# FORMER POLICE STATION, ULVERSTON, CUMBRIA

Archaeological Building Recording





Client: M & P Gadsden Consulting Engineers

Planning ref: SL/2020/0885

NGR 328816 478204

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October 2021



The Site	
Site Name	Former Police Station, Ulverston
County	Cumbria
NGR	328816 478204

Cli	ent
Client Name	M & P Gadsden Consulting Engineers

Planning	
Pre-planning?	No
Planning Application No.	SL/2020/0885
Proposal	Partial demolition of elements of former police station and courthouse, remainder retained to form part of new dwellings
Condition number	None – at request of Conservation Officer
Level of recording	Historic England Level 2
Local Planning Authority	South Lakeland District Council
Conservation Officer	Libby Mee
Planning Archaeologist	Jeremy Parsons, Cumbria Historic Environment Service
Previous phase of work carried out?	Yes – heritage assessment

Arch	iving
Relevant Record Office(s)/Archive Centre(s)	Cumbria Archive Centre, Barrow-in-Furness
Relevant HER	Cumbria

Staffing	
Desk-based assessment	Dan Elsworth
Building recording	Dan Elsworth and Tom Mace
Report writing	Dan Elsworth
Report editing	Jo Dawson
Illustrations	Tom Mace
Date on site work carried out	08/09/2021, 10/09/2021, 15/09/2021 and 01/10/2021

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## **Summary**

Prior to the submission of a planning application for the proposed redevelopment of the site of the former police station, Ulverston, Cumbria, for housing, Greenlane Archaeology was commissioned to carry out a heritage assessment. This is intended to determine what the heritage potential of the site is and what the likely impact any redevelopment of it would have, and was principally carried out through the examination of data held in the historic environment record, the local archives, and published local and regional histories. This established that the site had originally been occupied by Neville Hall, a possible piel tower of medieval origins that formed the focus of a small manor. Neville Hall was sold into private hands in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century and later used as a workhouse before the site was redeveloped in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century to provide a police station and courthouse. The map regression shows how from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century the site developed from part of the estates belonging to Neville Hall to become the police station, with elements designed by the Ulverston architect JW Grundy.

Following the submission of a planning application for the partial demolition of buildings that had originally made up the former police station and courthouse and the reuse of the surviving elements of these in the proposed development a request was made by the Conservation Officer at SLDC that the buildings be subject to archaeological recording. Greenlane Archaeology was commissioned to carry out this work, which was undertaken in September and October 2021. The superintendent's house, known as Neville House, which was on the footprint of the earlier Neville Hall, is now in separate ownership and not part of the current proposals.

The building recording demonstrated that while much of the original fabric, principally the decorative stonework, has survived in the external elevations, internally the buildings have been subject to considerable modernisation, which has removed much of the internal decorative detailing such as the fire surrounds, although some cornicing and original plaster remains.

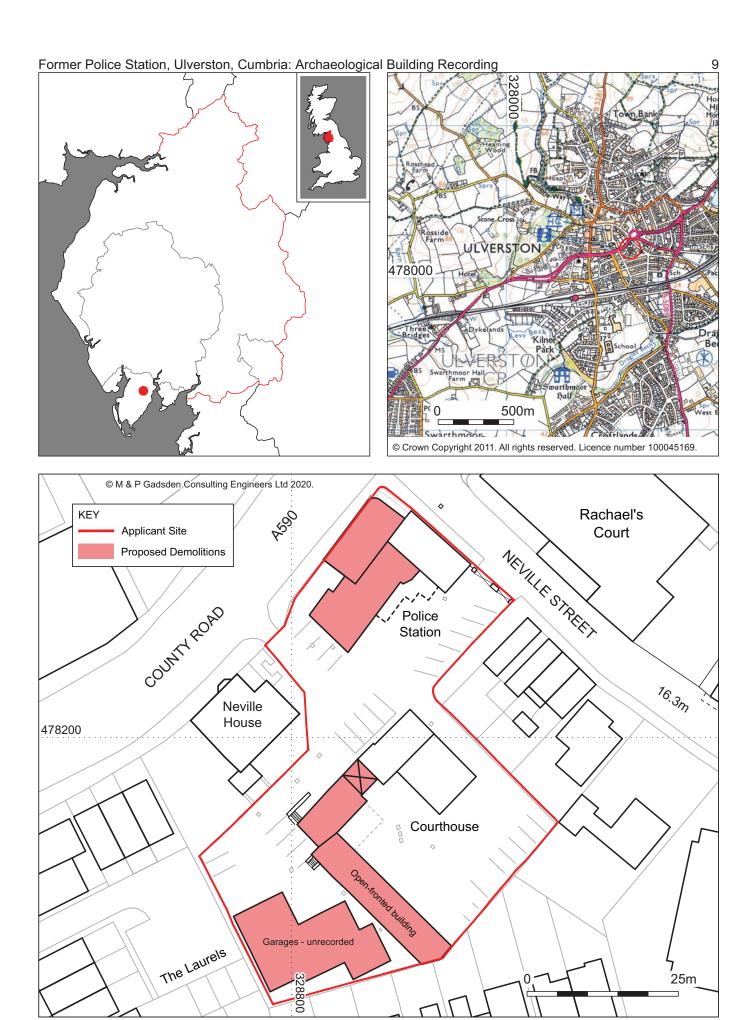
Six phases of development can be identified within the building, most of which can be closely tied to documentary sources including the original plans for the construction of the different elements of the police station. No evidence relating to the structures predating its construction was present, with the exception of the datestone of 1618 with the initials WC, which was undoubtedly originally located within Neville Hall and relates to the Corker or Coward family, both of whom occupied the site at that time. The most significant surviving elements of the building are the external elevations of police station and court house, principally the north-east of the police station and the north-west of the courthouse, both of which will be retained as part of the current proposals. It is also recommended that the datestone of 1618, which is in one of the sections due to be demolished, be retained and presented to an appropriate museum.

## **Acknowledgements**

Greenlane Archaeology would like to thanks M & P Gadsden Consulting Engineers for commissioning the project and for their assistance with it. Further thanks are due to Adam Stanford at Aerial Cam for producing the rectified image of the north-west elevation of the courthouse.

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Circumstances of the Project
- 1.1.1 The circumstances of the project are set out in the tables on the inside cover of this report.
- 1.2 Location, Geology, and Topography
- 1.2.1 The former Police Station is situated on the corner of Neville Street and County Road (the A590), at the south end of the centre of Ulverston to the east of the end of Market Street (Figure 1; Ordnance Survey 2011). It is situated at a height of approximately 16m above sea level (*ibid*).
- 1.2.2 The underlying solid geology comprises Bannisdale slates of the Silurian period (Moseley 1978, plate 1), and this is overlain by glacially derived boulder clay (Countryside Commission 1998, 66). The topography of the site is essentially urban, as it is located on the edge of the centre of the town.



Client: M & P Gadsden Consulting Engineers

Figure 1: Site location

## 2. Methodology

#### 2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The archaeological building recording is intended to provide a suitable record of the structure equivalent to Level 2/3 survey as defined by Historic England (Historic England 2016). The building recording was carried out according to the guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014a; 2014b). A suitable archive has also been compiled to provide a permanent paper record of the project and its results, also in accordance with CIfA guidelines (CIfA 2014c).

#### 2.2 Desk-Based Assessment

- 2.2.1 The earlier heritage assessment was carried out by Greenlane Archaeology (2019) in accordance with the guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014b). This principally comprised an examination of early maps of the site and published secondary sources. A number of sources of information were used during the compilation of the desk-based assessment:
  - Record Office/Archive Centre: the majority of original and secondary sources relating to the site
    are deposited in the relevant Record Office(s) or Archive Centre(s), as specified in the cover
    sheet of this report. Of principal importance are early maps of the site. These were examined in
    order to establish the development of the site, date of any structures present within it, and details
    of land use, in order to set the site in its historical, archaeological, and regional context. In
    addition, any details of the site's owners and occupiers were acquired where available;
  - Online Resources: where available, mapping such as Ordnance Survey maps and tithe maps were consulted online;
  - **Greenlane Archaeology**: Greenlane Archaeology's office library includes maps, local histories, and unpublished primary and secondary sources. These were consulted where relevant, in order to provide information about the history and archaeology of the site and the general area.

## 2.3 Building Recording

- 2.3.1 The building recording was carried out to Historic England Level 2/3 type standards (Historic England 2016), which provides a relatively detailed record of the building. The recording comprised the following elements:
  - **Written record**: descriptive records of all parts of the building were made using Greenlane Archaeology *pro forma* record sheets;
  - Photographs: photographs in colour digital format (as both 12meg jpegs and RAW files) 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 in the project archive;
  - Drawings: 'as existing' architect's drawings were provided by the client. These comprised floor
    plans and elevations of the police station and were plotted at a scale of 1:100 and annotated by
    hand with additional detail. In addition, floorplans were produced of the courthouse by hand at the
    same scale, based on an existing topographic survey. A drawing was also produced of the front
    (north-west) external elevation of the courthouse, which was the most architecturally significant,
    using rectified photography.

#### 2.4 Archive

2.4.1 The archive, comprising the drawn, written, and photographic record of the building, will be deposited with the relevant Record Office or Archive Centre, as detailed on the cover sheet of this report, together with a copy of the report. The archive has been compiled according to the standards and guidelines of the CIfA guidelines (CIfA 2014c). In addition, details will be submitted to the Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological investigationS (OASIS) scheme. This is an internet-based project intended

to improve the flow of information between contractors, local authority heritage managers and the general public. A paper copy of the report will be provided to the client and a digital copy of the report will be provided for the relevant Historic Environment Record, as detailed on the cover sheet of this report.

#### 3. Desk-Based Assessment

#### 3.1 Map Regression

- 3.1.1 *Introduction*: a range of maps and images exist for the site although these only exist from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards. They demonstrate that it had a complex development during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, with several changes being made. While some of the documents are undated or poorly dated their relative age can be estimated in many cases based on known changes to the site.
- 3.1.2 **Wood's Plan, 1832**: this is a plan of the whole town, which includes the site. At that time, it was part of the land associated with Neville Hall the land is labelled 'Towns Property' and 'Neville Hall' is labelled and is largely just outside or on the edge of the west side of the proposed development area (Plate 1), evidently underneath the later superintendent's house (known as Neville House, which still remains on site and is not part of the current proposed development). The site is otherwise largely empty apart from two small buildings at the south end and one at the north end, while the south-west end projects through a boundary into an area of woodland that forms part of the adjoining park belonging to Lightburn House.
- 3.1.3 *Ordnance Survey, 1850*: this is the first useful Ordnance Survey map of the site and it broadly depicts the same information as the earlier map, although Neville Hall is not named. A small enclosure is shown in the area of woodland in the parkland against the boundary (Plate 2).



Plate 1 (left): Extract from Wood's map 1832

Plate 2 (right): Extract from Ordnance Survey map 1850

- 3.1.4 *Ordnance Survey, 1852*: this is a very large-scale map and while it shows essentially the same features as the previous one it has considerably more detail, with internal divisions depicted within Neville Hall, which is named and has the date '1618' recorded (Plate 3).
- 3.1.5 *Undated photograph, late 19<sup>th</sup> century*: a loose undated copy of this photograph is present in the archives (CAC(B) Z2915/2/12 nd) but it is also reproduced in Fell (1899) so it must have been taken before this date. It appears to be of the south-east external elevation and to have been taken prior to any of the changes shown in the subsequent drawings (see *Section 3.3.6* below); the porch is probably what is depicted by the cross-hatched section on the earlier plan.

