

NORFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

Report No. 952

**Building Survey and Photographic Record of the
Methodist Chapel at Terrington St Clement
Norfolk**

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Location: The Methodist Chapel, Wesley Street, Terrington St Clement
Grid Ref: TF 5473 2025
HER No: 40212 TSC
Date of fieldwork: 30th to 31st March 2004

Summary

A standing building survey of the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in the village of Terrington St Clement, west Norfolk, was undertaken by the Norfolk Archaeological Unit in advance of demolition and rebuilding.

1.0 Introduction

(Fig. 1)

The Wesleyan Methodist chapel stands in the village of Terrington St Clement, west Norfolk, on the corner of Hillgate Street and Wesley Road. The chapel is due to be demolished and replaced with a smaller chapel.

This building survey was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Norfolk Landscape Archaeology (NLA Ref: ER 25.6.03) and NAU letter of 25.11.03.

The work was designed to create a written, drawn and photographic record to RCHME level 2 (RCHME 1996) in advance of demolition. This work was carried out for Parsons and Whittleby Ltd of Swaffham and their clients.

The site archive is currently held by the Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service, following the relevant policy on archiving standards.

2.0 Historical Background

The Methodist Chapel

(Figs 2 and 3. Plate 1)

The Wesleyan Methodist Society in Terrington St Clement was formed around 1813. The first chapel was built on the site of the present Sunday School located opposite, on Wesley Road, where the Sunday School building of 1881 stands today. The present chapel was built in 1844 and has a burial yard attached (Kellys Directory 1844; Religious Census 1851 in Ede 1994). The memorials date from 1872.

The chapel was given its gallery in 1860, an organ in 1875 (replaced in 1948), and in 1883 the rostrum for the pulpit was erected. In 1893 the chapel was reseated (TStCHG 1993).

As part of a survey of Nonconformist Chapels in Norfolk carried out some years ago (Ede *et al* 1994), a summary record was made of the Methodist Chapel at Terrington; this summary is held by the Norfolk Record Office (NRO SO 197 T197/20/5).

The chapel was described in this survey as 'very grand' with all ancillary buildings attached (cartshed and stables). This survey, however, has established that the attached 'cottage' is a rather later build (with brick walls butted on and with different coursing), while of the former stables only the stub of a wall survives. The cottage contains the domestic facilities for the chapel.

The chapel itself is of red brick with white brick cornices, shallow flat pilasters and pantiled roof. The interior is largely unaltered since 1844/1860, with galleries on four sides, metal pillars (octofoil sections) and pews. The chapel is aligned approximately north-to-south with the main entrance at the north end (Figs 2 and 3). The windows at the north end are round-headed and flank the main door; to east and west, the windows are rectangular, with metal casements and plain glass (Plate 1). There are two doors in the south (rear) wall. The western of the two doors is now within the attached cottage, and links the two buildings.

3.0 Methodology (Appendix 2)

The objective of this survey was to create a record of the chapel to RCHM level 2 (RCHM 1996). This requires:

- Written record (this report)
- Drawing:
 - Sketch plan
 - Plans of floors to show form and location of structural features of historical significance
- Photographs:
 - General views of the exterior
 - Overall appearance of the interior
 - Detailed coverage of the exterior

4.0 Building Survey

(Figs 2, 3 and 4. Plates 1, 2, 3 and 4)

4.1 The Exterior (Appendix 1)

(Plates 1 and 2)

The building is of brick in a plain style with main façade and entrance to the north; the gable has a label above the cornice that reads:

'WESLEYAN'

Each of the two long side elevations has three pairs of windows (a lower and an upper); the south (rear) elevation has two plain entrances, two upper windows (like those at the side) and a central louvred ventilation window above them in the gable. The ventilation window has a keystone with the date '1844'.

To the west lies the burial yard. On the west side wall overlooking the burial yard are four wall monuments (1-4), these are set out in Appendix 1:

4.2 The Interior

Main Floor

(Fig. 3. Plates 3 and 4)

The ground floor has a vestibule at the north (entrance) end; from behind a door, a stair rises from each side of the vestibule to reach the gallery. The vestibule is separated from the body of the chapel by a screen, its upper part of small panes of coloured glass, in pale colours. The ground floor has a central bank of pews, two aisles, and sets of pews to each side. The pulpit stands on a rostrum with an open wrought iron screen in front (Fig 3). The ground floor has wainscoting throughout. The woodwork and furnishings on the ground floor are almost entirely of pitch pine.

