

MAESTEG TOWN HALL HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING

ISSUE 01: OCTOBER 2019



Charlotte Mecklenburgh

On behalf of Purcell ® St Mary's Hall, Rawstorn Road, Colchester, Essex CO3 3JH charlotte.mecklenburgh@purcelluk.com www.purcelluk.com

All rights in this work are reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced, stored or transmitted in any form or by any means (including without limitation by photocopying or placing on a website) without the prior permission in writing of Purcell except in accordance with the provisions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. Applications for permission to reproduce any part of this work should be addressed to Purcell at info@purcelluk.com.

Undertaking any unauthorised act in relation to this work may result in a civil claim for damages and/or criminal prosecution. Any materials used in this work which are subject to third party copyright have been reproduced under licence from the copyright owner except in the case of works of unknown authorship as defined by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. Any person wishing to assert rights in relation to works which have been reproduced as works of unknown authorship should contact Purcell at info@purcelluk.com.

Purcell asserts its moral rights to be identified as the author of this work under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

Purcell® is the trading name of Purcell Architecture Ltd.

© Purcell 2019

Issue 01 October 2019 LBC



MAESTEG TOWN HALL: HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING

CONTENTS

I.0 I.1	INTRODUCTION NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY	04 04	8.0 ARCHIVE	23
1.2	INTRODUCTION LIMITATIONS	04 04	9.0 REFERENCES	24
2.0	AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	05	APPENDICES A PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER	25 26
2.1	GENERAL	05	B PHOTOMAPS	31
	02. (2. v. c	00	C CONTACT SHEET	34
			D EXISTING DRAWINGS	41
			E DEMOLITION DRAWINGS	44
3.0	METHODOLOGY	06		
3.1	DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH	06		
3.2	SITE INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING	06		
3.3	PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD	06		
4.0	HISTORIC BACKGROUND	07		
5.0	BUILDING DESCRIPTION	14		
6.0	ANALYSIS	21		
7.0	CONCLUSION	22		

INTRODUCTION

I.I NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Purcell were commissioned to carry out a scheme of historic building recording at Maesteg Town Hall, 27 Talbot Street, Maesteg, Wales. The building is a nineteenth century, Grade II listed building (Reference Number 18494) and was first listed 14th July 1997. Construction on the building began in 1880 and was completed in 1881, after a surge in industrial growth and a new horse-drawn railway linking a number of mining towns with Porthcawl docks necessitated the need for a central administration building. The town hall building occupies the corner of Talbot Street and Church Street and is slightly set back from the road. The original building was rectangular in plan, and was extended and altered significantly in 1914, including extensions to both northern corners, a clock tower, balcony and enlargement of the stage and proscenium arch. The building has two and a half stories, ground floor, first floor and mezzanine and balcony. In more recent times the building was unsympathetically converted to house an indoor market, however since being taken over by the Arwen Cultural Trust in 2015, it has been used as a cultural and events centre.

1.2 INTRODUCTION

Purcell has been commissioned to carry out a Level 3 historic building recording (HBR) to Maesteg Town Hall (referred to in this document as the Site) in the County Borough of Bridgend. The Town Hall is located on Talbot Street in Maesteg Town centre, CF34 9DA.

This report presents the results of the survey and recording work undertaken by Purcell on Maesteg Town Hall, carried out on 2nd

October 2019. This follows on from Listed Building Consent granted 30th April 2019 for the repair and alteration of Maesteg Town Hall to include internal alterations, essential fabric repairs and the creation of a new-build extension to provide a foyer, studio and a range of new community spaces (Application no. P/18/761/LIS).

Condition 12 xiii) states:

No works shall commence until a programme of historic building recording and analysis has been secured and implemented in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by Welsh Ministers.

The report is organised in line with the scope of the original WSI (Purcell 2019). The report provides a written account, photographic record and drawn records of Maesteg Town Hall. Only a selected number of photographs are presented in the report. A list of all photographs taken on site with their description and archive identifier is included in Appendices A, B and C.

1.3 LIMITATIONS

No original plans for the Town Hall have been located, however this is not prohibitive to understanding the development and significance of today's building. A 1912 condition survey of the building survives at Glamorgan Archives which may potentially offer an explanation of why the building was so substantially altered a little over 30 years after it was originally opened. However, it has not been possible to study this document during the preparation of this report.



- Maesteg Town Hall
- 01 Council Offices
- 02 Market Square
- 03 Bus Station

Site Location plan. Base plan © Google Earth. This plan is not to scale.

SECTION 2.0

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.I GENERAL

The principal aim of the historic building recording was to create a Historic England (2016) Level 3 record of Maesteg Town Hall, prior to the programme of repairs, alterations and localised demolition to ensure that it is preserved by record.

The HBR aims to produce an analytical record of the site and will include:

- Measured plans (to scale or fully dimensioned) as existing
- Record those areas which are likely to be disturbed or concealed in the course of redevelopment or refurbishment, with an emphasis on areas where historic features and fittings survive.
- To produce a photographic record of the building
- To produce a written account of the building

Further to this, Purcell is also cognisant of Cadw's guidance Managing Change to Listed Buildings in Wales (May 2017)⁰¹, which states:

When part or even all of a historic building is to be lost or altered, it is good practice to take the opportunity to record, investigate and analyse the features of the building that are to be removed or altered. It is also good practice to record features revealed during the course of any work.

The information gathered in understanding and assessing the significance of a historic building should be retained and a copy put in the local historic environment record and the National Monuments Record of Wales, which is the national archive for Wales maintained by the RCAHMW.

Coflein 02 is the online database for the National Monuments Record of Wales (NMRW) - the national collection of information about the historic environment of Wales. It lists many records in the NMRW archive originating from development work affecting Listed Buildings.

^{01 &}lt;a href="https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/historic-assets/listed-buildings/best-practice-guidance#section-managing-change-to-listed-buildings-in-wales">https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/historic-assets/listed-buildings/best-practice-guidance#section-managing-change-to-listed-buildings-in-wales

⁰² https://www.coflein.gov.uk/

SECTION 3.0

MFTHODOLOGY

The scope set out below outlines the work required to meet the criteria of a Level 3 survey. This is described in Historic England guidance as follows:

A Level 3 is an analytical record, and will comprise an introductory description followed by a systematic account of the building's origins, development and use. The record will include an account of the evidence on which the analysis has been based, allowing the validity of the record to be re-examined in detail. It will also include all drawn and photographic records that may be required to illustrate the building's appearance and structure and to support an historical analysis.

The information contained in the record will for the most part have been obtained through an examination of the building itself. The documentary sources used are likely to be those which are most readily accessible, such as historic Ordnance Survey maps, trade directories and other published sources. The record may contain some discussion of the building's broader stylistic or historical context and importance.

3.1 DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH

A detailed description of the Town Hall, its development and significance was included in the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) prepared by Purcell in September 2018. This included plans and photographs of the building, as well as an analysis of townscape and views.

The HBR report will reproduce relevant information from the HIA report to provide an overview of the history and development of the site and its context. Where additional information about the built fabric and development of the building comes to light, this will be incorporated in the HBR report.

3.2 SITE INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING

Existing floor plans and elevations will be utilised to guide on site observation and provide a location plan to record the location of each photographic viewpoint. The following aspects of the building will be recorded photographically and through annotation of existing floor plans/elevations.

External record

- The exterior elevations will be photographically recorded to provide a general record of their appearance. More detailed photographs will be taken of elevations where enhanced levels of change are proposed.
- The Site context and setting.

Internal record

- An overview record of each room/space where heritage features are likely to be either disturbed or concealed.
- A more detailed record of historic rooms where significant alteration is proposed. Key historic features, fixtures and fittings within these spaces will be photographed in detail.
- Spaces where minimal change is proposed will be recorded more generally.
- Spaces where historic features do not survive will not be recorded. Rooms which do not contain historic features will be marked as blank on the annotated plans.
- Where features are presently concealed (for example, below floor coverings or behind wall linings), recording work will be timed in agreement with the client to follow initial stripping out work.

3.3 PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

All photographic views will be recorded on site on copies of the 'as existing' floor plans of the building. These will be complemented by a full photographic register which will give the direction of the view and a brief description of the subject.

A selection of the photographic record will be used to illustrate the HBR report to provide an overview of the building and its general internal character. The photographic register and annotated plans showing photographic and feature locations will be included as appendices to the main report with key information incorporated into the main body of the report.

The full digital photographic record, together with copies of the marked up plans, register and report will be included in the site archive.

SECTION 4.0

HISTORIC BACKGROUND

The town of Maesteg, historically part of the county of Glamorgan, began to prosper and grow around the early decades of the 19th century, when the Industrial Revolution took advantage of the extensive natural resources in what was still rural South Wales. Iron, copper and tin were especially prevalent in the Valleys, with the first ironworks opening in Maesteg in the 1820s. In 1828 a horse-drawn railway link between Maesteg and the docks at Porthcawl was established to transport the mined goods. The rise in industrial activity increased numbers of workers and instigated the growth of larger settlements across the Valleys, including Maesteg.

In 1873 the need for a dedicated town hall was identified: '[Mr Alexander Brogden, MP] had before expressed a desire to see a suitable hall in the town; and he urged them without much delay to obtain a room in which to hold public meetings with more comfort. [...] He asked permission to co-operate with them in building a hall — not a memorial hall, but a hall which should be their own building — a hall in which the public sense upon any question can be expressed.*0

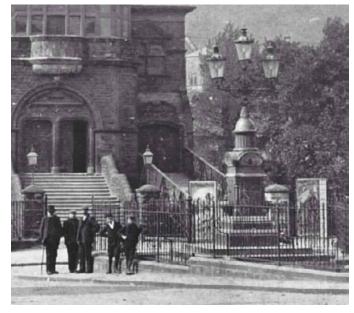
Two years later, plans for the town hall were approved: 'Town Hall Committee - This Committee met on Friday night, and approved of the well-finished plans of the proposed hall and market house, as prepared by Mr W. E. Kocks. Mr Barrow, the chairman, said that the sum collected and promised amounted to £1,100. Mr D. Grey, managing director of the tin works, Mr W. Smith, Oakwood Colliery, believed that £300 could be raised in these two works. The architect, Mr Kocks, ultimately did not provide the final design for the Town Hall as it is clearly documented in later newspaper articles that Henry C. Harris was its architect; this may be a reporting error in 1875 or a different design was later chosen.



The Town Hall as originally built in 1881



Photograph of the original Town Hall, pre-1914



Detail of the fountain and Town Hall front entrance, pre-1914

OI South Wales Daily News, 31 March 1873.

South Wales Daily News, 2 March 1875.

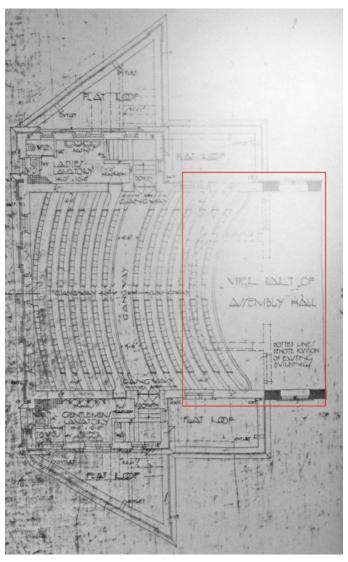
Construction started in 1880 on land leased from the Llynvi and Tondu Coal and Iron Co., with the foundation stone laid by a local M.P., C. R. M. Talbot, in October that year. The original design was considerably different to the building that survives today:

'The market, 70 feet by 45 feet, is on the ground floor, and adjacent to it are offices for the local board. The town hall buildings are built of local Pennant stone, with dressings of terracotta; the style of architecture is 'Queen Anne'. The principal front faces the east, and in view of larger meetings than the hall will be capable of holding a balcony, at a modern height above the roadway has been provided. In this front the chief and elaborate entrance is fixed, approached by a broad flight of steps, and opening immediately into a vestibule, from which lobbies diverge right and left to the main floor of the hall. The large gallery at the east end is also approached from this vestibule by means of a flight of Forest of Dean stone steps. The east front will be surmounted by a bell turret of chaste design. The hall will seat upwards of 1,200 people, it principal dimensions being 86 feet by 45 feet. By means of various 'Tobin' shafts and extraction shaft, in connection with the large patent sun burners, ample ventilation will be afforded. Cloak and retiring rooms are provided in convenient positions.'03

The Town Hall was officially opened in October 1881. A contemporary engraving of the exterior and later photographs shows the architectural detailing of the exterior. Its style was variously described as Queen Anne or Elizabethan in style; the stone mullion and transom windows are more reminiscent of Elizabethan or Jacobean architecture. The main hall boasted large oriel windows to increase the amount of natural light. The main entrance on the north-east elevation was set up at the top of a flight of steps, with the entrance to the market underneath. This market entrance is still here but the staircase has been completely removed. Among the most notable of the original features to still survive internally is the curved stage ('it contains a permanent semi-circular stage 30 feet by 24 feet, with entrances from the retiring rooms').⁰⁴

For reasons that remain unclear, the Town Hall underwent substantial extension and alteration in 1913-14, resulting in today's building. The external envelope of the building is now virtually unrecognisable compared to the original design. The alterations included extensions on the north corners, with a new balcony between, a large clock tower and the removal of the front entrance steps. The main hall oriel windows were also replaced and the stage was substantially enlarged with a new proscenium arch.