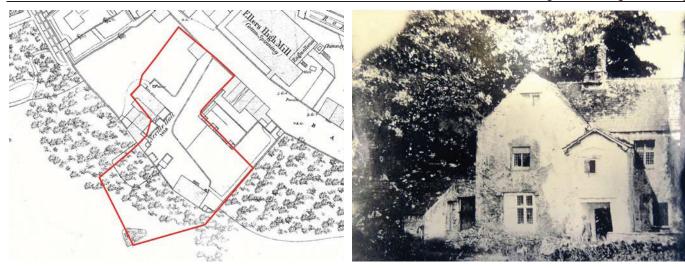


Plate 3 (left): Extract from Ordnance Survey map 1852
Plate 4 (right): Undated photograph of Neville Hall (CAC(B) Z2915/2/12 nd)

3.1.6 *Undated plans, late-19<sup>th</sup> century*: a series of plans and elevations of the site depict a range of alterations and additions that were proposed to the 'Old Workhouse', meaning the former Neville Hall, in order to provide a new Police Station. It is apparent that these initially intended to retain the former Neville Hall and convert it, but that a range of new buildings were also to be added to the north-east against an existing building, labelled 'Blacksmith's shop to be converted into an office', and others were to be constructed to provide stabling to the south (Plate 5 and Plate 6). The drawings also include an elevation of the new 'Superintendents Quarter' (Plate 7) as well as plans of the existing 'Old Workhouse' (the former Neville Hall), although these are mislabelled; the first is clearly the north-east elevation (Plate 8) while the latter is clearly the south-east (Plate 9) and the same as that shown in the earlier photograph (Plate 4).

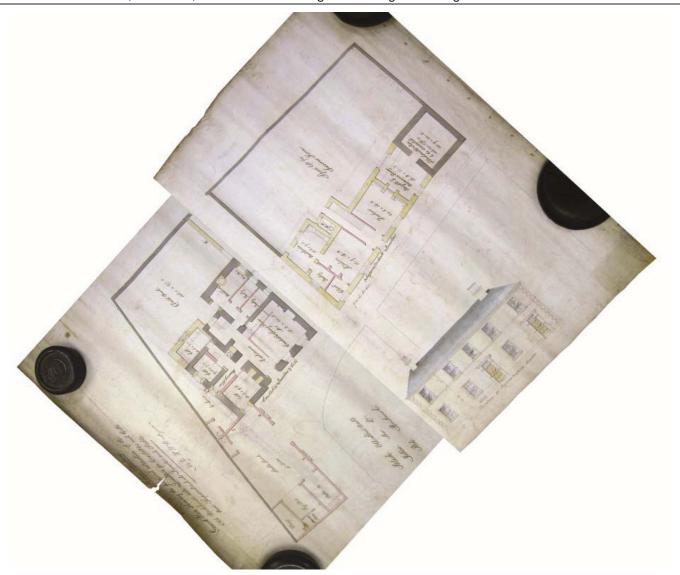


Plate 5: Undated ground floor plans of proposed alterations to 'Old Workhouse' (CAC(B) BDKF Plans/4 nd)

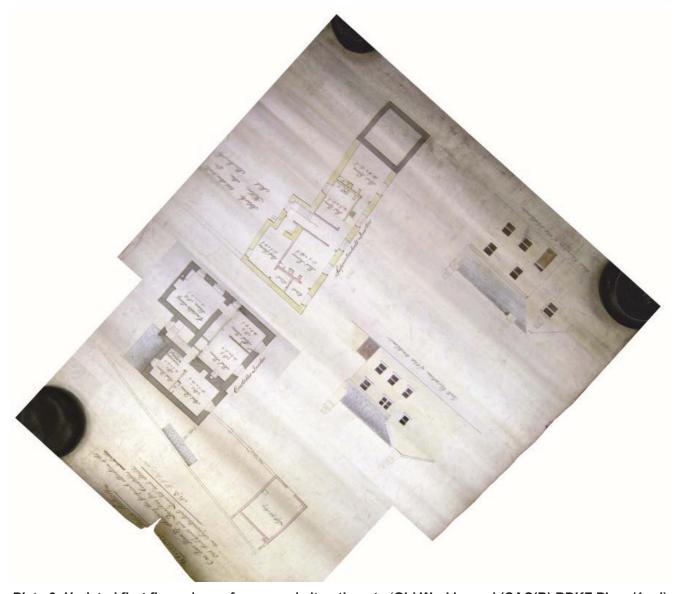


Plate 6: Undated first floor plans of proposed alterations to 'Old Workhouse' (CAC(B) BDKF Plans/4 nd)

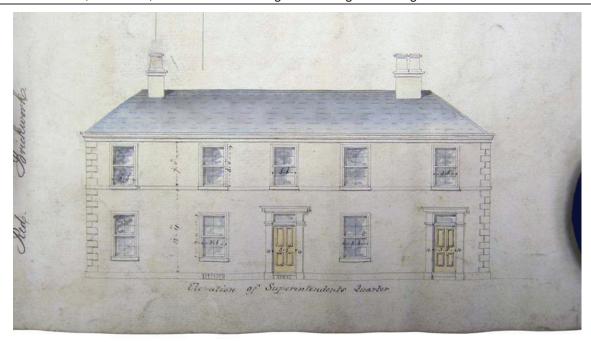


Plate 7: Undated elevation of proposed 'Superintendents Quarter' (CAC(B) BDKF Plans/4, nd)





Plate 8 (left): Undated 'south' elevation of 'Old Workhouse' (CAC(B) BDKF Plans/4 nd)
Plate 9 (right): Undated 'west' elevation of 'Old Workhouse' (CAC(B) BDKF Plans/4 nd)

3.1.7 **Undated block plan**: this plan shows the positions of a proposed block of cells on the north side of the site and a 'Superintendent's Dwelling' to the west (Plate 10). The existing buildings are depicted in blue, some of which were clearly built as part of the previous proposal but which also include a 'Magistrates Court' that been built to the east in the meantime. This plan demonstrates not only that the site developed very gradually but the former Neville Hall/Old Workhouse was replaced by the construction of the new superintendent's house.

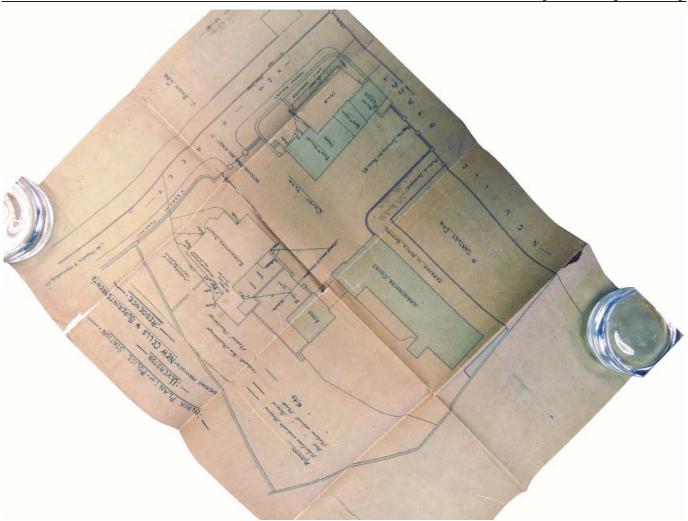


Plate 10 (right): Proposed new cells and superintendent's residence at police station (CAC(B) BSUDU/BIPLANS/1 20<sup>th</sup> century)

3.1.8 **Drawings, 1882-1888**: in order to facilitate the construction of the present police station buildings a new police station was constructed at the north end of the site, evidently in the position previously marked as a blacksmith's shop (parts of which were retained within the new building) and a range of drawings were produced for this (Plate 10 to Plate 15). The drawings were produced by the architect JW Grundy of Ulverston (CAC(B) Z/1086 1882-1888; the collection also includes contractors' specifications for the work), who was responsible for a number of significant public and private buildings in the town and the wider area.

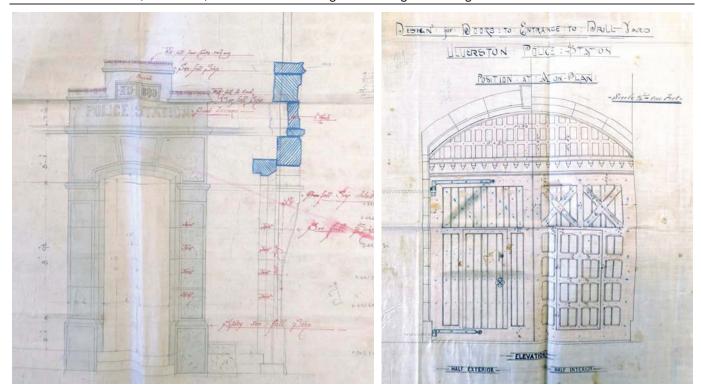


Plate 11 (left): Design for front entrance to office in Police Station with date stone of 1888 (CAC(B) Z/1086 1882-1888)

Plate 12 (right): Design for doors to entrance to drill yard in Police Station (CAC(B) Z/1086 1882-1888)

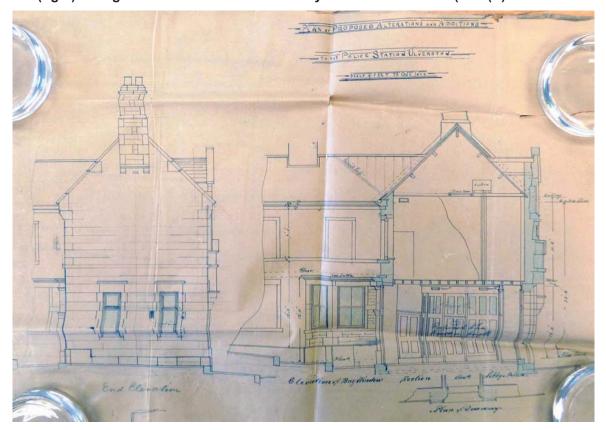


Plate 13: Elevation and section drawings for the new Police Station (CAC(B) Z/1086 1882-1888)

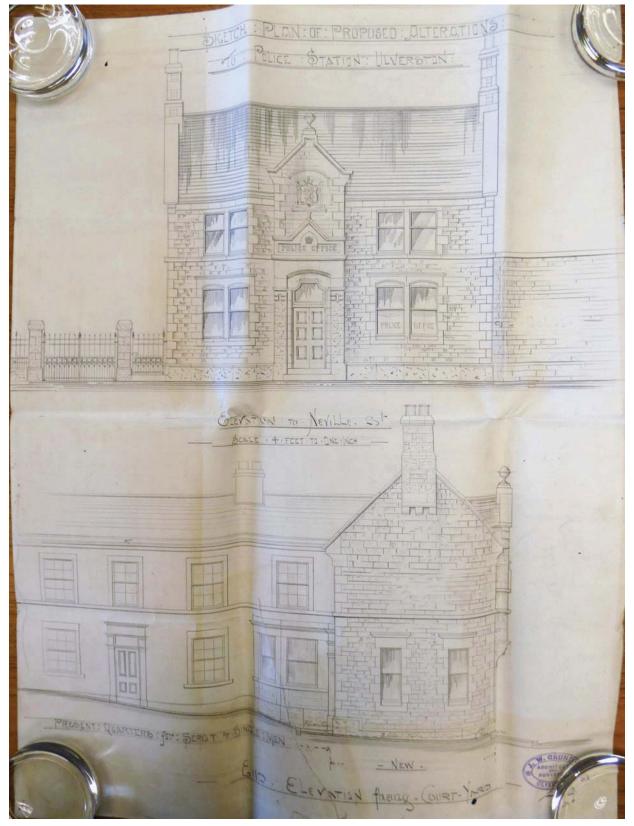


Plate 14: Elevation drawings for the new Police Station (CAC(B) Z/1086 1882-1888)



Plate 15: Plans for the new Police Station (CAC(B) Z/1086 1882-1888)

- 3.1.9 **Ordnance Survey, 1890**: this is another very large-scale map and so it shows considerable detail. By this time the whole site has been redesigned according to the previous plans with the police station evidently extended to the south-east and the 'Superintendent's House' and 'Police Court' clearly labelled (Plate 16).
- 3.1.10 *Ordnance Survey, 1913*: this is a smaller scale map but it clearly shows much of the same information, with the 'Pol[ice] Sta[tion]' and 'Court House' labelled (Plate 17).

