ST BARTHOLOMEW'S SCHOOL (WORMESTALL) ENBORNE ROAD, NEWBURY WEST BERKSHIRE

HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING

For

CGMs Consulting

on behalf of

LINDEN HOMES

CA PROJECT: 3366 CA REPORT: 11060

MARCH 2011



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SUMMARY

Project Name: St Bartholomew's School Newbury

Location: Enborne Road, Newbury, West Berkshire

NGR: SU 4641 6638

Type: Historic Building Recording

Date: 16-18 February 2011

Historic Building Recording of the former St Bartholomew's School was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology for CgMs Consulting, on behalf of Linden Homes,. The oldest part of the building was built in 1885 to house St Bartholomew's Boys' Grammar School. The rest of building mostly dates to before the change to comprehensive status in 1975, with the bulk of the work completed in the first half of the 20th century. The oldest part of the building is in a late 19th-century medieval gothic revival style, extensively refurbished and extended in 1929, and further remodelled in 1938 with large scale additions. Further subsequent remodelling included those consequent on the conversion to a comprehensive school in 1975. An interesting characteristic of the building is the great care taken in matching additions to earlier elements, both stylistically and structurally, inside and out.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In February 2011 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out historic building recording at the former St Bartholomew's School, Enborne Road, Newbury, for CgMs Consulting on behalf of Linden Homes (centred on NGR: SU 4641 6638 Fig. 1). The recording programme was undertaken to fulfil a condition (no. 28) of planning consent granted by West Berkshire Council in 2009 (ref. no. 08/02257/FULMAJ). This permitted the conversion and partial demolition of the school to provide 14 dwellings.
- 1.2 Condition 28 requires: No demolition/site works/development shall take place within the application area until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of building recording in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
- 1.3 The historic building recording was guided by a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) to meet this condition (CA 2011), written by Cotswold Archaeology following discussions between Rob Bourn of CgMs Consulting and Duncan Coe, Archaeological Officer, West Berkshire Council, and by the Standard and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures (IFA 2008), the Management of Archaeological Projects 2 (English Heritage 1991), the Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE) Project Manager's Guide (EH 2006). This specification should be read in conjunction with Understanding Historic Buildings; A guide to good recording practice (English Heritage 2006).

2. **BACKGROUND**

2.1 The site comprises a group of former school buildings which, until recently, formed one of the two sites of St. Bartholomew's School. The Luker site, at one end of Buckingham Road was formerly Newbury County Girls' Grammar School, while the Wormestall site which is the subject of these works, lies at the opposite end of Buckingham Road, and was formerly St. Bartholomew's Boys' Grammar School (Fig. 2). The latter was founded in 1466 by Henry Wormestall, who, besides endowing a Chantry in the Parish Church, set aside in his will the sum of £12-2s.-4d.

yearly for "teching gramar scole of the whiche that toune hath grete nede." (Old Boy Memoirs n.d-a). The two grammar schools merged in 1975 to form a large comprehensive school. The oldest part of the present school buildings is dated by an inscription above the front door to 1885. This was built to the designs of J. H. Power, under the patronage of the then headmaster, the Rev. J. Atkins, to whom the school owed its rebirth from a low point in the 18th and early 19th century (Old Boy Memoirs n.d-a). Much of this building is to be retained for conversion to residential use, although the original hall and most of the eastern side of the western courtyard are to be demolished. The core of the building has been added to and altered over the years. A wing to the south was completed in 1929. This was the beginning of a decade-long campaign of building under the headship of T. Rutherford Harley, including several buildings, now demolished, south of the main school site, but in particular the hall and blocks to the east, completed in 1938. This block was considerably extended between 1956 and 1960 (Old Boy Memoirs n.d-a). Further work was carried out in the succeeding years into the 1980s or 90s.

3. OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objective of work is to produce a record of the buildings in their current state, comprising drawings, photographs and a written description. The works will seek to place the structures in the context of educational architectural history and functional development over the 125 years since the school was originally built.

Methodology

3.2 In accordance with the approved WSI, the record and report has been prepared to Level 3 in the older parts of the building and Level 2 (EH 2006) in the more recent areas (Fig. 2). The record is in the form of site notes, photographs (in black and white and colour digital format), and floor plans of the building, provided by the client, which have been annotated and extended to show the interpretation of the historic fabric. In addition the archive contains elevations provided by the client showing the proposed changes to the fabric. Historic mapping was consulted, essentially the three earliest editions of the Ordnance Survey County series, 1880-1911. A short history of the school published in 1956 was consulted. The school archives were not accessible and searches at the Berkshire Record Office, Reading and Newbury Libraries and the National Monuments Record of English Heritage produced nothing substantive. The data collected will form the core of a site archive

to secure the long-term storage of records in appropriate conditions, along with appropriate dissemination of the findings.

3.3 The archive is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble and will be deposited with West Berkshire Heritage Service. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix A, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

4. DESCRIPTION

4.1 The building has a very complex history and a complex plan and layout in consequence. It has been analysed into 8 building periods and these are shown on the floor plans (Figs 3, 26 and 34). Period 1 is the school as built in 1885, lying at the north-west corner of the complex, but some elements which appear to post-date this phase (on map evidence), but pre-date Period 2, are ascribed to it. Period 2 is the addition of new accommodation on the south-west side of the school in 1929, and Period 3 refers to the works of 1938, a new hall and science blocks to the east. Period 4 is a partial rebuild of part of the Period 1 buildings in the area of its central courtyard, and Periods 5 and 6 are 1950s extensions to the Period 3 works, along the Buckingham Road side of the site to the east of the main blocks. Periods 7 and 8 are later 20th-century blocks, added to the eastern and southern sides of the earlier structures.

Exterior

- 4.2 The exterior will be described first, elevation by elevation. The plan and its development will be described in more detail in the section on the interior (paras 4.36 et seqq).
- 4.3 The oldest part of the building is that commemorated in the inscription over the main northern entrance, as opened in 1885. It comprises the majority of the west and north elevations (Figs 4 and 5). It was built in red brick in Flemish bond, set in lime mortar pointed in black cement (or hard hydraulic lime) mortar on the show fronts. Window and door architraves and mullions, copings and other trimmings were in dressed oolitic limestone (in matching, not black mortar) perhaps from the Corsham quarries in Wiltshire. The roof still retained what appears to be its original covering of Welsh slate. The exact source of the latter is unclear, but it did not appear to be the

purple slate from North Wales. Windows throughout the Period 1 building were wrought-iron casements with furniture still predominantly intact. Some original thin plate glass seems to have survived.

- 4.4 The building had lost the upper brick portion of many of its chimneys, although two still survive on the west wing (Figs 6 and 7). The chimney on the north gable of the west wing has pilaster strips and string mouldings in rubbed brick over a chamfered stone plinth. Above the string course it appears to have been rebuilt. The rear or southern stack is simpler, not being on the display front, but is built with a very high quality "tumblehome" in the brick as the stack narrows upwards and is finished with rubbed brick cornicing.
- 4.5 The west wing was built to a smaller scale than the main body of the building and this may well reflect an original use as the headmaster's accommodation and private offices. This is also reflected in the plan (see below). The ceiling heights and roof line were lower. The separate porched entrance would also fit into this interpretation. The featured chimney stack on the north end of this block (Figs 5 and 8) served a fireplace with side seats and unusual chimney lights (windows) in the room in the north end of the range downstairs and externally was an interesting conflation of chimney and bay window.
- 4.6 The domestic character of the wing is also indicated by the recessed block on the south end of the wing which had all the appearance of a service block. The small back stair was expressed externally in the fenestration and adds to the impression of a lower status wing (Fig. 4).
- 4.7 The north wing was the main entrance front designed to impress. It was set back behind a front drive separated from the Enborne Road by an elaborate wrought and cast-iron fence and two gates.
- 4.8 The two-storey brick and stone façade was raised on a low stone plinth, which unites all the elements of the building at the same level (Fig. 5). The main part of the elevation was almost symmetrical, with two bays either side of the central entrance tower. The symmetry was broken by the larger and bay windows on the western side of the tower, and the projecting chimney stack (minus its upper portion) on the east. This asymmetry was further enhanced by the smaller scale of the north end of the west wing and the gable end and large mullion and transom window in the

almost detached block on the east end. The latter was the original hall of the school, a rectangular, originally single-storey block set across the east end of the north range.

