

Former Ladywell Road Police Station, London Borough of Lewisham Historic Building Recording

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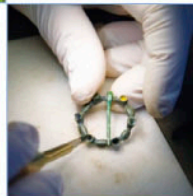
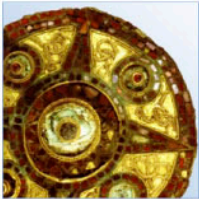
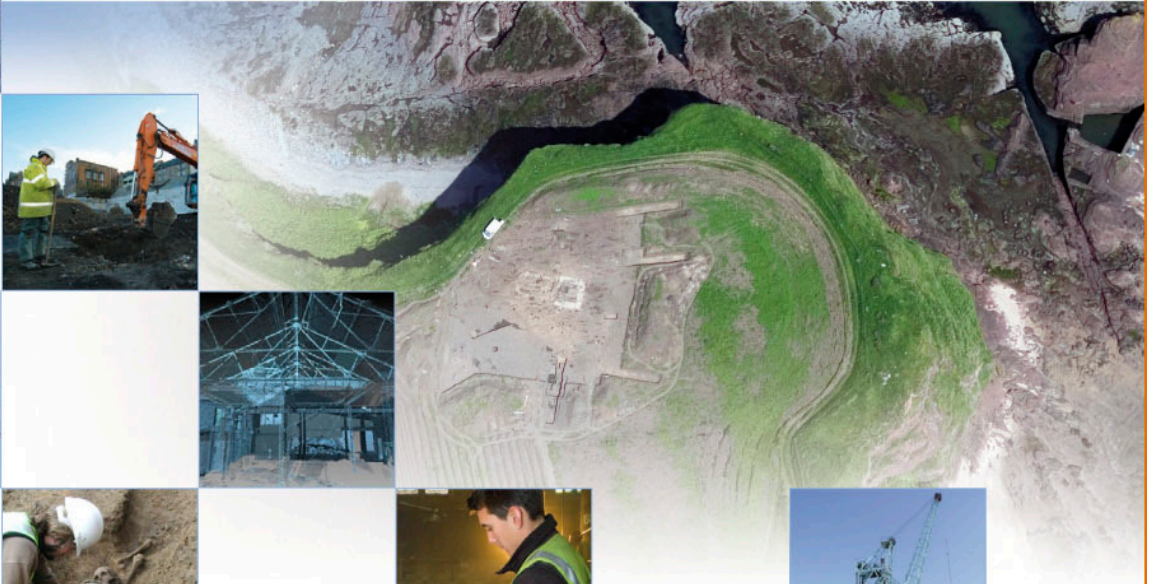
AOC Project no: 30252

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ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

Former Ladywell Road Police Station, London Borough of Lewisham Historic Building Recording

On Behalf of: The Purelake Group
Springbank Business Centre
87-89 Springbank Road
London
SE13 6SS

National Grid Reference (NGR): TQ 3797 7489

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Prepared by: Les Capon

Illustration by: Jon Moller

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Author: Les Capon

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Approved by: Edmund Simons

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Final Report Stage: Les Capon

Date: July 2008

Enquiries to: AOC Archaeology Group
Unit 7
St Margarets Business Centre
Moor Mead Road
Twickenham
TW1 1JS

Tel. 020 8843 7380
Fax. 020 8892 0549
e-mail. london@aocarchaeology.com



www.aocarchaeology.com

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Summary

In June and July, 2009 a programme of Historic Building Recording was carried out on the building constructed in 1898 as Ladywell Police Station, Ladywell Road, in the London Borough of Lewisham. The building had been considerably extended in the 1960s, and fittings modified. The record was created part-way through renovation consequently many original surfaces and construction details had been revealed, and some fittings lost.

This report provides a record of an example of a specifically built police station of the late 19th century of regular form. This public building was built in response to the needs of the growing suburban population of Lewisham, and may be seen in the wider context of other public buildings such as hospitals, schools and baths built in the towns now part of Greater London.

1 Introduction

1.1 Overview

1.1.1 This document presents the results of a Historic Building Record of Ladywell Police Station; this was built in the 1898 on Ladywell Road, next to the graveyard of the church of St. Mary, in the London Borough of Lewisham. The recording included a drawn and photographic record, with descriptive notes taken in the field. Building materials were examined, and the function of each room determined as far as possible given that no doors, signage or materials relating to the usage of the site by the police were present.

1.2 Site Location

1.2.1 The site is located in the London Borough of Lewisham, situated close to the junction of Ladywell Road and Lewisham High Street within the historic core of Lewisham; National Grid Reference **TQ 3797 7489** (Figure 1). The site recently contained police buildings including holding cells of 1960s date, as well as a small building that may have been a cellblock. The site lies directly north of the Church of St. Mary. The police station and attendant former block is Grade II listed.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 The listing of the police station is reproduced here: 1899. 2 storeys and attic 6 windows, irregular. High pitched tiled roof with very tall, stone-corbelled brick chimneys. Long, flat dormer. Red brick with stone window dressings and bands. Angle tower to left return has stone coped battlemented parapet and 3 1st floor windows with stone tympana under round brick relieving arches. Ground floor windows in rest of building similar, the 2 middle ones with keystone to 1st floor sill string. Stone coped plinth up to ground floor sills. 1st floor segment headed windows in chamfered reveals. Gabled, projecting right section has tall slit window to peak. 1st and ground floor windows in round bow with cornice and blocking course. Stone porch, in angle, has battlemented parapet and hollow-chamfered elliptical entrance arch.