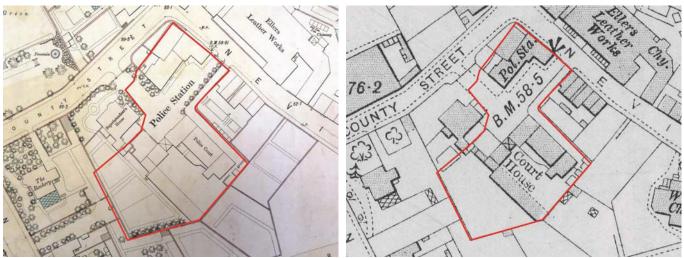


Plate 16 (left): Extract from Ordnance Survey 1890
Plate 17 (right): Extract from Ordnance Survey 1913

3.1.11 *Ordnance Survey, 1933*: this shows essentially the same detail as the previous map (Plate 18).

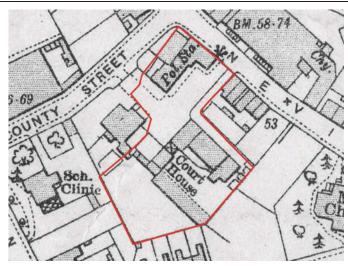


Plate 18: Ordnance Survey 1933

### 3.2 Site History

- 3.2.1 *Origins*: Ulverston has pre-medieval origins but much of the town centre is based on planned burgage plots laid out during the medieval period, and it is from this time that it grew in size and prosperity. One of the most significant sites of medieval date within the town, Neville Hall, is immediately adjacent to the proposed development site. The hall was the focus of a minor manor, which seems to have grown from a grant made by William de Lancaster to Lawrence de Cornwall in the 1280s and passed to Sir Edmund de Neville by 1332 (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 351). It stayed in the family until Sir John de Neville took part in the Northern Rising of 1569 and as a result forfeited his property to the Crown (*op cit*, 352). The hall then seems to have passed through a number of private hands, including members of the Corker and Coward family, one of whom is probably responsible for the date stone of 1618. It is considered possible that Neville Hall originally comprised a piel tower, perhaps of 14<sup>th</sup> century date (Perriam and Robinson 1998, 387), but it is impossible to be certain.
- 3.2.2 The site's subsequent development is connected to the fortunes of Neville Hall. It was possibly used as a non-conformist meeting house for a short time (LRO QSP 1647/8 1751; LRO QDV/4 1751) and became the town's workhouse in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century prior to a purpose built one being constructed in 1838. It was modified during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when it was converted to a police station, and the site was enlarged with the construction of a courthouse and cell block, before Neville Hall itself was demolished to provide a new superintendent's house (see *Section 3.1*). The police station originally included accommodation for both married and unmarried officers and stables for a considerable number of horses (CAC(B) BSCONS/3/3/16 1988).

## 4. Building Recording

### 4.1 Arrangement and Fabric

- 4.1.1 *Introduction*: the building recording examined two buildings; the police station, the front of which faces onto Neville Street, and the what remains of the former courthouse to the south, which extends to include the gatehouse and associated buildings and a long open-fronted shed to the south-west.
- 4.1.2 **Arrangement police station**: this is a squat L-shaped block, the main front facing north-east onto Neville Street and the rear running along the A590 but set back behind a tall boundary wall. It is two stories throughout with a basement below part of the centre.
- 4.1.3 **Arrangement courthouse**: this is essentially L-shaped, the long section running north-east/south-west and pierced by an arched opening into a large courtyard to the rear (south-east) with a tower on the building above this to the north-east. A single-storey originally open-fronted shed extends the footprint of the building to the south-east from the south-west end, along the south-west side of this courtyard. It is located on the south-east side of the site with a forecourt to the north-west leading towards the original front gate onto the A590 and courtyard to the south-east, now parking. The open-fronted shed on the south-west side meets the boundary wall at its south-east end. It is typically two stories tall, with a basement below part of the north-east side and a further small space in the tower effectively at third floor level, although this could not be safely accessed.
- 4.1.4 **Fabric police station**: externally it is a mixture of finishes, with rock-faced limestone in random courses with dressed limestone detailing around the windows and doors in the main front elevations. Concrete roughcast render is also used, particularly to the rear but also elements facing north-west onto the A590, but dressed stone detailing is also used. The roof is relatively modern grey slate with ceramic bonnet ridge tiles, with a moulded stone entablature around the eaves. The section extending to the south-west has a hipped roof. There is a central square chimney on the large block to the rear and the stubs of chimneys on the front section, but no chimney pots now remain.
- 4.1.5 **Fabric courthouse**: externally the front (north-west) face and the north-east end of the north-east elevation of the building is finished with rock-faced dressed limestone in random courses with similarly finished ashlar blocks forming the detailing around the windows and doorways and the quoins. The rear (south-east) is mostly finished with roughcast concrete render although details are still picked out in dressed limestone. The roof is finished with graduated grey slate with stone copings, kneelers and corbels supporting iron rainwater goods and stone ridge tiles. There is the sub of a chimney at the south-west end. The tower is topped with pierced decorative ironwork. Internally the finish is typically very modern, although some original lime plaster and painted masonry and brickwork has survived; the timber is predominantly machine cut.

#### 4.2 External Detail

4.2.1 North-west external elevation – police station: this is mostly obscured by the outer boundary, which is plain and finished with rough cast render although at the north-east end it comes to the gable of the police station proper (Plate 19), which is relatively plain, rock-faced stonework, with a projecting chimney at the top supported by corbels as per that to the south-east. Part of the lower section, adjoining the boundary wall, is a much rougher build; perhaps part of an earlier building (Plate 20). Behind the boundary wall the elevation proper has two windows on the north-east side of the first floor with painted thin render band surrounds, a stone lintel to the north-east and bars over the south-west. Both have eight-light sash casements. There is a slight return in the south-west with a similar window with a four-light sash casement and then another slight return to a gable, which is plain apart from a small window on the south-west side with thin painted band surrounds and an eight-light sash casement. The ground floor has return to the north-west at the north-east end, with a former doorway blocked with concrete blocks and another doorway with a modern door and with a single window and a further small window to the north-west with a two-light sash casement (Plate 21). The main elevation to the south-west has two doorways on the ground floor, both with plank and batten doors, the south-west with a modern timber and wire cage around it (Plate 22). To the south-west is a further tall window with a four light over one

light sash casement with no horns and a painted render band around and stone sill (Plate 23). There is a further small window to the south-west with a two-light hinged casement and thin stone sill, which is positioned within a former doorway that has mostly been blocked up. The south-west end is continued by the boundary wall returning to the north-west, which has a doorway with a plank and batten door (Plate 24).



Plate 19 (left): The north-west external elevation of the police station, viewed from the north-west Plate 20 (right): The north-east end of the north-west external elevation, viewed from the north-west





Plate 21 (left): The return to the north-west at the north-east end of the north-west elevation of the police station, viewed from the south-west

Plate 22 (right): The ground floor doorways in the north-west external elevation of the police station, viewed from the north-west



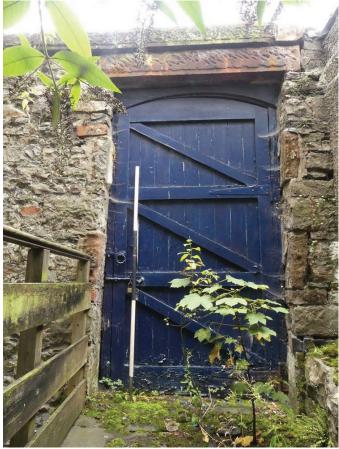


Plate 23 (left): Ground floor windows on the south-west side of the north-west external elevation of the police station, viewed from the north

Plate 24 (right): The doorway in the boundary wall to the south-west of the north-west external elevation, viewed from north-east

4.2.2 **North-east external elevation – police station**: this is the front of the building and is entirely finished in rock-faced ashlar limestone blocks in random courses with dressed limestone detailing (Plate 25) and extended on the south-east end by the gateway (Plate 26). There are two pairs of windows on the ground floor both with modern timber three-light casements and rock-faced ashlar surrounds with blind arched lintels and hood moulds. Between these is a central doorway with a projecting surround, the jambs forming curving brackets to support the decorative dormer above (Plate 27). The doorway has a flat voussoir arch and a double six-panel door with two overlights. At the north-west side, below the window, there is a cast iron measures plaque attached to the wall inside a simple chamfered niche. It is 'STANDARD MEASURES AT 62 FARENHEIT VERIFIED BY THE STANDARDS DEPARTMENT BOARD OF TRADE 1878' with marks for 'ONE FOOT', 'TWO FEET' and 'IMPERIAL YARD', as well as a maker's mark 'DIGRAVE SHORT & Co LONDON 1879' (Plate 28). A chamfered string course denotes the first floor and forms the sill of another pair of doubled windows, again with modern three-light timber casements and rock-faced ashlar quoined jambs and square lintels. Between these is a decorative projecting dormer with a recessed niche with a pointed arch housing a coat of arms comprising three lions carved in relief and below it the words 'POLICE STATION' and the date 'AD 1888' are also carved. The top of the dormer comes to a gable with a ball finial on a small pedestal. There are the remains of a chimney at either end of the roof line above the coping.





Plate 25 (left): The north-east external elevation of the police station, viewed from the north-east

Plate 26 (right): The gate to the south-east of the north-east external elevation of the police station, viewed from the north





Plate 27 (left): The doorway and projecting decorative dormer above in the centre of the north-east external elevation of the police station, viewed from the north-east

Plate 28 (right): The measures plaque on the north-west side of the north-east external elevation of the police station, viewed from the north-east

4.2.3 **South-west external elevation – police station**: this is a plain end gable finished with roughcast render (Plate 29), extended on the north-west side by a boundary wall constructed from limestone blocks topped with rusticated sandstone blocks and with a doorway with a shallow arched top also in sandstone and a plank and batten door (Plate 30). There are two ground floor windows, the north-west perhaps inserted or modified as the render has evidently been changed around the jambs. It has a modern two-light casement and timber sill. The south-east has a thin render band around it and a six-light sash casement without horns and a dressed stone sill. There are otherwise several vents across the elevation and scars for others and the south-east end is finished with rock-faced ashlar quoins.