- 4.9 The building was long and low in effect, but contrasting vertical emphasis was given by the central, steeply gabled tower and finial, the high dormers to the upper floor, and the buttresses on the tower and hall.
- 4.10 The windows were flat-lintelled and the lights rectangular in outline, except for the large window in the old hall, which has four-centred arches in the upper lights. The mullions in Period 1 are all of a simple chamfered profile. A floor was inserted in the old hall when the hall was extended to the south in Period 3 (see below para. 4.64) and the stone blocking in the row of square lights in the window appears to have been inserted at this time to mask the edge of the floor (Fig. 5). The hall had a wooden belfry mounted centrally on the ridge. The lower part was slate hung; the bell stage had louvred windows with four-centred arched heads and was topped with a two-stage, lead, ogee cupola (Fig. 9). It has a fine, wrought-iron weathervane.
- 4.11 On the eastern end of this elevation, largely hidden behind trees, was a brick addition, a simple stretcher-brick, one and a half storey rectangular block with a steeply pitched roof and dormers. The dormers had wooden sashes while the lower floor had steel casements similar to those seen in other parts of the school (other than Periods 1 and 2). The building had 5 narrow bays. The eastern-most on the ground floor showed a wide, now blocked, doorway. This would have connected to the open arcade at the rear (Figs 10 and 11). The eastern elevation was entirely plain except for a buttress on the south-east corner. This had an unfinished dogged face and a stone coping. The latter was clearly recycled from the buttress which originally occupied the point at which this block abutted the eastern side of the old Period 1 hall, and which was removed when this block was added. Stylistically, this appears to have been in the 1960s or 1970s, and has been allocated to Period 7 in the structural sequence.
- 4.12 The southern elevation of this block formed the north side of a small court, here referred to as the eastern courtyard (Fig. 2), and the arcade in its ground floor, a much more attractive elevation design than on the north, lent a cloister air to it (Fig. 11). The upper floor had steel windows, except for two plastic replacements, and the

eastern end bay of the arcade had been enclosed with uPVC doors and windows to provide a lobby to the stairs which led to the first floor here.

- 4.13 The rest of the eastern courtyard was formed, on the west, by the old hall and its Period 3 (1938) extension southwards; on the south by a wing in its latest form contemporary with that extension; and on the east by a Period 5 (1956-60) addition to that wing. The court was open on the north-east corner (Fig. 2).
- 4.14 East of the courtyard entrance were two courts built for the game the "Eton Wall Game", a version of 'Fives' (Fig. 14). It is assumed that these belong to Period 1 and indeed seem to be shown on the 1899 OS County Series mapping (Fig. 42). The courts were open-fronted to the west and built of brick in Flemish bond with concrete copings. The exterior walls had a chamfered brick course at dado height and the wall ends were finished with a brick square column approximately 3m in height. The walls of the courts were stepped at three levels, highest at the front of the court and descending towards the rear. The inside of the courts had been cement rendered, stepped at approximately 0.5m and 1m points from the ground on the front of the court and 1m to the rear of the court, presumably to serve the rules of the game. There was a buttress located half way up the court on the left hand side, the identifying feature of courts designed for the Eton game. This was also constructed in brick and rendered in cement.
- 4.15 The hall extension of Period 3 had a wing of similar size extending from its western flank (Figs 3 and 11). This continued through to the east front along Buckingham Road and is now flanked by two added blocks of Period 5 and 6 (Fig. 3). The wing was clearly integral with the Period 3 hall, but incorporated an earlier building. This was first recognised by its English bond brickwork, rubbed brick moulding at dado height and small brick buttresses (Figs. 12). These had not been stone-coped but the sloping step-backs had brick tumblehome instead. Further investigation showed that four further buttresses survived on this building on the south elevation which had become an internal wall when the Period 3 wing was built around it (Figs 3 and 13).
- 4.16 The small size of the buttresses suggested a single-storey building and the upper part of the north wall had clearly been rebuilt or added (with a different mortar and bond). The windows were similar on both floors (and on the enclosed balcony) with flat-arched lintels apparently hiding steel girders, and with wooden mullions and

transoms. These seem to belong to the later period of work, but are not like the windows in any other part or period of the school.

- 4.17 The buttressed building was clearly most similar to Period 1 of the school buildings. However, it was not present on the 1899 County Series mapping, the earliest to show the Period 1 buildings (Fig. 42), but it does appear on the 1911 edition (Fig. 43). It therefore is an early addition, here for convenience allocated to the first period of work, albeit a bit belated. The present boundary wall along Buckingham Road seems to be remnant of the open-fronted wet weather playground or shed shown on that map.
- 4.18 The enclosed balcony mentioned above was a first-floor corridor supported on a pillar and concrete beam which provided access to the fire escape from the first floor of the Period 3 eastern arm (Fig. 12). It post-dated both it and the Period 5 extension on the eastern side of the courtyard.
- 4.19 The east elevation looks at first glance like one symmetrical composition, but is in fact, even excluding the southernmost element, of Period 8, of three phases (Figs 3 and 15). The central part of the elevation is the gabled and symmetrical eastern end of the 1938 Period 3 wing. A photograph on the school Old Boys webpage shows the south elevation of this whole block in this un-extended form, but it is too poor to reproduce (Old Boy Memoirs n.d-a). The northern part was added and can be distinguished by its different colour brick, concrete string courses and window sills, and rectangular, as opposed to trapezoidal, false keystones over the windows. Otherwise it has been designed to match the earlier block as much as possible. The southern element, although latest in the sequence, and with jarring paler bricks, was actually more similar in detail to the Period 3 façade it emulates. Its junction with the Period 3 sector provides one of the few simple butt joints in the entire building, visible on this face and high up on the western elevation, both joints sealed with expandable mastic. Every other junction of an added structure, of any period in the school has been carefully toothed in. Its western and southern elevations were mostly masked by the Period 8 block, but it was clear that this addition was a very close copy of the Period 3 design.
- 4.20 Period 8 of the building has been dated to c.1980-90 on the basis of its design. It formed an east-west block on the southern end of the east elevation (Figs 3 and 16).
 A small recessed section of wall connected the east gable end to the Period 6

extension (just visible on Fig. 15). The building was built in red brick in stretcher bond set in cement pointing, obviously attempting to reflect the style of the earlier buildings. Despite this, the block is much less in-keeping than the previous extensions. A low string course of buff-coloured upright bricks reflected the stone and concrete plinth blocks of the Period 3 and 5 buildings, similar bricks were also used to form angled sills and flat arches over the windows, presumably hiding steel lintels. The two horizontal windows on the recessed section of wall were made from timber and lit the ground and first floor corridors. On the main east-facing gable, header bricks were laid over two layers of tiles imitating coping stones. The projecting foot of the verged gable was supported by a corbelled bracket of three courses of special bricks. A cream-painted cement-rendered section of wall formed the main feature on the gable end. A three-light, timber window with a 'pediment' style detail over with flat brick arches, consisting of buff coloured header bricks, formed a triangle above. An entrance on the ground floor lay directly below the window with a narrow slit 'vent' above. Two wooden vents on the ground floor level lie on either side of this rendered section of wall and were designed in similar form to the windows, with buff brick angled sills and flat arches over.

