

BUILDING RECORDING
AT
ST GEORGE'S CHURCH,
SANSOME STREET,
WORCESTER

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21st June 2005

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Project 2679
Report 1339
WCM 101332

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Building recording at St George's Church, Sansome Street, Worcester

Shona Robson-Glyde

Part 1 Project summary

Archaeological building investigation and recording was undertaken at St George's Church, Sansome Street, Worcester (NGR SO 8510 5515). It was undertaken on behalf of St George's Roman Catholic Church who intend to develop the site by demolishing existing classrooms, parish hall, infants school, scout hut and Moran Room and constructing a new parish hall, meeting room and offices for which a planning application has been submitted. The project sought a better understanding of the development of ancillary buildings to the Roman Catholic church.

The oldest building (pre 1800) on the site started life as a stable, for which evidence still exists. This was then refurbished for use as a school in 1834. The adjacent school buildings were added in the 1850s, 1885 and 1956 with the parish hall and classrooms being added in the 1920s when the Catholic Church was beginning to be more visible within the city with public events and parades.

Part 2 Detailed report

1. Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

Archaeological building investigation and recording was undertaken at St George's Church, Sansome Street, Worcester (NGR SO 8510 5515, Fig 1) on behalf of St George's Roman Catholic Church. The client intends to develop the site by demolishing existing classrooms, parish hall, infants school, scout hut and Moran Room and constructing a new parish hall, meeting room and offices. A planning application has been submitted, and permission been given, by Worcester City Council (reference P04D0620 and L04D0078). The City Council consider that a site of archaeological interest may be affected (WCM 98047 and 98194) and that the buildings should be recorded prior to demolition.

1.2 Project parameters

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (IFA 1999).

The project also conforms to a brief prepared by Worcester City Council Archaeological Planning Advisor (WCC 2004) and for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (HEAS 2005a).

1.3 Aims

Archaeological building investigation and recording is defined by the Institute of Field Archaeologists as 'a programme of work intended to establish the character, history, dating, form and archaeological development of a specified building, structure or complex and its setting' (IFA 2001, 2).

The aims of the building recording were to 'inform the formulation of a strategy for conservation, alteration, demolition, repair or management of a building, or structure, or complex and its setting' or to 'seek a better understanding, compile a lasting record, analyse the findings/record and then disseminate the results' (WCC 2004, 4). The brief also asks that the following research questions be addressed:

- The development of ancillary buildings to the Roman Catholic church

2. Methods

2.1 Documentary search

A desk-based assessment has been completed for the development site, which should be used in conjunction with this report (Miller 2002). The scope of the earlier assessment included the surrounding context of the present site, however this report will focus on the ancillary buildings themselves. Prior to fieldwork commencing a search was made of the Worcester City Historic Environment Record (HER). The relevant records are summarised in Table 1.

In addition to sources consulted by Miller (2002) the following specific sources have been used in the preparation of this report.

Cartographic sources

- Ordnance Survey 1884, Bentley 1840, Dewhirst and Nichols 1838, Green 1795, Nash 1781, Young 1779 (WCRO 2960/726i: PAC C1)

Documentary sources

- Doolan 1999
- County histories (Stenton and Brakspear 1924).
- Miller 2002
- Goad et al 2004

2.2 **Fieldwork**

A detailed specification has been prepared by the Service (HEAS 2004).

Fieldwork was undertaken between 3rd March 9th May 2005. The site reference number and site code is WCM 101332.

All fieldwork records were checked and cross-referenced. Analysis was effected through a combination of structural evidence, allied to the information derived from other sources.

2.2.1 **Building recording**

Building recording consisted of a photographic survey of the interior and exterior of the buildings, building analysis and a drawn record of the buildings. Photographs were taken with scales visible in each shot where it was possible to place the scales. The photographic survey was carried out using a digital Fujifilm Finepix S602zoom camera. All photographs were recorded on a pro-forma Photographic Record Sheet. Building analysis was carried out by annotating ground and elevation plans and by completing pro-forma Building Record Sheets. The drawn record of the buildings was undertaken by producing measured ground plans and elevations of the buildings at 1:50 scale on drafting film.

The project conformed to the specification for a level 3 survey as defined by the Royal Commission on the Historic Monuments of England (RCHME 1996). This required the following elements of survey.

Survey and drawings

- Plans of all ground floors
- Elevation drawings
- Details of structural features

Photography

- Overall appearance of the principal rooms and circulation areas
- Detailed coverage of the building's external appearance
- Any detail, structural or decorative, which is relevant to the building's design, development and use, which does not show on general photographs

All of the buildings were recorded but the interior of the garages was not accessible and was therefore not photographed or a ground plan drawn. This building is not going to be demolished. The lack of an internal record will not affect the aims of the project and a complete external record has been made.

3. **Historical and archaeological context**

St George's Roman Catholic Church is situated on the corner of Sansome Street and Lowesmoor in Worcester City (Fig 1). This area lies just outside the north-eastern defences of the medieval city. The Catholic faith was the only form of Christian worship in England prior to 1540 when Henry VIII dissolved the monasteries. In Worcester it is believed that the first place of Christian worship was built in the Roman period. The first recorded Bishop of Worcester was Bishop Bosel in 680/81 AD. He built his cathedral to St Peter in the vicinity of the present cathedral. Oswald, in 969 AD, constructed another church, to St Mary, close to St Peter's. Wulstan demolished these two churches in 1084 when he started construction of the new Norman cathedral also dedicated to St Mary (Barker and Romain 2001). The dissolution of the cathedral priory of St Mary and the plundering and destruction of the shrines of St Oswald and St Wulstan in 1540 saw the end of the Catholic Church in Worcester until 1580.

In April of this year a priest of the Society of Jesus was sent from Rome and Father Robert Persons spent the summer in Worcestershire. 1590 saw the real beginning of the Jesuit ministry in Worcester when Father Edward Oldcorne came to live at Hindlip House, the home Thomas Habington who was imprisoned in the Tower of London and Worcester Castle for recusancy. Doolan records that 'Father Oldcorne was responsible for stationing priest in Worcestershire and the surrounding areas, the reason why Hindlip House had the distinction of possessing eleven hiding-places. Because of his wider responsibilities Father Oldcorne was allocated an assistant who cared for the Catholics in the immediate neighbourhood, which included Worcester itself' (Doolan 1999, 3). Following the Gunpowder Plot, 100-armed men searched Hindlip House in 1606. Father Oldcorne and others were discovered, with the priest found on the eighth-day of searching. They were all executed (Doolan 1999).

Although the Hindlip House 'safe-house' had been lost the Worcester Mission carried on and there was at least one Jesuit priest in the Worcester area through to 1686 with the exception of 1679-80 after Father Anthony Turner was executed (Doolan 1999). In 1685, following the accession of the Catholic James II to the throne, the first Catholic Chapel in the city was opened. It was on the corner of Foregate Street and Pierpoint Street (Stenton and Brakspear 1924). When William and Mary succeeded James II to the throne in 1688, some of the laws against the Catholics were revived. The Chapel was closed after it was attacked and then reopened in 1690. At the same time the Jesuits used a farmhouse at Evelench, near Tibberton, and returned to the City around 1720 probably into rented accommodation, possibly the 'mass house' in the Town Ditch shown on Dohartey's map of 1741 (Miller 2002). A chapel was maintained in a house in the Tything in 1693 and another chapel existed near Spetchley (Doolan 1999).

In 1765 a new permanent chapel (WCM 98192) was built in the Town Ditch (now Sansome Place). This was constructed on land given to the Jesuit's in 1754 on the death of Basil Bartlett (Doolan 1999, 5). His will states that the land already contained a chapel that can be related to the 'mass house' shown on the 1741 Dohartey map. In 1791 the Catholic Relief Act was passed and the chapel was made legal by registering it with the magistrates (Peel Web 2005a). In the early years of the 19th century the Catholic community of Worcester grew and in 1828 it was decided that a larger building was needed. In 1829, the same year as the Catholic Emancipation Act (repeal of the Protestant Constitution banning Catholics from becoming MPs and from public offices, Peel Web 2005b), the new Roman Catholic church of St George's (WCM 98193) was built. The architect was Henry Rowe, the builder of the Shire Hall (Worcester People and Places 2005).

A number of historical maps exist of Worcester City that show the Lowesmoor and Sansome Street area. These maps are dated to 1779 (Young, Fig 10), 1781 (Nash, Fig 11), 1795 (Green, Fig 12), 1838 (Dewhirst and Nichols, Fig 13) 1840 (Bentley, Fig 14) and 1884 (Ordnance Survey, Fig 15). It has been possible to trace the development of the buildings on the site from these maps. In particular Young's 1779 map (Fig 10) shows a structure on the site of the 1834 school. This is still visible on the 1781 (Fig 11) and 1795 (Fig 12) maps. The 1838 (Fig 13) and 1840 (Fig 14) maps date after the time when the first school was built and show possibly the same structure still in place.

The following table lists the sites and monuments in the area around St George's and they are shown on Figure 2. These provide interesting information about the deposits of the area and the post medieval development of the area. There are a number of listed buildings included dating from before the construction of the present church. The Friend's Meeting House (WCM 96490) was probably in existence at the time of the 'mass house' in Town Ditch and 13-17 Lowesmoor (WCM 966447) was constructed at around the same time as 1765 church. The construction of these buildings shows that in the post-medieval period Town Ditch (WCM 96031) and Lowesmoor were being developed and becoming more established as a suburb of the City. A number of pieces of fieldwork have been undertaken on the site including the desk-based assessment (WCM 100786) carried out in 2001 (Miller 2002). Prior to this a watching brief was undertaken in 1994 (WCM 100675) that revealed post-medieval rubble deposits probably relating to the demolition of the 1765 church and street of houses fronting on to Sansome Street. The evaluation carried out in 2004 (WCM 101286, Goad 2004) revealed deposits dating the medieval period but mainly 18th century onwards activity including garden soil, sand and gravel quarrying, brick walls from one of the buildings fronting Sansome Street (possibly even the YWCA, WCM 92379) and demolition and levelling rubble. The school building (WCM 98047) has the most relevance to the building survey. This building is identified with building 2, the old scout hut, on the site.