The Town Hall continued to serve Maesteg as a cultural and events centre throughout the 20th century and avoided a proposal for demolition in 1965. It was listed in 1997 and the Awen Cultural Trust took over its management in 2015.



Plans believed to show the 1914 balcony addition

⁰³ South Wales Daily News, 1 November 1880.

Nelly's Directory of South Wales, 1884.

4.1 BUILT FABRIC

HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

GROUND FLOOR

- 1881
- 1914 extension and overhaul
- Post 1914
- 01 Modern fit-out
- O2 As a flexible open space, the internal configuration of the market has constantly changed throughout history. The supporting columns are likely from 1914, possibly with some from 1881

This plan is not to scale

Notes:

- The external elevational treatments and windows are likely to comprise a mixture of the original 1881 scheme and the 1914 alterations.
- The bus shelter against the east side of the market has been altered in recent years; the as-existing drawings pre-date these alterations (labelled 'A').



HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN FIRST FLOOR 1881 1914 extension and overhaul Post 1914 This plan is not to scale



HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

BALCONY AND MEZZANINE

1881

Original 1881 building line

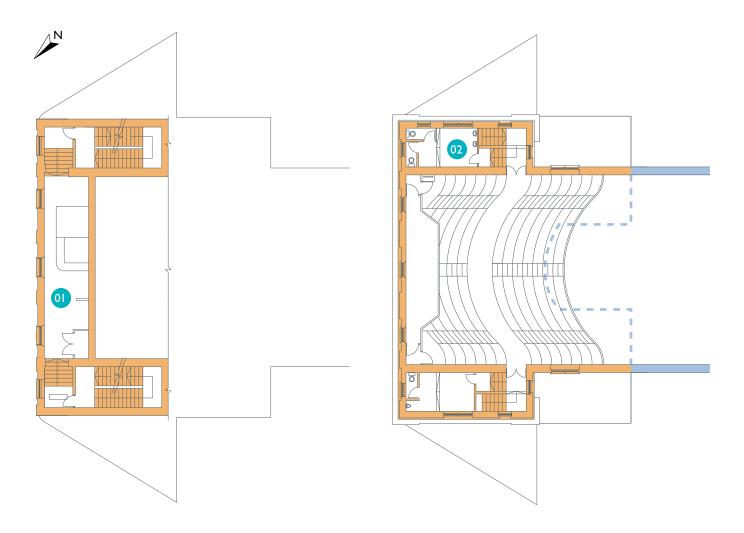
| 1914 extension and overhaul

Post 1914

OI C. 1990s refurbishment

02 Original 1914 configuration

This plan is not to scale



4.2 WIDER HISTORIC CONTEXT

TOWN HALL ARCHITECTS AND ARCHITECTURE

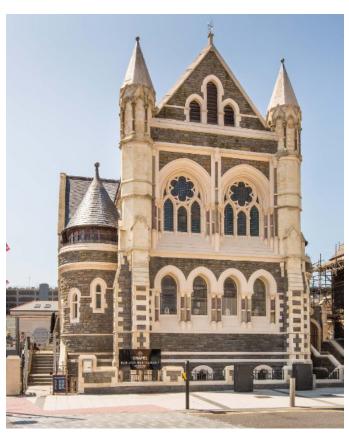
The original Town Hall was built to designs by Henry C. Harris, whose canon of work is very small owing to his premature death at the age of 33 in 1885 following a long-term illness, making Maesteg Town Hall one of his last buildings. His obituary described 'a man of considerable ability, and had he lived he would have taken a high position among the members his profession from the originality and completeness of his designs. He was articled to Mr C. R. Bernard, architect of the Windsor Estate. He subsequently spent some time at the Cooper's Hill Engineering School, and soon after he commenced practice at Cardiff was appointed surveyor to the Penarth Local Board, which was only then formed; and since his appointment to that position his numerous designs for private villa residences at Penarth will take a first-class position in the country. He also designed a number of public buildings at Cardiff, Bridgend, Maesteg, and other places; and was joint architect with Mr Snell in designing the Penarth Baths.¹⁰⁵

Harris's best-known works are primarily chapels, including a Gothic chapel in Cardiff, considered to be 'one of the finest in Wales', and St David's in Pontypridd.⁰⁶ His style was varied but drew on Revival Gothic influences and commonly used local South Wales Pennant stone.

St David's, Pontypridd by Henry C. Harris (1877-78)

Revival architecture was prevalent during the mid to late 19th century. These revival styles drew influences from earlier architectural periods and incorporated characteristic features into a new version of the style. Harris's original design is difficult to accurately position within any architectural style: the mullion and transom windows and use of gables are reminiscent of a Jacobean or Elizabethan influence, but the overall effect is not strong enough to categorise its style as a revival version of either.

Little is known about S. J. Harper, the ascribed architect of the heavily altered and extended Town Hall. Its architectural style after these 1914 interventions is more clearly influenced by the classical tradition, with a symmetrical and rusticated principal façade, and simpler windows.



Gothic Chapel, Cardiff by Henry C. Harris (1877)

4.3 CIVIC ARCHITECTURE

Maesteg Town Hall was one of many impressive public buildings to have been built during the South Wales industrial boom of the 19th century, during which time the town's population swelled significantly.

From 1840 until the construction of the Town Hall, a substantial number of chapels and churches were erected across Maesteg. Many of these projected the same sense of status as later civic buildings and remain prominent features within otherwise modest streetscapes. These included:

- The Chapel of Ease (built 1852);
- The Catholic Church (built 1874);
- The Bethania Welsh Baptist Church (built 1832; rebuilt 1908);
- The Bethel English Baptist Chapel (built 1859);
- The Welsh Baptist Tabernacle (built 1856);
- The Tabor Calvinistic Methodist Chapel (built 1840);
- The Libanus Calvinistic Methodist Chapel (built 1871);
- The Carmel Welsh Congregational Chapel (built 1850);
- The Zoar Welsh Congregational Chapel (built 1841);
- The English Congregational Chapel (built 1871);
- The Ebenezer Congregational Chapel (built 1870); and
- The English Wesleyan Chapel (built 1863) (From Kelly's Directory of South Wales, 1884).



Bethania Welsh Baptist Chapel



Tabor Calvinistic Methodist Chapel

5.1 THE TOWN HALL

5.1.1 OVERALL MASSING AND POINTS OF ACCESS

The Town Hall is a roughly arrow-shaped building, with its principal architectural elevation facing north-east. The market is located on the lower ground floor; and the main hall, stage and dressing rooms are located on the ground floor with an interjecting mezzanine balcony.

On its east and west sides, the building fronts directly onto local roads. The main entrance into the hall is via the steps off Talbot Street (with a mirrored, but disused, configuration on the east side, Church Street). The lower ground floor market is accessible from all sides of the building, with steps down on the north-east side to account for the slope in topography. Unusually, the main hall is not accessible from the principal, north-east facing elevation.

The building is two and half storeys high with a pitched slate roof over the main hall and the same again set at a right-angle to the front (north) portion of the building, with a tall Italianate clock tower. The town's valley landscape further emphasises the visibility of the Town Hall's clock tower as a central landmark. Along the ridge of the roof over the man hall are several ventilation cupolas. The rear extensions have hipped and gabled slate roofs set lower down. The extensions at the front (north) corners of the hall have flat roofs.



The principal north-facing elevation

5.1.2 EXTERIOR

The Town Hall is faced with coursed Pennant stone – typical of South Wales – articulated with red brick and ashlar dressings. The classically-proportioned five-bay principal elevation includes ashlar rustication at lower ground floor level and striking red brick pilasters extending its full height above. The side and rear elevations are comparatively plainer with mainly red brick and terracotta dressings.

There is a range of window styles across the building: traditional Georgian-style sashes on the principal elevation; large mullioned and transom windows in the central east and west elevations, permitting high levels of natural light into the main hall; and a combination of Victorian-style sash windows and leaded windows with stone mullions and transoms elsewhere.



The main entrance and extensions at the north-west corner of the Town Hall



South elevation and bus bays



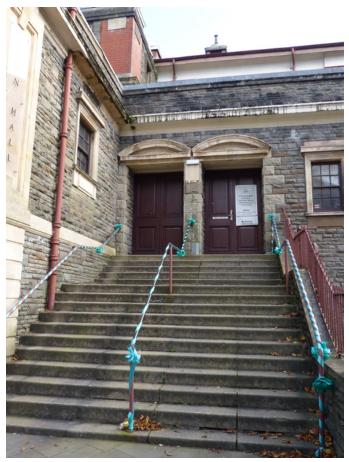
East entrance into the market



The west side of the Town Hall, viewed from Talbot Street



Entrance into the market from the south side



The main entrance into the hall



The rear (south) elevation of the Town Hall



The rear of the Council Offices and Town Hall, across the market square

5.1.3 INTERIOR

General interior description

Currently the interior of the Town Hall exhibits a mix of the 1914 alteration and additions and the modern twentieth century refits, with the majority of the original 1881 historic fabric visible at the northern end of the first floor. It is possible to see from the layout and later internal additions, such as the indoor market on the ground floor and enlarged stage and public bar on the first floor, how its use has changed over the years.

Ground floor

The market occupies the main portion of the lower ground floor, with externally accessed public WCs and a bus shelter on the east side. The WCs which were added in the 1914 extension and alterations are no longer extant, with the modern WCs now located in the area of the 1914 ladies bathrooms. Decorative glazed tiling from the 1914 gentlemen's bathrooms can still be seen, in what is now a storage area.

The market is divided into individual units fronting onto the two aisles demarcated by slim iron columns. Due to the topography of the streetscape outside, the entrance into the market at the north end of the building is via a short flight of steps.

The current indoor market and the ceiling cladding, which is of 20th century date, obscures much of the historic interior of the lower ground floor space, with only the iron columns visible. The iron columns are likely to be part of the 1914 extensive alterations and additions.

At the south end of the ground floor, in the corner blocks, are paired staircases leading up to the backstage area on the first floor. At the bottom of the east corner staircase is the boiler room. The west corner staircase and accompanying external door is the principal access point for production equipment.



South facing; view to partition to WC, with 1914 glazed tiling

First floor

On the First floor is the main hall. At the north end is the twentieth century bar and kitchen, with WCs on either side. There are paired staircases in the north-east and north-west corners leading up to the curved balcony with a connecting lounge at the level of the half-landing. At the back of the balcony is a projection room and the access ladder for the clock tower.

The main hall itself is a large double-height space with generous windows on either side; those on the south side have internal secondary glazing. Along the walls under the windows is simple vertical panelling. The floor has a simple parquetry finish with a central star the same as can be seen in a Pathé⁰¹ film from 1938 of Queen Mary on a state visit to south Wales, suggesting that this was the same floor laid in the 1914 alterations. Wooden partition screens do not appear in the same video and are likely to be of a later date.

The stage is located at the south end of the hall, with doors leading into the wings and backstage on either side of the proscenium arch. The arch is flanked on either side by double columns, with an entablature across the top depicting a classical scene with soldiers in horse-drawn carts. Along either side of the hall is an egg and dart cornice, continuing the classical theme.

The northern end of the main hall retains the original structure and layout of the 1881 construction. The stage was raised and enlarged during the 1914 alterations, however the original proscenium arch, which was smaller than the existing one reflects a stage suited to a more modest sized hall and is still present behind the later addition at the rear of the stage.

The backstage areas such as the WCs and dressing rooms also exhibit some of the original design features with paired fireplaces in the dressings rooms, though the fireplace surrounds look to be from the 1914 refit (or later). Also evident within the dressing rooms are the partial remains of the original gas lamps above the fireplaces.



