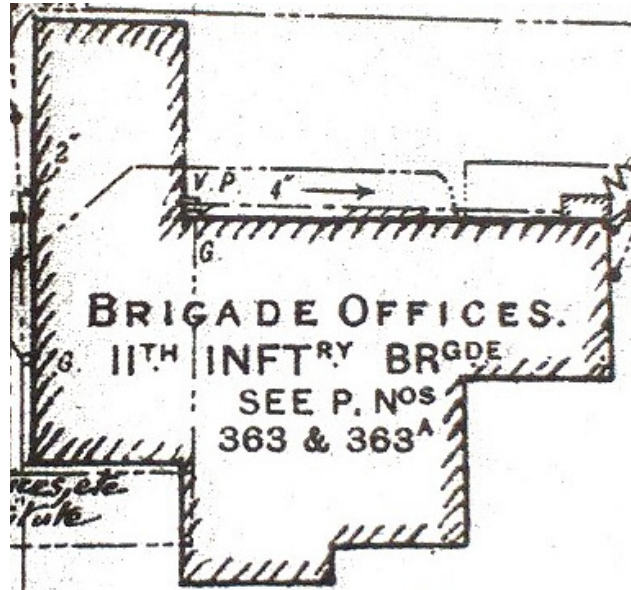


**Historic building recording
at the decommissioned
Hyderabad and Meeanee Barracks,
Colchester, Essex
April 2013**



**report prepared by
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**on behalf of
Taylor Wimpey**

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1 Summary

A programme of building recording was carried out by the Colchester Archaeological Trust on surviving structures at the decommissioned Hyderabad and Meeanee Barracks on Colchester Garrison. These include the original Guard House, Brigade Offices and Officers' Mess and Quarters of Meeanee Barracks, and the Officers' Mess and Quarters and the Regimental Institute of Hyderabad Barracks. All are brick buildings dating from the late 19th century/early 20th century, with later additions and alterations. The significance of the buildings lies in their association with past military events and the sea change in military thinking after the Crimean War that is reflected in the layout and design of the buildings.

2 Introduction (Fig 22)

This is the archive report on the historic building recording of structures at the former Hyderabad and Meeanee Barracks, Mersea Road, Colchester, Essex. The work was carried out on behalf of Taylor Wimpey Ltd by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) in April 2013. The structures recorded are located on the west side of the twin barracks, adjacent to Mersea Road, centred at NGR TM 0002 2439. The structures include three buildings from Meeanee Barracks and two from Hyderabad Barracks. The structures from Meeanee Barracks comprise the former Brigade Offices, dating to c 1897, later converted to use as a guard house (referenced MEE 01 throughout this report), the original barracks Guard House, dating to c 1896, later converted to a medical centre (MEE 03) and the Officers' Mess and Quarters, dating to 1898 (MEE 17). The structures from Hyderabad Barracks comprise the Officers' Mess and Quarters, dating to 1904 (HYD 08) and the former Regimental Institute, dating to 1904 and 1938 (HYD 11).

The structures are to be converted to residential dwellings as part of the programme of works associated with the redevelopment of Colchester Garrison. As a result of planning applications submitted to Colchester Borough Council and the impact of the proposed works on the historic integrity and the historical interest of buildings, a full archaeological condition was attached to the planning consent. This condition was based on the advice given in the National Planning Policy Framework.

Although no brief detailing the required work (historic building recording) was issued, a request was made by Alistair Day (Colchester Borough Council Principal Planning Officer) for an English Heritage Level 3 building survey to be carried out. This survey was requested after the demolition of the other barracks buildings and after conversion works were started on HYD 08. In addition HYD 11 was destroyed by fire in 2010 and scheduled for demolition on safety grounds.

All work was carried out according to standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2008) and *Standard and guidance for archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (2008a), *Management of research projects in the historic environment* (MoRPHE), and *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14).

3 Aims

The aim of the building recording was to provide a detailed record and assessment of the structures. The building recording was carried out to Level 3 (English Heritage, 2006). In particular the record considered:

- Plan form of the site.
- Materials and method of construction.
- Date(s) of each structure.
- Function and internal layout of each component.
- Fixtures and fittings (contemporary and later additions/adaptations).
- Phasing.
- The context of the structures within their immediate contemporary landscape and their importance on a national and regional level.

4 Building recording methodology

The following are included in this report:

- A brief documentary and cartographic survey of the evidence pertaining to the history and evolution of the site.
- A large-scale block plan of the site based on Ordnance Survey mapping. The position of each structure has been given a number noting date and function.
- A fully phased floor plan using the English Heritage (2006) Level 3 conventions at scale 1:100 of all buildings scheduled for conversion/demolition. Doors, windows, partitions, truss positions and any surviving fixtures/fittings are shown, together with evidence of phasing. The plans show all major structural additions to the building and any internal divisions, particularly where the alterations are associated with a change of function.
- A detailed description of each structure. The description addresses features such as materials, dimensions, method of construction, joinery, spatial configuration, phasing, reused timbers, carpentry marks/graffiti and any evidence of original fixtures and fittings.
- A discussion of the history and development of the buildings, including their design, date, form and function and any significant modifications/reuse.
- A brief overview of Colchester Garrison and how changes during the 19th and 20th century influenced the plan form.
- A full photographic record, comprising digital photographs of both general shots and details of individual buildings/features (external and internal). Selected examples of the photographic record are tied into the drawn record and reproduced as fully annotated photographic plates supporting the text (Appendix 1). The photographic record is accompanied by a photographic register detailing location and direction of shot (Appendix 2).

5 Historical background (Figs 1-23)

A documentary and cartographic search was undertaken to assess the evidence pertaining to the history and the evolution of the barracks buildings.

The British Army has a long association with Colchester, the town being home to the 16th Air Assault Brigade. However, prior to the Crimean War (1853-6), this association was always temporary, with soldiers billeted locally or housed in tents, particularly on Lexden Heath. During the Napoleonic Wars a temporary hutted camp was erected on Barrack Field, but this disposed of after the Battle of Waterloo (1815). In 1855-6 a hutted encampment was built on Ordnance Field, between Military and Mersea Roads, intended as a temporary infantry barracks for 5000 men, Colchester Camp (Figs 1, 2). At the end of the war it was decided to put the barracks at Colchester on a permanent footing, with the construction of the brick-built Cavalry Barracks in 1862-4. Other barracks were to follow: the Royal Artillery Barracks (later renamed Le Cateau Barracks) in 1874-75; Sobraon Barracks in 1900 and Goojerat Barracks in 1902. In 1896-1904 the temporary wooden huts of Colchester Camp on Ordnance Field were replaced by the brick buildings of Hyderabad and Meeanee Barracks (named for battles won by General Sir Charles Napier in the British Conquest of Sind in 1843). The start of this process is shown on the 1897 edition of the Ordnance Survey (Fig 3). By 1897 only a few of the brick buildings in Meeanee Barracks had been constructed, but the original barracks Guard House (MEE 03) was one of them. This was obviously considered to be of some significance as the new building was photographed and issued on a post card (Fig 4). The 1923 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 5) shows the completed barracks to be spacious and well laid-out, with avenues of trees linking the principal buildings.

Early plans of Hyderabad and Meeanee Barracks survive in the English Heritage Archive (EHA). These provide detailed floor plans of all the buildings on the site and date to 1910 for the ground floor plans (EHA 95/1579) and 1911 for the first and second floors (EHA 95/1580). They provide a wealth of information concerning the function of the buildings and also for the barracks themselves. The 1910 plan includes a 'Table of Accommodation' for the barracks, citing Meeanee Barracks as capable of catering for one First Officer and fifteen Officers and giving erection dates of 1896-99. Hyderabad Barracks is also able to accommodate one First Officer and fifteen Officers and is dated 1903-4. The 1911 plan

(compiled and drawn by Sergeant P E Beeley, Royal Engineers) provides even greater detail. This gives a date of commencement for Meeanee Barracks of 26th February 1895 (contradicting the 1910 plan) and a date of completion as 18th September 1899. The estimated cost was £47,663, with the actual cost totalling £49,923. Construction commenced on Hyderabad Barracks on 21st August 1902 and was completed on 13th May 1905 (again a contradiction with the 1910 plan). The construction cost was significantly higher for Hyderabad Barracks, estimated at £69,486 and totalling £74,372.

MEE 01, c 1897, is noted on the 1910 plan (Fig 6) as the Brigade Offices for the 11th Infantry Brigade, a brigade being an operational amalgamation of between three and six battalions. This plan only shows the outline of the building but internal divisions are included on another plan held by the English Heritage Archive dating to 1946 (Fig 7, EHA 95/1577). The plan shows the building to comprise three rectangular structures aligned north to south with a square structure on the east side. The easternmost of the rectangular components extends further to the north than in the modern structure. The square structure on the east side (later replaced by a garage) has a centrally located doorway in the south wall, flanked by windows, a fireplace and stairs leading to a cellar. Modernisation of the barracks was carried out 1958-61 and these changes are recorded on an undated plan (Fig 8, EHA 95/1581). The west side of the former Brigade Offices are labelled on this plan as the Church Rooms, and the building has been extended to the south and converted to a Guard House. The square structure to the east is labelled the Trailer Pump and appears to have been completely rebuilt.

MEE 03, c 1896, is the oldest surviving building. The 1910 plan (Fig 9) shows it simply as a square outline, labelled Guard House. A veranda is shown attached to the south side. Fig 10 shows the internal layout of the Guard House. This shows that the building is laid out as an inverted 'T' with enclosed yards at the north-west and north-east corners, presumably for prisoner exercise. The range to the south is made up of two large rooms, most likely the office and guard room, with a smaller room on the west side. This has no direct access to the main building and has its own doorway close by the main gate. It is possible this is a room for the sentries to use when the Guard House is closed for the night. The wing projecting north is the cell block, comprising four cells, two on either side of a broad corridor. The postcard of the Guard House shows that the south wall had three tall windows with hoppers above the level of the veranda (Fig 4). These were removed and replaced by smaller windows when the Guard House was converted to a Medical Centre in 1958-61 (Fig 8).

MEE 17 has an inscription 'V R 1898' in an oculus in the pediment over the main entrance porch, commemorating the year it was built and the monarch whom the Army served. The 1910 plan, which identifies it as the Officers' Mess and Quarters, shows this structure to be a large collection of buildings occupying an essentially square plot (Fig 11). By far the largest rooms are the Mess Room and the Ante Room although the Billiard Room is of a comparable size. The plan illustrates the luxury that officers enjoyed compared to the smaller quarters issued to enlisted men. Sixteen officers lived in MEE 17, each with their own private bedroom, six on the ground floor in the south wing and the remainder on the first floor (Fig 12). The First Officer alone had a sitting room, but all the officers were catered to by a Mess staff. Behind the imposing two-storeyed façade of the accommodation, the plan shows a complex of service rooms, including a kitchen, pantry, plate closet, scullery, larder, outhouses and coal sheds. Rooms for servants are located conveniently close to the kitchen and the bathrooms, and the First Officer's servants have their own room. The Mess manager has private apartments above the kitchen area. The modernisation of the barracks in 1958-61 increased the size of MEE 17. Fig 13 shows an extension to the north, between the Mess Room and the Mess manager's apartments, and a long extension projecting south has been added to the east end of the south wing. The original service rooms have been demolished and a new range constructed behind the Mess Room and Ante Room.

HYD 08 is the Officers' Mess and Quarters for Hyderabad Barracks, built in 1904, and is similar in plan form to MEE 17. The 1910 and 1911 plans (Figs 14 and 15) show an identical layout of Mess Room, Ante Room and Billiard Room but the remainder of the building follows a more elongated plan, with a greater element of symmetry. Stairs to the first floor, each with its own external doorway, are located north of the Mess Room and south of the Ante Room. Four officers are housed in the south wing and the First Officer's suite occupies the north-west corner of the north wing, along with the First Officer's

servant. The rest of the ground floor is given over to service areas and servants' rooms. The first floor is predominantly occupied by the officers' bedrooms but there are additional seven servants rooms and a centrally located bathroom that projects from the rear of the main range. As with MEE 17, there is a separate apartment for the Mess manager, located at the north-east corner of the building. The modernisation programme that took place in 1958-61 added an extension to the south wing (Fig 16) and removed some of the service areas on the ground floor, although little change was made to the first floor, apart from the removal of the north stairwell. A postcard from the early 20th century shows the west elevation of HYD 08 with MEE 17 visible in the background. This shows that the façade has changed little since the Mess was constructed (Fig 17).

HYD 11, also built in 1904, is labelled as the Regimental Institute on the 1910 map (Fig 18). It is an east-west aligned building with an entrance projecting to the north and a service wing attached to the south-west corner. The main range has a Stage at the east end, with a basement below, with the remainder of the ground floor divided between a Lecture Room, Supper Room and Bar. The bar is shown with internal access, via a ladder, to an external underground beer cellar. The 1911 map shows the first floor, which is labelled as the Recreation Establishment (Fig 19). This is divided into three parts: a large Billiard and Games Room to the east; a Reading Room and Library to west; and a narrow Writing Room between them. The service wing is shown with a small apartment of two bedrooms on the first floor. A 1946 revision to the 1910 plan of Hyderabad and Meeanee Barracks (EHA 95/1578) provides the ground floor plan for the Regimental Institute after the 1938 extension (Fig 20). The extension includes a Corporals' Restaurant at the west end, a Soldiers' Room and an additional Bar. A Beer Store is located to the south of the new Bar. No plans of the first floor to the 1938 extension were located, so it is not possible to say what this part of the building was used for, but an extension to the 1904 Reading Room seems likely. The modernisations of 1958-61 affected HYD 11 by replacing the service wing with a much larger kitchen area, part of a large extension on the south side of the building (Fig 21). A smaller extension is located on the north-west corner of the 1938 building. The building appears labelled as the Junior Ranks Club. This building may be more familiar when described as the NAAFI, the Navy, Army and Air Force Institute, which provided services for the enlisted ranks. These services took the form of bars, restaurants and shops where the troops could purchase small items and spend their pay in an environment that was separate to the barracks mess. Entertainment was often provided for the troops, hence the inclusion of a stage in the Institute building.

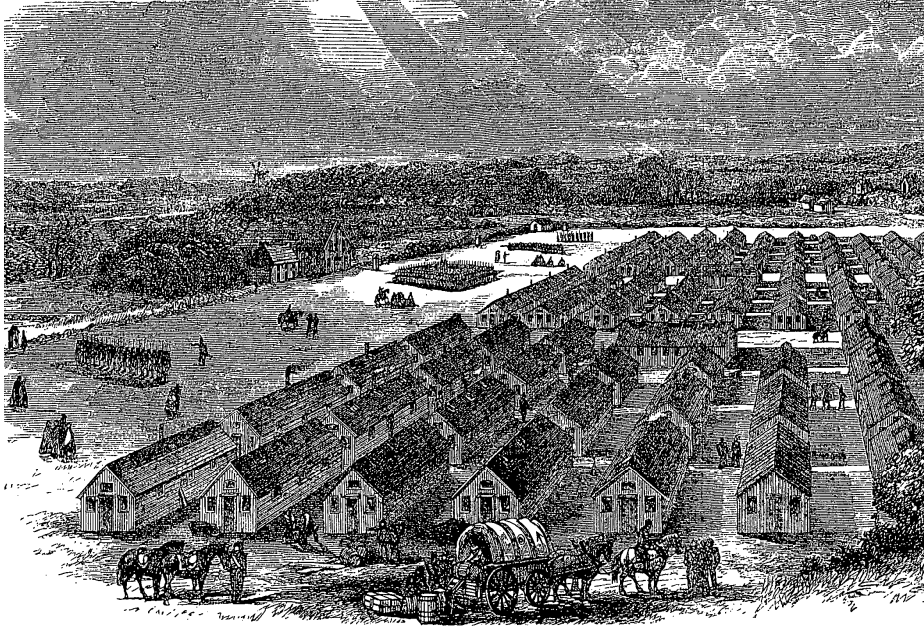


Fig 1 View of the hutted encampment on Ordnance Field c 1856 (VCH vol IX, p 251)

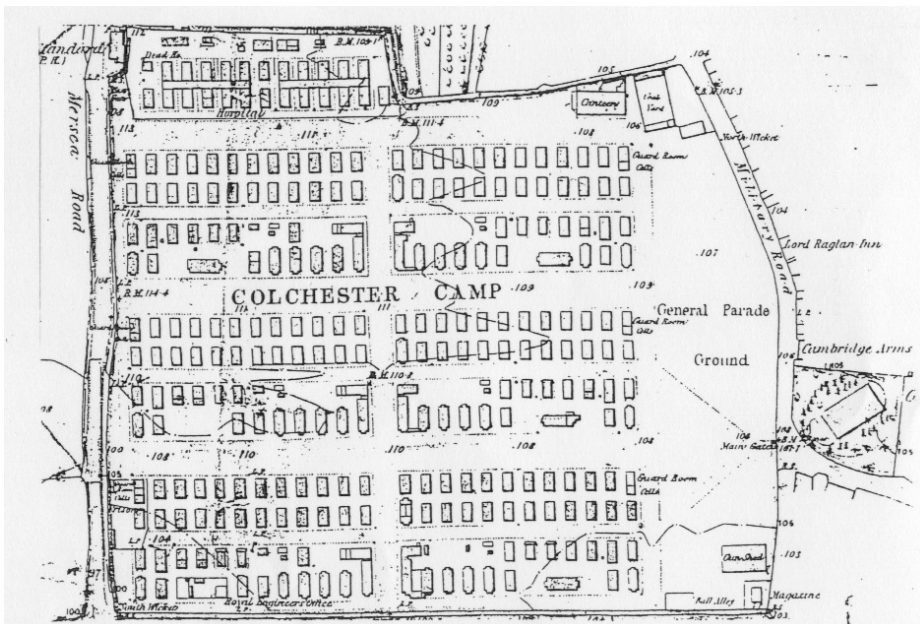


Fig 2 1860 Ordnance Survey map of Colchester Camp and Abbey Farm showing the hutted encampment on Ordnance Field (EHA 95/01678).

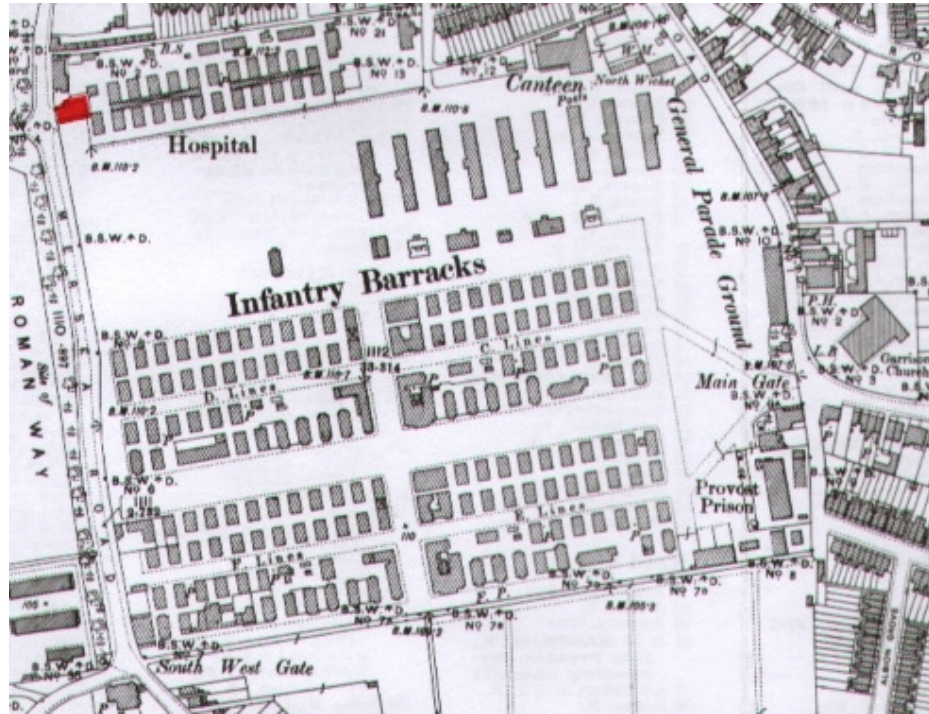


Fig 3 2nd edition 6" Ordnance Survey map, 1897 (sheet XXVII), the original Guard House, MEE 03, is shown highlighted.



Fig 4 Postcard of the entrance to Meeanee Barracks, showing MEE 03, the original Guard House (www.bowcott.com).