Plate 29 (left): The south-west external elevation of the police station, viewed from the south-west

Plate 30 (right): The boundary wall extending from the north-west side of the south-west external elevation

of the police station, viewed from the south-west

4.2.4 **South-east external elevation – police station**: the main part of this is finished with roughcast but with dressed limestone detailing around the windows and doorways (Plate 31). The ground floor has three windows with eight-light sash casements and there is a doorway north-east of the centre with a dressed square surround and moulded details, moulded entablature, brass doorbell fitting and singlelight over light (Plate 32). There is a canted porch at the north-east end finished with rock-faced limestone incorporating a doorway with a dressed stone surround and window with a similar surround and four-light sash casement (Plate 37). The scar of a later outshut is evident around this and extending across much of the elevation. The first floor has a row of five windows, none of which have surviving casements. The wall returns at the north-east end where it forms part of the front section and is also finished with rock-faced limestone with slate levelling (Plate 34). There is a doorway on the ground floor with a stone surround with moulded details as per that to the south-west including a tall entablature, which is partly covered by the scar of the later outshut. There is a small window to the south-east with a square surround and two-light hinged casement. The return to the south-east elevation proper is a relatively plain gable, with a first-floor window with rock-faced ashlar quoins, an angled entablature and two-light casement (Plate 35). The top of the chimney projects from the wall and is supported on three angled corbels. To the south-east are three original gate posts, all constructed from rock-faced ashlar blocks with pyramid tops and iron finials, perhaps the remains of gas lamps (Plate 36). The original iron gates are still hung between them.





Plate 31 (left): The south-west and central section of the south-east external elevation of the police station, viewed from the south-east

Plate 32 (right): Door detail in the south-east external elevation of the police station, viewed from the south-east





Plate 33 (left): The canted porch on the south-east external elevation of the police station, viewed from the south

Plate 34 (right): The return to the south-east of the south-east external elevation of the police station, viewed from the south-west





Plate 35 (left): The north-east end of the south-east external elevation of the police station, viewed from the south-east

Plate 36 (right): The gate extending from the south-east external elevation of the police station, viewed from the south-west

4.2.5 **North-west external elevation – courthouse**: the north-east side has two ground floor windows each divided into two two-light casements with rounded arches (Plate 37). Above is a large three-part lancet-style window again with rounded arches divided by a chamfered mullion and housing two-light casements below a dormer gable. Its sill is supported on four angular corbels with a chamfered string course. There is a projecting plinth at the base of elevation. The wall projects slightly where it forms the tower and there is a single window with a canted arch and two-light casement on the ground floor, another tall lancet-style window above with two two-light casements and rounded arches, and above three small windows with single-light casements and pointed arches. The section above the gateway through the building has mostly collapsed revealing the rubble core but originally had at least one window. The arch itself was dressed limestone. The south-west end has two ground floor doorways, one with a pedestrian door with a rounded stone arch and three lights over and a beaded plank and batten door (Plate 38). The other is a wagon door with a stone arch and double plank and batten doors on long strap hinges. The elevation is continued at the south-west end by a monopitch outshut finished with roughcast render. There is a doorway in this elevation, the north-east jamb of which comprises projecting quoins continuing from those above while the lintel is concrete and it has a plank and batten door with a large metal vent inserted into it.





Plate 37 (left): The north-east side of the north-west external elevation of the courthouse, viewed from the north-west

Plate 38 (right): The south-west side of the north-west external elevation of the courthouse, viewed from the north-west

4.2.6 **North-east external elevation – courthouse**: the majority of this is finished a per the north-west elevation (Plate 39), although the first-floor part of the south-east end is roughcast render above the plain string band. There is a row of six ground floor windows all with rock-faced ashlar limestone quoins and dressed sills and lintels; the south-eastern and the north-western have different, angled, sills and the jambs extend to the ground indicating that they were originally doorways (Plate 40). All have hinged three or six-light casements, except the north-west, which is a four-light sash. The first floor has two windows in the centre, again with dressed quoins and sills and four-light sash casements. At the north-west end the first floor has a pair of projecting lancet-style windows with chamfered mullions and jambs and rounded heads, the sill supported on five angled corbels. Above these windows is a dormer gable with stone coping and a metal finial (Plate 41).





Plate 39 (left): General view of the north-east external elevation of the courthouse, from the north

Plate 40 (right): The south-east end of the north-east external elevation of the courthouse, viewed from the

east



Plate 41: The north-west end of the north-east external elevation of the courthouse, viewed from the north-east

4.2.7 **South-west external elevation – courthouse**: this comprises a plain gable, the lower part of which is obscured by the monopitch extension (Plate 42). This has a small opening, probably originally a window, now mostly filled with a modern vent. The gable above is finished with roughcast render and has two iron tie rods running across it to plates at either end. There is the stub of a former chimney on top and kneelers either side. The tower projects above this. The elevation is extended to the south-east

by the long low wall of the open-fronted building, which is plain rough stone build, with a doorway on the north-west side with a rough stone lintel and plank and batten door (Plate 43).





Plate 42 (left): The south-west external elevation of the courthouse, viewed from the south-west

Plate 43 (right): The open-fronted building extending from the south-west end of the courthouse, viewed from the south-west

4.2.8 South-east external elevation - courthouse: this is finished with roughcast but with dressed limestone used for details such as the quoins and door and window surrounds. The south-west end has two ground floor windows with thin stone sills and two-light hinged casements (Plate 44). A scar for a corrugated metal roof runs above these and there are angled corbels below the eaves. The wall returns to the north-east at the gate way, which has a modern metal gate below the chamfered limestone arch with keystone (Plate 45). There is a single window above with quoined jambs and a two-light casement and more angled corbels below the eaves. The wall returns again at the tower where there are more quoins, before a large return to the south-east (Plate 45). This has a pair of ground floor windows on the north-west side both with quoined jambs and dressed sills and lintels. The north-west has four-light sliding sash casement while the south-east has a modern three-light casement with bars over. There are two modern vents at ground floor level and two earlier iron vents in the plinth, which doesn't continue to the south-east end, perhaps indicating the location of a doorway (Plate 46). There is a string band at first floor level and four modern vents above. The return at the south-east end into the south-east elevation proper has a ground floor doorway with a quoined surround and a modern single panel door (Plate 47). There is a window above the string band, comprising two parts each with quoined surrounds and a fourlight sash casement, although that to the south-west has been removed. The wall comes to a gable above with ashlar coping and kneelers.





Plate 44 (left): The south-west side of the south-east external elevation of the courthouse, viewed from the south-east

Plate 45 (right): The tower and return to the south-east of the south-east external elevation of the courthouse, viewed from the south





Plate 46 (left): The gap in the plinth in the return of the south-east external elevation of the courthouse, viewed from the south-west

Plate 47 (right): The north-east side of the south-east external elevation of the courthouse, viewed from the south-east

4.2.9 **Open-fronted building to south-east of courthouse**: the external elevation to the south-west is described in *Section 4.2.7* above. The north-east side comprises a row of large openings (Plate 48 and Plate 49) divided by timber or concrete block walls, with the roof, which comprises simple tie beam

trusses and purlins all finished with stop-chamfer decoration (Plate 50), supported on iron columns (Plate 51) and incorporating timber plank infill with plank and batten doors at the north-west end (Plate 52) and modern metal tilting and roller garage doors. Internally all the rooms are relatively plain, the south-east incorporating the boundary wall to the south-west and south-east, while the north-west room houses modern heating plant and has a blocked window in the north-west elevation and the plank and batten door to the south-west has stop chamfered crossed battens (Plate 53).





Plate 48 (left): The south-east end of the north-east elevation of the open-fronted building extending to the south-east of the courthouse, viewed from the north-east

Plate 49 (right): The north-west end of the north-east elevation of the open-fronted building extending to the south-east of the courthouse, viewed from the north-east





Plate 50 (left): Example of a truss in the centre of the open-fronted building extending from the south-east side of the courthouse, viewed from the south-east

Plate 51 (right): Example of an iron column at the south-east end of the open-fronted building extending from the south-east side of the courthouse, viewed from the south





Plate 52 (left): Plank walling at the north-west end of the open-fronted building extending from the southeast side of the courthouse, viewed from the south-west

Plate 53 (right): Plank and batten door with crossed braces at the north-west end of the open-fronted building extending from the south-east side of the courthouse, viewed from the north-east

34	Former Police Station, Ulverston, Cumbria: Archaeological Building Recording
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	Client: M & P Gadsden Consulting Engineers
	© Greenlane Archaeology I td. October 2021

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Figure 3: South-west external elevation of the Police Station

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Figure 4: South-east external elevation of the Police Station

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Figure 6: Ground floor and basement plan of the Police Station

Figure 7: First floor plan of the Police Station

© D2R Survey Ltd, 2019

Key: blocked feature --- overhead feature F1 room number

cross-sectional timber  $\rightarrow$  step up (in direction of arrow)



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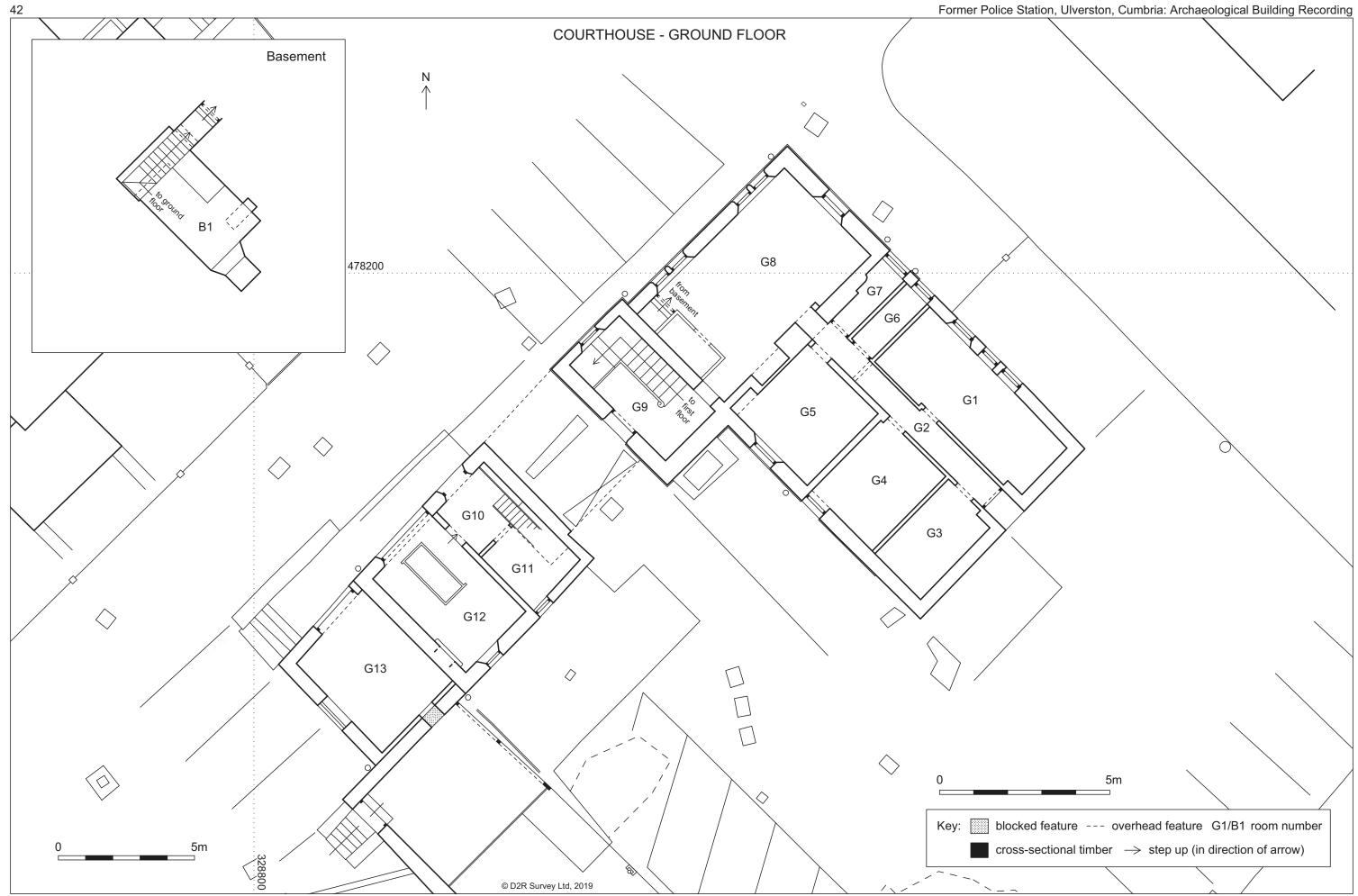


