

# THE TWYFORD BUILDING, BELMONT HOSPITAL, TIVERTON

(NGR SS 9587 1300)

## Results of historic building recording

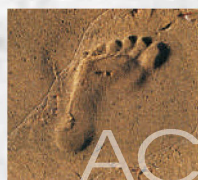
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Prepared by:  
Andrew Passmore BSc MIfA

On behalf of:  
Devonshire Homes

Document No: ACD887/2/0

Date: September 2014



AC archaeology

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# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Tiverton, Mid Devon	<b>National Grid Reference</b> SS 9587 1300	<b>Number:</b> (Leave blank for HES to fill in)
<b>Subject:</b> The Twyford Building, Belmont Hospital, Tiverton: Results of historic building recording		<b>Photo attached?</b> Y
<b>Planning Application no:</b> 13/01382/LBC	<b>Recipient museum:</b> N/A	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> 187618	<b>Museum Accession no:</b> N/A	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b>  ACD887	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b>  7 May 2014 and 8 August 2104	
<p><b>Description of works</b></p> <p><i>Introduction (Fig. 1)</i> Historic building recording was undertaken during the demolition of the Twyford Building at the former Belmont Hospital, Belmont Road, Tiverton (SS 9587 1300).</p> <p>The principal building on the site originated as the Tiverton Union Workhouse, which was designed by the partnership of Sir George Gilbert Scott and William Moffatt in 1837–8, and later altered when converted in use as a hospital. The Twyford Building is a now-detached late 19th-century infirmary block that incorporates fabric from the 1837-8 workhouse. The Twyford Building has been the subject of two architectural studies. It was assessed as part of a <i>Heritage Statement</i> prepared by Heritage Vision in April 2008, and was the subject of a comprehensive historic building survey carried out by Exeter Archaeology in March 2010 (Passmore and Steinmetzer 2010). The present investigation augments the recording carried out in 2010.</p> <p><i>Results (Fig. 2)</i> Very little previously unrecorded historic fabric was exposed as a result of the works (Plates 1 and 2). Throughout the building lath and plaster was noted in wall partitions and ceilings. All other observations were on the ground floor and are summarised below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The eastern opening in the central projecting block on the south elevation had not been historically blocked as previously thought.</li> <li>• In the 1890s west wing a modern serving hatch between the child health clinic room and kitchen on the ground floor was exposed (Plate 3).</li> <li>• In the chiropody room the removal of some of the wall plaster from a projecting section of masonry exposed bricks and concrete which represents a blocking of a former fireplace. This observation confirms that all of the ground-floor rooms in the 1837-8 central range were heated (Plate 4).</li> <li>• As previously observed, pugging (sound deadening) was noted in several locations within the ground-floor ceiling of the 1837-8 central range (Plates 5-7). In the western room of the central range (the speech and language therapy room) a slate slab apparently forming the hearth of the first-floor fireplace was exposed (Plate 8). This was offset from the projecting masonry of the chimney stack (on both floors) and it is possible that a further hearth slab has been removed. It seems likely therefore that both large first-floor rooms (wards) were heated.</li> </ul> <p><i>Comments</i> The building had been thoroughly surveyed and recorded in 2010. The few observations of newly-exposed historic masonry mainly relate to the presence of blocked fireplaces and provide evidence for heating of all the primary rooms in the 1837-8 central range that originally formed part of the Tiverton Union Workhouse.</p> <p>This report and the associated OASIS entry represent the archive for the project.</p>		

*Sources consulted*

Heritage Vision, 2008, *Belmont Hospital, Tiverton, Devon: historic analysis study to inform proposed alterations & new development*.

Passmore, A.J., and Steinmetzer, M.F.R., 2010, *Belmont Hospital, Tiverton, Devon: An archaeological evaluation and historic building recording*, Exeter Archaeology Report **10.20**.

**A plan as well as any other relevant drawings must be attached showing the location and extent of site, areas investigated and features exposed.**

**Recorder:**

Stella De-Villiers. AC archaeology

**Date sent to HER:**

26 September 2014



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PROJECT  
 Twyford Building, Belmont Hospital, Tiverton, Devon