1.3.2 The local planning Authority is Lewisham Borough Council. Archaeological advice to the council is provided by Mark Stephenson of the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS), part of English Heritage. Listed building consent was granted for alteration of use, with conditions (Planning Application No DC/07/66135). The archaeological advisor has recommended that

“the 1899 element of the later expanded former police station be Level II recorded, (in accordance with the guidelines published in) ‘Understanding Historic buildings: a Guide to

Good Recording practice' (English Heritage 2006). *The bulk of the recording will need to be undertaken before work is undertaken and then supplemented once soft and hard stripping is undertaken.*

- 1.3.3 The building record has been made after soft and some hard stripping.

1.4 Development Proposal

- 1.4.1 The police station will be converted to residential use, as part of the wider development of the site, with residential units built in the land behind the Ladywell road frontage. Eight flats will be formed in the main building.

1.5 Methodology

- 1.5.1 The Survey work and resultant report corresponds to the methodology set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2009). It also corresponds to Level 2 of the guidelines published by English Heritage (EH 2006). The scope of recording is based upon these guidelines.
- 1.5.2 Level 2 is a **descriptive record**. It is suitable for this building which is judged not to require any fuller record. Both the exterior and the interior have been viewed, described and photographed. The record presents conclusions regarding the building's development and use, but does not discuss in detail the evidence on which these conclusions are based.
- 1.5.3 The site records and archive are identified by the Site Code LDY 09. Each room is given an alpha-numeric identifier; the ground Floor is prefixed with the letter 'G', the first floor with 'F' and the Second Floor with 'S'. The small block to the rear is identified with the prefix 'A'.
- 1.5.4 Fifteen gravestones in the churchyard of St Mary the Virgin were also recorded as part of this project.

1.6 Topography

- 1.6.1 The site is broadly flat, on the south side of Ladywell Road, 200m west of the Ravensbourne River. The river flows into the Thames at Deptford. Suburban development in the immediate area has removed subtleties of topography.

2 Historical Background

2.1 Pre-1898

- 2.1.1 The site lies in the valley of the River Ravensbourne, a tributary of the Thames, and the surrounding landscape was used during the prehistoric periods, from Palaeolithic to the Bronze Age. There seems to have been little activity in the Roman period, it being focussed further to the north, along the major roads of the period.
- 2.1.2 Lewisham appears to have first been settled in the Saxon period, possibly as early as the 6th century. Its name derives from *Leofshema*, meaning Leof's village. Antiquarians and modern historians have suggested that the original settlement was centred on the Church of St. Mary, whose cemetery wall bounds the south edge of the site. The church is mentioned in a charter of AD 964, although the current building is 18th century. The population of Lewisham in 1085 has been estimated at 300 - 400 people, although these may have been across a wide area. Settlement in the medieval period grew along Lewisham High Street, including farmsteads and larger estates including

a priory. The name Ladywell is a strong indication of the likely proximity of a monastic house or property or that the well was associated with the Virgin Mary: The Ladywell itself is now beneath the approach road to the station.

- 2.1.3 Lewisham continued to develop in the post-medieval period, inns taverns, private houses and commercial premises being built. Houses of the wealthy in the local area reflect the affluence of 17th century Lewisham and included St, Mary's vicarage next to the church and Lewisham House, an extensive property with gardens that fronted onto Ladywell Road. The house was reported in 1785 as being 'the largest and best mansion in the High Street' and for a short time in the 18th century was used as a school / academy. It was subdivided in to two houses in the late 18th century.
- 2.1.4 The introduction of the railway and the opening of Lewisham Station in 1849 brought increasing urbanisation to Lewisham, partly the demand of housing for a growing London populace. Lewisham House was pulled down in 1894, and no evidence of it remains today. It lay directly east of the site of the Police Station.

2.2 1899 Police Station

- 2.2.1 Ladywell Police station was built upon the grounds of Lewisham House, facing directly onto Ladywell Road. The small block appears to have been built contemporaneously, although not as expensively as the Police Station, using cheaper yellow brick rather than the smooth red bricks that form the frontage. No changes are apparent to the basic layout of the Police Station until the 1950s. The Ordnance Survey Map of 1949-52 shows new workshops, garages and catering facilities erected in the western section of the site. The 1991 Ordnance Survey Map suggests that some parts of the original police Station have been demolished, for a different footprint is shown. This may have been a single storey part, since the first storey windows to the rear are of character with the rest of the property.

3 Building Record

3.1 External Description, Main building

(Plates 1-5)

- 3.1.1 Ladywell police station has a high frontage facing northeast onto Ladywell road. The building is mostly two-storey with an additional floor in the attic, which is lit at the front with as flat-roofed dormer. There is access to the rear of the property through a gated alleyway along the east side of the building, where a lower, two-storey range of room extends southwards. The external walls are of smooth red brick on a yellow stock core, with stone window dressings and a horizontal cornice at first-floor sill level. Stone bands also run horizontally, at mid-window level on the ground and first floors and a third at ground floor sill-level. The base of the walls project slightly, with curved mouldings.
- 3.1.2 The building is a basic T-shape, with a staircase in the centre of the rear. However, there are two projections northwards from the main wall. These give an individual look to the property, providing a degree of architectural and decorative merit. On the western end of the front is a projecting section with a round bay window that occupies two floors, with a third flat-fronted storey with a gable end above. The gable has a high level slit window with stone dressing. The windows are casement with chamfered reveals except for the gable, which has three sash windows. The first-storey face of the bay has a moulded cornice at its top.

