

DALE STREET SCHOOL, LUND TERRACE, ULVERSTON, CUMBRIA

Archaeological Building Recording



Client: Capita Symonds
Planning Ap. Ref: 5/08/9001
NGR: SD 2938 7819

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Greenlane Archaeology Ltd,
2 Albrights Yard, Theatre Street,
Ulverston, Cumbria, LA12 7AQ

Tel: 01229 588 500
Email: info@greenlancearchaeology.co.uk
Web: www.greenlancearchaeology.co.uk

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Non-Technical Summary

A planning application was submitted by Capita Symonds on behalf of Cumbria County Council for the creation of a new community centre, which would involve the demolition of an earlier one that formed part of the buildings comprising Dale Street School. Following a recommendation by Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service, a programme of archaeological work was requested by Cumbria County Council, which comprised an archaeological building recording of the building. A project design was produced by Greenlane Archaeology and following the acceptance of this the building recording was carried out in May 2008.

The school was established by the Ulverston Local Board, and was built in or around 1875. A detailed set of original drawings show that the original structure, which was designed by Henry Barber, was H-shaped in plan, and divided into two halves, one for girls and one for boys. The school was soon extended, with the addition of an infants' block in 1886, and further classrooms and new entrance lobbies were added in 1891, to the designs of James Grundy. Several local contractors were used as part of these and later alterations, including John Stones shutter works and Penningtons blacksmiths and agricultural machine makers. Part of the building remains in use as a school, although the north-east end was used as a community centre, and as a result it has been subject to numerous more recent alterations.

The building recording revealed five phases of development and alteration within the building, the majority of which could be closely identified in the historic sources and original plans. The earliest of these are the extensions of 1886 and 1892, but there are also later modifications to the windows and the insertion of suspended ceilings and internal partitions that are clearly much more recent.

The building is an architecturally interesting structure with a large number of detailed decorative flourishes, and incorporates some important fixtures such as a surviving folding partition made by John Stones. It also adds to the body of work known to have been carried out by James Grundy, which includes several important local civic and public buildings, while revealing an example of work carried out by Henry Barber, who is not otherwise recorded in the area.

Acknowledgements

Greenlane Archaeology would like to thank Capita Symonds for commissioning the project, and particularly Matthew Lawley for his additional help and information. Additional thanks are due to the staff of Cumbria Record Office in Barrow-in-Furness for help with accessing their archives. Thanks are also due to Jeremy Parsons, Historic Environment Officer at Cumbria County Council, for providing the brief, approving the project design, and commenting on the report. Special thanks are also due to the staff and pupils at Dale Street School for their hospitality in spite of continual interruption. Further thanks are also due to Jack Layfield for his information regarding John Stone's shutter works.

The desk-based assessment and building recording were carried out by Daniel Elsworth, and Daniel Elsworth and Steve Clarke produced the report. The project was managed by Jo Dawson, who also edited the report.

1. Introduction

1.1 Circumstances of the Project

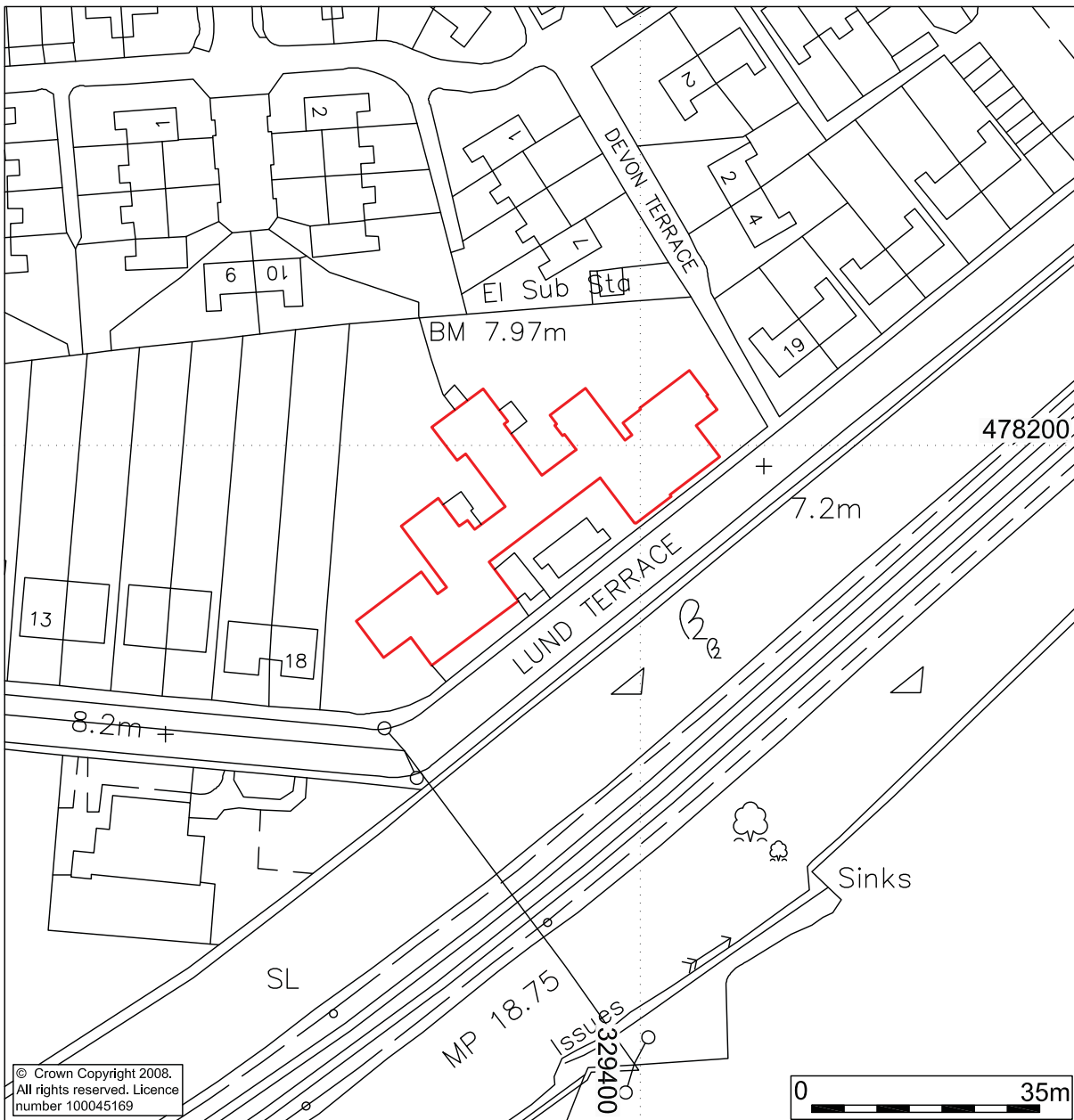
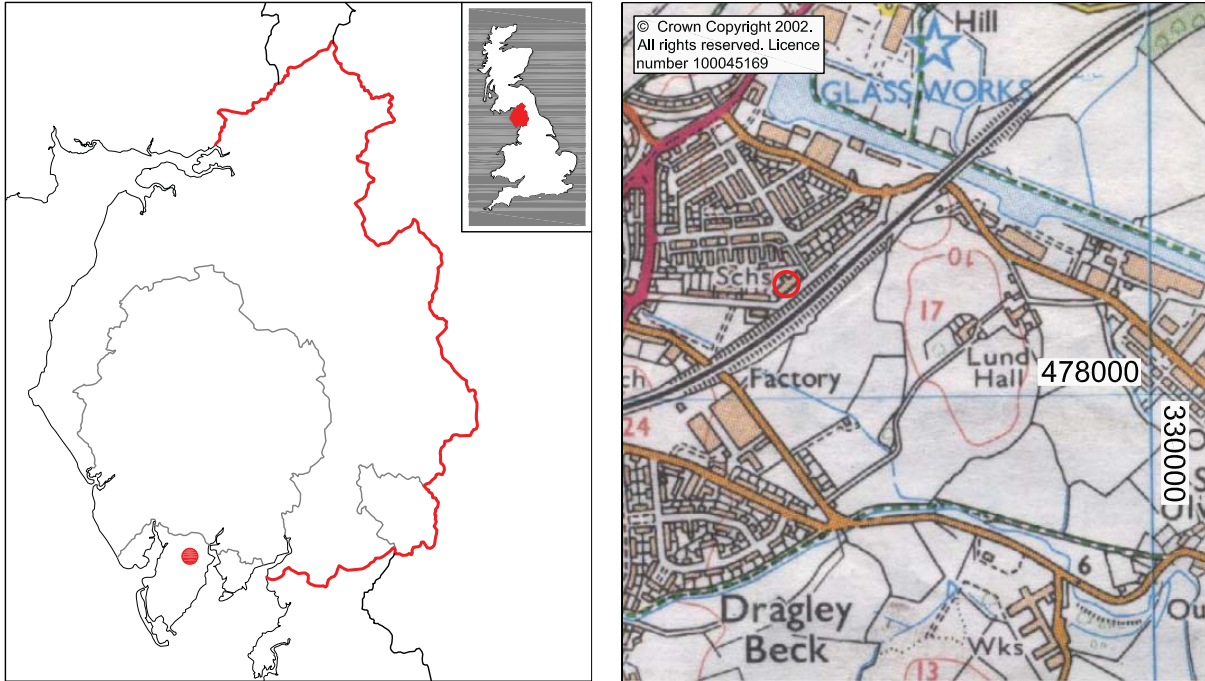
1.1.1 A planning application was submitted by Capita Symonds (hereafter 'the client') on behalf of Cumbria County Council for the construction of a new community centre at Dale Street School, Lund Terrace, Ulverston, Cumbria (Planning Application No. 5/08/9001; NGR SD 2938 7819). The proposed development involves the demolition of one wing of the school, the part most recently used as a community centre. Cumbria County Council (CCC), after consultation with the Cumbria Historic Environment Service (CHES), placed an archaeological condition on the planning consent comprising an archaeological building recording of the school building to an English Heritage Level 2-type standard (CHES 2008).

1.1.2 The building is recorded in the Historic Environment Record (HER, No. 41386) as having opened in 1877 and been subsequently enlarged in the later 19th century. The site is therefore considered to be of some historic importance. The building recording is intended to provide a permanent record of the historic fabric, its arrangement, relationship to the local topography, and provide an understanding of the development of the site over time.

1.2 Location, Geology, and Topography

1.2.1 Dale Street School is situated on Lund Terrace, on the eastern edge of Ulverston, adjacent to the railway line (to the south) and a short distance west of the canal. It is approximately 0.5km from the centre of Ulverston (Ordnance Survey 2002; Fig 1).

1.2.2 The site is at approximately 8m above sea level. Ulverston is on the boundary between the West Cumbria coastal plain and the higher ground of the Furness Fells to the north; the solid geology is typically made up of Bannisdale slates (Taylor *et al* 1971, plate XIII; Moseley 1978, plate 1), and this is overlain by a drift geology made up of glacially-derived tills comprising gravels and clays (Countryside Commission 1998, 66).



Client: Capita Symonds

Figure 1: Site location

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2. Methodology

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The building investigation comprised three separate elements intended to provide a suitable record of the structure, in line with English Heritage standards (English Heritage 2006), and the guidelines of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA 2001b). In addition, a desk-based assessment was carried out in accordance with the project design (see *accompanying CD*) and IFA guidelines (IFA 2001a), and a suitable archive was compiled to provide a permanent paper record of the project and its results in accordance with English Heritage and IFA guidelines (English Heritage 1991; Brown 2007).

2.2 Desk-Based Assessment

2.2.1 This principally comprised an examination of early maps of the site, original documents, and published secondary sources. A number of sources of information were used during the desk-based assessment:

- **Cumbria County Record Office, Barrow-in-Furness (CRO(B))**: this was visited in order to examine early maps and plans of the site, original documents relating to the site, and local and regional histories and directories;
- **Greenlane Archaeology**: additional secondary sources, used to provide information for the site background, were examined amongst the books and reports held by Greenlane Archaeology.

2.3 Building Recording

2.3.1 The building recording was carried out to English Heritage Level 2-type standards (English Heritage 2006). This is a largely descriptive investigation, with only a limited level of interpretation of the phasing and use of the building, incorporating evidence compiled during the rapid desk-based assessment. The recording comprised several parts:

- **Written record**: descriptive records of all parts of the building were made using Greenlane Archaeology *pro forma* record sheets;
- **Photographs**: photographs in both 35mm colour print and colour digital format were taken of the main features of the building, its general surroundings, and any features of architectural or archaeological interest. A selection of the colour digital photographs is included in this report, and the remaining photographs are presented on the accompanying CD;
- **Drawings**: drawings were produced by hand-annotating an 'as existing' partial floor plan of the building, provided by the client in digital form at a scale of 1:1. This hand-annotation and plan completion was carried out at a scale of 1:100. In addition, cross-sections were produced showing two of the different types of truss at a scale of 1: 50.

2.4 Archive

2.4.1 A comprehensive archive of the project has been produced in accordance with the project design (see *accompanying CD*), and current IFA and English Heritage guidelines (Brown 2007; English Heritage 1991). The paper and digital archive and a copy of this report will be deposited in the Cumbria Record Office in

Barrow-in-Furness on completion of the project. Three copies of this report will be deposited with the Cumbria Historic Environment Record, one with the client, and one will be retained by Greenlane Archaeology. In addition, a record of the project will be made on the OASIS scheme.