SMR number (Fig 2)	Location	Information	Date	NGR
WCM 92379	27-29 Sansome Street	YWCA and residential quarters of Women's Land Army	World War 2	SO 8507 5515
WCM 96301	Sansome Street	Roadway	Medieval – post medieval	SO 85033 55132
WCM 96490	Friends Meeting House, Sansome Place	Listed building	Post medieval	SO 85029 55187
WCM 96647	13-17 Lowesmoor	Listed building formerly 3 houses now 2 shops	Mid-late 18 th century	SO 85181 55154
WCM 98045	Sansome Street	Brewery shown on Ordnance Survey map of 1884	Post medieval	SO 8504 5518
WCM 98047	St George's School	School building shown on Ordnance Survey map of 1884, now derelict	Mid 19 th century	SO 8512 5521
WCM 98192	St George's Church	Roman Catholic Church built in 1765 demolished 1829	Late 18 th century	SO 85086 55190
WCM 98193	St George's Church	Roman Catholic Church built in 1828-9	Early 19 th century	SO 85092 55180
WCM 98194	St George's Church	Plot and burial ground	18 th /19 th century	SO 85109 55180
WCM 100675	St George's Roman Catholic Church	Watching brief trenches in 1994 for extension revealed rubble over soil	Post medieval	SO 85092 55183
WCM 100786	St George's Roman Catholic Church	Desk based assessment carried out in 2001 on land surrounding Church identified potential for medieval and later deposits	Medieval – post medieval	SO 85112 55174
WCM 101286	St George's Church	Evaluation undertaken in 2004 revealed deposits dating from the medieval period but mainly 18 th century activity	Medieval and 18 th century	SO 8510 5515

Table 1: Worcester HER records of sites and monuments in the area of St George's Church

4. Results

The buildings surveyed for this work are situated to the rear of St George's Church and are arranged around a carpark. They originally formed St George's School and include the parish hall. All of the buildings are now disused and in some cases are occupied by pigeons. The buildings comprise an interesting group and are all representative of their respective functions. Whilst they not listed they are of historical interest as a record of the development of the school on the site. The buildings represent over a century of education on the site as the first school opened around 1834 and finally closed in the late 20th century.

The buildings to the rear of St George's constitute six structures that appear initially to be quite different in style. However elements of the building style have been carried throughout some of these buildings that are dated between 1800 and 1956. The results of the building survey have been reproduced below in Table 2 and on Figures 3 – 9 in Appendix 1. The photographs have been reproduced as Plates 1 – 45 in Appendix 2. Historic maps are reproduced as Figures 10 – 15 also in Appendix 1.

Building no. and name	Date	Original function	Construction	Features and notes	Salvage items
1 Infants school (Plates 1 & 2)	1885	Infants school	Terracotta colour bricks measuring 9" x 3" x 4 1/4". Depth of 4 courses 14". Coursed in Flemish Garden Wall Bond. Slate roof. Limestone window cills. Sash windows with wooden frames and 12 lights. Rubber brick arches.	Limestone date plaque (Plate 3). Moulded brick chamfer and cornice. Roll-moulded dado (Plate 4) matched by that in Hall and Classrooms. Metal groove on floor and wooden screen (Plate 5) for folding or sliding partition. Fireplaces in head teacher's room (north) and south east room (Plate 6).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Date plaque - Bricks - Wooden trusses - Head teachers fireplace - Fireplace in south east room - Roof slates
2 Old scout hut (Plates 7 & 8)	1850s	School rooms	Terracotta colour bricks measuring 9 1/4" x 3 1/4" x 4 1/2". Depth of 4 courses 14 1/2". Coursed in Flemish Bond. Slate roof hipped at east end. Limestone window cills and arches. Sash windows with wooden frames and 12 lights.	Inserted fireplace partition dividing building into two rooms (Plates 9 & 10). Caused removal of external window (Plate 11). Limestone arches are replacements for brick ones. Main room contains fireplace (Plate 12).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bricks - Limestone arches - Fireplace - Roof slates
3 Parish hall (Plates 13 & 14)	1922	Hall	Terracotta coloured bricks measuring 9" x 3" x 4 3/8". Depth of 4 courses 13 1/2". Blue engineering bricks measuring 8 7/8" x 3" x 4 1/4". Coursed in Flemish Garden Wall Bond. Tile roof. Metal frame windows with 16 lights and central hinged panels. Brick window arches.	Large hall with stage at eastern end (Plate 15) and large amount of decorative plasterwork (Plate 16). Stage has wooden steps and banisters with carved crosses (Plate 17). Below stage entrances from backstage area. Hall has internal buttresses, wooden floor and shaped wooden doorframes with original panelled doors (Plate 18). The doors have brass art nouveau handles and latches (Plate 19). Original entrance has limestone 'Parish Hall' sign & door surround (Plate 20). Windows are metal frame with 12 lights and central hinged section that opens into hall (Plate 21).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limestone 'Parish Hall' sign & door surround - Bricks - Steps and banisters - Wood floor - Doors and handles - Wooden door frames
4 Classrooms (Plates 22 & 23)	1922	School rooms	Terracotta coloured bricks measuring 9" x 3" x 4 3/8". Depth of 4 courses 13 1/2". Blue engineering bricks measuring 8 7/8" x 3" x 4 1/4". Coursed in Flemish Garden Wall Bond. Tile roof. Metal frame windows with 16 lights and central hinged panels. Brick window arches.	Limestone stringcourse running along centre of building (Plate 24). Limestone cornice on headmaster's room (Plate 25). Two classrooms, with parquet flooring (Plate 26), kitchen and headmaster's room also with parquet floor. Shaped wooden doorframes with original panelled doors and brass art nouveau handles and latches. Fireplace in headmaster's room. Internal metal frame windows in good condition (Plate 27). Classrooms possibly originally stood separately to hall. Roll-moulded dado matched by that in infants school. Metal frame windows (Plate 28) with bottom set of lights opening into building.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limestone stringcourse and cornice - Bricks - Parquet floors - Doors and handles - Fireplace - Metal frame windows
5 Moran Room (Plates 29 & 30)	1950s	School room	Dark brown-blue coloured bricks measuring 8" x 2" x 4". Depth of 4 courses 12". Coursed in English Bond. Gabled roof with tiles. Metal frame windows with 6 or 9 lights and sliding hinges for opening sections.	Building refurbished in 1990s for use as a meeting room (Plate 31). Metal window frames (Plate 32) and sliding hinges (Plate 33).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bricks - Metal window frames
6 Garages (Plates 34 & 35)	pre 1834	Stable and school room	Terracotta coloured bricks measuring 9 1/4" x 2 7/8" x 4 1/2". Depth of 4 courses 13". Tall sash windows with wood frames and 12 lights. Smaller square windows on rear of building with segmental heads.	Oldest building on the site. Only externally recorded. Windows on rear of building are akin to stable function (Plate 36). Pitching eye on west gable (Plate 37). Possibly frontage rebuilt (Plate 38) when building used as a school.	Not applicable.

Table 5: Phased description of buildings recorded

4.1 **Building 1 – Infants school** (Plate 1 and Fig 4)

Father Joseph Foxwell constructed this building in 1885 for £300. It is constructed in fine brickwork with moulded chamfer and cornice (Fig 4). It was originally constructed with a large open space to allow for 'it to be employed for public meetings and entertainments' (Doolan 1999, 12). Internally the building has a groove on the floor and wooden screen filling one of the trusses to contain a sliding or folding partition (Plate 5). The south end of the building would originally have contained the toilets and may not have included a partition. The toilets were accessed up a wooden step to one of two doors (one each side of the building, Plate 39). The building also used the roll-moulded dado on the walls (Plate 4) that was copied in the classrooms (Building 4) when they were built.

4.2 **Building 2 – Old scout hut** (Plates 7 and 8, Figs 5 and 6)

This building was constructed around 1850 as an extension to building 6 and was the first purpose built school structure on the site. The building is shown on the 1884 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 15) and is marked as a boys and girls school. It appears to have originally been one open room that was later subdivided by the insertion of a dividing wall incorporating a fireplace (Plate 40) and chimney. This caused the removal of one of the south elevation windows and therefore the rebuilding of the external wall (Plate 11). The addition of this wall meant that the room was divided into three areas (Plates 9, 10 and 41) with a connecting corridor (Plate 42). The main room (Plate 43), containing the fireplace, had a horizontal light well created from one of the windows on the north wall (Plate 44).

4.3 **Building 3 – Parish hall** (Plates 13 and 14, Figs 7 and 8)

Father Edward Field first conceived this building, and the adjoining classrooms, in the early 1920s and energetically raised funds for its construction. Although by the time of its construction and opening in 1927 he had moved on. The parish hall was used for concerts and socials and as a school hall for the adjoining classrooms (Doolan 1999, 23).

The parish hall was constructed at a time of great interest in Egyptian style, following the discovery of Tutankhamen's tomb in 1922, and this is reflected in some of the architectural features used in the building. For example the 'PARISH HALL' sign (Plate 20) is written in *Papyrus* font. There are incongruities to this style however. The plasterwork pediment above the stage is typically Greek in style but the pilaster capitals have an Egyptian appearance (Plate 16). The later 'sun-ray' plasterwork above the doors is reflective of Egyptian ideas (Plate 45).