- 3.1.3 Next to the bay, in the angle produced by the western section of the property is a small square entrance porch with a battlemented parapet and hollow-chamfered elliptical entrance arch. A second unglazed opening in the side of the porch has a similar arch, giving a Gothic look not apparent in the rest of the building.
- 3.1.4 On the eastern corner of the building is a round bow which occupies two storeys; this has a cornice and blocking course at first floor level. It has a low stone-coped battlemented parapet and three first floor windows with stone tympana under round brick relieving arches. There are no windows on the ground floor of this turret-like element. Just south of the turret is a down pipe leading from the roof that feeds into a decorated hopper bearing the date 1898. This indicates the date of construction.
- 3.1.5 The central part of the main front is lit by two large windows and two smaller: each opening has a semicircular arch. The first floor windows have much flatter, segmental arches, again with chamfered reveals. This scheme is continued on the east face of the building, which finishes in a gable with another slit window.
- 3.1.6 The rear of the building is visible across the open space from the churchyard, and is also faced with red brick, a quality not found on cheaper late 19th century properties, where only the roadside face uses the more expensive red bricks. Three storeys are apparent, the ridge of the roof not being central to the building, thus giving extra height. The ground floor rear wall has been much altered, and in some places absent. The first floor windows all have flat brick arches and the second floor, stone lintels. A very large window in the stairwell at the rear of the property is 3.16m tall.
- 3.1.7 The southern range has little architectural detail, barring segmental arches and a hipped roof. However, the ground floor rooms have pre-cast concrete-set windows of thick glass, which provided natural light to holding cells.
- 3.1.8 The roof of the entire building is tiled, and four chimneystacks rise from the main building, each stone-corbelled brick stacks that rise significantly above roof level. A fifth chimney serves the southern range.

3.2 Ground Floor

(Plates 6-8)

- 3.2.1 The ground floor has several entrances. The main public entrance lies beyond the battlemented porch, and currently has a roller door. This leads into a large room (**Room G2**), which provides access to the east to a room at the base of the tower (**Room G3**), rearwards towards the southern range (**Rooms G4, G6 and G7**) and the stairwell (**Room G5**), and westwards to another large room (**Room G1**). The ground floor rooms are all 3.40m high. No doors or moulding survived in this room at the time of recording, and access to the tower room unavailable. The windows in the front wall are all of a type, units of a rectangular frame with two fixed windows in the lower section, the upper with an arched top, and a four-part casement in the top. This basic shape forms two single unit windows and two double unit windows. This gives adequate light to the room. The central units had frosted glass. The internal reveals are rounded, in common with most original reveals in the building.
- 3.2.2 The room had been partitioned later in its existence, and steel Iron girders inserted to support the walls of the floor above. This suggests that there may have been internal partitions of a first phase of which no evidence remains except for their absence.
- 3.2.3 A chimneybreast rises in the eastern end of the room, of which there is no evidence for in the room above. Possibly, there may be a flue hidden in brickwork in Room G3, or between the floor and ceiling.

- 3.2.4 In the western part of the building is a second large room (**Room G1**). This spans the width of the building, from a rounded bay at the front to three vertical beams which support an extension to the first floor above at the rear. A double width of Iron girders supports the original first floor wall above. It is thought that much of the rear wall was removed to provide access to the range of buildings added in the rear of the site after the Second World War. A partition to the room 7.5m from the front was once present: a scar on the west wall and concrete floor was visible. The only original fittings in the room were the windows of the rounded bay, each consisting of a square pane above and two horizontal rectangular panes below. Most of the glass was frosted: possibly the original glass is the frosted glass, to give privacy to the occupants of the room from the nearby street front.
- 3.2.5 A blocked fireplace in the western end of this room leads to the chimneystack that rises at the western end of the building. There is a lack of associated features, neither hearth, mantel nor other fireplace furniture survived: this is probably more the result of conversion to alternative forms of heating rather than a recent loss. There is, however a decorative grill in the top of the stack.
- 3.2.6 **Room G3** was not safe to access, but this room contained a pair of arches that spring between the wall of G1 and the eastern exterior wall. These are not present elsewhere in the building, and there are no load-bearing walls above, so possibly have a secondary function such as carrying a flue from the fireplace in Room G2.
- 3.2.7 The stairwell (**Room G5**) has a dog-leg stair with landings rising anticlockwise around a wide stairwell. This stair rises to the second floor. Where the stair meets the southern range on the first floor, there is an extra rise of 0.38m, suggesting that the southern range was not an initial part of the build, but an addition. The stair appears to be former of pre-cast concrete pieces, and is supported by Iron girders at each floor. The stairwell is well lit by large south-facing windows. The stair has two phases of banister. The earlier is around the stairwell only and is consists of a round handrail atop square iron balusters, with three rails between. The second phase has a rounded flat banister with a plastic coating. This secondary banister is welded to the first.