West facing; general view of redundant market stall units



South-facing; general view of redundant market stall units



The bar and area at the back of the hall

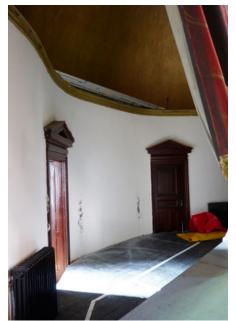
British Pathé, Queen Mary in Wales Aka Queen Mary in South Wales (1938) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jiy5KeXX7Ro [accessed 3rd October 2019]



Occasional ticket office in the foyer



Look out across the hall from the stage



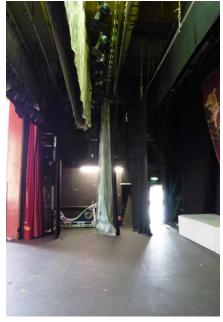
The apse at the rear of the stage



Entrance foyer



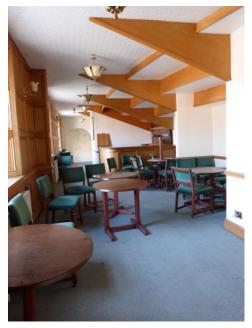
Looking down at the stage from the back of the balcony



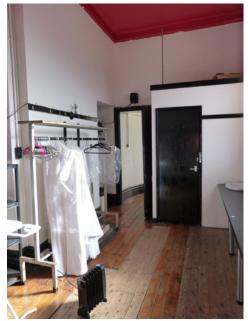
Looking across the stage into the wings



Projection room



The half-level lounge



A dressing room



The curved backstage corridor



The balcony rail and panel







South-east facing view of WC, as existing.

SECTION 6.0

ANALYSIS

Maesteg Town Hall has been subject to much change and alteration over the years, from the substantial extension and alterations to the original structure that took place in 1914, to the seemingly continued updates and changes of use it has experienced until the present day. It is perhaps true to say that these changes are more apparent to the built fabric internally than externally, although modern additions to the exterior are clearly in evidence.

The building as it currently stands is in quite poor condition, with the need for repairs and modern updating to amenities including the kitchen, WCs and backstage areas apparent. At this time, it is not possible to appreciate the remaining original historic fabric of the building as it is either obscured by the twentieth century alterations and refits, much of which are unsympathetic to the historic character of the building, or is in a bad state of repair.

The opportunity to research and record the Town Hall has enabled a photographic and written record to be taken and highlighted areas that may still require further investigation to better understand its story and historic development. As stated in the WSI (Purcell 2019):

'Where features are presently concealed (for example, below floor coverings or behind wall linings), recording work will be timed in agreement with the client to follow initial stripping out work'

The HBR has highlighted a number of areas where this may be applied, namely the ground floor which is almost completely obscured by the modern market stall fit-outs and ceiling cladding, the removal of the twentieth century stage restoring it to the historic level, and the removal of panels and fire-place surrounds in the dressing rooms.

Further documentary research, such as viewing the 1912 Condition Survey currently held in Glamorgan Archives could also add to a further understanding of the historical development of the building and to help date remaining features.

SECTION 7.0

CONCLUSION

Maesteg Town Hall has over 130 years of history, giving it a high historic value with regards to the age of the structure and the fact that it has been in use continuously throughout this time. During this period, the landmark building has been at the literal and figurative centre of the town's community: hosting important civic occasions, providing entertainment and leisure space and also hosting a town market and as such, continues to serve the community.

It is unclear why the building underwent such extensive changes a little over 30 years after it was originally completed. A possible reason is that it needed to offer increased space to accommodate a larger market and more spacious auditorium, reflecting a greater demand and popularity than originally anticipated. Further documentary research may yet provide information on this matter.

The aforementioned changes have left clues in the built fabric that indicate what the earlier design was like, including the surviving original proscenium arch near the back of the present stage which indicates a more modestly-sized hall.

The Level 3 historic building recording has indicated areas that may require further recording work for potentially concealed features that could be revealed during stripping out works.

SECTION 8.0

ARCHIVE

The project archive will be offered to Glamorgan Archives⁰¹ in a format that meets their archiving requirements. An OASIS code will be obtained and referenced on all archive material associated with the project.

The archive will include:

- Digital photographic record
- Photographic register of all photographic images
- Site plan marked up with the locations of selected photographic views
- Copies of research material and site notes
- A copy of the report

The complete project archive will be prepared in accordance with the Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings and structures (ClfA, 2014°2).

The HBR report will be submitted to the Borough Council within one month following completion of the fieldwork and the appropriate OASIS form completed.

The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the site will be retained by Purcell under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents* Act 1988 with all rights reserved. However use of the archive will be permitted for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profit making.

https://glamarchives.gov.uk/collection/depositing-records/

^{02 &}lt;u>http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfAS&GBuildings_I.pdf</u>

SECTION 9.0

REFERENCES

HERITAGE GUIDANCE AND TOOLS

Archwilio; The Historic Environment Records of Wales, https://www.archwilio.org.uk/arch/

Bridgend Local Development Plan, September 2013.

Cadw, Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales, (2011).

Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, http://map.coflein.gov.uk/

HISTORICAL NEWSPAPERS

Kelly's Directory of South Wales, 1884.

South Wales Daily News, 1 November 1880.

South Wales Daily News, 2 March 1875.

South Wales Daily News, 31 March 1873.

South Wales Echo, (19 March 1885).

APPENDICES

CONTENTS

- A: Photographic Register
- B: Photomaps
- C: Contact Sheet
- D: Existing Drawings
- E: Demolition Drawings



APPENDIX A

Photo No.	Floor / Room No.	Direction To	Date	Description	Taken By	Portrait / Landscape
I	FOI	Ν	02/10/2019	Main Hall, partitioning screen	RH	L
2	FOI	Ν	02/10/2019	Main Hall, partitioning screen	RH	L
3	FOI	Ν	02/10/2019	Main Hall, existing bar	RH	L
4	FOI	NW	02/10/2019	Main Hall, existing bar	RH	L
5	FOI	NE	02/10/2019	Main Hall, existing bar	RH	L
6	F05	S	02/10/2019	Western Entrance Porch, kiosk	RH	L
7	F05	S	02/10/2019	Western Entrance Porch, view of southern wall and window	RH	L
8	F05	Ν	02/10/2019	General view of stairs and partitioning	RH	L
9	FI2	W	02/10/2019	General view of wall / floor structure	RH	L
10	F03A	Е	02/10/2019	General view of partitioning	RH	L
11	F03B	Е	02/10/2019	General view of partitioning	RH	L
12	F06	Ν	02/10/2019	General view of corridor / partitioning	RH	L
13	F06	Ν	02/10/2019	View of concrete stair	RH	L
14	FIO	Ν	02/10/2019	View of internal partitioning	RH	Р
15	FIO	Е	02/10/2019	View of existing internal WC fitout	RH	Р
16	FIO	S	02/10/2019	View of existing internal WC fitout	RH	Р
17	FIOB	W	02/10/2019	General view of existing WC	RH	Р
18	FIOA	W	02/10/2019	View of existing internal WC fitout	RH	Р
19	FIOA	Ν	02/10/2019	View of existing internal WC fitout	RH	Р
20	FIOA	S	02/10/2019	View of existing internal WC fitout	RH	Р
21	FOI	W	02/10/2019	View of existing window WI.12	RH	Р
22	FOI	W	02/10/2019	View of existing window WI.13	RH	Р
23	FOI	SE	02/10/2019	View to existing stage	RH	L
24	FOI	SW	02/10/2019	View to existing stage	RH	L
25	FOI	Ν	02/10/2019	View to main hall suspended ceiling	RH	Р
26	FOI	Ν	02/10/2019	View to main hall suspended ceiling	RH	Р
27	FOI	Ν	02/10/2019	View to balcony suspended ceiling	RH	L

Photo No.	Floor / Room No.	Direction To	Date	Description	Taken By	Portrait / Landscape
28	F02	Е	02/10/2019	View across existing stage	RH	L
29	F02	W	02/10/2019	View across existing stage	RH	L
30	F02	N	02/10/2019	View of existing stage beneath historic apse	RH	Р
31	FOI	SE	02/10/2019	Views to C20 timber cladding to east elevation	RH	L
32	FOI	SW	02/10/2019	Views to C20 timber cladding to west elevation	RH	L
33	-	Ν	02/10/2019	View to roof of eastern lean-to extension	RH	Р
34	F02	SE	02/10/2019	View to stage right door with existing stage level	RH	Р
35	F02	SW	02/10/2019	View to stage left door with existing stage level	RH	Р
36	FI5	SE	02/10/2019	View to existing stair	RH	Р
37	FI9	Е	02/10/2019	View to existing dressing room fitout	RH	L
38	FI9	W	02/10/2019	View to existing dressing room fitout	RH	L
39	FI9	Ν	02/10/2019	View to fireplace and original, partial gas lamp in dressing room	RH	Р
40	FI9A	SE	02/10/2019	View to existing WC	RH	Р
41	F20A	SW	02/10/2019	View to existing WC	RH	Р
42	F20	Е	02/10/2019	View to existing dressing room fitout	RH	Р
43	F20	Ν	02/10/2019	View to existing dressing room fitout	RH	Р
44	-	Ν	02/10/2019	Internal view to window WI.I7	RH	Р
45	-	Ν	02/10/2019	Internal view to window WI.16	RH	Р
46	-	S	02/10/2019	Internal view to existing timber stair outside room F20	RH	Р
47	-	N	02/10/2019	View of a typical partial gas lamp to stairs adjacent to dressing rooms F20 & F19	RH	Р
48	F20	N	02/10/2019	View to fireplace and original, partial gas lamp in dressing room	RH	Р
49	F20	N	02/10/2019	View of a typical partial gas lamp within dressing rooms	RH	Р

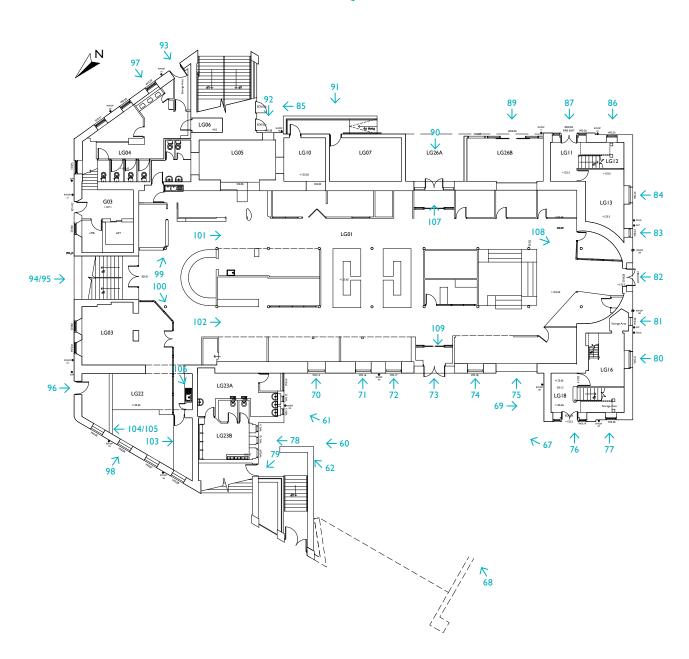
Photo No.	Floor / Room No.	Direction To	Date	Description	Taken By	Portrait / Landscape
50	F05	W	02/10/2019	Internal view of double entrance doors in western porch	RH	L
51	-	Е	02/10/2019	View to west entrance porch and steps	RH	Р
52	-	Е	02/10/2019	View to left entrance door in western porch	RH	Р
53	-	Е	02/10/2019	View to right entrance door in western porch	RH	Р
54	-	Е	02/10/2019	View to window WI.10 in western porch	RH	Р
55	-	SW	02/10/2019	View to stone upstand and balustrade outside west entrance steps	RH	L
56	-	SE	02/10/2019	Views to stone piers and gates on Talbot St	RH	L
57	-	SE	02/10/2019	View to existing bus shelter & stone surround on Talbot St	RH	L
58	-	SW	02/10/2019	View to existing bus shelter & stone surround on Talbot St	RH	L
59	-	N	02/10/2019	View to stone upstand within external courtyard	RH	L
60	-	N	02/10/2019	View to west entrance porch & public WCs	RH	L
61	-	Ν	02/10/2019	View to west entrance porch	RH	Р
62	-	NE	02/10/2019	View to west entrance porch	RH	Р
63	-	Е	02/10/2019	External view to window W1.12	RH	Р
64	-	Е	02/10/2019	External view to window WI.I3	RH	Р
65	-	Е	02/10/2019	External view to window WI.I4	RH	Р
66	-	Е	02/10/2019	External view to window WI.I5	RH	Р
67	-	Ν	02/10/2019	View to external paving within courtyard	RH	L
68	-	NE	02/10/2019	View to external paving within courtyard	RH	L
69	-	S	02/10/2019	External view to windows WI.16 / WI.17	RH	Р
70	-	Е	02/10/2019	External view to window W0.15	RH	Р
71	-	Е	02/10/2019	External view to window WI.16	RH	Р
72	-	E	02/10/2019	External view to window WI.17	RH	Р