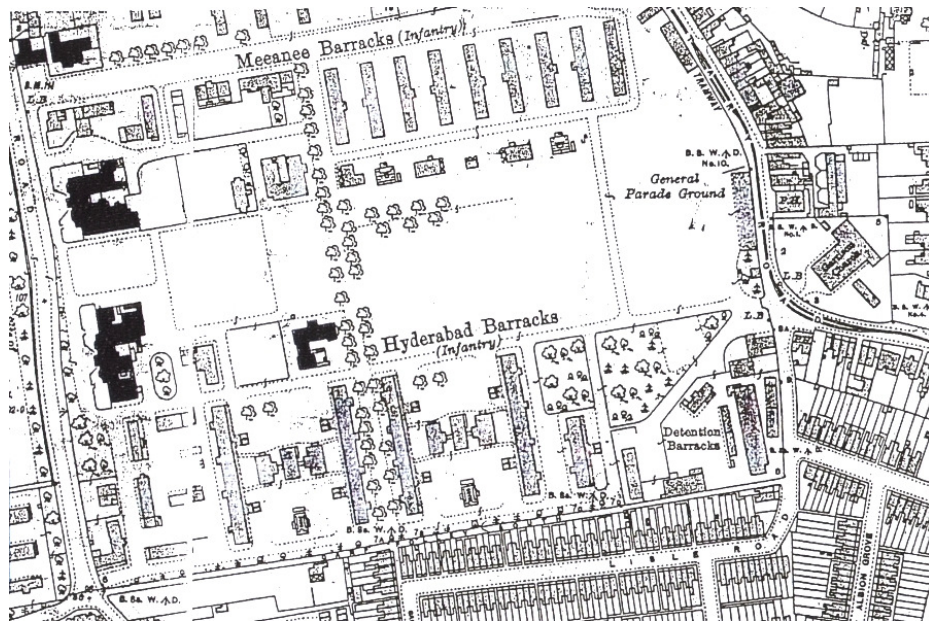


Fig 5 1923 edition Ordnance Survey map, showing MEE 01, MEE 03, MEE 17, HYD 08 and HYD 11 blacked out.

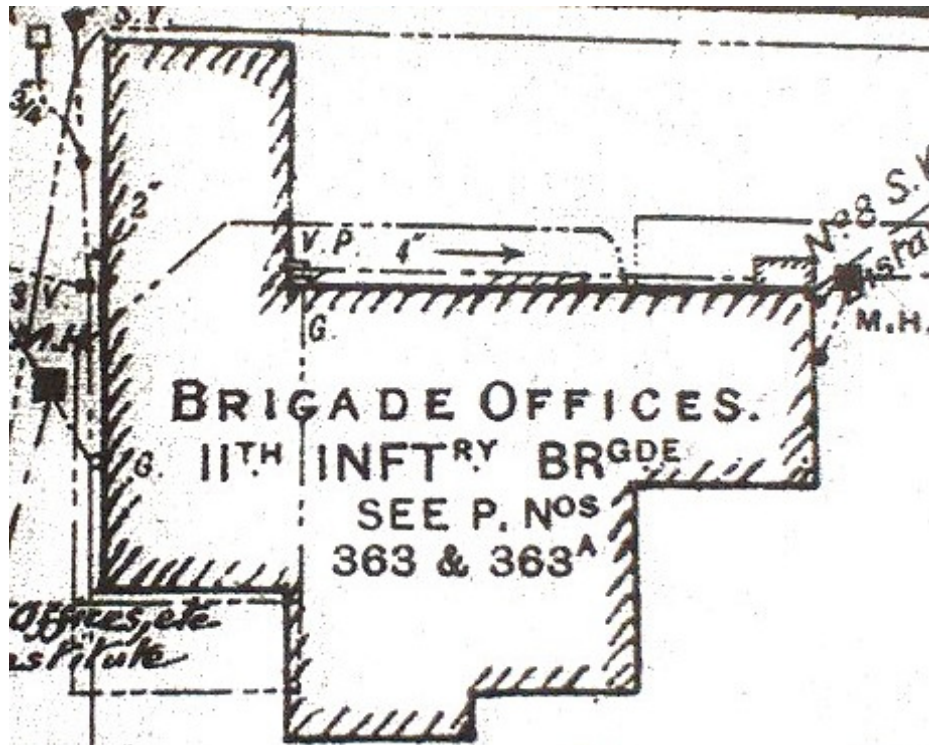


Fig 6 Extract from 1910 plan showing the original function of MEE 01 (EHA 95/1579).

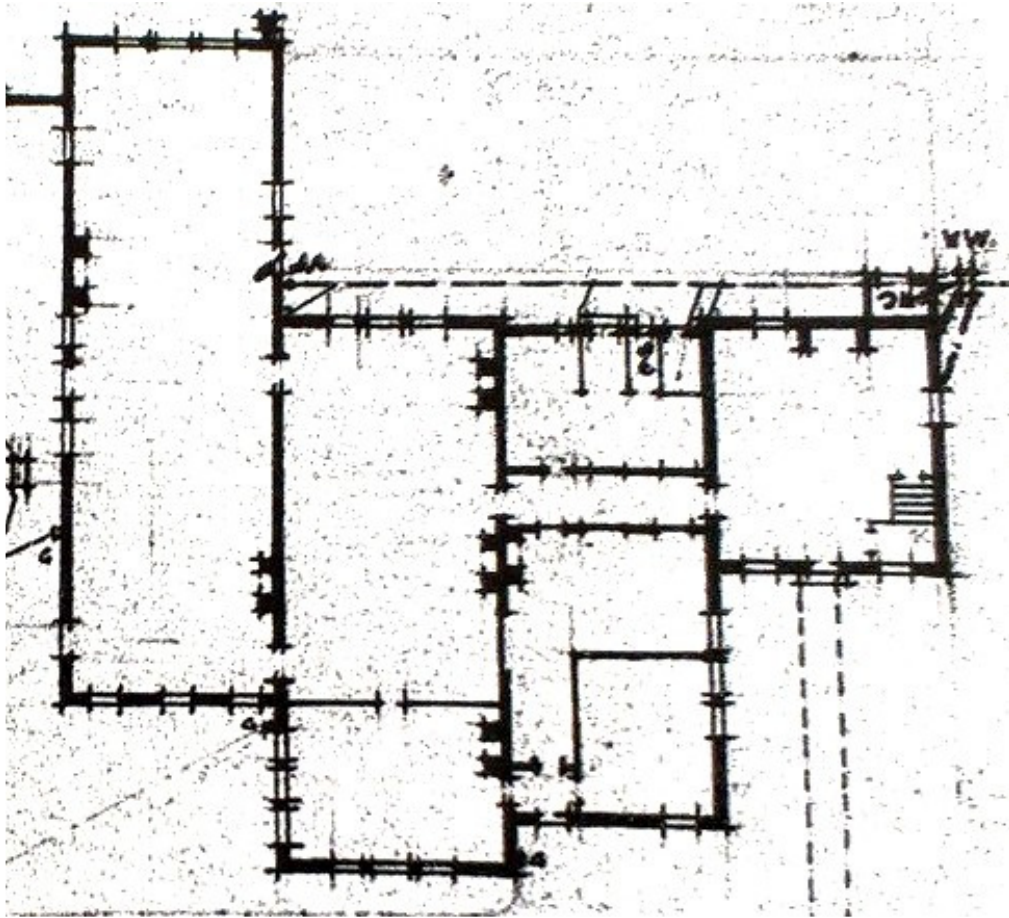


Fig 7 Extract from c 1946 plan showing the original internal layout of MEE 01 (EHA 95/1577).

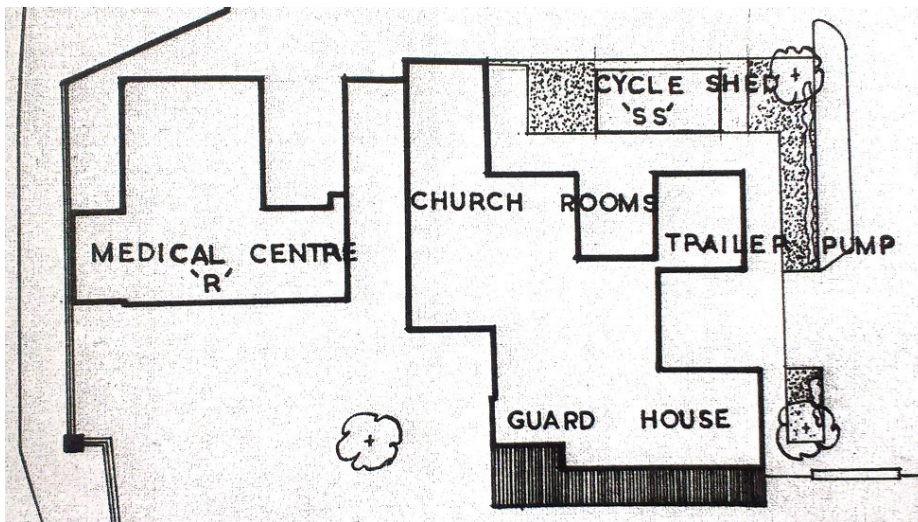


Fig 8 Extract from undated plan recording the 1958-61 alterations, showing the changes made to MEE 01 (right) and MEE 03 (left) (EHA 95/1581).

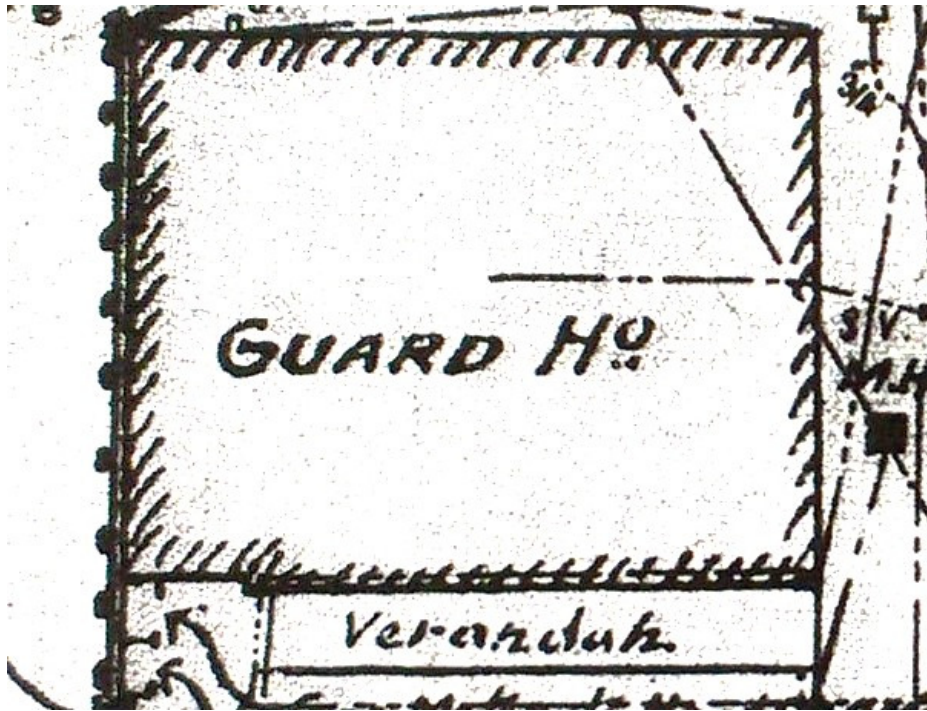


Fig 9 Extract from 1910 plan showing the original function and layout of MEE 03 (EHA 95/1579).

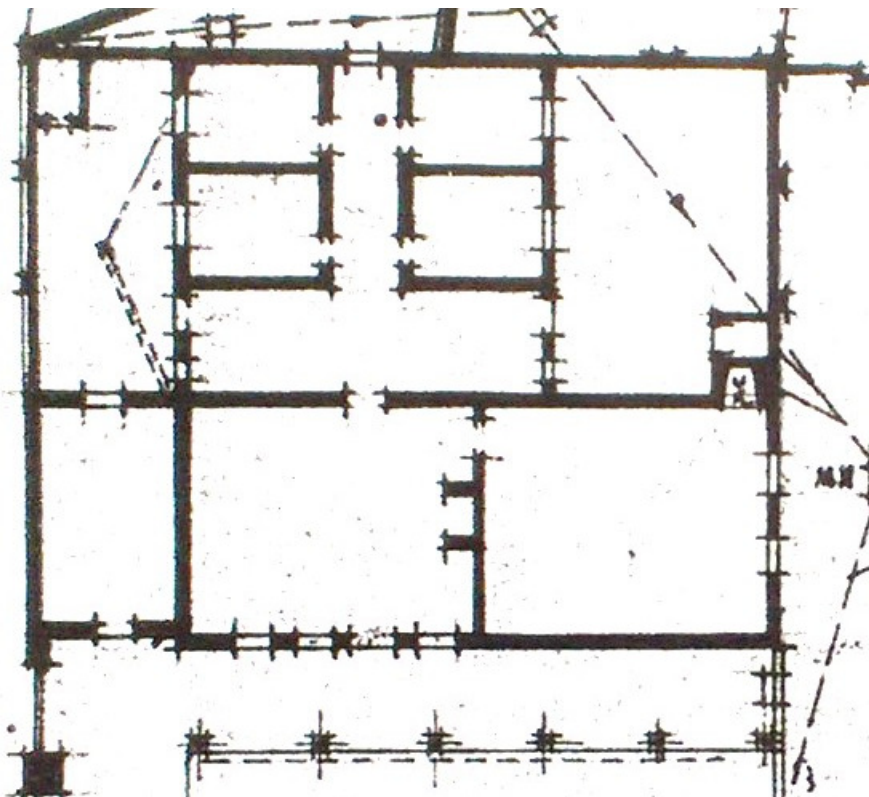


Fig 10 Extract from c 1946 plan showing the original internal layout of MEE 03 (EHA 95/1577).

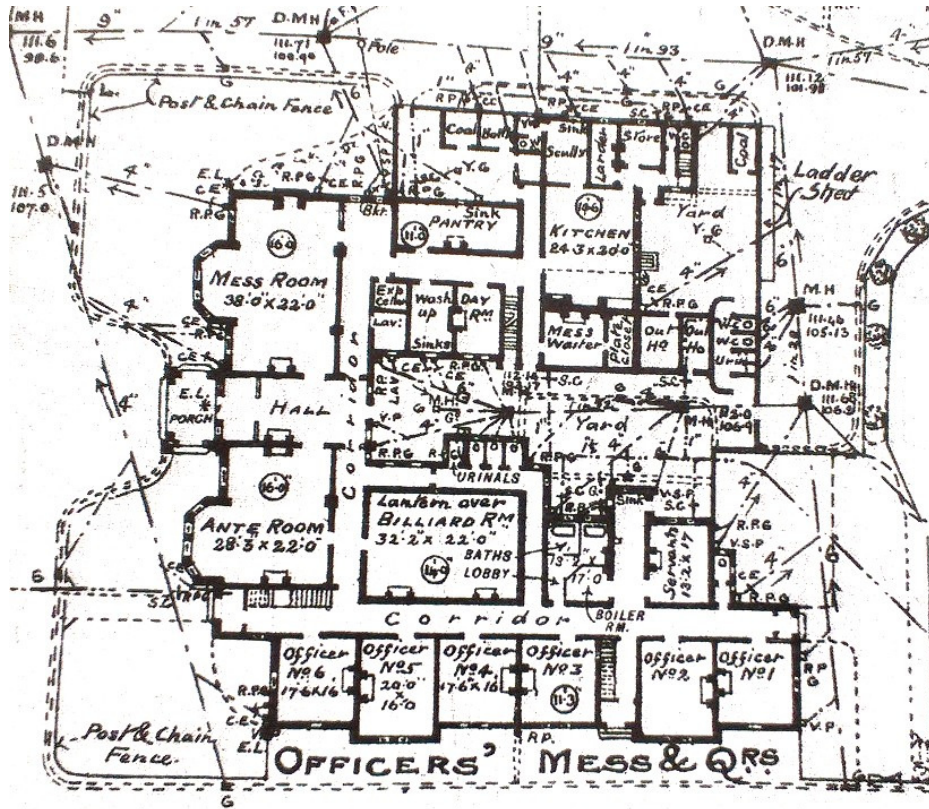


Fig 11 Extract from 1910 plan showing the original function and layout of the ground floor of MEE 17 (EHA 95/1579).

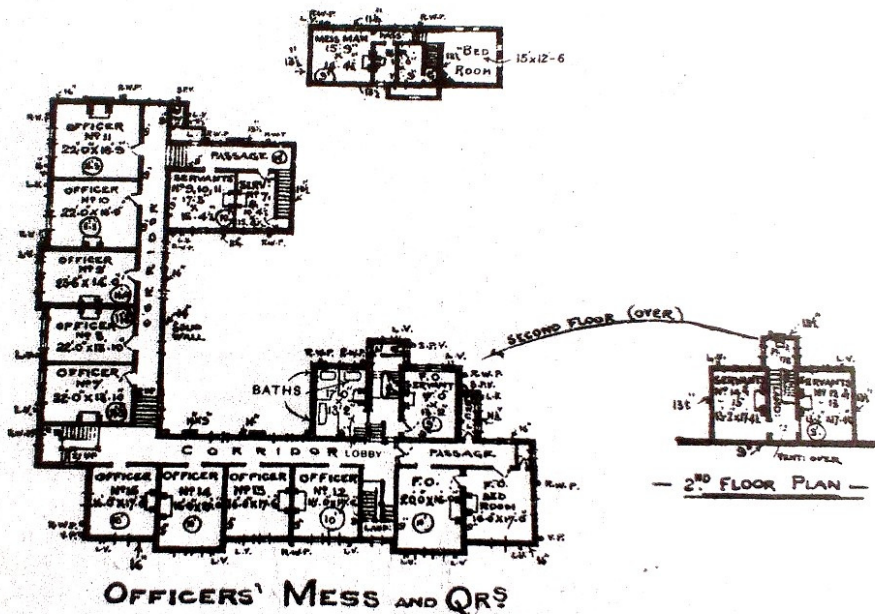


Fig 12 Extract from 1911 plan showing the original function and layout of the first and second floors of MEE 17 (EHA 95/1580).

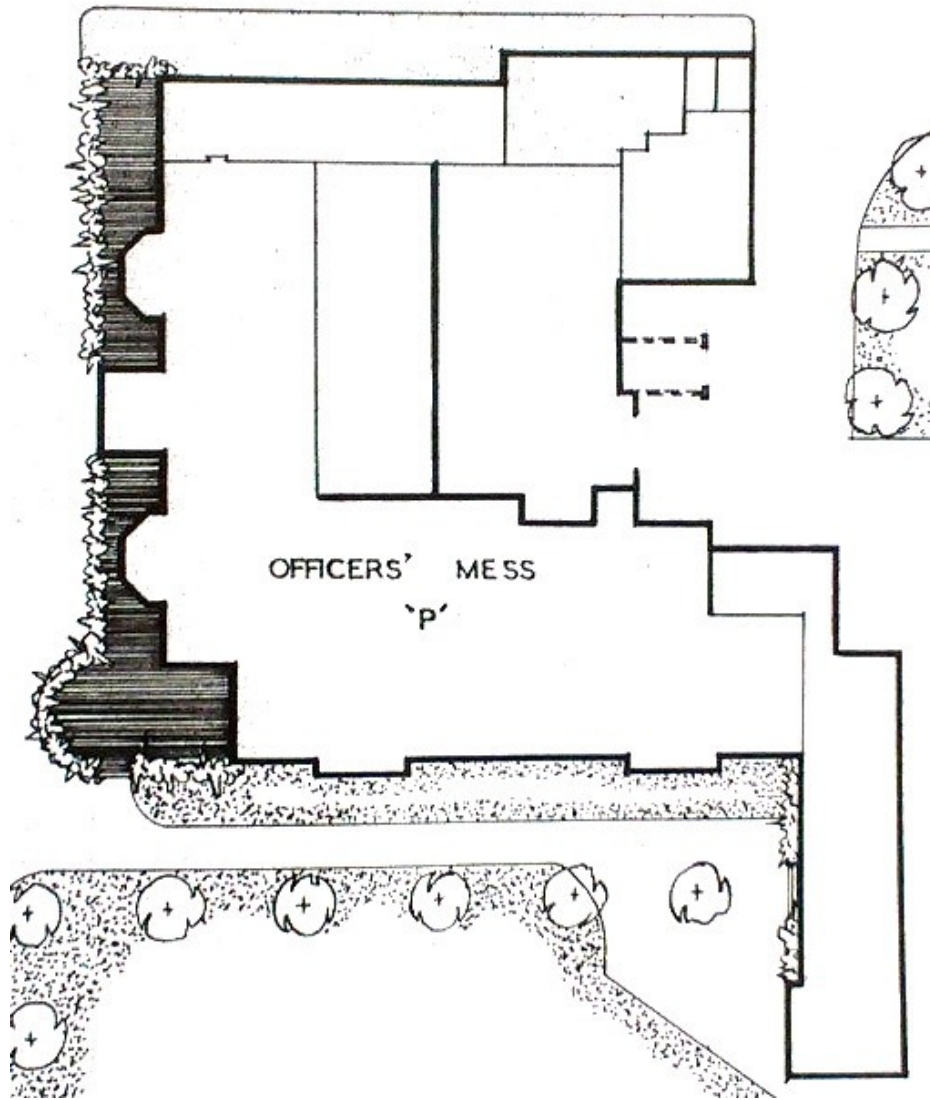


Fig 13 Extract from undated plan recording the 1958-61 alterations, showing the changes made to MEE 17 (EHA 95/1581).

