



Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL

*An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment and
Historic Building Appraisal at*

**The Old Chapel
Horton Road
Gloucester**

For M. E. Wynn and Co. Ltd.



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Archaeology Service*

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Site details

Site address: The Old Chapel, Horton Road, Gloucester
OS NGR: 384356 218433
Site type: Archaeological Desk-based Assessment and Historic Building Appraisal
Client: M E Wynn & Co. Ltd
GSMR no: 42735
Planning no: Pre-application
Date of research: January 2012
Date of report: February 2012
Authors: Nathan Thomas (DBA)
Richard K. Morriss (Historic Building Appraisal)

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Summary

The following is an archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) and historic building appraisal in connection with a proposed development at The Old Chapel, Horton Road, Gloucester. The work has been requested by Ted Wynn of M E Wynn & Co Ltd, in order to assess the character, distribution, importance and survival of any potential archaeological remains across the proposed development area and to record the structure of The Old Chapel. The results of the DBA and historic building appraisal are to be submitted to Charlotte Lewis (Gloucester City Council Principal Conservation and Design Officer) for her comments and any recommendations for further work.

The DBA indicates that there is a low potential for the survival of Roman, Anglo-Saxon and medieval remains within the proposed development area. However, there is potential for post-medieval burials associated with the Horton Road Hospital based on the extent of the burial grounds depicted in historic documentation. There is no evidence available for the number of potential burials or any record of burials being exhumed prior to the chapel construction. Disturbance from grave digging activities is also likely to have had a negative impact on the survival of earlier archaeological deposits.

The historic building appraisal indicates that the chapel is of a fairly standard architectural design, which has been subject to limited external modification but radical internal refurbishment.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) and historic building appraisal was undertaken by Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service (GCCAS) at The Old Chapel, Horton Road, Gloucester (GSMR 42735). The work was commissioned by Ted Wynn of M E Wynn & Co Ltd and was carried out during January and February 2012. The results of the DBA and historic building appraisal are to be submitted to Charlotte Lewis (Gloucester City Council Principal Conservation and Design Officer) for her comments and recommendations for any further work. The work was conducted following a pre-planning proposal to develop The Old Chapel. The proposal includes the refurbishment of the interior and the addition of a three-storey extension to the northwest of the chapel building.

1.2 The DBA was carried out in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for historic environment desk-based assessments* produced by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2011). The historic building appraisal followed the guidance as specified in *Understanding Historic Buildings, a guide to good recording practice* (English Heritage 2006) and the *Standard and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings and structures* (IfA 2008). All aspects of the works followed the brief issued by Gloucester City Council Principal Conservation and Design Officer (Lewis 2012) and the Written Scheme of Investigation (Thomas 2012).

2.0 Location and description of the study area (Figure 1)

2.1 The Old Chapel is located on the west side of Horton Road, 1.2km east of Gloucester city centre within the area of Wotton and is centred on OS NGR 384356 2189434. The Old Chapel lies within a small parcel of land covering an area of c.0.28 hectares and is bounded to the south and west by modern residential apartments and by Harescombe Drive and Horton Road to the north and east respectively.

2.2 The underlying geology of the proposed development area is blue Lias clays and mudstone of the Charmouth formation overlain by Cheltenham sands and gravels (BGS 2012). The proposed development area is situated on a terrace of land at a height of approximately 24m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). At present the site is unoccupied. Until recently the site was owned by the Gloucester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and was used as offices with an additional car park within the grounds for 11 vehicles.

3.0 Purpose and aims

3.1 "A desk-based assessment will determine, as far as is reasonably possible from existing records, the nature of the archaeological resource within a specified area. It will be undertaken using appropriate methods and practices which satisfy the stated aims of the project, and which comply with the Code of conduct, Code of approved practice for the regulation of contractual arrangements in field archaeology, and other relevant by-laws of the IfA" (IfA 2011).

3.2 The Principal Conservation and Design Officer of Gloucester City Council recommended that a desk-based assessment should be carried out as the site was formerly part of the Horton Road Hospital and falls within an area where heritage assets of archaeological, historical and architectural interest are likely to exist.

3.3 The specific aims of this assessment are:

- An assessment of the potential for and likely nature of any surviving Roman, Saxon and medieval features within the proposed development area.
- To determine whether the enclosed area of the chapel site has been used as a burial ground. If burials have taken place in the past is there any record of the remains having been subsequently exhumed?
- To record the standing structure of the chapel and identify any important building features to be retained during conversion.
- To assess the site's relationship with the surrounding area and determine how this is expressed

4.0 Methodology

4.1 A detailed survey of the historical and archaeological background of the study area has been carried out in addition to a search of all available map-based and photographic data. Sources consulted included:

Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record (GHER)
Gloucester Urban Archaeological Database (GUAD)
Gloucestershire Record Office (GRO)
Ordnance Survey maps (OS)
Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society (TBGAS)
Glevensis (Gloucester and district research group)
The Victoria County History (Gloucester City)
The National Heritage List for England
The National Monuments Record (NMR)
Archaeological and historical journals and books
Unpublished research reports and archives (Gloucester City Museum)

4.3 A site visit was made to assess the current ground conditions and the archaeological and historical potential of the site. An assessment of the potential level of disturbance was also carried out.

4.4 A historic building appraisal was conducted by a qualified building specialist. The appraisal focused on the pre-1970's standing structures of the site and recorded them to elements of level 3 (English Heritage 2006a).

5.0 Results of site visit

5.1 The proposed development area was visited on the 9th February 2012. The Old Chapel is located in an irregular plot of land, including a strip of land at the southwest that was formerly a footpath to the Gloucester Royal Infirmary. This strip of land borders residential flats to the southwest and northeast and is mostly under grass with a modern brick wall to the northeast (Plate 1). The presence of a slope falling off to the southwest is indicative of landscaping works associated with the Horton Road Hospital and the terracing depicted in the historic mapping (see below).

5.2 At the northwest of the chapel is the former car park. The car park includes a macadam driveway across the centre of the area with gravel parking bays to the east and a grassed area with trees to the west (Plate 2). The car park appears to have been terraced, with a distinct drop in level evident from the original ground level present immediately adjacent to the west of the chapel. In the northwest of the area a large undulation in the ground level is present and may represent spoil derived from the terracing process (Plate 3). Various modern and contemporary service runs are present across the area. This area is separated from the modern residential housing to the west by a brick built wall.

5.3 North of the chapel is a grassed area abutting Harescombe Drive and currently partitioned by an iron fence. The level of this area of ground appears on a level with the original chapel terrace (Plate 4).

5.4 On the east side of the chapel is a large brick wall separating the chapel and the proposed development area from Horton Road which is probably contemporary with the Horton Road Hospital.

The area of land between the wall and the chapel is again mostly under grass and extant drainage runs across the area are evident. In addition, a large area of disturbance was noted adjacent to the porch on this side of the chapel. This is likely to be associated with a former entranceway into the chapel and connected to Horton Road through a now bricked up gateway, as shown in the historic mapping (Plate 5).

5.5 The southern area of the proposed development area immediately adjacent to the apse south of the chapel is composed of a macadam driveway from Horton Road and a small grassed area. This area is separated from the eastern side of the chapel by a wooden fence. The modern addition of a doorway and associated steps on the western side of the apse is also present. Modern service runs were also noted within this area. This area is separated from the car park area by a brick wall and gateway (Plate 6).

5.6 The site visit did not identify any potential archaeological features within the proposed development area. However, disturbance from landscaping works associated with the car park and driveway and the presence of various service runs were noted. In addition, the presence of large trees at the west of the site may also indicate disturbance from rooting.

6.0 Archaeological and historical background

6.1 A search was made of all the recorded archaeological finds and interventions within a 300m radius of the proposed development. The location of all the recorded entries for both the Gloucester Urban Archaeological Database (GUAD) and Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record (GHER) are presented in Figure 2. Where necessary, site archives held at the Gloucester City Museum were consulted to garner further details on the recorded archaeological works.

6.2 Prehistoric

6.2.1 There is no recorded evidence for any archaeological activity related to the prehistoric period within the vicinity of the proposed development area.

6.3 Roman

6.3.1 The proposed development is located 500m south of the line of Ermin Street, the Roman road which is thought to have connected the fort at Kingsholm to the fort of Leaholme in Cirencester (GHER 7542). Along the line of Ermin Street numerous Roman remains have been recorded including the Wotton Roman cemetery (GHER 14096), located north of the proposed development at the junction of Denmark Road and London Road. However, the evidence from around the proposed development area mostly consists of stray, unstratified and poorly located finds.

6.3.2 A complete lead coffin containing thigh bones was recovered by workmen at the Pin Mill site, formerly located on the junction of Horton Road with Great Western Road, approximately 100m south of the proposed development (GUAD 29, Fullbrook-Leggatt 1968).

6.3.3 Four fragments of lead coffin were found close to the Horton Road railway crossing in 1917 (GUAD 27).

6.3.4 A stray Roman coin of Constantine II (AD 317-337) was found 200m east of the proposed development in Hamer Street around 1959 (GUAD 26).

6.3.5 An archaeological evaluation within the British Rail sidings 130m south of the development (GUAD 1861) identified the course of a former watercourse containing preserved organic remains dated to the Roman period. However, across most of the area significant disturbance dating from the 19th century was recorded (Atkin 1993).

6.4 Anglo-Saxon

6.4.1 Very little is known about the post-Roman period in Gloucester and there is no evidence for activity of this date in the immediate vicinity of the proposed development area. During this period the city probably continued as some sort of administrative centre, if not as an urban centre, and is mentioned in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle's entry for 577 AD. Until the 10th century though, the town and its hinterland remained primarily agricultural in character (Herbert 1988).

6.5 Medieval

6.5.1 The proposed development area lies in the hinterland of the medieval city of Gloucester and, while Ermin Street continued as an important route into the city during the medieval period, it is likely that it was under arable cultivation throughout this period.

6.5.2 An archaeological evaluation was conducted to the north of the Horton Road Hospital site, 280m north of the proposed development, within the area now occupied by Wotton Lawn Hospital (GUAD 920). The evaluation identified medieval ridge and furrow ploughing running on an east-west alignment across the entire area investigated. In addition, a post-medieval enclosure was also identified that was interpreted as a possible civil war guard house. A distinct absence of Roman features and finds was noted (Atkin 1992).

6.6 Post-medieval and modern

6.6.1 Evidence from historic mapping (see 7 below) indicates that the proposed development area and its immediate surroundings continued to be used for agricultural purposes throughout the post-medieval period, until the construction of the Horton Road Hospital in 1815 – 1823.