- 4.21 On the south elevation, an attempt has been made to imitate the proportions of the 1930s east elevation (Fig. 16). The roof was built of machine-cut slate tiles with regular, unadorned ridge tiles. The wooden windows divided the elevation into 7 bays. Each window consisted of two lights and had the same flat brick arches and angled brick sills as the east elevation. On the ground floor, four bricks have been arranged above the central window to form a false key stone, in keeping with previous designs. The west elevation is an exact replica of the east with additional steps and a dwarf wall adjacent to the ground floor entrance.
- 4.22 The north and west elevations consisted of a two-storey lean to housing stairs and a corridor, the latter adding an access to the Period 6 building not available in the original (Fig. 17). A canted entrance with double doors lay across the internal angle of the stair and corridor. Brick and timber detailing were similar to the rest of the building.
- 4.23 The south elevation of the Period 3 hall extension eastern wing was similar in all details to the eastern elevation, but the windows were uPVC replacements, designed to imitate the steel Crittal windows on the earlier block. A chimney on the east end of the block belongs to this period. However, the cap has been re-

fashioned at a later date and is identical to a later rebuild of the chimney above the entrance opposite the Period 3 hall. The capping will be discussed further below.

- 4.24 The Period 3 hall was built in red brick in stretcher bond with limestone dressings, all details reflected on the eastern additions. The southern gable end had one large mullion-and transom window with nine lights, with the lower three larger than the upper six (Fig. 18). Replacement uPVC windows had been inserted. The mullions are more elaborately detailed than the original block and closely follow the design of the Period 2 phase of construction. There is a small stone vent above the window. The walls are stepped at three different levels at both ends of the wall. The bricks on the roof section of the gable have been re-pointed at a later date and have stone copings over.
- 4.25 The western elevation of the Period 3 Hall forms the eastern side of the central courtyard and is relatively plain. It features six large slightly recessed windows with stone sills and header brick details on the window jambs and above the lintel. Replacement windows in uPVC have been inserted and their design implies that they are replacements for former steel Crittal windows. As with the east elevation, identical trapezoidal, false keystones have been inserted. Two doors now pierce the west wall. They were boarded over but seem likely to be insertions, as they are rather clumsily fitted in. On the other hand they are visible in a photograph dated 1955, so, if additions, then they were early ones.
- 4.26 The rear of the Period 1 building forms the north side of the central semi-enclosed 'courtyard' and a collection of multi-period buildings, the west elevation (Figs. 19 and 20). The ground floor on the north side is Period 1 with red brick in Flemish bond. The two mullion-and transom windows, with plate glass, match the style of the other Period 1 buildings. A small former doorway, now blocked, can be seen to the east of the windows. This doorway was likely a second phase addition presumably giving access to a wooden lean-to building, now demolished, as there was no indication of a building attached to the Period 1 brickwork, other than a very faint weathering sloping down above the infilling. The blocking of the doorway was a likely Phase 3 work, as any structure here would have been rather in the way of the Period 3 hall.
- 4.27 The first floor is an addition. Butt joints on the eastern elevation at first floor level and the identical nature of the windows to those of Period 2 (see below) show it is of this

period. The parapet to the flat roof had stone copings. The chimney to the west seems to have been of Period 1 construction. However, the clearly added, corbelled, brick chimney cap matched that of the secondary capping added to a Period 3 chimney on the hall, and as this closely matched the corbelled course at the eaves of the Period 4 block (see below), it has been allocated to Period 4.

- 4.28 In the north-western corner of the courtyard was a double door entrance leading to the main circulation area and the central staircase (ST2). There were Period 1 chamfered mullions around the entrance with two lights either side of the doors and two lights above. A lean-to slate roof above the entrance formed a small porch in the recess formed here between the north and west sides of the courtyard. The first floor above was also of Period 1 construction, evident from its Period 1, two-light, mullioned window design.
- 4.29 South of the entrance lay another block originating in Period 1 but evidently of multiphase construction. The ground floor of this block was built during Period 1. The east elevation was built of red brick in Flemish bond with lime mortar and originally had one central mullion window with three lights. The original single storey gable can be seen in the south elevation, incorporated in later works (Fig. 20). These later works raised the block to two storeys at the level of the main floor in the Period 1 block to its north and also included the insertion of two identical mullioned windows either side of the original on the east elevation (Figs 3 and 20) Both of these windows were identified due to the slightly different shade of stone used and mortar differences. A low chamfered plinth course of the all the Period 1 buildings here continued around the later single storey extension to the south, but was clearly distinguished by a visible joint in the masonry. This phase of work has been allocated to Period 4 as it shares brickwork characteristics with the capping added to the Period 3 chimneys.
- 4.30 This single storey extension has also been allocated to Period 4 as it is structurally and in detail identical to the addition described above (and abuts the Period 1 and 2 work). The brickwork was carefully matched to the original building, but modern cement pointing also distinguishes the block as a later addition. A door and small single-light window featured on the eastern elevation with three two-light mullions on the south elevation imitating the original design. The building was flat-roofed and had a projecting stone cornice running along the east and south elevations (Fig. 20). However, it could well post-date the period 5 and 6 structures and date to the 1960s.

- 4.31 This confusion also extends to the "Period 1" structures here, they are not mapped on the 1899 or 1911 OS plans (Figs 42 and 43) so must be later additions. The sequence is quite certain and they must either be additions pre-dating 1929 (Period 2) and post-dating 1911, built in a style absolutely matching that of Period 1 and extremely carefully toothed into the original fabric, with matching bricks and mortar; or the OS mapping is wrong, a not unknown event.
- 4.32 Period 2 is defined by a distinct but subtle change in architectural design compared to Period 1. Superficially similar to the Period 1 buildings with its red brick and stone dressings, the block added to the southern side of the Period 1 western courtyard is distinguished by its adherence to a more renaissance-inspired, Jacobean Vernacular Revival design (Fig. 21). It is a very symmetrical block and the mouldings, especially the cornice above the first floor windows, are classical. It was built in red brick, Flemish bond with a Welsh slate roof incorporating two, three light dormer windows with hipped roofs. The main southern elevation faced over the school playing field and consisted of five bays, with the central bay gabled and stepped out from the main elevation. This central bay had a wide five-light mullionand-transom window on the tall ground floor, a five-light with no transom on the first, and a smaller one on the gable, providing a clear indication of the status of each floor. In contrast to the Period 1 windows, the mullions were given ovolo profiles.
- 4.33 Each floor is marked by a stone string course. Stone dressing adds contrast to the brickwork, including the copings and the small pointed finial on the south gable apex. The remaining windows were arranged symmetrically either side of the projecting bay. Additional details include original cast-iron rainwater hoppers and downpipes.
- 4.34 The east and west gable ends match the design of the main south elevation. The east gable contains a single wide mullioned window on ground and first floors, five lights on the first floor (obscured by the Period 4 block) and four in the gable (Fig. 21). The ground floor here was obscured by the Period 4 single-storey block, but internally there was a tall door giving access to the hall on the ground floor. Photographs dated to 1955 (Old Boy Memoirs n. d) show a mullioned window here.
- 4.35 The west gable was slightly obscured by a later fire escape. The windows were similar to the east end except that on the ground floor were plain wooden

casements. They seem to be original to Period 2, although the north one may be an insertion. A chimney stack on the north-west corner belongs to this Period 2 building and has been partially re-pointed in cement mortar at the same time as the gable end. The inserted fire escape staircase required the insertion of two fire escape exits on the first and second floors in the recess formed to make the transition to the Period 1 west wing.

