



West Wing

Heritage Statement | March 2022

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West Wing

Contents

1.0 Introduction	3
2.0 Site Context	5
2.1 - Site description	6
2.2 - Site ownership	7
2.3 - Site description	8
2.4 - Development context	9
2.5 - West Wing site history	9
2.6 - Heritage context	10
2.7 - Conservation Management Plan (CMP)	11
2.8 - Heritage significance	11
2.9 - Existing uses	12
3.0 Heritage Assessment	13
3.1 - Heritage policies	14
3.2 - Assessment methodology	15
3.3 - Overview of the works	15
3.4 - Masterplan context / alternative use	15
3.5 - Scope of work	15
3.6 - Stakeholder consultation	16
3.7 - Impact assessment	17
3.8 - Significance assessment	18
4.0 Appendix	19
4.1 - A. Official listing	20
4.2 - B. Historic photos	24

Introduction

This heritage statement accompanies an application for listed building consent seeking to refurbish the West Wing boarding area.

Listed building consent application

In order to satisfy the requirements of planning policy and Ribble Valley Borough Council, the application consists of the following:

- Application form and certificates
- Design & Access statement
- Location plan, existing plans and elevations
- Proposed plans and elevations
- Photographic record
- Site context (within this report)
- Written justification (within this report)

Purpose of the report

Levitt Bernstein has been appointed by Stonyhurst College to prepare the LBC application for the interior refurbishment of the ground floor of the West Wing. The refurbishment will replace existing staff flats, pupil changing rooms and social space with improved social facilities, a two-bed staff flat and six en-suite twin bedrooms. This statement is in support of those vital proposals to provide essential additional bedroom capacity and bring the Syntax boarding area up to new national minimum standards; explaining the historical and legislative context of the scheme and justification for the works.

A brief overview

Located on the South of the College main buildings, the West Wing ground floor is part of the Grade II* listed South Front range that was constructed between 1876 and 1888. The West Wing ground floor consisted at first of Jesuit community rooms to the South. A large washing place (cover image) connected it to the main lower circulation gallery via a separated, parallel and adjacent corridor. West Wing was adapted in c1960 as the Syntax boarding area; whilst in c1980 the washing place was subdivided for teaching and renamed the Champion Room. This was again adapted in the early 21st Century with the corridor to West Wing reinstated.

The South Front fabric (per the assessment of the

CMP) has exceptional significance for historic, aesthetic and communal values. Interiors that have been altered or subdivided, have medium significance; key original features include Victorian pitch pine joinery and pine beams / moulded corbels / T&G ceilings such as to the Champion Room.

This application does not seek permission to significantly alter the external fabric; the only visible addition will be discreet low level ventilation terminals from the en-suite to match those of St Peter's Church, whilst unsympathetic modern frosted glazing to shower rooms will be replaced with clear to suit the new function. Proposals seek to remove modern sub-dividing plasterboard partitions within West Wing, and also in the Champion Room to create an enlarged social space. This is as described on the accompanying plans. Surviving 19th and early 20th Century interior fabric will be retained and protected for the duration of the works; new walls and ceilings will be 'soft' jointed at interfaces with historic fabric to enable future reversal. In order to create new bedroom spaces and a staff flat, the refurbishment will partly restore the historic plan layout. Unsympathetic modern fittings will be removed and replaced where appropriate. Alterations to the Champion social space will begin to restore the original volume. Historic stone flag floors such as to the corridor will be sympathetically made good where necessary but otherwise unaltered.