The central pews are numbered and have umbrella stands at their ends (Plate 3).

The windows are mostly of plain glass but with decorative coloured insets (Plate 4).

Gallery

(Fig. 4. Plate 4)

The gallery runs around all four sides, and has a stepped raking floor on three sides (Fig. 4). The fourth (south) side is mostly occupied by the organ of 1948. Each of the other sides has a long bench against the wall and banks of box pews (Plate 4). The boxes have brass fittings for name labels, and doors.

The ceiling has a central rose and four decorative ventilation or sound holes.

5.0 Conclusions

The chapel is in near original form (1844, 1860) with pews removed downstairs (to provide space for Sunday School activities) and also upstairs near the organ. Externally, the main façade windows have modern lights, and the ancillary buildings were replaced by the present single-storey building in the past; the building is of red brick and butts with the chapel; the coursing does not conform.

The site archive also contains elevation drawings of the four external elevations.

Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was carried out by the writer with the valuable assistance of a volunteer. The report was produced and illustrated by David Dobson and edited by Alice Lyons.

Bibliography

- | | | |
|--|------|---|
| Ede, J., Virgoe, N.,
and Williamson, T. | 1994 | <i>Halls of Zion</i> (CEAS: UEA, Norwich) |
| Kellys Directory | 1844 | Kellys Directory for Norfolk 1844 |
| RCHME | 1996 | Recording Historic Buildings: A Descriptive
Specification, Third Edition. Swindon: RCHME |
| TStCHG | 1993 | <i>Terrington St Clement: A Marshland Village</i>
(Terrington St Clement History Group) |

Appendix 1: Wall Monuments 1-4

1

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
ROBERT WHARFE
WHO DIED IN THE FAITH OF CHRIST
APRIL 4TH 1897
AGED 80 YEARS
FOR OVER 60 YEARS
A LOCAL PREACHER IN THE
PRIMITIVE METHODIST CONNEXION

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
WILLIAM WALKER
WHO DIED IN THE FAITH OF JESUS CHRIST
22ND JANUARY 1887
AGED ...
HE WAS A LOCAL PREACHER ... YEARS
WITH THE PRIMITIVE METHODISTS
THIS TABLET IS ERECTED BY HIS STEPMOTHER AND
FATHER

IN AFFECTIONATE REMEMBRANCE
OF
GEORGE JACOB REEVE
PRIMITIVE METHODIST MINISTER
THE BELOVED SON OF GEORGE AND ANN REEVE
WHO DIED IN CANADA
FEBRUARY 16TH 1879 AGED 28 YEARS
FORMERLY A SCHOLAR IN
THIS SUNDAY SCHOOL
WHO KNOW HE IS NOT LOST
ONLY GONE ON BEFORE
AND HEAVEN SEEMS VERY NEAR TO US
INSTEAD OF A DISTANT SHORE