Figure 9: Ground floor and basement plan of the Courthouse



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Figure 10: Ground floor plan of the open-fronted building



Figure 11: First floor plan of the Courthouse

## 4.3 Internal Detail

4.3.1 **Basement Room 1 – police station**: this has a concrete floor and plasterboard ceiling with steps in the north corner constructed from stone flags on bricks with a plain iron handrail (Plate 54). The walls are painted masonry. There is a window in the south-east elevation that is blocked with concrete blocks (Plate 55) and a doorway in the south-west elevation with a timber lintel and beaded board wall filling the space to the north-west.





Plate 54 (left): The stairs on the north-west side of Room B1 of the police station, viewed from the south-

Plate 55 (right): The blocked window in the south-east elevation in Room B1 of the police station, viewed from the north-west

4.3.2 **Basement Room 2 – police station**: this has a concrete floor and lath and plaster ceiling; the walls are painted masonry and there are modern boilers etc filling much of the south-east half of the room. The north-west elevation is plain, the north-east has a doorway with tongue and groove timber panels filling the space to the north-west. The south-east elevation has a wide window with splayed jambs, mostly blocked in and housing vents from the boilers (Plate 56). The south-west elevation has a central chimney breast with alcoves to either side and a central metal vent with a cover marked 'DRAUGHT STABLIZER', 'IVO', and 'IVO ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION CO LTD LONDON W12' (Plate 57).





Plate 56 (left): The south-east elevation in Room B2 of the police station, viewed from the north-west Plate 57 (right): The vent in the south-west elevation in Room B2 of the police station, viewed from the north-east

4.3.3 **Ground floor Room 1 – police station:** the floor has been removed leaving a layer of rubble and the lath and plaster ceiling has been removed exposing the joists and few remaining floorboards of the room above, all of which are machine sawn. The lower parts of the walls have been stripped of their plaster exposing the stone rubble build, although it is brick on the north-west side. It is otherwise the original plaster, finished with flock wallpaper and there are the remains of a moulded cornice (Plate 58), except in the south corner where it has been removed due to some remodelling. There are two doorways in the north-west elevation, the south-west side of which is of concrete block construction (Plate 59). The north-east elevation has a wide window with square jambs extending to the floor, moulded panelling below, and a moulded surround (Plate 60). The south-east elevation has a pair of tall windows, in the same style, with moulded panelling below and the remains of a moulded surround, either side of a chimney breast, the fireplace of which is blocked with brick, and which has a brick arch (Plate 61). The south-west elevation has a narrow window on the south-east side with some tongue and groove planks in the jambs and square jambs extending to the floor. There is a doorway to the north-west extending to the ceiling with dressed stone jambs.





Plate 58 (left): The cornice in Room G1 of the police station, viewed from the west

Plate 59 (right): The north-west elevation of Room G1 of the police station, viewed from the south-east





Plate 60 (left): The north-east elevation of Room G1 of the police station, viewed from the south-west Plate 61 (right): The south-east elevation of the police station, viewed from the north-west

- 4.3.4 **Ground floor Room 2 police station:** this comprises a short corridor running north-west/south-east. It had a suspended ceiling, which has been removed, revealing the original lath and plaster ceiling above. The floor has been removed to rubble and the walls are finished with modern plaster and paint. There is a doorway to the north-east and the walls are otherwise concrete block, apart from the south-west.
- 4.3.5 **Ground floor Room 3 police station:** this comprises a short corridor connecting to the front door to the north-east. The floor has been removed to rubble and a suspended ceiling has been removed revealing the original plaster ceiling above which has a moulded cornice (Plate 58). The walls are brick but partly rebuilt in concrete block. There are wide openings to the north-west and south-east and an inner doorway at the north-east end with a moulded surround and two-light overlight. Inside the resulting porch is a moulded dado rail on the north-west and south-east elevations. The main external door to the north-east has a double door, with three plain panels in each and two lights over (Plate 59).





Plate 62 (left): The ceiling in Room G3 of the police station, viewed from the north-east

Plate 63 (right): The door at the north-east end of Room G3 of the police station, viewed from the southwest

4.3.6 **Ground floor Room 4 – police station:** this has a rubble floor and the lath and plaster ceiling has been removed exposing the joists and some remaining floorboards of the room above, all of which are machine cut. There is a single beam on the south-west side of the room, orientated north-west/south-east and a shallow cornice remains throughout. The walls are finished with plaster and paint. The north-west elevation has an alcove on the south-west side and a projecting chimney breast in the centre, the fireplace blocked with brick. The north-east elevation has a wide double window with shallow jambs, a moulded surround and panelling below. The south-east and south-west elevations are fairly plain with a wide opening in the south-west and a step in the south-east where Room G3 extends.





Plate 64 (left): The north-west elevation in Room G4 of the police station, viewed from the south-east Plate 65 (right): The north-east elevation in Room G4 of the police station, viewed from the south-west

4.3.7 **Ground floor Room 5 – police station:** this has a vinyl floor and suspended polystyrene ceiling with a relatively modern plaster ceiling above. The walls are finished with modern plaster and paint. There is a doorway to the north-west in a tall recess, slightly splayed on the south-west side (Plate 66). The north-east elevation is plain. The south-east elevation is angled on the north-east side and has a window with a moulded surround (Plate 67), timber sill and four-light sash casement. There is a doorway to the south-west. The south-west elevation has two tall alcoves either side of a chimney breast with a vent in the flue (Plate 66).





Plate 66 (left): General view of Room G5 of the police station, from the east Plate 67 (right): General view of Room G5 of the police station, from the north-west

4.3.8 **Ground floor Room 6 – police station:** this has a tongue and grove floor covered modern timber sheeting. It has an original plaster ceiling with a deep cavetto cornice (Plate 68). The walls are the original plaster finished with flock wallpaper; a tall skirting board has been removed. The north-west elevation is plain, the north-east elevation has a pair of alcoves either side of a chimney breast, which has a vent inserted into it (Plate 69). The south-east elevation has a single window with splayed jambs and panelling removed apart from over the lintel and a four-light sash casement (Plate 70). The south-west elevation has a doorway on the south-east side.





Plate 68 (left): The cornice in Room G6 of the police station, viewed from the east Plate 69 (right): General view of Room G6 of the police station, from the east



Plate 70: General view of Room G6 of the police station, from the north

4.3.9 **Ground floor Room 7 – police station:** this comprises a corridor linking a row of cells along the north-west side to the main building to the south-east. It has a painted concrete floor and concrete roof with two skylights each with 45 block lights (the south-west is partly obscured by later boxing) (Plate 71). There is also boxing along the north-west side. The walls are finished with modern paint over plaster or directly onto the brick. There is a row of four doorways on the north-west side all with bullnosed brick surrounds and heavy metal cell doors with port hole windows and serving hatches, which are now lying on the floor (Plate 72). There is also a doorway in the south-east elevation, again with bullnosed jambs and there is a blocked doorway to the north-east of this with a stone lintel. There is a doorway in the south-west elevation with a modern timber surround.





Plate 71 (left): Skylight in Room G7 of the police station, viewed from the south-west Plate 72 (right): General view of Room G7 of the police station, viewed from the north-east

4.3.10 *Ground floor Room 8-11 – police station:* these comprise the four essentially identical former police cells arranged along the north-west side of Room G7. Each has a painted concrete or asphalt floor and a concrete roof with a single skylight comprising 45 block lights. The walls are painted brick and there is or was a bed on the south-west side constructed from concrete blocks with a timber top. The south-east elevation has a single doorway with bullnosed brick jambs. Room G8 has a curved north-west wall (Plate 73). Room G9 has substantial graffiti panels on all walls tagged 'MAK ONE', 'REFUSE & RESIST', 'HARM', 'GRUMPY', 'RIOT', 'LASM', 'WEB' and 'FAS' (Plate 74). Room G10 has the remains of a stud wall partitioning off part of the north-west end of the room and metal boxing along the north-east elevation (Plate 74). There is also some more graffiti in this room but no bed. Room G11 has a small square alcove with splayed jambs over the doorway to the south-west (Plate 76).





Plate 73 (left): General view of Room G8 in the police station, from the south Plate 74 (right): General view of Room G9 in the police station, from the north-west





Plate 75 (left): The partition wall in Room G10 of the police station, viewed from the south-east Plate 76 (right): General view of Room G11 of the police station, from the north-west

- 4.3.11 *Ground floor Room 12 police station*: this has a carpeted floor over concrete and a concrete ceiling with a skylight of 25 block lights. The walls are painted plaster and brick and plain, except for a doorway to the north-east (Plate 77).
- 4.3.12 **Ground floor Room 13 police station**: this has a painted concrete floor and modern plaster ceiling. It is sub-divided by a concrete block wall with a single doorway with a plain single panel door. The walls are painted brick and all plain, apart from the south-west, which has a doorway modern door with a single light and a window with a two-light sash casement in a plain surround (Plate 78). There is a Belfast-style sink and a toilet attached to the north-west elevation.





Plate 77 (left): General view of Room G12 of the police station, from the west
Plate 78 (right): The south-west elevation of Room G13 of the police station, viewed from the north-east

4.3.13 *Ground floor Room 14 – police station*: this comprises a hallway and the staircase connecting to the first floor. The floor is carpeted, the ceiling flat plaster and the walls finished with original plaster and flock wallpaper. The north-east and south-west walls are brick. The stairs are a simple slight with square section balusters and a wide moulded handrail with square stop-chamfered newel posts (Plate 79) and panelling over the south-west side (Plate 80). The north-east and south-west elevations both have doorways, the north-west elevation has an external doorway with a tongue and groove plank and batten door (Plate 81). There is another doorway to the south-east with the remains of a moulded surround, panelling and a single overlight (Plate 82).