4.36 The Vernacular Revival influence is shown particularly in the roof covering. Unlike the standard slate of the Period 1 buildings, this block and its adjacent elements were roofed in schist laid in diminishing courses from eaves to ridge. Dating to 1929, this is fine, late example of this movement.

Western Courtyard

- 4.37 On the northern side of the Period 2 block was a small, enclosed courtyard that will be referred to as the 'Western Courtyard'. The south and east sides of the courtyard belong to Period 2 and the northern and western mostly to Period 1. They both feature a low, chamfered, stone course that runs beneath the ground-floor windows. The eastern side has been obscured by the addition of a modern block against it largely filling the courtyard (Fig. 3). All that could be seen of Period 2 was the external wall of the stair well, with its windows at landing, not floor heights (Fig. 22).
- 4.38 The junction of the period with the Period 1 building could be seen in the south-east corner of the courtyard (Fig. 23). Great care had been taken to disguise it, by continuing the eaves corbelling, but not to the extent of using a black mortar to match that of the Period 1 building.

Interior

4.39 The interior will be described, as far as practicable, period addition by period addition.

Period 1: 1885

Basement

4.40 The extent of the basement could not be established. Two areas were accessible. One was under the south end of the west wing and was simply two empty brick rooms reached from the stair ST4. The other was under the south wing of the Period 1 building reached via ST2. This contained recent central heating and other service installations.

Ground floor

- 4.41 The earliest part of the building, our Period 1, was the northern range facing Enborne Road, and the range running south from it at the western end. The Enborne Road block was designed as a single row of rooms (G4–5, G8–G9) either side of the entrance hall (G7), connected by a corridor (C1/C2) that ran the length of the building from east to west (Fig. 3). This was lit from windows on the south except for the east end which had a set of two single-storey rooms built against the south side of the corridor C1 (G3 and G6). Light was borrowed from these rooms via large, glazed screen walls. The original arrangement, if this was not it, is unclear, because of the addition of an upper floor to these two rooms in Period 2.
- 4.42 At the east end, the corridor opened directly into the Period 1 hall (G1). This has now been partly converted into the staircase and lobby to the Period 3 hall on the south (ST1) and two storeys of classrooms in the north side (G1 and F1). It was originally one space open to the timber-trussed roof. This was still visible in part in the first floor classroom F1 (Fig. 24) and in the attic space, and the inside of the roof between the trusses was diagonally-boarded overall (and was still visible behind the dry-lining). The fittings and arrangement inside otherwise all appear to date from the Period 3 conversion.
- 4.43 In the centre of the corridor C1–C2, behind the entrance hall was the staircase ST2 (Figs 3 and 25). This rose to the first floor around three sides of the stair-hall in a wing that ran back from corridor C1/2 (and was roofed separately from the entrance hall, which was in the ground floor of the central tower, Fig. 5). The rear of the wing was occupied by a room at first floor level (Fig. 36, F21), converted into the northern part of the staff room (F22) in Period 4, and on the ground floor by a rear entrance hall or lobby (G21) reached by a door in the east side from the central courtyard. A further, originally single-storey, room (G18) ran south in the same range under F22.
- 4.44 The stair had lost its Period 1 details and had plain boarded safety panels and hand rail. Period 1 panelling and a door to the basement survived under the first flight (Fig. 25). The staircase was open into the roof space, which while unceiled, was very plain. A gallery led from the first floor corridor at the head of the stair back to the southern part of the wing (Fig.26).

- 4.45 The rooms G4 and G5 were very similar, well lit from the large windows, with high ceilings and corner fireplaces. That in G5 was boarded over and could not be easily inspected, that in G4 had been removed. The surviving fireplace appeared, like nearly all the fireplaces in the building to have been replaced in Period 2. The tongue-and-groove dado panelling in these rooms is though to be not original. The door architraves are a standard design throughout the Period 1 buildings and appear to be the original, late Victorian design.
- 4.46 The entrance hall (G7) had been thoroughly refitted in Period 3 and these details will be returned to. A fireplace was evident, behind panelling on the west side, but again this appeared to be a Period 2 replacement.
- 4.47 Following Corridor C2 westwards leads past room G8 (Fig. 27). This large room has a fireplace at each end, the grates for which are probably Period 2, but the actual surround is Period 1. The room is panelled, and it is suspected that this is of some later 20th century date given its poor quality. It is certainly not of Period 1. The room, given its size, was probably intended as a library.
- 4.48 The west end of corridor C1 opens into a lobby with a Period 1 stair (ST3), a hallway leading off to the brick porch on the north elevation and a corridor running south along the west wing (both C3). The stair, although boarded in and with an added raised hand-rail (to meet modern health and safety standards) still retained its handsome, carved newel posts (Fig. 28).
- 4.49 To the north of the stair, reached from the hallway is a small room (Fig. 3, G9). This is the first of the rooms that probably formed the headmaster's house, a small parlour, but could well have functioned as a secretary's or deputy's room. The fireplace is again a Period 2 insertion as are the brass door finger-plates. These latter, very simple with three, stamped, circular, sun disc designs, were common in the building.
- 4.50 Across the hall, in the corner of the west wing and the northern range, was what was undoubtedly the highest-status room in the house (G10). This was lit by a bay window on the west and had a fine fireplace of Period 1 set in a recess on the north side with two chimney windows either side (Figs 3 and 29). Like all the windows in the Period 1 part of the school, the bay windows were iron-framed casements with custom-made wrought iron furniture (Fig. 30).

4.51 South along the corridor, on the west was another room of similar size, minus the bay (G11), again with a Period 1 fireplace. On the east were two good-sized rooms (G12 and G14), lit from the western courtyard. G12 had an original set of shelves with cast iron filigree brackets on the west side. The south-west corner of this wing contained two small store-rooms (G13a and b) opening off the passage to the back door in the west elevation, the back stair (ST4), and a further small room (G15). These look to be the service rooms for the headmaster's house.

First floor (Fig. 26)

- 4.52 The first floor was even more obviously divided into teaching blocks (the main north elevation) and administrative/domestic (the west wing), as the floor levels in the main section were considerably higher.
- 4.53 Either side of a smaller room in the tower (F23) were originally two large open roofed halls with multiple trusses, large general purpose classrooms. The eastern one, F4 was still undivided, but the western had been divided into two at some point subsequent to Period 1, F4 and F5. They were well-lit from the high dormers on the north and high windows above the corridor roof on the south.
- 4.54 Two extra classrooms were added in Period 2, F3 and F5 (Figs 19 and 26). The butt joint and inserted window could be clearly seen externally at the east end of the corridor, above the Period 3 stair. The east wall rose well above the side wall of the Period 1 hall G1/F1.
- 4.55 At the west end the lateral corridor descended to the lower first floor level of the western wing via ST3. As on the ground floor nearly all the fireplaces seem to belong to Period 2 (e.g. Fig. 33) being classically inspired and detailed with light Edwardian renaissance revival-style surrounds. However, a small fireplace, almost certainly of Period 1, survived in F12. It is probably significant that all the Period 1 survivals are in the domestic, west wing.

Second floor (Fig. 34)

4.56 The two earliest building periods were the only part of the school to have a second floor. A small staircase in the tower in the north elevation rose from S23 into a single turret room (Fig. 34) and ST3 rose into the garret rooms in the west wing. These were also reached by the service stair ST4.