3. Desk-Based Assessment Results

3.1 Dale Street School

3.1.1 A large collection of documents exists relating to the school (in collection BDS 14 at the Cumbria Record Office in Barrow-in-Furness), although the majority of these comprise log books and records relating to pupils and school equipment. All of the plans for the original construction and subsequent alterations up to 1904 do exist, however; a more detailed discussion of the physical development of the building based on these plans is presented in *Section 3.2*. These show that the school must have been built after April 5th 1876, when the plans were approved by GM Farmer, Town Surveyor to the Ulverston Local Board (CRO(B) Z/1041 1876-1904).

3.1.2 There is little recorded history regarding the origins of Dale Street School, but it essentially owes its existence to the Education Act of 1870 (Barnes 1978, 123) and the adoption in Ulverston of the Local Government Act in 1871, which saw the establishment of the first Local Board (Birkett 1949, 115). Until that point local government in Ulverston, and therefore the provision of, education, had been a somewhat *ad hoc* affair organised principally by the major landowners and the church. The first Local Board was elected in 1871 and comprised 15 townsmen '*who did much for the growth and benefit of Ulverston in a period of great change*' (*ibid*), including establish a new school. Ashburner states that it was opened in 1874 (although this is impossible as it cannot have been built until 1875 (see *Section 3.2* below)) as the Dale Street Board School, initially taking in children of both sexes from the age of three or four until the age of 13 or 14 (1993, 58). A near contemporary account states that it was opened on 8th January 1877 and could accommodate about 500 pupils (Mannex and Co 1882, 205). The establishment of the Ulverston Urban District Council in 1894 led to further reorganisation, and when the National School in the Ellers closed in 1932 the girls moved to Dale Street, and the boys were transferred to Lightburn Boys School, which had been established in 1914 (Ashburner 1993, 58). Dale Street became a girls only school for a time, although it also had a separate infants block (*ibid*).

3.1.3 The detailed development of the building is outlined below, as contained in the original plans, documents, and specifications held as part of the Ulverston Urban District Council collection (CRO(B) WSUD/U/574 1886; CRO(B) WSUD/U/757 1892) and documents relating to JW Grundy and Son (CRO(B) Z1041 1876-1904).

3.2 Map Regression

3.2.1 **Early maps:** as the school was not built until 1876 early maps of Ulverston do not provide any useful information about the building. They do show, however, that the area on which the school was built was open fields, part of a large area of land belonging to Benson Harrison (of Lund Hall) in 1832 (Wood 1832). The area was little changed by 1850 (Ordnance Survey 1850).

3.2.2 **Original Plans, 1875:** the school, as initially proposed, was designed by Henry Barber of Ulverston, the plans dated November 1875 (CRO(B) Z1041 1875-1904). The original building comprised a symmetrical H-shaped structure containing the classrooms orientated north-east/south-west parallel to Lund Road (now Lund Terrace), with small projecting sections on either end forming the entrances with attached cloakrooms and toilets (Plate 1). The roof plan shows that two of the windows in the front elevation were topped with dormer gables and one each in the side elevations and there are six chimneys corresponding to the fireplaces shown on the ground floor plan (Plate 2). The front elevation shows the type of detail utilised in the original building, including grouped pointed 'Gothic' arches over the main

windows and decorative diagonally-set chimneys and a tall almost spire-like lantern (apparently used for ventilation) in the centre (Plate 3).

3.2.3 Alterations, 1886: it is evident that the initial building was soon enlarged as plans for a proposed 'Infants Department' were drawn, again by Henry Barber, although this time he is described as being from Manchester (CRO(B) WSUD/U/574 1886). These plans included the addition of a large block projecting from the centre of the rear (north-west) side of the building (Plate 4). Only a block plan of this was available with no elevations, although a subsequent plan provides more detail (see Section 3.2.5 below).

3.2.4 Proposed alterations, 1887: plans dated March 4th 1887 appear to show a series of proposed alterations to the building, principally concerning the construction of a new toilet block to the rear (north-west) but also showing additions to the north-east and south-west wings (Plate 5). It is evident that although the new toilets were built, the other additions were not, although similar ones were made subsequently (see Section 3.2.5 below). These additions were made by JW Grundy Architect of Ulverston, whose practice was responsible for all subsequent changes up to 1904.

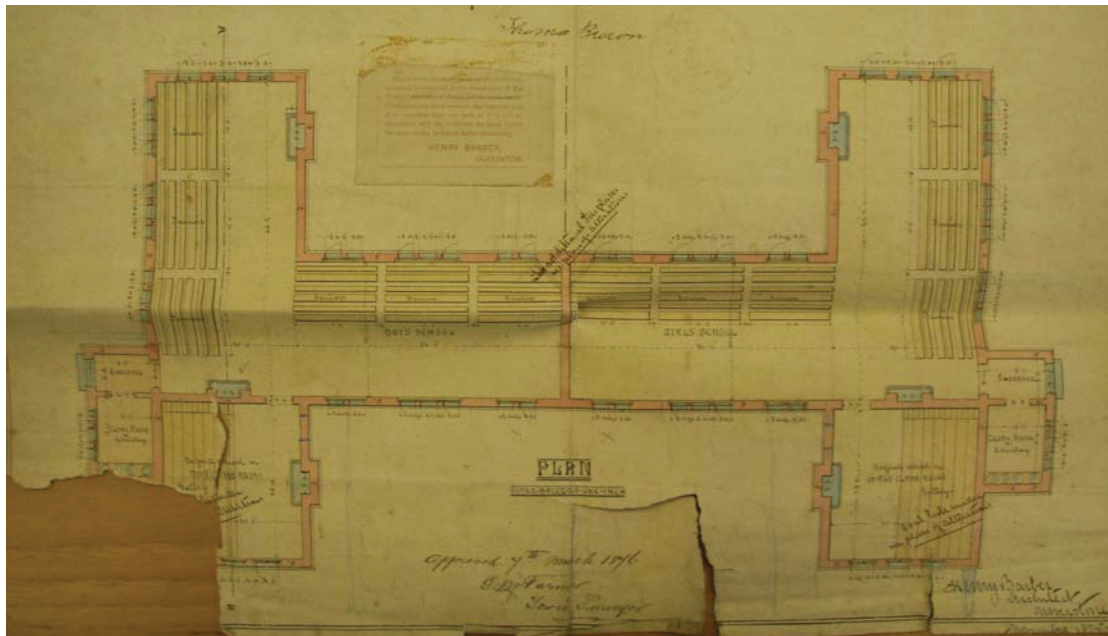


Plate 1: Original ground floor plan of the building by Henry Barber dated November 1875 (CRO(B) Z1041 1875-1904)

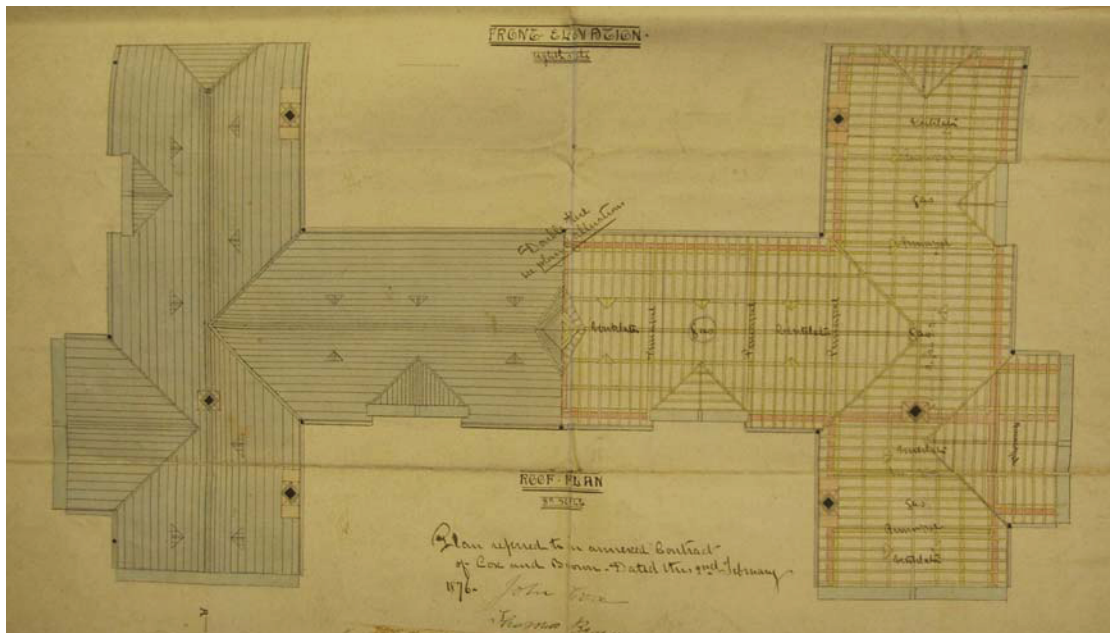


Plate 2: Original roof plan dated November 1875 (CRO(B) Z1041 1875-1904)

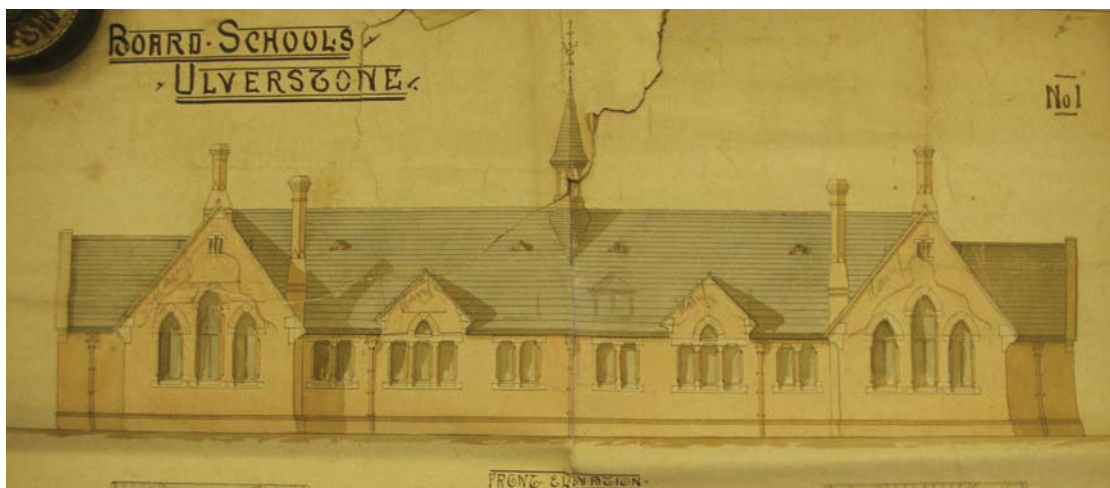


Plate 3: Front (south-east) elevation as shown in the original drawings of 1875 (CRO(B) Z1041 1875-1904)

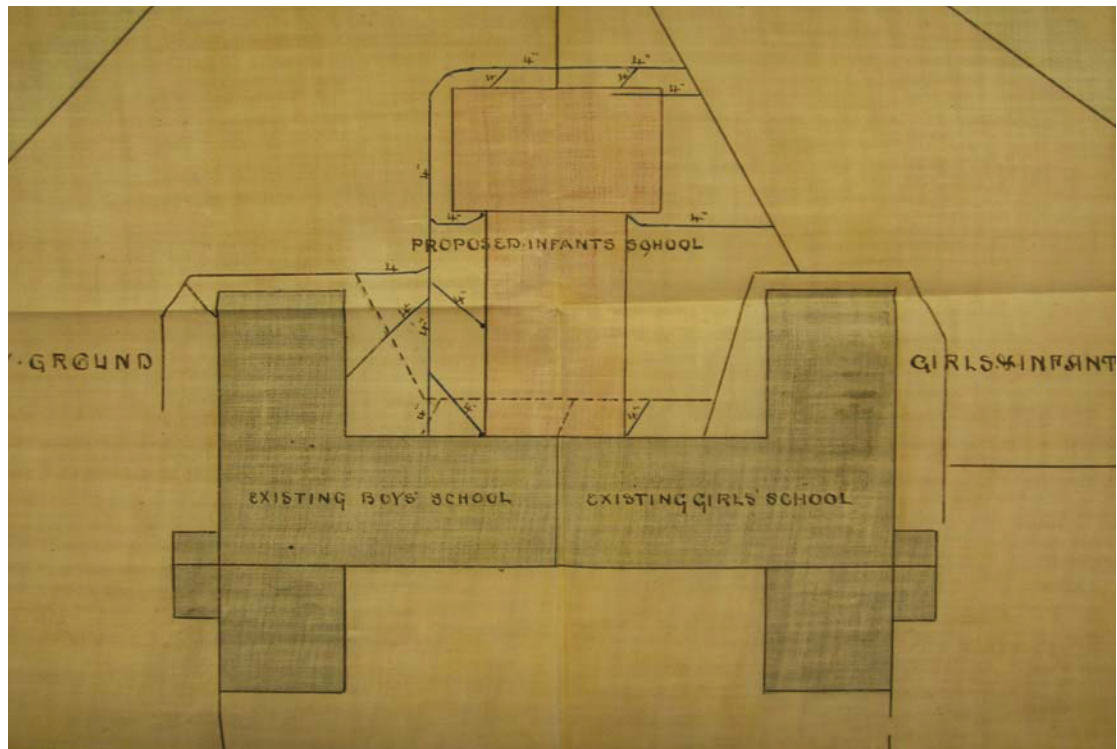


Plate 4: Proposed plan of infants department from 1886 (CRO(B) WSUD/U/574 1886)

3.2.5 **Block plan, 1888:** this plan does not appear to relate to any further proposed alterations to the building and shows the building as existing at this time in some detail (Plate 6). It is useful in showing the arrangement of the building, and reveals the presence of a basement access at the north-west end of the projecting central section added in 1886, gives the names of the rooms, and even shows the arrangement of the desks.