MILL

IN LOVING MEMORY OF THREE
BRETHREN, WHO DIED IN THE FAITH
OF THE GOSPEL WHICH THEY PREACHED

BAKER GENT
WHO DIED 24TH NOVEMBER 1871
AGED 29 YEARS

ALSO OF JOHN EVERETT
WHO DIED 2ND DECEMBER 1871
AGED 25 YEARS

AND OF
WILLIAM WHARFE
WHO DIED 17TH JULY 1872
AGED 33 YEARS

Appendix 2: Index to Photographic Archive

Index to Black and White photographic archive

Norfolk Archaeological Unit – Black & White Photographic Archive			
Site: Methodist Chapel, Terrington St Clement, Norfolk			
B&W Code KNQ: HER Number: 40212			
Frame No.	Description	Photographer	Date
1a	E elevation	K PENN	March04
2a	Same	K PENN	March04
3a	Same	K PENN	March04
4a	S elevation from E	K PENN	March04
5a	N elevation from E	K PENN	March04
6a	--	K PENN	March04
7a	Signboard	K PENN	March04
8a	N elevation	K PENN	March04
9a	Same	K PENN	March04
10a	Lower window	K PENN	March04
11a	Same	K PENN	March04
12a	Interior looking N	K PENN	March04
13a	Same	K PENN	March04
14a	Rostrum and pulpit	K PENN	March04
15a	Same	K PENN	March04
16a	Pews 19-22	K PENN	March04
17a	WWI memorial (1)	K PENN	March04
18a	Same	K PENN	March04
19a	--	K PENN	March04
20a	--	K PENN	March04
21a	WWI memorial (2)	K PENN	March04
22a	Upper window	K PENN	March04
23a	Same	K PENN	March04
24a	Gallery detail	K PENN	March04
25a	Gallery detail looking N	K PENN	March04
26a	Gallery, organ	K PENN	March04
27a	Same	K PENN	March04
28a	Gallery looking N	K PENN	March04
29a	Same	K PENN	March04
30a	Same	K PENN	March04
31a	Gallery looking SW	K PENN	March04
32a	Same	K PENN	March04
33a	Gallery N end looking W	K PENN	March04

Norfolk Archaeological Unit – Black & White Photographic Archive			
Site: Methodist Chapel, Terrington St Clement, Norfolk			
B&W Code KNR: HER Number: 40212			
Frame No.	Description	Photographer	Date
1a	S elevation	K PENN	March04
2a	SE corner from S	K PENN	March04
3a	S elevation	K PENN	March04
4a	E elevation	K PENN	March04
5a	Same	K PENN	March04
6a	Same	K PENN	March04
7a	Lower window	K PENN	March04
8a	Same	K PENN	March04
9a	Same	K PENN	March04
10a	Wall monument (1)	K PENN	March04
11a	Same	K PENN	March04
12a	Wall monument (2)	K PENN	March04
13a	Same	K PENN	March04
14a	Wall monument (3)	K PENN	March04
15a	Same	K PENN	March04
16a	Wall monument (4)	K PENN	March04
17a	Same	K PENN	March04
18a	Gallery from SW corner	K PENN	March04
19a	Same	K PENN	March04
20a	Gallery from NW corner	K PENN	March04
21a	Same	K PENN	March04
22a	Gallery detail at NW	K PENN	March04
23a	Gallery detail looking N	K PENN	March04
24a	Same	K PENN	March04
25a	Gallery looking S to organ	K PENN	March04
26a	Gallery detail looking E	K PENN	March04
27a	Same	K PENN	March04
28a	Gallery N end	K PENN	March04
29a	Same (detail)	K PENN	March04
30a	Gallery NW corner	K PENN	March04
31a	Gallery looking S	K PENN	March04
32a	Same	K PENN	March04
33a	Gallery looking SE	K PENN	March04
34a	Same	K PENN	March04
35a	Same	K PENN	March04
36a	Same	K PENN	March04

Index to Colour Slide Archive

Norfolk Archaeological Unit – Colour Slide Archive			
Site: Terrington St Clement Methodist Chapel HER Number: 40212			
Slide No.	Subject	Photographer	Date
1	Signboard	K PENN	March04
2	N elevation	K PENN	March04
3	Same	K PENN	March04
4	Same	K PENN	March04
5	E elevation	K PENN	March04
6	Same	K PENN	March04
7	Same	K PENN	March04
8	Same	K PENN	March04
9	S elevation	K PENN	March04
10	Same	K PENN	March04
11	Same	K PENN	March04
12	W wall monument (1)	K PENN	March04
13	W wall monument (2)	K PENN	March04
14	W wall monument (3)	K PENN	March04
15	W wall monument (4)	K PENN	March04
16	Same	K PENN	March04
17	Remains of stable wall	K PENN	March04
18	Pew 8	K PENN	March04
19	Pews	K PENN	March04
20	Screen at N end	K PENN	March04
21	Pew 21	K PENN	March04
22	Pew 19	K PENN	March04
23	Pews and screen	K PENN	March04
24	Woodwork in vestibule	K PENN	March04
25	Lower window	K PENN	March04
26	Upper window	K PENN	March04
27	Same	K PENN	March04
28	Gallery	K PENN	March04
29	Gallery looking S	K PENN	March04
30	Gallery detail	K PENN	March04
31	Gallery and organ	K PENN	March04
32	Gallery detail	K PENN	March04
33	Same	K PENN	March04
34	Same	K PENN	March04
35	Same	K PENN	March04
36	Same	K PENN	March04
37	Gallery	K PENN	March04
38	Gallery ceiling rose	K PENN	March04
39	Ceiling detail	K PENN	March04