Photo No.	Floor / Room No.	Direction To	Date	Description	Taken By	Portrait / Landscape
73	-	Е	02/10/2019	External view to lower ground floor double entrance door	RH	Р
74	-	Е	02/10/2019	External view to window W0.18	RH	Р
75	-	Е	02/10/2019	External view to infilled arched opening	RH	Р
76	-	Е	02/10/2019	External view to door ED0.06	RH	Р
77	-	Е	02/10/2019	External view to window W0.20	RH	Р
78	-	Ν	02/10/2019	External view to windows W0.09/W0.10/ W0.11	RH	Р
79	-	N	02/10/2019	External view to public WC entrance door / window W0.09	RH	Р
80	-	Ν	02/10/2019	External view to window W0.21	RH	Р
81	-	Ν	02/10/2019	External view to window W0.22	RH	Р
82	-	N	02/10/2019	External view to double entrance door ED0.05	RH	Р
83	-	Ν	02/10/2019	External view to window W0.23	RH	Р
84	-	Ν	02/10/2019	External view to window W0.24	RH	Р
85	-	N	02/10/2019	External view to door openings beneath eastern entrance steps	RH	Р
86	-	W	02/10/2019	External view to window W0.25	RH	Р
87	-	W	02/10/2019	External view to door ED0.04	RH	Р
88	-	W	02/10/2019	General view to eastern lean-to extension	RH	L
89	-	W	02/10/2019	View to door ED0.03	RH	L
90	-	W	02/10/2019	View to arched lower ground floor eastern entrance	RH	L
91	-	W	02/10/2019	View to eastern public WCs	RH	L
92	-	W	02/10/2019	External view to window W0.28	RH	Р
93	-	SW	02/10/2019	View to female public WC entrance door to the east	RH	Р
94	-	S	02/10/2019	View to metal entrance gates on Northern elevation	RH	L
95	-	S	02/10/2019	View to timber and glazed screen to market hall	RH	Р

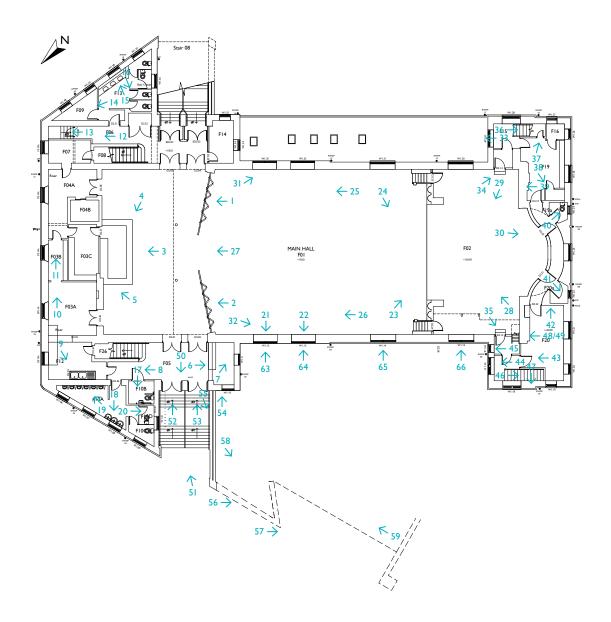
Photo No.	Floor / Room No.	Direction To	Date	Description	Taken By	Portrait / Landscape
96	-	S	02/10/2019	View to western single entrance door on north facade	RH	Р
97	-	SW	02/10/2019	View to typical lower ground floor window to eastern triangular wing (W0.29)	RH	Р
98	-	NE	02/10/2019	View to typical lower ground floor window to western triangular wing (W0.08)	RH	Р
99	LG01	Е	02/10/2019	General view to redundant market stall units	RH	L
100	LG01	W	02/10/2019	General view to redundant market stall units	RH	L
101	LG01	S	02/10/2019	General view to redundant market stall units	RH	L
102	LG01	S	02/10/2019	General view to redundant market stall units	RH	L
103	LG22	S	02/10/2019	View to partition to WC	RH	Р
104	LG22	Ν	02/10/2019	View to partition	RH	Р
105	LG22	Ν	02/10/2019	View to raised floor slab at street level	RH	Р
106	LG01	SW	02/10/2019	Existing wall between kitchenette & room LG23A	RH	Р
107	LG01	W	02/10/2019	Internal view to double entrance door on east elevation	RH	L
108	LG01	SW	02/10/2019	General view to redundant market stall units	RH	Р
109	LG01	W	02/10/2019	View to lower ground floor entrance door on west elevation	RH	Р
110	MOI	Е	02/10/2019	General view to Llynfi lounge	RH	Р
111	MOI	E	02/10/2019	View to Llynfi lounge, oak detailing	RH	L
112	M01	Е	02/10/2019	View to Llynfi lounge, oak wall panels	RH	L
113	MOI	Е	02/10/2019	View to existing bar and lift shaft	RH	L
114	M0I	W	02/10/2019	View to Llynfi lounge, oak wall panels	RH	L