01. FRONT COVER: Washing place c.1900 (Stonyhurst Collection)
02. Historic view of South Front from Jesuit Gardens



2.0 Site context

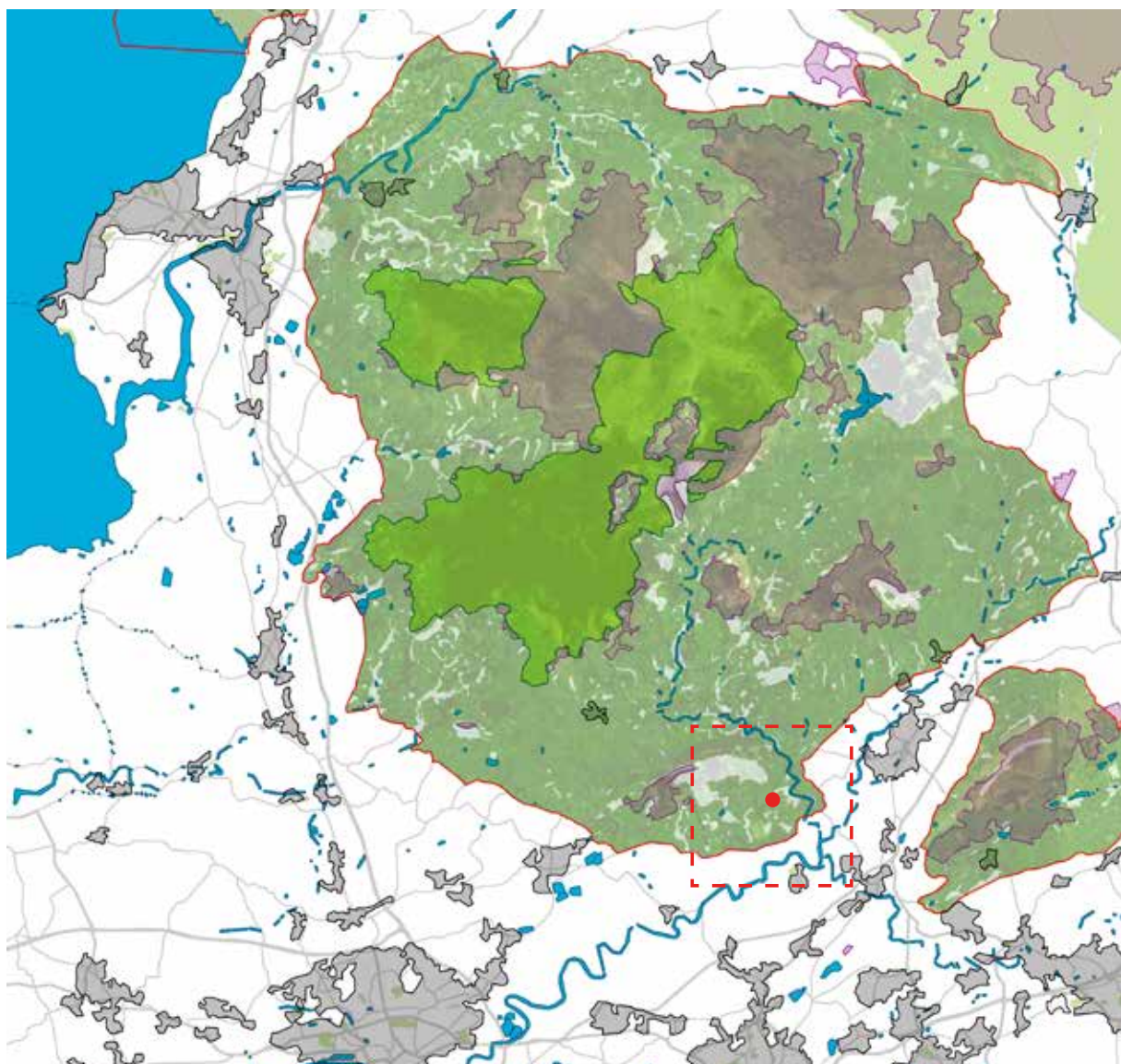
2.0 Site context

This section describes the history and development of the application site and serves as an introduction to the architectural and historic interest of West Wing.