Plate 79 (left): The stairs in Room G14 of the police station, viewed from the south-east

Plate 80 (right): The panelling on the side of the stairs in Room G14 of the police station, viewed from the south





Plate 81 (left): Doorway to the north-west in Room G14 of the police station, viewed from the south-east Plate 82 (right): Doorway to the south-east in Room G14 of the police station, viewed from the north-west

4.3.14 *Ground floor Room 15 – police station*: this comprises an L-shaped corridor. The floor is finished with carpet, the ceiling is modern plaster, and the walls are finished with plaster and paint. There are doorways to the north-east, north-west and south-west and a chimney breast on the south-west side of the north-west return. There is a window to the south-east with splayed jambs extending to the floor, panelling in the top, the remains of a moulded surround and a four-light sash casement.





Plate 83 (left): General view of Room G15 of the police station, from the north-east

Plate 84 (right): The chimney breast on the south-west side of Room G15 of the police station, viewed from

- 4.3.15 **Ground floor Room 16 police station**: this has a vinyl floor and flat plaster ceiling. It is otherwise totally plain and modernised with pipes and ducting throughout and a doorway to the southeast.
- 4.3.16 **Ground floor Room 17 police station**: this has a vinyl floor and lath and plaster ceiling with a single plastered beam north-east/south-west on the north-west side (Plate 85). The walls are finished with plaster and all plain, although the north-east is brick and has a single doorway and the south-east has a window with splayed jambs, a timber moulding and an eight-light sash casement (Plate 86).





Plate 85 (left): The beam on the north-west side of Room G17 of the police station, viewed from the southeast

Plate 86 (right): The window in the south-east elevation of Room G17 of the police station, viewed from the north-west

4.3.17 **Ground floor Room 18 – police station**: this has a vinyl floor and fittings for a toilet. The ceiling is flat plaster, and all the walls are modern plaster finish. There is a window to the south-west with splayed jambs and a six-light sash casement and a doorway to the north-east.

4.3.18 **Ground floor Room 19 – police station**: this also has a vinyl floor, flat plaster ceiling and plaster and paint finish to the walls. It is subdivided by a thin wall (Plate 88) and there is a plain skirting throughout. There are a pair of windows to the north-west, the south-west of which is small and has square jambs, the north-east is larger and has splayed jambs and a tiled sill (Plate 87). There is another window in the south-west elevation with square jambs (Plate 88) and a doorway to the south-east.





Plate 87 (left): Windows in the north-west elevation of Room G19 of the police station, viewed from the east Plate 88 (right): The dividing wall and window to the south-west in Room G19 of the police station, viewed from the north-east

4.3.19 *First floor Room 1 – police station*: this has a tongue and groove board floor, mostly removed, and a lath and plaster ceiling, also mostly removed, revealing the machine sawn joists above and roof space. This is boarded out with tongue and groove boards over the rafters and two plain purlins per pitch plus the ridge plank (Plate 89). The walls are all stripped of plaster and of stone rubble construction, except the north-west, which is brick. This has a doorway on the south-west side (Plate 90). The north-east elevation has a two-part window each part of three lights, with splayed jambs extending to the floor and a timber lintel (Plate 91). The south-east elevation has a narrow, blocked aperture, presumably a flue for a stove, blocked with brick (Plate 92). There is also brick and reused dressed stone in the wall above this. The south-west elevation is plain.





Plate 89 (left): The roof space in Room F1 of the police station, viewed from the north-west Plate 90 (right): The north-west elevation of Room F1 of the police station, viewed from the south-east





Plate 91 (left): The north-east elevation of Room F1 of the police station, viewed from the west Plate 92 (right): The south-east elevation of Room F1 of the police station, viewed from the north-west

4.3.20 *First floor Room 2 – police station*: this has a board floor and a plain plaster ceiling and walls, all of which are essentially plain (Plate 93). The north-west and south-east are brick, laid in stretcher bond, and the south-west is an early timber stud partition finished with tongue and groove planks. There is a doorway to the south-west with a plain surround above which is a large, glazed section with etched glass that has been painted over (Plate 94).





Plate 93 (left): General view of Room F2 of the police station, from the south-west Plate 94 (right): The south-west elevation of Room F2 of the police station, viewed from the north-east

4.3.21 *First floor Room 3 – police station*: this has a board floor, which has been mostly removed, and the original plaster ceiling to which chicken wire and battens has been attached. The walls have been stripped of plaster and are of stone construction to the north-west and north-east and brick to the south-east and south-west, laid in stretcher bond. The north-west elevation has a chimney breast south-west of the centre, the fireplace blocked with brick (Plate 95). There is more brick incorporated into the wall to the north-east and a tall recess built into the wall housing pipes. The north-east elevation has a large window with a timber lintel and splayed jambs (Plate 96). The south-east and south-west walls are essentially plain with some stud walling in the south corner forming the corridor (Room F4).

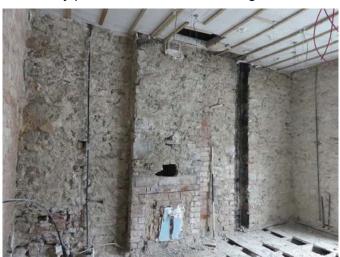




Plate 95 (left): The north-west elevation of Room F3 of the police station, viewed from the south Plate 96 (right): The north-east elevation of Room F3 of the police station, viewed from the south-west

4.3.22 *First floor Room 4 – police station*: this comprises a small corridor connecting the rooms on this side of the building. It has a timber board floor and plaster ceiling, and the plaster has been removed from the walls. There is a stud wall on the north-east side and a doorway to the north-east with a plain surround set in an original timber stud wall and with a large overlight. There are also doorways to the north-west and south-east and a window to the south-west with a stone surround and a doorway to the north-west of this with a single step up.

4.3.23 *First floor Room 5 – police station*: this comprises a long corridor orientated north-east/south-west running along the south-east side of the south-west wing of the building (Plate 97). It turns to the north-west at its south-west end and meets the top of the stairs. The floor is finished with vinyl, and it has a flat plaster ceiling and the original plaster finishing the walls with flock wallpaper. The north-west side is a lath and plaster stud wall with two doorways. There are also doorways at the north-east and south-west ends. The south-east elevation has three windows each with splayed jambs and stone surrounds. The staircase is as per the ground floor, with three chamfered square-section newel posts with pyramid tops and a moulded handrail and thin square section balusters (Plate 98). There is a further window to the north-west of the stairs with splayed jambs extending to the floor and a four-light sash casement.





Plate 97 (left): General view of Room F5, from the north-east Plate 98 (right): The stairs in Room F5, viewed from the south-east

4.3.24 *First floor Room 6 – police station*: this has a vinyl or linoleum floor covering and lath and plaster ceiling with a boxed beam orientated north-west/south-east. The walls are plain plaster and mostly timber stud partitions, with doorways to the north-west and south-east. The south-west elevation has an alcove on the south-east side against a chimney breast which still retains an original iron fire surround, although it is missing its mantel piece (Plate 99).





Plate 99 (left): The south-west elevation in Room F6 of the police station, viewed from the north-east Plate 100 (right): Window in the north-west elevation of Room F7 of the police station, viewed from the south-east

4.3.25 *First floor Room 7 – police station*: the floor is obscured by plaster rubble, and it has a lath and plaster ceiling with a single beam orientated north-west/south-east continuing from Room F6. The walls are finished with the original plaster. The south-west elevation is a stud wall with a doorway and there is a window in the north-west elevation with splayed jambs and an eight-light sash casement (Plate 100).

4.3.26 *First floor Room 8 – police station*: the floor is finished with vinyl or linoleum and it has a lath and plaster ceiling. The walls are original plaster with a tall skirting board. There is a window on the north-east side of the north-west elevation with splayed jambs and an eight-light casement (Plate 101). There is a large alcove on the north-west side of the north-east elevation against a fireplace, which is blocked and incorporates a single vent (Plate 101). The south-east elevation is a lath and plaster stud partition with a doorway on the south-west side.





Plate 101 (left): General view of Room F8 of the police station, from the south Plate 102 (right: The south-west elevation of Room F9, viewed from the north-east

- 4.3.27 *First floor Room 9 police station*: the floor is finished with vinyl or linoleum, and it has a flat plaster ceiling finished with flock wallpaper. The walls are original plaster, also finished with flock wallpaper. The north-west and north-east elevations are plain, the north-east is a stud wall with a doorway on the south-east side. The south-east elevation has a window with splayed jambs and a machine-sawn timber lintel. The south-west elevation has a doorway on the south-east side and a chimney breast in the centre with the fireplace partially blocked to form a smaller hearth with a plain iron insert (Plate 102). There is a large alcove to the north-west.
- 4.3.28 *First floor Room 10 police station*: this has a plywood floor covering over the original boards and a lath and plaster ceiling. The walls are finished with the original plaster with a moulded skirting board. The north-west and south-west elevations are plain. The north-east elevation is brick with a doorway on the south-east side. There is a window in the south-east elevation with splayed jambs, machine cut timber lintel, and stone surrounds.
- 4.3.29 *First floor Room 11 police station*: this has a board floor and plaster ceiling, with a hatch to the roof space. The walls are finished with plaster and a moulded skirting board and are all plain, apart from a doorway in the north-east, which is also brick.
- 4.3.30 *First floor Room 12 police station*: the floor is finished with vinyl sheets on ply and there is a plaster ceiling. The walls are the original plaster finished with flock wallpaper. The south-west and southeast elevations are plain, although there is a doorway to the south-east. The north-west elevation has a window on the south-west side with splayed jambs, a machine cut lintel and eight-light sash casement. There is a doorway to the north-east into a small lobby, which has a deep alcove on the south-east side with a raised floor inside.





Plate 103 (left): The north-west elevation in Room F12 of the police station, viewed from the south

Plate 104 (right): The alcove in the north-east side of the south-east elevation in Room F12 of the police

station, viewed from the west

4.3.31 **Roof space – police station**: the hatch in Room F11 appeared to only provide access to the roof space over Rooms F9-F11. It had the trusses for the hipped end of the roof constructed from sawn, probably Baltic, pine, and a brick dividing wall on the south-west side, but was otherwise plain (Plate 105 and Plate 106).

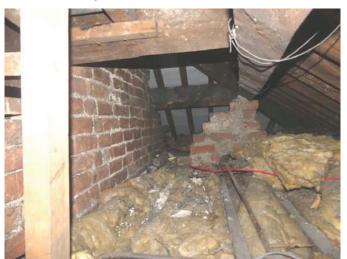




Plate 105 (left): The south-west side of the roof space of the police station, viewed from the north-west Plate 106 (right): The north-east side of the roof space of the police station, viewed from the south-west

4.3.32 **Basement Room 1 – courthouse**: this has a concrete floor with steps against the north-west side constructed from bricks topped with slate flags. It has a brick vaulted ceiling finished with lime wash and with an opening on the north-east side for pipes with stone slabs over the space above, and the walls are stone finished with rough plaster and limewash. There is a small window in the south-east elevation with splayed jambs and a stone sill, which is mostly blocked to accommodate a later vent.



Plate 107 (left): The north-west end of Room B1 of the courthouse, viewed from the south-east Plate 108 (right): The south-east end of Room B1 of the courthouse, viewed from the north-west

4.3.33 **Ground floor Room 1 – courthouse**: this has a carpet floor and modern plasterboard ceiling (although a suspended ceiling has been removed), with the walls finished with modern plaster and concrete blocks visible above the line of the suspended ceiling. Most of the walls are plain. There is a projecting buttress on the south-east side of the south-west elevation and a doorway (Plate 109), and there are three windows to the north-west, all with splayed jambs (Plate 110).