6.6.2 An archaeological watching brief was conducted 150m to the northeast of the proposed development, to the rear of Collingwood House (GUAD 1806). The works recorded an east-west aligned clay-lined ditch dated to the 19th century.

6.6.3 An archaeological evaluation conducted within the grounds of the Gloucester Royal Infirmary (GUAD 1042) concluded that there was no evidence for occupation prior to the 18th century due to deep cultivation associated with the Horton Road Hospital (Greatorex 1997). A number of paths and garden features associated with the hospital were also identified. Sixteen trenches were excavated during the works (Figure 2). Two of the trenches (trenches 13 and 14) lie to the northeast of the proposed development area on the eastern side of Horton Road. Both trenches identified a shallow topsoil layer from 0.1m to 0.2m in depth overlying what was interpreted as a cultivation layer 0.3m to 0.4m in depth.

6.6.4 An archaeological evaluation was conducted within the grounds of the Horton Road Hospital following a planning application for a sports and fitness centre (GUAD 1068). The evaluation did not record any archaeological features and determined that significant landscaping works around the hospital had occurred due to the absence of both a topsoil and subsoil across most of the area investigated (Donel 1998; 1999). Three trenches were excavated and these were located to the west of the hospital buildings, north of the proposed development area. The natural clay was observed to be overlain by a redeposited layer of clay containing brick and rubble and cut by Victorian drains. Unfortunately the final report and archive resulting from this work are currently lost, and the exact location of the trenches in relation to the proposed development is unknown.

6.6.5 An archaeological watching brief was conducted at the Wotton Lawn Hospital site, 280m north of the proposed development (GUAD 1416). The watching brief identified a post-medieval pit containing fragments of burnt clay (Garrod 2000).

6.6.6 An archaeological watching brief was conducted by GCCAS at Wotton Lawn Hospital, 300m north of the proposed development (GHER 33448). The watching brief recorded two undated post-holes and a post-medieval ditch (Witchell 2009).

6.7 Further recorded archaeological works within the vicinity of the proposed development

6.7.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted at the site of the former NHS depot, 50m to the south of the proposed development (GUAD 1869). The evaluation did not record any archaeological finds or features (Donel 2002). Again, the report and archive from this work is currently unavailable.

6.7.2 An archaeological watching brief and programme of building recording was undertaken during works to renovate the Horton Road Hospital site (GUAD 1850). The results of the archaeological watching brief are again unavailable.

6.7.3 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during works in Hamer Street to the east of the proposed development (GUAD 1474). No archaeological features or finds were recorded.

6.7.4 An archaeological watching brief was conducted during works at St Peter's School, 250m northeast of the proposed development (GUAD 1547). No archaeological finds or features were recorded (Garrod 2003).

6.8 Listed buildings within a 300m radius of the proposed development (Figure 2)

6.8.1 Collingwood House is a Grade II listed building located on the east side of Horton Road, 160m northeast of the proposed development (GHER 41962; LB 472227). The house dates from c.1835 and is built from red brick with stone details, the roof is of hipped slate and the chimneys are brick stacks (DOE 1998, 178).

6.8.3 The Horton Road Hospital, also referred to as the First County Asylum, Horton Road Lunatic Asylum and The Crescent (GHER 41963; LB 472228) is a Grade II* listed building. The remaining hospital buildings lie 35m to the north of the proposed development and date from the early 19th century.

6.9 Historical background to the Horton Road Hospital

6.9.1 The Old Chapel was built to serve the Horton Road Hospital and therefore a history of the development of the hospital itself is pertinent in providing a context for the setting, construction and function of the chapel. A recent account by Hollingsbee (2002) provides a comprehensive background to the development and running of the hospital.

6.9.2 A proposal to provide a hospital for the insane in Gloucester was initiated in 1792. The construction was supervised by John Collingwood for a committee representing the subscribers, the county and the city. The hospital was to provide accommodation for three categories of patients: the wealthy, the poor on parochial relief (charity), and the poor not on relief (paupers), with segregation of the sexes. The site chosen for the hospital was in the parish of Wotton, where 45 acres of land were purchased. Wotton was considered a convenient location as it both provided views of the countryside that were thought to be beneficial to the patients, while also being conveniently situated for access to the city. In addition, the site's location was considered close enough to the Gloucester to Cheltenham tramroad to enable a single track to be built for the course of the development to deliver materials to site (Bailey 1971).

6.9.3 Construction was begun in 1815, and the hospital was opened for admissions in 1823. The hospital was built of brick and stucco and the central feature was a crescent of three storeys (RCHME 1994). Male patients occupied the northern part of the building and females the south. North, south, and west wings of two storeys were connected to the central crescent building by single-storeyed day rooms. The crescent contained accommodation for 24 wealthy patients and their servants and the wings for 60 paupers and 26 charity patients. In addition, there were also detached wards for noisy and violent patients (Jurica 1988, 273-275). Contemporary plans of the hospital depict a large semi-circular estate, with ample "airing grounds" adjacent to the hospital buildings (GRO Q/AL/22). In addition, arable and pasture fields owned by the hospital were located to the south and north respectively of the hospital buildings (GRO GBR/L/6/27/1).

6.9.4 From 1838, when the hospital accommodated 20 wealthy, three charity, and 167 pauper patients, the number of charity patients increased considerably. In 1843 the figures were 18, 47, and 191 respectively. The subscribers had surplus payments from patients from 1842, and from 1843 each party maintained those parts of the asylum in its sole use. The number of charity patients declined after 1846 and by 1855 the number of pauper patients had risen to 310. To meet the altered circumstances, the parties divided the property in 1847 and agreed to a new union and division of costs. Large new wings for paupers were opened in 1852 and 1855. In 1856 the union between county, city, and subscribers was dissolved and the county and city effectively bought out the subscribers' part of the asylum and converted the building for the exclusive use of paupers. The conversion, which included adding a third storey to the original wings, was interrupted by a serious fire in 1858. From 1856 the county paid most of the costs and the hospital became known as the County Asylum and housed nearly 600 patients (Jurica 1988, 274, GRO HO 22/8/1-2, HO 22/16/2-3, HO 22/8/4).

6.9.5 In addition to space for the living, in 1825 petitions and plans were made for a burial ground for paupers within the grounds of the hospital. A small enclosed courtyard located at the southeast of the hospital buildings appears to have been the designated location for this first modest burial ground. The initial plan was for a small plot measuring 24' 7" by 49' (7.5m by 15m). However, in architectural plans dated 1842 (GUAD 1850, Donel 2003) and Causton's map of 1843 the burial ground appears to have grown to encompass the entire courtyard area, approximately 27.5m by 35m (Figure 3).

Subsequently, in 1853, a later licence from the Bishop of Gloucester grants plans for a new burial ground adjacent to the funeral chapel. The licence is coincident with the building of the new pauper wings and the increase in patient numbers. The licence is forcibly accompanied by the following statement “*being an immediate call for the same (burial ground), as much inconvenience attends the necessity of burying paupers at a distance and the burial grounds in the city are already sufficiently crowded*” (GRO GDR/F6/57). The location of the new burial ground was again at the southeast of the hospital complex on a strip of land bordering Asylum Road (Horton Road) (Figure 3). It is unclear if the burial of patients continued at the hospital following the construction of the chapel. In the hospital records for 1882, a criticism is made regarding the method of burial for pauper patients. It is recorded that the deceased was placed on a cart and four other inmates had to push and pull the cart to the cemetery that was located around 2 miles away (Hollingsbee 2002). In addition, letters to relatives regarding the deaths of patients at the hospital dating from the early 20th century onward indicate that the deceased were then being buried at the Gloucester Cemetery at Tredworth (GRO HO 22/86/2). The Gloucester Corporation Cemetery was opened in 1857 (Herbert 1988, 268) and it is possible that deceased paupers from the hospital were subsequently interred there.

6.9.6 Despite additions in the late 1860s and early 1870s there was a shortage of room at the hospital, and in 1878 the county bought an estate at Coney Hill, for the site of a second asylum. In 1900, the total number of patients housed by both hospitals was around 1059. In 1981 the two hospitals still contained over 900 beds (Jurica 1988, 274). The Horton Road Hospital continued to be used until March 1988. The building was subsequently left abandoned and in a state of decay for 12 years. Following a variety of proposals for the development of the site, works began in the early 2000 to convert the remaining hospital crescent building into luxury residential apartments.

6.10 The Old Chapel

6.10.1 In 1849, a funeral chapel designed by the firm of Fulljames and Waller was built in front of the asylum. The location of this chapel is shown in Figure 3. It was replaced by a larger chapel, opened in 1873, on the site of the asylum’s burial ground to the south (Jurica 1988, 274). The new chapel (The Old Chapel) was built of polychromatic brick with patterned tiled roof and was designed by James Medland. The chapel was a single-cell building in a geometrical decorated style with a southern polygonal apsed sanctuary and east and west porches (Verey and Brooks 1970, 465). The original plans for the chapel are held at the Gloucestershire Record office and have been reproduced in Figures 4 to 6 (GRO Q/AL/25a/3-5, HO 22/1/2). The chapel was located at the southeast of the hospital complex with arable land to the south, Asylum Road to the east and a large open area (airing ground) with gravel paths to the west. The chapel was designed to accommodate up to 350 people.

6.10.2 The chapel was converted to offices in 1983 by the Whicheloe Macfarlane Partnership (Verey and Brooks 1970, 465).

6.10.3 An order of service held at the Gloucestershire Record Office (GRO JQ7.1GS* JQ5.19GS) indicates that a bronze war memorial plaque was unveiled within the chapel in 1921 and was dedicated to members of the hospital staff who had died during the First World War. No evidence for the current location of the memorial has been discovered.

7.0 Cartographic analysis

7.1 Tithe map 1796-9

7.1.1 The tithe map of 1796-9 (Gwatkin 1995) depicts the area of land occupied by The Old Chapel within a northwest to southeast oriented and unnamed strip field. The future Horton Road Hospital site lies within three fields on a similar alignment and named, from north to south, *Town Hyde Piece*, *Middle Town Hyde* and *Further Town Hyde*. The field system is typical of the remnant medieval open-field system using strip cultivation (Taylor 1975).

7.2 Causton’s map of Gloucester 1843

7.2.1 Causton’s map of Gloucester (1843) depicts the recently constructed Horton Road Hospital located within a semicircular estate of buildings and grounds. The site of the proposed development still remains mostly within agricultural fields to the south. The northern area of the proposed development and a small part of the proposed extension overlap with an area designated as the burial ground (Figure 3).