4.57 The west wing garret was clearly domestic, and it seems that room S12 was two bedrooms when first built, S12a and b. However, the cast-iron grate and oven in S12a suggests that these rooms might have been intended for lodgings, perhaps for junior masters or servants. The two rooms are now knocked into one at some point and the circulation was changed in Period 2 as on the first floor (Fig. 34). The room is lit by two dormers which seem to be relatively recent replacements of earlier, unknown arrangements, the windows being recent sashes in a style unlike other dormers, which are almost all of Period 2. Rooms S14 and S15 could have made another set of lodgings.

Period 2: 1929

- 4.58 The 1899 OS map (Fig. 42) shows that a short wing on the southern end of the Period 1 west wing was demolished to make way for this block. Its character, or even how many floors it had remains unknown. The new addition consisted of the block on the southern and eastern sides of the western courtyard and the first floor rooms F3 and F6 over G3 and G5. The interior of these blocks was much more classically influenced, matching the external treatment but less constrained by the Period 1 designs. It was also in this Period, based on comparisons with the fireplaces in the Period 2 block, that most of the fireplaces in the Period 1 buildings were replaced.
- 4.59 The ground floor of the southern block was given over to a large room and a smaller room at the west end (Figs 3 and 31). The room was given much wooden detailing as pilasters, cornices and fine doors and door cases in polished oak. The south-east corner had been partitioned off with a modern stud wall with a serving hatch, presumably reflecting use as a canteen or similar. The floor within the partition has been raised burying the base of the large door into the adjacent Period 4 singlestorey block. This appeared to have been fitted out as a small kitchen but no large scale catering facilities were evident.
- 4.60 A lobby at the north-west corner of the hall G17, led through to the south end of the Period 1 block.
- 4.61 North of the hall was the staircase ST5 (Figs 3, 26, 34 and 32). The block it was in was built west of and parallel to the south wing of the Period 1 build. North of the stair this had been gutted and extended in Period 7 into the western courtyard for changing rooms/showers (G20a and b, Fig. 3). On the first floor this was similarly

- gutted for WCs. Characteristic windows in its north side allowed it to be allocated to this period.
- 4.62 The first floor was at a lower level than the Period 1 building first floor so the corridor linking it to ST2 (Fig. 3) was supplied with steps up. This seems to have led to the insertion of the lobby in the north-west corner of F21.
- 4.63 Southwards from ST5 led to three classrooms in the southern block: F17a, b and c. They were en echelon and from their west end was reached the south end of the west wing. The walls of the rooms had been lined with large sheets of pale varnished plywood, almost certainly dating from Period 3. The circulation into the Period 1 west wing had been changed in Period 2 by the contrivance of a new corridor and the blocking of the south end of the Period 1 corridor (Fig. 26). ST 3 had been enclosed for fire regulations at some recent date.
- 4.64 The addition of the first floor classrooms F3 and F6 in this Period has been described above.
- 4.65 The second floor in this block was simply three further classrooms but as they were set in the roof space as attics with dormers had a very different feel to the plain rooms below (Figs 34 and 35). A set of WCs had been contrived in the roof space north of ST5. Access to this roof space appeared to be secondary, the door having been cut through the southern gable end and reached via concrete steps. The northern gable end was entirely of slate-hung stud work. Its Crittall-style window and the raised ridge height and different roof covering from the roof over ST5 strongly suggested that this is a Period 3 or later addition or a replacement of an earlier roof of a different design (Fig. 36).
- 4.66 The connection to the Period 1 west wing at this level, also resulted in changes to the circulation (as above para 4.54, Fig. 34). The window furniture in the Period 2 windows was quite distinctive (Fig. 37).

Period 3: 1938

4.67 The hall G2 and the eastern extension towards the Buckingham Road were added in this period and was first used in 1938. The southern half of the Period 1 hall was incorporated as the vestibule and staircase (ST1) and the classrooms G1 and F1 contrived in the northern half (Figs 3, 26, 38, 39). The interior was plain but wellfinished in an interesting change in style from Period 2 of only 9 years earlier. The

- hall is in a restrained Art-Deco style taking elements from the traditional and the modern movement.
- 4.68 As well as being used for assembly and corporate meetings, the hall was fitted out with a stage with flies for theatrical performances.
- 4.69 The entrance hall in the Period 1 north range was refitted in this period (Room G7). The room was lined in varnished plywood and the south wall fitted up with bent wood pilasters and detailing. The bronze light fitting probably belongs to his period. The Period 2 fireplace was sealed in behind the panelling (Fig. 40). The central heating was presumably fitted around this time, as radiator compartments have been contrived in this panelling.
- 4.70 The eastern wing has already been noted as incorporating an earlier building. The wing was clearly built for science labs/workshops, as these are what they were most recently used for. Many of the remaining fittings would not be out of place in the 1930s or 50s. A door into the northern end of G27 was of interest as it appeared to have been recycled from Period 1, based on its mouldings and diagonal boarding.
- 4.71 The easternmost rooms on both floors here had originally been extremely well-lit as they had large windows along the east side and, in addition, three large windows on the south, blocked when the Period 6 extension was added.

Period 4 (1950s or 1960s)

4.72 The added first floor over the Period 1 south wing was allocated to this "in between" phase, as it was so extremely carefully matched visually and structurally to the Period 1 block and very different from the 1938 or 1950s works. The Period 1 gable end of the south wing was seen incorporated in the new block above the ceiling at the junction of rooms F21 and F22 (Fig. 26). The block provided a large new room, albeit at two levels, accessible from ST2 and ST5 and was latterly used as a staff room. This is likely to have been its original function. It is known to post-date 1955 as it is absent in a photograph of the dining hall, G17, of that year, but its exact date is unclear.

Periods 5 and 6

4.73 These were presumed to be post-war stylistically and were indeed built between 1956 and 1960. The northern wing is a less accurate replica of the Period 3 block than the southern wing, but the latter was nonetheless thought be later, on the basis of the character of the bricks and the use of mastic to seal the vertical joint with the Period 3 walls. It also seems more sensible to have added the northern block first. It is, however, possible that the sequence should be reversed.

- 4.74 The fittings in the southern block seem to be more 1960s in style. However, one set of cupboards along the south side of the first floor room, F28, seem to have been recycled from the Period 1 fittings from elsewhere in the building (Fig. 41).
- 4.75 An odd feature of the southern block is that it had originally no access from the Period 3 block (Fig. 26). Access to the ground floor must have been directly from the yard on the west, and it is assumed that the first floor had an external stair. After the construction of the Period 8 block it could be reached from the added lean-to corridor (Figs 17 and 26).
- 4.76 These blocks were clearly more science rooms, set up to increase the Period 3 facilities for physics and chemistry and had probably always been intended for this use.
- 4.77 It is thought likely that this period was when the main Period 1 staircase ST2 was boarded in (along with ST3) and the landing to the staff room enclosed, all presumably for safety reasons.

Periods 7 and 8

4.74 These blocks were not recorded in detail as they are so recent. The interiors were extremely plain, although the stairwell of the Period 8 block was given diagonal board panelling, a clear allusion to the Period 1 details elsewhere in the building.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The school buildings were an interesting example of a building growing, changing and adapting over time and it is somewhat surprising just how many changes had occurred in a little over 100 years.
- 5.2 The first two phases were clearly well-resourced and a clear expression of corporate self-esteem. They were accomplished pieces of architectural design, although externally the Period 1 design is perhaps a little old-fashioned by 1885. On the other hand this may have been deliberate. The creation of two Fives courts in this period (as they appear on the 1899 OS map, Fig. 42) with their clear echoes of the top

public schools is probably part and parcel of a visual appeal to tradition, as was certainly the creation of a medieval-style open hall at the east end. It would have been interesting to see how much care had been lavished on the entrance hall in the first period, before it was reworked in Period 3, and how the assembly hall was finished and furnished. The latter of course, was provided with a fine belfry.