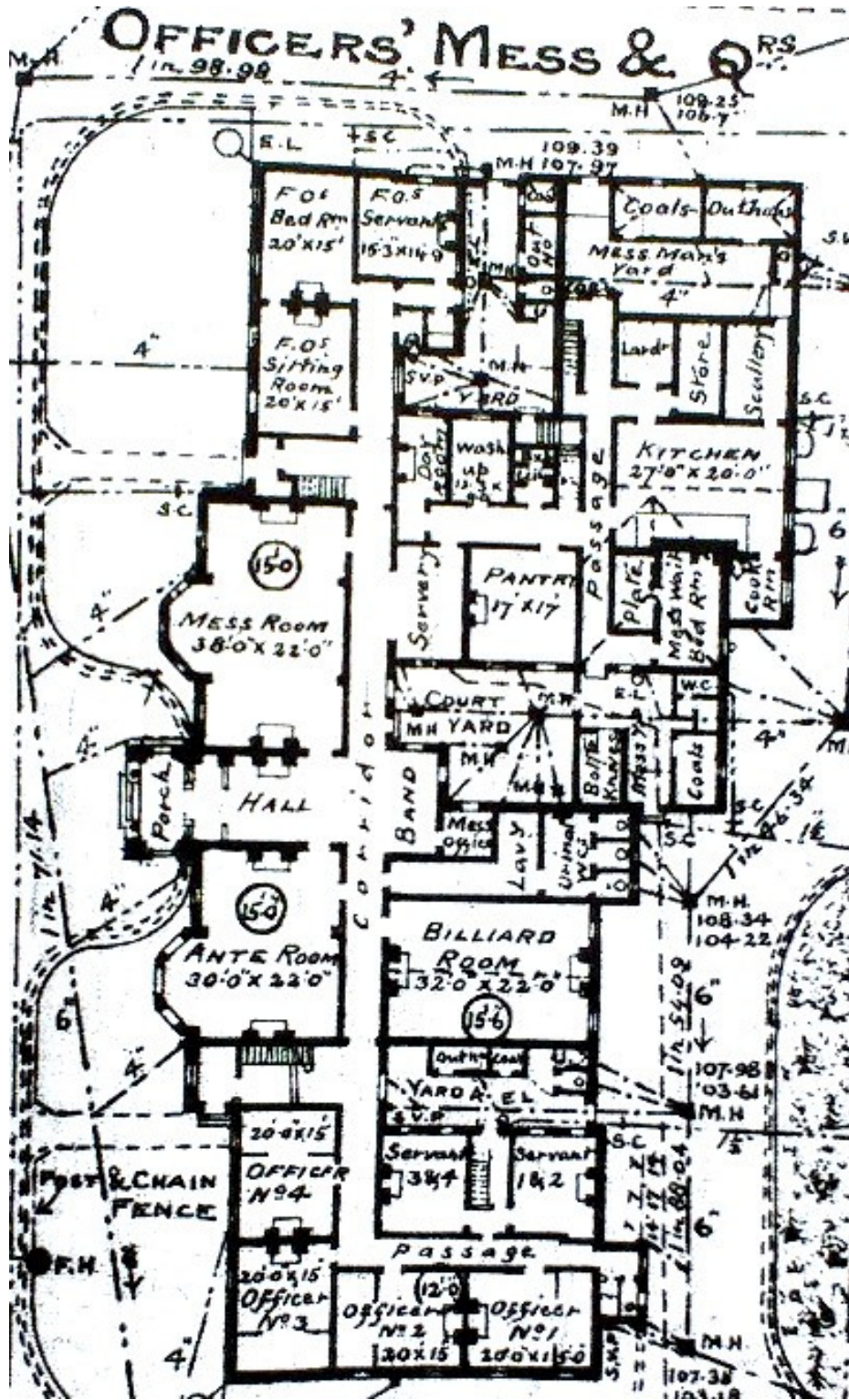


Fig 14 Extract from 1910 plan showing the original function and layout of the ground floor of HYD 08 (EHA 95/1579).

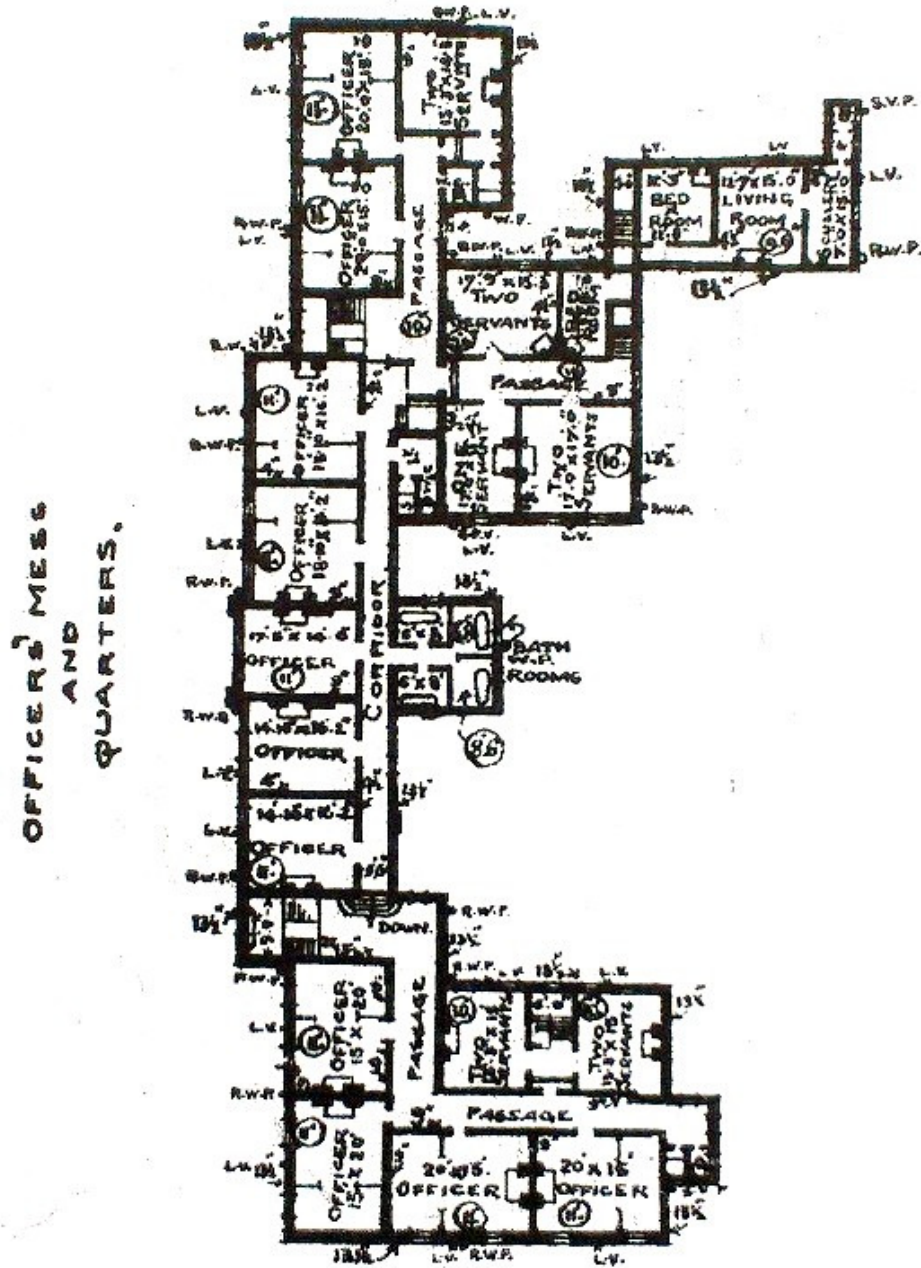


Fig 15 Extract from 1911 plan showing the original function and layout of the first floor of HYD 08 (EHA 95/1580).

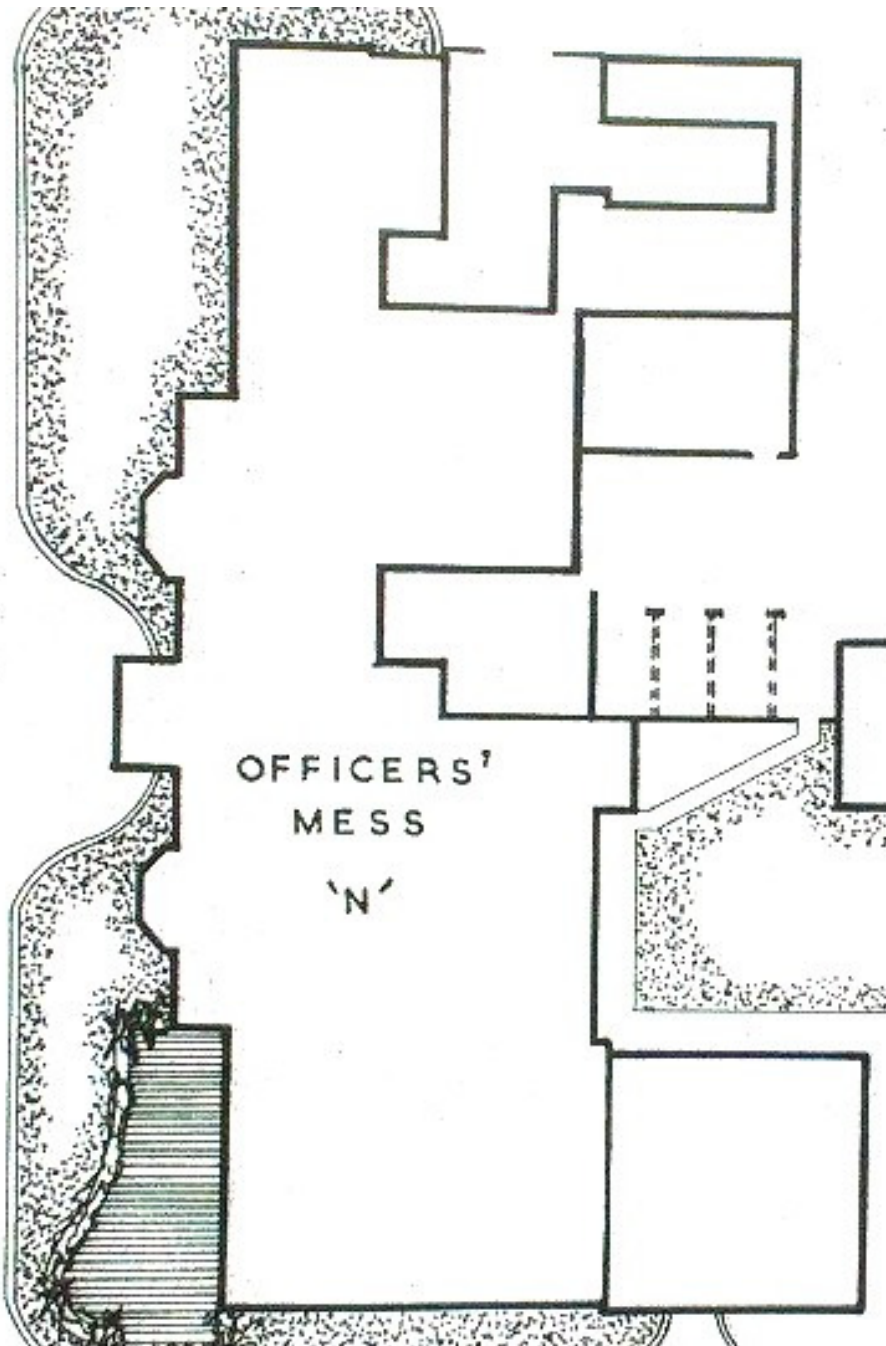


Fig 16 Extract from undated plan recording the 1958-61 alterations, showing the changes made to HYD 08 (EHA 95/1581).

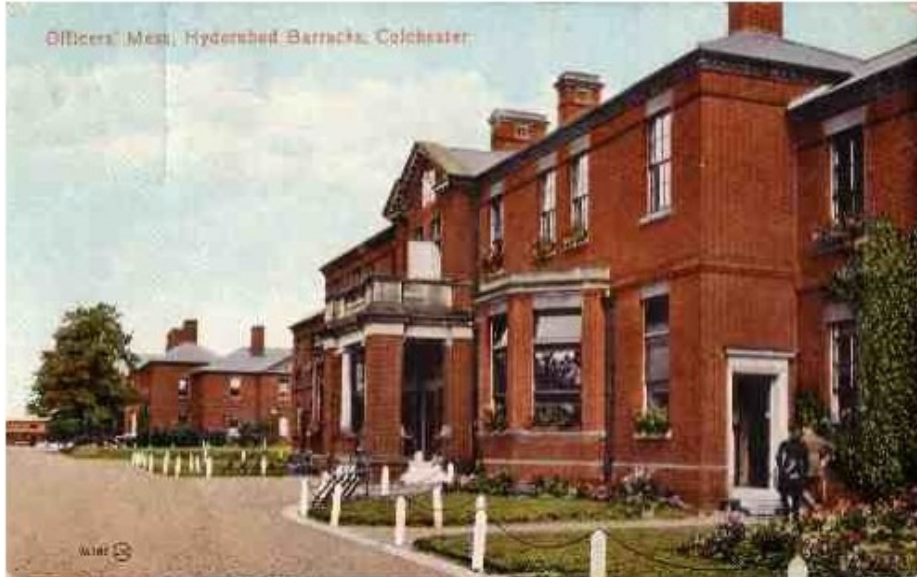


Fig 17 Postcard showing HYD 08 dating to the early 20th century (www.bowcott.com).

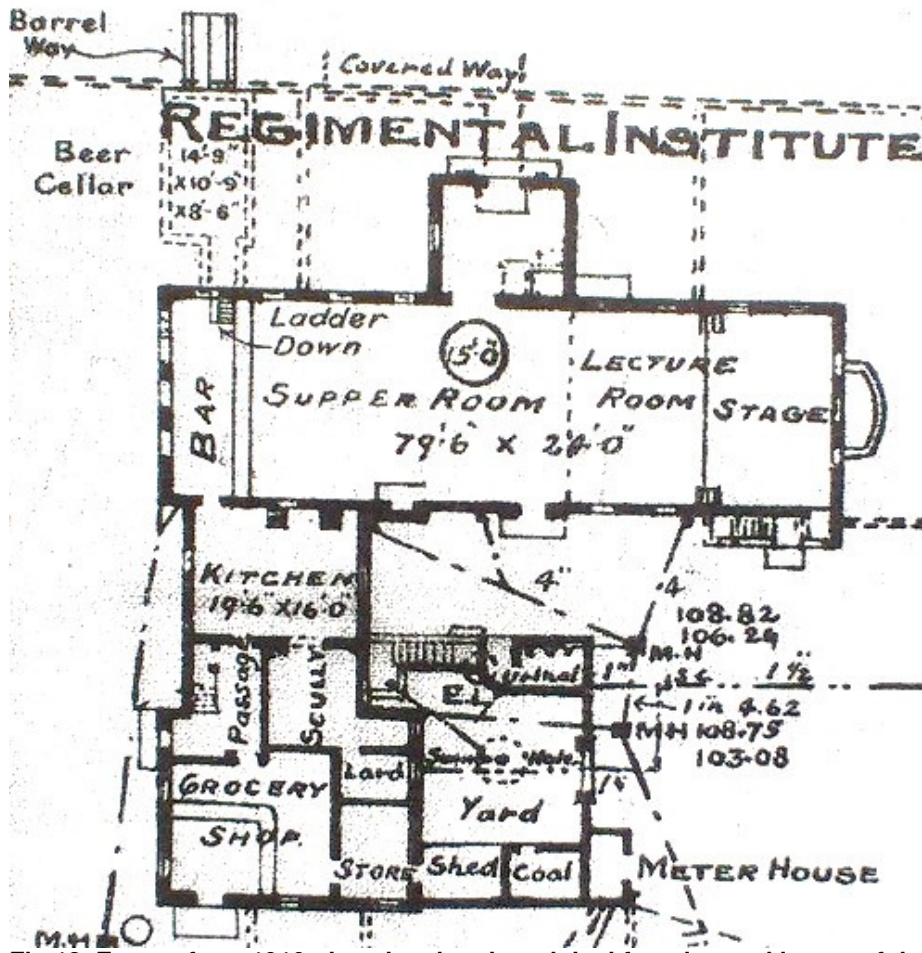


Fig 18 Extract from 1910 plan showing the original function and layout of the ground floor of HYD 11 (EHA 95/1579).

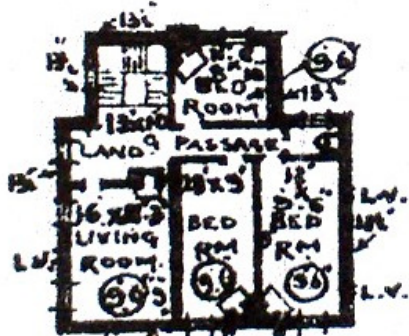
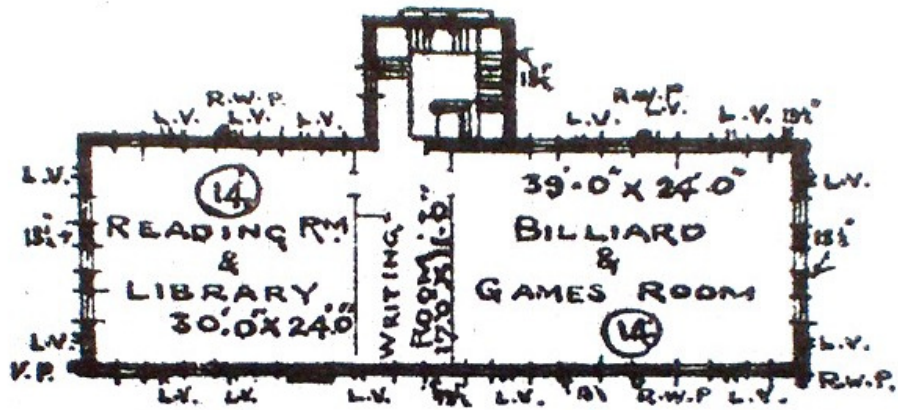


Fig 19 Extract from 1911 plan showing the original function and layout of the first floor of HYD 11 (EHA 95/1580).

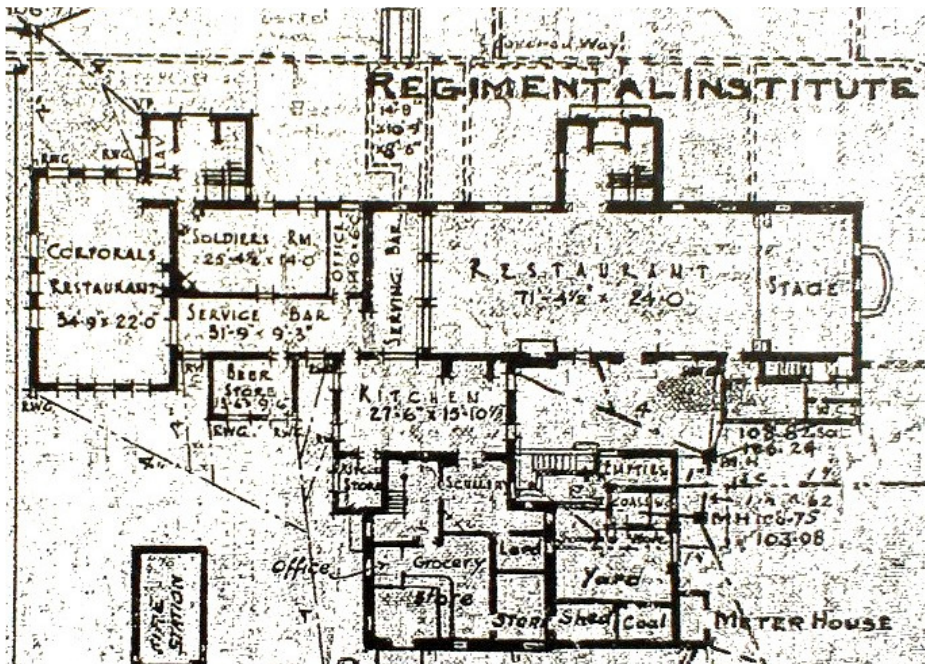


Fig 20 Extract from 1946 plan showing the original function and layout of the ground floor of the 1938 extension to HYD 11 (EHA 95/1578).