3.3 First Floor

(Plates 7-11)

- 3.3.1 The first floor is accessed from the stairwell (**Room F5**). Part way up the eastern stair to this level is an opening to the southern range. The stair opens onto a landing that provides direct access to all the rooms of the main buildings. No doorframes survive at the time of recording, and the floor is a little open-plan in the west. All exits off the stairwell into the main rooms have rounded corners, using specially moulded bricks. The rooms of the first floor are all 2.95m high.
- 3.4.1 The largest room on the floor is in the western end of the building, and has a bay with three windows (**Room F1**). Each has a square pane at the bottom, a wide transom and a six-light casement window above. The frame has simple cylinder and block moulding. The windows in the rear wall are sash windows, the lower sash four lights, the upper sash six. The sashes weights are attached by chains rather than rope. The sashes also contain their original fittings of bowed handles on the upper sash and curved pieces on the lower. There are two blocked fireplaces in the west side of the room, which join above to a single stack. Between the fireplaces is a pair of alcoves with arched tops. These are strengthened by an Iron girder above, which is visible behind a plastered and painted surface. A partition in the centre of the room survives as a scar on the floorboards and the west wall. This terminates in the east at a doorway to Room F2, suggesting that at one time the doorway had been blocked, and this room must have had a door in the partition.

- 3.4.2 East of this room is a small room (**Room F2**) formed by the partition with breezeblocks of room F3. There is a blocked fireplace next to the door from room F1. This joins a stack from Room F6 to the south. There is a fireplace in the adjacent room to the east, so there may have been a prior partition. There are no details of interest in this room save the windows, which are identical to those in the adjacent room (F3). **Room 3** includes the circular tower-like element of the eastern corner of the building, which is lit by three windows, each an eight-light casement. The main front wall of the room is lit by large windows, each being a pair of casements with arched tops and a fixed light of ten panes above, also with an arched top. The brass fittings are modern but the frame is an original feature. The floor of the room is formed of concrete blocks rather than the boards in the other rooms, but the scars of herringbone wood-block flooring are still visible. A blocked fireplace in the east wall has no surviving features, and was probably removed following refurbishment for more efficient heating.
- 3.4.3 To the west of the stairwell is a small room most recently used as a male WC (**Room F6**). All fittings had been removed. An angled chimneystack rises in the northwest corner of the room, and may have once had a small fireplace within to serve this room. There is also a blocked doorway or window in the south wall.

3.4 Second Floor and Roof Assembly

(Plates 12-13)

- 3.4.1 The second floor is accessed by the stairwell (**Room S4**) which opens into an upper landing (**Room S2**) that leads to the three main rooms on this floor. There is also an access into the attic, this at the south end of the landing. The rooms on this floor are all 2.75m high. The largest of the rooms occupies the western end of the building, and spans its width (**Room S1**). A fireplace in the northern end of the western wall and there is a partition scar on the floor. The floorboards run east west, on north-south joists. The room is lit by three windows in the north wall and three in the south. Those in the north are all sash windows, with a clear pane in the lower sash and four lights in the upper. There are also three sash windows in the rear, two the same as the front, the third twice as wide. The windows have all their furniture; handles and lifting bar. The pitched roof with its gable end facing Ladywell Road of this part of the building rises from wall plates at ceiling level. The access from the landing to this room has a squared doorway, different from the openings elsewhere in the building, and may be in indication of reordering of space, since there is a blocked access in the southeast corner of the room from Room S4.
- 3.4.2 The second main room on the second floor takes up the eastern end of the building (**Room S3**). The form of the room is governed by an off-centre east-west ridge: the principal rafters rise almost from floor level at the front of the building, but rise from wall plates at ceiling height at the rear. The room is then lit by a long flat-topped dormer at the front and regular sash windows at the rear. The dormer is set 1.05m south from the main wall, making a narrower room than that below. The dormer has five simple square casement windows in a row: each has four lights. The rear windows are four sash windows, each with a clear pane in the lower sash and four lights in the upper.
- 3.4.3 The third room on this floor (**Room S5**) partly overlies the stairwell that projects back from the principal building, with a hipped roof above. There is a blocked doorway into Room S1 from here, next to a chimneystack, also blocked. The internal wall here is thin, just 0.11m, which may indicate a partitioning of a larger space. The windows of this room are slightly larger than those on the rest of the rear of the property, being sash windows with two lights on the lower sash, six on the upper.

There is one narrow window, just 0.40m across in the rear wall; this may suggest a small room was once present, but there were no scars of lost partitions visible.

- 3.4.4 The roofs of the main building are all of a basic construction, with no complex trusses or fixings. The main east-west roof of the building has two king post assemblies with struts: these support the ridge; the rest of the roof is a coupled rafter roof, pairs of rafters connected by a collar beam. The western gable projecting northwards is also a coupled rafter roof. The entire roof has 0.12m wide boards across the rafters, laid prior to the tiles.

3.5 Southern Range

(Plates 14-15)

- 3.5.1 The southern range is an individual build of two storeys running southwards from the east end of the main building. The materials of its construction are so similar that it may be broadly contemporary. The ground floor is accessed from the main building (Room G2), and the northernmost room is well lit by three sash windows with chains (**Room G4**). These windows have near flat reveals. The floor is concrete. A blocked fireplace in the north end of the room is part of a stack that rises up the outside of the main building. This room has a lower ceiling than that of the main building, just 3.11m high. A door in the rear leads to a small space with an arched entrance in each end (**Room G6**). Another doorway leads southwards into a room most recently partitioned into holding cells and an access corridor (**Room G7**). The partitions have been removed. Three windows suggest three cells. On the ceiling of one of the cells remain a poster and a stencil. The ceiling is formed of joists with angled struts between, but the floor above is made of preformed concrete slabs.
- 3.5.2 The first floor of the southern range is accessed by the main stairway, although the access is a little tricky, there being a step up of 0.38m from one of the landings. This suggests that the southern range is a later building event: if contemporary, the levels would probably have been more sympathetic to the user. The northernmost room of the first floor (**Room F4**) has a fireplace in the north wall, again blocked. The next two rooms (**Rooms F7 and F8**) southward have had a partition mostly removed: a corner set fireplace lies against this partition in Room F8. There is also a door in the west side of Room F7. This may have led to a fire escape. The southernmost room of this block has a curved brick edge of doorway (**Room F9**). Behind modern plaster, a paint scheme of dark red to 1.50m high with white above and a thin band of dark blue between was apparent. All the rooms on this floor are lit by sash windows of identical form: two lights in the lower sash, six in the upper.
- 3.5.3 The roof of the range is hipped with coupled rafters, but the north end abuts the main building. A chimneystack rises through the ridge, and a second chimneystack part way along the east side.