- 5.3 The functional aspect of the Period 1 design and how it was developed are also of interest. The large classrooms with high windows, well-lit, but not offering a view out to seated pupils, and with their high, airy ceilings, are typical of the design of schools, "Board" as well as Grammar, in the later 19th century. The plan is clearly articulated with the constituent parts separated and of quite obvious function. The asymmetrical "medieval" informality of the plan actually also provides a strongly practical layout. This expressive planning also allowed the identification of the west wing as the headmaster's house with a servants section and the suggestion that the second floor was used as lodgings for junior masters. In fact, it appears that the growth of boarding in the school led to headmaster to vacate his house in the first two decades of the 20th century and allow it to be used for boarders (Old By memoirs n.d.a). The lodgings may have been, therefore, for housemasters. On the other hand, the varied planning resulted in a roof plan with awkward valleys and flats that was clearly a maintenance problem.
- Not surprisingly, sanitation does not figure highly in the early layout and it is possible that the late Period 1 structure incorporated in the Period 3 hall and block was a WC block. Next to it along the Buckingham Road was the open-fronted indoor or wetweather playground. The presumed headmaster's accommodation in the west wing presumably had WCs in the smaller rooms in the south end, as they certainly recently served this purpose.
- The Period 2 addition, at the southern end of the western courtyard was thought to date from around 1910 stylistically but was in fact built in 1929 to provide dormitory accommodation and the dining hall. The design is indicative not only of a change in architectural fashion, but also the provision of more domestic style and scale with (relatively) low ceilings and broad proportions. The ground-floor hall, while formal in effect and expensively finished, is again relatively low and domestic in scale.
- 5.6 The ceilings of the two first-floor classrooms added to the Period 1 block at this time were, nonetheless, very high and reflected a continuing cleaving to tradition.

- 5.7 It is clear that in Period 2 much work was carried out in the school generally, as nearly all the grates and fireplace surrounds in the older section were replaced with a more classical style that is also found in the south-western block.
- 5.8 The quality of this work reflects that in the Period 2 block, which is very high, in the Arts-and-Crafts tradition of good materials and careful craftsmanship.
- 5.9 The next major phase is of considerable interest. The southwards extension of the Period 1 hall and the creation of the eastern wing in Period 3 indicates a desire for a very much larger corporate as well as teaching space. Both elements incorporated older fabric in a very functional way, but with little respect for their architectural qualities. Both elements were simply treated as convenient, re-usable shells.
- 5.10 The Period 3 hall and science block used an idiom, Art Deco heavily influenced by the Arts and Crafts movement, that gave both forward-looking and conservative signals, typical of main-stream architectural design in Britain between the wars. They also, crucially, provided up-to-date rooms and equipment for modern teaching of science, reflecting the growth in pupil numbers from around 200 to around 400 from 1920 to 1938 and the increasing importance of such subjects.
- 5.11 After the Second World War, numbers continued to grow and the various extensions of Periods 5-8 provided increasing space both for pupils and for the more complex requirements of later 20th century education. The dormitories in the Period 2 south west block were turned into classrooms, but with the inconvenient through-access of the dormitories still in evidence, when boarding was abandoned in the 1960s.
- 5.12 The current proposals require the demolition of all the Period 3 and later buildings, but also some parts of the Period 1 structures, including the hall and the Fives courts, and of course those parts of the Period 1 buildings incorporated in Period 3.

5. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Peter Davenport assisted by Rachel Leung. The report was written by Peter Davenport and Rachel Leung. The illustrations were prepared by Lorna Gray. The archive has been compiled by Rachel Leung, and prepared for deposition by James Johnson. The project was managed for CA by Mark Collard.

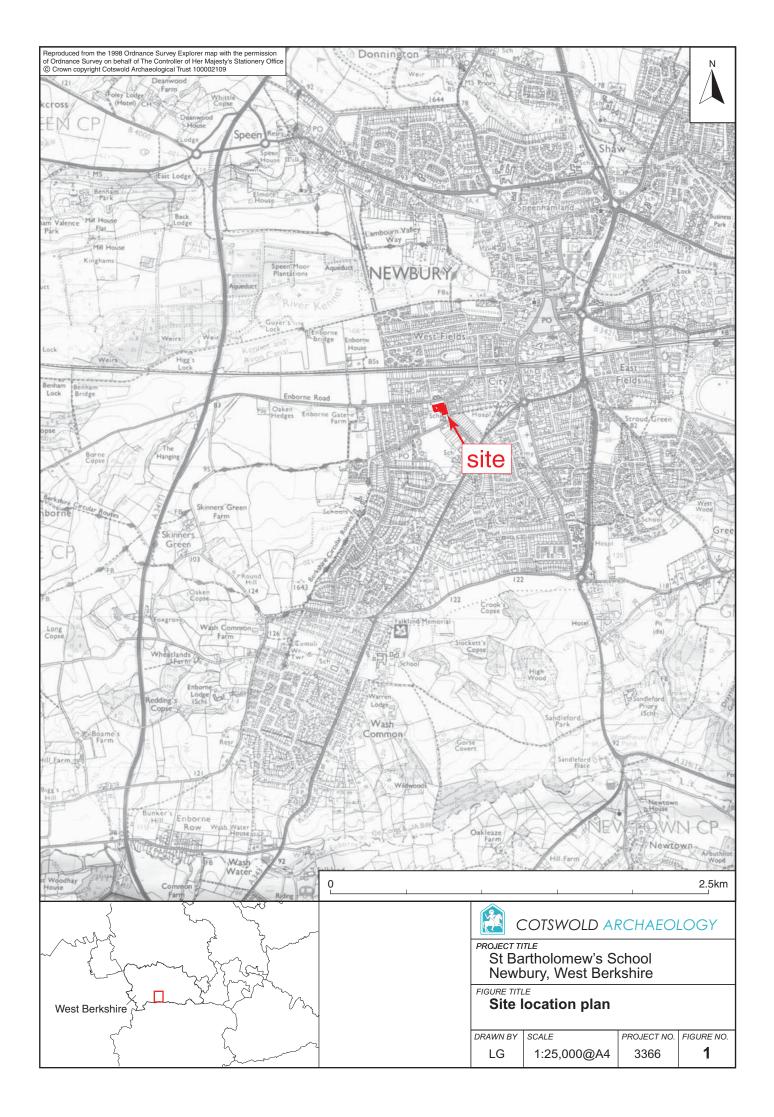
6. REFERENCES

- Allan, S. 1956 A Brief History of St Bartholomew's Grammar School (as seen in extract in Old Boy memoirs n.d.a)
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2011 St Bartholomew's School (Wormestall), Enborne Road, Newbury, West Berkshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for Historic Building Recording
- EH (English Heritage) 2006 Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice (Swindon)
- Old Boy Memoirs n.d.a A history of the school up to 1956 was presented in a mock-up page from *The Times* newspaper printed on a special mobile press as a demonstration for the school. This was accessed at http://www.ampneycrucis.f9.co.uk/PARK/WormestallsChantry.htm on 18 March 2011
- Old Boy Memoirs n.d.b. Photographs of school life in the 1950s. This was accessed at http://www.ampneycrucis.f9.co.uk/PARK/newbury.htm on 18 March 2011