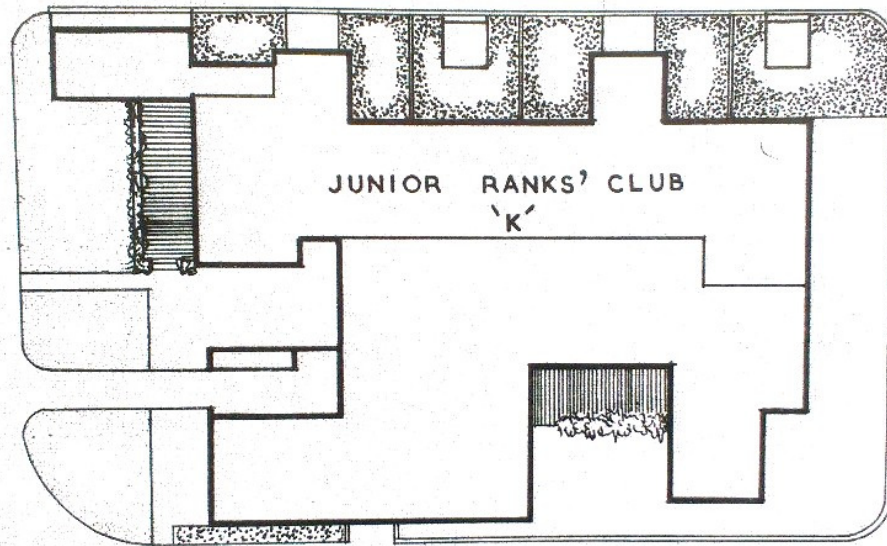


Fig 21 Extract from undated plan recording the 1958-61 alterations, showing the changes made to HYD 11 (EHA 95/1581).

6 Descriptive record (Figs 23-52)

The structures described in the following text are the surviving buildings from the Hyderabad and Meeanee Barracks. They were surveyed after the demolition of the other buildings and after they had been left unoccupied for a period of several years. At the time of survey, each building was closely surrounded by a 2.4m high hoarding, the majority of the windows were boarded over and power was turned off. In addition, renovation works on HYD 08 had already commenced and the building was covered in scaffolding clad in dust prevention sheets which obscured exterior detail. Parts of this structure were inaccessible due to safety considerations. HYD 11 was gutted by fire in 2010 and the remaining shell supported on a network of scaffolding, again obscuring the exterior. As a consequence of these factors the photographic element of the survey was limited in quality. In an attempt to provide as much information as possible, photographs from other archaeological excavations in Hyderabad and Meeanee Barracks have been included in the report, along with extracts from the 2000 Ingram Historic Building Assessment for Colchester Garrison.

The barrack buildings have been identified by their Colchester Garrison acronyms in the following text which corresponds to the block plan and accompanying figures.

MEE 01 (Figs 23-28)

External description

MEE 03 is a single-storey building comprising three staggered ranges aligned north-south with an east-west aligned range at the south side and a square garage adjoining the north-east corner (Plate 1). The three staggered ranges comprise the original structure, the Brigade Offices dating to c 1897, and are constructed from red brick with dimensions of 230 x 67 x 110mm laid in Flemish bond. They have gabled slate roofs with timbered and rendered apices, some of which have wooden louvers. Modernisation of the building in 1958-61 removed the chimney stacks and recovered the roofs. However, unusually for the barrack buildings which were re-roofed in asbestos tiles at this point, the roof covering is of slate, which may be a re-use of the original covering.

The central and east ranges have seen significant alterations to the original fabric, with the removal or replacement of the original windows and doors and the insertion of new ones. Much of the original brickwork has been obscured by concrete render. The west range has survived almost intact and retains most of the original doorways and windows,

although the central doorway has been obscured by a covered access joining MEE 01 to MEE 03. The south elevation has three evenly-spaced horned sash windows with arched heads of six-over-two lights and York stone sills (Plate 2), whilst the west and east elevations have horned sash windows, again with arched heads, of eight-over-two lights. The doorways have three-light hopper windows above. The north elevation has three tall horned sash windows, executed in the Italianate style, with arched heads of ten-over-two lights (Plate 3).

The east-west aligned range to the south of the building is a single-storey extension, added in 1958-61, with a flat roof and a veranda supported on pre-cast concrete posts (Plate 1). It is constructed from red brick with dimensions of 225 x 65 x 110mm laid in stretcher bond and has metal-framed windows.

The square structure on the north-east corner of the building is a flat-roofed garage built of red brick with dimensions of 215 x 65 x 110mm laid in stretcher bond. The south wall is open but appears to have originally held folding doors. This structure has replaced an identical-sized building that was part of the Brigade Offices (Fig 24).

Internal description

The building has multiple entry points reflecting the alterations carried out in 1958-61 and also its original function. The extension to the south comprises the modern Guard House with a night reception, a day reception, a large guard room and a toilet block adjoining the cells. The day reception or main Guard House office has several interesting features directly linked to its function (Plate 4). These include six gun safes embedded in the wall (Plate 5), two key safes for the ammunition bunkers and a viewing window into the holding cell.

The original structures to the north of the extension have been sub-divided by later walls, effectively splitting the north-south ranges in two. The east range has been converted to a holding cell with high, thick glass windows (Plate 6). The central range has been divided into three areas: to the south, behind steel doors with peep-holes, are two cells, each containing a single, hard wooden bed (Plate 7); the central third is another holding cell; the north third, completely separate from the Guard House, appears to be used as treatment rooms as part of the MEE 03 Medical Centre. The west range has also been divided into thirds, with the northern and central rooms forming part of the Medical Centre and the south room being the Parachute Regiment Infantry Shop. Throughout the building the original fireplaces have been blocked off, although the chimney breasts survive.

MEE 03 (Figs 29-34)

External description

MEE 03 is a single-storey building comprising an east-west aligned range and a north-south projection. It dates to c 1896 and was the original barracks Guard House although it was converted to a Medical Centre in 1958-61. The building is constructed of red brick with dimensions of 225 x 60 x 110mm laid in Flemish bond and has gabled roofs covered with asbestos tiles (Plate 8). The west wall is built directly into the barracks boundary wall (Plate 9). The gable ends have narrow wooden louvres on York stone sills, original ventilation for the building (Plate 10). The 1958-61 modernisation programme altered or removed all of the original fenestration. The south elevation in particular has been changed. Although the original cast iron veranda is intact, the tall windows visible on the early 20th-century postcard (Fig 4) have been bricked in and any trace obscured by a concrete render. Metal-framed versions have replaced the original sash windows. One of the windows in the east wall has been converted to a doorway with a covered access leading to MEE 01.

Internal description

The interior of MEE 01 has been substantially altered (Fig 30). What were originally three large rooms in the east-west range and the cell block to the north has been subdivided into a series of small, inter-linked treatment rooms and two waiting rooms divided by a folding wall (Plate 11). The Medical Centre is well equipped with lavatories, three in total, which provided an accurate date for the alterations. The toilet pans are all 'New Lindone' models, designed in 1961 by J Hammond for the Johnson Fireclay Company. These toilet pans can be found installed in all of the lavatories of the barracks buildings.

MEE 17 (Figs 35-40)

External description

MEE 17 is a large two-storey building with its principal range aligned north-south, parallel to Mersea Road (Plate 12). East-west aligned wings project from the north and south ends of the principal range and an additional wing, aligned north-south, projects south from the east end of the south wing. The main range, south wing and part of the north wing are the original Officers' Mess and Quarters for Meeanee Barracks, with the remainder of the building dating to the 1958-61 modernisation. The original structure is constructed from red brick with dimensions of 230 x 67 x 110mm laid in Flemish bond and has hipped roofs covered in asbestos tiles. Only one of the many chimney stacks has survived, the others removed when the building was re-roofed. The fenestration of the main range and the south wing has survived predominantly unaltered and consists of horned sash windows of one-over-one lights and York stone sills. Those on the first floor of the west elevation and all of the windows of the south wing have square heads surmounted by shallow brick arches, but the ground floor windows of the west elevation have arched heads in the Italianate style (Plate 13). The west elevation has a centrally located main entrance, a projecting porch with a balustraded balcony above. This is flanked by bow windows. Above the porch, the roof has a large pediment containing an oculus with the inscription 'V R 1898' (Plate 14). There is a second entrance in the west elevation surmounted by a plaster relief of the Royal Coat of Arms of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (Plate 15).

The south wing has an entrance located two thirds of the way along the elevation. To the right of this entrance there is a boot scraper built into the wall (Plate 16). An identical boot scraper can be found by the entrance to the servants' rooms on the north elevation of the south wing. It is also possible to see original air bricks in the south elevation (Plate 17). As well as being functional, these are also aesthetically pleasing.

The north wing is a combination of a single-storey extension from 1958-61 and a two-storey building rendered in concrete. The latter has a fully hipped roof and is the original living quarters for the Mess manager. In addition to the concrete render the original windows have been replaced with metal-framed versions.

The east side of the main range has the original building partially obscured by a single-storey extension from 1958-61, a service range that replaced the original service areas of the Mess. This has been built up against a tall single-storey structure with a lantern on the roof, the Billiard Room for the Mess (Plate 18).

At the east end of the south wing, the north-south aligned structure is an extension dating to 1958-61. This has metal-framed windows and an entrance located in the west wall. The windows of the east wall each have simple decoration over them in the form of four projecting brick headers. This decoration is continued on the brickwork to the south (Plate 19).

Internal description: ground floor

The ground floor is accessed by the main entrance which leads into a large open hall. Opening off this hall are the Mess Room to the north and the Ante Room to the south. The Ante Room retains an open fireplace at the south end although a similar fireplace in the north wall has been converted to an alcove (Plate 20). The Mess Room has had doors inserted into the north wall providing access into and out of the kitchen (Plate 21). The kitchen is located in the 1958-61 extension in the north wing and extends the length of the extension until it joins with the ground floor of the Mess manager's building. The extension behind the Mess Room is taken up with service areas, including a scullery and storage room with a barred gate. The rest of the extension is taken up by male and female lavatories.

East of the Ante Room, across the corridor is the Billiard Room (Plate 22). This large recreational room has two fireplaces (both blocked) and a high roof with a lantern skylight, supported on two timber queen post trusses (Plate 23). Supported below the skylight is the original pipe work for the gas lighting that would have illuminated the billiard table. The walls have several large metal louvres to provide ventilation, no doubt to assist in dispersing the thick clouds of cigar smoke that would once have wreathed around the room in the evenings.

The rooms of the south wing were originally split between officers' bedrooms on the south side and servants' rooms and a bathroom on the north side. The easternmost

bedrooms have since been combined into a bar, complete with servery and French doors to a drinks terrace on the south-east corner of the building. The remaining bedrooms appear to have changed very little, apart from the inclusion of a sink in the corner of each room and fitted cupboards around the blocked chimney breast (Plate 24). The servants' room is on the east side of the servant's stairs, with the former bathroom on the west side of the stairs. The bathroom has since been converted to store rooms although one of the cubicles remains. The servants' room appears to be unchanged (Plates 25, 26). There is a Belfast sink with wooden draining boards in one corner and shelving to the right of the chimney breast. These features appear to be original, although they may date to the 1958-61 renovations. A very interesting feature that illustrates the purpose of this room is a General Electric servant's bell call, mounted on the wall by the door (Plate 27). Although not an original feature, it must have been installed relatively soon after construction and provides an insight to the running of the Mess.

The north-south wing dating to 1958-61 is an accommodation block and the ground floor comprises two bedrooms (each with an attached sitting room), a bathroom and a laundry room. There is also a bedroom on its own and an office with a built-in safe, which is probably associated with the bar in the south wing.

In addition to the servants' stairs, there are stairs to the first floor by the Ante Room, stairs leading from the entrance to the south wing and stairs at the south end of the 1958-61 accommodation block.

The Mess manager's building originally had a scullery and larder on the ground floor but these have been converted into one large storeroom. However, the coal sheds at the east end of the building survive as storage sheds.

Internal description: first and second floor

The first floor survives almost unaltered. The bedrooms of the main range and the south wing have each had their fireplaces blocked; fitted cupboards and sinks inserted, but remain structurally the same as when they were built. An interesting architectural feature is the exposed tie beam of the roof trusses, visible in each room (Plate 28). These are chamfered and have recesses cut into the timber to take iron strapping. The ceiling is constructed above this. Where the ceiling had been removed it was possible to see that the roof truss was a king post construction with angled braces (Plate 29).

Additional servants' rooms were located on the first and second floors, flanking the servants' stairs. Those on the second floor have been converted to bedrooms, but the one on the first floor survives with the same fittings as the one on the ground floor. On the other side of the servants stairs is the original bathroom. This has been altered slightly, and the original baths replaced, but the individual doors to the bathrooms and the majority of the tiling is original, as is the hammered glass in the bathroom sash windows (Plates 30, 31).

One alteration to the original first floor layout is at the north end of the main range. Originally there was an eastwards projecting extension with two servants' rooms and a stairwell to the ground floor service area. This has been replaced by a 1958-61 bathroom block.

The 1958-61 accommodation block attached to the south wing has five bedrooms and a laundry and is unremarkable.

The first floor of the Mess manger's apartments has been altered. Although the bedroom remains the same the living area has been subdivided and the central chimney stack removed.

HYD 08 (Figs 41-46)

External description

HYD 08 is a large two-storey building with its principal range aligned north-south, parallel to Mersea Road, similar in design and layout to MEE 17 (Plate 32). It has large wings to the north and south and a 1958-61 extension to the south wing. As with MEE 17, the west elevation has a centrally located main entrance, with a balustraded balcony above, flanked by two bow windows (Plate 33). The entrance has Ionic columns with well-carved capitals (Plate 34). Above this is a central pediment with a cartouche, executed in Portland stone, of the Royal Coat of Arms and the date 1904. The roofs are hipped and covered with asbestos tiles. Two of the original chimney stacks have survived. The building is constructed from red brick with dimensions of 230 x 65 x 110mm laid in Flemish bond. The

fenestration of the west and south elevations is predominantly horned sash windows of four-over-four lights with York stone sills and flat brick arches. Exceptions to this are the windows of the main range on the ground floor. These are one-over-one light horned sashes with an inward-opening hopper at the top. The windows on the rest of the building are a mix of four-over-four and six-over-six sashes as well as individual examples with differing numbers of lights. There is a secondary entrance on the west elevation, at the corner of the main range with the south wing. Although some windows have been converted to doorways, externally the original building is in a good state of preservation.

The north wing has a yard in the centre, with the original Mess manager's apartment to the east. Behind the main range there a series of service buildings projecting east. Small yards are interspersed with these. The yards occupy voids left by the removal of earlier structures (Plate 35).

It was not possible to access the 1958-61 extension but architects' plans suggest the structure had metal-framed windows and an entrance in the south elevation. This would be in keeping with the other structures of a similar date.

Internal description: ground floor

The main entrance leads into a hall with a large room to either side. To the south is the Ante Room, to the north the Mess Room. The Ante Room has a working fireplace at the south end and the renovations revealed that the ceiling has been artificially lowered (Plate 36). This has exposed the original plaster light fittings in the ceiling (Plate 37). The same fittings have been revealed in the Mess Room, which also had an artificially lowered ceiling (Plate 38). North of the Mess Room the building has been substantially altered. Originally there was a staircase to the first floor and a doorway to the exterior immediately north of the Mess Room. To the north of these were the sitting room and bedroom of the First Officer along with his servants' room. These original features have been completely removed and the resulting space converted to a kitchen (Plate 39). East of the kitchen several of the original service rooms survive, although their function has changed. In particular, the servants' day room has been converted to the glass pantry and silver store, complete with a reinforced iron door.

It was not possible to access the service rooms beneath the Mess manager's apartments, but examination through the windows suggested that these rooms, originally the larder, store and scullery, have remained unaltered.

To the east of the hall, just behind the recess where the Mess band would play on formal occasions, extends a cloakroom/lavatory. This has the original tiling in the cubicles, although the toilets are the 1961 'New Lindone' models (Plate 40). South of the original lavatory block is the Billiard Room (Plate 41). This is very similar to that in MEE 17 and has the same queen post trusses supporting the roof, although the skylight is of different configuration. The floor is of wooden parquet tiles and is set with stone pads for the feet of the billiard table. As well as the suspended pipe work for the original gas lighting there is also an intricate system of linked metal armatures that allow the windows in the lantern to be opened and closed (Plate 42).

The south wing has bedrooms on the south and west elevations and two servants' rooms on the north side. Two of the bedrooms have been converted into a bar (as with MEE 17), with the windows converted to French doors (Plate 43). Due to renovation works it was not possible to view the servants' quarters or any of the ground floor rooms of the 1958-61 extension. It was possible to see the servant's stairs and these proved to be a narrow staircase with a cast iron balustrade (Plate 44).

Internal description: first floor

The first floor of HYD 08 has survived remarkably well. Although the fireplaces have been blocked and fitted cupboards and sinks inserted into the rooms, almost the entire first floor has retained its original function as bedrooms. Exceptions to this are the servants' rooms which have been converted to additional bedrooms in the north wing and into a bathroom and a kitchen in the south wing. The original Officers' bathroom survives as well (Plate 45). This projects east from the rear of the main range and originally comprised four private baths, although one of these was later replaced by a shower stall. The tiling appears to be original and each bathroom had a two-over-two sash window and a marble effect floor.

What was originally the north stairwell was converted into a storeroom when the kitchen below was inserted in 1958-61. However, the landing immediately to the south of this survives with the original wooden balustrades intact (Plate 46).

It was not possible to access the upper floor of the Mess manager's apartments, but a comparison of the 1911 barracks map with modern architects' plans suggests little alteration. The first floor of the 1958-61 extension to the south wing was also inaccessible, but the modern architects' plans indicate there were six bedrooms grouped around a central corridor.

HYD 11 (Figs 47-52)

External description

HYD 11 is a two-storey structure aligned east-west with a substantial extensions attached to the south side (Plate 47), and was originally the Regimental Institute. It has three distinguishable phases: the original building dating to 1904, at the east end of the main range; an extension at the west end of the main range, dating to 1938; and the extensions to the south comprising both single and two-storey structures, which date to 1958-61. The entire structure was gutted by fire in 2010.

The 1904 structure is constructed from red brick with dimensions of 225 x 65 x 105mm laid in Flemish bond and has a gabled roof, presumably of replacement asbestos tiles but possibly the original slates. There is a two-storey entrance projecting from the north elevation with decorative brickwork and a date stone set above the keystone of the arch (Plate 48). The fenestration of the ground floor comprises tall sash windows of six-over-six lights surmounted by a three-light hopper under a flat brick arch (Plate 49). The sills are of York stone. The windows of the first floor are identical to those on the ground floor apart from the omission of the hopper. Exceptions to this are the windows of the east elevation, which are characterised by large lights interspersed with narrow casements. Below this range of windows there is a light well surrounded by cast iron railings (Plate 50).

The 1938 structure was built in the same style as the 1904 building (Plate 51) and is essentially an extension to west end. The fenestration is identical to that on the 1904 building. There is a single-storey north-south aligned wing projecting from the west end of the 1938 extension, which has a gabled roof. The west and south elevations of this extension each have a range of three windows, although the fire damage precludes an accurate description.

The 1958-61 extensions along the south side of HYD 11 are a combination of single and two-storey structures built of red brick in stretcher bond, all with flat roofs and metal-framed windows. These have multiple entrances of differing size and design. These extensions have obscured or removed most of the original features of the south ground floor wall of the 1904/1938 range.

Internal description: ground floor

The interior of the 1904 structure is accessed by the main entrance, which has an open staircase leading to the first floor (Plate 52). This has a cast iron balustrade identical to the one on the servants' stairs in HYD 08. The entrance leads into a large room that extends the length of the 1904 building. At the east end there is a raised stage (Plate 53). The south wall originally held windows identical to those in the north wall, but the construction of the 1958-61 extension has removed these, although the hoppers at the top of the windows have been retained. Between each window there is a metal louvre, identical to those in the billiard rooms of MEE 17 and HYD 08. Beneath the stage there is a basement divided into dressing rooms, each with an original four-panel door and a six-light casement window opening into the light well.

The 1938 entrance is identical to the 1904 example apart from the iron work of the staircase, which is executed in an Art Deco style (Plate 54). It has doorways leading into the main range and the single-storey extension on the west side, labelled the Corporals' Restaurant on the 1946 plan. The main range is a large open room with a servery in the south wall, and is labelled as the Soldiers' Room on the 1946 plan. Due to the extensive fire damage it is possible to see the alterations to the west wall of the 1904 structure (Plate 55). Where the plaster has fallen away, it can be seen that the west wall is a mirror image of the east and that all of the windows were blocked when the 1938 extension was added.

A doorway was added to provide access between the two structures but this was subsequently blocked and an alternative doorway inserted in a more central location.

Access between the two rooms of the 1938 extension was originally restricted to a service door, effectively segregating the corporals and the soldiers. Much of the dividing wall between these two rooms has since been removed, including the fireplaces that served each room, making the ground floor of the 1938 extension one large room. The Corporals' Restaurant originally had three tall windows in each of the external walls (Plate 56). The ones in the north wall were partially blocked when the 1958-61 lavatory extension was added. The gabled roof is carried on cast iron geometric trusses, some of which have buckled, testament to the heat of the 2010 fire.

The ground floor of the 1958-61 extension is divided into three areas: a large bar with an entrance lobby and toilet block; a service area including a kitchen and storerooms; and a separate wing comprising a boiler room and several large storerooms for medical supplies.

Internal description: first floor

The 2010 fire completely destroyed the first floor of the 1904/38 structures so it was not possible to access these areas. The 1911 plan is the only guide as to what the first floor was used for and indicates that the upper floor was given over to recreational pursuits. The charred remains of the tie beams seem to indicate that the roof trusses were of king post construction (Plate 57).