LOWER GROUND FLOOR



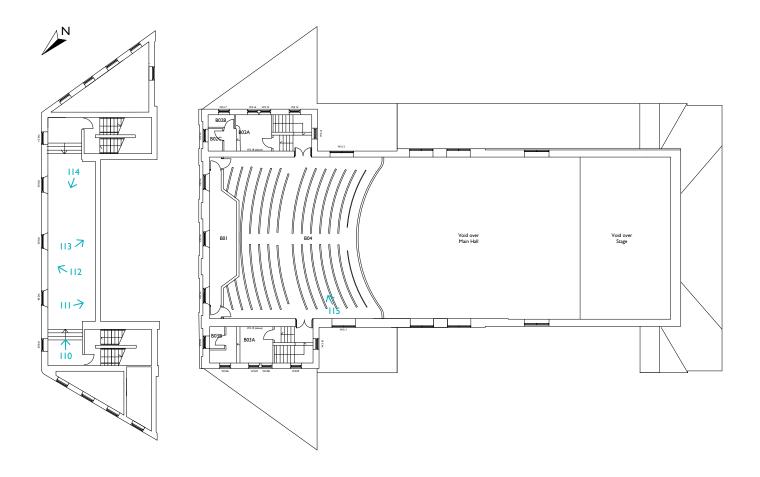


FIRST FLOOR



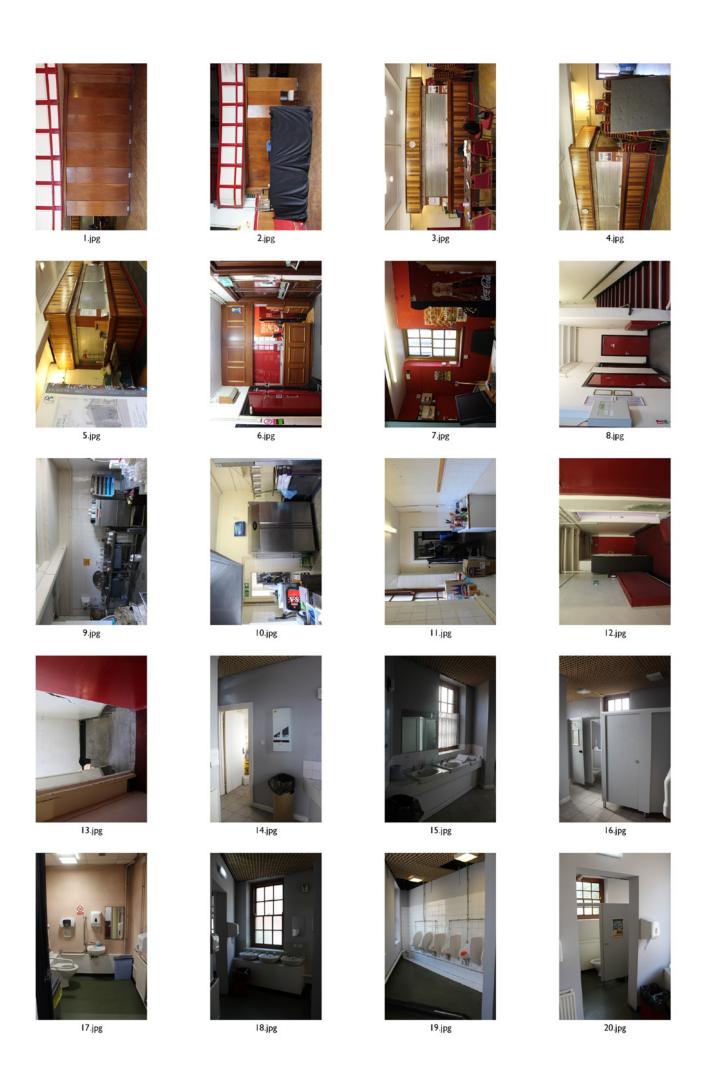
PHOTOMAPS

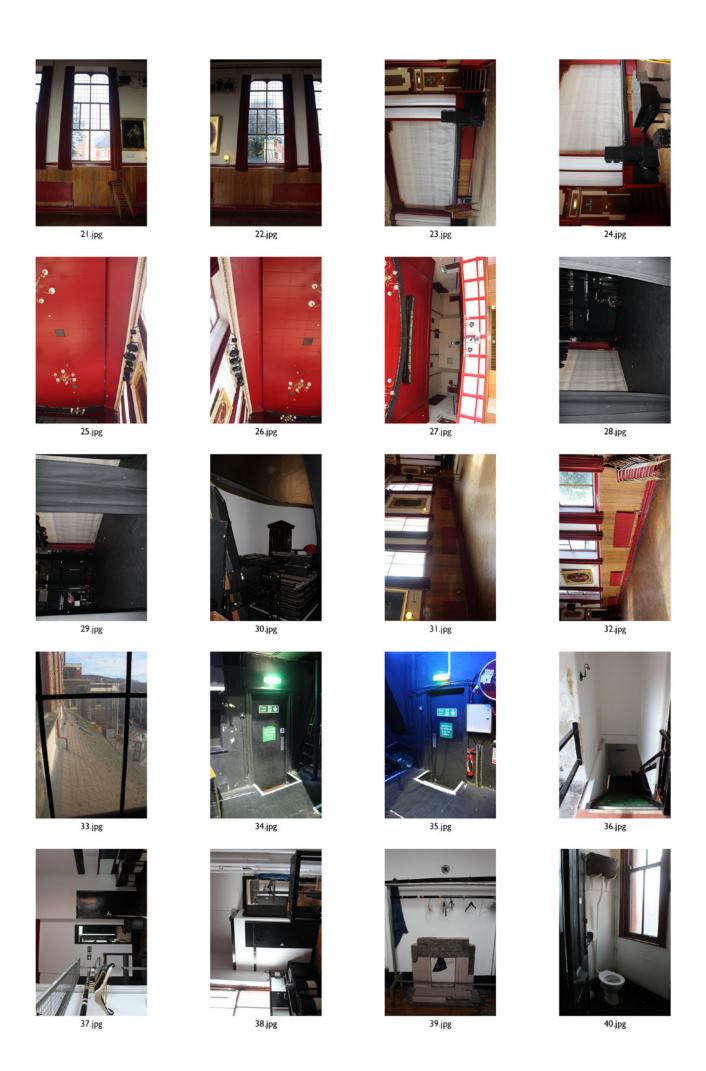
MEZZANINE AND BALCONY

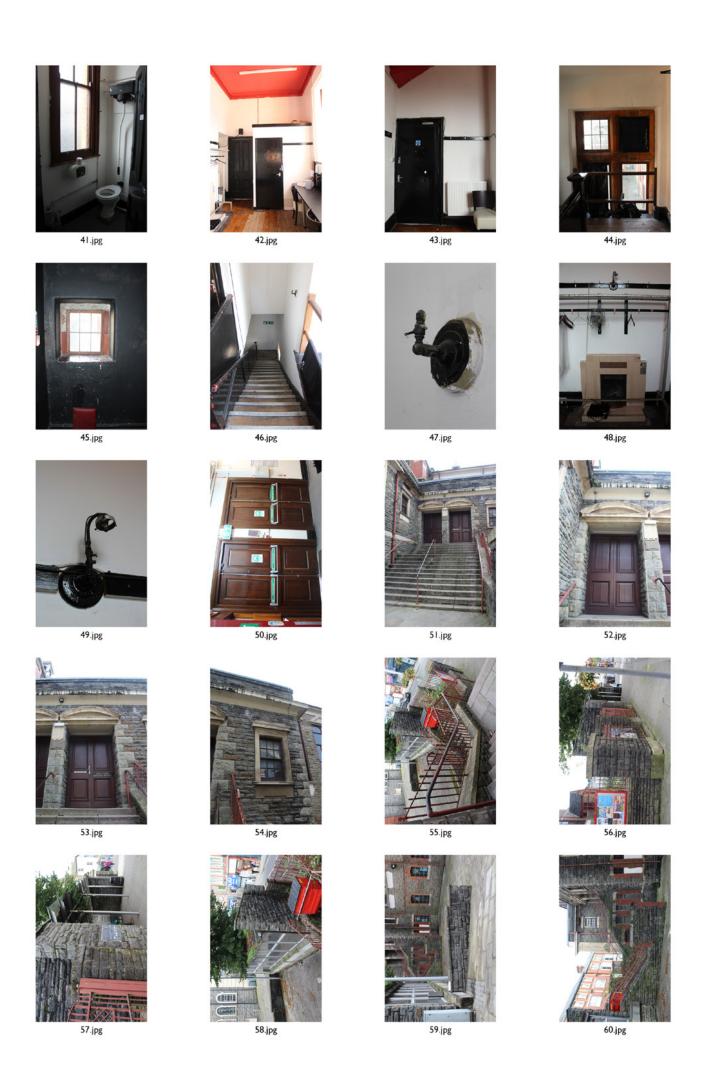


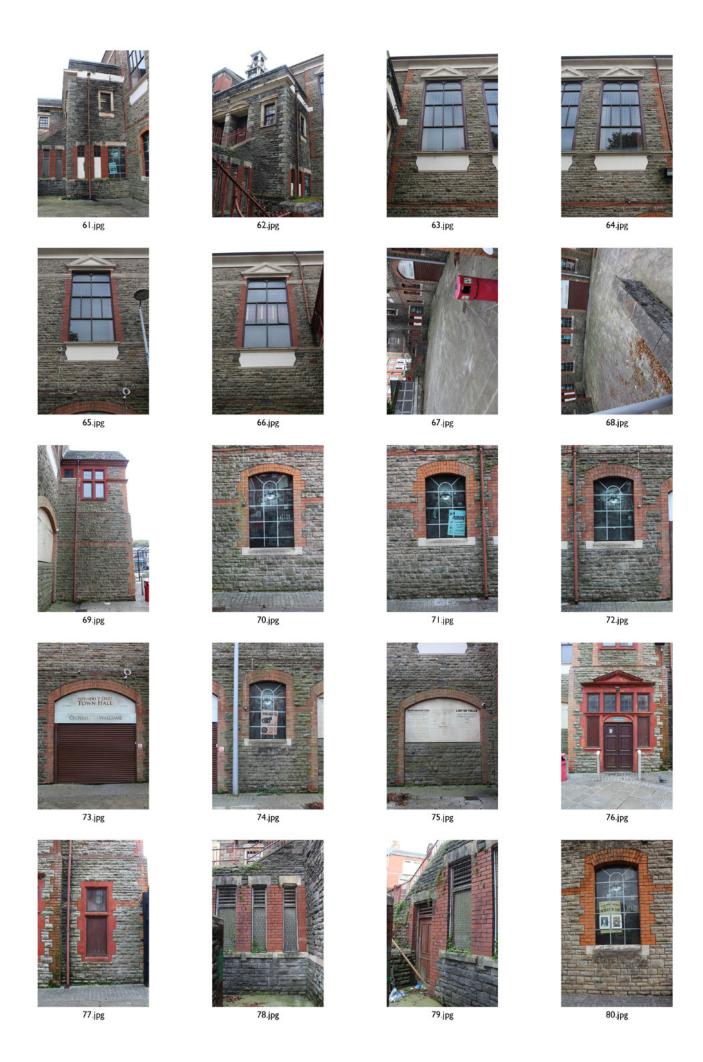
APPENDIX C

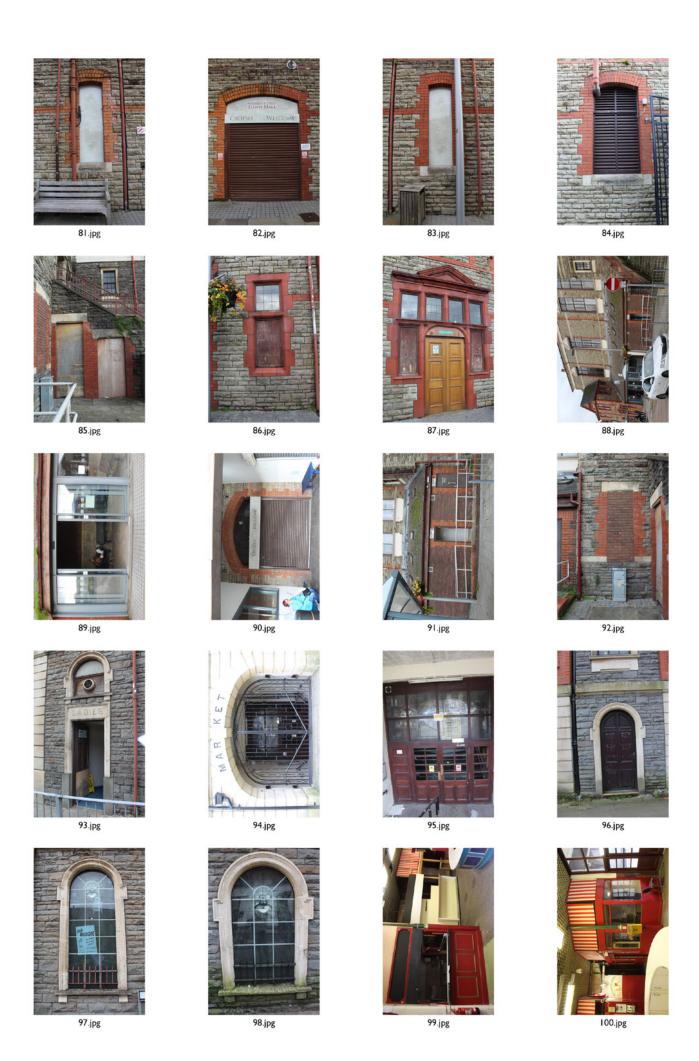
CONTACT SHEET













101.jpg



102.jpg



103.jpg



104.jpg



105.jpg



106.jpg



107.jpg



108.jpg



109.jpg



110.jpg



111.jpg



112.jpg



113.jpg



114.jpg

APPENDIX D

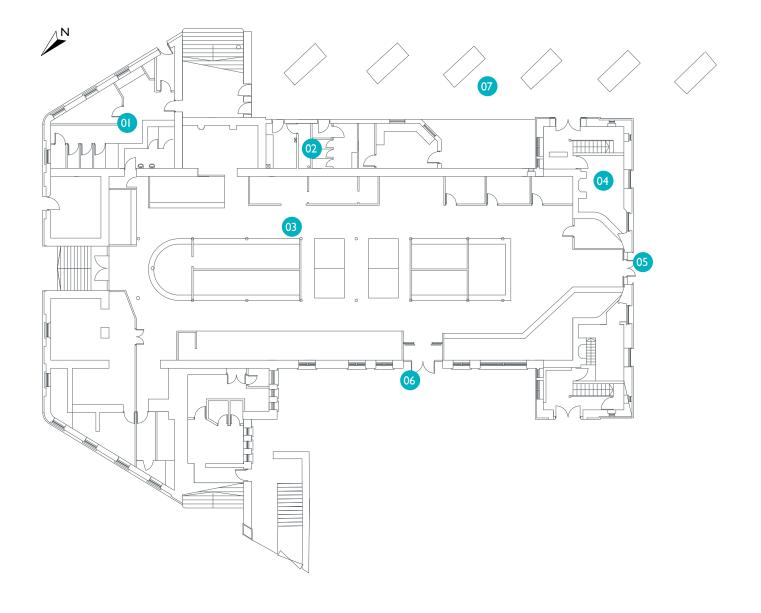
EXISTING DRAWINGS

GROUND FLOOR

- OI Public WCs
- 02 WCs
- 03 Vacant Market
- 04 Boiler Room
- 05 Exit to Market Square
- 06 Exit to Talbot Street
- 07 Bus Station

N.B. These plans are out of date and do not show the entrance into the market from the bus station.

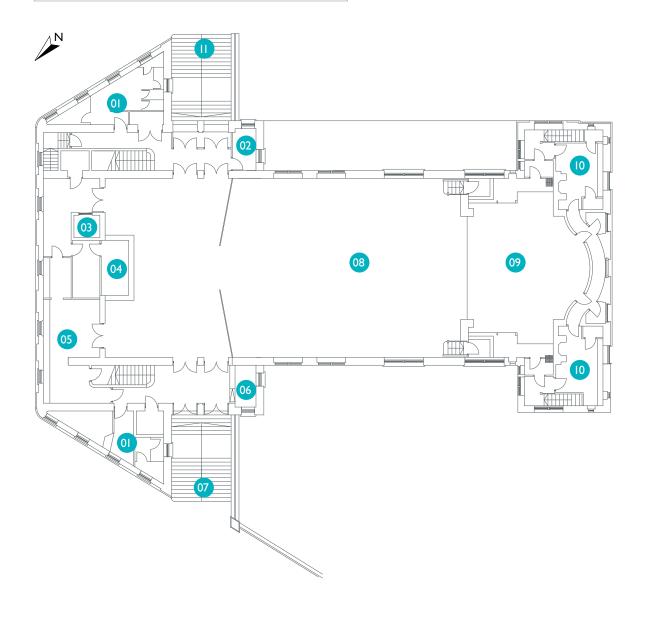
This plan is not to scale



FIRST FLOOR

- 01 Public WCs
- 02 Office
- 03 Lift
- 04 Bar
- 05 Kitchen
- 06 Occasional Ticket Office
- 07 Main Entrance
- 08 Main Hall
- 09 Stage
- 10 Dressing Rooms with Associated WCs and Shower
- II Disused Entrance

This plan is not to scale

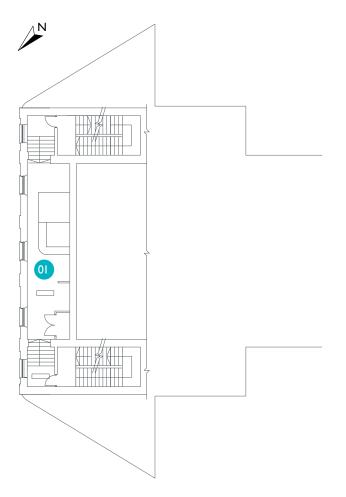


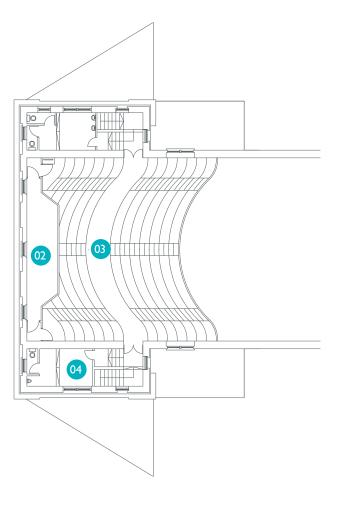
EXISTING DRAWINGS

BALCONY AND MEZZANINE

- 01 Lolfa'r Llynfi Lounge
- 02 Projection Room
- 03 Balcony Seating
- 04 WCs

This plan is not to scale



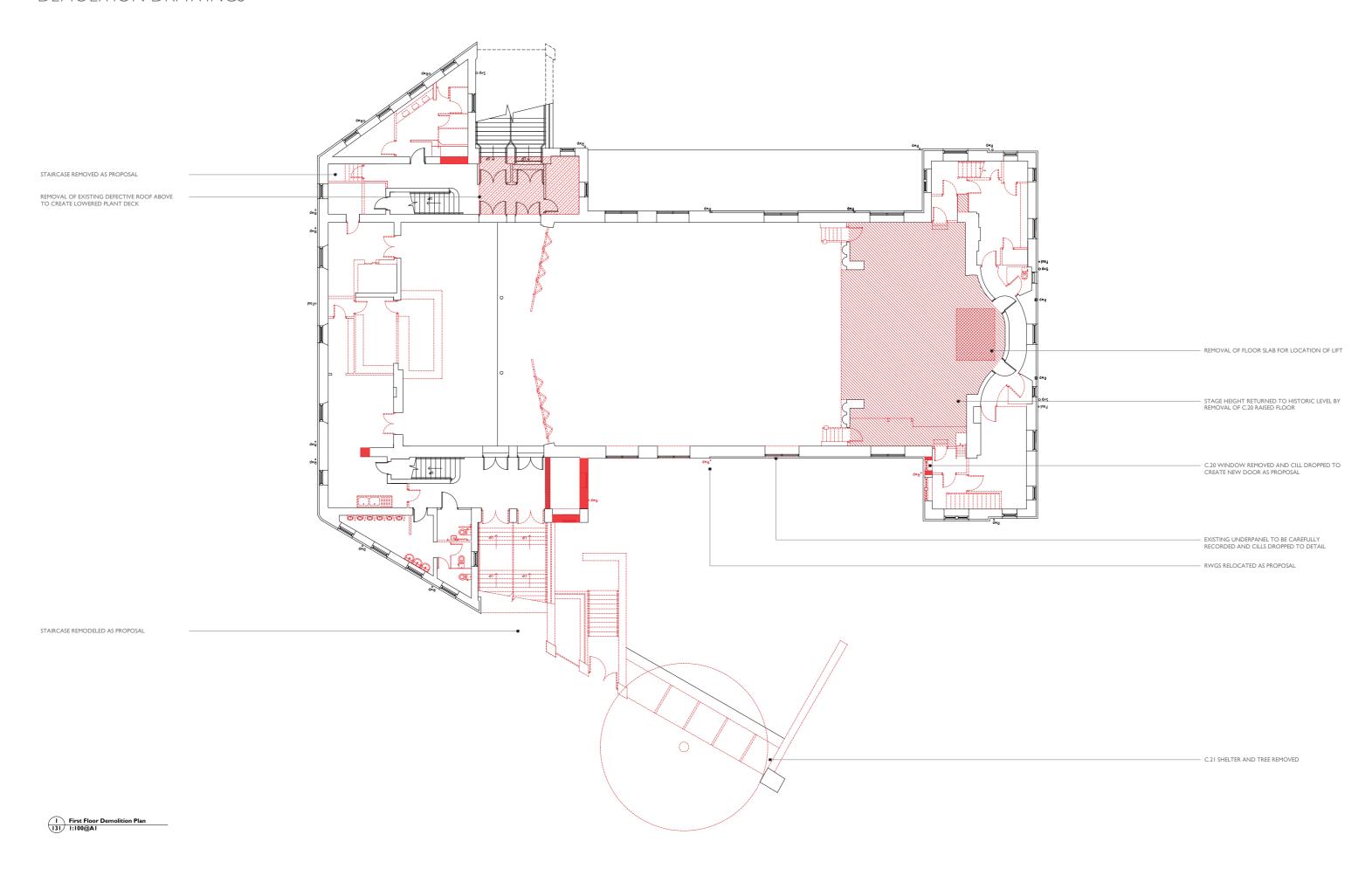


[THIS PAGE HAS INTENTIONALLY BEEN LEFT BLANK]