APPENDIX A: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS				
Project Name	St Barts School, Newbury BR Report			
Short description	Historic Building Recording was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology for CgMs Consulting, on behalf of Linden Homes, of the former St Bartholomew's School. The oldest part of the building was built in 1885 to house St Bartholomew's Boys' Grammar School. The rest of building mostly dates to before the change to comprehensive status in 1975, with the bulk of the work completed in the first half of the 20th century. The oldest part of the building is in a late 19th century medieval gothic revival style, extensively refurbished and extended in 1929, and further remodelled in 1938 with large scale additions. Further subsequent remodelling included those consequent on the conversion to a comprehensive school in 1975. An interesting characteristic of the building is the great care taken in matching additions to earlier elements, both stylistically and structurally, inside and out.			
Project dates	17-18 February 2011			
Project type	Historic Building Assessment			
Previous work	None			
Future work	Unknown	Unknown		
PROJECT LOCATION				
Site Location	Enborne Road, Newbury, Berkshire			
Study area (M ²)	2960			
Site co-ordinates	SU 4641 6638			
PROJECT CREATORS				
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology			
Project Brief originator	None			
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology			
Project Manager	Mark Collard			
Project Supervisor	Peter Davenport			
MONUMENT TYPE	None			
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None			
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content		
Physical	West Berkshire Heritage Services	None		
Paper		Site notes, BW photos		
Digital		Digital photos, pdf report		
BIBLIOGRAPHY				

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2011 *St Bartholomew's School (Wormestall), Enborne Road, Newbury West Berkshire: Historic Building Recording.* CA typescript report **11060**



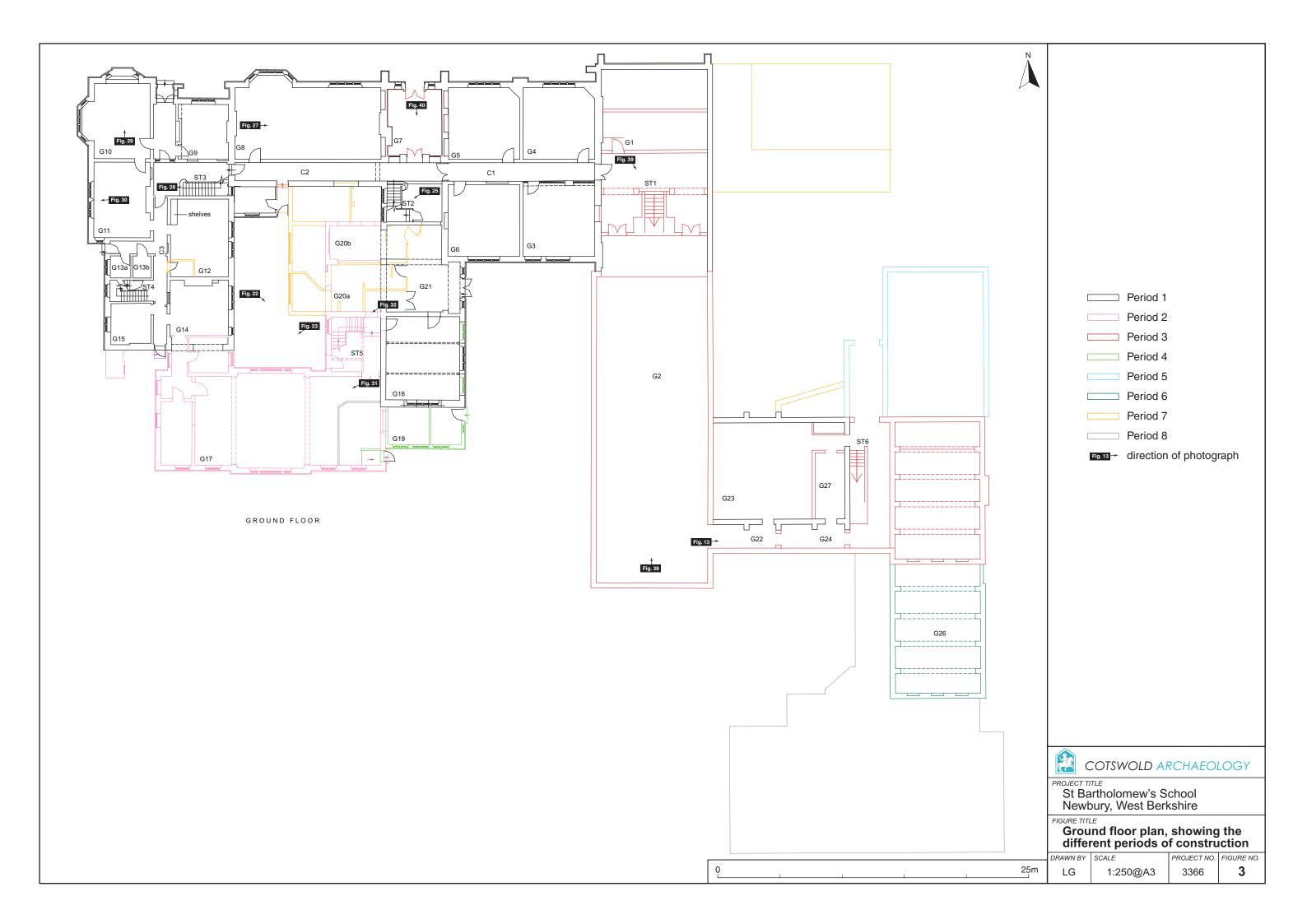
direction of photograph

level 3 survey

level 2 survey

FIGURE TITLE The site, showing recorded buildings

DRAWN BY SCALE PROJECT NO. FIGURE NO. LG 1:1000@A4 3366 2



4 The west elevation, looking east



6 The chimney stack on the north end of the west wing, looking north-east



5 The north elevation, looking south





COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE
St Bartholomew's School
Newbury, West Berkshire

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
LG	n/a	3366	4-6

7 The chimney stack on the south end of the west wing, looking north



8 The exterior of the chimney stack in Fig. 6, at ground level, looking south-east



9 The belfry on the roof of the old hall, seen from the roof of the main block, looking east



10 The north elevation of the Period 7 addition at the east side of the Period 1 hall, looking south



11 The south elevation of the Period 7 addition at the east side of the Period 1 hall, looking north





COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE
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Newbury, West Berkshire

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
LG	n/a	3366	7-11

12 The eastern courtyard, looking south



13 Two of the buttresses of the Period 1 building incorporated in the corridor on the south side of the Period 3 additions, looking east. The further one is in the wall and faint



14 The Fives courts, looking east



15 The east elevation, looking north-north-west





PROJECT TITLE
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Newbury, West Berkshire

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
LG	n/a	3366	12-15

16 The Period 8 addition: the south elevation, looking north



17 The western side of the Period 8 addition, with the Period 3 and 5 buildings behind it and on the left



18 The south end of the Period 3 hall, looking north



19 The south elevation of the Period 1 (ground floor and Period 2 (first floor) north side of the central courtyard, looking north





PROJECT TITLE
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Newbury, West Berkshire

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
LG	n/a	3366	16-19

20 The east elevation of the buildings forming the west side of the central courtyard, looking north-west



22 The east side of the eastern courtyard, looking south-east



21 The south elevation of the Period 2 wing, looking north-west



23 The south-west corner of the western courtyard, looking east The junction of the Period 2 building with the Period 1 is just right of the stench pipe. The top right window is a Period 2 insertion into the Period 1 wall