The first floor elements of the 1958-61 extensions comprise a large recreational room and toilet block on the east side of the building and a small number of bedrooms above the medical storerooms, which may be for the kitchen staff.

7 Discussion

The structures included in this survey represent only a small proportion of the garrison buildings constructed in Colchester, and neither are they the earliest or of especial architectural interest. However, they are significant for their association with historical events. They are part of the military history of Colchester, a history that stretches back to the Roman legionary camp of nearly 2000 years ago and one that has seen troops from many eras encamped here on their way to fight on the Continent. This history continued with the creation of the new Merville Barracks.

The buildings were designed for specific functions and paid for by public money, and, consequently, are not outstanding examples of architectural achievement. However, because of the time in which they were constructed the buildings all contain aesthetically pleasing architectural embellishments that are lacking in modern functional structures. This reflects the Victorian values of pride in craftsmanship and attention to detail. Such buildings are an increasingly scarce resource and deserve to be recorded.

The buildings are also of immense interest to social history. Despite the changes made to the British Army in the latter half of the 19th century (the Meritocracy Acts that abolished the purchasing of commissions) the Officers' Messes, with their private bedrooms, servants and billiard rooms, are illustrative of a social divide still present in the 20th century. Compared to the enlisted man, domiciled in open barrack rooms with little or no privacy, the officers enjoyed a much more luxurious existence, separate from the men with their own dining areas and entertainments. However, segregation in the British Army appears to be the norm. The Regimental Institute shows how the enlisted men were catered for separately to the junior NCO's, neither of whom would have been allowed in the Sergeants' Mess.

The Reading and Writing Rooms of the Regimental Institute show the change in expectations from the junior soldier. Advancement up the ranks was by examination, and assistance was given in obtaining the necessary skills. The Regimental Institute shows how the British Army was modernising and investing in its troops, becoming the professional fighting force that would embark for France and Belgium in 1914.

8 Acknowledgements

Colchester Archaeological Trust would like to thank Taylor Wimpey Ltd for funding the building recording.

Plans are based on surveys carried out by Simon Cooper Associates Ltd.

The building recording was carried out by Chris Lister and Mark Baister.

9 References

Note: all CAT reports, except for DBAs, are available online in .pdf format at <http://cat.essex.ac.uk>

DoE	2010	<i>Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment</i>
EAA 14	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> , East Anglian Archaeology, Occasional Papers 14, ed by D Gurney
IfA	2008	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
IfA	2008a	<i>Standard and guidance for archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings and structures</i>
Ingram Consultancy	2000	<i>Colchester Garrison Historic Building Assessment</i>
MoRPHE	2006	<i>Management of research projects in the historic environment</i> (English Heritage)

10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
context	specific location on an archaeological site, especially one where finds are made
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
modern	period from the 19th century onwards to the present
NGR	National Grid Reference

11 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Circular Road North, Colchester, Essex CO2 7GZ, but it will be permanently deposited with Colchester and Ipswich Museum under accession code COLEM 2013.19.

12 Contents of archive

One A4 document wallet containing:

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Risk assessment
- 1.2 Copies of existing plans and elevations

2 Site archive

- 2.1 Digital photographic record.
- 2.2 Digital photographic contact sheet.
- 2.3 Attendance register
- 2.4 Site photographic record on CD

3 Research archive

- 3.1 Client report

Distribution list

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checked by: Philip Crummy

date: 16/09/13

Appendices
Appendix 1
Selected photographs



Plate 1 MEE 01, the modern Guard House with the original Brigade Offices visible in the background - view north-west (Ingram, 2000)



Plate 2 South elevation of the MEE 01, showing the original windows – view north-west (Ingram, 2000)



Plate 3 North elevation of MEE 01, showing original Italianate windows – view south



Plate 4 Day reception of MEE 01, showing the gun safes and the viewing window into the holding cell – view north-west

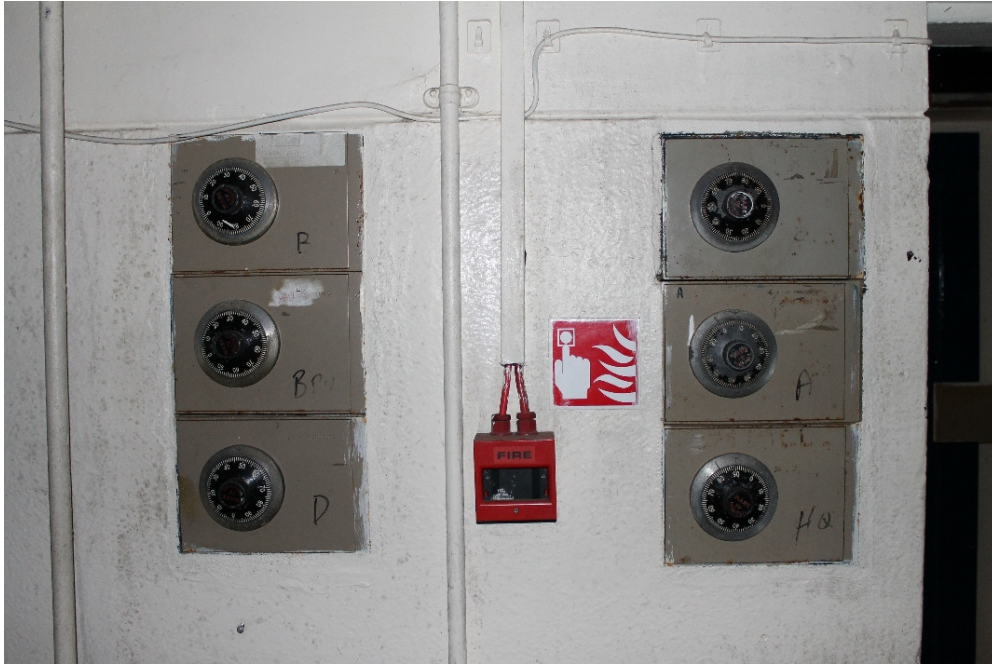


Plate 5 MEE 01 detail of the gun safes embedded in the day reception wall – view west



Plate 6 MEE 01 holding cell – view north-east



Plate 7 MEE 01 Guard House cell – view west



Plate 8 MEE 03 original Guard House converted to Medical Centre – view north (Ingram, 2000)



Plate 9 West elevation of MEE 03 built into barracks boundary wall - view east



Plate 10 East elevation of MEE 03, showing ventilation louvre in gable end - view north-west



Plate 11 MEE 03 Medical Centre interior, showing replacement metal-framed window
– view north



Plate 12 MEE 17, showing main range and northern service wing - view south-east
(Ingram, 2000)



Plate 13 Main entrance to MEE 17, showing the Italianate windows of the ground floor
– view east (Ingram, 2000)



Plate 14 MEE 17, inscription in pediment above main entrance - view east



Plate 15 MEE 17, Royal Coat of Arms of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland mounted over the secondary entrance in the west elevation – view east



Plate 16 Detail of boot scraper by entrance to south wing – view east



Plate 17 Detail of air brick in south wall - view north



Plate 18 - The Billiard Room with the 1958-61 service area to the right - view south-west



Plate 19 Decoration on the 1958-61 accommodation block extension to MEE 17 – view north



Plate 20 MEE 17 Ante Room – view south



Plate 21 MEE 17 Mess room, showing the inserted doors to the kitchen in the north wall
– view north-west



Plate 22 MEE 17 Billiard Room - view east



Plate 23 MEE 17 the queen post truss of the Billiard Room, supporting the skylight and the pipe work for the original gas lighting - view south-east



Plate 24 MEE 17, interior of ground floor bedroom I the south wing – view south-east



Plate 25 MEE 17 ground floor servants' room with ?original Belfast sink – view north-east



Plate 26 MEE 17 ground floor servants' room with ?original unit – view north-west



Plate 27 MEE 17 servants' bell call



Plate 28 MEE 17 exposed chamfered tie beam of roof truss, with recess for iron strapping



Plate 29 Exposed king post roof truss in MEE 17



Plate 30 MEE 17 first floor, original door to bathroom



Plate 31 MEE 17 first floor bathroom, original tiling and hammered window glass



Plate 32 HYD 08 – view south-east (Ingram, 2000)



Plate 33 HYD 08, west elevation showing the ornate entrance with Ionic columns and bow windows - view east (Ingram, 2000)



Plate 34 HYD 08 detail of Ionic capital on column of main entrance



Plate 35 HYD 08 rear of the main range showing projecting service buildings – view south-west



Plate 36 HYD 08 Ante Room, showing the working fireplace and evidence for the lowered ceiling – view south



Plate 37 HYD 08 original plaster light fixture in Mess and Ante Rooms



Plate 38 HYD 08 Mess Room, showing artificially lowered ceiling – view north-west



Plate 39 HYD 08 kitchen converted from the First Officer's rooms – view north



Plate 40 HYD 08 lavatory block, with 1961 'New Lindone' toilet
– view east



Plate 41 HYD 08 Billiard Room with parquet floor and queen post trusses – view east



Plate 42 HYD 08 Billiard Room, detail of the metal armatures governing the opening and closing of the lantern windows



Plate 43 HYD 08 bedrooms converted to bar, with windows altered to French doors
– view north



Plate 44 HYD 08 south wing servants' stairs – view north-east



Plate 45 HYD 08 interior of the first floor Officers' bathroom - view north-east



Plate 46 HYD 08 original balustrades to landing with entrance to the former north stairs on the right - view south



Plate 47 HYD 11 north elevation with the original 1904 building to the left, the 1938 extension in the centre and the 1958-61 extension in the foreground - view south-east (Ingram, 2000)

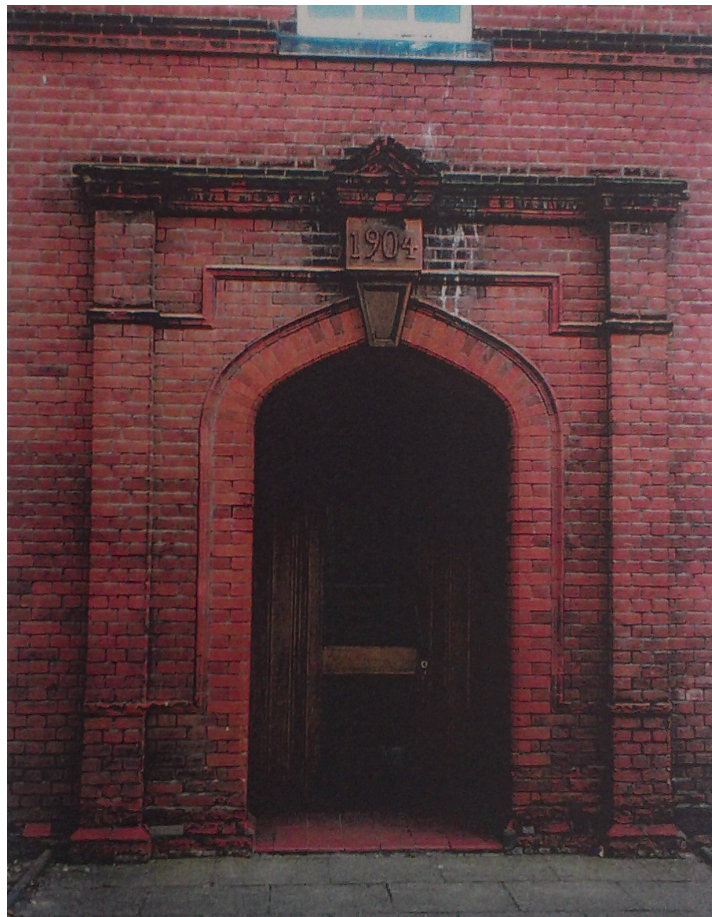


Plate 48 HYD 11 main entrance to the original 1904 building - view south-east (Ingram, 2000)



Plate 49 HYD 11 detail of ground floor window



Plate 50 HYD 11 light well for basement on east elevation – view north-west



Plate 51 HYD 11 entrance to 1938 structure – view south



Plate 52 HYD 11 1904 entrance and staircase – view north-east



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Plate 54 HYD 11 1938 entrance with Art Deco staircase – view east



Plate 55 HYD 11 1938 interior, showing blocked windows of the 1904 structure – view east



Plate 56 HYD 11 interior of the 1938 Corporals' Restaurant – view south



Plate 57 Charred tie beams of HYD 11, showing evidence for king post roof trusses – view south-east

Appendix 2

Full list of digital photographic record (images on accompanying CD)

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MEE 01 0002.jpg MEE 01 south elevation of the 1958-61 Guard House extension - view north
MEE 01 0003.jpg MEE 01 east elevation of the 1958-61 Guard House - view north-west
MEE 01 0004.jpg MEE 01 holding cell converted from Brigade Offices with 1958-61 Guard House
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MEE 01 0005.jpg MEE 01 original gable with louvre of east holding cell - view west
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MEE 01 0008.jpg MEE 01 east elevation of west range - view south-west
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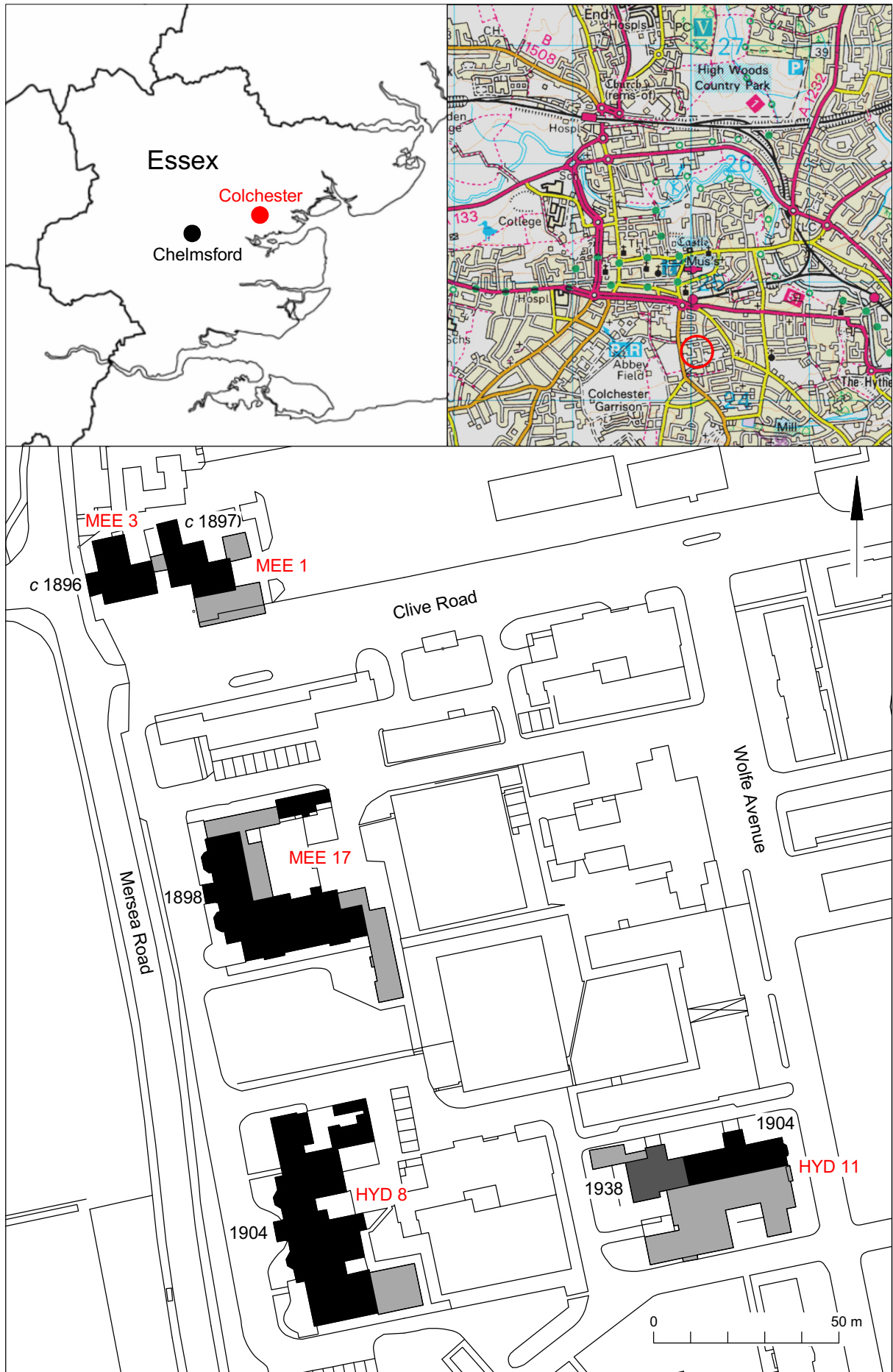
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Fig 22 Site location and block plan with original buildings shaded black/dark grey and 1958-61 alterations shown light grey.

- a replacement window
- b inserted doorway
- c inserted window
- d window converted to doorway
- e doorway converted to window
- f blocked doorway
- g blocked window
- h key safes
- i gun safes
- j viewing window
- k sink
- l WC
- m urinal
- n blocked fireplace

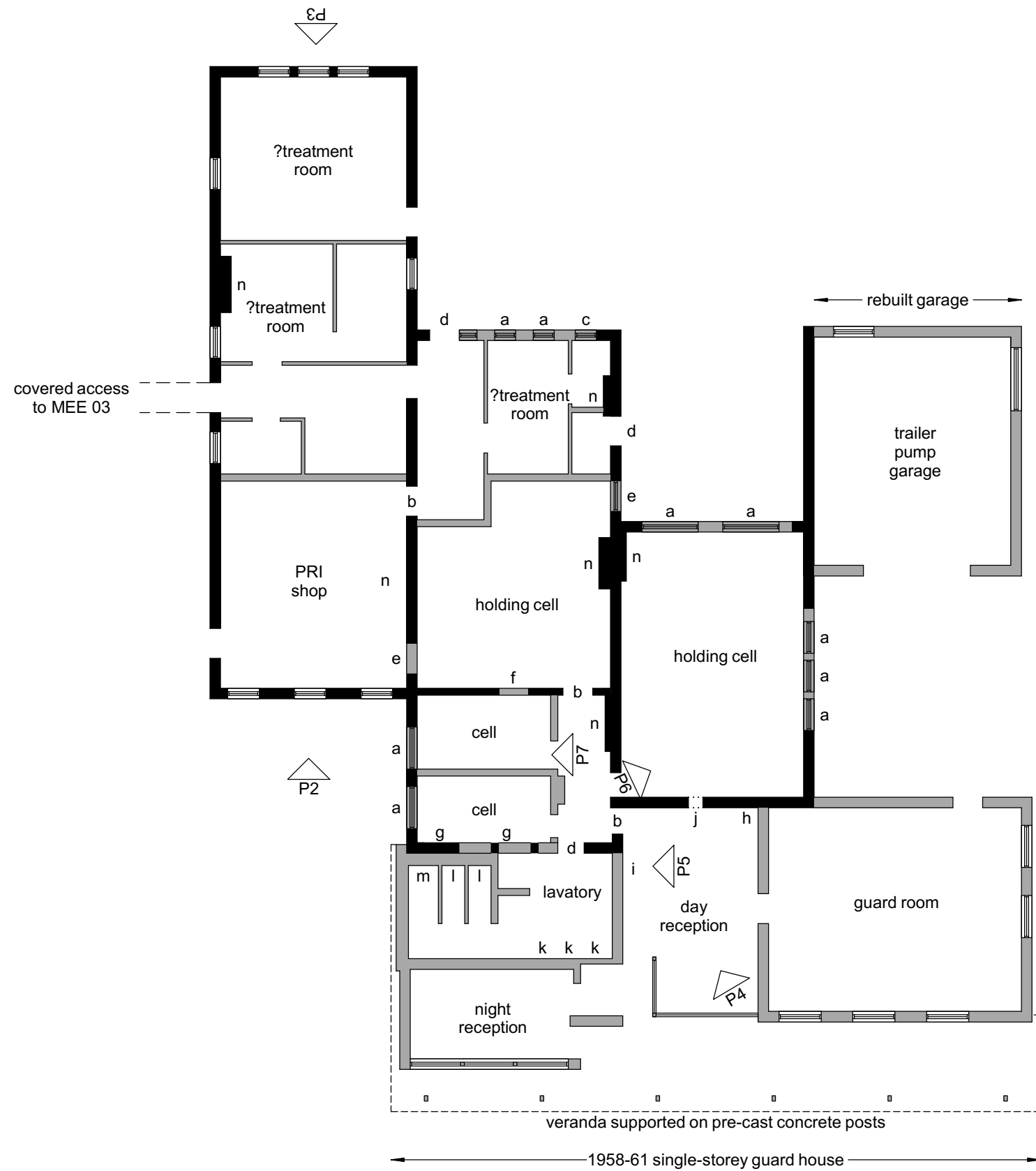


Fig 23 MEE 01: floor plan of the former Meeanee Barracks Brigade Offices, with original fabric shown black and alterations shaded grey. The location and orientation of photographs included in this report are indicated by the numbered arrows.