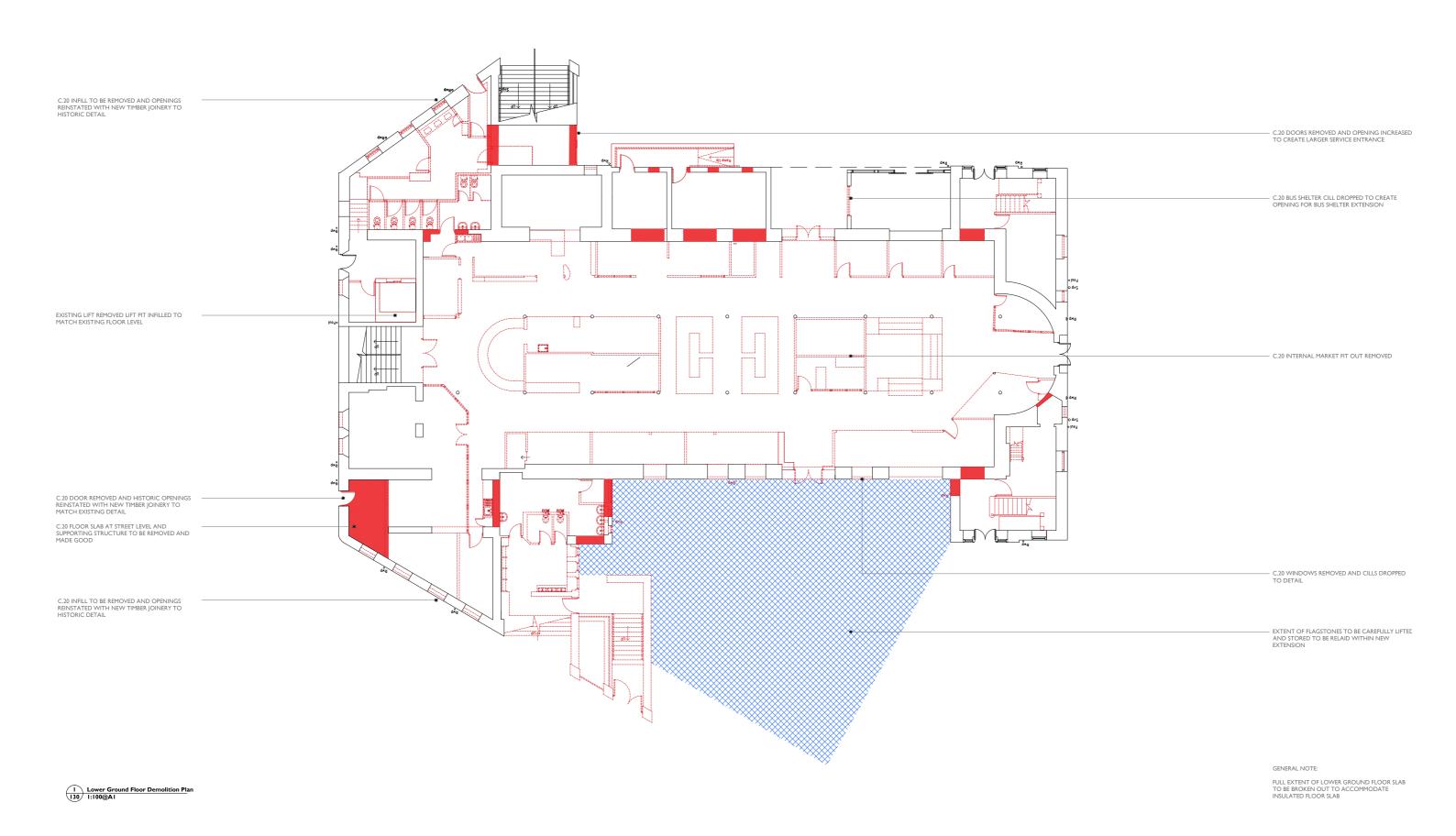




DEMOLITION DRAWINGS



DEMOLITION DRAWINGS



DEMOLITION DRAWINGS

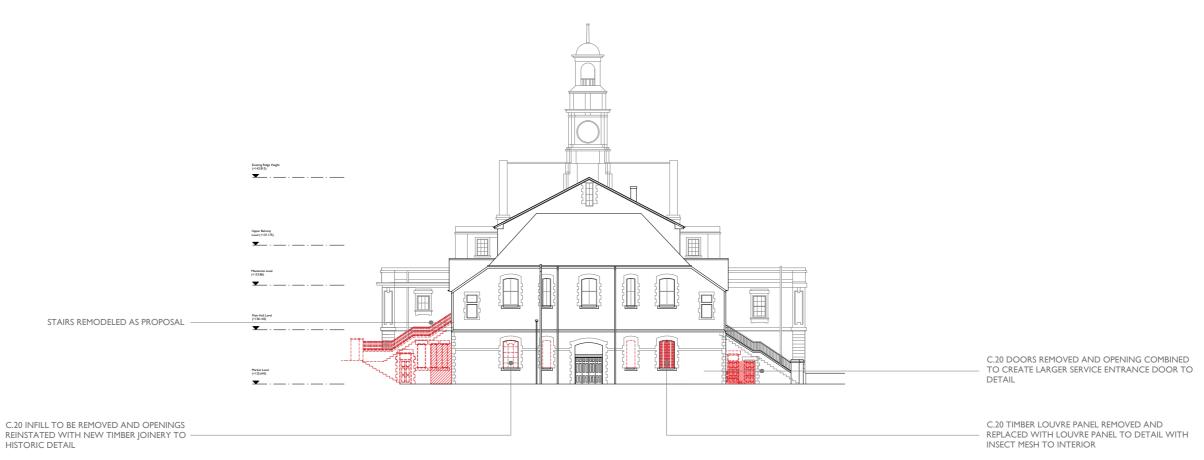


C.20 INFILL TO BE REMOVED AND OPENINGS REINSTATED WITH NEW TIMBER JOINERY TO HISTORIC DETAIL [SEE WEST ELEVATION]

C.20 DOOR REMOVED AND HISTORIC OPENINGS REINSTATED WITH NEW TIMBER JOINERY TO MATCH EXISTING DETAIL

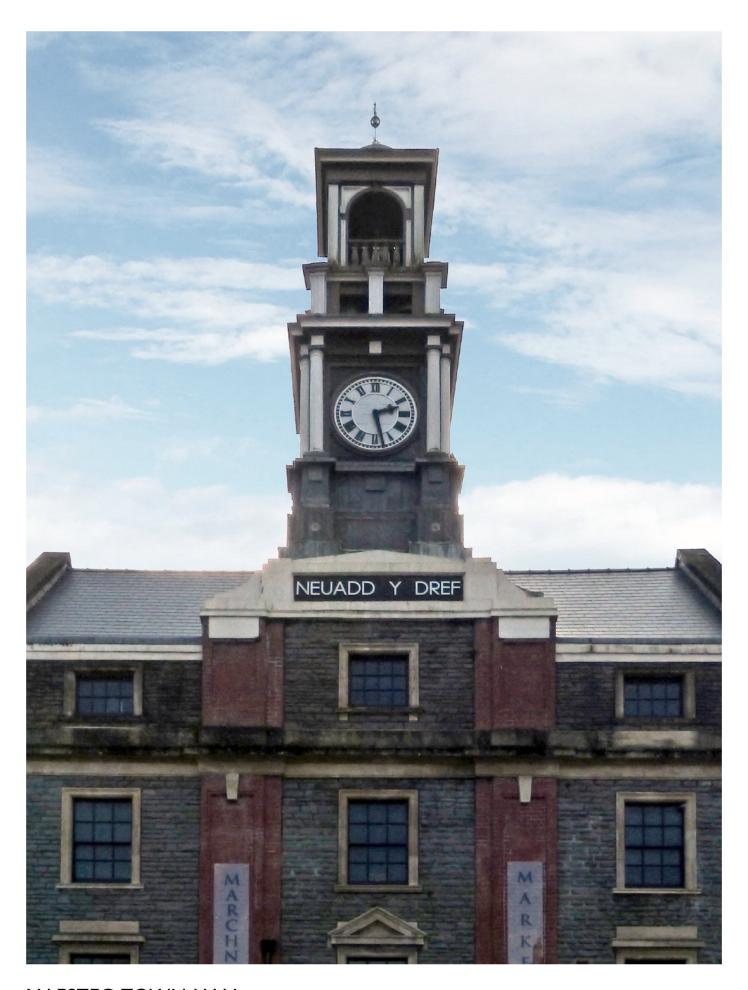
C.20 DOOR REMOVED TO CREATE NEW ENTRANCE DOOR TO DETAIL

Demolitions to North Elevation 132 1:200@A1



Demolitions to South Elevation 1:200@A1





MAESTEG TOWN HALL HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING: 2024 ADDENDUM





Holly Houghton

On behalf of Purcell ® St Mary's Hall, Rawstorn Road, Colchester, Essex CO3 3JH holly.houghton@purcelluk.com www.purcelluk.com

All rights in this work are reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced, stored or transmitted in any form or by any means (including without limitation by photocopying or placing on a website) without the prior permission in writing of Purcell except in accordance with the provisions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. Applications for permission to reproduce any part of this work should be addressed to Purcell at info@purcelluk.com.

Undertaking any unauthorised act in relation to this work may result in a civil claim for damages and/or criminal prosecution. Any materials used in this work which are subject to third party copyright have been reproduced under licence from the copyright owner except in the case of works of unknown authorship as defined by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. Any person wishing to assert rights in relation to works which have been reproduced as works of unknown authorship should contact Purcell at info@ purcelluk.com.

Purcell asserts its moral rights to be identified as the author of this work under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

Purcell® is the trading name of Purcell Architecture Ltd.

© Purcell 2024

Issue 01 August 2024 Arwen Cultural Trust and Bridgend County Borough Council



MAESTEG TOWN HALL: HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING: ADDENDUM

CONTENTS

1.0	INTRODUCTION	04
2.0	METHODOLOGY	05
2.1	Documentary Research	05
2.1	Site Investigation and Recording	05
2.3	Photographic Record	05
3.0	DESCRIPTION	06
3.1	Former Plain Lath and Plaster Ceiling yo Market Hall (LG01)	
3.2	Market Hall Ceiling Hatch (LG01)	07
3.3	4 No. Wrought Iron and Hardwood Rotary Handles	07
3.4	Former 19th Century Openings to the North of the	
	Market Hall (LG01)	08
3.5	Former 19th Century Openings to the West of the	
	Market Hall (LG01)	08
3.6	Signatures Written and Engraved on Structural Timber	
	Beams Within Clocktower	09
3.7	Half-Level Tiles to Rooms off Market Hall (LG03 and LG05)	09
3.8	Historic Cornice to Staff Office (FI4)	10
3.9	19th Century Wainscoting to Main Hall (F01)	10
3.10	Cast Iron Wall Vents Within 19th Century Wainscoting to	
	Main Hall (F01)	П
3.11	Former 19th Century Windows to East/West of Main Hall	
	Beneath Balcony (F01)	12
3.12	2no. Ornate Cast Iron Columns to Main Hall (F01)	13
3.13	Former 19th Century Opening to East of Kitchen (F03)	13
3.14	Hand Painted Wayfinding Identified to One Location	
	within Eastern Stair Wing (F06)	14
3.15	Ladder Access to 19th Century Stage Left Gantry (F28)	14
3.16	Former Balustrade to Stage Front Steps Concealed Behind	
	Plywood Cladding (F01)	15
4.0	ANALYSIS OF SIGNIFICANCE	16
5.0	BIBLIOGRAPHY	17
APPI	ENDICES	
A:	Photographic Register	18
B:	Contact Sheet	19
C:	Photomaps	22
	1	

SECTION 1.0

INTRODUCTION

This addendum to the 2019 Historic Building Recording of Maesteg Town Hall has been prepared on behalf of Awen Cultural Trust following the uncovering of further historic features during the development and refurbishment scheme within the building. Maesteg Town Hall is a Grade II listed building within the Maesteg Conservation Area.