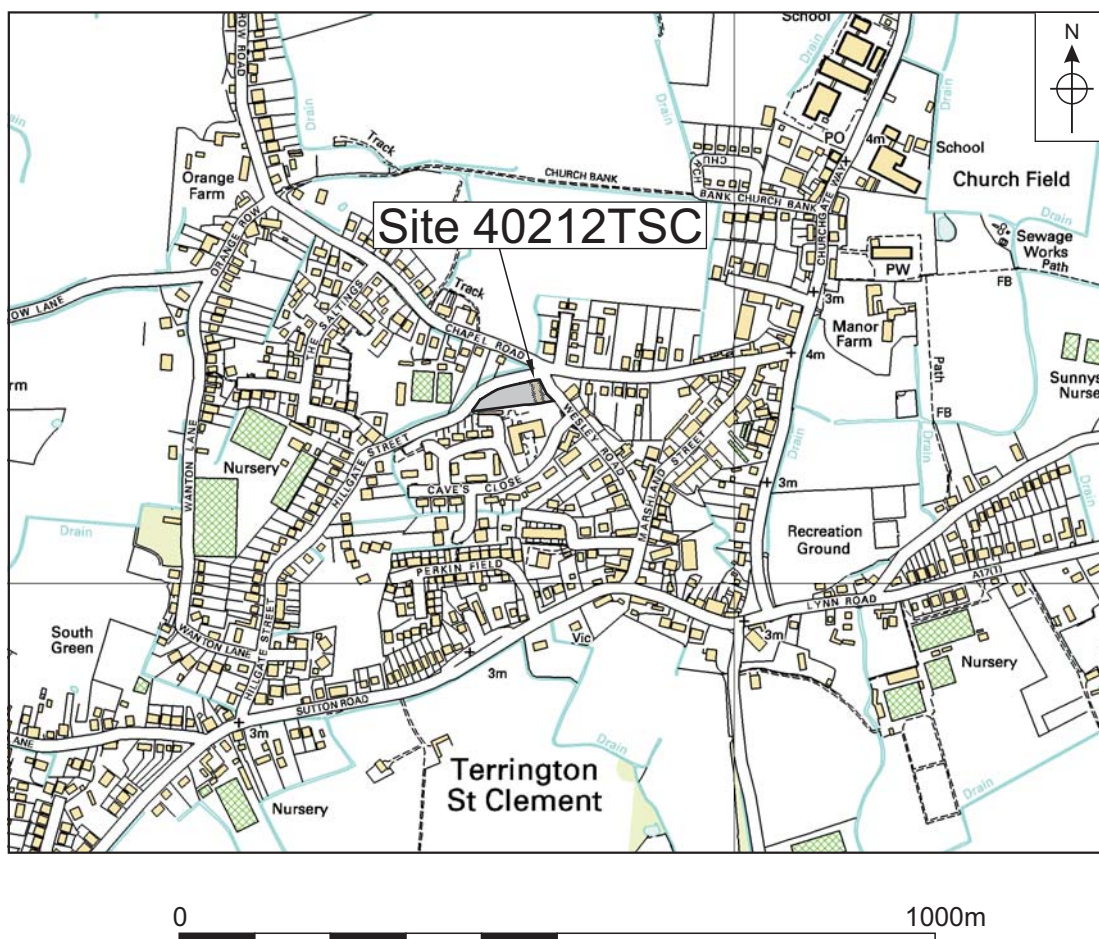


Fig. 1 Site location. Scale 1:10,000

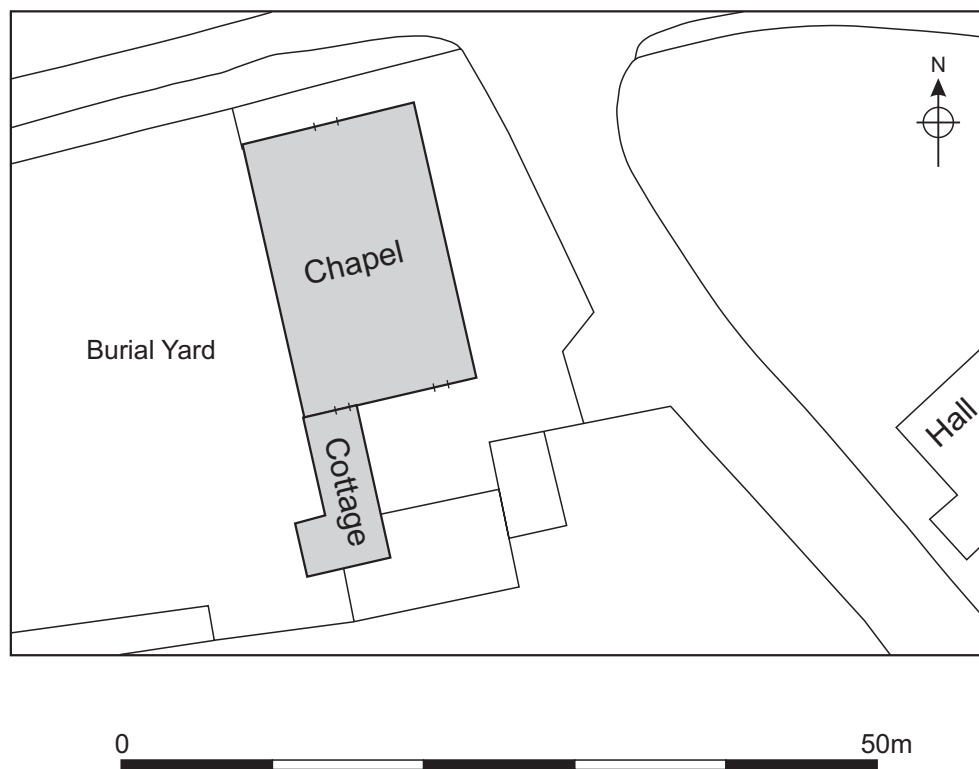