The parish hall, and adjoining classrooms were built to show a more public face of the Catholic community to the city. It followed soon after the 1922 May Procession of Our Lady around the streets of the church, in which 700 people took part, and in 1923 a procession of the Blessed Sacrament was held as well (Doolan 1999, 23). Inside the parish hall connections with the church are visible by the carved crosses on the stair banisters leading onto the stage (Plate 17).

4.4 **Building 4 – Classrooms** (Plates 22 and 23, Fig 7)

Built as an adjoining structure to, and at the same time as, the parish hall. The classrooms were reached along a corridor between the hall. This had coat hooks down one side and a roll-moulded dado just like that of the infant's school. Even the tall windows are very similar in design and use similar rubber bricks for their arches. The classrooms had parquet floors in a herringbone design. This is unusual for use in a school building but is typical of 1920s style. The limestone stringcourse on the main elevation (Plate 22) was also used on the elevation of the headmaster's room (Plate 24) and was reflected in the limestone cornice and capping to the chimney (Plate 25) of that room. This room also had a parquet floor, a brick fire surround and a built-in cupboard.

4.5 **Building 5 – Moran Room** (Plate 29 and Fig 9)

This structure was built as a new classroom in the mid 1950s following the need for a greater capacity in the school. The school leaving age was increased after the Second World War and therefore not only were their more children attending the school but more space was also needed to accommodate those children that were not leaving. The building was refurbished in 1997 as the Moran Room, in memory of Mgr. Cannon John Moran. The refurbishment included the blocking of the lower lights in the south elevation windows (Plates 31 and 32), in comparison to those in the north elevation (Plate 46), in order to accommodate a sink and work space.

4.6 **Building 6 – Garages** (Plate 34 and 35, Fig 6)

This building is the oldest on the site. It was constructed as a stable around 1800 although it is likely that it was built prior to this as suggested by the Young map (Fig 10). The building was first constructed as a stable and the north elevation windows are akin to this function (Plate 36) as is the incorporation of a pitching eye (Plate 37) in the west gable for the removal of hay from a hayloft above the stable. In order to convert the building into a school the south elevation appears to have been rebuilt (Plate 38). Large windows for the school were needed and these were incorporated into the elevation. It appears that a canopy or porch (now gone) of some form was also incorporated into this elevation as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1884 (Fig 15).

5. **Synthesis**

5.1.1 **Pre 1834**

Prior to 1834 a stables building was constructed on the site. The brick sizes of this building (Building 6) are consistent with it being constructed prior to or around 1800, although it had possibly constructed as early as 1779. The windows on the rear elevation are typical for its usage as a stable in the early 19th century and a pitching eye, for the moving of hay in and out of the building, was been built into the west gable.

5.1.2 **1834**

In 1834 the first school is documented as being constructed on the site (Doolan 1999, 10). It was reputedly built on a site previously occupied by a coach house and stables and cost £500, a considerable amount of money at the time. However the building used as a school was the pre-1834 stable (Building 6) and it is more likely that the building was refurbished and probably had the frontage (south) rebuilt incorporating large school windows.

5.1.3 **1850s**

In the 1850s a second school building was constructed (Building 2) attached to the original building. This had two rooms and a connecting door to the original school room. A playground was created outside the building to the south. The brick sizes are consistent with the building being constructed at this time, just as the brick tax was removed which standardised brick sizes.

5.1.4 **1885**

In 1885 Father Joseph Foxwell constructed an infant school room (Building 1) for £300 (Doolan 1999, 12). It appears that an infant's school room was needed for the new catholic school by this time. The building was constructed in a very fine style and incorporates a large finely decorated limestone date plaque.

5.1.5 **1920s**

In 1927 Father Reginald Gibb blessed two new classrooms (Building 4) and parish hall (Building 3) on the day of their opening in October (Doolan 1999, 23). The classrooms (Building 4) were constructed in a style similar to that of the infant's school (Building 1) with its tall windows, rubber brick flat-topped arches and the roll-moulded dado inside. The parish hall, however, took its influence from the art nouveau. The building was constructed in the mid 1920s when Greece and Egypt were influencing style. The 'Parish Hall' sign is in 'Papyrus' font and the interior plasterwork is a mix of Egyptian and Greek motifs.

5.1.6 **1956**

Following the raising of the school leaving age to 15 after the Second World War, a new school building was needed due to the rise in pupil numbers and the Moran Room (Building 5) was constructed adjacent to the original building (Building 6).

6. **Conclusions**

The buildings recorded around St George's Church form a good surviving example of a 19th century school that developed as its needs changed and the school grew. In the 18th and 19th centuries the education of all children from all classes was becoming an important issue and schools began to be constructed for the lower classes. These were often called 'poor schools'. They were linked to the churches that built them and provided the teachers. The school at St George's started off this way. In 1829 the first school was opened in hire rooms on Silver Street (Doolan 1999, 10) but it was with the construction of the 1834 school building (Building 6) behind St George's that the school began to show growth. In the 1850s it needed to extend to the east (Building 2) and by 1876 it had 160 pupils (Doolan 1999, 12). Obviously a new building was necessary and an infant's school was constructed in the 1880s (Building 1) with further classrooms in the 1920s.

The school was an important part of the Catholic community that by the time of the 1920s, and the building of the Parish Hall (Building 3) and classrooms (Building 4), was nurturing the first generation of Catholic children that were not being persecuted. Doolan notes that even around 1900, children going into Mass faced taunts of 'Catholic, Catholic, quack! quack! quack! Go to the Devil and never come back'. The public face of the school and parish hall was allowing Catholics to become more accepted within the City. The school provided education for Catholics and non-Catholics alike, even Edward Elgar attended, and the Parish Hall became a social centre for the parish by holding dances (on the well-sprung hall floor) and other events.

7. **Publication summary**

The Service has a professional obligation to publish the results of archaeological projects within a reasonable period of time. To this end, the Service intends to use this summary as the basis for publication through local or regional journals. The client is requested to consider the content of this section as being acceptable for such publication.

Archaeological building investigation and recording was undertaken on behalf of St George's Roman Catholic Church at St George's Church, Worcester (NGR ref SO 8510 5515; SMR ref WCM 101332). The buildings recorded at St George's Church formed a school and developed from around 1800 to 1956 as the needs of the school and number of pupils expanded. The oldest building on the site started life as a stable, for which evidence still exists. This was then refurbished for use as a school in 1834. The adjacent school buildings were added in the 1850s, 1885 and 1956 with the parish hall and classrooms being added in the 1920s.

8. **The archive**

The archive consists of:

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- 14 Fieldwork progress records AS2
 - 6 Photographic records AS3
 - 212 Digital photographs
 - 6 Building record sheets AS43
 - 30 Scale drawings
 - 1 Computer disk

The project archive will be placed at either Worcester City Museum or Worcestershire County Record Office.

9. Acknowledgements

The Service would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project: St George's Church particularly Tony and Father Paul Fitzpatrick; Vincent Kirk and Louis Fantis of Panton Sargent; Will Scott and James Dinn.

10. Personnel

The fieldwork and report preparation was led by Shona Robson-Glyde. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Simon Woodiwiss. Fieldwork was undertaken by Shona Robson-Glyde and Alvaro Mora-Ottomano and illustration by Carolyn Hunt and Shona Robson-Glyde. The photographs were prepared by Shona Robson-Glyde.