- a original window
- b original entrance
- c fireplace
- d WC
- e coal store
- f cupboard
- g stairs to cellar



Fig 24 MEE 01: original floor plan of the former Meeanee Barracks Brigade Offices, with surviving fabric shown black and removed/altered components shaded grey.



Fig 25 MEE 01: south elevation of the former Meeanee Barracks Brigade Offices, with alterations shaded grey.

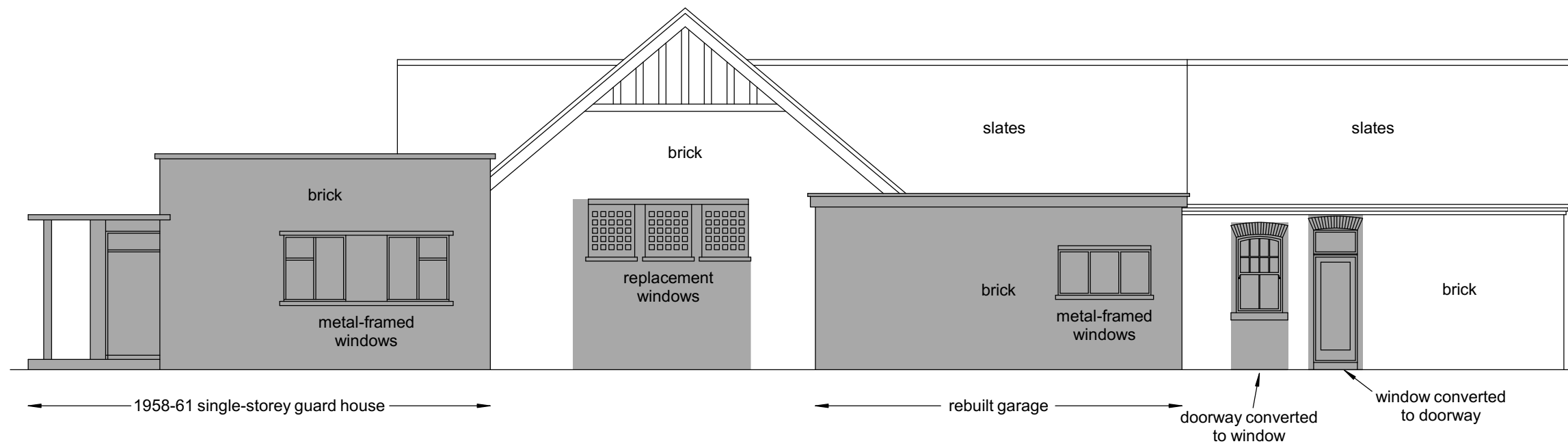


Fig 26 MEE 01: east elevation of the former Meeanee Barracks Brigade Offices, with alterations shaded grey.



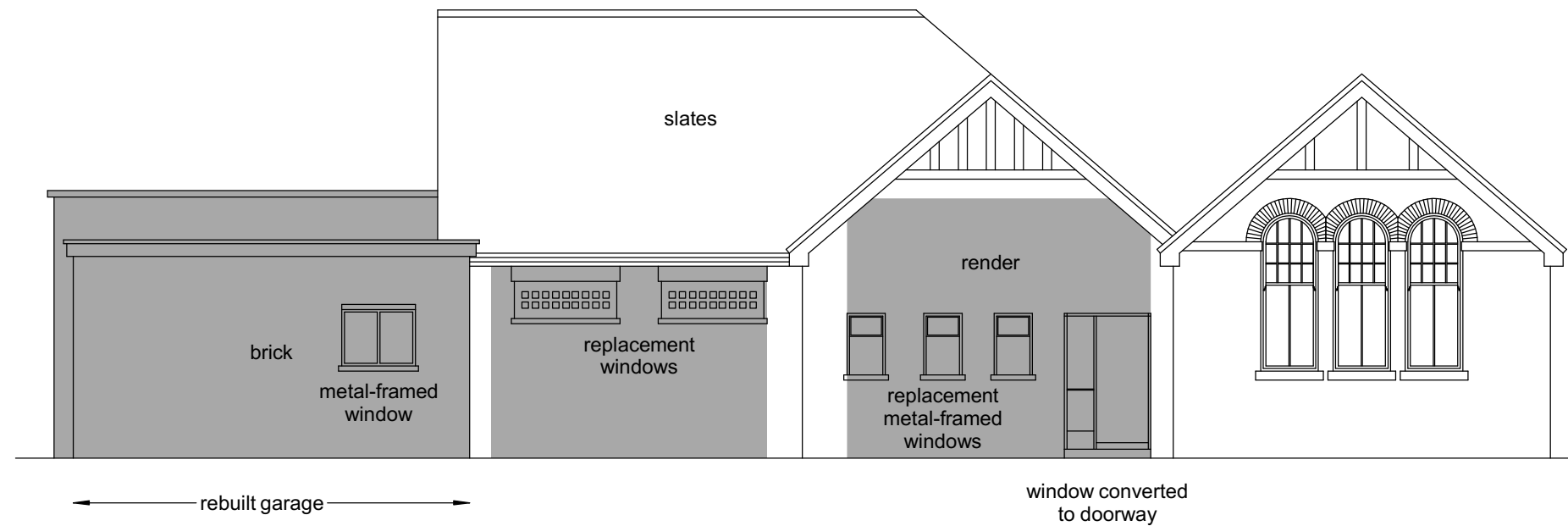


Fig 27 MEE 01: north elevation of the former Meeanee Barracks Brigade Offices, with alterations shaded grey.

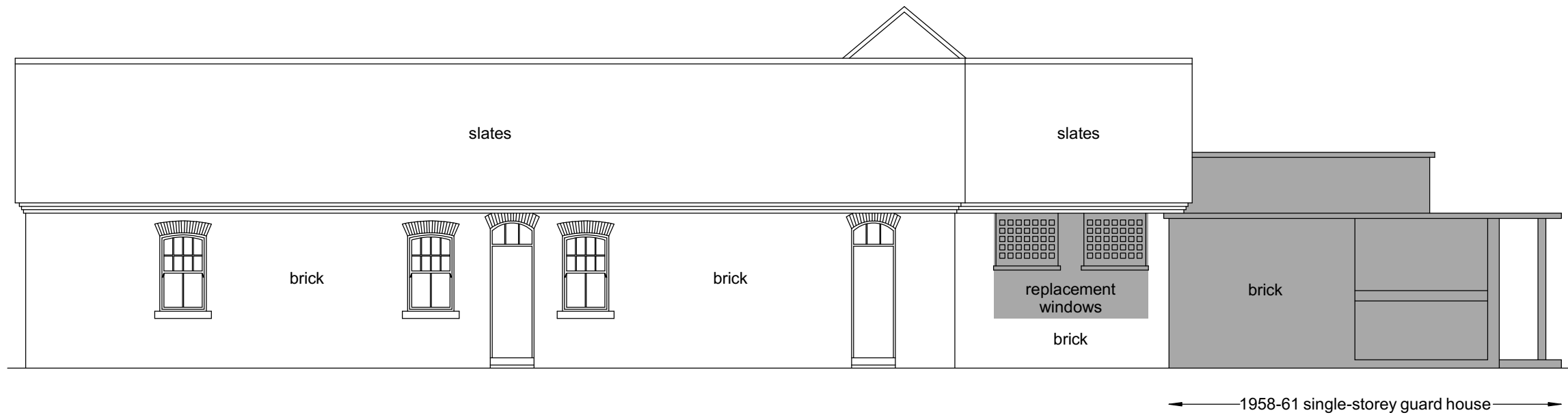


Fig 28 MEE 01: west elevation of the former Meeanee Barracks Brigade Offices, with alterations shaded grey.





- a replacement window
- b doorway converted to window
- c inserted doorway
- d inserted window
- e window converted to doorway
- f blocked window
- g original doorway widened
- h sink
- i WC
- j urinals
- k shower
- l footbath
- m cupboard
- n inserted dispensary hatch
- o folding wall
- p doorway inserted through former fireplace



Fig 29 MEE 03: floor plan of the former Meeanee Barracks Guard House, with original fabric shown black and medical centre alterations shaded grey. The location and orientation of photographs included in this report are indicated by the numbered arrows.

- a original window
- b original entrance
- c cell door
- d WC

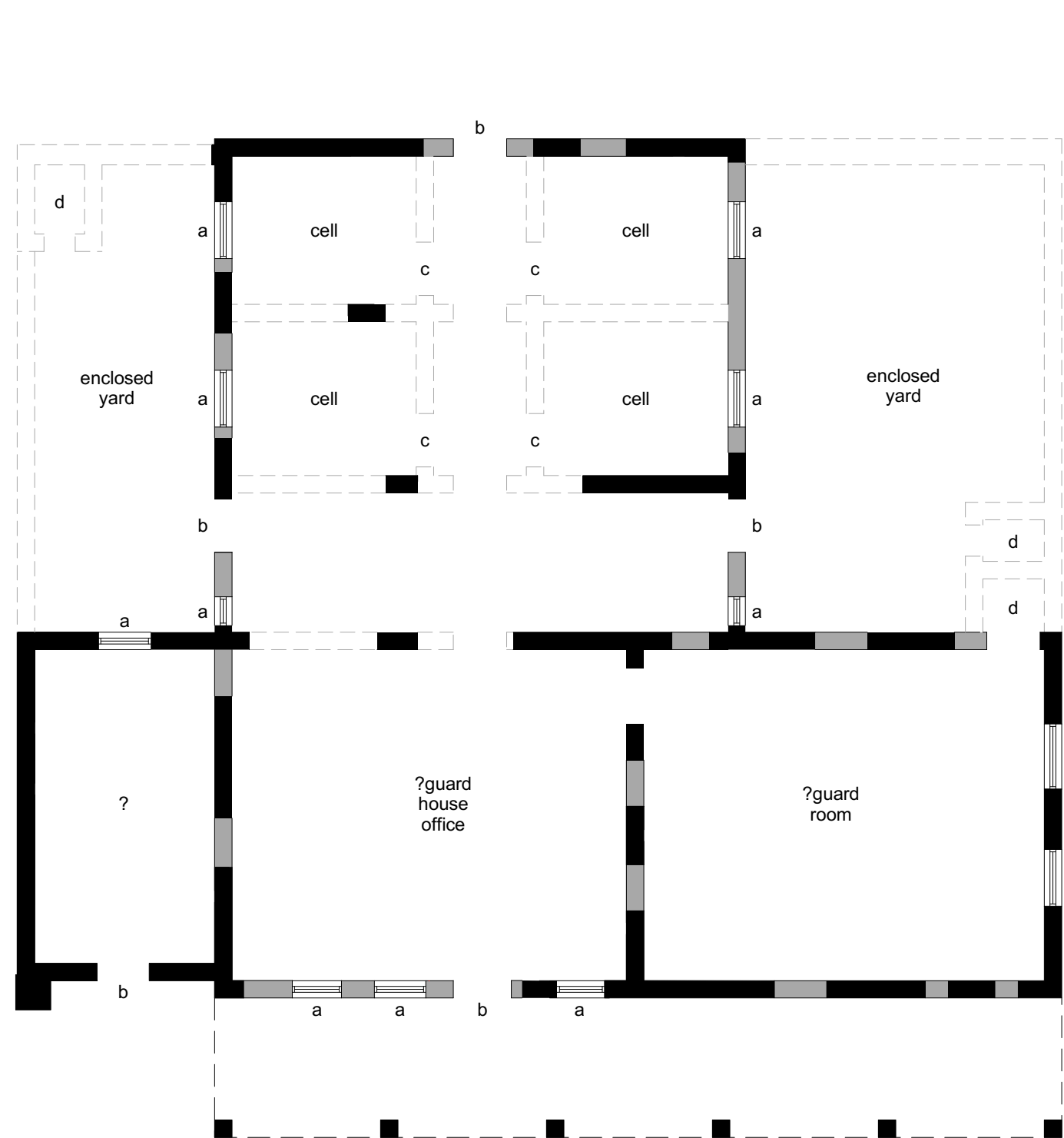


Fig 30 MEE 03: original floor plan of the former Meeanee Barracks Guard House, with surviving fabric shown black and removed/altered components shaded grey.

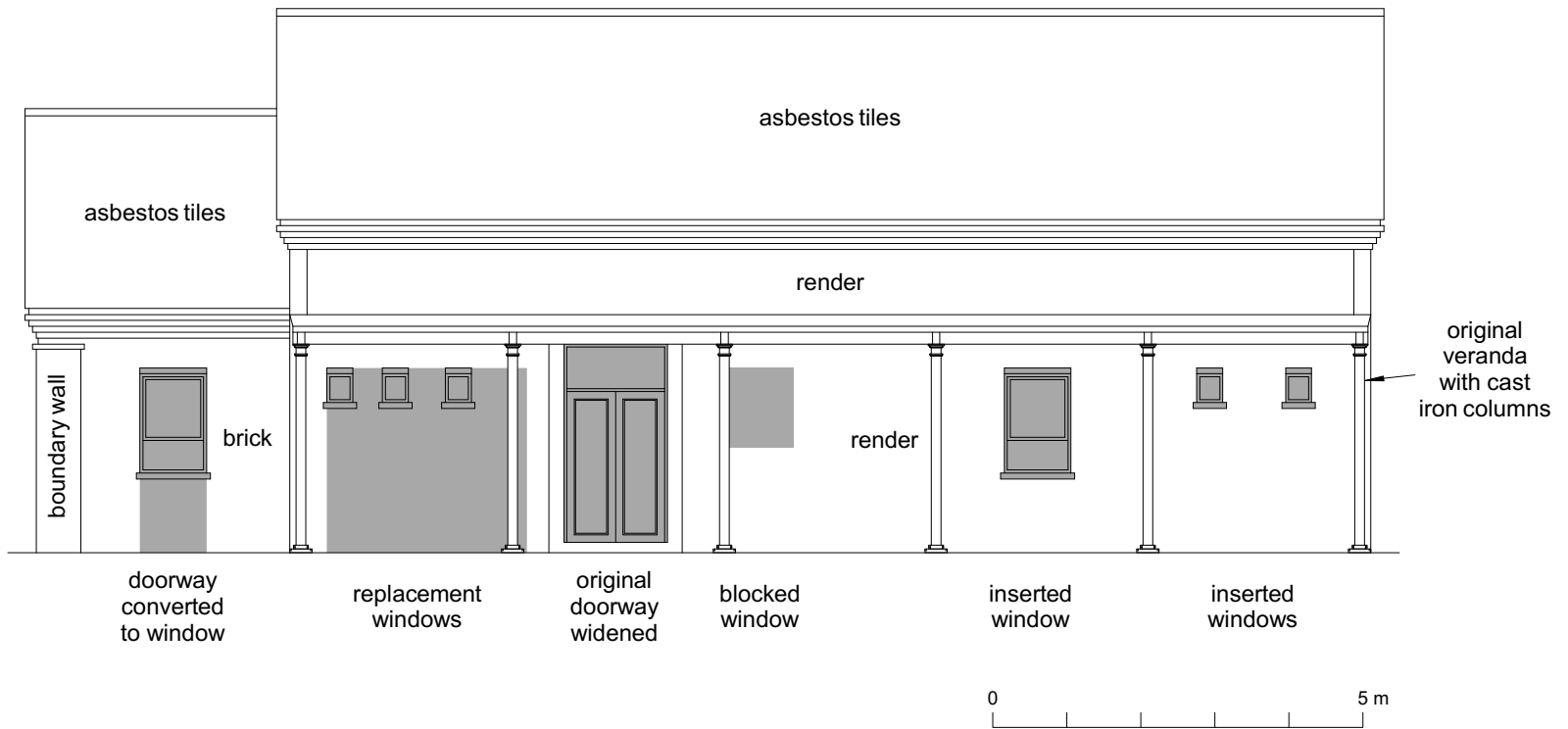


Fig 31 MEE 03: south elevation of the former Meeanee Barracks Guard House, with alterations shaded grey.

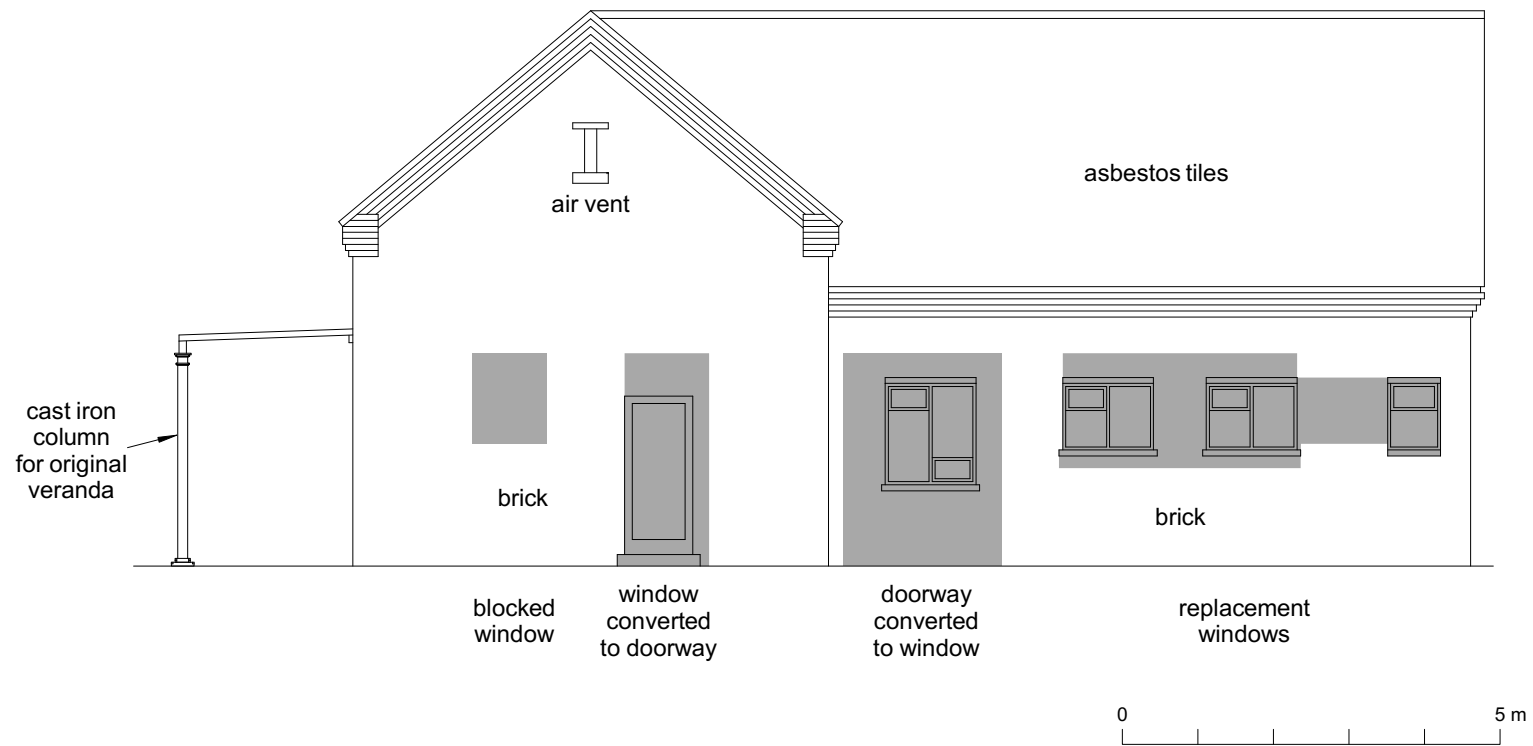


Fig 32 MEE 03: east elevation of the former Meeanee Barracks Guard House, with alterations shaded grey.