TITLE

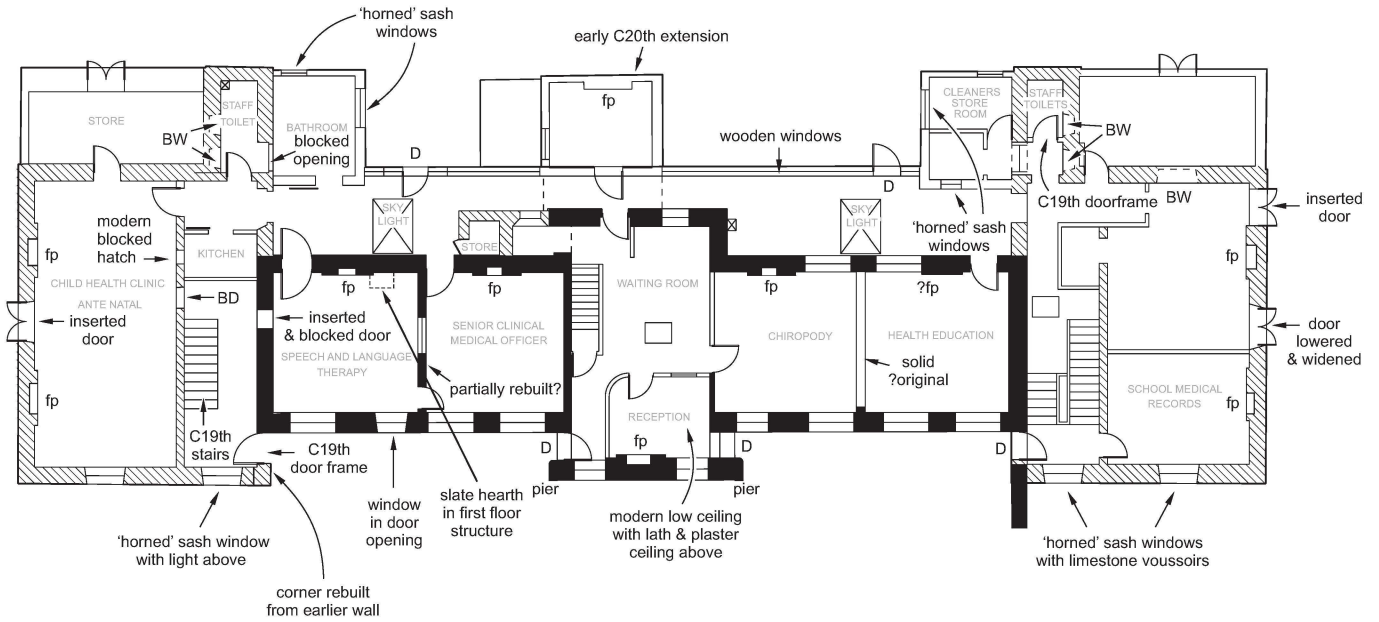
Fig. 1: Site location





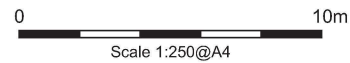
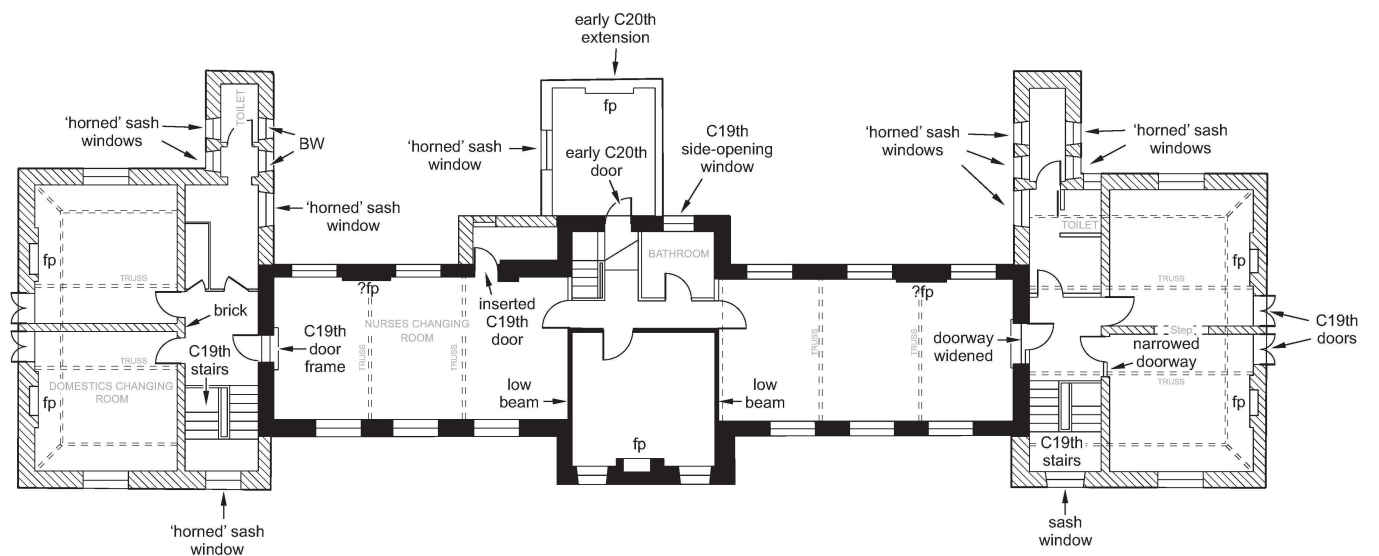


### Ground Floor Plan



- 1837 Workhouse
- 1893/1897 Infirmary additions
- C20th
- D = door
- BD = blocked door
- BW = blocked window
- fp = fireplace

### First Floor Plan



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Fig. 2: Floor plans of the Twyford Building





Plate 1: Lath and plaster wall covering in the west room of the central range, viewed from the west. 1m scale



Plate 2: Lath and plaster ceiling covering in the first floor east room of the central range, viewed from the southeast



Plate 3: The hatch in the ground floor of the west range, viewed from the west. 1m scale



Plate 4: The blocked fireplace in the chiropody room of the central range, viewed from the south. 1m scale





Plate 5: The pugging in the ceiling of the speech therapy room, viewed from the west



Plate 6: The pugging in the ceiling of the waiting room, viewed from the southwest



Plate 7: The pugging in the ceiling of the chiropody room, viewed from the west



Plate 8: The hearth slab in the ceiling of the speech therapy room, viewed from the west

### Devon Office

AC archaeology Ltd  
Unit 4, Halthaies Workshops  
Bradninch  
Nr Exeter  
Devon  
EX5 4LQ

Telephone/Fax: 01392 882410

### Wiltshire Office

AC archaeology Ltd  
Manor Farm Stables  
Chicklade  
Hindon  
Nr Salisbury  
Wiltshire  
SP3 5SU

Telephone: 01747 820581  
Fax: 01747 820440

[www.acarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.acarchaeology.co.uk)