7.3 Ordnance Survey mapping

7.3.1 The Ordnance Survey (OS) First Edition County Series map of 1884-6 depicts The Old Chapel within a small rectilinear enclosure with a large airing ground to the west (OS 1884-6). Within the chapel enclosure a series of sinuous paths are depicted. The location of the bandstand observed within historic photographs (see below) is shown to the west of the chapel along with various gravel pathways. The chapel and airing ground appear to be on a large terrace delineated by a slope to the south and west. The terrace was noted during the site visit. The land to the south of The Old Chapel is shown as orchards and East End Road, (Great Western Road) appears to have been built (Figure 7).

7.3.2 The subsequent OS mapping (1902, 1923, 1936, 1956 and 1972) depicts no significant change to The Old Chapel site or the surrounding area. With arable land to the south, the airing ground to the west and the Horton Road Hospital and Horton Road to the north and east.

7.2.3 The OS map of 1989 depicts significant changes surrounding The Old Chapel (Figure 8). Most significantly the arable field to the south of the proposed development is now a large depot associated with Royal Gloucester Infirmary and a new driveway has been constructed to the Horton Road Hospital. The driveway passes The Old Chapel on its southern and western sides across the area of the proposed extension (OS 1989).

8.0 Photographs (aerial and historic)

8.1 Two specialist oblique aerial photographs of The Old Chapel/Horton Road Hospital yield little relevant information to the research. The first photo is held by English Heritage and dates from the mid 20th century (NMR HAW 9387/43). The hospital is shown from the east, looking west, with arable fields surrounding the hospital complex. The Old Chapel is just visible in the foreground and is surrounded by mature trees. The second photograph is undated, but is probably slightly older and depicts the hospital from the southeast, looking northwest. The Old Chapel is clearly visible within the foreground and is again surrounded by trees (Anon online 2012).

8.2 A photograph from the early 20th century shows patients within the airing ground to the west of the chapel accompanied by nurses, with the chapel in the background (GRO HO 22/27/3). The chapel is located within a small brick-walled enclosure with surrounding trees. Within the airing ground is a small octagonal pavilion or bandstand for patients and a large seesaw. The bandstand is depicted in the subsequent Ordnance Survey mapping.

9.0 Archaeological potential

9.1 The research into the previous archaeological investigations and historical background of the proposed development area indicates there is a limited potential for the survival of prehistoric, Roman, Anglo-Saxon and medieval archaeological remains. This is both the result of the proposed development area being on the fringe of the core habitation areas for these periods and as a corollary of its use as arable land.

9.2 The evidence from the three archaeological evaluations conducted within the immediate vicinity of the proposed development provides further support for this argument, although the research was limited by the unavailability of site reports and archives. At the Horton Road Hospital significant landscaping works associated with the construction of the hospital were recorded by Donel (1998). Evidence for widespread ploughing and agriculture from the medieval period was also recorded by Atkin (1992), north of the proposed development, and by Greatorex (1997) to the west of The Old Chapel. Evidence for medieval strip farming is also provided by the Tithe map of 1796-9 (Gwatkin 1995).

9.3 There is, however, a potential for the presence of post-medieval human burials within the proposed development area. Historic documentation indicates a burial ground was first applied for at the Horton Road Hospital in 1825, just two years after its opening (GRO GDR/F6/57). The location of this burial ground is likely to be north of the proposed development area. By 1842/3 the burial ground appears to have expanded (GUAD 1850, Causton 1843) and its extent is likely to overlap with the northern part of the proposed development area including part of the proposed extension. In 1853, a further licence for a new burial ground at the hospital was granted. This new burial ground was a strip of land 6m wide that followed the boundary with Horton Road to the southeast limit of the hospital grounds. This burial ground falls within the eastern edge of the proposed development area. There is no evidence available for the number of potential burials or any record of burials being exhumed prior to the chapel construction.

The accuracy of the historic mapping and documentation showing the extent of the burial grounds must also be considered. There is no reason to doubt the veracity of the documents consulted. However, the limits shown for the burial grounds may not be geographically accurate, for example, or the extent of the burial grounds shown may not have been fully utilized. Disturbance from grave digging activities is also likely to have had a negative impact on the survival of earlier archaeological deposits.

9.4 Disturbance from the construction of the new driveway past the chapel in the late 1980's is likely to have had some impact on any surviving shallow archaeological features, including burials. However, it must be noted that during the construction of the chapel and associated works at the Horton Road Hospital, this area was subject to significant landscaping works and the depth of any surviving burials below the current ground levels is currently unknown.

10.0 Historic Building Appraisal (Richard K. Morriss)

10.1 Description

The chapel is a brick-built structure. It is aligned roughly north-south, presumably so as to fit into a fairly narrow plot parallel to the existing road and the boundary wall of the earlier cemetery. Liturgically, however, the northern end is the west end and the southern end the east.

The building is rectangular in plan, and of six bays articulated by buttresses. There are matching projecting porches in the northern (liturgical western) bays of the side walls and a projecting apsidal sanctuary at the south end – the liturgical east.

10.2.1 The exterior

The chapel has solid walls of regular, and possibly machine-made, brick. Externally the bulk of the brickwork is of dark red brick, laid to a mainly plain Flemish bond, embellished with simple polychromy. There is a shallow rendered plinth at the base of the walls, topped by chamfered engineering blue brick; much of the render is in a poor condition and some has fallen away.

10.2.2 The side walls

At the level of the window sills of the side walls there is a continuous decorative flush band course of a course of yellow bricks sandwiched between courses of blue brick. That motif is repeated at the springing of the arches of the windows and just below it is an additional single course of yellow brick – the whole pattern designed to give the suggestion of a full entablature of architrave, frieze and cornice.

At the tops of the side walls there are plainly dentilled eaves. The buttresses are integral to the side walls and bonded into them; they are also incorporated into the polychrome patterning. The buttresses have simple weatherings above each of the 'sandwich' bands of coloured brickwork with 'tumbled in' brick coursing.

There are five original windows on each side, the sixth, or northern bays, being occupied by porches instead. The windows are broad lancets with two-centred heads. The heads are mainly of polychrome brickwork. The voussoirs consist of pairs of red bricks alternating with trios of yellow; the apex is a cut block of limestone and the head is framed by a ring of blue brick mimicking a drip mould.

The inner frames of the openings are of limestone, with plain weathered sills and cinquefoiled heads. None of the windows retain original glazing and all have been altered quite radically fairly recently. Several windows have, in the recent past, had their sills altered and additional glazing added to light the newly created lower floor within the building.

At the southern end of the east wall – the liturgical east – the sill of the original window is higher than the others, in order to accommodate a primary square-headed doorway into the diminutive vestry in the former chancel area within.

To either side of the west porch and on one side of the east porch, rather odd inverted right-angled triangular windows have been inserted in the recent past to add more light internally. At the northern end of the same wall is a tall chimney, which appears to be original and is probably associated with the boiler room beneath the building at this point.

10.2.3 The porches

The two porches were designed to separate the sexes, the womens' porch on the west, the mens' on the east. Both, however, were virtually identical. The plinth is carried around the porches. Similarly, the 'sandwich' band course at the level of the side window sills is also carried around, but due to the different wall heights, in the porch it is at the level of the springing of the heads of the openings.

There were deep doorway openings beneath two-centred heads in the coped gabled ends of the porches; the ornate door and the eastern doorway – the liturgical north doorway - appear to be primary, but the western doorway – the liturgical south – has been crudely converted into a window in the recent past.

The polychrome brickwork detailing of the heads of the doorways is similar to those of the side windows, but the openings are deeper and there is an inner set-back to the arches – which interrupt a simple plain band course of ashlar stone. There is another 'sandwich' band of blue and yellow bricks higher up the gable.

The coping of the porch gables is of flattish overlapping stone copers, topped by an apex stone which originally had a stone finial – presumably a cross, but now lost on both porches. In the return walls of both porches are small window openings, deeply set and topped by flattish triangular heads. The tracery is topped by a slightly odd flat trefoil, but all the original glazing has been lost.

10.2.4 The north (or liturgically, west) gable end (Plates 7 and 8)

The west gable end is of two bays, articulated by buttresses – one at either end, each part of a pair clasping the corners, and another one centrally placed between two large two-light windows. The lie of the ground means that the blue-brick topped plinths of the side walls is only just above ground level.

The 'sandwich' of yellow and blue brick band courses at sill level on the side walls returns along the gable end but well below the sills of its windows. There is, instead, a second such band course at the level of their sills. The sandwich band course at the springing height of the heads of the side windows is also continued on the gable, but this is roughly mid-way up the height of the gable windows; the single yellow brick 'architrave' course below is not repeated in the gable – apart from on the buttresses.

Higher up the gable there is another sandwich course of yellow and blue brick at the springing of its windows, and three more in the coped gable – each of these beginning at stone kneelers beneath the coping – and associated with small areas of 'tumbled in' brickwork. The lower two are interrupted by the rose window, and the top one is at the level of the sill of the diminutive bell opening at the gable apex. The two main windows are enriched versions of those on the side walls, with deeper reveals and of two lights formed by simple stone tracery. Each of the lights is topped by a cinquefoil and there is a quatrefoil in the apex above them. The two-centred window head is also of similar polychrome brickwork, but the outer order of blue bricks does properly project as a drip mould. The original glazing has been replaced in the recent past, apart from that in the quatrefoils, which could be original.

The detailing of the rose window in the gable is similar to that of the windows below, with eight 'spokes' radiating from a central circle. The detailing is Early English, each of the spokes being miniature columns with octagonal bases and floral capitals – a motif picked up internally at the liturgical east end of the chapel. The framing of the rose window is a modified version of the heads of the windows below it, and the stained glass glazing could be original.

At the apex is a small opening with a two-centred head, fitted with timber louvers. The springing of its head – a miniature version of those of the side windows – is represented by a double course of blue brick. Above it is the base of a projecting structure, presumably the bellcote; this lacks its upper sections. Two narrow loops have been added, each situated midway between the central and corner buttresses.

10.2.5 The south gable, or liturgical east (Plates 9 and 10)

At the southern end (the liturgical east) is a semi-octagonal sanctuary, somewhat narrower than the main body of the chapel. Excluding the projecting apse, on the main gable end, the detailing of the coped gable and the louvered window in the apex are virtually identical to that at the northern end – except for the fact that, in lieu of the masonry at the base of the former bellcote, there is an additional sandwich band of brickwork above its apex.