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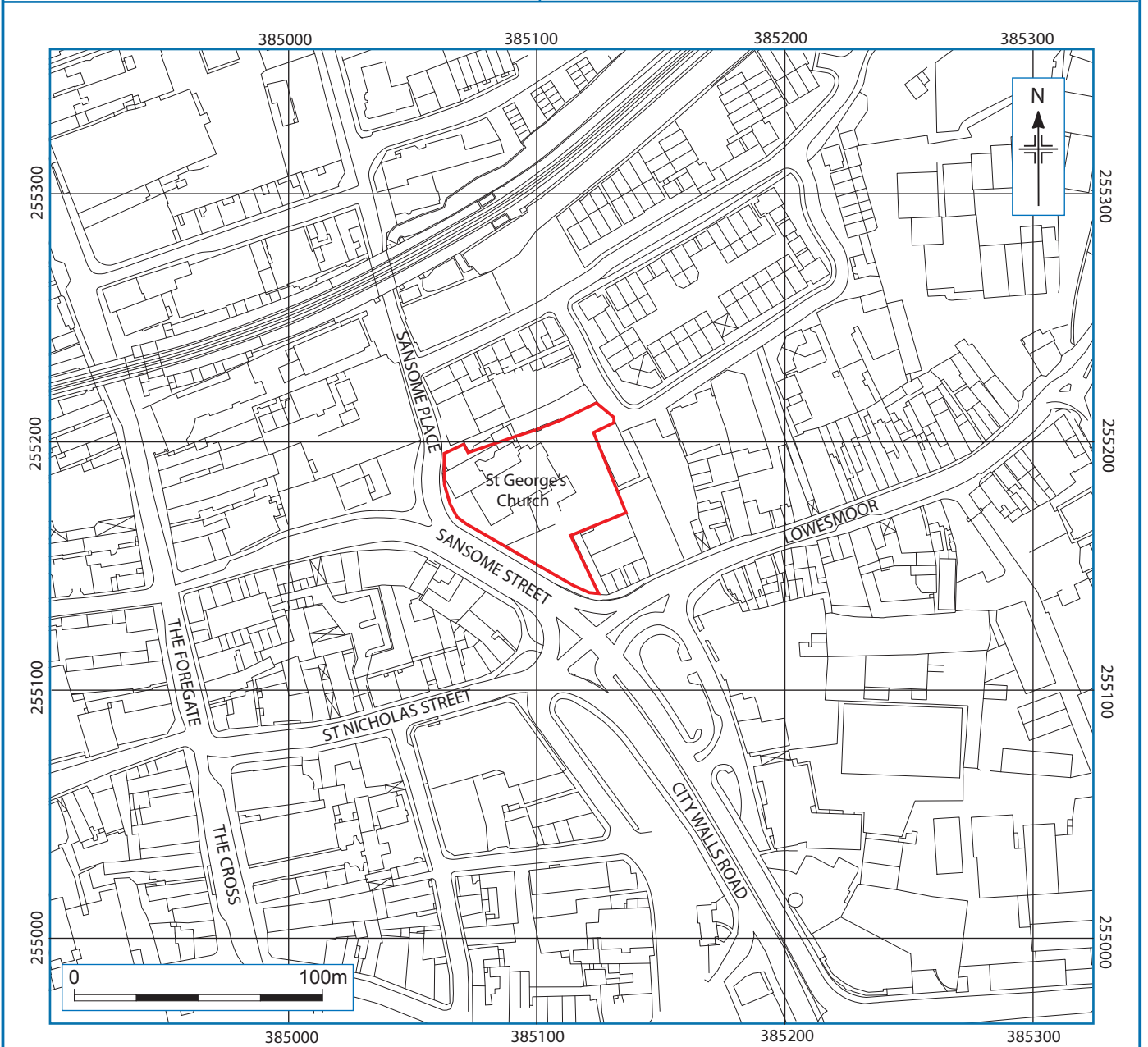
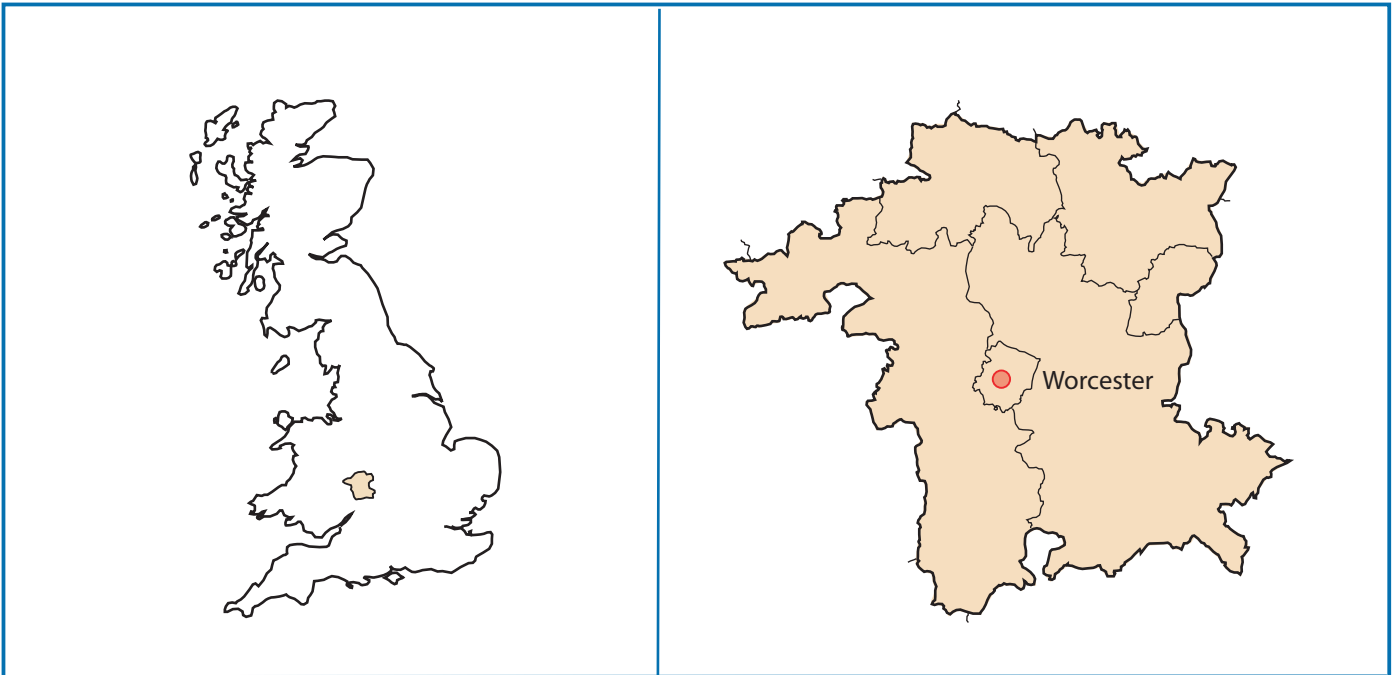
Worcester People and Places, 2005 <http://www.worcesterpeopleandplaces.com/articles.article-200-20.asp> printed 21st June 2005

Young, 1779, *Plan of Worcester city and suburbs 1779* (WCRO 2960 726i:PAC C1)

12. **Abbreviations**

NMR	National Monuments Record.
HER	Historic Environment Record.
WCC	Worcester City Council
WCM	Numbers prefixed with 'WCM' are the primary reference numbers used by the Worcester City Historic Environment Record.
WCRO	Worcestershire County Records Office.

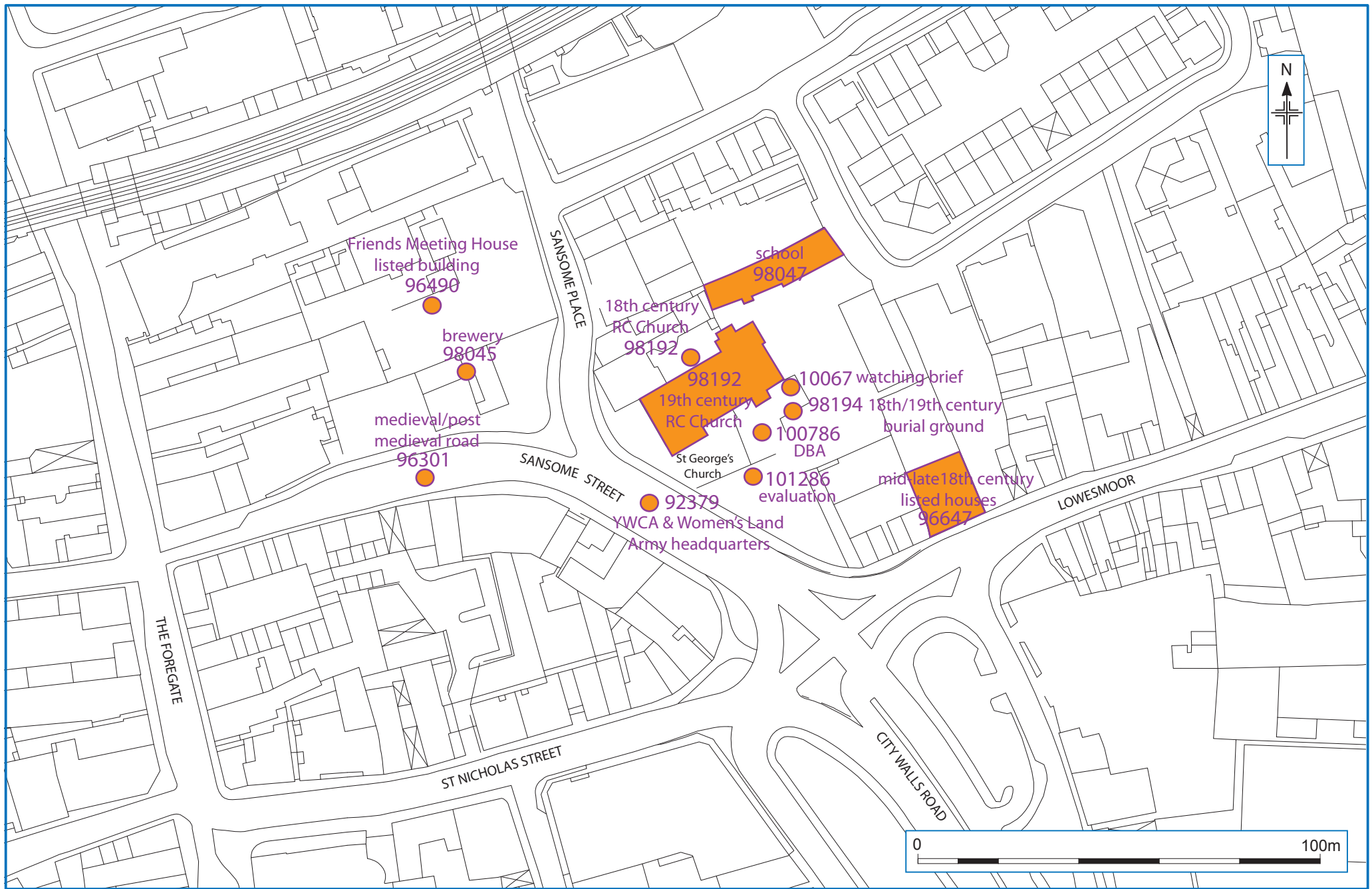
13. **Appendix 1 Illustrations**



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Location of the site.