Fig. 2 Plan of chapel and attached cottage.
Scale 1:500

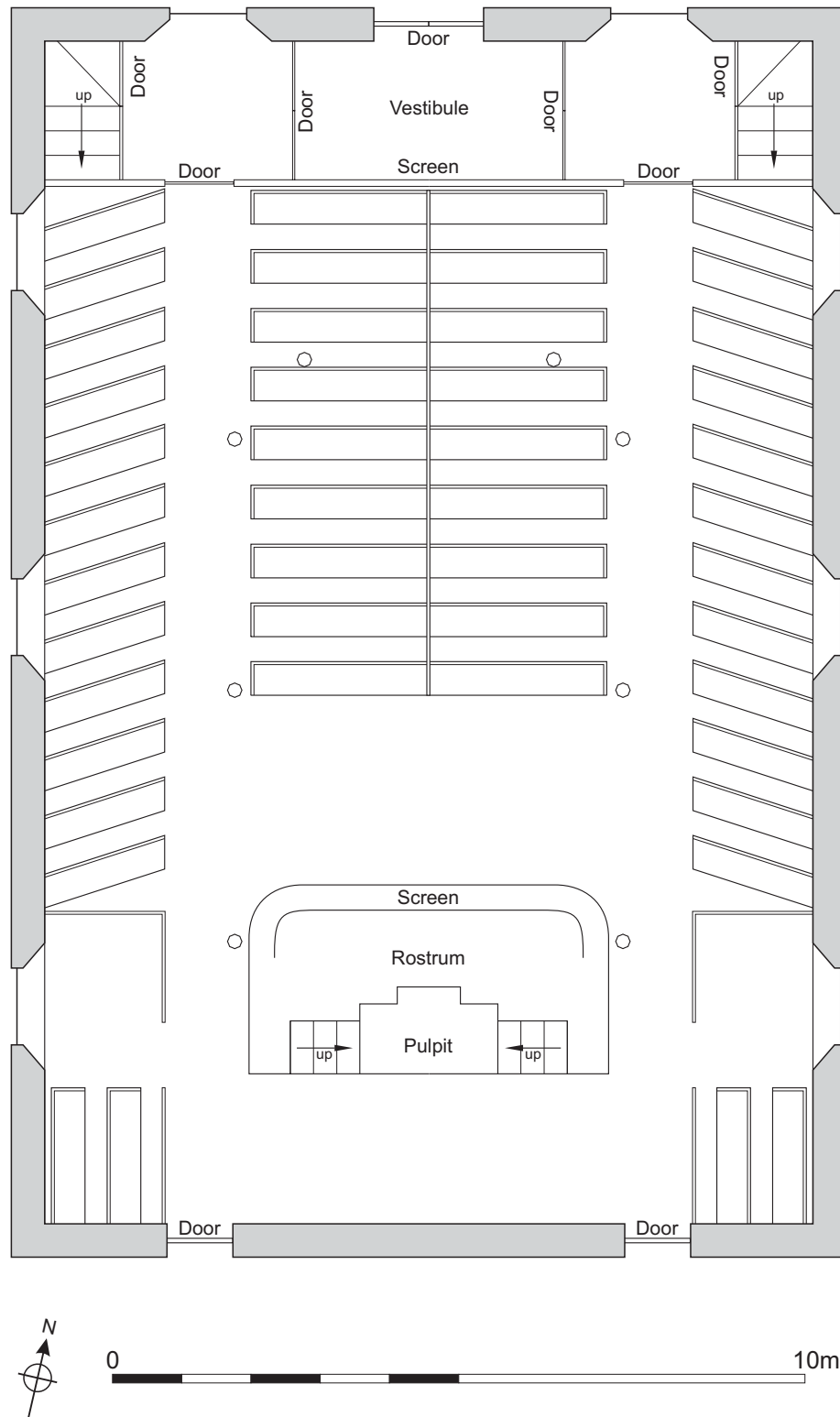


Fig. 3 Main floor, plan. Scale 1:100