PROJECT TITLE
St Bartholomew's School
Newbury, West Berkshire

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO
LG	n/a	3366	20-23

24 The upper part of the Period 1 hall in room F1, with Period 3 ceiling and inserted floor, looking south-east



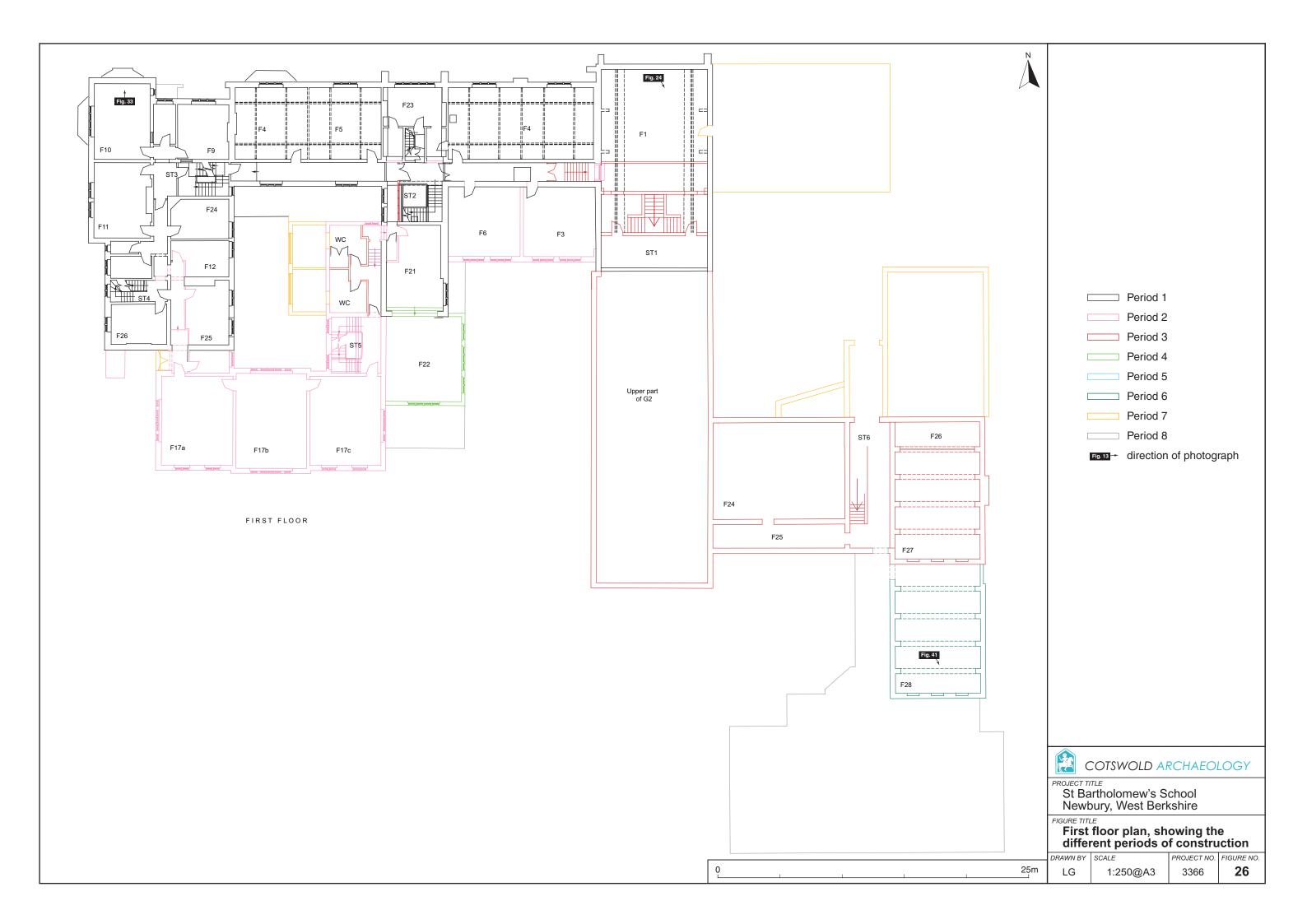
25 Period 1 panelling at the base of Staircase ST2 in the centre of the Period 1 block, looking south-west





PROJECT TITLE
St Bartholomew's School
Newbury, West Berkshire

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
LG	n/a	3366	24-25



27 Room G8, looking east



29 The Period 1 fireplace and chimney windows in room G10, looking north



28 Period 1 stair ST3, looking east



30 Period 1 window furniture in G11, typical of this phase in the building





PROJECT TITLE
St Bartholomew's School
Newbury, West Berkshire

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
LG	n/a	3366	27-30

31 The ground floor Period 2 hall, G17, looking west from the north-east doorway



32 The Period 2 staircase ST5, looking south-west. The hand rail has been raised on extra ironwork for health and safety reasons



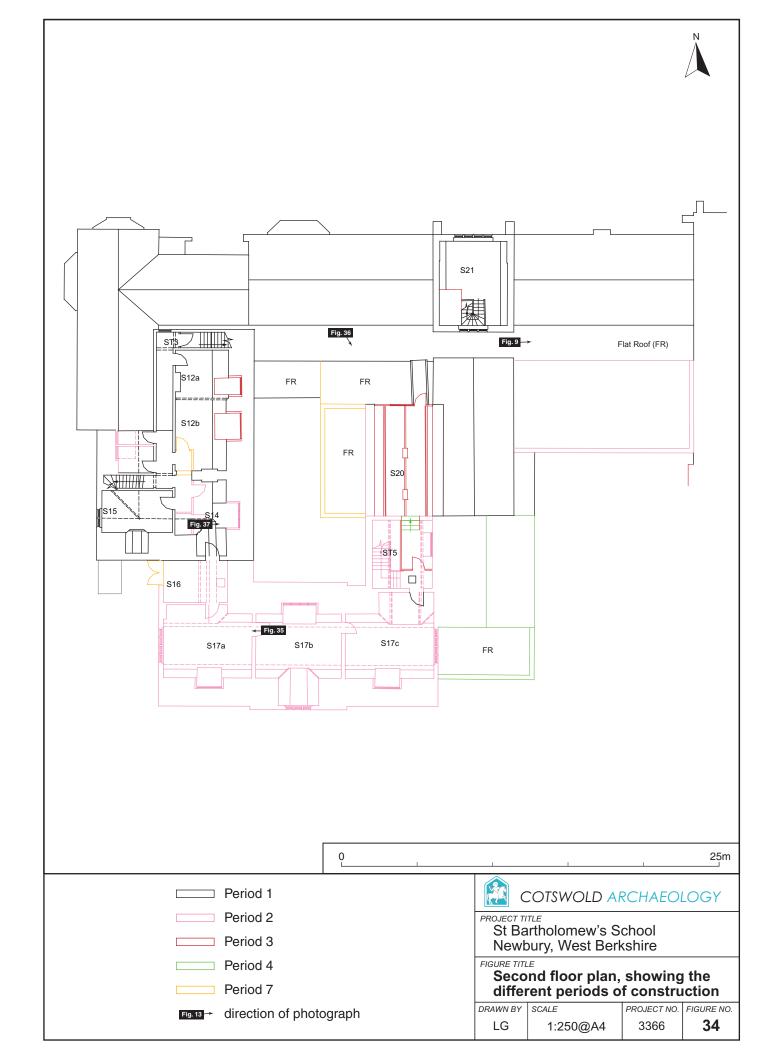
33 A typical Period 2 fireplace and surround in Period 1 room F10, looking north





PROJECT TITLE
St Bartholomew's School
Newbury, West Berkshire

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO
LG	n/a	3366	31-33



35 The second floor of the Period 2 south wing; room S17a, looking west



36 The added or rebuilt Period 3 roof over the Period 2 range north of ST5, looking south-east



37 Typical window furniture of Period 2





PROJECT TITLE
St Bartholomew's School
Newbury, West Berkshire

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
LG	n/a	3366	35-37

38 The interior of the Period 3 hall, G2, looking north from the stage (reflected in the mirror at the far end). The doors and the overshot first floor are within the shell of the Period 1 hall



39 The Period 3 stairs ST1, looking south-east



40 The south side of the entrance hall refitted in Period 3



41 The older cupboards, possibly Period 1, refitted in Period 6 in room F28





COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE
St Bartholomew's School
Newbury, West Berkshire

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
LG	n/a	3366	38-41