3.6 Cell Block

(Plates 16-18)

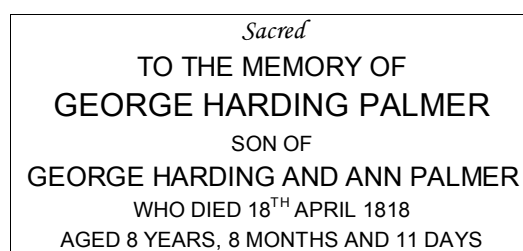
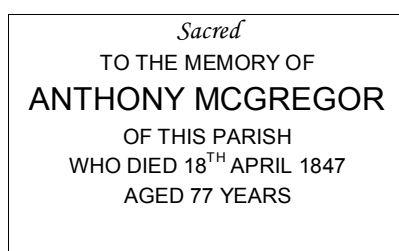
- 3.6.1 To the rear of the police station land is a small yellow brick building oriented east-west with a decorative stringcourse of red brick and three small windows with stone lintels. There is a central doorway in the north face. This doorway is an addition to the original form, and may have replaced a fourth window, since there is an area of rebuild directly above the door. The roof is pitched, with a door in the east end and a circular window in the other. A short chimney rises in the west end of the building. The ground floor at the west end is obscured by a lean-to brick addition that has internal finishes that obscure the outer face of the brickwork, hiding evidence for blocked openings.
- 3.6.2 There is no evidence that the windows are the remnants of larger, stable doors. The internal reveals are rounded, and grills have been mounted against the windows. It seems likely that these small,

high-level windows with the grills barring access are the windows of cells. Internally, there are currently three rooms. The central area (**Room A2**) is an access corridor to Room A1 to the east. The corridor is an irregular shape. The internal walls are narrow, just 0.10m wide; this may be an indication that these walls represent a reorganisation of internal space.

- 3.6.3 The room to the east (**Room A1**) has two of the barred windows. A central east-west steel beam supports the ceiling. No other features are present. The paint of the walls hides evidence for prior fixtures and fittings.
- 3.6.4 The room to the west of the building (**Room A3**) is accessed from the large room to the east, through an arched opening that through a wall 0.25m wide. This room features the third barred window, and is an irregular shape. Whether this is caused by the irregular shape is a result of the new northern doorway, or is original, is unproven. There are also two blocked openings in the west wall. One is a high-level window, the other may be a doorway, but it finishes 0.25m above floor level. This may be the original entrance to the building, and suggests a corridor running along the rear, with access to small rooms along the front.
- 3.6.5 There is access to the loft from room A1. The access is via a vertical wooden ladder, which would have been in the corridor access to the small rooms. The trap in the ceiling opens to a single loft space with a door at the east end and a window at the west. Flues of a chimney rise into this room: there is no evidence for a fireplace on the ground floor, but equally no room for one in the loft. This may indicate that there had been some kind of office room or reception on the ground floor. The loft contains a lead tank and a wooden box with a small chute. It is tempting to ascribe the function of a hayloft to this room, but there is no proof that the ground floor was stables.
- 3.6.6 The roof of the building has a gable at each end and a third gable running south against the churchyard wall. Given the height of the churchyard wall, it is unlikely that the gable had any function other than giving headroom for entering the loft.

3.7 Gravestones

- 3.7.1 Part of the southern wall of the land formerly covered by the police station buildings appears to intrude into the graveyard of the Church of St Mary the Virgin. Against the churchyard wall are fifteen gravestones, moved from their original place, and now standing side by side. Of the dates still readable on these stones, the earliest is 1815, the latest 1847. A full list is given in Appendix B
- 3.7.2 The shapes of the gravestones are varied, but there are some similar shapes. The most common shape is five limestone headstones with a sinuous top and rounded shoulders. One of these, of the surname Burnett dates to 1815. The others are probably broadly contemporary.
- 3.7.3 Three of the stones are simple affairs, with initials and date only: J N 1811, E B 1815, and Barr 1854. These may represent poorer members of the parish.
- 3.7.4 The two best-preserved gravestones have triangular tops: one limestone, one York stone.