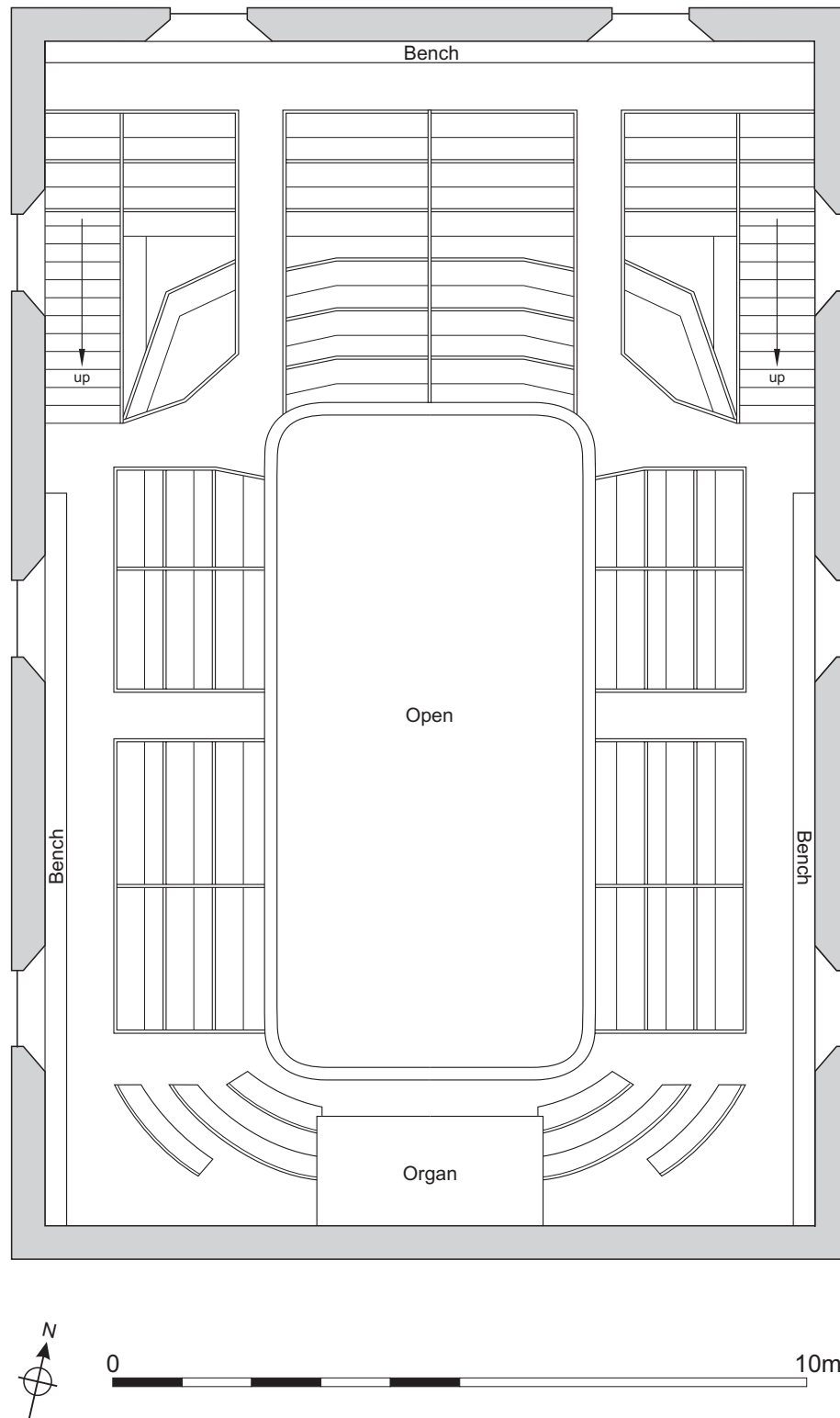


Fig. 4 Gallery, plan. Scale 1:100



Plate 1 Main (north) façade



Plate 3 Pew 19