The polychromy of the main body of the chapel is continued around the exterior of the projecting apsidal sanctuary. There are buttresses at each of the angles, similar in size and detail to those of the side walls. In addition, the windows are of the same basic proportions as those in the side walls but have slightly different tracery – with a flattish trefoil head at the springing level of the arch of the opening and a lobed trefoil above.

A double doorway and associated lean-to roof has been rather crudely cut into the south-western flank of the sanctuary and the remaining upper portion of the original window has been blocked; this presumably dates to the conversion of the building into offices in the early 1980s.

10.3 The roofs

10.3.1 The main roof

The main roof is tall and steep with coped gables at either end. It is covered with plain tile but on each slope there are four bands of triangular patterning picked out in a slightly different colour.

The design is assumed to be original, but the ridge tiles are not. These were probably once much more ornate and possibly crested. There is the remnant of a bellcote at the northern end (the liturgical west) and a small cross on the ridge marks the division between the southernmost bay of the main body of the chapel, (the presbytery at the liturgical east) and the rest.

Rising above the eastern porch is a fairly tall primary brick chimney with polychrome and stone detailing, presumably built to serve the heating system in the original boiler room below the porch.

Structurally, the roof is of six bays and as well as the main trusses there are trusses set against the inside faces of each gable. The trusses are very large but of relatively thin scantling timbers. Each is an arched braced truss, consisting of principal rafters joined by a single collar.

The principal rafters rise from the inner plate of paired wall-plates on the wall tops and are directly linked by a straight brace to the collar; the arched braces provide additional strength and stiffening. The collars support an axial beam, mimicking a collar purlin, and it is possible that the roof was originally ceiled at this level - as it is now. Above the collar, but now hidden by a modern ceiling, is a single king strut rising to a much shorter collar higher up, close to the apex.

Most of the arch braces rise from a simple corbel set in the wall a little below wall-plate height, but the two southern ones rise instead from ornate wall columns with decorative bases and capitals. In addition, these arch braces are cusped to add further emphasis to this bay – representing the presbytery at the liturgical east of the main body of the chapel.

The trusses support four tiers of purlins and a ridge piece. The common rafters are hidden by modern ceiling sheets, presumably added when the building was converted to office use in the 1980s.

10.3.2 The sanctuary roof

The roof of the projecting apsidal sanctuary is based on a simple series of hip rafters at the angles supported by two tiers of butt purlins. Externally, it is covered with dark grey plain tile and the ridges meet at a carved – but much eroded - stone finial embedded into the adjacent gable of the main body of the chapel.

10.3.3 The porch roofs

The porch roofs have coped gables and are also covered in dark grey plain tile. Structurally, they probably consist of close-coupled collared rafters but these are hidden above modern ceilings.

10.4 The interior

The interior of the chapel was radically altered when the building was converted into offices in the 1980s, and virtually every vestige of chapel furnishing and detailing has been expunged.

There is now a consistent ground floor level throughout, though originally there was, according to the architect's plans, a boarded floor through most of the chapel with a step up to the liturgical eastern bay, or chancel, and further steps up to the apsidal sanctuary and to the altar itself.

The tall archway into the apse is two-centred and beneath the modern paint is probably of polychrome brickwork. The outer face of the arch is protected by a simple dripmould; the inner order is supported on a pair of corbel mounted wall columns identical to those supporting the arch-braces of the penultimate truss in the main body of the chapel.

The original side walls are of plain painted brickwork, but it is probably that there was a degree of polychromy in the brickwork originally, as suggested by the architect's original plans.

A large inserted mezzanine floor has been added in the main body of the chapel. This consists of timber joists supported on RSJ girders which, in turn, are mainly supported on two rows of columns (presumably casing RSJ stanchions). There are two sets of steel stairs, one within the apse and the other in the north-eastern corner of the body of the chapel, to provide access to the inserted upper level.

Partitions have been formed on the ground floor in blockwork and some studwork to create a series of rooms of different sizes and corridor access. WC facilities have mainly been formed in the northwestern corner of the main part of the chapel, extended into the west porch.

The doorways into both porches from the body of the chapel survive more or less intact, and seem originally to have had polychrome brickwork in their two-centre arched heads. No doors have survived but their timber frames do. There is a basement beneath the eastern porch, accessed externally and evidently the position of the original boiler room.

Most of the upper floor is now one large single space, presently open to the collar-level ceiling of the roof. However, it seems likely that there was a suspended light-weight ceiling when the offices were created.

10.5 The stained glass

It is unclear how much stained glass there originally was in the chapel's windows. It is possible that the glass in the rose window – with the 'IHS' monogram in the boss and red radial trefoils – could be original, but little is indicated on the architect's plans. Instead the windows in the plans are shown as plain glass with diamond-patterned quarries (Plate 11).

There is another 'IHS' monogram in the apex of the central window in the apse, surrounded by reset pieces of glass that seems to be part of a single phase of work. This is presumably not original, and possibly associated with the glass in the south-eastern window.

That window has a full set of stained glass, with St. Luke, patron saint of doctors and physicians, as its centrepiece. Again, most of the surrounding glass, although set in proper lead cames, is made up of recycled pieces of painted glass – including bearded heads, hands, coloured garments, and other features.

All this gives the window a slight hint of Art Nouveau and this would tie in with the date. It is not original, but was added as a memorial to Frederick Hurst Craddock, for 24 years the medical superintendent of the asylum; he died in 1906, aged just 56.

10.6 The boundary wall

On the Horton Road side of the former churchyard is a tall brick wall with the remains of a stepped, ramped, coping that seems to be of different brick and almost certainly earlier than the church. It is possible that this was part of the boundary wall of the cemetery created in 1853.

10.7 Discussion

This chapel is a fairly typical example of a later 19th century chapel, known to have been opened in 1873 and to have been designed by James Medland. James Medland (1808-1894) had originally practised in London but came to Gloucester to be an assistant to Samuel Daukes and remained there until his death. He was evidently a competent architect and designed several churches in and around the city, as well as some public buildings and private houses.

The Asylum Chapel is a fairly standard design and, externally, has seen relatively few alterations. Internally, however, it has been gutted and radically altered. The design is plain, its main external decoration being the polychromy of the brickwork and tiles.

The embellishment and limited architectural detailing are largely based on Early English *motifs* – including the rose window in the liturgical west end and the narrow trefoil headed lancet windows of the side walls.

In plan, the church consisted of the main body containing both the nave and the presbytery at the south, or liturgical east, end – the latter distinguished from the rest by different detailing of wall columns and cusping to the arch-braces of the trusses. Externally, the division was marked by a small cross on the roof ridge, although the original plans show that there was to be a bell louver topped by a flèche instead.

Beyond the presbytery was an apsidal sanctuary, accessed through a large arch. At the northern end, the liturgical west, were two porches, one for men and the other for women. The fixtures and fittings of the interior were probably quite plain but substantial.

The provision of chapels at mental hospitals had become common by the later 19th century, and detached chapels were considered to be preferable to those embedded into the main complex. Most were designed to be similar to small urban parish churches, though most also had two separate entrances for male and female inmates – as is the case in this building with its two porches.

Whilst the exterior of the church has been relatively unaltered – apart from the doorway created in one facet of the sanctuary – the interior was radically altered when the building was converted into two-storey office accommodation in the early 1980s and now lacks most of its original character.

11.0 Impact of the proposed development

11.1 The proposed development comprises the refurbishment of The Old Chapel and the addition of a three-storey extension to the northwest side. The exact details of the development have not been confirmed, however, any groundworks associated with the extension have the potential to impact on any burials that may be present within the development footprint, depending upon the depth of the burials and the nature of the works. In addition, any groundworks within the eastern portion of the proposed development area have the potential to impact on burials within the 1853 burial ground extension along the Horton Road boundary.

11.2 The chapel, externally, has undergone relatively little change apart from the addition of the entranceway within the apse. The proposals for the extension to the northwest of the chapel indicate no significant structural change to the chapel itself, based upon the plans provided. Internally, the chapel has been expunged of any vestige of chapel furnishing and detailing during its conversion to offices during the late 1980s. Therefore any further redevelopment can have little detrimental effect on the character of the interior. Retention of the stained glass windows however, especially considering the dedication to Frederick Hurst Craddock, the former Horton Road Asylum medical superintendent, would maintain a visual link to the chapel's origin and past usage.

12.0 Conclusion

12.1 The desk-based assessment indicates that there is a low potential for the survival of Roman, Anglo-Saxon and medieval remains within the proposed development area. However, there is potential for post-medieval burials associated with the Horton Road Hospital, based on the extent of the burial grounds depicted in the historic documentation. There is no evidence available for the number of potential burials or any record of burials being exhumed prior to the chapel construction. Disturbance from grave digging activities is also likely to have had a negative impact on the survival of any earlier archaeological deposits.

12.2 The historic building appraisal indicates that the chapel is of a fairly standard architectural design, which has been subject to limited external modification but radical internal refurbishment.

12.3 In terms of the development area's relationship with its surroundings, the chapel is fairly isolated being bordered by modern multi-storey residential housing to the south and west and a substantial boundary wall to the east. The exterior of the chapel is currently shabby and at odds with the other more modern and refurbished buildings within the immediate area. However, the chapel itself still represents an interesting example of a late 19th century asylum chapel and provides a landmark within the locale that has been defined by and evolved around the Horton Road Hospital. The relationship of the chapel to the surviving elements of the Horton Road Hospital, more specifically the crescent building to the north, will not be affected by the proposed development.

12.4 The Gloucester City Council Principal Conservation and Design Officer should be consulted for any recommendations for further works at the proposed development.