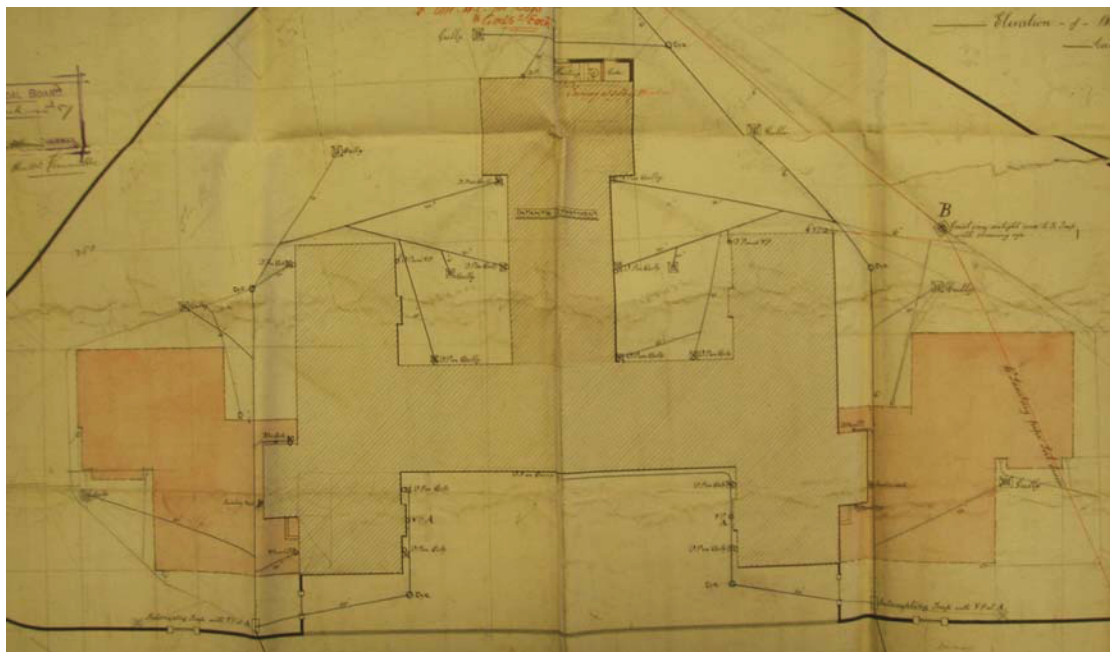


Plate 5: Plan of 1887 showing proposed additions to north-east and south-west wings (CRO(B) Z1041 1875-1904)

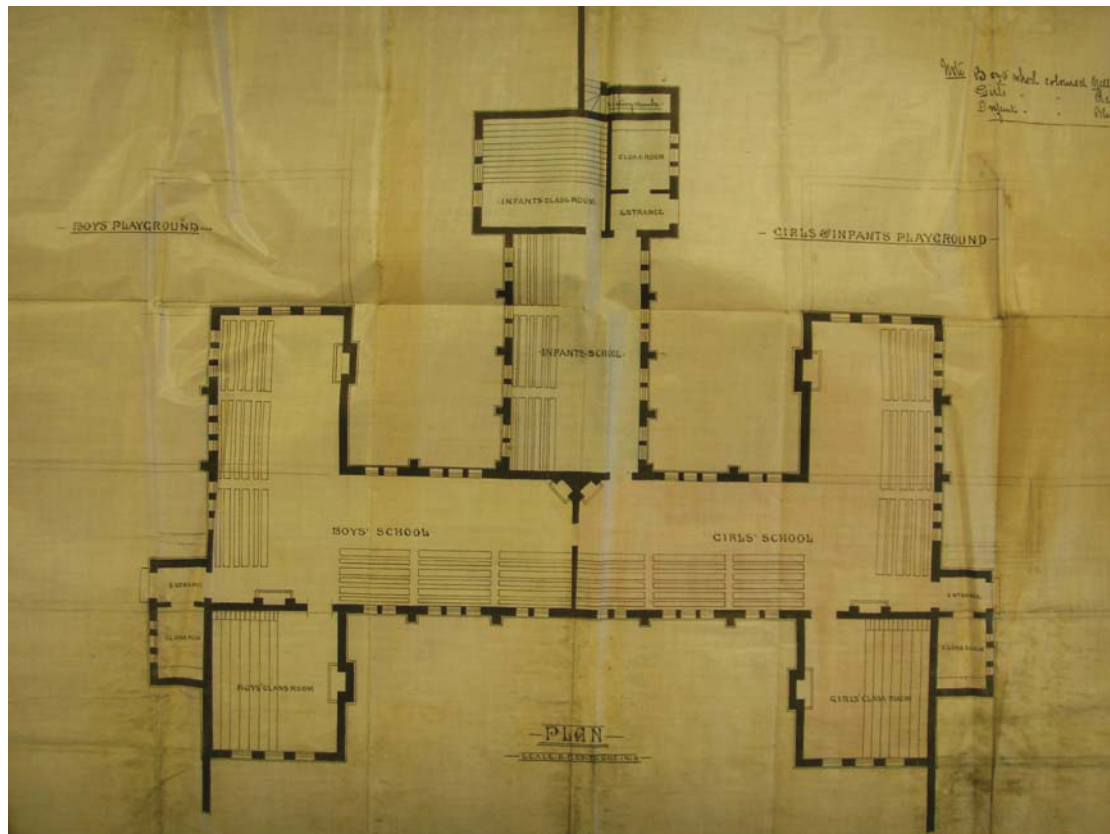


Plate 6: Plan of 1888 showing the building as existing at that date including the basement access at the north-west end (CRO(B) Z1041 1875-1904)

3.2.6 **Ordnance Survey, 1891:** this shows the school in much the same form as the previous drawing, although with much less detail (Plate 7), and confirms the general arrangement of the building prior to the next phase of additions (see Section 3.2.7) below).

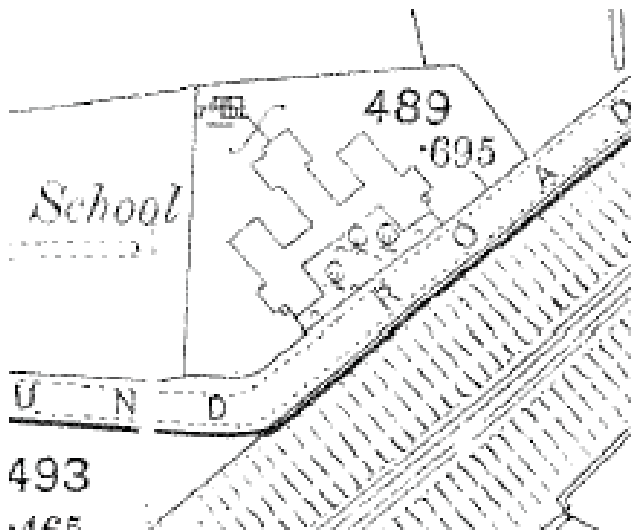


Plate 7: Ordnance Survey map of 1891 showing the school immediately prior to extension in 1892

3.2.7 **Proposed plans, 1891:** the proposed additions drawn up by JW Grundy in 1887 (see Section 3.2.4 above) were revised and there are plans dated June 4th 1891, which were approved on the 5th April 1892 (CRO(B) WSUD/U/757 1892; Plate 8). Additional plans of the same phase of work are also present in the collection of

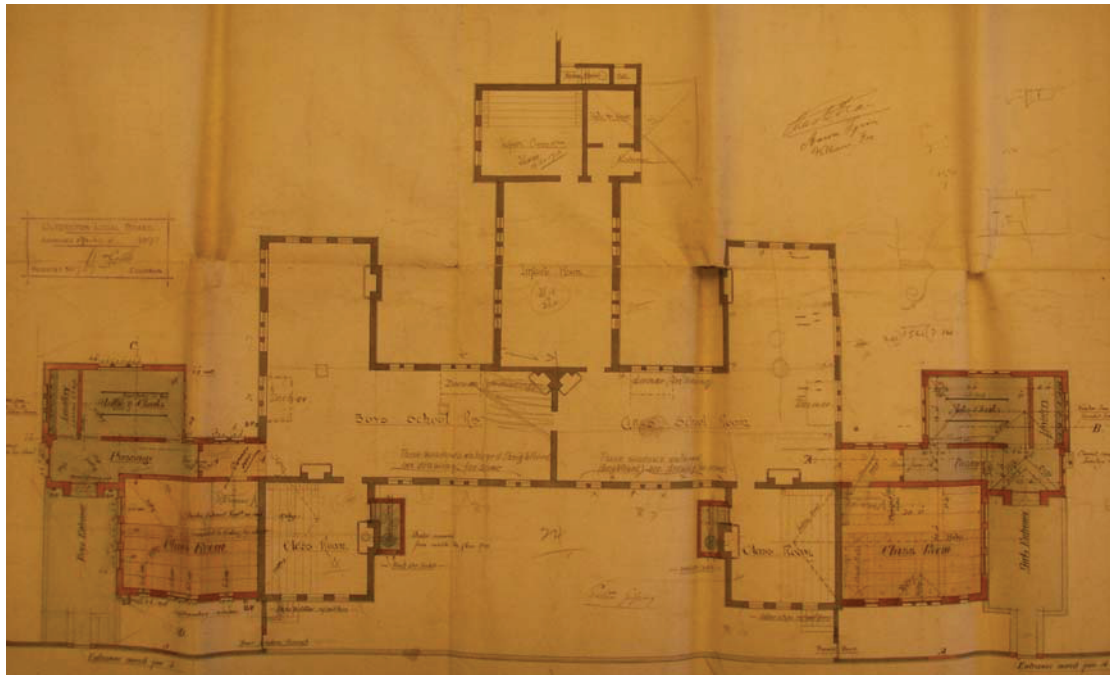


Plate 9: Detailed plan of the proposed additions, 1891 (CRO(B) Z1041 1875-1904)

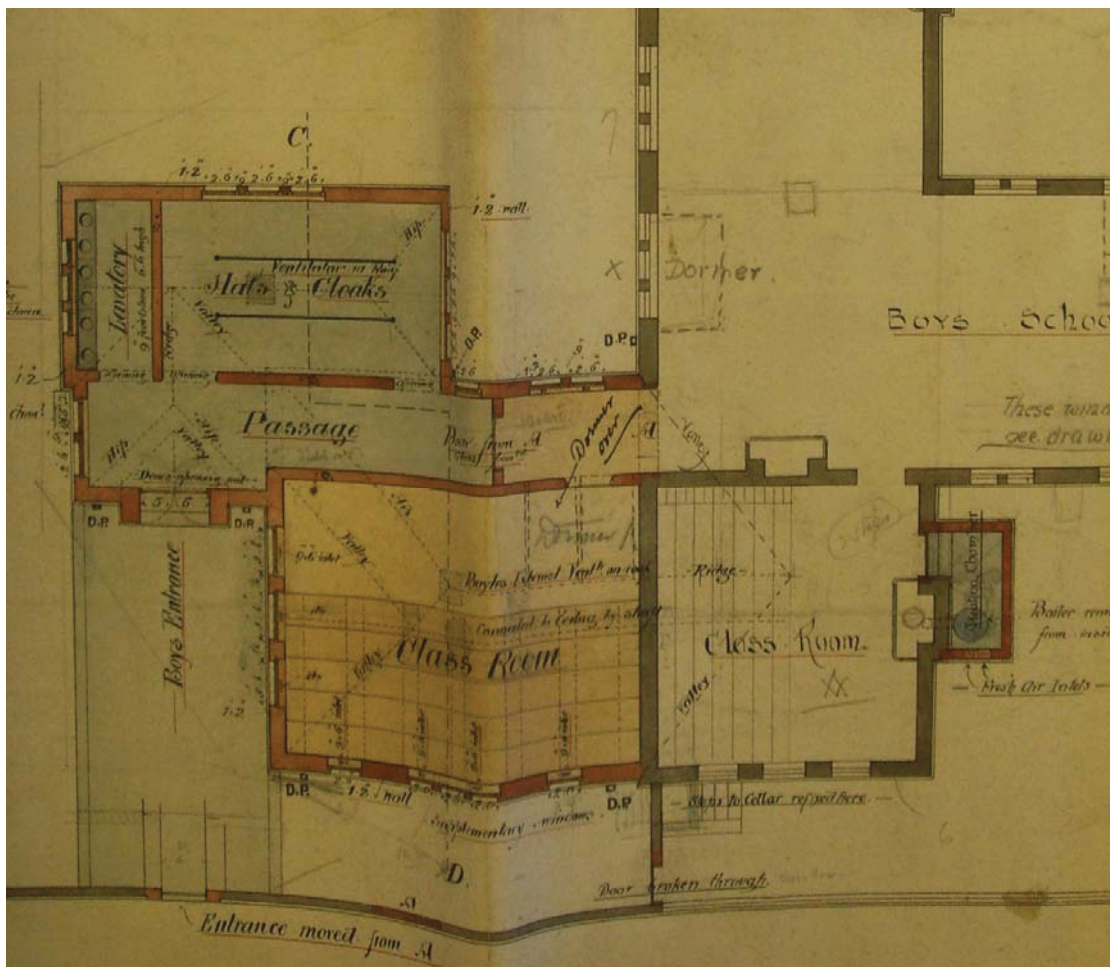


Plate 10: Detail of the proposed additions at the south-west end of the building, 1891 (CRO(B) Z1041 1875-1904)