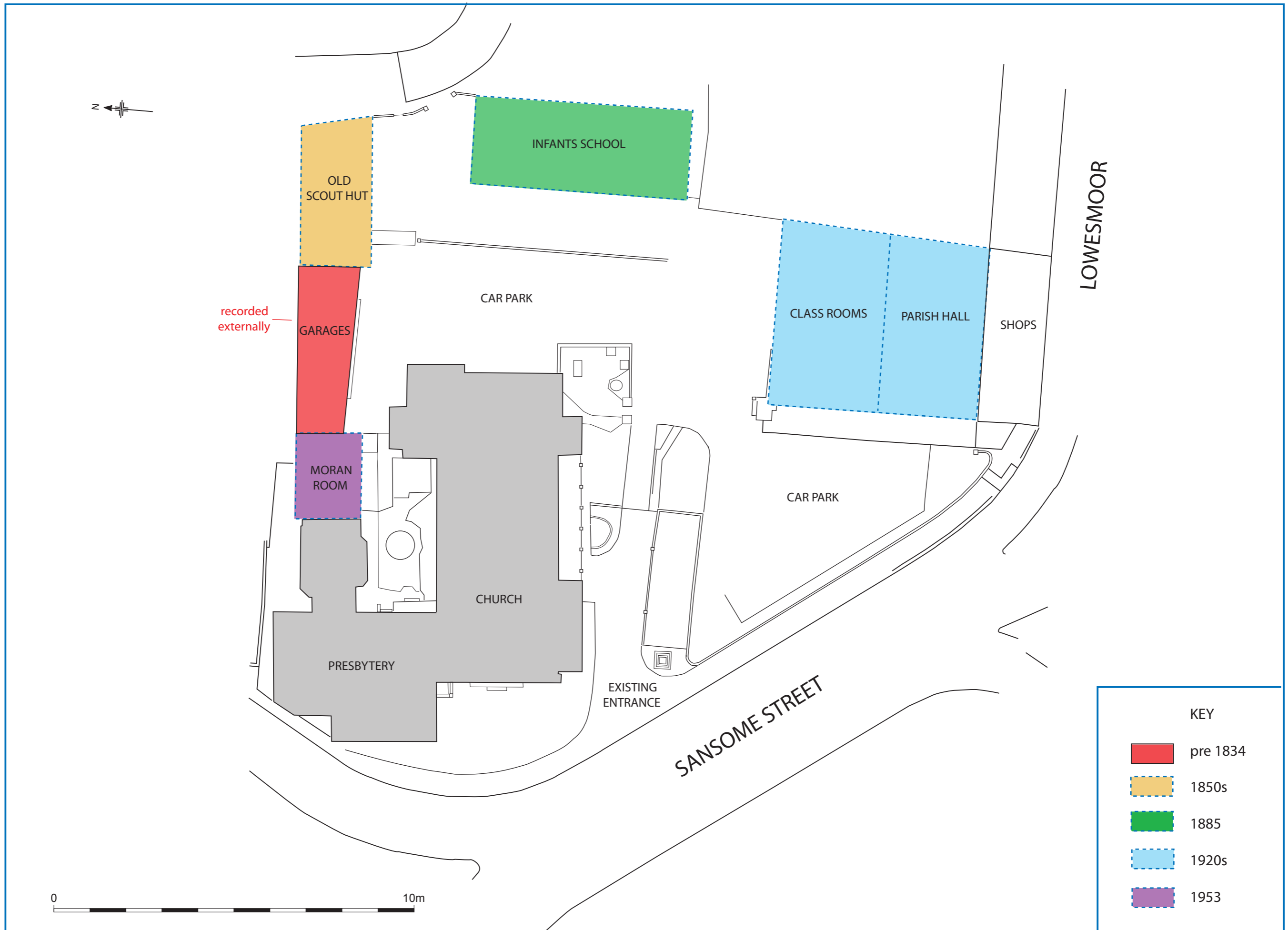
Figure 1



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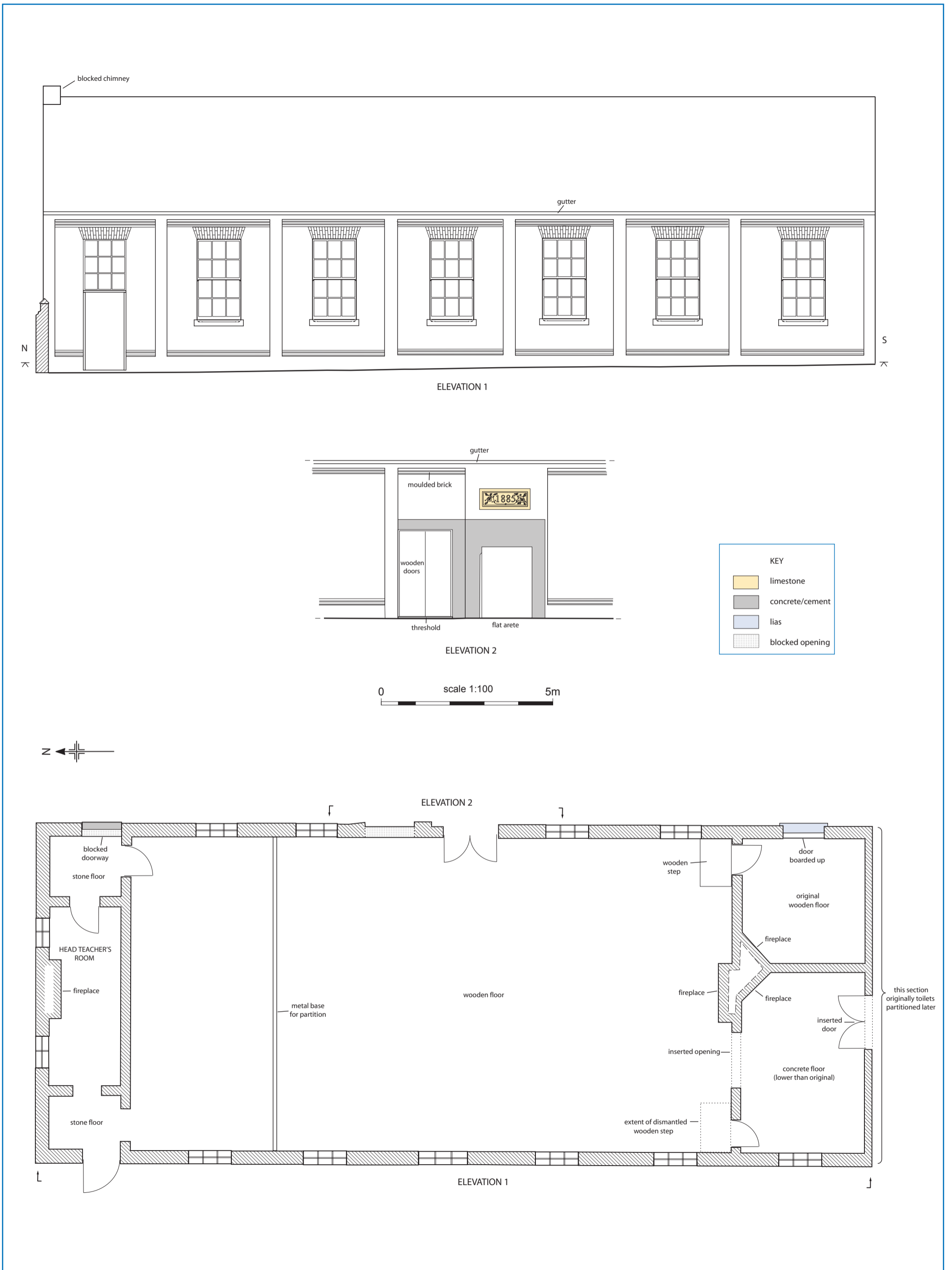
Sites and Monuments in the vicinity of St George's Church.

Figure 2



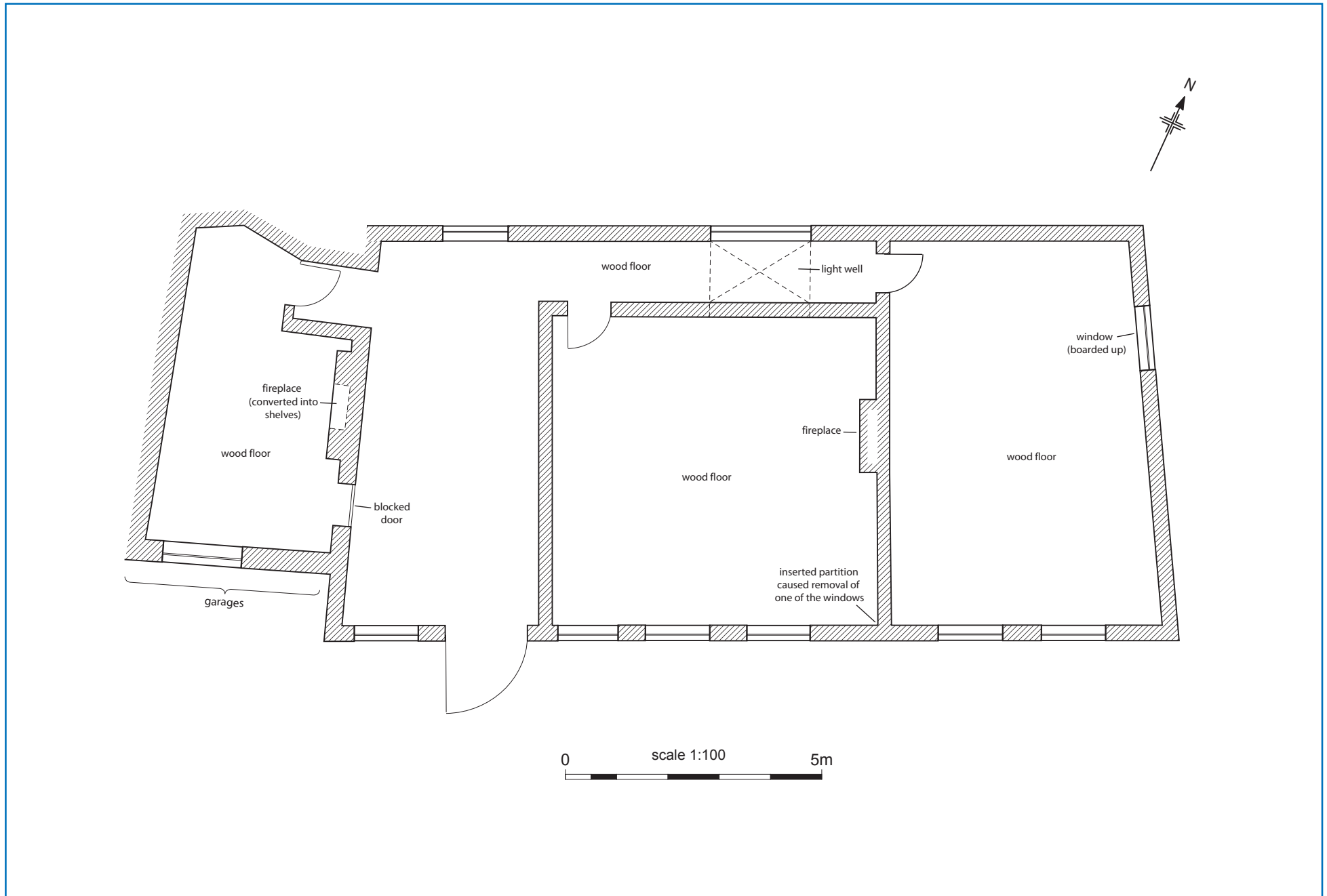
Buildings to be demolished (dashed outline) and phased