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OS	1884-6	Ordnance Survey First Edition County Series map, Landmark Digital Data held on County Council GIS
OS	1902	Ordnance Survey Second Edition County Series map, Landmark Digital Data held on County Council GIS
OS	1923	Ordnance Survey Third Edition County Series map, Landmark Digital Data held on County Council GIS
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14.0 Historic documents held at the Gloucestershire Records Office consulted

GBR/L/6/27/1	Plan of property owned by the asylum
GDR/F6/57	Documents related to the proposal and consecration of a burial ground at the asylum
HO 22	Collection of documents relating to the county lunatic asylum
HO 22/1/2	First County Asylum: general minutes with indices
HO 22/8/2	Hospital reports 19 th century
HO 22/8/4	Hospital reports 19 th century
HO 22/16/2-3	Contract, specification and plans for new south wing for [male] pauper lunatics
HO 22/27/3	Photographs of patients within the grounds of the hospital
HO 22/62/63	Register of deaths and discharges
HO 22/80/22	Collection of returned letters regarding sick and deceased patients
Q/AL/22	Clerk plans of the crescent buildings and proposed extensions
Q/AL/25a/3-5	Original architectural plans for the new chapel at the county lunatic asylum

Photo plates



Plate 1 : Southwest strip of land looking northwest



Plate 2 : Driveway and car park looking north



Plate 3 : Area of raised ground at northwest of the development area looking northwest



Plate 4 : Northern portion of the development area looking west



Plate 5 : Eastern strip of land within the development area looking south



Plate 6 : Southern end of boundary wall and chapel with grassed area looming north



Plate 7 : The Old Chapel from the northeast



Plate 8: The Old Chapel from the northwest



Plate 9 : The Old Chapel from the southeast



Plate 10 : The Old Chapel from the southwest



Plate 11 : Detail of rose window in north gable

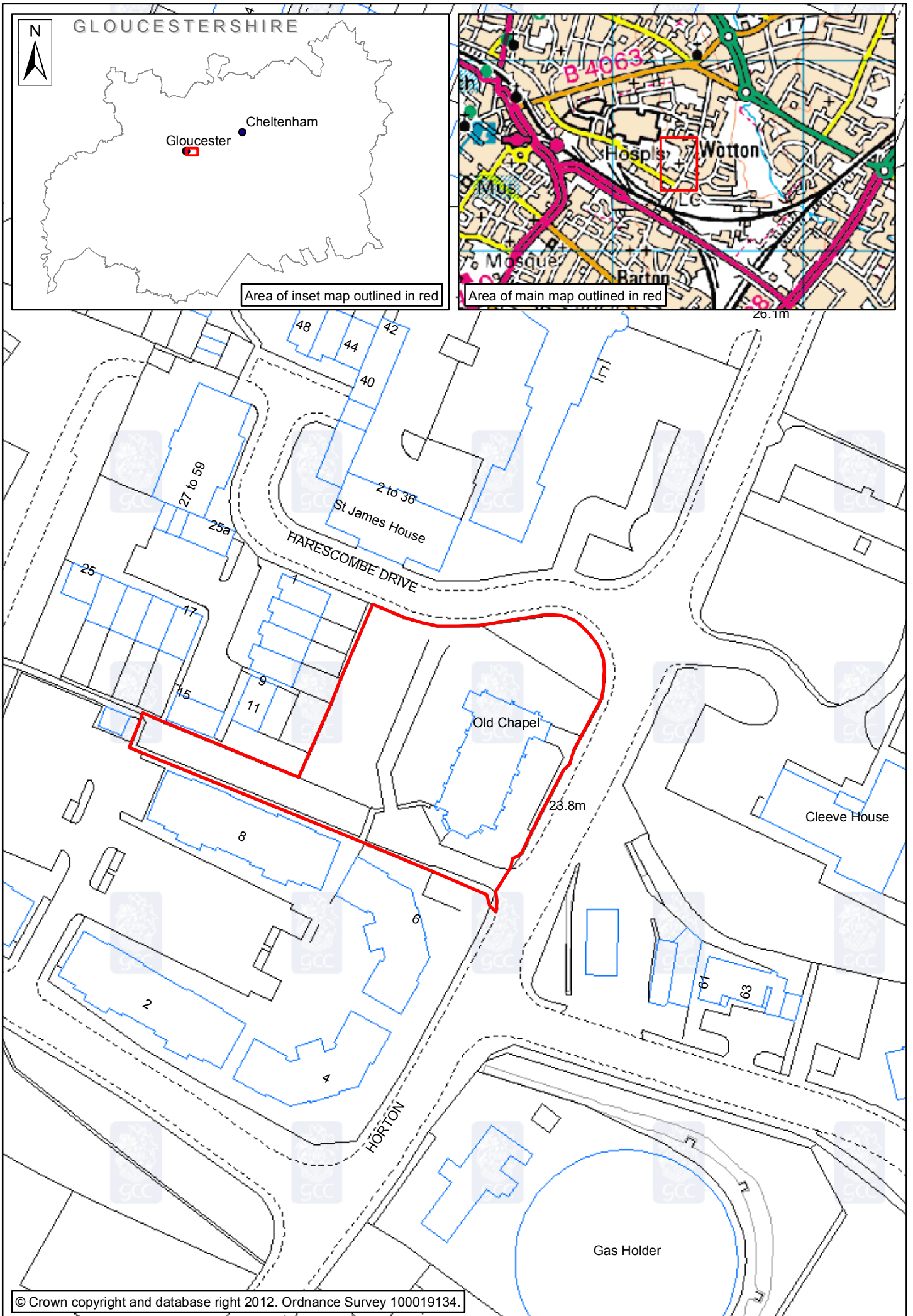
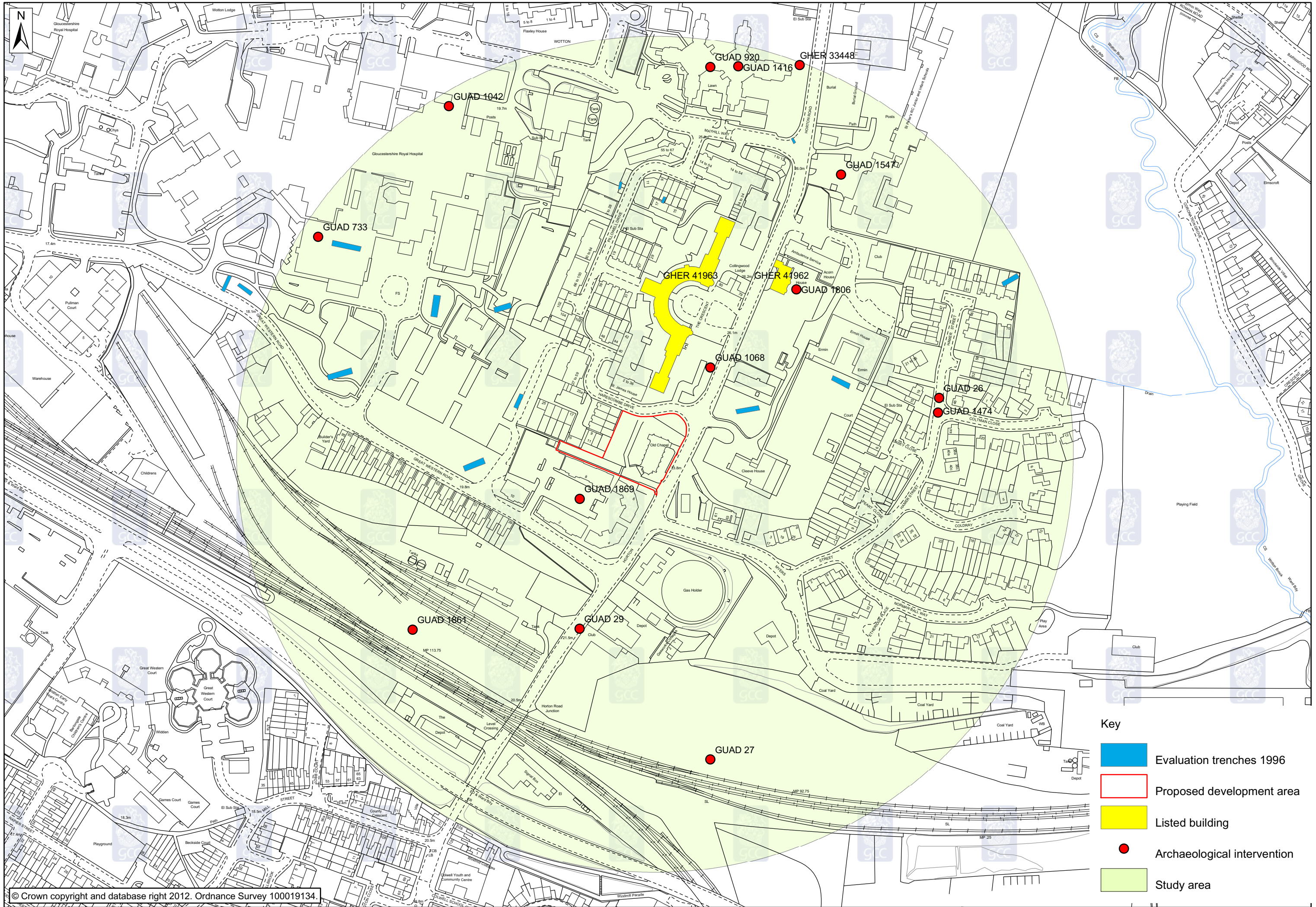


Figure 1: Site location The Old Chapel, proposed development area outlined in red (Scale 1:1000 @ A4)



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Figure 2 : Locations of archaeological interventions and listed buildings within a 300m radius of the proposed development (Scale 1:2500 @ A3)