Plate 109 (left): General view of Room G1 in the courthouse, from the north Plate 110 (right): General view of Room G1 in the courthouse, from the south

4.3.34 **Ground floor Room 2 – courthouse**: this comprises a corridor orientated north-west/south-east (Plate 111 and Plate 112). The floor is finished with carpet and the ceiling modern plaster board, with a suspended ceiling having been removed. All of the walls are modern plaster, apparently over brick with concrete blocks visible behind the former suspended ceiling. There is a doorway at either end and three to the south-west and four to the north-east, the two at the north-west end having a single light overlight.





Plate 111 (left): General view of Room G2 in the courthouse, from the south-east Plate 112 (right): General view of Room G2 in the courthouse, from the north-west

4.3.35 **Ground floor Room 3 – courthouse**: this has a vinyl floor covering and plasterboard ceiling, again with a suspended ceiling obviously removed. The walls are modern plaster with concrete block exposed above the suspended ceiling as well as lots of pipes and there are scars for other fittings throughout. The walls are all plain, apart from a doorway in the north-east, a buttress in the east corner and a vent to the south-west.

4.3.36 **Ground floor Room 4 – courthouse**: this has a carpeted floor and plasterboard ceiling, again with a removed suspended ceiling. The walls are modern plaster and paint with concrete block visible at the top. There is a window to the south-west with splayed jambs extending to the floor (Plate 113) and a doorway to the north-east with a projecting section to the north-west of this (Plate 114).





Plate 113 (left): The south-west elevation in Room G4 in the courthouse, viewed from the north-east Plate 114 (right): The north-east elevation in Room G4 in the courthouse, viewed from the south-west

4.3.37 **Ground floor Room 5 – courthouse**: this has a carpeted floor and plasterboard ceiling above a suspended ceiling. The walls are modern plaster with concrete blocks visible at the top behind the former suspended ceiling to the north-east, south-west and south-east. There is concrete render over the north-west elevation at the same level. The north-east elevation has a doorway and projecting section to the north-west and a former doorway or cupboard on the south-west side that remains as a tall alcove (Plate 115). The south-west elevation has a window with splayed jambs extending to the floor with a timber sill.



Plate 115: General view of Room G5 in the courthouse showing the alcove and window, from the east

4.3.38 **Ground floor Room 6 and 7 – courthouse**: these form a pair of toilets on the north-east side of the corridor (Room G2), both have vinyl floor, with toilet fittings on the north-east side, and plasterboard ceiling below a suspended ceiling. The dividing wall between them is a modern stud partition and the south-east is at least partly concrete block with the north-west elevation partly rendered. Both rooms have a window in the north-east elevation with a timber sill and there is a doorway to the south-west (Plate 116). The north-west elevation has two returns, presumably representing the position of a chimneybreast and there is a vent in the wall at this point (Plate 117).





Plate 116 (left): General view of Room G6, from the south-west Plate 117 (right): General view of Room G7, from the south-west

4.3.39 *Ground floor Room 8 – courthouse*: this has a carpeted floor and original plaster ceiling, which has had chicken wire and timber battens attached to it, and there is a line for a later suspended ceiling. The walls are plaster finished with paint, with the original plaster visible above the line of the suspended ceiling. There are stud walls on the south-west side forming a small space within the room and covering the stairs to the basement in the west corner. The north-west elevation has two windows, each with a pair of three-light casements below arched tops and with splayed jambs and timber sills (Plate 118). The north-east elevation has a single window with splayed jambs and timber sill (Plate 119). The south-east elevation has a doorway near the centre that is apparently inserted through a former chimneybreast as the wall steps out on the north-east side; the plaster above is graffitied 'Mark Postlethwaite 1992' in pencil. There is an alcove to the south-west, presumably representing the position of an earlier doorway (Plate 120). The south-west elevation is largely covered by stud walls, which have a plain doorway on the north-west side leading to the cellar and there is another plain doorway to the south-east (Plate 121).





Plate 118 (left): The north-west elevation of Room G8 of the courthouse, viewed from the south-east Plate 119 (right): The north-east elevation of Room G8 of the courthouse, viewed from the south-west





Plate 120 (left): The south-east elevation of Room G8, viewed from the north-west Plate 121 (right): The south-west elevation of Room G8, viewed from the north-east

4.3.40 *Ground floor Room 9 – courthouse*: this comprises the bottom of the staircase; the floor is carpeted but the ceiling is the painted underside of the stone stairs. The walls are finished with original plaster and paint and a moulded skirting board. The stairs themselves have a moulded timber handrail with a spiral end on cast iron balustrades comprising large, pierced examples with floral decoration in between simple square-section ones. The north-west elevation has a window at landing level with a canted top and splayed jambs and sill. There is a doorway to the north-east with square jambs and the south-east elevation is plain. The south-west elevation has timber boxing built in on the south-east side, presumably to house piping, with a moulded rail either side and on the north-west side there is a doorway with a gothic pointed arch and chamfered plank and batten door. A modern cupboard boxing in more pipes is present in the west corner.

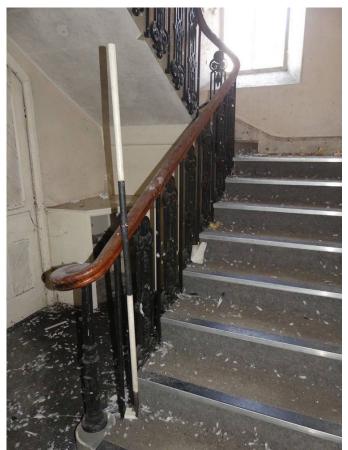




Plate 122 (left): The stairs in Room G9 of the courthouse, viewed from the east

Plate 123 (right): The doorway in the south-west elevation of Room G9 of the courthouse, viewed from the north-east

4.3.41 **Ground floor Room 10 – courthouse**: this comprises the open space below the arched entrance to the rear courtyard. It has a tarmac floor and the ceiling comprises a rounded arch constructed from machine made yellow brick (Plate 152). There are no walls to the north-west and south-east. The north-east elevation is rock-faced limestone with a doorway south-east of the centre with a pointed gothic arch constructed from two large pieces of limestone with a plank and batten door (Plate 153). There is a large vent to the north-west. The south-west elevation is plain and of the same construction.

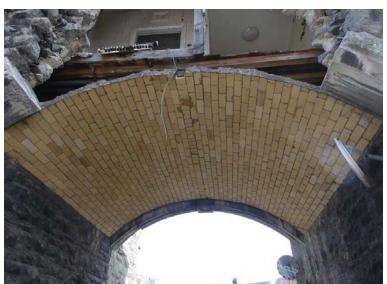




Plate 124 (left): The arched ceiling of Room G10 of the courthouse, viewed from the north-west

Plate 125 (right): The doorway in the north-east elevation of Room G10 of the courthouse, viewed from the south-west

4.3.42 **Ground floor Room 11 – courthouse**: this comprises a small lobby with a painted concrete floor and the joists and floorboards of the room above forming the ceiling. The walls are finished with some rough plaster and paint over bricks. The north-west elevation has a wide doorway with a plank and batten door on long strap hinges (Plate 126). To the south-west is the remnants of a fixed timber wall ladder. The north-east elevation is plain, with some timber boxing along the base and modern timber steps leading up to the first floor on the south-east side (Plate 127). The south-east elevation is a stud wall with a doorway and a modern plain door. The south-west elevation is painted brick with a doorway with a timber lintel and modern sliding door.





Plate 126 (left): The north-west elevation of Room G11 of the courthouse, viewed from the south-east Plate 127 (right): The south-east elevation of Room G11 of the courthouse, viewed from the north-west

4.3.43 *Ground floor Room 12 – courthouse*: this also has a painted concrete and plasterboard ceiling. The walls are painted brick and stone and there are kitchen units and shelves along all but the northwest elevations. The north-west elevation is a stud wall with a doorway with a modern door. There is boxing along the north-east side along the stairs. The south-easy elevation has a small window high on the south-west side with square jambs, a hinged casement and timber sill.

4.3.44 *Ground floor Room 13 – courthouse*: this also has a painted concrete floor, with an inspection hatch covered by timber boards on the north-west side (Plate 128). The walls are finished with limewash over stonework. The north-west elevation has a large wagon doorway with a plank and batten door (Plate 129). The north-east elevation has a doorway with a modern sliding doorway and the south-east side is finished with tongue and groove boards. The south-east elevation is also covered by tongue and groove planks with a heavy duty set of pegs on a chamfered timber batten on the north-east side and deep timber boxing along the base of the wall (Plate 130). There is a window with splayed jambs and a timber sill to the south-west. The south-west elevation is also covered by tongue and groove boards on the south-east side around a fireplace, which is blocked up but retains its original square stone surround and mantle with an iron hob grate insert with floral decoration (Plate 131).





Plate 128 (left): Inspection hatch in the floor of Room G13 of the courthouse, viewed from the south-east Plate 129 (right): The north-west elevation in Room G13 of the courthouse, viewed from the south-east





Plate 130 (left): The south-east elevation in Room G13 of the courthouse, viewed from the north-west Plate 131 (right): The fireplace in the south-west in Room G13 of the courthouse, viewed from the north-east

4.3.45 **Ground floor Room 14 – courthouse**: this comprises the interior of the monopitch outshut on the south-west end of the building. It has a gridded brick floor (Plate 132) and modern monopitch roof of rafters and felt with a single machine cut purlin running north-west/south-east. The walls are painted masonry. The north-west elevation has a large doorway with a plank and batten door on strap hinges (Plate 133). The north-east elevation is plain, with coat hooks on a timber batten attached. The south-east elevation has a small window high on the north-east side, which has been blocked from the other side leaving a small alcove (Plate 134). The south-west elevation is plain, with some rebuild in concrete block at the top and a modern extraction unit attached in the centre and a rough desk in the south corner (Plate 135).





Plate 132 (left): The gridded brick floor in Room G14 of the courthouse, viewed from the north Plate 133 (right): The north-west elevation in Room G14 of the courthouse, viewed from the south-east





Plate 134 (left): The south-east elevation in Room G14 of the courthouse, viewed from the north-west Plate 135 (right): The south-west elevation in Room G14 of the courthouse, viewed from the north-east

4.3.46 *First floor Room 1 – courthouse*: this originally had a carpet floor, now removed, and has a modern plasterboard ceiling. The walls are all finished with modern plaster and paint. There are two windows to the south-east, the north-eastern of which has a surviving four-light sash casement, and both have square jambs. The north-east elevation is covered in a large panel of graffiti tagged 'HARM' and has a window on the north-west side with a four-light sash casement and there are two doorways to the south-west in a timber stud wall and one to the north-west.





Plate 136 (left): The south-east elevation of Room F1 of the courthouse, viewed from the north-west Plate 137 (right): The north-east elevation of Room F1 of the courthouse, viewed from the south-west

- 4.3.47 *First floor Room 2 courthouse*: this has a vinyl floor and a plasterboard ceiling and modern plaster walls, all of which are plain although there are various pipes attached and a vent to the southwest. There is a doorway in the north-east elevation.
- 4.3.48 *First floor Room 3 courthouse*: this also has a vinyl floor and a plasterboard ceiling with an attic hatch. The walls are modern plaster and plain although there are more pipes attached, a vent to the south-west and a doorway to the north-east.
- 4.3.49 *First floor Room 4 courthouse*: this has a vinyl floor and a plasterboard ceiling and modern plastered walls. There are two vents in the south-west wall, which has been lined with modern stud walls, and a doorway to the north-west and it houses a modern boiler (Plate 138).