Purcell was commissioned to carry out a Level 3 historic building recording (HBR) to Maesteg Town Hall to fulfill condition 12 xiii of consented application P/18/761/LIS for the renovation and extension to the building to create a sustainable future use as a cultural arts centre.

Following the initial HBR report prepared in October 2019, further historic features were uncovered during the works to Maesteg Town Hall. The conclusions of the 2019 HBR stated that should any further historic features be found during the works that and additional report would be prepared to present these findings. This addendum therefore is to record these additional historic features as they were found in situ and to document how they were handled during the works; in some instances, the features were concealed or removed.

The nature of the refurbishment works within the building means it is understood that all concealed historic features have been revealed across the building. These features overall have enhanced the historic and architectural interest of the building by enabling a further understanding of how Maesteg Town Hall was historically used and appeared to the people who occupied it.

This addendum is in line with the scope of the original WSI (Purcell 2019) and provides a written description, photographic record and drawn records of Maesteg Town Hall. Only a selected number of photographs are presented as part of the report. A list of all photographs taken on site with their description and archive identifier is included in the appendices.

It has been prepared by Holly Houghton, Heritage Consultant at Purcell Architecture Limited. The photography and plans within the recording were prepared by Ross Hartland for Purcell.

SECTION 2.0

MFTHODOLOGY

This Historic Building Recording Addendum has been produced following close monitoring and recording of the historic fabric during the strip-out phases of work at Maesteg Town Hall as a part of the ongoing development of the building. The report also documents where features were removed or re-concealed where relevant.

The scope set out below outlines the work required to meet the criteria of a Level 3 survey. This is described in Historic England guidance as follows:

A Level 3 is an analytical record, and will comprise an introductory description followed by a systematic account of the building's origins, development and use. The record will include an account of the evidence on which the analysis has been based, allowing the validity of the record to be re-examined in detail. It will also include all drawn and photographic records that may be required to illustrate the building's appearance and structure and to support an historical analysis.

The information contained in the record will for the most part have been obtained through an examination of the building itself. The documentary sources used are likely to be those which are most readily accessible, such as historic Ordnance Survey maps, trade directories and other published sources. The record may contain some discussion of the building's broader stylistic or historical context and importance.

2.I DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH

A detailed description of the Town Hall, its development and significance was included in the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) prepared by Purcell in September 2018. This included plans and photographs of the building, as well as an analysis of townscape and views.

An understanding of the previous desk-based research was undertaken or the building has provided the basis for this report, specifically the 2018 Heritage Impact Assessment and the 2019 Historic Building Recording. No further archival research has been carried out.

2.2 SITE INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING

Existing floor plans and elevations have be utilised to guide on site observation and provide a location plan to record the location of each photographic viewpoint. Each historic feature revealed within the building have been recorded photographically, described within the body of the report (including what occurred during the works) and through annotation of existing floor plans/elevations.

2.3 PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

All photographic views have been recorded on site on copies of the 'as existing' floor plans of the building. These is complemented by a full photographic register which give the direction of the view.

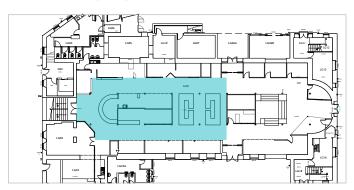
A selection of the photographic record will be used to illustrate the HBR report where relevant. The photographic register and annotated plans showing photographic and feature locations are included as appendices to the main report with key information incorporated into the main body of the report. The full digital photographic record, together with copies of the marked up plans, register and report will be included in the site archive.

SECTION 3.0

DESCRIPTION

The following areas of historic, evidential and architectural interest were uncovered at Maesteg Town Hall during the strip-out of the building. A description is provided for each item along with how it was handled during the ongoing work within the building.

3.I FORMER PLAIN LATH AND PLASTER CEILING TO MARKET HALL (LG01)



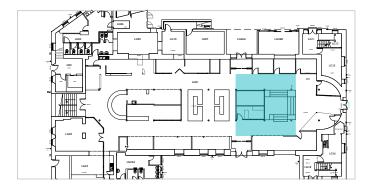
The 1980s tin tile matt black ceiling was removed from the market hall, revealing the original 19th century plain lath and plaster ceiling that was hidden above. Large areas of this plasterwork were damaged or hollow and a grid of battens that the tin ceiling was fixed to was acting as support for the plaster and securing it in place.

The battens and the lath and plaster were retained, with a new ceiling suspended beneath.



The historic lath and plaster supported by timber battens.

3.2 MARKET HALL CEILING HATCH (LG01)



Upon revealing the original ceiling noted above, a hatch was revealed within the separating floor between the Market Hall and the Main Hall above. This is assumed to be a historical means of transferring goods from one floor to the other.

The hatch was retained along with the historic plasterwork and has been re-concealed above the new suspended ceiling.

3.3 4 NO. WROUGHT IRON AND HARDWOOD ROTARY HANDLES

Four wrought iron and hardwood rotary handles were found resting loose on top of an existing stone wall in the Market Hall. Their original use is unknown, but it is assumed that they are associated with the manual operation of a wound system within the building.

The four handles were removed from site and are now in the client's possession.

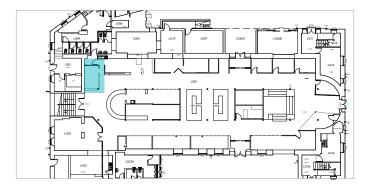


The ceiling hatch between the Market Hall and the Main Hall.



 $\label{thm:continuous} The four wrought iron and hardwood rotary handles found within the \textit{Market Hall}.$

3.4 FORMER 19TH CENTURY OPENINGS TO THE NORTH OF THE MARKET HALL (LG01)



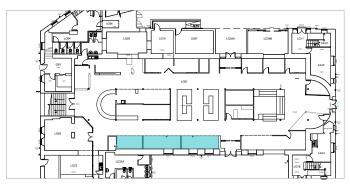
Two large former 19th century door openings were uncovered once multiple layers of masonry paint were removed from the original historic fabric. These doorways would have led into a northern room located below street level to the north-east of the Market Hall. This would have mirrored a similar room on the north-west side of the Market Hall. The north-east room was partly infilled with concrete in the 20th century to provide access from street level and is now in use as a plant room.

The infilled openings have been retained and are visible within Market Hall with the masonry walls exposed in the new scheme, revealing the legibility of the previous planform.



The scarring of the two infilled doors on the north side of the Market Hall.

3.5 FORMER 19TH CENTURY OPENINGS TO THE WEST OF THE MARKET HALL (LG01)



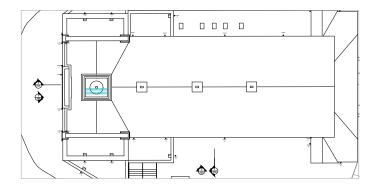
Two 19th century infilled door openings were found in the western external wall to the Market Hall which were also uncovered once multiple layers of masonry paint were removed.

The infilled openings have been retained and are visible within Market Hall with the masonry walls exposed in the new scheme, revealing the legibility of the previous planform.



The two infilled door openings to the west external wall of the Market Hall.

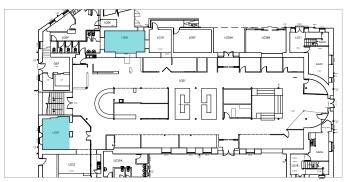
3.6 SIGNATURES WRITTEN AND ENGRAVED ON STRUCTURAL TIMBER BEAMS WITHIN CLOCKTOWER



A large collection of signatures have been inscribed onto the structural beams behind the clockfaces of the clocktower dating from early 1900's to the 1980s. Predominately the signatures originate from between 1920-1945; it is understood that the graffiti dating from World War II was inscribed in the beams when the clocktower was reportedly used as a look-out point for air raids.

The beams and signatures have been retained and are accessible to view within the clocktower structure.

3.7 HALF-LEVEL TILES TO ROOMS OF OFF MARKET HALL (LG03 AND LG05)



Decorative green, cream and yellow glazed tiles were revealed after wall drylinings were removed to LG03 and LG05 adjacent to the Market Hall. It is not known what the historic function of these room were to warrant the decorative tiling.

The tiles were retained to LG05 and will remain visible in the completed scheme. The tiles to LG03 were removed as they had been extensively damaged.



An extract of the signatures written and engraved on the structural beams of the clocktower.

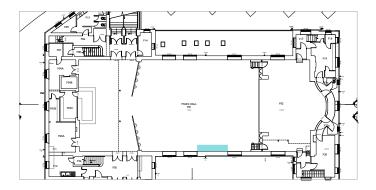


The yellow, cream and green decorative tile scheme to rooms LG03 and LG05.

3.8 HISTORIC CORNICE TO STAFF OFFICE (FI4)

A plaster cornice and plain ceiling was revealed within staff office. Unfortunately, sections of this plasterwork had deteriorated and had been damaged, however the cornice was repaired and reinstated to a matching decorative scheme.

3.9 19TH CENTURY WAINSCOTING TO MAIN HALL (F01)



A 19th century scheme of decorative timber wainscotting was revealed in the Main Hall after the removal of 1970s panelling that had been obscuring the original feature.

The original wainscoting was retained and extensively repaired with matching profiles and replacement sections.



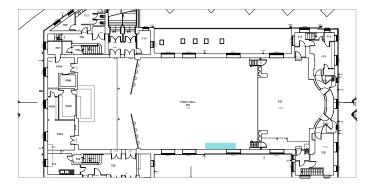
The damaged cornice and plaster ceiling to the staff office which was repaired to a matching decorative scheme.



The timber wains cotting within the Main Hall.

DESCRIPTION

3.10 CAST IRON WALL VENTS WITHIN 19TH CENTURY WAINSCOTING TO MAIN HALL (F01)



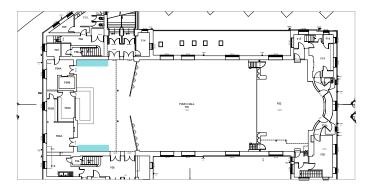
Cast iron wall vents were revealed within the Main Hall once the 1970s panelling was removed.

The cast iron vents were retained and redecorated within the Main Hall.



The wall vents revealed from behind the 1970s panelling in the Main Hall.

3.11 FORMER 19TH CENTURY WINDOWS TO EAST/ WEST OF MAIN HALL BENEATH BALCONY (F01)



Four timber framed multipaned 19th-century fixed casement windows, two on the east elevation and two on the west elevation, were revealed within the Main Hall beneath the balcony canopy. These were previously obscured behind 20th century wall linings.

The four windows were repaired and retained as features within the Main Hall.

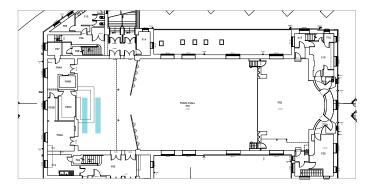


Former 19th Century Windows to East_West of Main Hall beneath Balcony 2



The four 19th-century windows uncovered behind modern wall linings in the Main Hall beneath the balcony.

3.12 2NO. ORNATE CAST IRON COLUMNS TO MAIN HALL (F01)

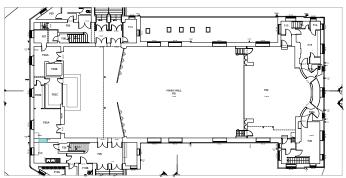


Two ornate cast iron columns were revealed in the Main Hall once the former bar servery was removed.

The columns have been retained, redecorated and are now visible in the Main Hall.

The cast iron columns in the Main Hall.

3.13 FORMER 19TH CENTURY OPENING TO EAST OF KITCHEN (F03)



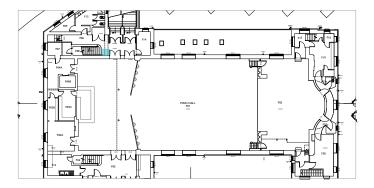
An adapted opening partially infilled with bricks within the masonry wall was revealed once the modern wall linings were removed from F03. The historic opening was shown to have had a segmented brick arch head, similar in style to other openings visible across Maesteg Town Hall.

The opening has been re-incorporated within the plan form of the building to provide access between front of house and back of house. The surrounding masonry walls have been plastered over.