Figure 3



Infants school building: west-facing elevation; detail of doorway, east-facing elevation and ground plan

Figure 4



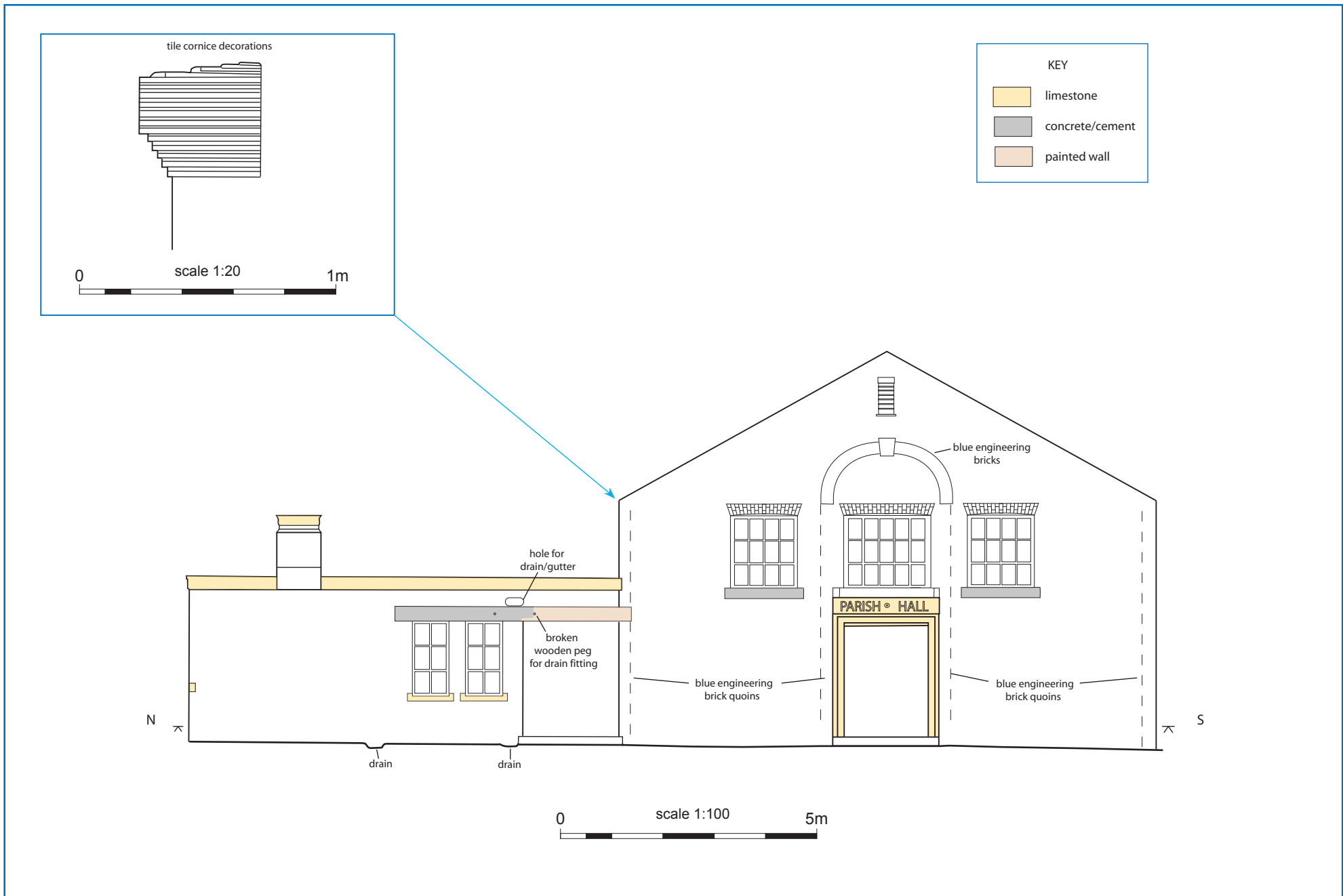
Plan of scout hut

Figure 5



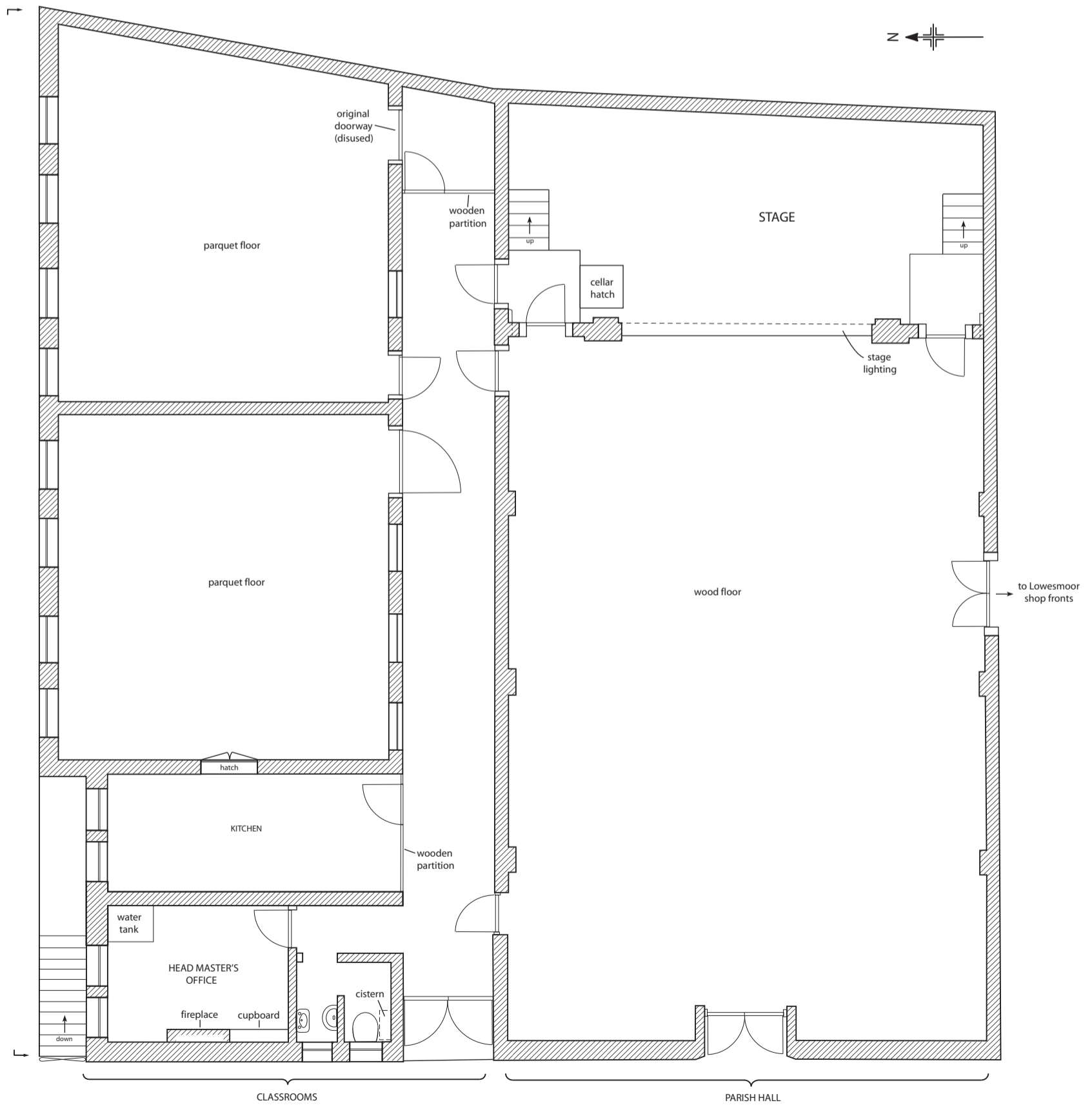
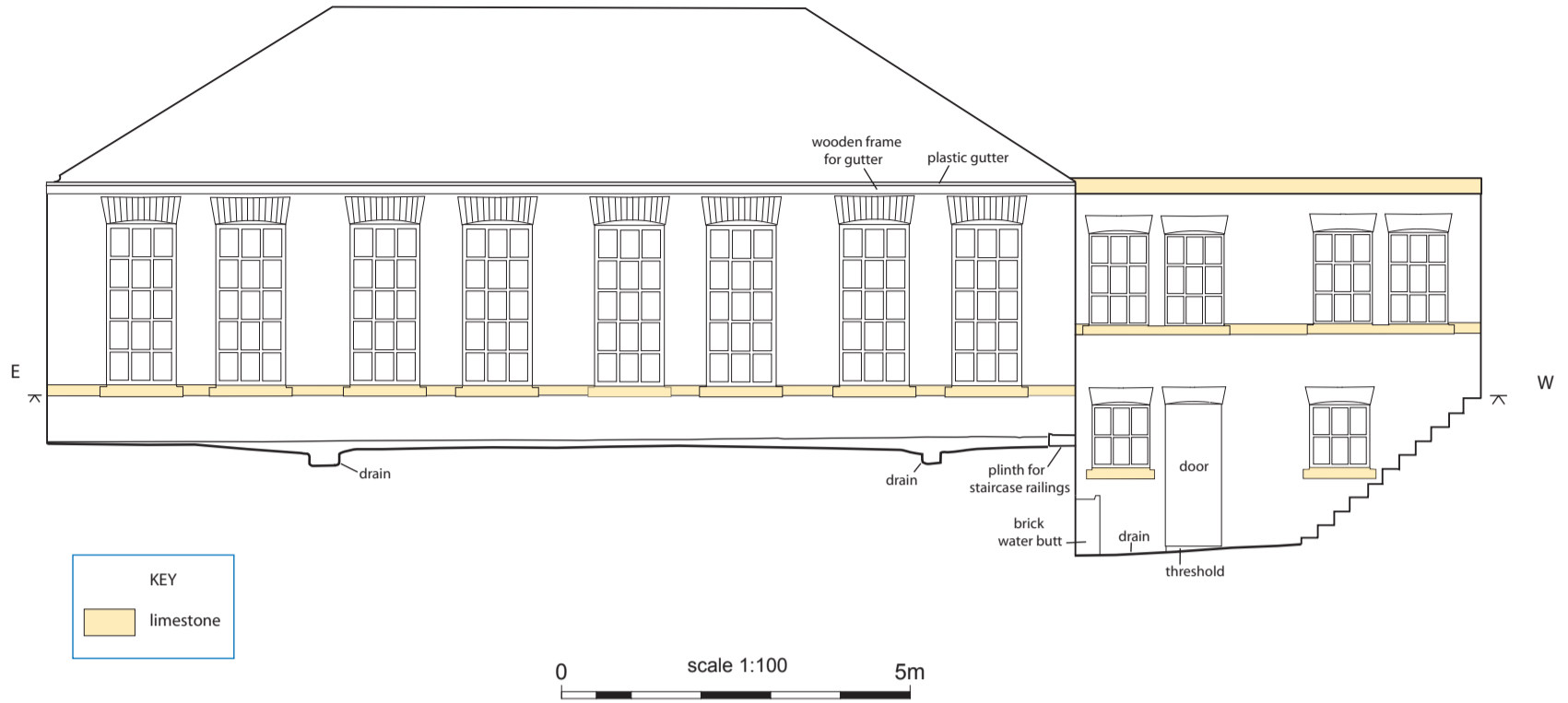
North and south-facing elevations of infants school and scout building