4 Conclusions and Interpretation

- 4.1 The red brick and stone frontage of the Police Station in Ladywell Road marks it as a building of importance, with an imposing frontage stating not just the importance of the architecture, but also the importance of the force occupying it. The architectural element is enhanced by the projecting west gable with its circular bay, whereas the eastern corner bow gives a fortified look that also carries on a theme of buildings of late 19th century age in the immediate vicinity, such as the public baths further west along Ladywell Road which has a circular tower. The top of the bow at the Police Station has a turreted form, as does the entrance porch to the Police station, reinforcing the image of safety and security provided by the Metropolitan Police.
- 4.2 The Metropolitan Police force was established in 1829 with 3,000 men. By the time Ladywell Police Station was opened in 1899, 16,000 were employed. These seventy years also saw a five-fold rise in the population of London, to 7,000,000. The Metropolitan Police licensed and controlled many aspects of London's street life from taxi cabs to messengers, boot blacks, pedlars and other people who needed to show they were of good character. Police were also involved in the supervision of common lodging houses. The station opened at the advent of modern policing techniques: forensic evidence such as fingerprinting began in 1902 and the first police photographer was employed in 1901. However, there was still the need for police horses for crowd and riot control. In the early 20th century, as well as fear of anarchists and revolution. The extension of Ladywell Police station after the Second World War represents greater police demand for more staff and more facilities to lock up more people.
- 4.3 The function of the individual rooms in the station and the flow of officers and support staff is not greatly indicated by the layout of rooms. The lack of furnishings greatly reduces the potential for understanding the building from its basic fabric. The rooms are laid out functionally: the entrance through the castellated porch probably led to a main desk and Duty Officers (**Room G2**), whereas the large room at the western end (**Room G1**) may have held offices for casework, records or junior staff. There may have been interview rooms. What is clear is that the ground floor of the southern range contained three holding cells, as proven by the concrete bound small windows (**Room G7**). Clearly, the stairs give access to the upper levels, and possibly the rooms up here were for more senior officers, a hierarchy of management reflected in the distance of the rooms to the entrance to the building.
- 4.4 In terms of layout there appear to have been slight changes to the layout and movement of people internally: a blocked doorway on the Second Floor (**Room S5**) and its thin internal walls may indicate that a new room was formed to create a corridor (**Room S2**) that avoided the need to go through this room. The major rooms on each floor all appear to have been subdivided at some point, but following the strip of materials, it was not possible to tell if these were lost recent partitions, or walls contemporary with the foundation of the building. It was noted that, every room has a fireplace, and these were blocked, probably more as a response to the Clean Air Acts and more efficient heating systems rather than Police requirements.
- 4.5 The building at the rear was assumed, on initial assessment, to be a stable block for Police horses. However, upon inspection of its form and materials, it seems likely that it could have been used as temporary holding cells. The windows are small, and each of the small windows has a grill firmly secured. The small block could have been internally different to its current form: the corridor running towards the back of the building (A2) runs from a new opening. It is possible that this is in the location of a fourth window, giving four cells side by side. If the blocked doorway in Room A3 was the entrance, then a corridor could have run along the back of the building, accessing each cell.

There may have been a reception room or staff room at the west end of the building with a fireplace to keep staff warm, thus explaining the presence of a chimney. The loft would have been accessed from this corridor. The presence of a window and door in the loft indicate that this room was being used for some function, possibly storage. There may have been a stairway or hoist on the east end, for which no fittings remain after later 20th century addition of new buildings since demolished. .

5 Bibliography

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Figure 1: Site Location.

Figure 2: Detailed Site Location

Figure 3: Ground Floor Plan

Figure 4: First Floor Plan

Figure 5: Second Floor Plan

Figure 6: Building Profiles

Figure 7: Cell block

Plates



Plate 1: External view of Police Station looking southwest



Plate 2: External view of western section and porch entrance looking south



Plate 3: Detail of hopper, east side.



Plate 4: Rear view , 30-06-09, looking north



Plate 5: western chimney stack, detail.



Plate 6: Ground floor Room G1 looking south



Plate 7: Ground Floor room G2 looking east



Plate 8: Grill detail ,Room G2



Plate 9: Room F1 arch between chimneybreasts, First Floor Room looking southwest



Plate 10: Window in bow, first floor



Plate 11: Front window, Room F3



Plate 12: Second floor Room S3 looking northeast



Plate 13: Roof assembly above room S3 looking east

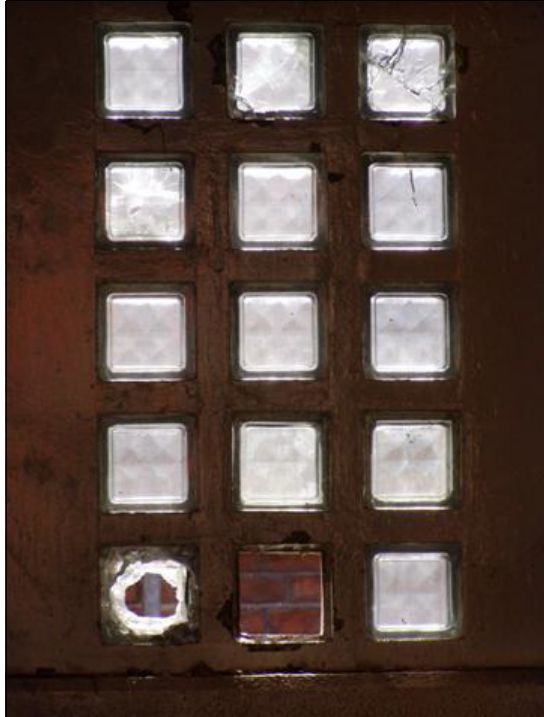


Plate 14 cell window, Room G7



Plate 15: Paint scheme, Room F9



Plate 16: Rear building: cells?