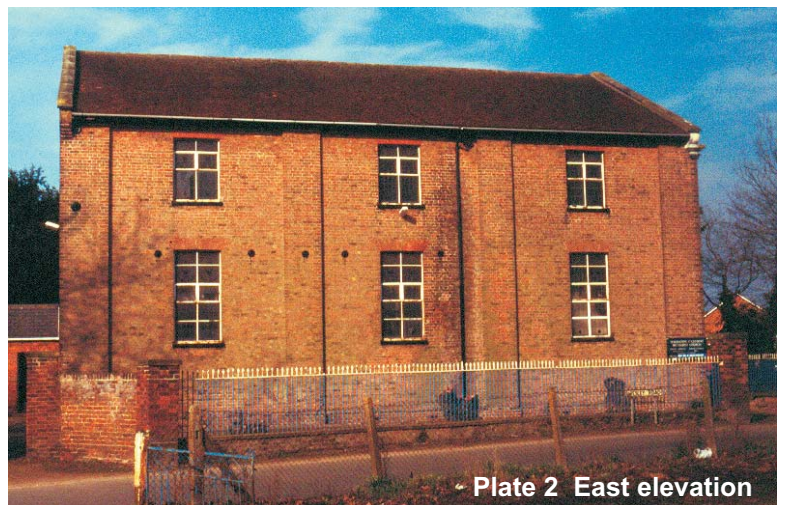


Plate 2 East elevation

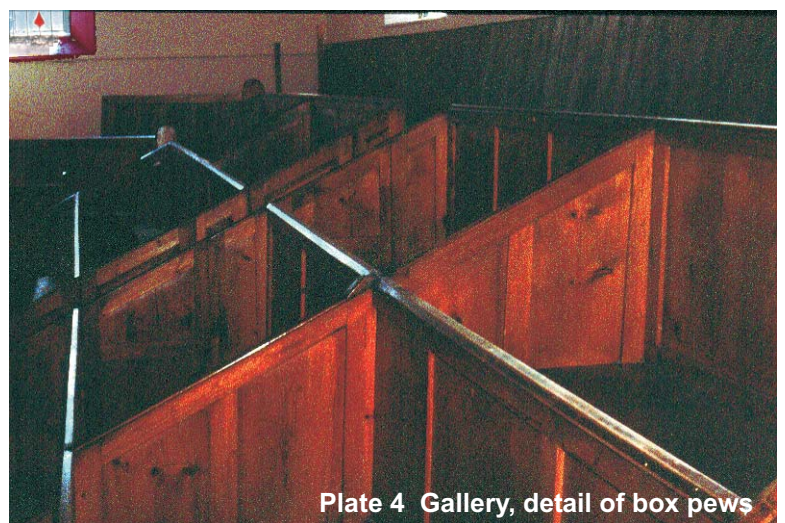


Plate 4 Gallery, detail of box pews