Figure 6



South-east facing elevation of Parish Hall and classroom; detail of tiles at top of gable (inset)


Figure 7

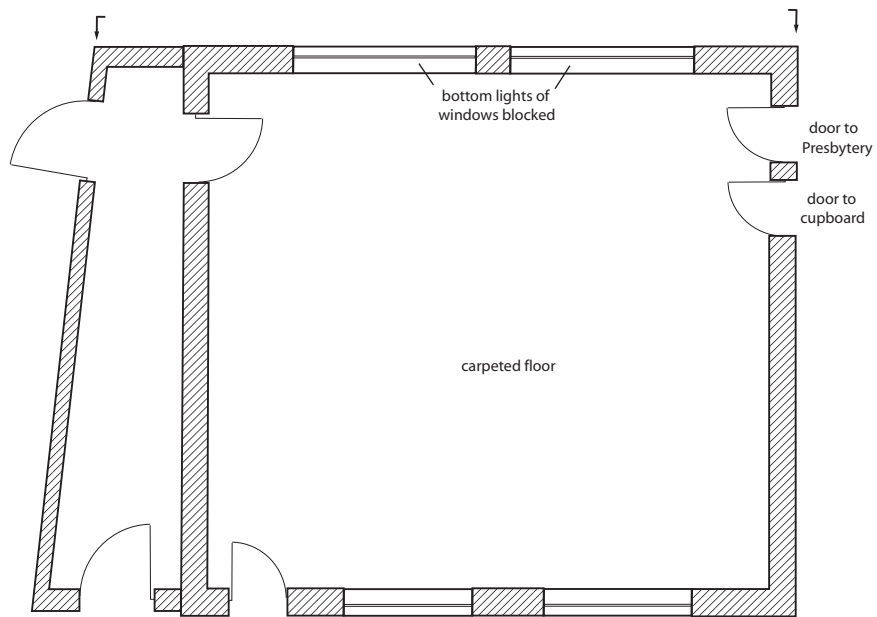


Plan of classrooms and parish hall

Figure 8

KEY

 concrete/cement



0 scale 1:100 5m

The Moran Room: plan and north elevation

Figure 9



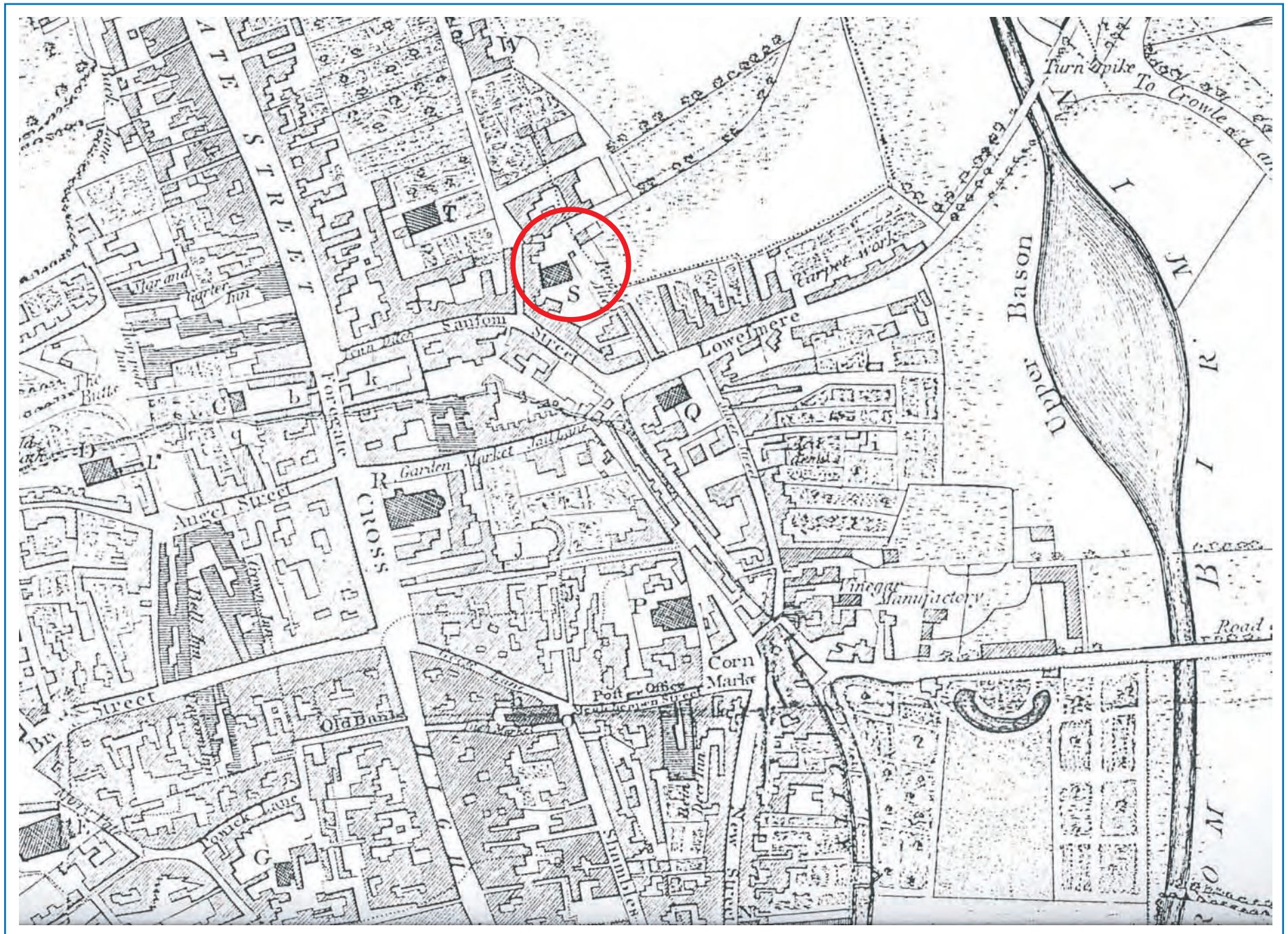
Extract from 'Plan of Worcester city and suburbs 1779' Young (WCRO 2960 726i:PAC C1)

Figure 10



Extract from 'Plan of the city of and suburbs of Worcester 1781' from Nash Collections for the History of Worcestershire