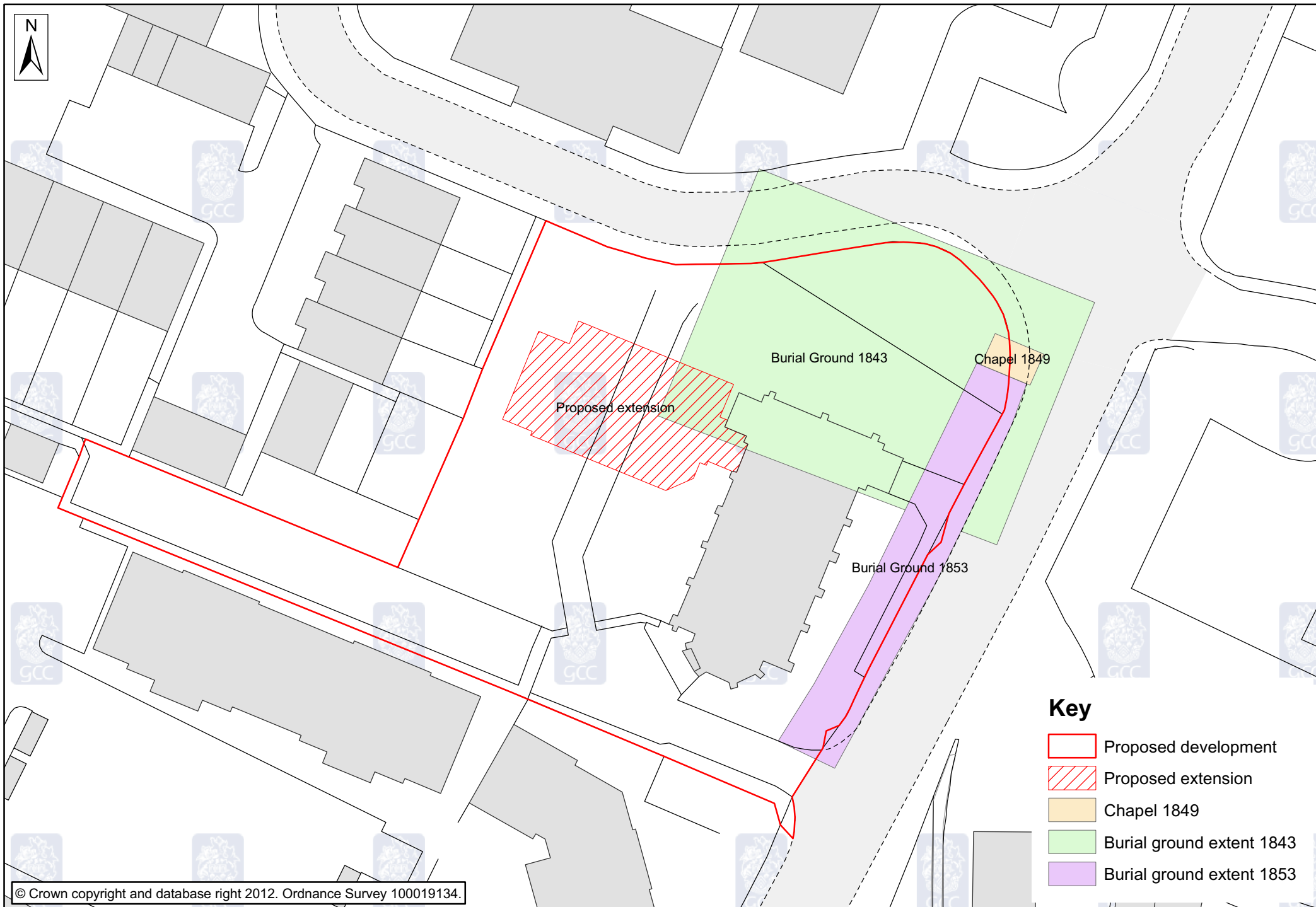


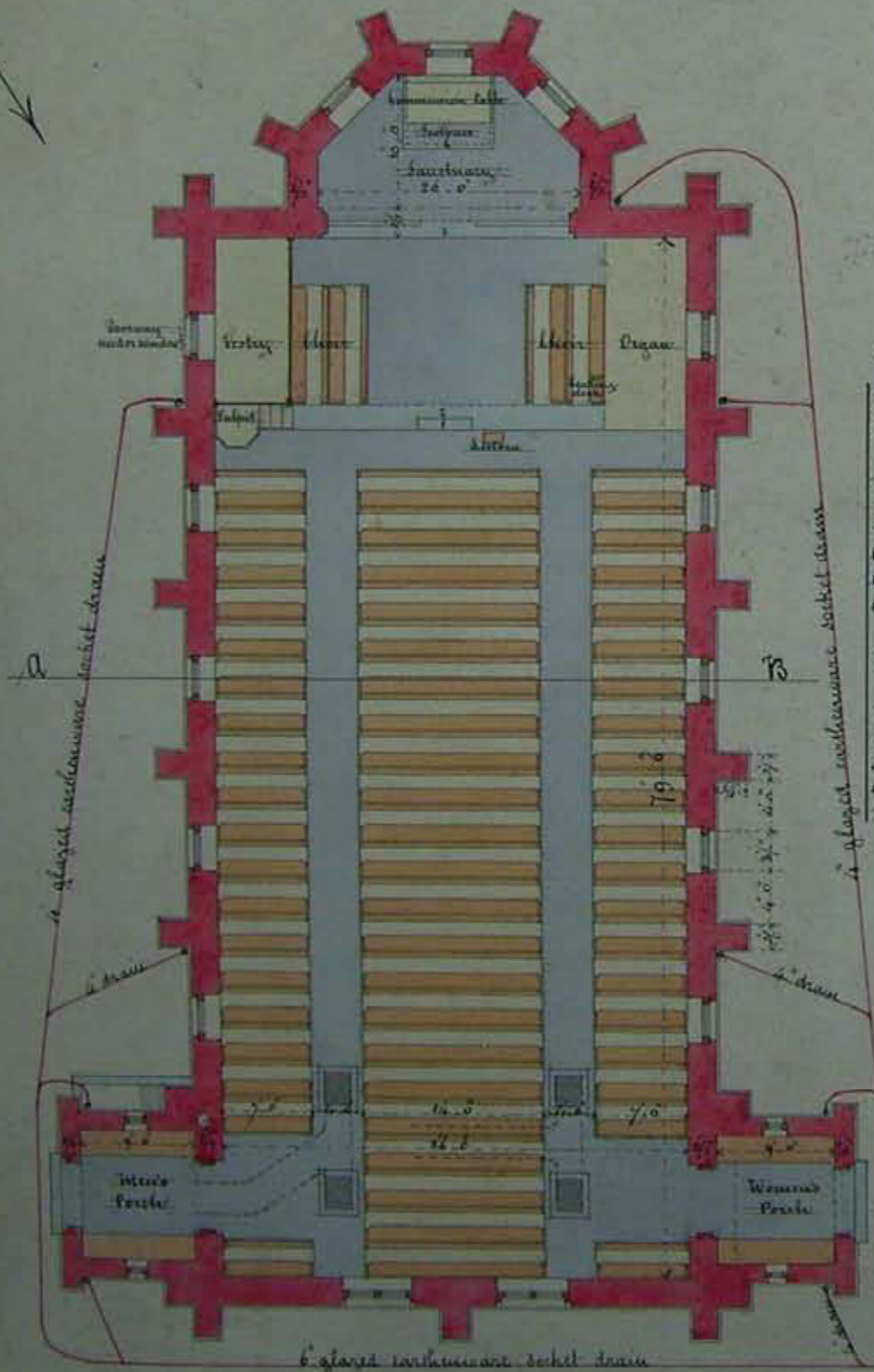
Figure 3 : Extent of burial grounds as depicted in historic documentation (Scale 1:500 @ A4)

2355

OFFICE
F. AIR
1871
COPY NO.

Gloucester County Lunatic Asylum
New Chapel to accommodate 350.

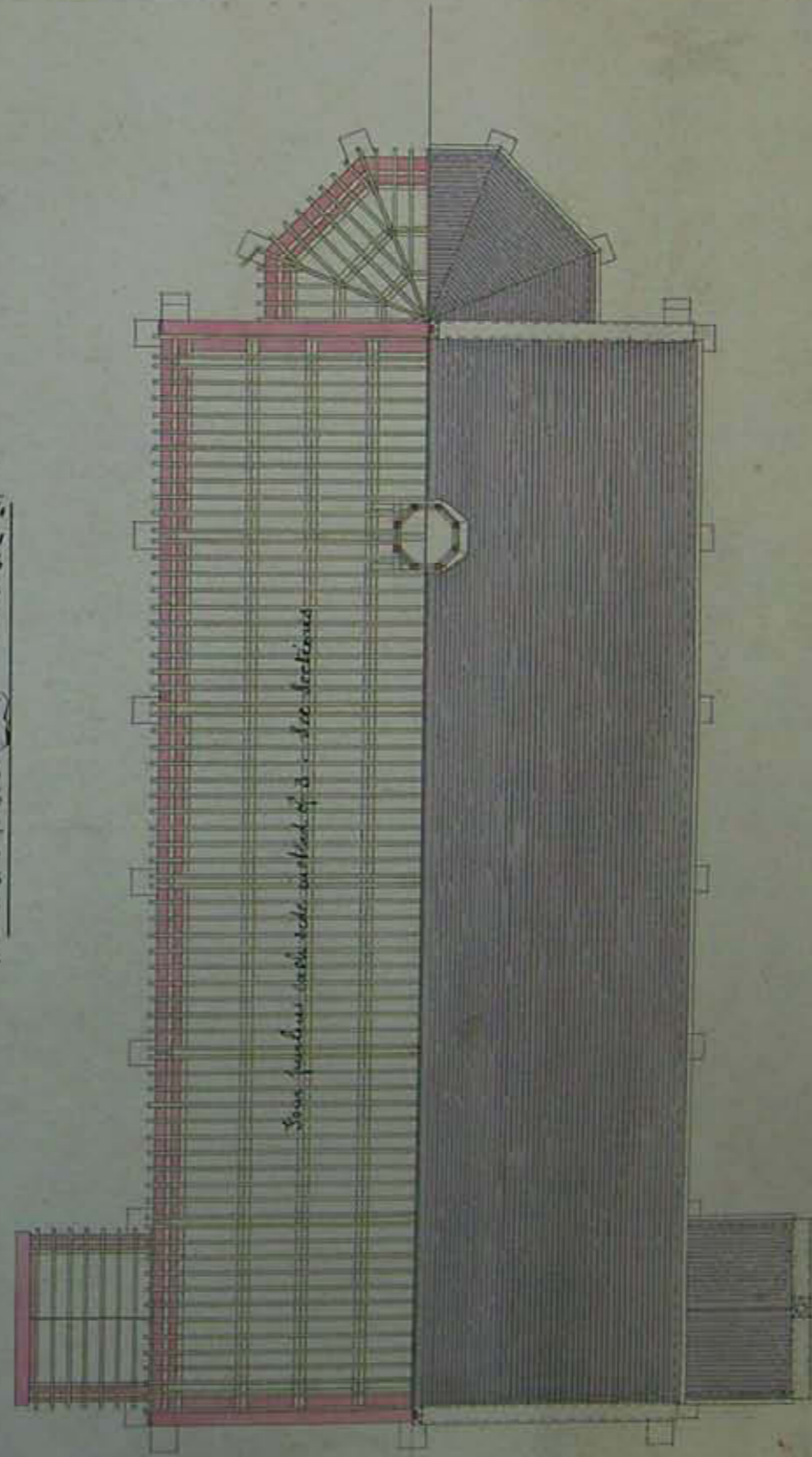
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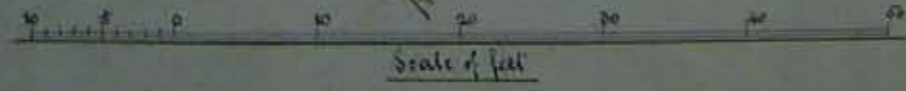
Ground plan.

