, London, built 1890





Plate 9: Old Trafford Pavilion, Manchester, built 1895



Plate 10: The Kennington Oval Pavilion, London, built 1897

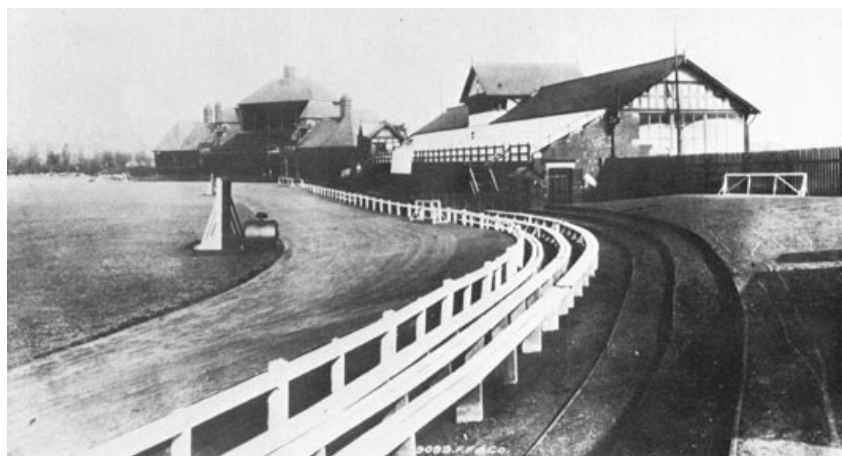


Plate 11: Headingley Pavilion, Leeds, built 1895



Plate 12: New Marine Road, Scarborough, built 1897



Plate 13: The County Ground, Bath, Somerset, built 1894



Plate 14: New Road, Worcester, built 1897



Plate 15: Aigburth, Liverpool, built c 1887



Plate 16: The Grange, Edingburgh, built 1894



Plate 17: The Bournville Cricket Pavilion, Birmingham, built 1902



Plate 18: The Bombay Gymkhana, India, built 1876



Plate 19: Edgbaston mid-20th century



Plate 20: Edgbaston early to mid-20th century



Plate 21: Edgbaston late-19th early 20th century



Plate 22: Edgbaston early 20th century



Plate 23: Edgbaston late-19th century



Plate 24: Edgbaston early 20th century



Photo 1: Centre Pavilion (field side) from north.



Photo 2: Centre Pavilion (field side) from north.



Photo 3: Centre Pavilion (field side) from northeast.



Photo 4: Centre Pavilion (field side) from southwest.



Photo 5: Centre Pavilion (east, field side) from north.



Photo 6: Centre Pavilion (centre, field side) from north.



Photo 7: Centre Pavilion (west, field side) from north.



Photo 8: Centre Pavilion (field side) from northeast.



Photo 9: Centre Pavilion (field side) from northwest.



Photo 10: Centre Pavilion (field side) lower stand from west.



Photo 11: Centre Pavilion (field side) lower stand from east.



Photo 12: Centre Pavilion (field side) upper stand from east.





Photo 13: Centre Pavilion (road side) from southwest.



Photo 14: Centre Pavilion (road side) from southwest.



Photo 15: Centre Pavilion (west, road side) from south.



Photo 16: Centre Pavilion (centre west, road side) from southeast.



Photo 17: Centre Pavilion (centre east, road side) from south.



Photo 18: Centre Pavilion (east, road side) from southwest.



Photo 19: Centre Pavilion (road side) from east.



Photo 20: Original pavilion roof structure oblique aerial from south.



Photo 21: Original pavilion roof structure from south.



Photo 22: Original pavilion roof structure bell tower from southeast.



Photo 23: Original pavilion roof structure bell tower from west



Photo 24: Original pavilion roof structure from east.



Photo 25: Original pavilion roof structure from west.



Photo 26: Original pavilion roof structure from northwest.