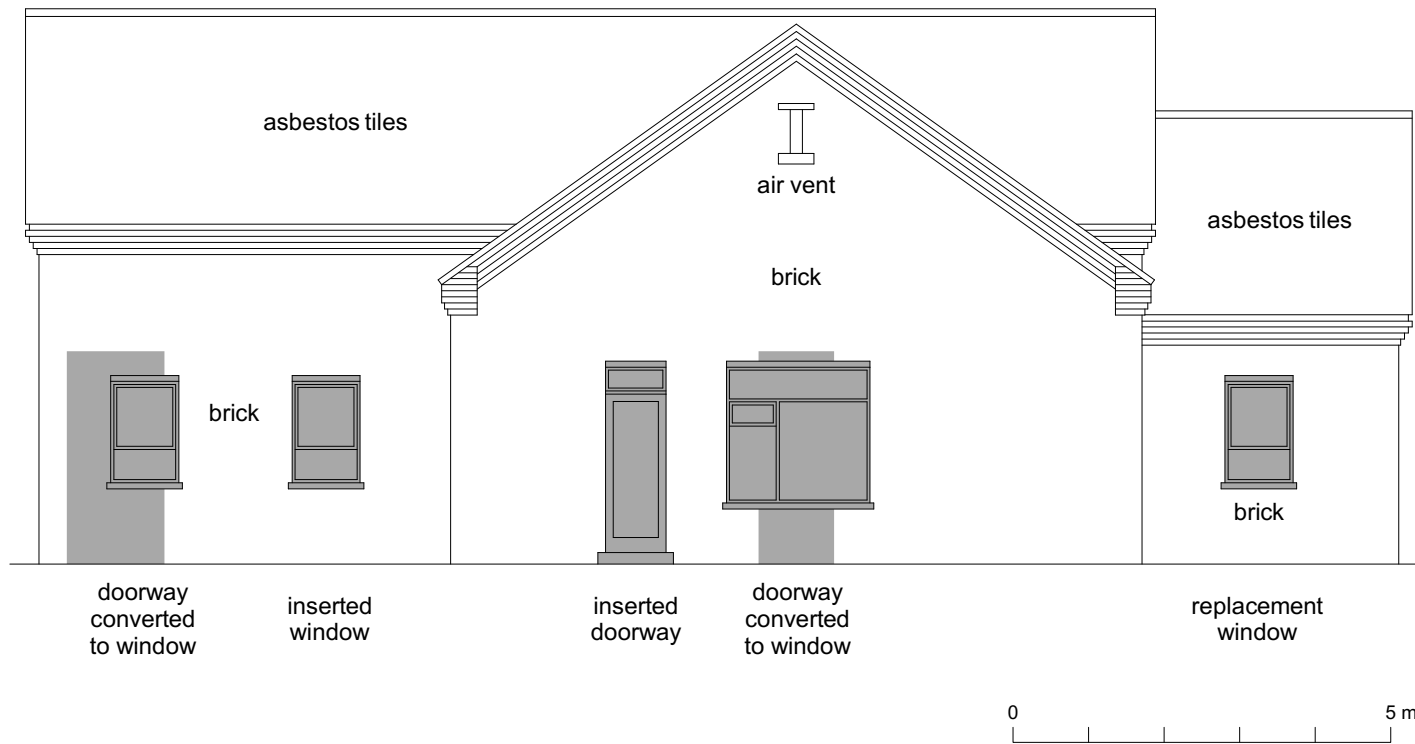


Fig 33 MEE 03: north elevation of the former Meeanee Barracks Guard House, with alterations shaded grey.

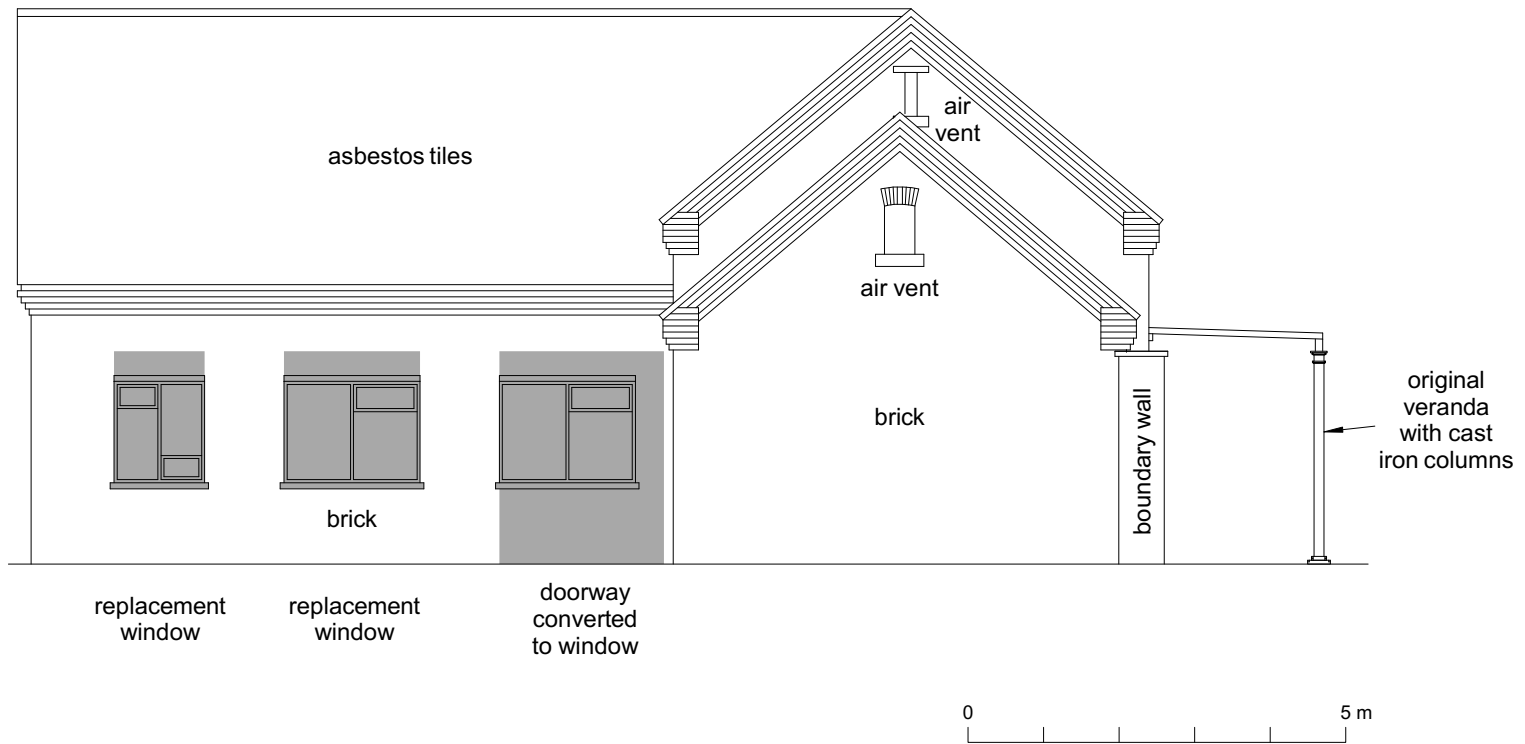


Fig 34 MEE 03: west elevation of the former Meeanee Barracks Guard House, with alterations shaded grey.

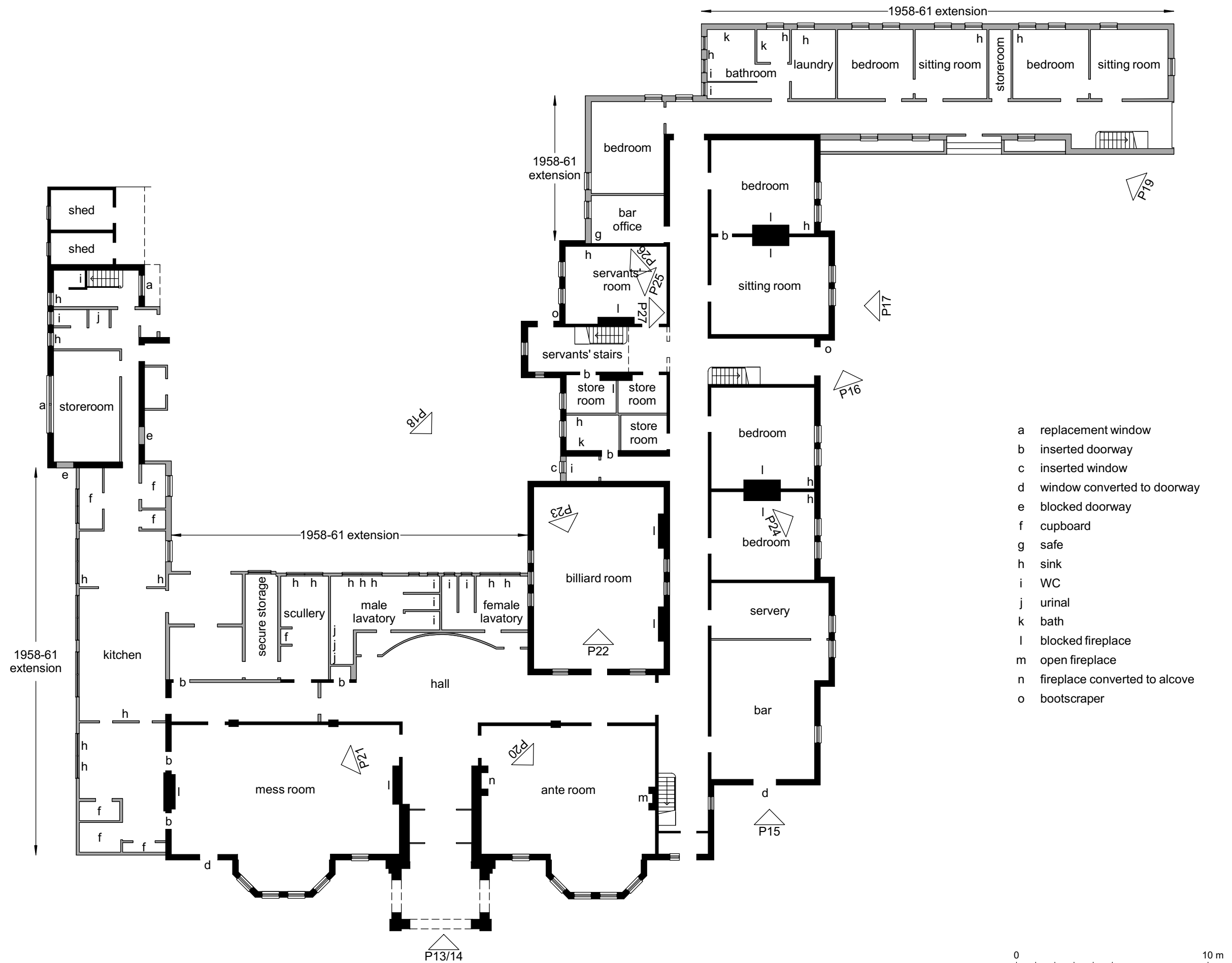


Fig 35 MEE 17: ground floor plan of the Meeanee Barracks Officers' Mess and Quarters with original fabric shown black and alterations shaded grey. The location and orientation of photographs included in this report are indicated by the numbered arrows.

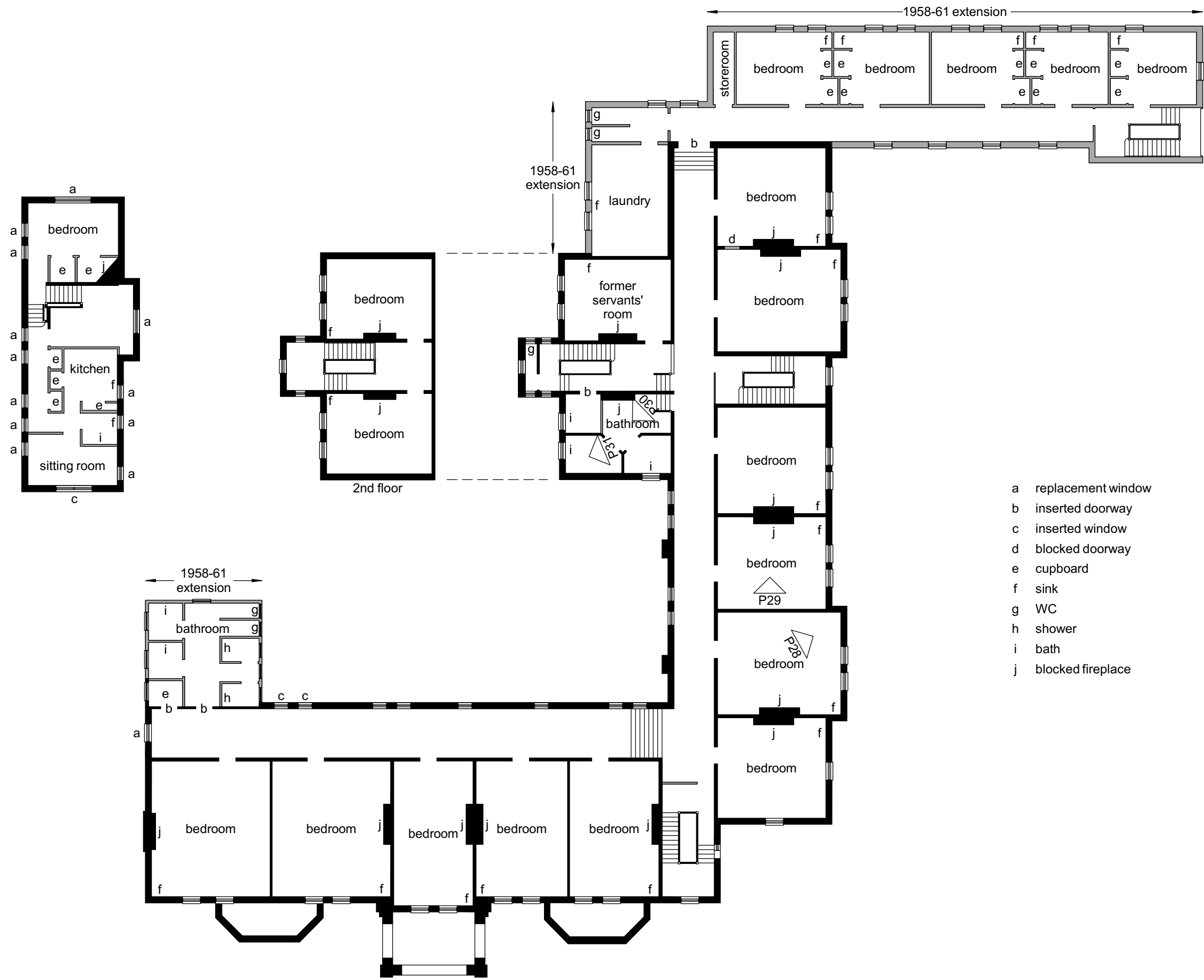


Fig 36 MEE 17: first floor plan of the Meeanee Barracks Officers' Mess and Quarters, with original fabric shown black and alterations shaded grey. The location and orientation of photographs included in this report are indicated by the numbered arrows.



Fig 37 MEE 17: west elevation of the Meeanee Barracks Officers' Mess and Quarters, with alterations shaded grey.

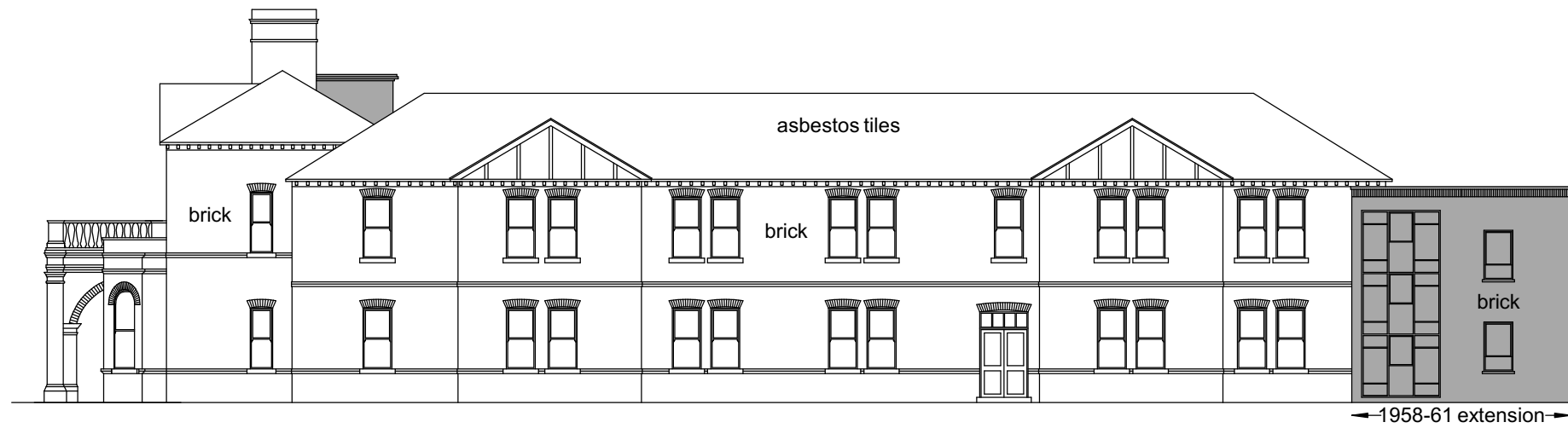


Fig 38 MEE 17: south elevation of the Meeanee Barracks Officers' Mess and Quarters, with alterations shaded grey.



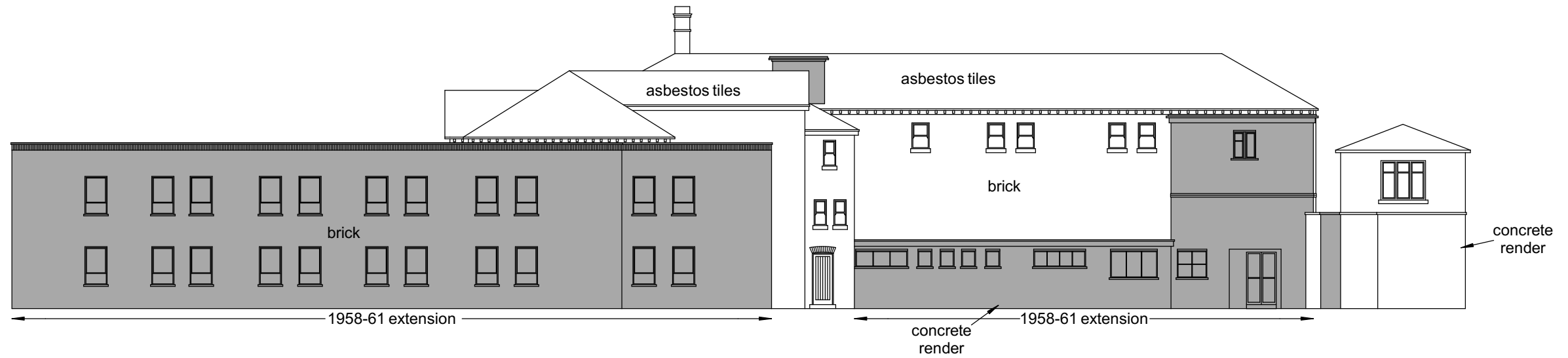
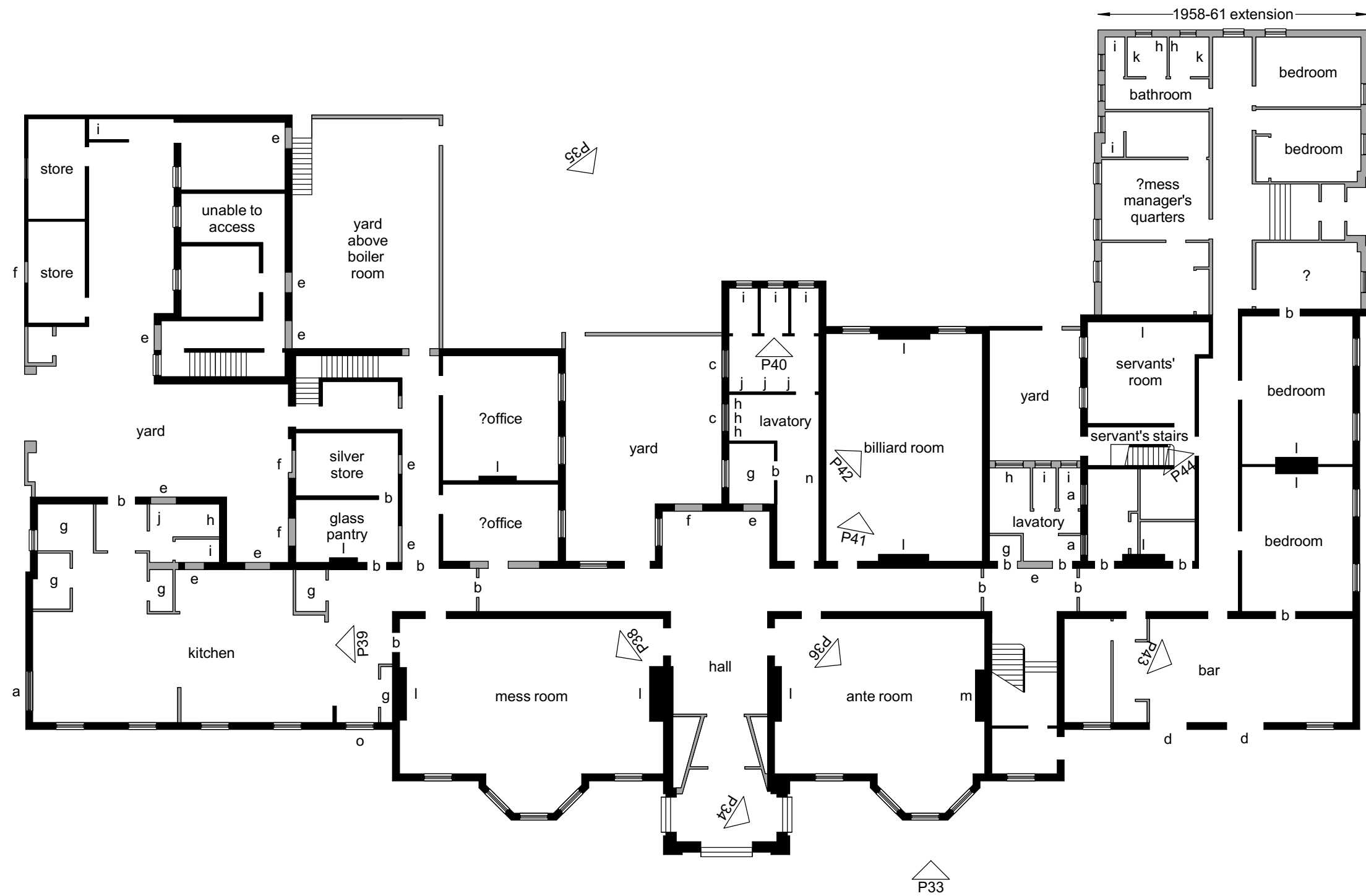


Fig 39 MEE 17: east elevation of the Meeanee Barracks Officers' Mess and Quarters, with alterations shaded grey.