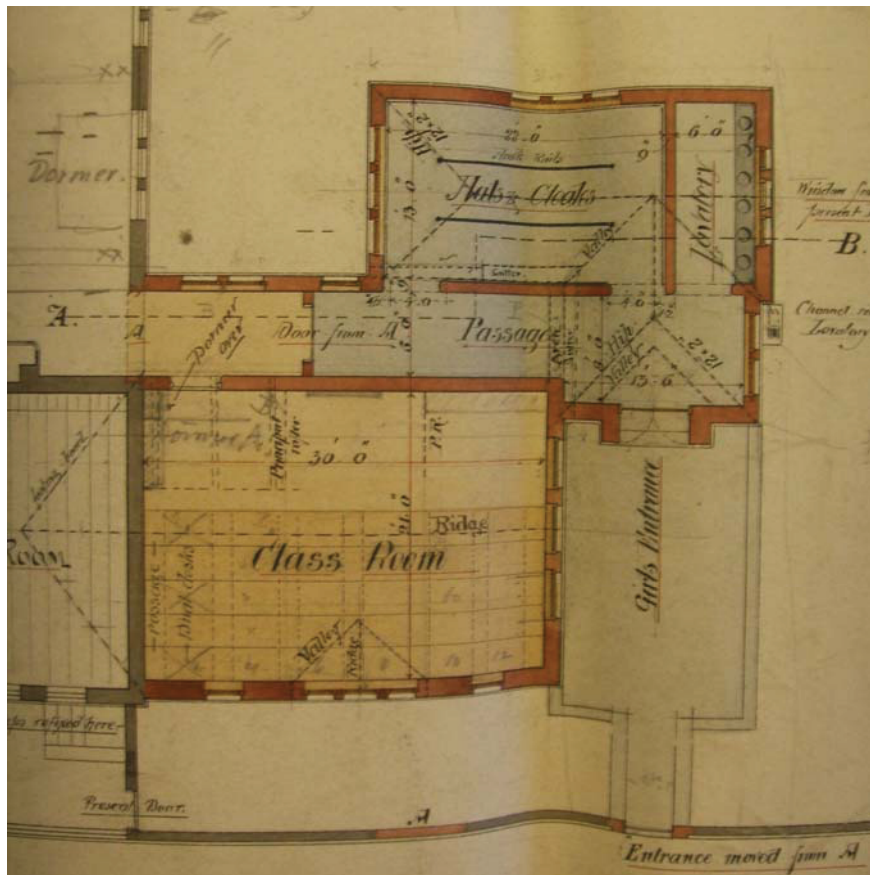


Plate 11: Detail of the proposed additions at the north-east end of the building, 1891 (CRO(B) Z1041 1875-1904)

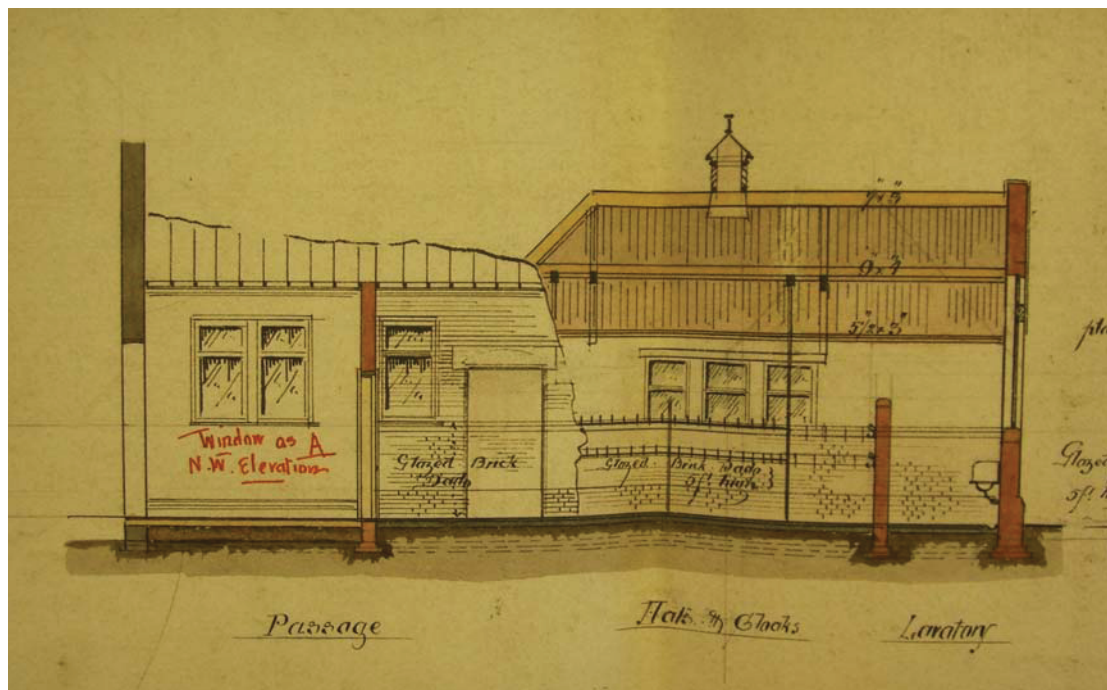


Plate 12: South-east facing section (A-B) through the proposed additions to the north-east end of the building (CRO(B) Z1041 1875-1904)

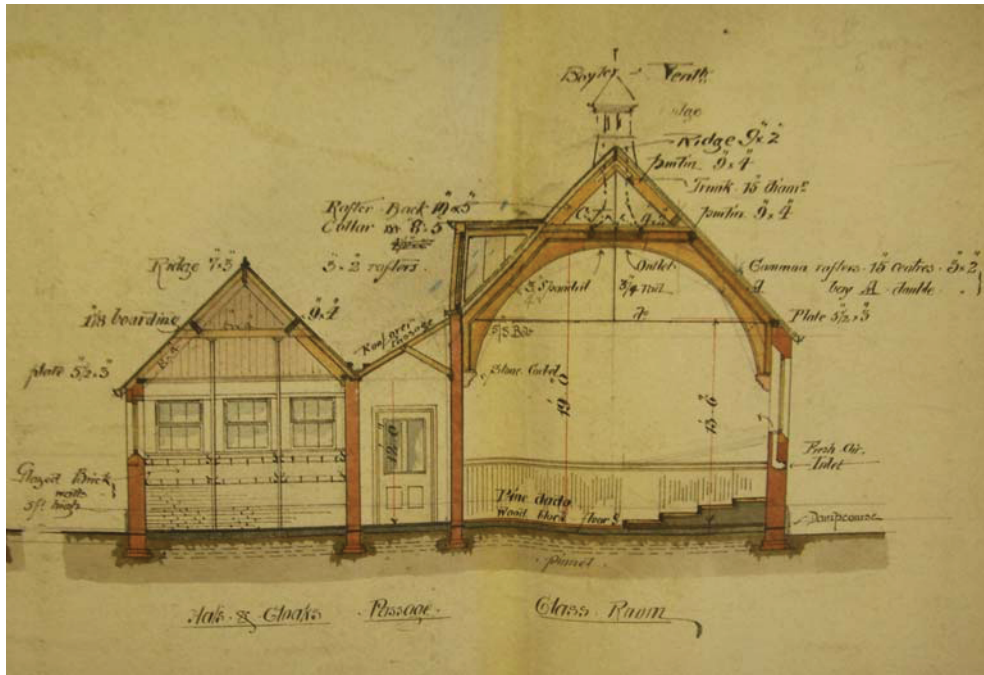


Plate 13: South-west facing section (C-D) through the proposed additions to the south-west end of the building (CRO(B) Z1041 1875-1904)

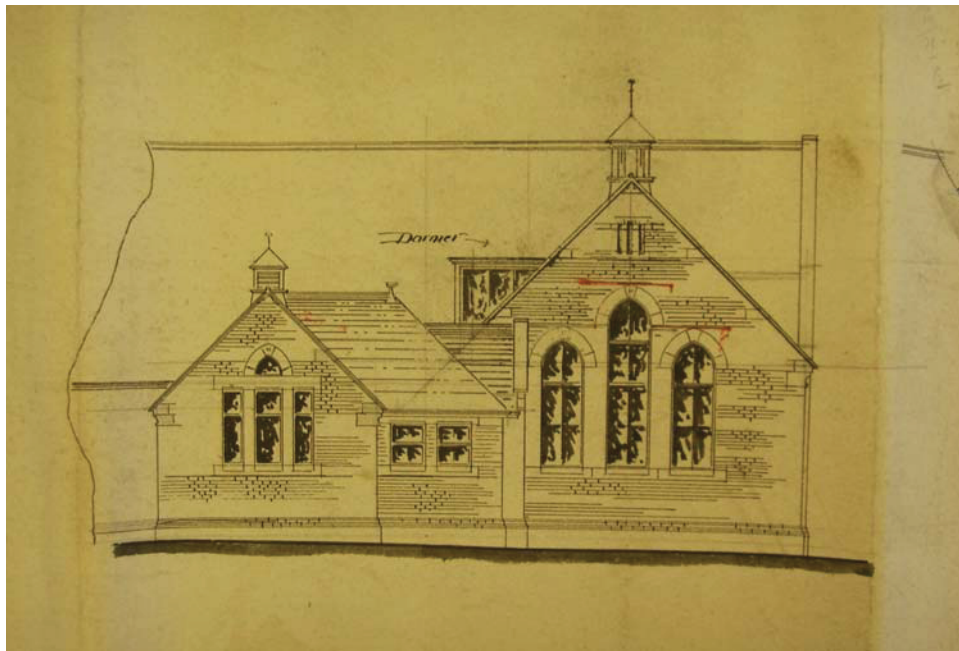


Plate 14: South-west elevation of the proposed additions at the south-west end of the building, 1891 (CRO(B) Z1041 1875-1904)

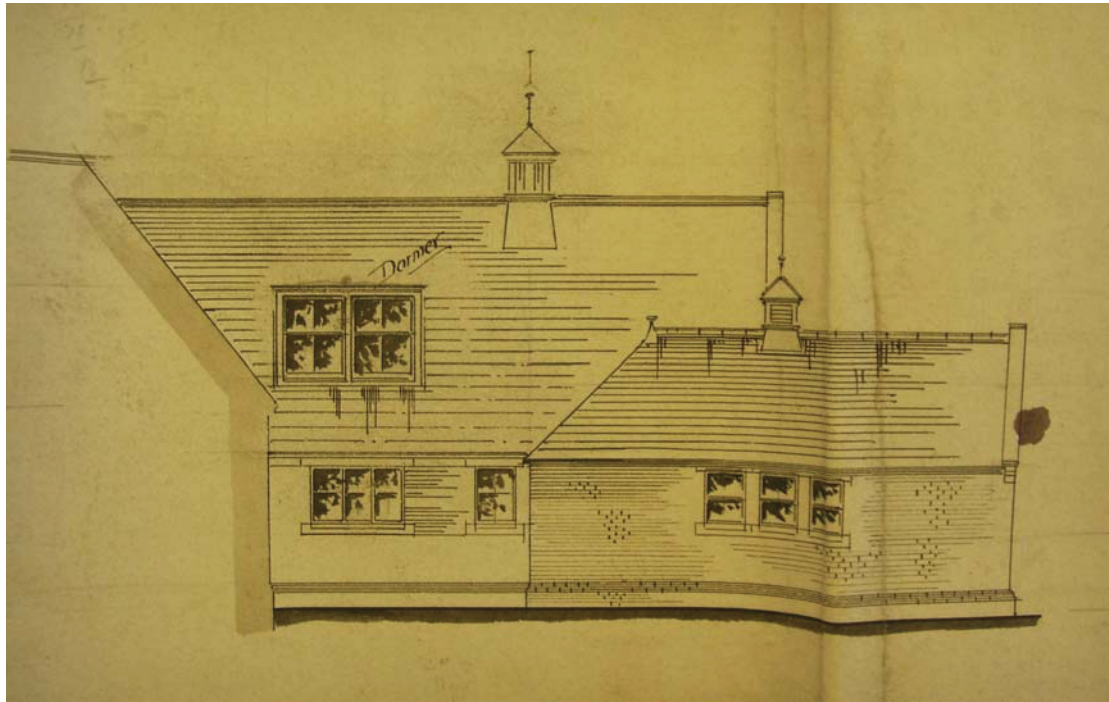


Plate 15: North-west elevation of the proposed additions at the south-west end of the building, 1891 (CRO(B) Z1041 1875-1904)