Plate 17: Room A1, including window grill



Plate 18: Loft of rear building, looking east

Appendices

Appendix A, Photographic Register

Photo	Description	View	Digital	B/W
000	Site ID		Y	
001	External shot	SW	Y	
002	G1 and entrance, external	S	Y	Y
003	Front entrance	S	Y	Y
004	Tower	S	Y	
005	External view	S	Y	
006	External view	SW	Y	
007	External view	SW	Y	Y
008	External view	W	Y	
009	G1, G2 and entrance	S	Y	
010	S1 external	S	Y	
011	G1 external	W	Y	
012	Attic	S	Y	
013	First Floor detail, external	S	Y	
014	Ground floor arch detail	S	Y	
015	Front railings	W	Y	
016	Hopper detail	W	Y	
017	Hopper detail	W	Y	Y
018	External view	SSW	Y	
019	South range external	SW	Y	
020	G4 exterior	W	Y	
021	East end gable	W	Y	
022	East side	SW	Y	
023	East side	SW	Y	
024	F7 window	W	Y	
025	F7 window	SW	Y	
026	G3 detail	W	Y	
027	East side	NW	Y	
028	G3 external detail	S	Y	
029	Alley	S	Y	
030	Alley	N	Y	
031	Alley	NW	Y	
032	External view	SW	Y	
033	External view	SW	Y	
034	G3 window	W	Y	
035	G4 window	W	Y	
036	External view	E	Y	
037	Cells	NE	Y	
038	External view	N	Y	
039	External view	N	Y	
040	External view	NE	Y	
041	South range roof	SE	Y	
042	External view	N	Y	
043	External view	N	Y	
044	External view	N	Y	Y
045	External view	N	Y	Y
046	External view	N	Y	Y
047	S1 chimney	W	Y	

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Photo	Description	View	Digital	B/W
048	S1 chimney	S	Y	
049	S3 chimneystack	W	Y	
050	S3 Chimneystack	SE	Y	
051	S range roof	SW	Y	
052	S5 chimney	W	Y	
053	G1	N	Y	Y
054	G1	N	Y	
055	G1	S	Y	Y
056	G2 roller door	NW	Y	Y
057	G2 modern I-beams	W	Y	
058	G2 grill detail	E	Y	
059	G2 grill detail	E	Y	Y
060	G2	E	Y	
061	G2 window	N	Y	Y
062	G2 window	N	Y	
063	G4	N	Y	Y
064	G4	N	Y	
065	G4 window	SE	Y	
066	G4 window	SE	Y	
067	G4 window detail	SE	Y	Y
068	G5 stairwell	S	Y	YY
069	G7 window	E	Y	Y
070	G7 ceiling poster	Up	Y	
071	G7 ceiling poster	Up	Y	
072	F1	N	Y	Y
073	F1	N	Y	
074	F1	SW	Y	Y
075	F1	SW	Y	
076	F1 ceiling	N	Y	Y
077	F1 ceiling	N	Y	
078	F3 round bay	NE	Y	Y
079	F3 window	NE	Y	Y
080	F3 window	NE	Y	
081	F4 chimney stack	NE	Y	Y
082	F4 chimney stack	NE	Y	
083	Stairwell F5 and G5	SE	Y	
084	F6 stack	NW	Y	Y
085	F6 stack	NW	Y	
086	F9 old paint scheme	W	Y	
087	F9 old paint scheme	W	Y	
088	South range roof assembly	NW	Y	
089	S1	N	Y	Y
090	S1	N	Y	Y
091	S1 Roof assembly	NE	Y	Y
092	S1 Roof assembly	NW	Y	
093	S1 Roof assembly	W	Y	
094	S2-S3 roof assembly	E	Y	Y
095	S2-S3 roof assembly	E	Y	Y
096	S3 window detail	SE	Y	

LADYWELL POLICE STATION, LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM:
A HISTORIC BUILDING RECORD

Photo	Description	View	Digital	B/W
097	S3	NE	Y	Y
098	S3	NE	Y	YY
099	S5 blocking	SW	Y	YY
100	Cells external	S	Y	
101	Cells external	S	Y	
102	Cells external	SE	Y	
103	Cells external	E	Y	
104	Cells external	NE	Y	
105	Cells external	SW	Y	
106	Cells external	SW	Y	
107	Cells external	NE	Y	
108	Cells A1 plus loft access	S	Y	
109	Cells A1	E	Y	
110	Cells A1	NW	Y	
111	Cells A1	SE	Y	Y
112	Cells A1 plus loft entrance	S	Y	Y
113	Cells A1	S	Y	
114	Cells A1	N	Y	
115	Cells A2	S	Y	Y
116	Cells A3	NW	Y	Y
117	Cells A3	N	Y	
118	Cells A3	W	Y	
119	Cells A3	SW	Y	Y
120	Cells loft gable	SW	Y	Y
121	Cells loft water tank	SW	Y	
122	Cells loft	E	Y	Y
123	Cells loft	W	Y	Y
124	Cells loft	W	Y	

Appendix B, Gravestones

Fifteen gravestones along the northern edge of the adjoining churchyard of St Mary the Virgin were recorded during the works. These were in varying condition, some too worn to be legible. The stones are not in their original positions.