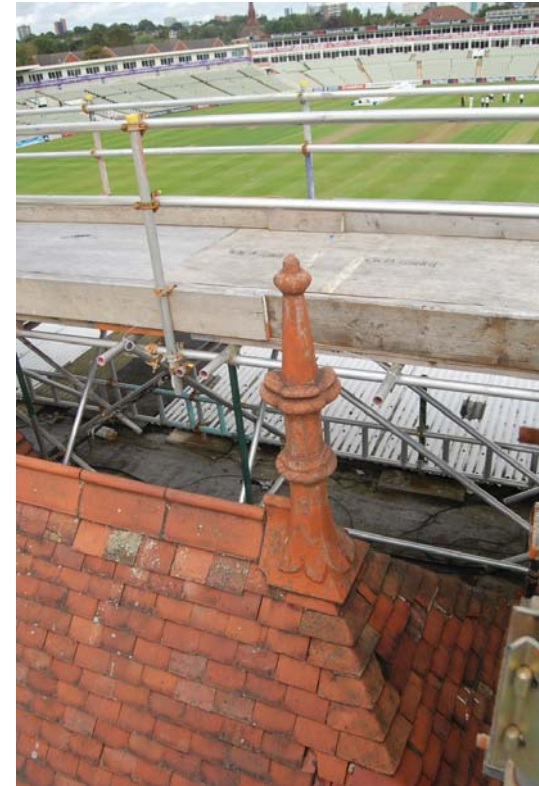


Photo 27: Original pavilion roof structure terracotta finial from southeast.



Photo 28: Original pavilion roof structure bell tower weather vane from north.



Photo 29: Original upright/stanchion brackets from west.



Photo 30: Original upright/stanchion brackets from east.



Photo 31: Sole surviving complete original stanchion and bracket from north.



Photo 32: Sole surviving complete original stanchion and bracket from north.



Photo 33: Sole surviving complete original stanchion and bracket from northeast.



Photo 34: Sole surviving complete original stanchion and bracket from east.



Photo 35: Sole surviving complete original stanchion and bracket from northwest.



Photo 36: Partially surviving original stanchion and bracket from north.



Photo 37: Partially surviving original stanchion and bracket from northwest.



Photo 38: Partially embedded original stanchion and bracket (west) from north.



Photo 39: Partially embedded original stanchion and bracket (east) from north.



Photo 40: Embedded original stanchion and bracket from north.





Photo 41: Gabled structure from southwest.



Photo 42: Gabled structure from east.



Photo 43: Gabled structure roof from northeast.



Photo 44: Gabled structure from west.



Photo 45: Gabled structure from southwest.



Photo 46: Gabled structure detail from west.



Photo 47: Stairwell in gabled structure from west (interior ground floor).



Photo 48: Chief Executive's Office from southwest (interior ground floor).



Photo 49: Hallway to players' Dining room from west (interior ground floor).



Photo 50: Players' Dining Room from southwest (interior ground floor).



Photo 51: Players' Dining Room from northwest (interior ground floor).



Photo 52: Players' Dining Room from north (interior ground floor).



Photo 53: Players' Dining Room from south (interior ground floor).



Photo 54: Players' Dining Room from northeast (interior ground floor).



Photo 55: Players' Dining Room from west (interior ground floor).



Photo 56: Players' Viewing Rooms from west (interior ground floor).



Photo 57: Museum lobby from east (interior ground floor).



Photo 58: Museum from northwest (interior ground floor).



Photo 59: Museum from east (interior ground floor).



Photo 60: Museum cornice detail from north (interior ground floor).



Photo 61: Museum from south (interior ground floor).



Photo 62: Museum from west (interior ground floor).



Photo 63: Museum from west (interior ground floor).



Photo 64: Committee Room from west (interior first floor).



Photo 65: Committee Room from east (interior first floor).



Photo 66: Committee Room from northeast (interior first floor).



Photo 67: Committee Room from northwest (interior first floor).



Photo 68: Hospitality Suite from southwest (interior first floor).