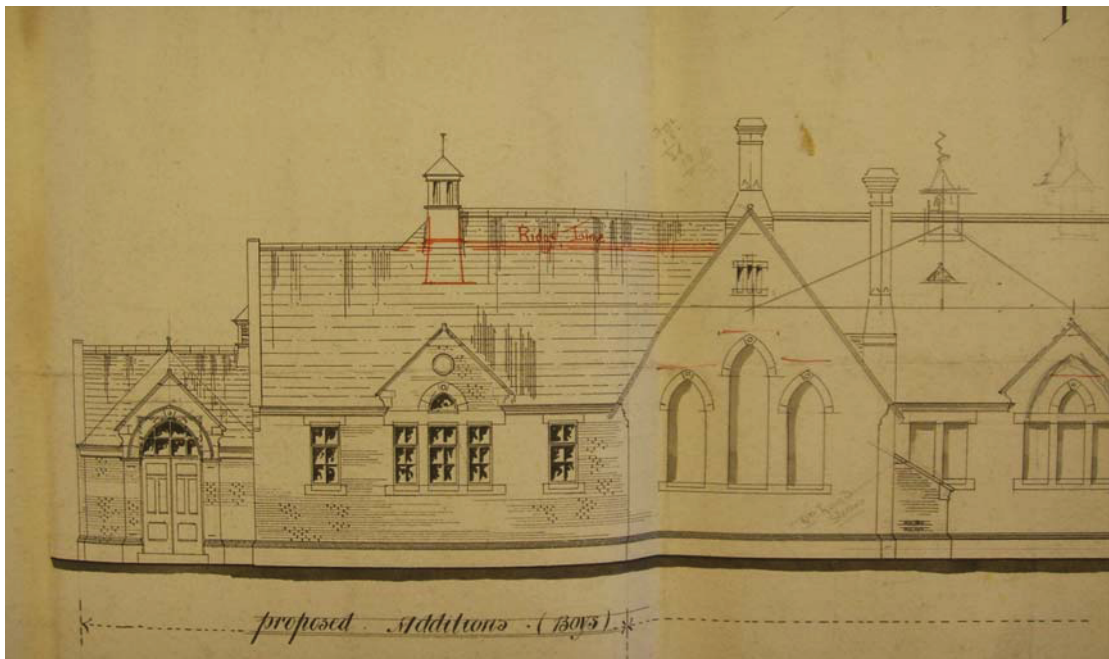


Plate 16: South-east elevation of the proposed additions at the south-west end of the building, showing its relationship to the existing structure, 1891 (CRO(B) Z1041 1875-1904)

3.2.8 **Alterations, 1903-1904:** a number of minor alterations were proposed in 1903 and 1904 to improve the building. These included alterations to the cloakrooms and the coalhouse (CRO(B) Z1041 1875-1904), but it is not clear if these were ever carried out. Following an inspection of the school in December 1903 it was also concluded that the lighting and ventilation were '*altogether below the requirements of the Education Department*' and recommendations were made to enlarge the windows to the front, add dormer lights and paint the walls a lighter colour (CRO(B) Z1041 1875-1904). Nine fresh air inlet brackets were also proposed, and additional outlets

in the ceiling 'connected by tube to Boyle's ventilator on the ridge of the roof' (CRO(B) Z1041 1875-1904).

3.2.9 **Ordnance Survey, 1913:** this clearly shows that the proposed additions of 1891 were constructed, although it is not detailed enough to provide any additional information (Plate 17).

3.2.10 **Ordnance Survey, 1933:** this shows that no major additions had been made to the building since 1913, although a small extension has been added to the front (south-east) elevation against the projecting south-west end (Plate 18).

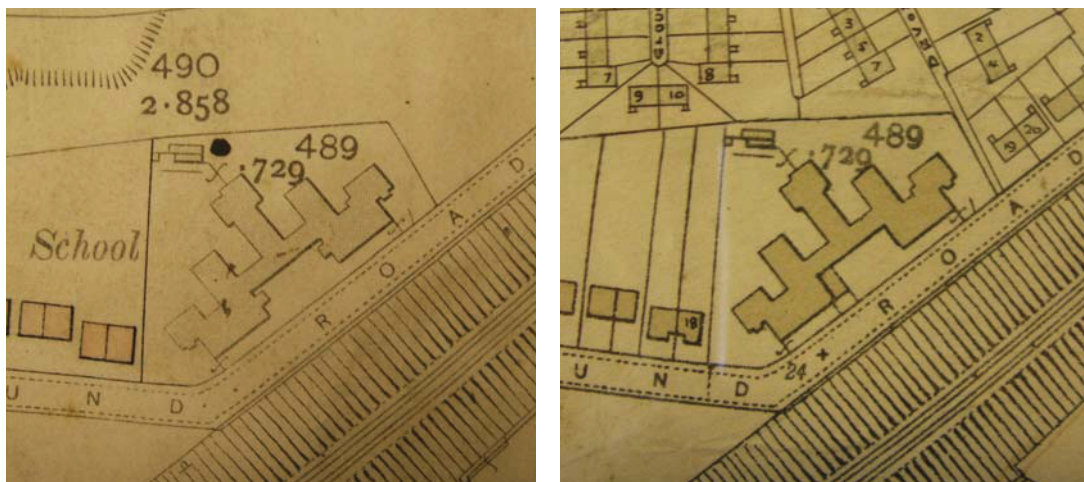


Plate 17: (left) Ordnance Survey map of 1913, showing the building following the additions proposed in 1891

Plate 18: (right) Ordnance Survey map of 1933, showing further minor additions

3.3 Discussion

3.3.1 The extensive documentary and cartographic sources provide a remarkably detailed history of the construction and development of the building until the early 20th century. Its date of construction is known (1876), as well as all of the major phases of enlargement (1886 and 1892), and periods of more minor alteration (1904). Information about the architects and even some of the contractors and suppliers is also available, and the building contains the work of several local businesses.

4. Building Recording

4.1 Arrangement and Fabric

4.1.1 The building is orientated approximately north-east/south-west and forms an irregular but essentially symmetrical shape despite the various extensions that have been added (Fig 2). The front entrances are at either end of the south-east elevation facing onto Lund Terrace, although there are also doorways in the rear part of the building.

4.1.2 The entire structure is brick built, the majority laid in Flemish bond externally, in good quality dark red machine made brick, with a chamfered plinth along the base. Details around the doors and windows are picked out in fine grained yellow sandstone. The roof is mainly covered with grey slate finished with ceramic ridge tiles with decorative scrolls at the ends, and there are raised metal (perhaps zinc?) flues for the ventilation positioned across the roof. The internal roof structure is typically elaborate, with tie beam trusses with Gothic style angled braces (Fig 3). There are modern alterations and additions, mainly in concrete and brick, and the rainwater goods are typically modern plastic replacements. There is a fence along the north-east side of the site against the alley connecting Lund Terrace to Devon Terrace comprising cast iron railings set into large blocks of rock-face finished limestone. The majority of the rails have a basic round section but they are interspersed with square-section posts with floral tops and curving supporting brackets to the rear.

4.2 External Elevations

4.2.1 **Introduction:** the complex and irregular form of the building means that the elevations are typically not uniform in arrangement, with numerous projections being particularly evident on the rear (north-west) side of the building. These projections are included amongst the north-west elevation, although they themselves have elevations facing north-east and south-west.

4.2.2 **North-east elevation:** this forms one end of the main part of the building and is made up of several sections. The south-east side is formed by the gable end of the main section of the building, and is constructed from brick laid in Flemish bond, with a chamfered plinth, incorporating several ceramic ventilators (Plate 19). There is a large eight-light window with a hinged casement and chamfered sandstone sill, and there is evident blocking above its concrete lintel denoting the position of what were evidently originally three arched tops. There are three slots, presumably vents, below the apex with stone lintels and the gable is finished with a stone coping with curved kneelers and a finial. The central section of the elevation comprises the side and gable of the entrance porch and corridor, which has two two-light windows with hinged casements and chamfered stone sills and lintels, and stop chamfer brick jambs (Plate 20). The gable has three two-light windows, also with chamfered sills and lintels, and a pointed Gothic arch above housing a single light window. The brick jambs are also stop chamfered, and the lintels and keystone of the arch are decorated with carved circular holes. The gable is again finished with stone coping with a round finial and scrolled kneelers (Plate 20).

4.2.3 **South-east elevation:** this forms the front of the building, extending between the porched entrances at the north-east and south-west ends. The north-east entrance is gabled, with stone coping including a round finial, and has a stone plaque labelled 'GIRLS' (Plate 21). Beneath this is a large doorway with a pointed Gothic arch finished with decorative edge-set brickwork and a stone hood mould and flanked by flanking walls forming columns topped with cyma moulded stone cornices and with scrolled kneelers above. The north-east side of the main part of the elevation

has two two-light windows with hinged casements either side of a larger six-light window and there are numerous perforated metal vent covers (Plate 22). There is a slight return after this forming a projecting gable, which houses a large seven-light window with a hinged casement, chamfered stone sill and concrete lintel, above which there are the scars of three blocked pointed arches. At the top of the gable there are three small slots (vents?) with stone lintels and sills and the gable sits on scrolled kneelers. The base of the wall has a decorative chamfered brick plinth and a large sandstone block is built into it – perhaps a dedicatory slab that was never used? The return of the elevation to the north-west has a modern single storey addition attached to it, with a large doorway with associated windows in the south-east elevation, and two windows in the south-west. The central part of the elevation is partially covered by further modern single storey additions with flat or monopitch roofs (Plate 23). The roof in this section has evidently been replaced with imported slate or imitation stone topped with plain ceramic tiles. There are several narrow two- or three-light windows across this section with modern casements, stop-chamfer decorated stone sills and lintels, further decorated with carved circular holes at the ends, and stop chamfer decorated brick jambs. The south-west end is essentially a mirror image of the north-east (Plate 24), although part of the roof has been replaced with imitation tiles and the plaque over the entrance is marked 'BOYS' and has a modern double door (Plate 25).



Plate 19: (left) South-east end of the north-east external elevation

Plate 20: (right) North-west end of the north-east external elevation



Plate 21: (left) North-east end of the south-east external elevation showing entrance labelled 'GIRLS'

Plate 22: (right) North-east end of centre of south-east external elevation

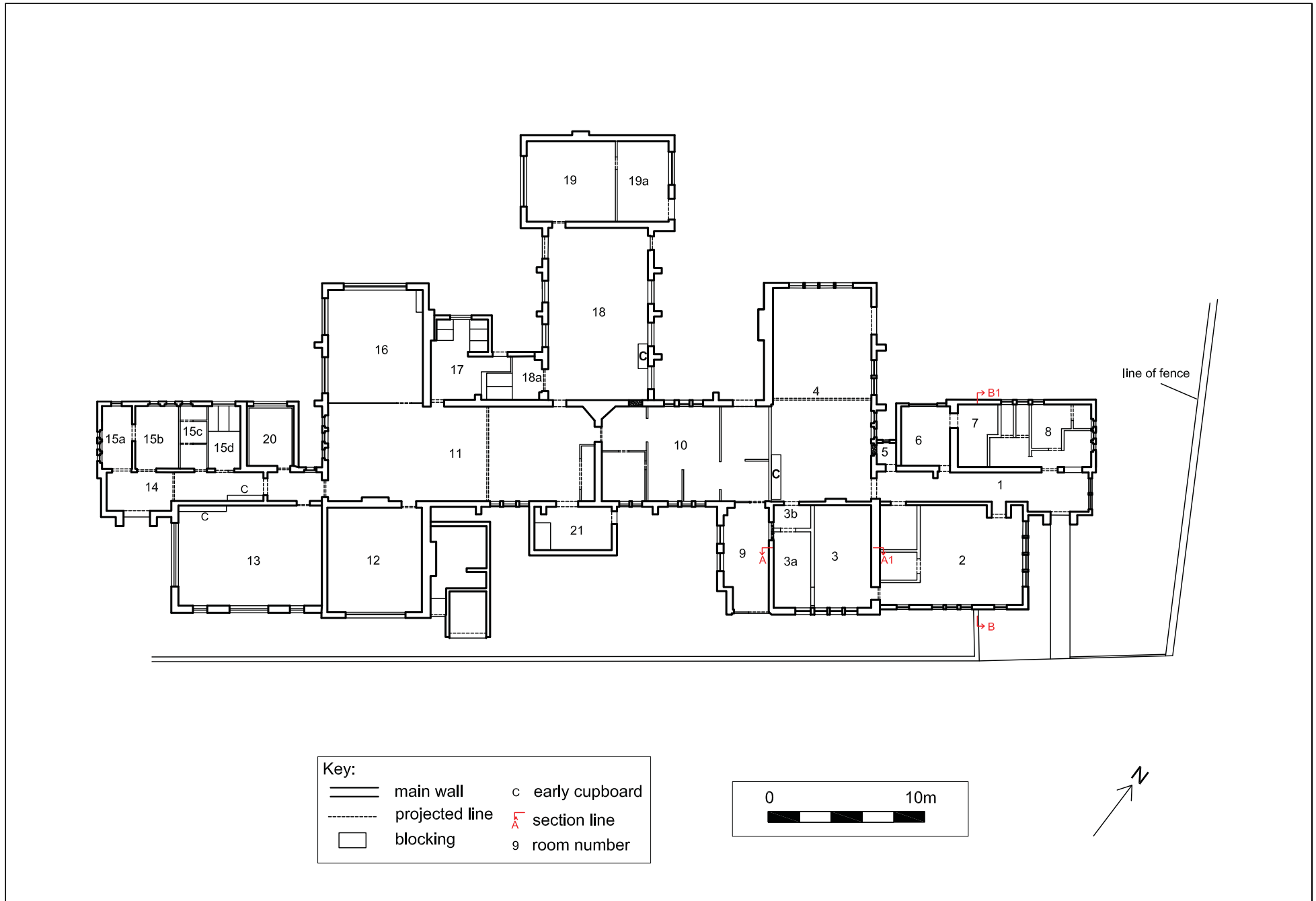


Figure 2: Ground floor plan



Plate 23: (left) Central part of south-east external elevation



Plate 24: (right) South-west end of centre of south-east external elevation



Plate 25: (left) South-west end of south-east external elevation



Plate 26: (right) South-east side of south-west external elevation

4.2.4 **South-west elevation:** this is essentially a mirror image of the north-east elevation. The south-east end forms a gable with stone coping and kneelers and a large 10-light window with a modern casement, chamfered stone sill and concrete lintel (Plate 26). There is evident blocking above this showing the position of three former arched heads. Below the eaves there are three sandstone blocks of uncertain function built into the wall, and lower down there are three gridded vents either side of the window. The central section comprises the side of the entrance porch. There are two small two-light windows on the south-east side, with stone stop chamfered sills and lintels, and to the north-west it forms a gable. This houses a group of three single-light windows above the centre of which is a small opening blocked with board formed beneath a pointed Gothic arch (Plate 28). The windows all have stone sills and lintels with stop-chamfer decoration and carved holes in the ends of the lintels, and the jambs comprise stop-chamfer decorated brick. There is a metal vent on either side of the group of windows.