Fig 40 MEE 17: north elevation of the Meeanee Barracks Officers' Mess and Quarters, with alterations shaded grey.





- a replacement window
- b inserted doorway
- c inserted window
- d window converted to doorway
- e blocked doorway
- f blocked window
- g cupboard
- h sink
- i WC
- j urinal
- k bath
- l blocked fireplace
- m open fireplace
- n coat hooks
- o doorway converted to window

Fig 41 HYD 08: ground floor plan of the Hyderabad Barracks Officers' Mess and Quarters, with original fabric shown black and alterations shaded grey. The location and orientation of photographs included in this report are indicated by the numbered arrows.





Fig 43 HYD 08: west elevation of the Hyderabad Barracks Officers' Mess and Quarters, with alterations shaded grey.

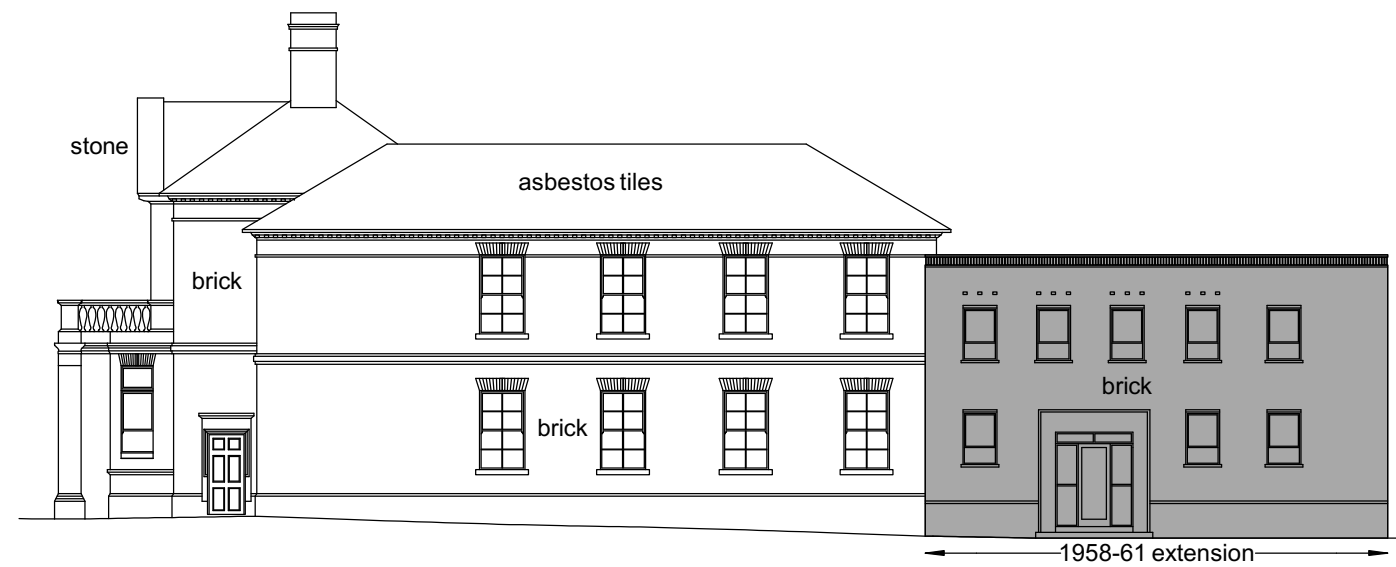


Fig 44 HYD 08: south elevation of the Hyderabad Barracks Officers' Mess and Quarters, with alterations shaded grey.



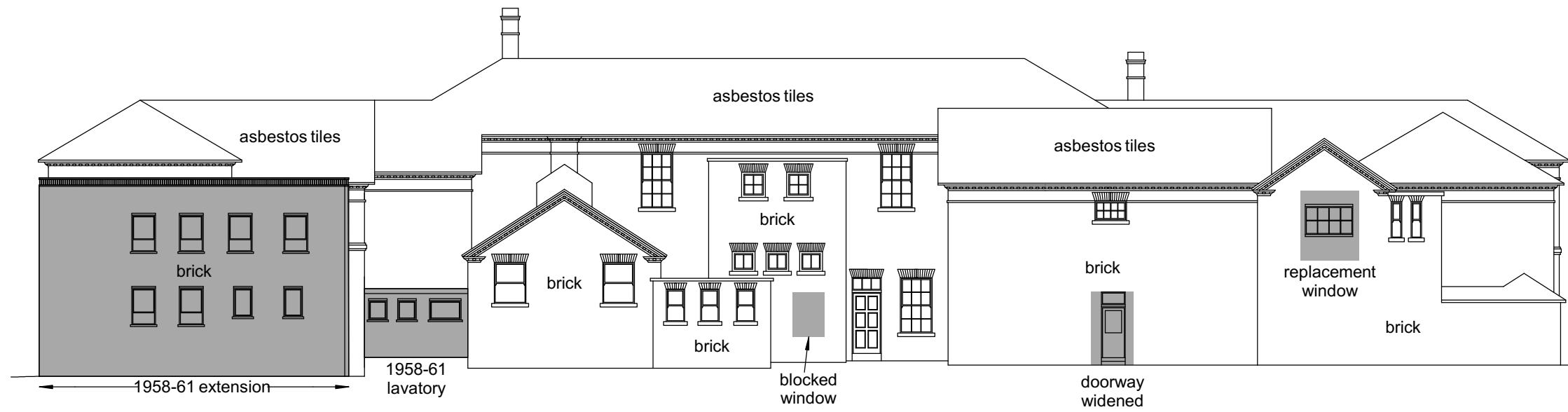


Fig 45 HYD 08: east elevation of the Hyderabad Barracks Officers' Mess and Quarters, with alterations shaded grey.

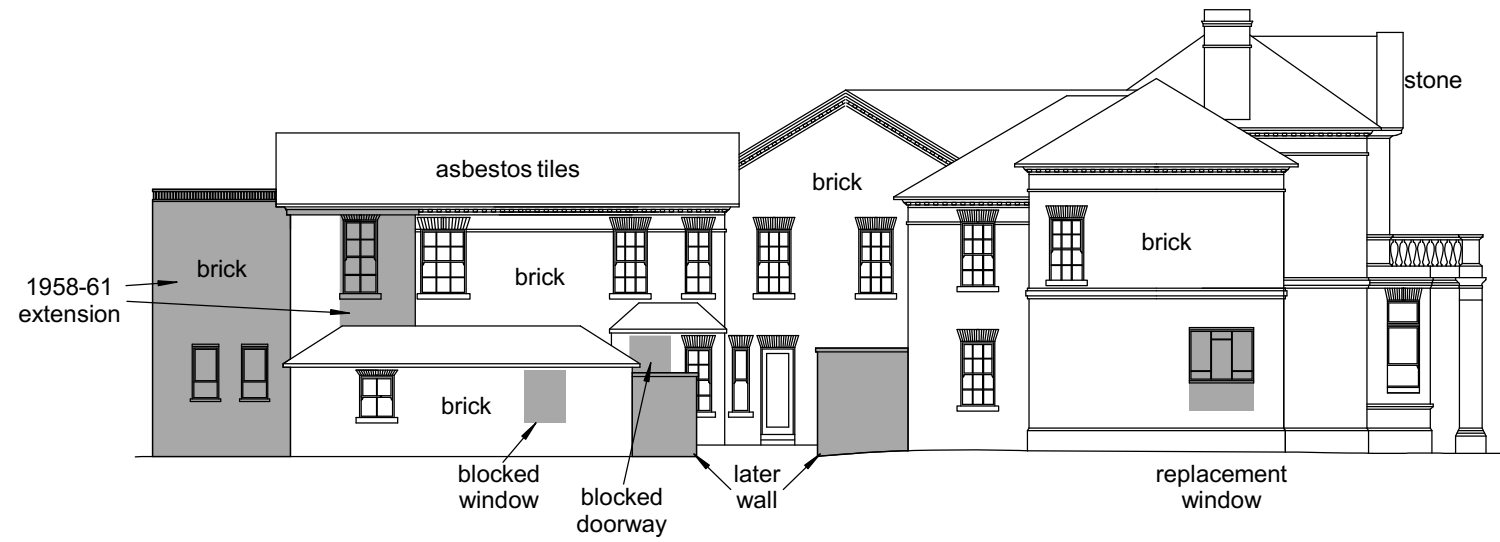


Fig 46 HYD 08: north elevation of the Hyderabad Barracks Officers' Mess and Quarters, with alterations shaded grey.



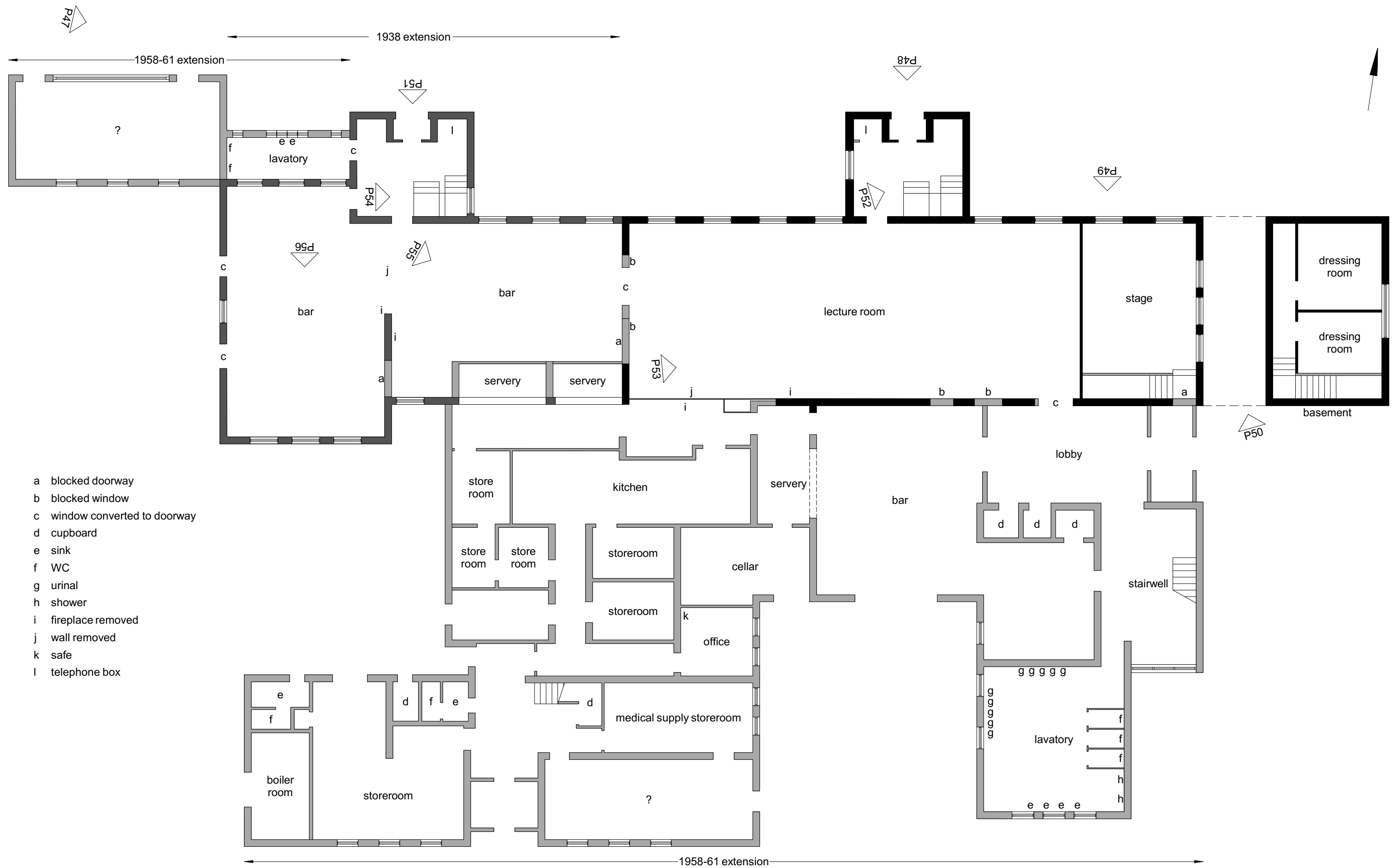


Fig 47 HYD 11: ground floor plan of the Hyderabad Barracks Regimental Institute, with original fabric shown black/dark grey and alterations shaded grey. The location and orientation of photographs included in this report are indicated by the numbered arrows.

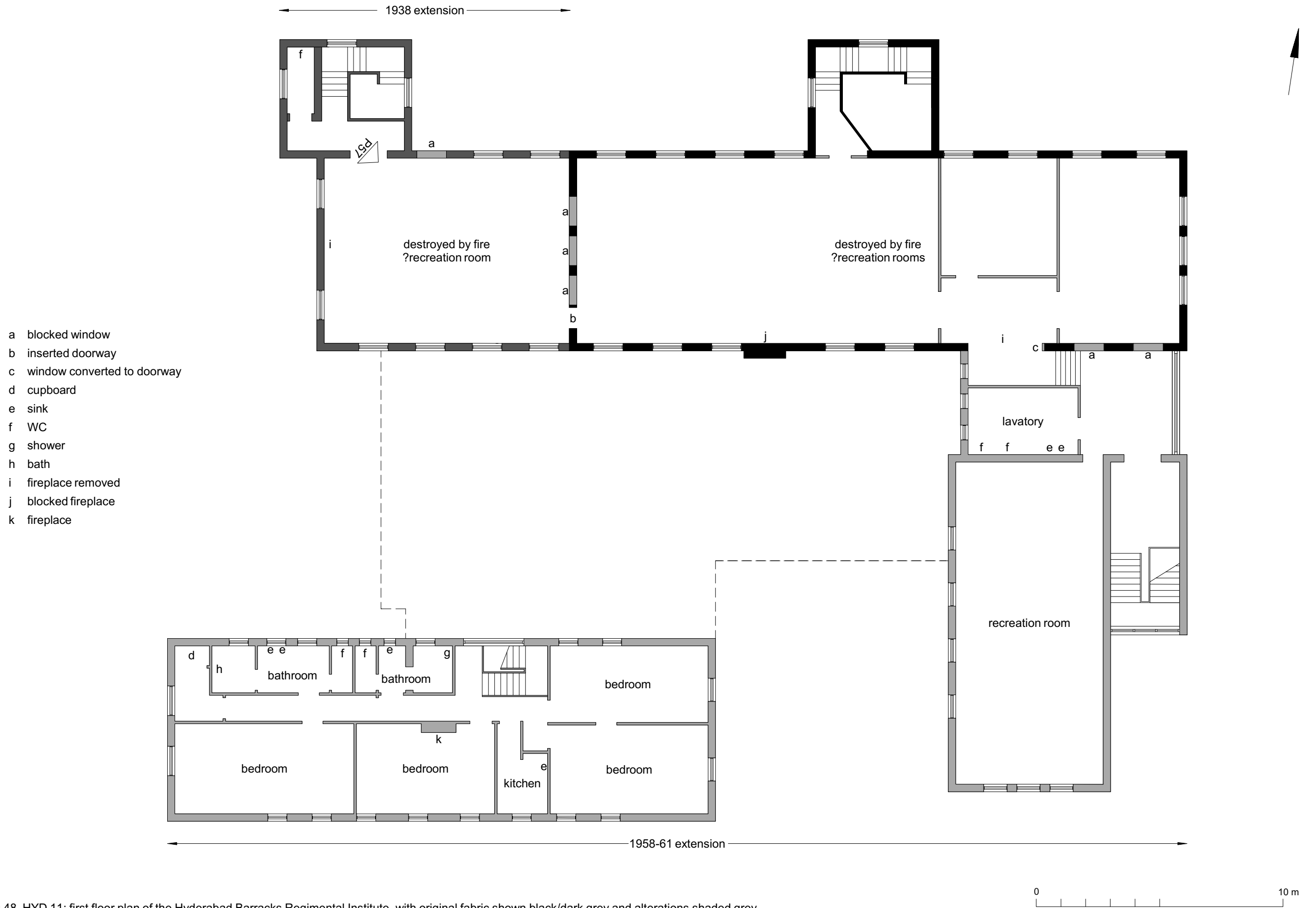


Fig 48 HYD 11: first floor plan of the Hyderabad Barracks Regimental Institute, with original fabric shown black/dark grey and alterations shaded grey. The location and orientation of photographs included in this report are indicated by the numbered arrows.



Fig 49 HYD 11: north elevation of the Hyderabad Barracks Regimental Institute, with alterations shaded grey.



Fig 50 HYD 11: east elevation of the Hyderabad Barracks Regimental Institute, with alterations shaded grey.

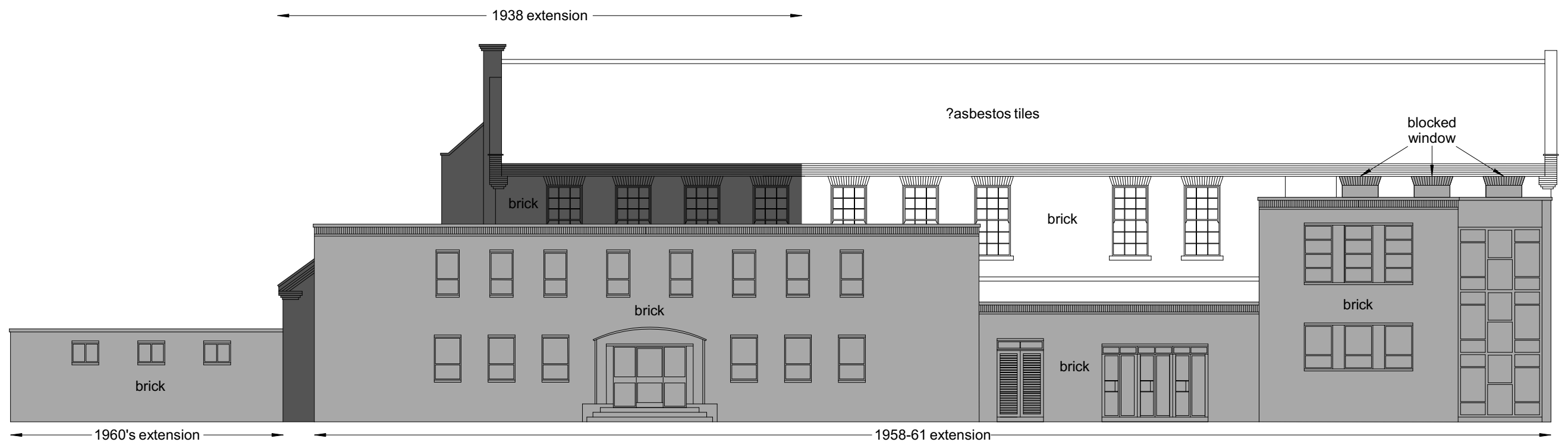


Fig 51 HYD 11: south elevation of the Hyderabad Barracks Regimental Institute, with alterations shaded grey.



Fig 52 HYD 11: west elevation of the Hyderabad Barracks Regimental Institute, with alterations shaded grey.



Essex Historic Environment Record/ Essex Archaeology and History

Summary sheet

Address: Hyderabad and Meeanee Barracks, Colchester, Essex	
Parish: Colchester	District: Colchester
NGR: TM 0002 2439 (c)	Site codes: CAT project – 13/04h Museum accession – 2013.19
Type of work: Building recording	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: April 2013	Size of area investigated: n/a
Location of curating museum: Colchester and Ipswich Museum	Funding source: Client
Monitored by: Alistair Day of Colchester Borough Council	
Further seasons anticipated? No	Related EHER numbers: -
Final report:	CAT Report 711
Periods represented:	19th-20th century
Summary: <i>A programme of building recording was carried out by the Colchester Archaeological Trust on surviving structures at the decommissioned Hyderabad and Meeanee Barracks on Colchester Garrison. These include the original Guard House, Brigade Offices and Officers' Mess and Quarters of Meeanee Barracks, and the Officers' Mess and Quarters and the Regimental Institute of Hyderabad Barracks. All are brick buildings dating from the late 19th century/early 20th century, with later additions and alterations. The significance of the buildings lies in their association with past military events and the sea change in military thinking after the Crimean War that is reflected in the layout and design of the buildings.</i>	
Previous summaries/reports: none	
Keywords: barracks	Significance: *
Author of summary: Chris Lister	Date of summary: September 2013