Plate 138 (left): General view of Room F4 of the courthouse, from the north-east Plate 139 (right): General view of Room F5 of the courthouse, from the north-west

- 4.3.50 *First floor Room 5 courthouse*: this comprises an L-shaped corridor linking the rooms in this part of the building to the stairs to the south-west (Plate 139).
- 4.3.51 *First floor Room 6 courthouse*: this has a carpeted floor and suspended plasterboard ceiling, and the walls are modern plaster. There are doorways to the north-west and south-west and a window to the north-east with square jambs and a timber sill.
- 4.3.52 *First floor Room 7 courthouse*: this has a carpeted floor and originally had a suspended ceiling, but this has been removed revealing the original plaster ceiling, which is covered with attached chicken wire and timber battens. It has a deep moulded cornice (Plate 140) and floral ceiling rose (Plate 141). There is a section of raised stud walling suspended from the ceiling on the west side. The walls are original plaster finished with flock wallpaper and paint and there is a tall, moulded skirting board. The north-west elevation has a wide window with splayed jambs extending to the floor in three sections with rounded arches and tongue and groove panelling below (Plate 142). The north-east elevation has another tall window with splayed jambs extending to the floor, again with a rounded arch although the top is hidden by the suspended stud wall (Plate 143). The south-east elevation has a doorway on the north-east side and a chimney breast to the south-west (Plate 144). The south-west elevation is a stud wall with a doorway on the south-east side and a wide opening to Room F8 on the north-west (Plate 145).



Plate 140 (left): The cornice in Room F7 of the courthouse, viewed from the west Plate 141 (right): The ceiling rose in Room F7 of the courthouse, viewed from the west



Plate 142 (left): The north-west elevation in Room F7 of the courthouse, viewed from the south-east Plate 143 (right): The north-east elevation in Room F7 of the courthouse, viewed from the south-west





Plate 144 (left): The south-east elevation in Room F7 of the courthouse, viewed from the north Plate 145 (right): The south-west elevation in Room F7 of the courthouse, viewed from the north-east

4.3.53 *First floor Room 8 – courthouse*: the floor is carpeted and there is the scar of a suspended ceiling above which is the original ceiling, which has a deep moulded cornice. The walls are finished with plaster and flock wallpaper and partly tiled on the south-west side. There is a doorway to the south-east, a large opening to the north-east, and an alcove in the south-west elevation that may have been a former doorway.

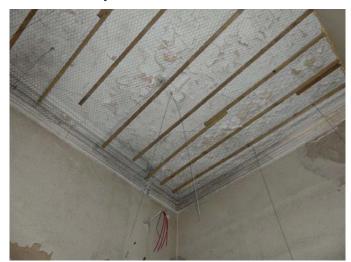




Plate 146 (left): The ceiling in Room F8 of the courthouse, viewed from the east

Plate 147 (right): The south-west elevation in Room F8 of the courthouse, viewed from the north-east

4.3.54 *First floor Room 9 – courthouse*: this is the top of the staircase. The floor is carpet over the stone stairs, with the handrail and balustrades as per the floor below, with some sections of the iron balustrade missing at the top (Plate 148). The ceiling is tongue and groove boards comprising the floor of the space in the top of the tower, with a hatch on the north-east side (Plate 149). The walls are finished with original plaster and flock wallpaper. The north-west elevation has a tall window with splayed jambs and sill in two parts divided by a square stone mullion (Plate 150). Above this is a small window of three smaller lights also in splayed jambs. The north-east elevation has an iron ladder attached leading to the hatch in the ceiling. To the south-east is a doorway with two steps up. The south-east elevation is plain, the south-west has timber boxing on the south-east side for pipes with moulded battens either side (Plate 151). There is a large panel of graffiti to the north-west tagged 'IN MEMORY OF RAED...RIDE EASY' and 'MAK ONE ER 21'.





Plate 148 (left): Stairs in Room F8 of the courthouse, viewed from the east
Plate 149 (right): The ceiling in Room F8 of the courthouse, viewed from the south-west





Plate 150 (left): The north-west elevation in Room F8 of the courthouse, viewed from the south-east

Plate 151 (right): Boxing in the south-west elevation in Room F8 of the courthouse, viewed from the northeast

4.3.55 *First floor Room 10 – courthouse*: this was not fully accessible due to the dangerous condition of the north-west elevation. The floor was finished with vinyl, and it had a plaster ceiling with a roof hatch on the north-east side; the roof above was just visible appeared to comprise only rafters. The room is subdivided into two roofs by a stud wall with mesh vents above the doorways, both of which have moulded surrounds (Plate 152). There is a window to the south-east with splayed jambs and a timber sill and a doorway to the north-east also with a moulded surround. The north-west elevation now has a large

collapsed section but evidently originally contained a window. The south-west elevation is plain apart from a datestone set into it inscribed 'WC 1618' (Plate 153).





Plate 152 (left): General view of Room F10 in the courthouse, viewed from the north-east

Plate 153 (right): The datestone in the south-west elevation of Room F10 in the courthouse, viewed from the north-east

4.3.56 *First floor Room 11 – courthouse*: this has a chipboard floor with the remnants of carpet and is open to the roof, which is backed with plasterboard and has a single simple truss, with the principal rafters overlapping north-west on south-east with a slight notched joint. A raised tie-beam or collar is attached to the north-east face and there is a single purlin per pitch plus a ridge plank. The walls are modern plaster finished with paint, with some additional stud walling in the north corner and against the top of the stairs. There is also timber sheeting covering the lower part of most of the walls. The south-east and south-west walls are plain although there is modern timber boxing attached to the south-west end of the south-east elevation forming seats and at the north-east end there is a brass plaque attached to a timber blocked inscribed 'FURNESS MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM THIS BASE WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED BY CHIEF CONSTABLE A.E. ELLIOTT Esq. ON 23-11-91'. The north-west elevation has two windows both with square jambs, timber sills and four-light sash casements. The north-east elevation is mostly plain apart from the modern stairs and stud walling.





Plate 154 (left): The truss in Room F11 of the courthouse, viewed from the north-east Plate 155 (right): General view Room F11 of the courthouse, from the south

4.3.57 **Roof space – police station**: the roof space over Room F9 was not safely accessible due to the dangerous access and pigeon infestation. Similarly, the roof space over Room F10 was not safely accessible due to the dangerous condition of the building at this point. The roof space over Rooms F1-F6 was entirely modern with modern timber joists forming the floor with insulation between and numerous modern rafters and angled struts supporting the roof (Plate 156 and Plate 157). The walls to the south-east are concrete block and the wall to the north-west is original and plastered (Plate 157).





Plate 156 (left): General view of the roof space over Rooms F1-F6 of the courthouse, viewed from the northwest

Plate 157 (right): General view of the roof space over Rooms F1-F6 of the courthouse, viewed from the south-east

### 5. Discussion

#### 5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The building recording revealed that, although much altered, the structures retain a considerable amount of their original fabric and form, although the majority of any original decorative detailing has been removed from the interior during, probably repeated, phases of modernisation during the site's use. A consideration of the detailed documentary evidence has allowed six phases of development to be identified.

### 5.2 Phasing

- 5.2.1 *Phase 1 (medieval early 19<sup>th</sup> century)*: the documentary record of the site has revealed that it originally formed part of the environs of Neville Hall, the core of a small medieval manor, although the hall itself was located on the footprint of the still extant standing Neville House, the former superintendent's house for the police station. No evidence for structural remains pre-dating the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century was identified in either the former courthouse or the police station and it seems likely that Neville Hall was completely demolished during their construction; the map evidence shows that it was located on the footprint of the extant Neville House, the former superintendent's house. However, some material was evidently incorporated into the current structures, although only as building stone, as demonstrated by the pieces visible in Room F1 of the police station and the datestone of 1618 in Room F9 of the courthouse. As already stated, (see *Section 3.2.1*), the initials 'WC' on this datestone probably relate to a member of the Corker of Coward family, who were known to be at Neville Hall at that time. A small amount of rough stonework at the north-east end of the north-west elevation of the police station might represent parts of the former blacksmith's workshop that was shown on the site prior to the police station being constructed (see *Section 3.3.6*) and was incorporated into Phase 2.
- 5.2.2 **Phase 2 (late-19**<sup>th</sup> **century)**: the earliest surviving part of the building is the large block projecting from the south-west side of the front block of the police station, comprising Rooms G5-G19 and F5-F12. This evidently corresponds to the block shown in the undated plans of proposed new police station buildings (see *Section 3.1.6*). Although undated these clearly post-dated the Ordnance Survey map published in 1852 and predate the later plans relating to Phase 3, and suggest that this element was constructed in the 1850s or 1860s, which is consistent with the style of the external stonework, the internal timber, and the presence of sash window casements without horns.
- 5.2.3 **Phase 3** (*late-19*<sup>th</sup> *century*): the block plan showing proposed cells (see *Section 3.1.7*) shows that these were constructed before the new police station building to the north-east, which is confirmed by the later plans of the 1880s. This plan also shows that the courthouse, with stable block to the southwest of the arched entrance, was also constructed in this phase, although no further detail is given. It is not clear who the architect was but the similarity in style to the police station (see *Section 5.2.4*) suggest that it was JW Grundy.
- 5.2.4 **Phase 4 (1880s)**: as shown in the plans (see Section 3.1.8) the front (north-east) section of the current police station was constructed in the 1880s, although work probably began in the late 1870s, to the designs of local architect JW Grundy. The original block of the police station and the cells that had been added to this were retained and incorporated. This essentially formed an impressive façade facing onto Neville Street, corresponding with rooms G1-G3, with other elements modified to fit.
- 5.2.5 **Phase 5** (late 1880s): the earlier plans do not show the outshut at the south-west end of the courthouse (Room G13) or the open fronted building (which presumably comprised a cart shed and/or additional stabling) that extended from the south-west side of this and was evidently added later. They are, however, both shown on the Ordnance Survey map published in 1890 and so must also have both been constructed in the late 1880s.
- 5.2.6 **Phase 6 (late 20<sup>th</sup> century)**: subsequent alterations were essentially just modifications to the existing fabric, primarily concerned with modernising the structures, and included the removal of virtually all of the original fireplaces, substantial changes to wall and ceiling finishes and the insertion of new dividing walls, and removing much of the original cornicing, although elements of this have survived in

some areas. More damaging was the demolition of the courthouse itself, which evidently projected to the south-west of what now remains, but other smaller changes also damaged original features, such as the creation of a doorway through what was evidently originally a fireplace in Room G8.

### 5.3 Significance

- 5.3.1 At its peak at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the whole police station complex would have formed an impressive group of structures, built using high quality dressed limestone by a prominent local architect. Externally much of this has survived. Internally, however, the continuous use of the building as a working police station and courthouse has led to the loss of a considerable amount of historic fabric of interest, especially decorative details such as the fireplaces, cornices and most of the original windows and doors. The stairs have survived essentially intact in both cases. The site is also of wider significance because of its connections to the medieval Neville Hall, although it is not clear how far this would have spread into the footprints of the police station and courthouse, nor how much might have survived the extensive building work that took place here in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- 5.3.2 The current proposals seek to retain two of the most significant elements of the building; the north-west elevation of the police station and the majority of the north-west side of the courthouse. In addition, it is recommended that the datestone of 1618 be retrieved from the section that is due to be demolished and given to an appropriate museum.

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