4.2.5 **North-west elevation:** the north-east end comprises a low part of the building, which is evidently subsiding as there is a large crack running through it. There are three two-light windows in the centre with stone lintels and sills and hinged casements. There are two grilled vents to the south-west, and at the south-west end a modern brick-built monopitch extension has been added, which has a two-light window with a concrete sill and lintel and returns to the south-east forming a recessed area within the elevation. The return to the south-west is also of modern build, but contains a window with a stone sill and lintel with chamfered decoration. The wall returns again to the north-west forming the side of the large rear projection (Plate 28). This has two two-light windows on the south-east side with stone sills and lintels finished with chamfer decoration and carved holes in the ends. Another window is evident to the south-east of these, but has been blocked behind the more recent wall. There are two buttresses with stepped tops and a double chamfered plinth across the elevation and a large four-light window at the north-west end with a concrete lintel and chamfered stone sill and chamfered brick jambs. The roof above has been rebuilt, possibly indicating the former position of a dormer. There is an inserted doorway, or perhaps just an enlarged opening to the north-east forming a modern fire escape with a modern double door with two large lights above and a concrete lintel.

4.2.6 The central area, which includes the rear of the largest projecting section, has several returns associated with different sections. The north-east elevation proper, forming the end of the north-east projecting wing, has a large eight-light window with a hinged casement, a concrete lintel and stone sill. There is a mansard gable roof at the apex, the ends of the roof are finished with barge boards, and the ends of two purlins project through the wall. There is a grilled vent either side of the window and modern pipes attached. The return to the south-east is relatively plain, apart from a stepped chimney breast projecting from it. The main elevation returns to the south-west and contains three two- or three-light windows with stop chamfered stone lintels and sills, with carved holes in the ends, and a doorway to the north-east with modern overlights and a similar lintel, in two parts, to the windows and there is a buttress between it and the windows. The return to the north-west forms the side of the main rear projection and has three large windows all with modern four-light casements, and separated by three buttresses. Each has a concrete lintel and a stone sill, and at the north-west end there is a further window, which has been partially blocked and turned into a doorway with a modern door and a concrete lintel. The north-west end forms a gable and has a large doorway on the south-east side with a pointed Gothic arch in stone forming an overlight(?), which is filled with timber boards and has a sandstone sill, which forms a lintel for a doorway below. To the north-west there is a large six-light window with a concrete lintel and stone sill, above which, within the apex of the gable, is a stone plaque inscribed 'INFANTS' within a round-headed stone arch decorated with a hood mould with scrolled foliate corbels and chamfered sill forming part of a stone string course (Plate 29). Above this, in the very top of the gable, is a panel of floral moulded tiles or bricks topped with a stone coping finished with a clover-shaped finial. The bases of the gable rest on scrolled stone kneelers.



Plate 27: (left) North-west side of the south-west external elevation



Plate 28: (right) North-east elevation of the north-east section projecting from the north-west external elevation



Plate 29: (left) North-west end of the north-east elevation of the central section projecting from the north-west external elevation



Plate 30: (right) North-west end of the central section projecting from the north-west external elevation



Plate 31: (left) South-west elevation of the central section projecting from the north-west external elevation



Plate 32: (right) South-west side of the north-west external elevation

4.2.7 The north-west end of the large central projecting section is relatively plain, with a basic chimney breast south-west of the centre, which is apparently truncated at the top, where it is chamfered and finished with concrete (Plate 30). There is a modern barge board and plastic rainwater goods attached and a chamfered plinth runs along on the south-west side of the chimney breast. The south-west side of the main projecting section is essentially a mirror image of the north-east, with a gable at the north-west end; this is mainly finished with render, even over the plinth, but the panel of moulded tiles or bricks at the top has been left exposed and there is a large eight-light window with modern casement flanked by grilled vents below (Plate 31). To the south-east of the gabled end there is a tall doorway with two-light overlight and flanking light and a concrete lintel. To the south-east there are two four-light windows divided by buttresses with concrete lintels and stone sills. A modern flat roof extension has been added at the south-east end, and forms a return to the south-west with a doorway, a return to the north-west, and a three-light window. The modern wall butts against a chimney breast at the return to the north-west, which returns again to the south-west forming a mansard gable with a large 10-light window with concrete lintel and stone sill, above which the scars of three arches filled with brick are evident and the gable is finished with barge boards and the ends of two purlins are exposed (Plate 32). The return to the south-east has two six-light windows with concrete lintels and stone sills, with two buttresses between, and three smaller two-light windows to the south-east. There is a slight return to the south-west, which is butted by a modern wall returning to the north-west forming a flat roofed extension. The return to the south-west contains a modern three-light window. South-west of this there are five two-light windows with stone sills and lintels plus a small aperture at the south-west end, also with a stone lintel and sill, which is filled with board.

4.3 Internal Details

4.3.1 **Room 1:** this comprises a long corridor connecting the various rooms in this half of the building (Plate 33); the floor is finished with vinyl sheeting over concrete(?). The ceiling is largely flat and finished with plaster, but slightly raised at the north-east end where it meets the entrance lobby producing an approximately domed effect. The walls are mostly painted directly onto the brick, but some parts are finished with flock wallpaper and attached fittings and there is a plain dado rail and skirting board throughout. The north-east elevation has a pair of two-light windows with sloping stone sills and stop-chamfer decorated lintels. There is a cavetto moulded rail built into the wall immediately below the angle of the ceiling and part of the roof structure projects through the ceiling in the east corner. The south-east elevation has a large double doorway on the north-east side, with possibly original doors with chamfered battens. The wall returns slightly to the north-west beyond this and there is an inserted doorway with a modern door within added flanking stub walls (which extend into Room 2). Further south-west there is a stub wall projecting into the room, with a corresponding one to the north-west, beyond which the lower part of the wall is finished with tongue and groove boards. Within this area there is an original doorway with an elaborate ogee- and roll-moulded surround sat on plinths decorated with a row of three circles and a cross with rounded edges. The door itself has three panels, the top two tall and narrow and with stop chamfer decoration, the lower more flat and filled with three tongue and groove boards (Plate 34). An original hexagonal escutcheon is still present. The south-west elevation is plain, and essentially comprises a large doorway with a modern double door, leading to Room 4 (Plate 33). The north-west elevation has the same tongue and groove board finish at the south-west end, which respects a doorway at the south-west end into Room 5. Beyond the matching stub wall there is an inserted doorway into Room 7 and at the north-east end there are two further original doorways, with bull-nosed brick jambs and round-chamfered stone lintels. The south-westernmost accesses Room 8 and

has been partially filled to fit a modern door, while the north-eastern has been blocked leaving a slight recess. The roof structure above the room is very basic comprising only a lath and plaster finish. The roof space above could be partially accessed, and revealed a very basic gabled roof shape finished with lath and plaster (Fig 3).



Plate 33: (left) General view of south-west end of Room 1

Plate 34: (right) Decorative doorway between Room 1 and Room 2

4.3.2 Room 2: the floor is finished with tiles, which have been painted, and the ceiling comprises suspended fibreboard tiles held by a timber frame. The original roof structure is visible above this where sections have been removed and is finished with lath and plaster, painted blue, supported by an elaborate truss raised on scrolled corbels built into the north-west and south-east walls and with angled braces bolted to the inner face of the principals, which meet a collar that has straps bolted to each end and supports the lath and plaster ceiling above (Fig 3). All of the timber of the truss is finished with a stop chamfer decoration and painted. The walls are finished with painted flock wallpaper. The north-east elevation is essentially plain, but contains a large window. Above the level of the suspended ceiling the original arched tops of the window are visible, and have been blocked with brick. The south-east elevation has one large and two small windows, and four ventilation holes, with hinged metal doors with a small round handle. The south-west elevation is relatively plain, with a doorway on the south-east side and partition walls over the rest forming a small 'room' accessed through a round-headed arch. The west corner of the room is only accessible from the corridor (Room 1), as it has been separated by partition walls to form a small room. The north-west elevation is plain, although there is a doorway at the south-west end, within the separate room, with an elaborate surround as per Room 1. On the north-east side there is a plain modern doorway, with attached flanking partition walls that project into the room, attached to the north-east of which is a modern glazed partition wall that protected this entrance to the room due to the presence of a dart board on the wall to the north-east.

4.3.3 Room 3: the floor is finished with timber parquet and the ceiling comprises suspended fibreboard with the original roof structure visible above (which extends above Rooms 3a and 3b). This is finished with lath and plaster with a large central circular plaster boss across which is a single truss (Fig 3). This comprises principal rafters connecting to a collar, which sit on an interrupted tie beam. There are angled braces bolted to the underside of the principals, a single purlin on both sides, and all

of the timber is finished with stop chamfer decoration (Plate 35). The walls are finished with painted flock wallpaper and have a plain modern skirting board. Above the suspended ceiling some of the original yellow paint scheme is evident. The lower part of the north-east elevation is relatively plain, with a doorway on the south-east side, and there is a large moulded batten attached. An original moulded rail is present above the extended ceiling. The south-east elevation has a single vent with a hinged door on the north-east side and a large window, which is divided at the south-west end by the partition wall forming the south-west elevation. Above it the blocked original arched tops of the window are visible. The south-west elevation is a modern partition, with a small glazed opening on the south-east side and doorway to the north-west. The north-west elevation is unremarkable.



Plate 35: (left) Elaborate roof structure and blocked Gothic arch visible above suspended ceiling in Room 3

Plate 36: (right) Chimney breast, decorative doorway and cupboard in south corner of Room 4

4.3.4 Rooms 3a and 3b: these are effectively part of Room 3, formed by inserted modern partition walls. Room 3a has the same floor, covered by carpet, and the same roof structure, partially hidden by a modern suspended ceiling (Fig 3). The north-east and north-west elevations are modern partitions, with a doorway in the north-west and a window in the north-east. The south-west elevation is plain, while the south-east has the continuation of the window from Room 3, above which the original arched openings, blocked with brick, are visible, and there is a single vent with a hinged door. Room 3b forms a small lobby, which is largely plain and unremarkable apart from a doorway to the north-west, which has an elaborate moulded surround on decorative plinths, as per those elsewhere in the building. The door is similarly elaborate, and has two board panels with moulded surrounds with carved holes and arched tops.

4.3.5 Room 4: this forms a large hall on the north-west side of the north-east end of the building. The floor comprises tongue and groove boards orientated north-west/south-east along the length of the room, and there is a scar, presumably marking the position of a folding partition wall, orientated north-east/south-west across the centre of the room. There is a modern fibreboard suspended ceiling, above which the original roof structure is visible. This comprises two trusses whose principal rafters rest on an interrupted tie-beam and have angled braces bolted to the undersides (Plate 37). The south-easternmost of these trusses has a panel wall filling the space between the principal rafters and tie beam, which houses a four-light fixed casement window. The wall on the south-east side of the south-west elevation only extends as far as the height of the suspended ceiling and above it the roof structure is visible (above Room 10; Plate 38). This too is of a similar construction to the main part of the roof. All of the walls are finished with painted flock wallpaper, although the

lower part is covered by tongue and groove boards; there is vertical batten attached mid way along the north-east and south-west elevations, which corresponds with the scar in the floor and presumably marks the position of a partition wall. The north-east elevation has two windows in the centre, with a large doorway at the north-west end and a smaller one at the south-east. An original moulded cornice is visible above the suspended ceiling and there is a single vent with a hinged door, attached to which is a small label marked 'PICKUP'S PATENT "IDEAL" AIR INLET SOLE MAKERS HENRY HARGREAVES & SONS VENTILATING ENGINEERS BURY'. The south-east elevation has a central chimney breast, the opening blocked, but housing a ceramic vent. There is a doorway to the south-west with a roll-moulded surround and decorative door (as per Room 3b; Plate 36). The south-west elevation has a large early cupboard set against it on the south-east side. The wall at this end is evidently an inserted partition as the roof is visible above it, and the wall line steps out near the centre. It is plain beyond this, although a modern basketball hoop is attached. The north-west elevation has a large central window with a hinged vent to the south-west. The original pointed arches of the window are visible above the suspended ceiling, and are blocked with brick.