Stone number	Form	Expansion	Material	Condition	Inscription
1	4304	Triangular top with triangular shoulders	Limestone	V worn	
2	4607	Sinuuous top with concave shoulders	Limestone	Fair	<i>Sacred</i> TO THE MEMORY OF MARY ANN WATSON WHO DIED JUNE 15 TH - - - - - - - - - - 17 - DI - - - - - AGED 65 YEARS
3	4300	Triangular top	Limestone	Fully worn	
4	4607	Sinuuous top with concave shoulders	Limestone	Poor	<i>Sacred</i> TO THE MEMORY OF MARIA - - - - - TTER - - - - - - - - - - WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
5	4607	Sinuuous top with concave shoulders	Limestone	Fair	- - - - - - - 11 1815 - Mc - - - -ERIE BURNETT <i>Elixis 78</i>
6	4301	Triangular top with semi-circular shoulders	Limestone	Good	J N 1811
7	4607	Sinuuous top with concave shoulders	York stone	Good	E G 1815
8	4301	Triangular top with semi-circular shoulders	Limestone	Good. Stone has Goat head quarter-circles	<i>Sacred</i> TO THE MEMORY OF MARY JANE REED WHO DIED APRIL 2 - - - 11
9	4300	Triangular top	York stone	Good	<i>Sacred</i> TO THE MEMORY OF ANTHONY MCGREGOR OF THIS PARISH WHO DIED 18 TH APRIL 1847 AGED 77 YEARS
10	4300	Triangular top	Limestone	Good	<i>Sacred</i> TO THE MEMORY OF GEORGE HARDING PALMER SON OF GEORGE HARDING AND ANN PALMER WHO DIED 18 TH APRIL 1818 AGED 8 YEARS, 8 MONTHS AND 11 DAYS

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Stone number	Form	Expansion	Material	Condition	Inscription
11	4607	Sinuuous top with concave shoulders	Limestone	Fully worn	
12	4607	Sinuuous top with concave shoulders	Limestone	Poor	-----IN DEATH-----
13	5107	Flat top with semicircular feature and concave shoulders	Limestone	Fully worn	
14	4120	Round top, repeated twice	York stone	Good	BARR 1854
15	4620	Sinuuous top, repeated twice	Limestone	Fair	SAN - - -WAR - - - For in - - Died 3rd June - - - CAROLINE Granddaughter of the above 5 th April

Appendix C, OASIS Form

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-56066

Project details

Project name The former Police Station at Ladywell Road

Short description of the project Three trenches were excavated. garden soil of 19th century date was present. A level 3 HBR record was conducted on the police station and its cells prior to refurbishment. Very few original fittings survived on the red brick, well -designed building. 15 gravestones in the adjacent churchyard were also recorded.

Project dates Start: 04-03-2009 End: 27-07-2009

Previous/future work No / No

Any project codes associated reference 30252 - Contracting Unit No.

Any project codes associated reference LDY09 - Sitecode

Any project codes associated reference 30196 - Contracting Unit No.

Type of project Recording project

Site status Conservation Area

Current Land use Other 2 - In use as a building

Monument type POLICE STATION Modern

Methods techniques & 'Sample Trenches','Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure'

Development type Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)

LADYWELL POLICE STATION, LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM:
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Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Country England

Site location GREATER LONDON LEWISHAM LEWISHAM AND BLACKHEATH former Police station and stables,2 Ladywell Road

Postcode SE13 7UR

Study area 2500.00 Square metres

Site coordinates TQ 3797 7489 51.4556475687 -0.01397080360840 51 27 20 N 000 00 50 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 10.16m Max: 10.38m

Project creators

Name of AOC Archaeology Group
Organisation

Project originator brief AOC Archaeology Group

Project originator design Les Capon AOC Archaeology

Project director/manager Tim Carew

Project supervisor Les Capon

Type of Developer
sponsor/funding
body

Project archives

Physical Archive No
Exists?

LADYWELL POLICE STATION, LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM:
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Digital Archive LAARC
recipient

Digital Archive ID LDY 09

Digital Contents 'Stratigraphic','Survey'

Digital Media 'Images raster / digital photography','Text'
available

Digital Archive notes held at AOC until transfer

Paper Archive LAARC
recipient

Paper Archive ID LDY 09

Paper Contents 'Stratigraphic','Survey'

Paper Media 'Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Unpublished Text'
available

Paper Archive notes held at AOC until transfer

**Project
bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Former Ladywell Police Station, London Borough of Lewisham: Results of an
Archaeological Evaluation

Author(s)/Editor(s) Capon, L.

Date 2009

Issuer or publisher AOC Archaeology

Place of issue or London
publication

LADYWELL POLICE STATION, LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM:
A HISTORIC BUILDING RECORD

Description 22 pages, 3 figures, A4

**Project
bibliography 2**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title LADYWELL POLICE STATION, LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM:

Author(s)/Editor(s) CApon, L.

Date 2009

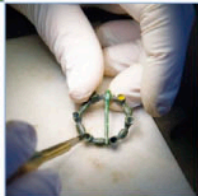
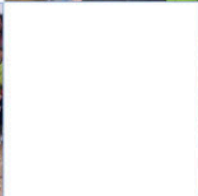
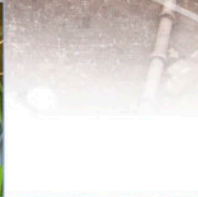
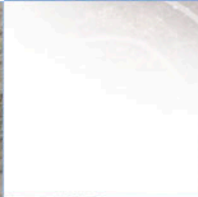
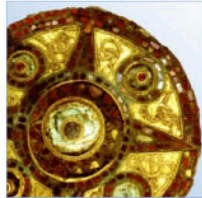
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AOC Archaeology Group, Unit 7, St Margarets Business Centre, Moor Mead Road, Twickenham TW1 1JS
tel: 020 8843 7380 | fax: 020 8892 0549 | e-mail: london@aocarchaeology.com

www.aocarchaeology.com