Scantlings of Roof timbers

Inner wall plate (mould?)	6 x 6
Outer do	4 x 11
Principal rafters	12 x 6
Collars	9 x 6
Kings	6 x 6
Struts	6 x 6
Curved braces 6" thick	
busping to curved braces to the two principals over blanket	2" thick
Purlins to Sanctuary	8 x 6
Ridge	10 x 2
Rafters	3 x 3
Hips to Sanctuary	12 x 3
Building joists	4 x 3
Binders	9 x 3



Roof plan.



Gloucester County Lunatic Asylum
Joseph M. Smith
Gloucester March 1871

Figure 4 : Plan of chapel 1871 with roof details. Reproduced by kind permission of Gloucestershire Record Office (GRO Q/AL/25a/3-5)

2585

1871

Gloucester County Lunatic Asylum

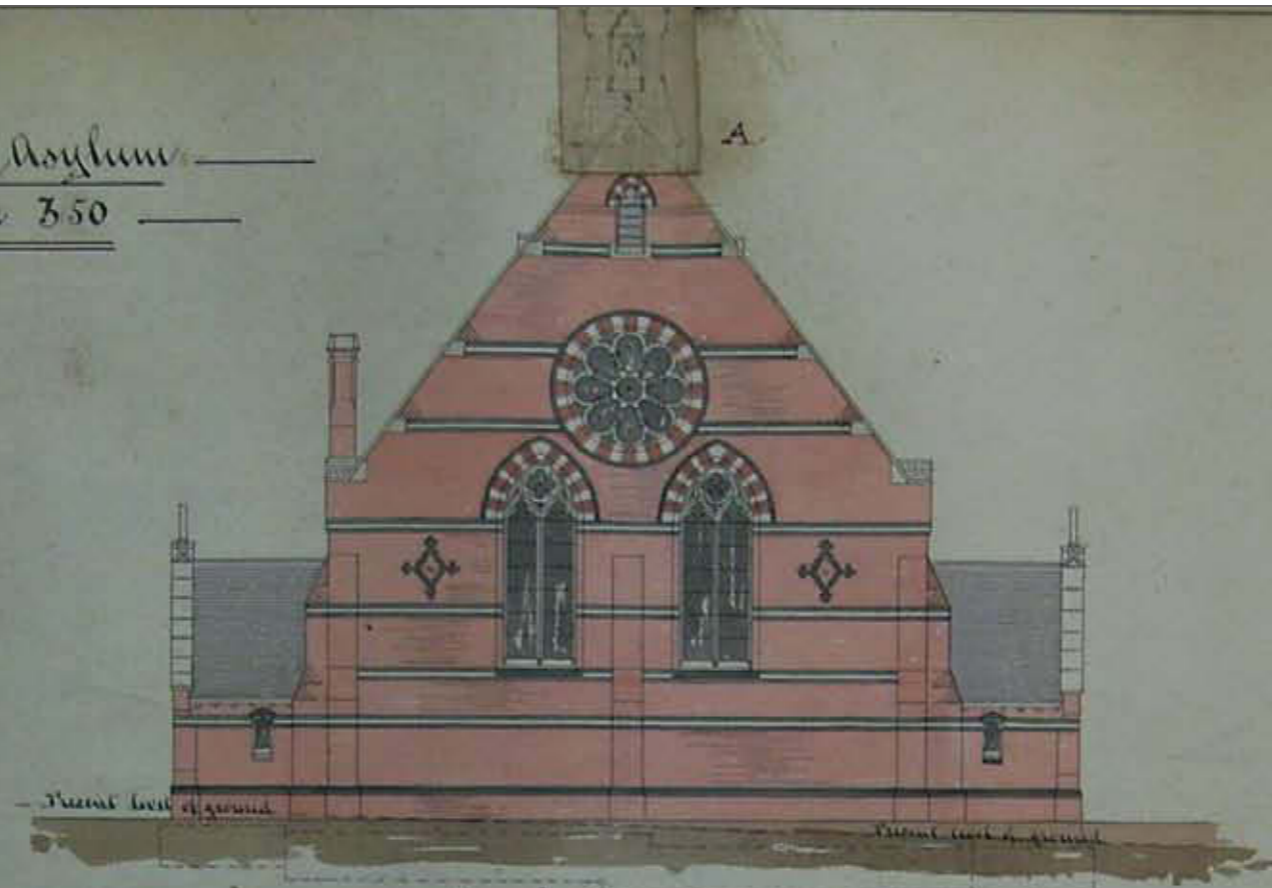
New Chapel to accommodate 350

Nº 3

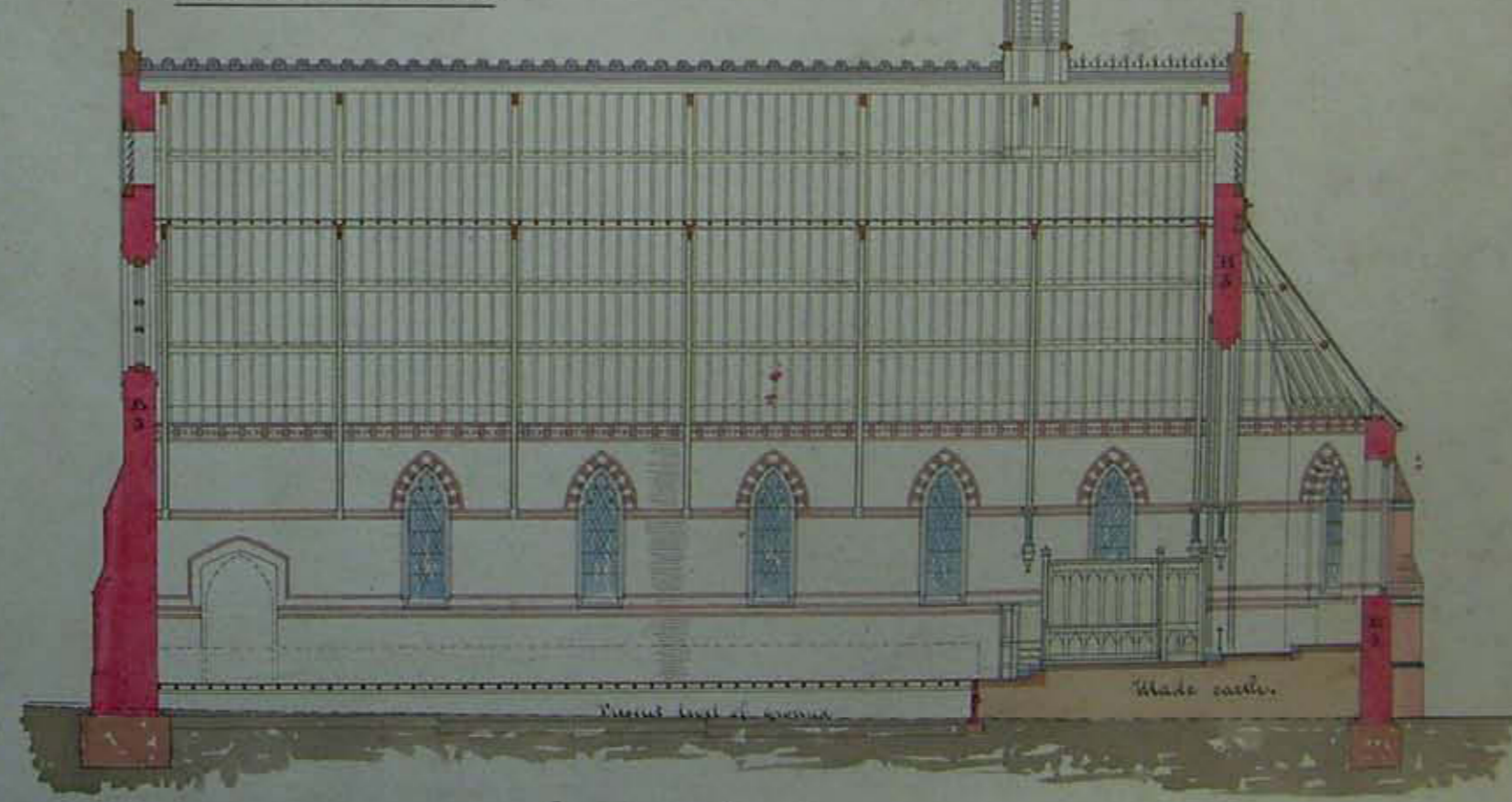
APR 3 1871



Section on line "A-B"

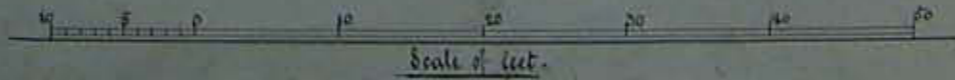


North-East elevation



Longitudinal section

Note. A. Proposed substitute for the Piche.



Scale of feet.