Plate 37: (left) Truss visible in Room 4



Plate 38: (right) Truss above Room 10, as visible from Room 4

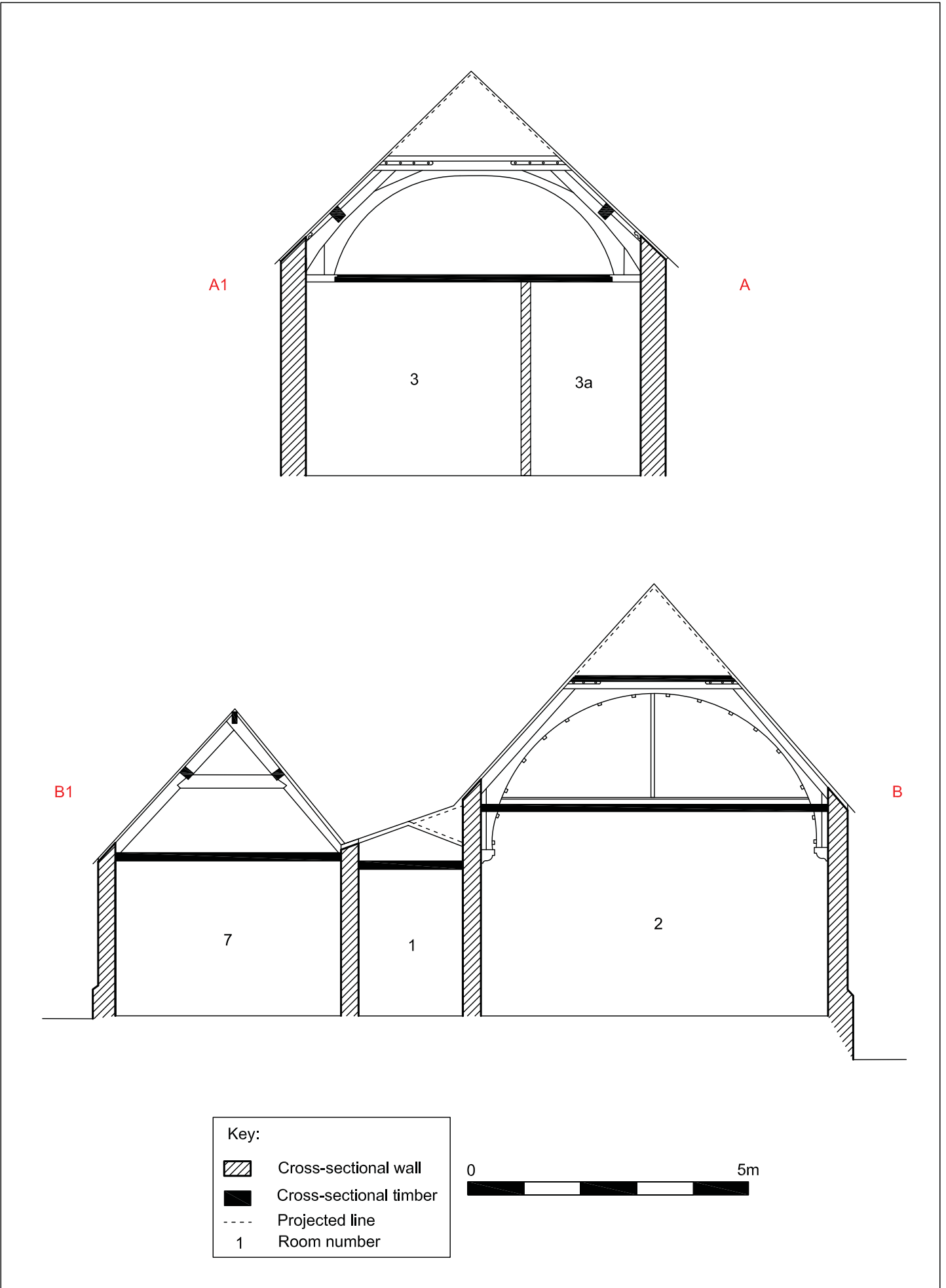


Figure 3: Cross-sections A-A1 and B-B1

4.3.6 **Room 5:** this is a small room formed within a modern extension on the north-west side of the building. It has a concrete floor and the ceiling is finished with plaster and paint, as are the walls. The north-east elevation is plain, with modern fittings attached. The south-east elevation is also plain, with a narrow door, while the south-west elevation has a modern ogee-moulded skirting board and a bracket for a toilet cistern. The north-west elevation has a two-light window and a modern boiler is attached beneath it.

4.3.7 **Room 6:** this too is formed within a modern extension to the north-west side of the building. The floor is finished with vinyl, the ceiling is plaster, and the walls are painted and/or partially tiled. The north-east elevation has an inserted doorway on the north-west side with a plinth partially visible beneath the plaster, demonstrating that it was originally an external wall. The south-east elevation has a doorway on the north-east side, while the south-west side is covered by kitchen units. The south-west elevation is also covered by kitchen units, including a sink and boiler, and the north-west elevation houses a large window.

4.3.8 **Room 7:** this forms an adjoining room to Room 6, and has been heavily modernised. The floor is concrete finished with vinyl sheeting, while the ceiling is plaster with an access hatch into the roof space on the north-east side. The walls are finished with plaster and paint. The north-east elevation has boxed pipes along its base and a return in the centre. The south-east elevation is plain and the south-west has kitchen units attached. The north-west elevation is plain. The roof space above, which extends to the north-east over Room 8, is finished with tongue and groove boards attached to the battens, and there are two trusses comprising principal rafters and a collar, as well as other horizontal timbers (Fig 3; Plate 39). There is a single purlin on the south-east side and all of the timber has a stop-chamfer finish and is painted pale grey.



Plate 39: Roof space above Rooms 7 and 8

4.3.9 **Room 8:** this is essentially a single room, but it has been subdivided by modern partitions to form separate male and female toilets. There is a vinyl floor finish throughout and plaster ceiling, and the main walls are painted directly over the brickwork, which is laid in stretcher bond, while the rest are plasterboard. The north-east elevation has a window divided by the partition walls with stone lintel with a stop-chamfer finish and rolled timber sill. The south elevation is plain apart from two doorways on the north-east side, one of which is blocked with an inserted partition. The south-west elevation is plain, and returns to the north-west where the brick is rougher and mostly laid in stretcher bond and the bricks appear to be wider than those to the south-east. It also butts the walls to the south-west and north-west. The

north-west elevation has a window, which has been partially divided by the wall to the south-west, which butts the mullion and divides the two blocks of toilets. This window also has a stop chamfered stone lintel.

4.3.10 **Room 9:** this is housed within a modern extension on the south-east side of the building. The floor is finished with vinyl and it has a plaster ceiling. The walls are all finished with plaster and paint and there are modern units along the south-west and north-west sides. The north-east elevation is plain, apart from an alcove on the north-west side formed within a blocked doorway. The south-east elevation comprises a modern partition with a two-light window and a doorway containing a single light and two overlights. The south-west elevation has a return in the south corner and contains two two-light windows. The north-west end butts against what is probably a buttress on the north-west elevation, which has a chamfered plinth. The north-west elevation is otherwise plain, apart from a doorway to the north-east with an adjacent hatch.

4.3.11 **Room 10:** this is a large room, the floor of which is finished with vinyl and carpet, and which has been sub-divided with low partition walls. In addition, an early glazed timber partition wall has been added in the south corner forming a small room. It has a doorway on the north-east side, which has been effectively blocked by a later partition, and an inserted doorway in the north-west. The framing is all finished with beaded decoration and the lower panels also have stop-chamfer decoration (Plate 40). The main walls are all finished with plaster and paint and the ceiling comprises suspended fibreboard tiles with cut gym ropes projecting through on the north-east side (Plate 41). The north-east elevation is a plain partition. The south-east elevation has an inserted doorway on the north-east side with an adjacent hatch, and a large window comprising three six-light sections with beaded decoration along the edges of the mullions. There is a further window with two six-light sections within the small 'room' in the south corner and part of a tall roll-moulded skirting board. The south-west elevation is finished with tongue and groove boards within the small 'room', which extends around the south-east wall. There is a doorway to the north-west of this with a wide roll-moulded surround on decorative pierced plinths. The west corner is angled at 45°, presumably originally to house a fireplace (a grilled vent marks its position). The north-west elevation has a blocked doorway on the south-west side, with a roll-moulded surround, and there is a large window of three six-light sections in the centre with beaded mullions. At the north-east end there is an inserted fire door.



Plate 40: (left) Partition walls in the south corner of Room 10

Plate 41: (right) Gym ropes projecting through the ceiling of Room 10

4.3.12 **Room 11:** this forms a large hall with an evident scar across the walls and floor at the centre denoting the position of a folding partition. The floor largely comprises small narrow floorboards, which are at a raised level on the south-west side and partially covered by carpet in the west corner. There are modern partition

walls against the north-east elevation forming a store cupboard. The ceiling is covered by a suspended ceiling constructed from fibreboards with gym ropes projecting through at the centre (Plate 42). The walls are all finished with painted flock wallpaper with the original tall skirting board remaining in places, although it is frequently covered by boxing for pipes. The north-east elevation is angled on the north-west side, presumably for a fireplace, and there is a doorway immediately to the south-east with a wide roll-moulded surround on pierced plinths (Plate 44). The south-east elevation has a modern inserted doorway on the north-east side and two large windows to the south-west, of two or three four or six-light sections, with beaded edges. There is another original doorway with a similar roll-moulded surround to the south-west (Plate 45), and a projecting chimney breast beyond. The south-west elevation has an original doorway on the south-east side, again with a roll-moulded surround, but retaining the original four-panel door (the top two of which are glazed), with chamfer decoration and an *Art Nouveaux*-style plate around the handle. There is a window to the north-west with three six-light sections with beaded edges, and a vent to the south-west. The south-west side of the north-west elevation comprises a folding partition wall, incorporating glazed panels in the upper part and a doorway in the north-east side housing a four-panel door, the upper two of which are glazed, and having the original round handle (Plate 43). The partition is entirely finished with beaded decoration. North-east of the partition is an inserted doorway with an early(?) ogee-moulded surround and tongue and groove door with two lights over. There is a further inserted doorway to the north-east with a plain surround and modern door, and the north-east end is angled, matching that in Room 10.



Plate 42: (left) General view of north-east end of Room 11



Plate 43: (right) Folding partition wall in west corner of Room 11



Plate 44: (left) Decorative doorway in east corner of Room 11

Plate 45: (right) Decorative doorway in south-east elevation of Room 11

4.3.13 **Room 12:** this is a smaller room with a board floor, partially covered by carpet. It has a modern suspended ceiling comprising fibreboards and the walls are finished with painted flock wallpaper. The north-east and south-west elevations are plain. The south-east elevation has a large window, and the north-west is plain, with an original doorway on the north-east side with a roll-moulded surround on decorative plinths with a modern panel door containing a single light.

4.3.14 **Room 13:** this has a parquet floor laid in a zigzag pattern and a suspended ceiling comprising fibreboards, with the ends of the trusses sat on corbels projecting through against the north-east and south-west walls, which are presumably the same as those in Room 2 although the rest is not visible. The upper part of the walls is finished with painted flock wallpaper, the lower with tongue and groove boards. The north-east elevation is plain. The south-east has three windows, two of which are two-lights and the other is a single light. There are three vents with hinged doors. The south-west elevation has a large 10-light window. The north-west elevation has a large early cupboard sat against it, with panel doors and an ovolo-moulded entablature on top and beaded decoration. There is an original doorway on the north-east side, with a decorative roll-moulded surround and original door with a tongue and groove panel in the lower part, and two glazed panels above with stop chamfer decoration, and original decorative escutcheon.

4.3.15 **Room 14:** this forms a corridor linking the rooms along the rear (north-west) side of the south-west part of the building and linked to the main entrance, essentially mirroring Room 1. The floor is finished with carpet at the south-west end and timber parquet tiles at the north-east. It has a simple gabled roof, finished with lath and plaster. The north-east elevation comprises only a doorway with the original roll-moulded surround and original door. The south-east elevation has an original doorway on the north-east side with a roll-moulded surround and door with moulded decoration. Mid-way down there is a stub wall return, forming another doorway, which divides the room in two. This too has an original roll-moulded surround and original door with chamfer decoration, and tongue and groove panels in the lower

section and two glazed panels above (Plate 46). There is a large early cupboard set against the wall to the south-west of the stub wall, with stop-chamfer decoration, panel doors and brass scoop handles. The wall returns slightly again at the south-west end to house a large double-door finished with chamfered decoration and a plain surround, which is not original. At the south-west end the corridor meets the porch, and there is a double-doorway with a modern door with two overlights. The south-west elevation has two two-light windows with an iron I-beam forming the lintel. The north-west elevation has a pair of doorways at the south-west end with bull-nosed jambs and stone lintels with rounded lower edges. The south-western of these is blocked leaving a recessed area, while the north-east has a modern glazed door (Plate 47). There are two further doorways to the north-east, the smallest of which is evidently inserted and has cement around the jambs and lintel, and the other has bull-nosed jambs and a stone sill with a rounded edge, and modern partitioning has been added to accommodate a modern door. At the north-east end there is an inserted doorway leading into Room 19, and north-east is a small window with a modern two-light casement with beaded edges.