The adapted opening partially infilled with brick, with a segmented brick arch above, previously obscured behind modern wall coverings.

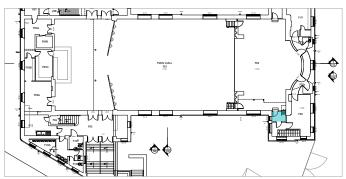
3.14 HAND PAINTED WAYFINDING IDENTIFIED TO ONE LOCATION WITHIN EASTERN STAIR WING (F06)



A hand-painted wayfinding sign was revealed behind flaking paint within the eastern stair wing. The sign depicts a hand pointing right underneath the word 'Balcony'.

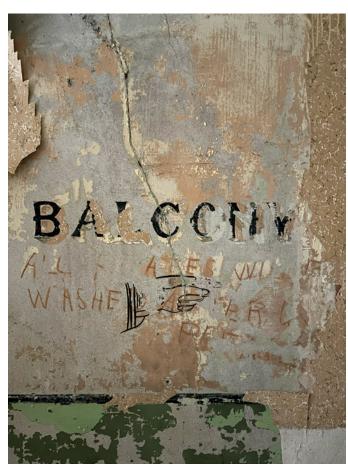
The signage has been recorded by photographs (as above) but has been re-covered behind new paint.

3.15 LADDER ACCESS TO 19TH CENTURY STAGE LEFT GANTRY (F28)



A single width ladder was uncovered behind modern wall coverings within the Main Hall. The narrow and steep ladder provided access to the stage left gantry prior to being blocked over.

The stage left gantry was removed as a part of the renovation works to Maesteg Town Hall, and as such the ladder was also removed as part of works within the building.

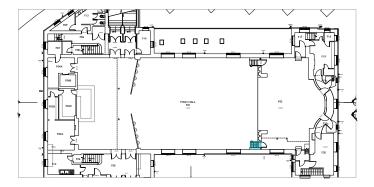


The hand painted signage found on the eastern stair wing.



The narrow ladder to the stage left gantry.

3.16 FORMER BALUSTRADE TO STAGE FRONT STEPS CONCEALED BEHIND PLYWOOD CLADDING (F0I)



A historic balustrade to the front steps of the stage in the Main Hall was revealed upon the removal of modern plywood cladding that had been obscuring it. The uncovering of this feature has also revealed a previous decorative scheme to the Main Hall.

The balustrade has been retained and repaired where necessary with matching profiles. The repaired balustrade has been redecorated to be incorporated within the new decorative scheme within the building.



The historic balustrade to the front steps of the stage in the Main Hall.

SECTION 4.0

ANALYSIS OF SIGNIFICANCE

The features revealed during the strip out phase at Maesteg Town Hall have aided in the understanding of how the building was used historically and how it appeared to its users.

The previously concealed openings on the ground and first floors reveal a previous planform of the building, with infilled doorways indicating how the building was used by initial occupants and its function within Maesteg historically. The concealed windows of the first floor within the Main Hall and the Market Hall beneath indicate how the building has been adapted as the needs of the community evolved over time.

Modern interventions have concealed a range of decorative schemes across Maesteg Town Hall. Suspended ceilings and drylining have concealed plasterwork cornices and ceilings, the ornamental columns and timber wainscot panelling and balustrade in the Main Hall, and the ceramic tiles to the rooms off the Market Hall.

Overall, the features revealed at Maesteg Town Hall have enhanced the historic and architectural interest in the historic listed building, by demonstrating how people used the building historically in addition to how it was constructed and decorated internally.

SECTION 5.0

BIBLIOGRAPHY

HERITAGE GUIDANCE AND TOOLS

Archwilio; The Historic Environment Records of Wales, https://www.archwilio.org.uk/arch/

Bridgend Local Development Plan, September 2013.

Cadw, Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales, (2011).

Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, http://map.coflein.gov.uk/

HISTORICAL NEWSPAPERS

Kelly's Directory of South Wales, 1884.

South Wales Daily News, 1 November 1880.

South Wales Daily News, 2 March 1875.

South Wales Daily News, 31 March 1873.

South Wales Echo, (19 March 1885).

PREVIOUS REPORTS

Purcell (Hettie Dix), September 2018, Maesteg Town Hall Heritage Impact Assessment

Purcell (Charlotte Meckleburgh), October 2019, Maesteg Town Hall Historic Building Recording

Purcell (Holly Houghton), July 2024, Maesteg Town Hall: Retrospective LBC Application Heritage Impact Assessment

APPENDIX A

PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

PHOTO NUMBER	FLOOR/ROOM NO	DATE	DESCRIPTION	TAKEN BY	P/L
001	FF - FOI	Nov-23	2x ornate cast itron columns to Main Hall	RH	Р
002'	FF - FOI	Nov-23	19th century wainscotting to Main Hall	RH	L
003	FF - FOI	Nov-23	19th century wainscotting to Main Hall	RH	L
005	FF - FOI	Nov-23	Cast iron wall bents within 19th century wainscotting to Main Hall	RH	Р
006	FF - FOI	Nov-23	Cast iron wall bents within 19th century wainscotting to Main Hall	RH	Р
007	FF - FI4	Nov-23	Historic cornice to staff office FI4	RH	Р
008	FF - FI4	Nov-23	Historic cornice to staff office FI4	RH	Р
009	FF - FI4	Nov-23	Historic cornice to staff office FI4	RH	Р
010'	FF - 03	Nov-23	Former 19th century opening to east of kitchen	RH	Р
011	FF - FOI	Nov-23	Former 19th century windows to east and west of Main Hall beneath balcony	RH	Р
012	FF - FOI	Nov-23	Former 19th century windows to east and west of Main Hall beneath balcony	RH	L
013	FF - FOI	Nov-23	Former 19th century windows to east and west of Main Hall beneath balcony	RH	Р
014	FF - FOI	Nov-23	Historic plaster corice to Main Hall	RH	L
015	FF - F28	Nov-23	Ladder access to 19th century stage left gantry	RH	Р
016	FF - F06	Nov-23	Hand painted wayfinding identifies to one location within eastern stair wing	RH	Р
017	FF - FOI	Nov-23	Former balustrade to stage steps, concealed behind panelling	RH	Р
018	LG - LG01	Nov-23	Former 19th century openings to north of Market Hall	RH	L
019	LG - LG01	Nov-23	Former 19th century openings to west of Market Hall	RH	L
020	LG - LG01	Nov-23	Former 19th century openings to west of Market Hall	RH	L
021	LG - LG01	Nov-23	Plain lath and plaster ceiling to Market Hall	RH	Р
022	LG - LG01	Nov-23	Plain lath and plaster ceiling to Market Hall	RH	Р
023	LG - LG01	Nov-23	Market Hall ceiling hatch	RH	Р
024	LG - LG01	Nov-23	Market Hall ceiling hatch	RH	Р
025	LG - LG03 and LG05	Nov-23	Half-level tiles to rooms of Market Hall	RH	L
026	LG - LG03 and LG05	Nov-23	Half-level tiles to rooms of Market Hall	RH	Р
027	LG - LG03 and LG05	Nov-23	Concealed 19th century window to Market Hall	RH	Р
028	Miscellaneous	Nov-23	4x wrought iton and hardwood rotary handles	RH	Р
029	Miscellaneous	Nov-23	Newspaper found beneath historic fabric - Empire News, 1st May 1931	RH	Р
030	Miscellaneous	Nov-23	Newspaper found beneath historic fabric - The Sun, 6th April 1981	RH	Р
031	Miscellaneous	Nov-23	Newspaper found beneath historic fabric - The Sun, 6th April 1981	RH	Р
032	Miscellaneous	Nov-23	Newspaper found beneath historic fabric - The Sun, 6th April 1981	RH	Р
033	Clocktower	Nov-23	Signatures written and engraved on structural beam within clocktower	RH	Р
034	Clocktower	Nov-23	Signatures written and engraved on structural beam within clocktower	RH	L

APPENDIX B

CONTACT SHEETS

CLOCKTOWER



033 - Signatures Written and Engraved on Stru...



034 - Signatures Written and Engraved on Stru...

GROUND FLOOR



018 - Former C19 Openings to the North of t... 019 - Former C19 Openings to the West of th... 020 - Former C19 Openings to the West of th...







021 -Former Plain Lath and Plaster Ceiling to ...



022 - Former Plain Lath and Plaster Ceiling to \dots





024 - Market Hall Ceiling Hatch I.jpg



025 - Half-Level tiles to Rooms of off Market \dots



026 - Half-Level tiles to Rooms of off Market ...



027 - Concealed 19th century window to Mar...

FIRST FLOOR



001 - 2no. Ornate Cast Iron Columns to Main ...



002 - C19 Wainscoting to Main Hall 1.JPG



003 - C19 Wainscoting to Main Hall 2.JPG



005 - Cast Iron Wall Vents within C19 Wainsc...



006 - Cast Iron Wall Vents within C19 Wainsc...



007 - Historic Cornice to Staff Office F14 1.JPG



008 - Historic Cornice to Staff Office F14 2.JPG



009 - Historic Cornice to Staff Office F14 3.JPG



010 - Former C19 Opening to East of Kitchen....



011 - Former C19 Windows to East_West of ...



012 - Former C19 Windows to East_West of ...



013 - Former C19 Windows to East_West of ...

FIRST FLOOR



 $0\,14$ - Historic Plaster Cornice to Main Hall.jpg



015 - Ladder Access to C19 Stage Left Gantry....



016 - Hand Painted Wayfinding Identified to O...



017 - Former balustrade to Stage Front Steps ...

MISCELLANEOUS



028 - 4 no. Wrought Iron and Hardwood Rota...



029 -Empire News Newspaper, May 1st, 1931.j...



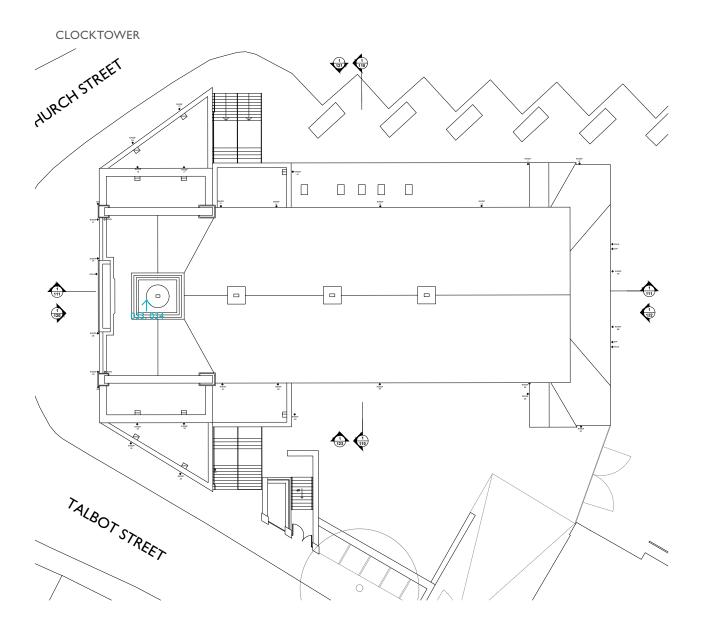
030 - The Sun Newspaper, April 6th, 1981 1.jpg



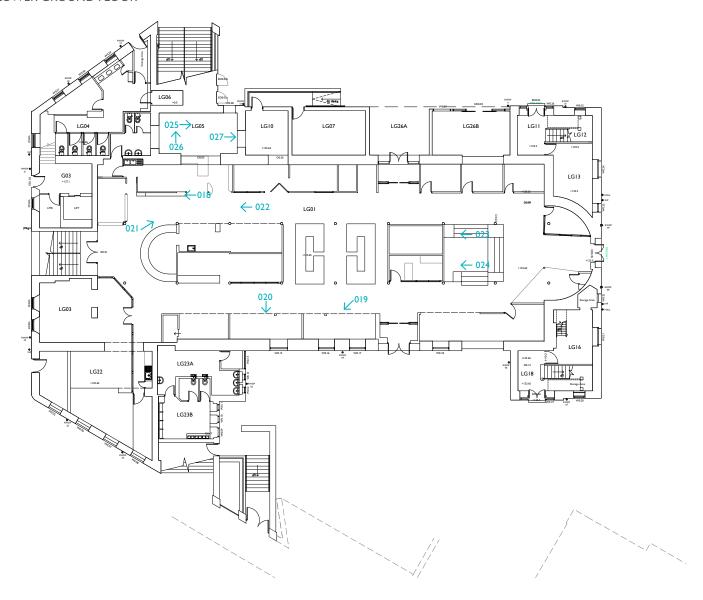
 $03\,I$ - The Sun Newspaper, April 6th, 1981 2.jpg



032 - The Sun Newspaper, April 6th, 1981 3.jpg



LOWER GROUND FLOOR



PHOTOMAPS