Joseph Mearns
 Gloucester March 1871

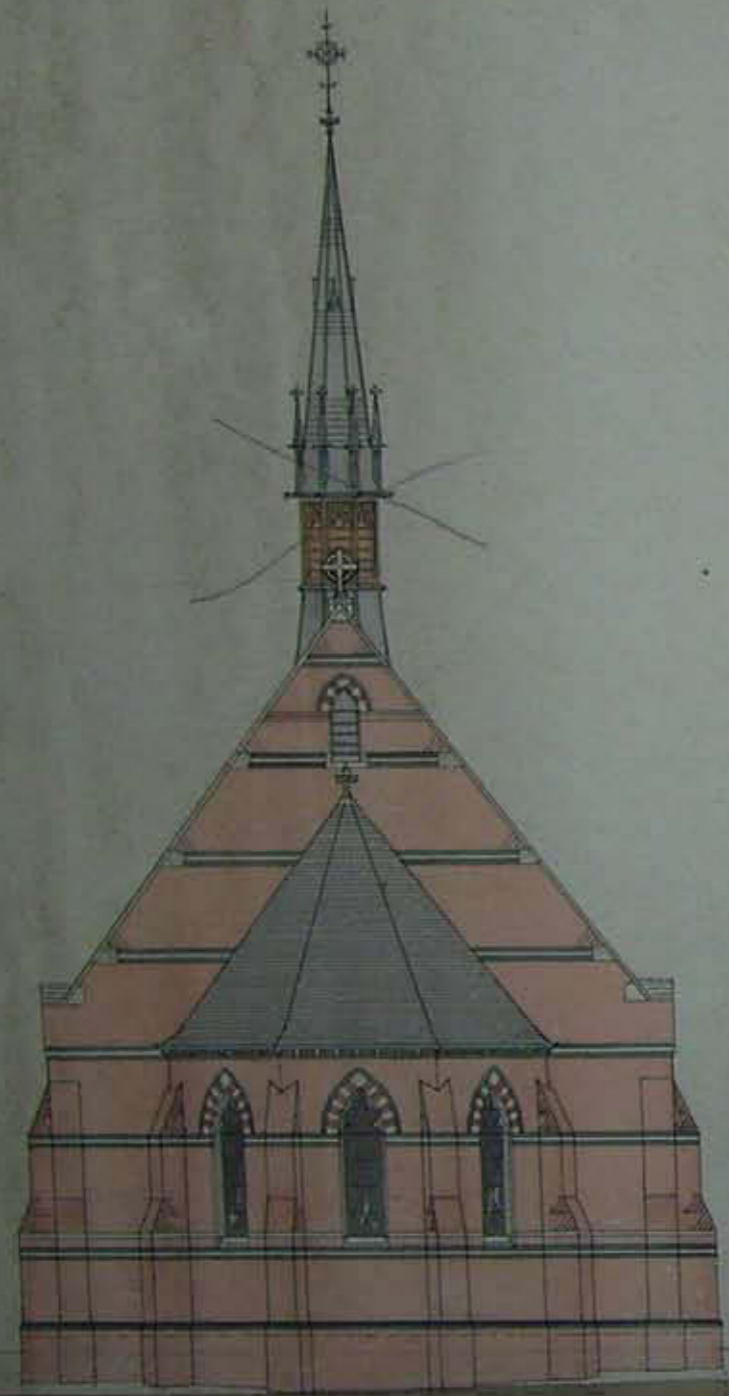
Figure 5 : Elevations and sections of the chapel 1871 with footing and made earth details. Reproduced by kind permission of Gloucestershire Record Office (GRO Q/AL/25a/3-5)

Worcester County Lunatic Asylum.

New Chapel to accommodate 350

North-west elevation showing footings

See plan 3

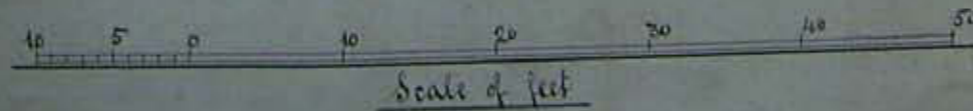


South west elevation.



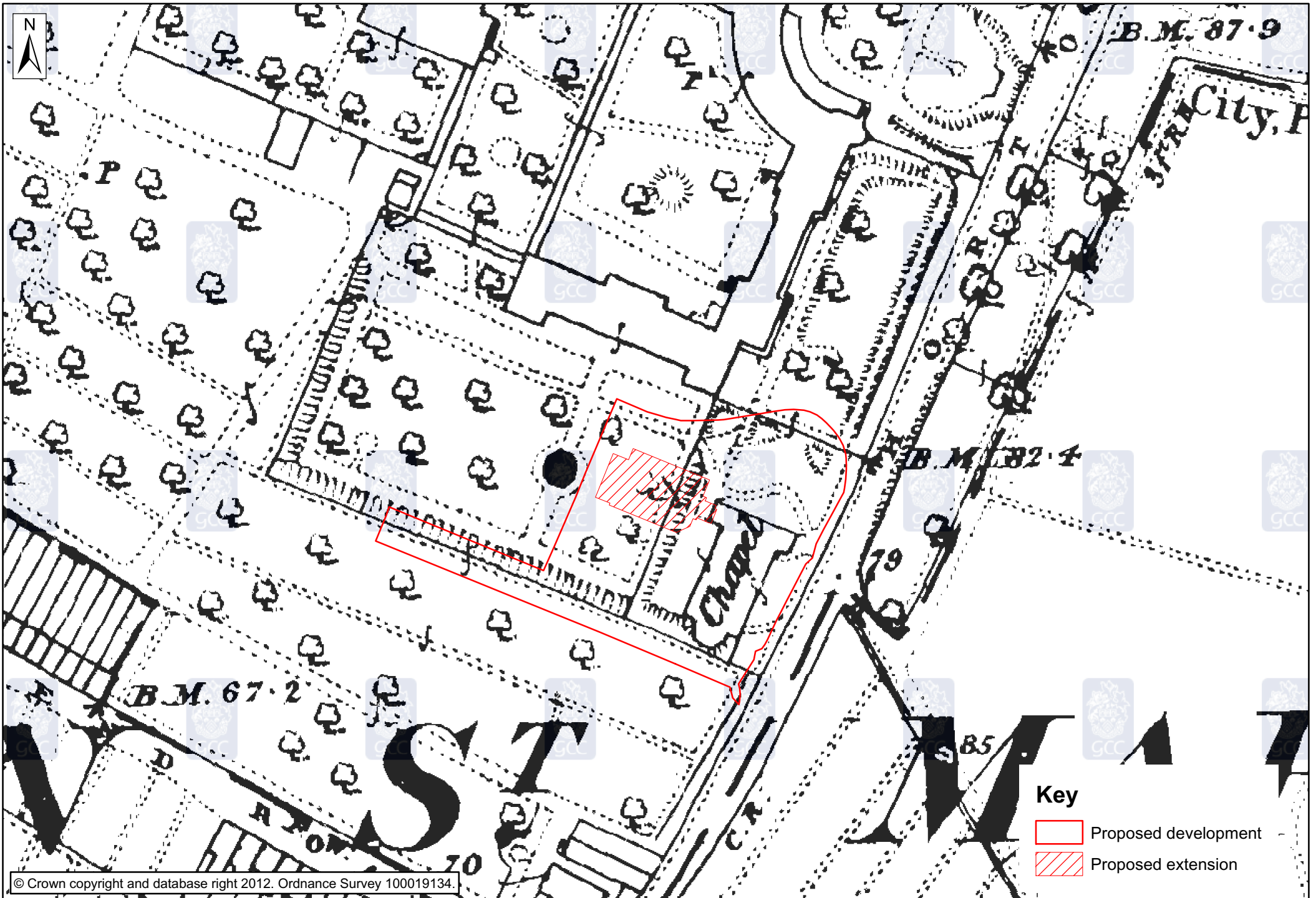
South-east elevation

The blocks is included in contrast
but is to be substituted by Bell's
in N.E. elevation —



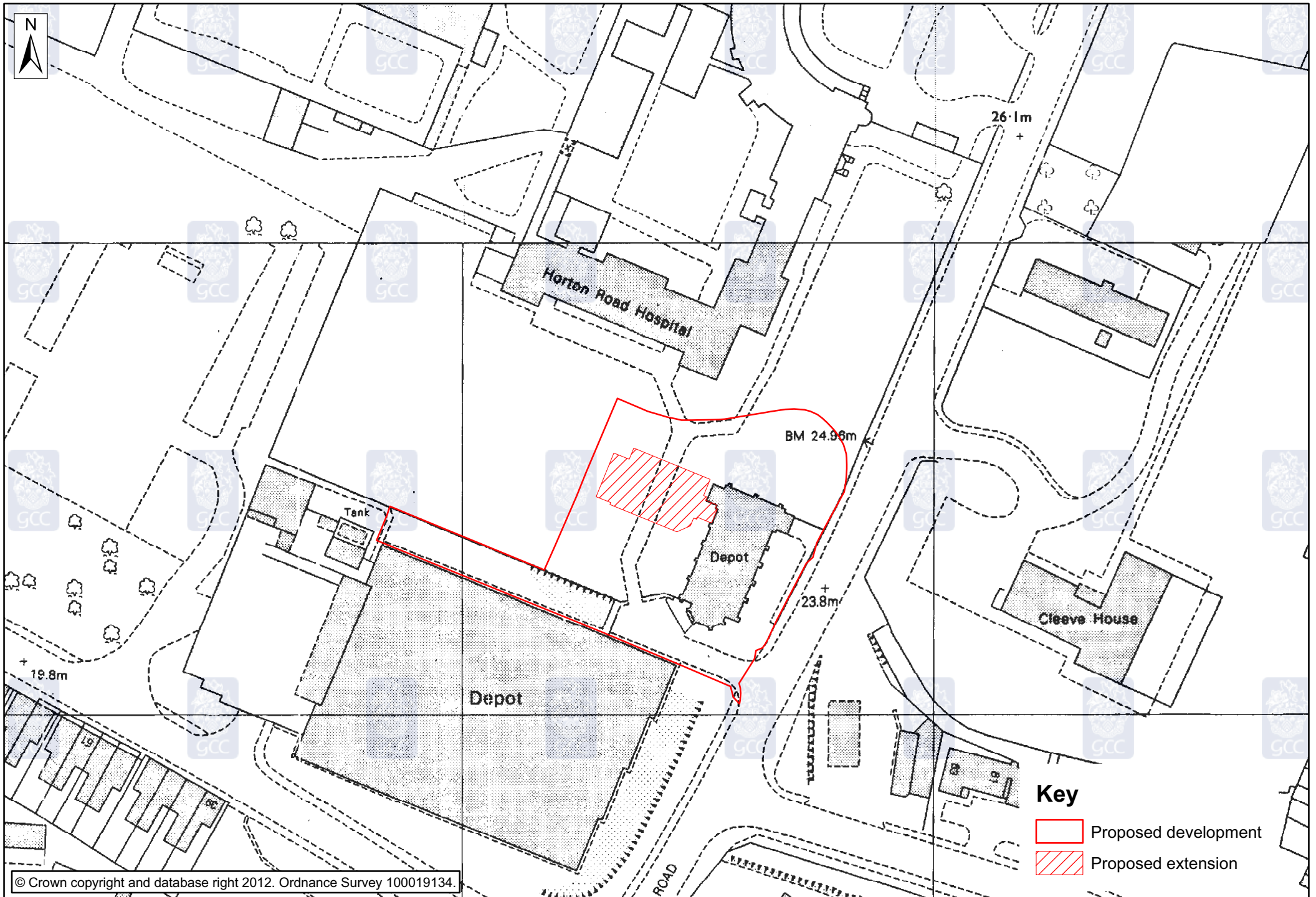
Worcester
County Lunatic Asylum
Joseph M. Smith Gloucester March 27-1871

Figure 6 : Elevations of the chapel 1871. Reproduced by kind permission of Gloucestershire Record Office (GRO Q/AL/25a/3-5)



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Figure 7 : Ordnance Survey First Edition County Series map 1884-6 (Scale 1:1000 @ A4)



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Figure 8 : Ordnance Survey map 1989 (Scale 1:1000 @ A4)