Plate 46: (left) Decorative doorway in the centre of Room 14

Plate 47: (right) Doorways at the south-west end of the north-west elevation, Room 14

4.3.16 **Room 15:** this is divided by modern partition walls into four parts, 15a-d, and running from south-west to north-east. Room 15a has a carpet floor and suspended tile ceiling and the walls are all painted brick. The north-east wall has a doorway in the centre, probably inserted, with a modern door, but the wall itself does not extend to the full height of the building and the upper part comprises a modern partition set on top of the wall proper, which has a roll-moulded rail along the top. The south-east elevation is plain, while the south-west has a three part window. The north-west is plain, but with a small aperture filled with a timber board in the centre. Room 15b also has a carpet floor and suspended ceiling comprising modern tiles. The walls are painted brick, apart from the north-east, which is a plain partition finished with plaster and paint. The south-east elevation is relatively plain, with a roll-moulded rail and a doorway on the south-west side, with bull-nosed jambs and a stone lintel with a rounded underside. The door is modern and contained within an inserted partition. The south-west elevation is as per Room 15a, while the north-west has two two-light windows with sloping stone sills and a roll moulded rail below. Room 15c comprises a small toilet (staff), with two partition walls forming a cubicle and a lobby area. The floor is finished with vinyl tiles and there is a suspended ceiling comprising

polystyrene tiles. All of the walls are painted brick and have boards attached. The north-east and south-west are plain, the south-east has an inserted doorway to Room 14, with a modern door and adjacent to it is an iron bracket, presumably for an earlier toilet cistern. The north-west elevation has a two-light window with a sloping stone sill. There is an early cupboard sitting loose in the corner with ovolo-moulded panels, original metal fittings, and a moulded entablature. Room 15d forms a large block of toilets (pupils); the floor is finished with vinyl tiles and the ceiling covered by a suspended ceiling of polystyrene tiles. There are modern stalls forming toilet cubicles on the north-west side. The walls are painted brick and partially tiled. The north-east elevation is plain, with sinks attached, a scar for a fitting or partition(?), and a vent. The south-east elevation has a doorway with bull-nosed jambs and a rounded edge to the lintel. The south-west elevation has a plain plaster finish, and urinals attached. The north-west elevation has a four-light window, with a stone or concrete sill and lintel.

4.3.17 Room 16: the floor comprises timber boards but is covered by carpet on the south-east side, and the ceiling is suspended and made up of fibreboard tiles. The walls are all finished with painted flock wallpaper, apart from the south-east. The north-east elevation is plain but has two early cupboards set against it in the north-west and south-east corners; the north-east one has stop chamfer decoration around the panels, and the south-east has a moulded entablature. The south-east elevation is formed by a folding timber partition, with glazed panels along the top and a doorway on the north-west side. The panels are decorated with moulded surrounds. The south-west elevation is plain, but for two large windows, and the north-west contains a single large window.

4.3.18 Room 17: this has a vinyl finished floor and plaster ceiling. There are stalls against the north-west elevation and racks against the south-east, and the walls are painted. The north-east elevation is plain, with a return to the south-east. The south-east elevation is also plain, with a doorway on the south-west side with a relatively plain surround but an early door constructed from tongue and groove boards with two lights over. The south-west elevation has a return on the north-west side and sinks attached to the south-east. The north-west elevation has a two-light window to the south-west of a slight return and a modern doorway.

4.3.19 Room 18: this comprises a large room with a smaller annex in the south corner forming a toilet (Room 18a). It has a carpet and vinyl floor and a suspended fibreboard ceiling, with the ends of brackets forming part of the roof trusses projecting through supported on cyma moulded corbels on the north-east and south-west sides (Plate 48). The bracket itself is finished with a chamfer decoration. The walls are finished with painted flock wallpaper and there are tongue and groove boards over the lower parts. The north-east elevation has three four-light windows and a doorway on the north-east side plus at least two vents with hinged covers. There is an early, perhaps original, cupboard stood against the wall (Plate 49). The south-east elevation has an original doorway on the north-east side with a roll-moulded surround, which is blocked, and an inserted doorway to the south-west with a plain surround and door. The south-west elevation has a large inserted doorway on the south-east side with a glazed panel to the south-east and the door also has a glazed panel. There are two four-light windows to the north-west and a large door at the north-west end with a glazed panel, two overlights, and a glazed door. The north-west elevation has a plain inserted doorway on the south-west side with a plain modern door. Room 18a has a vinyl covered floor, painted plaster ceiling, and the walls are finished with plaster, paint and are partially tiled, and there are stalls forming toilet cubicles along the south-west side. The north-east elevation has a doorway into Room 18, which is probably inserted, and the south-east elevation is plain, although the plinth of the original exterior wall is evident. The south-west

elevation is largely covered by toilets, and the north-west has a central return but is otherwise plain.



Plate 48: (left) Bracket from the roof truss in Room 18

Plate 49: (right) Early cupboard *in situ* in Room 18

4.3.20 Room 19: this is a large room divided into two unequal parts by a modern stud partition wall. The main part (Room 19) has a floor comprising small timber boards and a suspended fibreboard ceiling. The walls are finished with painted flock wallpaper, apart from the north-east, which is plasterboard, with a doorway on the north-west side. The south-east elevation is plain, with a modern door on the south-west side and tongue and groove boards over the lower part. The south-west elevation has a large 10-light window, and the north-west is featureless. There is an early cupboard stood against the north-east wall, with ovolo-moulded panels and heart-shaped escutcheons. Room 19a has a board floor, the boards mainly running in the opposite direction to Room 19. It has a suspended fibreboard ceiling and the walls are finished with painted flock wallpaper with tongue and groove boards covering the lower part of all but the south-west. The north-east elevation has a six-light window on the north-west side and a vent adjacent, which is different in style to those elsewhere in the building. There is a doorway on the south-east side with an ogee-moulded surround and modern double door with a single-light overlight. The south-west elevation is a modern partition with a doorway on the north-west side, and the north-west elevation is plain.

4.3.21 Room 20: this is formed within a modern addition to the building, and has a vinyl floor and flat plaster ceiling. The walls are all finished with plaster and paint and there is boxing for pipes running along the base of the north-east, south-west, and north-west elevations. The north-east and south-west walls are plain, and there is a large three-light window in the north-west elevation. The south-east elevation has a doorway leading to Room 14, which is inserted.

4.3.22 Room 21: this has a rubberised(?) floor and plaster ceiling. The north-east elevation comprises painted concrete blocks, with a doorway on the north-west side. The south-east elevation comprises plain concrete blocks, with shelves on brackets attached, and the south-west elevation has a modern cupboard on the south-east side. The north-west elevation is formed by the original external wall, and has a plinth

and a buttress on the south-west side; the north-east and south-west block walls are butting against it. There is an inserted doorway on the south-west side.

5. Conclusion

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Dale Street School, formerly known as The Board School, is both an architecturally and historically interesting building. It has a remarkable number of impressive architectural details and decorative features typical of late Victorian Gothic fashion, perhaps more than might be expected in what was essentially a functional building. The work by two named architects, Henry Barber and James Grundy and Son, ties it to a wider collection of locally important buildings, particularly those that were built by the latter. These include many local public buildings in Ulverston, including the original market hall and the police station, as well as several private houses. The building is also interesting on account of its fixtures, some of which were made by local firms such as John Stones shutter works and Penningtons Agricultural Engineers, as well as items supplied by other companies.

5.2 Phasing

5.2.1 The detailed and extensive documentary evidence relating to the building means that many of the phases, particularly of extension, can be dated to precise years. In addition, other phases of alteration can be identified in the documentary sources. The most recent alterations are the least well recorded in the available documentary sources, although these have in many cases led to the loss of original fabric.

5.2.2 **Phase 1:** the original plans show that the initial structure, built in or around 1875 to the designs of Henry Barber, was H-shaped in plan, comprising a pair of conjoined L-shaped blocks forming classrooms, with additional blocks to the south-east on each side forming more classrooms and smaller sections at either end forming the entrance lobbies and cloak rooms. This phase corresponds to Rooms 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, and 16 in the present building. Certain architectural themes are evident within the relevant sections of the building, including doorways with elaborate moulded surrounds and pillars with bases pierced with three linked circles (e.g. Plate 34), chamfered stonework, and folding partition walls. It is also evident from the original drawings that the elevations were originally more elaborate, with pointed Gothic arches over most of the main windows, which are still evident as blocked areas. The roof structure, where accessible, is also very elaborate, and again involves Gothic style arched braces and brackets, all finished with chamfer decoration.

5.2.3 **Phase 2:** the extensions carried out in 1886, also to the designs of Henry Barber, comprised the addition of a large projecting block to the rear of the main part of the building, intended to provide accommodation for infants. This corresponds to Rooms 18, 19, and 19a in the present building, and is clearly marked 'INFANTS' on the north-west end of the north-east external elevation. This section is in a similar architectural style, but with the addition of a pair of panels of decorative terracotta tiles.

5.2.4 **Phase 3:** within a few years a further extension was made in the form of new classrooms, cloak rooms, and entrance lobbies positioned at each end of the main block. The plans show that this was the first addition by James Grundy, added some time after 1891. Architecturally these elements match closely what had gone before, in particular the use of yellow sandstone for many of the details (this is named as Prudham stone in the original specification), and similar Gothic arches. Chamfered brick work is also utilised and details such as carved holes in the ends of lintels make

their first appearance. These extensions correspond to Rooms 1, 2, 8, 13, 14, and 15a-d in the present building.

5.2.5 **Phase 4:** alterations, specifically to the ventilation and windows, proposed to be carried out by Gundy and Son in 1904, are recorded in the documentary sources (see *Section 3.2.8*). It is not evident whether these changes were ever made, however, and proposals for extensions at the same time do not appear to have been carried out. It is also not apparent how the changes to the ventilation are represented within the building, but it is possible that the hinged vents set into many of the walls and the vents on the roof were added at this time.

5.2.6 **Phase 5:** a number of modern alterations are evident within the building, many of which have involved the removal of or damage to original features, or have resulted in extensions or the addition of new internal divisions. These are principally concerned with the addition of new toilet facilities; the original toilets were housed in a separate block to the north-west of the building, which was evidently demolished after 1933 (Plate 18), new storage (Room 21), and kitchens (Rooms 6 and 9). New additions include Rooms 5, 6, 9, 17, 18a, 20, and 21, as well as a probable boiler room on the south-east side of the building that could not be accessed. Partitions were added to form new rooms such as 15b and 15c, which in some cases led to alterations within the arrangement of doorways requiring the addition of new ones and blocking of old ones. Further partitions were added in Room 8 to form separate male and female toilets, and subdivisions were created in Rooms 2 and 3 (forming 3a and 3b). In addition suspended ceilings were added throughout, concealing the original roof structure, and a partition wall was added between Rooms 4 and 10 separating what would originally have been a single large room. The windows were all extensively modified during this phase; in most cases modern casements were added, following the removal of some stone and brick mullions, and in the most extreme case the original groups of three Gothic arches over many of the main windows were blocked in and replaced with a concrete lintel. This evidently occurred at the same time as the suspended ceilings were inserted, as the blocked arches were not been re-plastered following their addition.

5.3 Discussion

5.3.1 Dale Street School is of both architectural and historical interest, as an extravagant example of late Victorian Gothic style employed in a perhaps unlikely location, and as an example of the work of at least one local firm of architects, and perhaps several other local companies. The surviving folding partition is important in its own right, as it is perhaps the only surviving example of the products of John Stones shutter works. A brief history of the company is provided in McKeever and Layfield (2004, 112-116); they began as a firm of iron and brass founders based at Dragley Beck, before moving into joinery and becoming associated with, or perhaps taking over, Salmon Barnes and Co, who were particularly involved in the production of revolving shutters. They continued to operate until 1906, with the production and installation of shutters dominating their business in its latter years and involving work across the country. One product in particular that they made was Phillips Patent folding partitions an example of which was utilised in Dale Street School (Anon 1900, 91). Indeed, an illustration of one of these very partitions was used in an advertisement for their business (Plate 50; Mackereth 1900, 111); it is not clear which room this is depicting within the current building, but the style of partition is identical to that separating Rooms 11 and 16 (Plate 43). These partitions are unlikely to have been added until after 1892 as they are not shown on any of the proposed plans.

5.3.2 A number of other features are also of interest, including several cupboards and bookshelves, which are probably original and may also have been made by John

Stones. In addition, the fence along the north-east side of the site is likely to have been made by Penningtons; as far as it is possible to tell from early photographs (e.g. Lowe and Bennet 2006, 33) it of the same design as the fence outside the former County Hotel. It is also the same as the fences used in the parish churchyard.

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Contractor to the London, Liverpool, Glasgow, Edinburgh, &c., School Boards.

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Note change of, and ONLY address—“ROSSIDE,” Ulverston.

Plate 50: Advertisement for John Stones shutter works' Philips Patent partition in Dale Street School (from Mackereth 1900, 111)

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