Figure 11



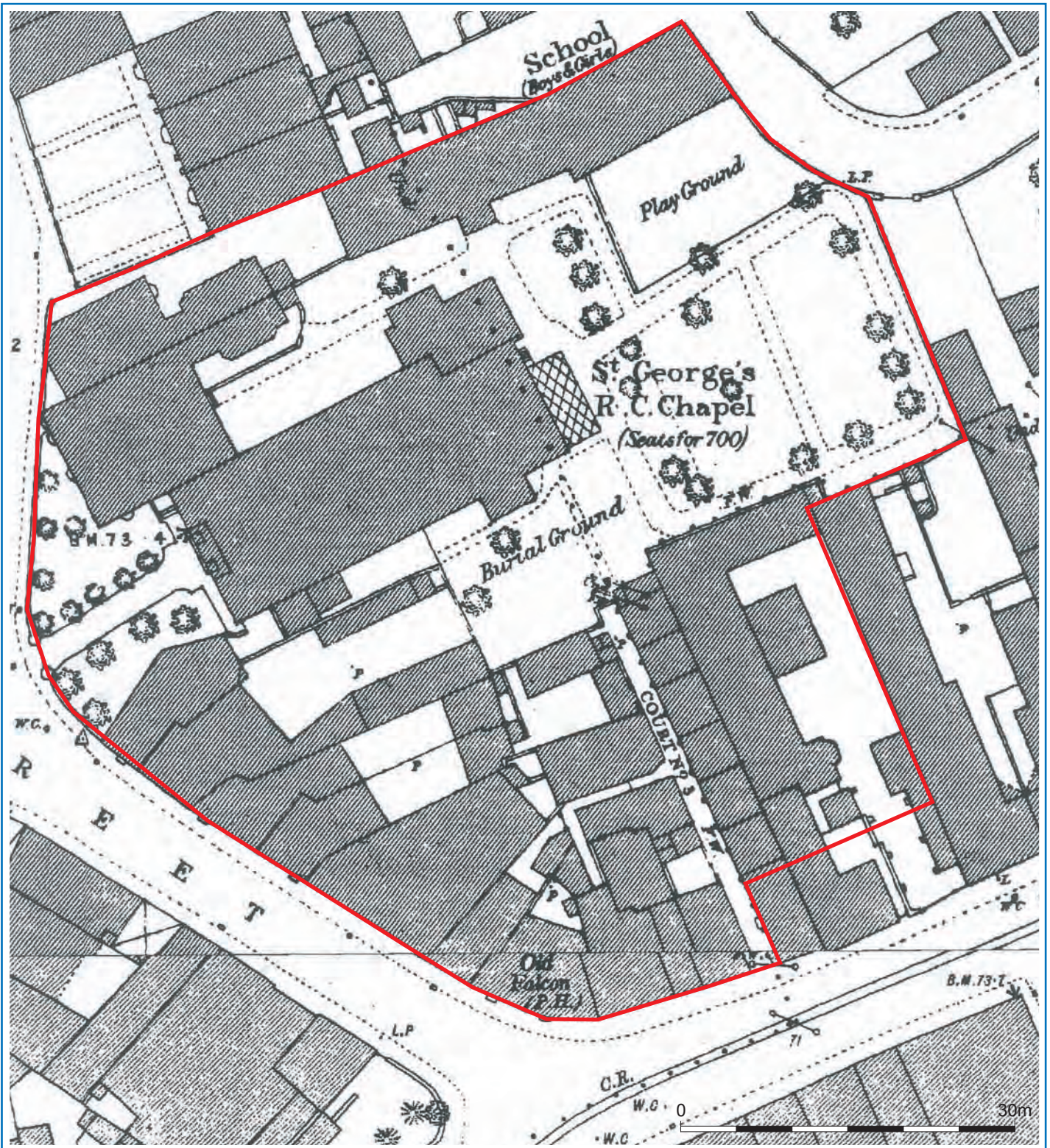
Extract from map of the city of Worcester by Valentine Green 1795

Figure 12



Extract from 'Map of the city and borough of Worcester and environs 1838' Dewhirst and Nichols

Figure 13



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Extract from 1884 Ordnance Survey map (showing extent of site)

Figure 15

14. **Appendix 2 Photographs**



Plate 1: Infants school, west elevation



Plate 2: Infants school, east elevation



Plate 3: 1885 limestone date plaque on east elevation of infants school



Plate 4: Infants school interior showing dado



Plate 5: Infants school interior showing screen and groove for sliding partition



Plate 6: Fireplace in south east room of infants school



Plate 7: North elevation of old scout hut



Plate 8: South elevation of old scout hut



Plate 9: Interior of scout hut, east room



Plate 10: Interior of scout hut, main room



rebuilt
section of
wall

Plate 11: South elevation where window removed



Plate 12: Fireplace in scout hut main room



Plate 13: West elevation of parish hall



Plate 14: Parish hall from the north west



Plate 15: Parish hall interior looking east



Plate 16: Plasterwork around stage in parish hall



Plate 17: Decorative banisters on parish hall steps



Plate 18: Original wooden door surround and panelled door in parish hall



Plate 19: Original brass 'art nouveau' door handle in parish hall



Plate 20: Stone door surround and 'Parish Hall' sign



Plate 21: Metal frame window with central hinged section



Plate 22: North elevation of the classrooms



Plate 23: Classrooms from the north west



Plate 24: Elevation showing the stringcourse



Plate 25: West elevation showing cornice on headmaster's rooms



Plate 26: One of classrooms showing parquet flooring



Plate 27: Internal metal frame windows opening onto corridor



Plate 28: External metal frame windows



Plate 29: Moran Room from the south east



Plate 30: South elevation of Moran Room



Plate 31: Interior space of Moran Room



Plate 32: Metal frame windows on north elevation



Plate 33: Example of sliding hinge to central sections of windows



Plate 34: North elevation of garages building



Plate 35: South elevation of garages building



Plate 36: Example of small windows akin to stable windows



Plate 37: Pitching eye on west elevation



building
break

Plate 38: Evidence of possible rebuild of frontage



Plate 39: Door and wooden toilets area in the infants school



Plate 40: Dividing wall in scout hut main room



Plate 41: Entrance area in scout hut



Plate 42: Corridor in scout hut



Plate 43: Main room of scout hut



Plate 44: Light well in scout hut main room

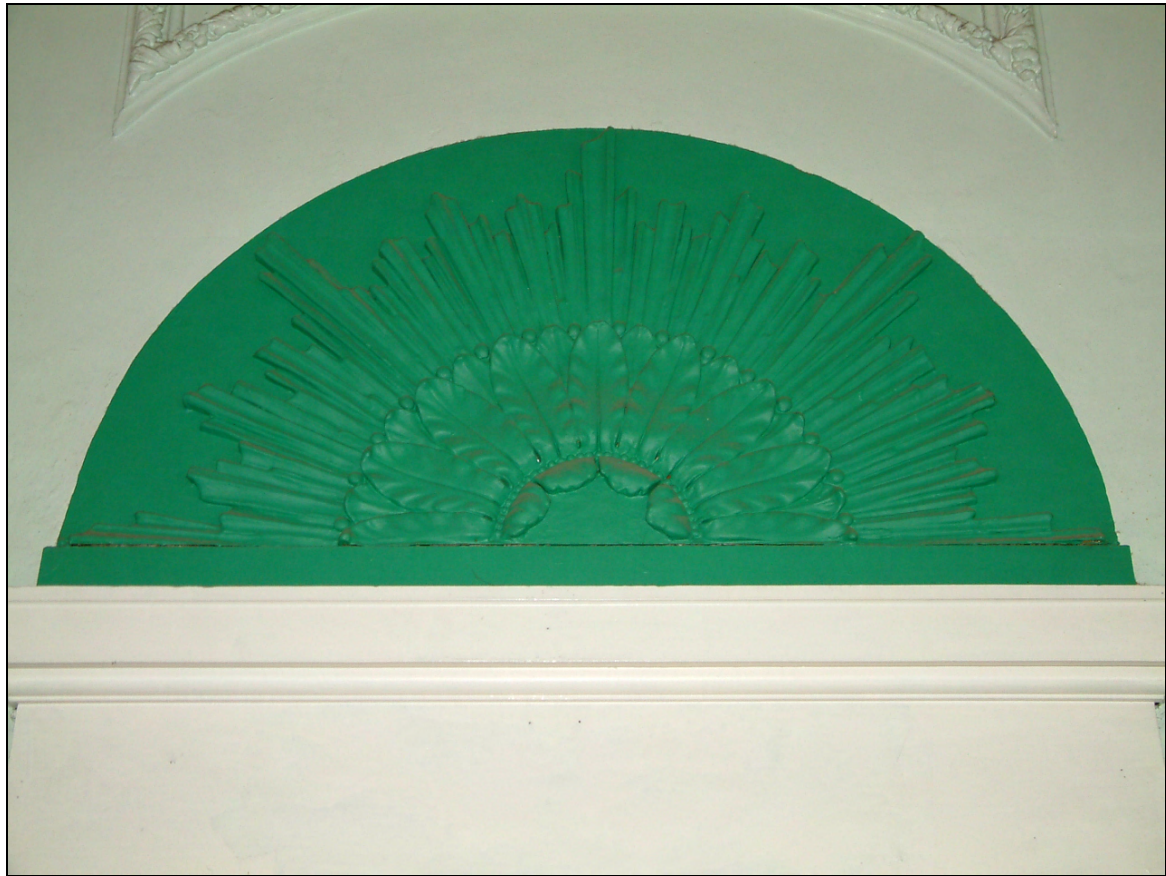


Plate 45: 'Sun-ray' Egyptian style plasterwork in parish hall



Plate 46: North elevation windows of Moran Room