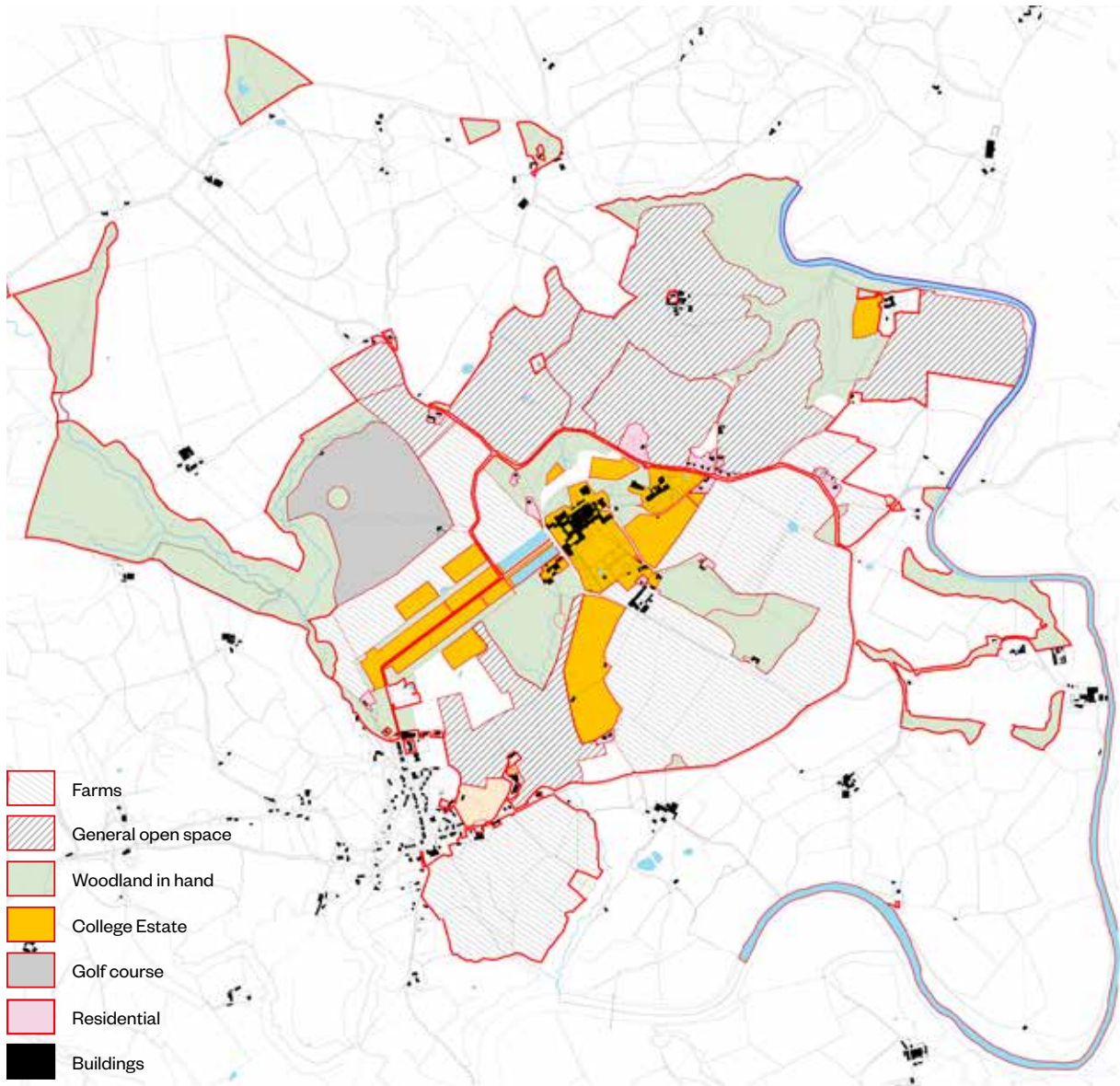
2.1 The setting

The application site is located within the Stonyhurst Estate, situated in the Ribble Valley area of Lancashire, England and set within the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

- Forest of Bowland AONB
- Bowland Fells SSSI
- Moorland
- Built Up Areas - 2011 England and Wales



Regional context



Stonyhurst estate ownership

The Countryside Agency, English Nature, RDS, English Heritage, (updated 2006) place Stonyhurst College in Bowland Fringe and Pendle Hill national character area, whilst the Lancashire Landscape Classification places it within the Undulating Lowland Farm land character area, more specifically, the Undulating Lowland Farmland with Parkland classification area (Hurst Green).

Surrounded by a mixture of Open Moorland plateau to the north and valley farmlands, Stonyhurst College is located in the upland fringes and ridges

area. Located to the West, Hurst Green is a small village with a close historical relationship to the College. The population of approximately five hundred has grown from a small Hamlet, and it's historical expansion is closely linked to the establishment of Shireburn House and subsequently, the College.

2.2 Site ownership

Situated at the heart of the wider College Estate the Shireburn Quad north and east ranges form part of the collection of older main college buildings.

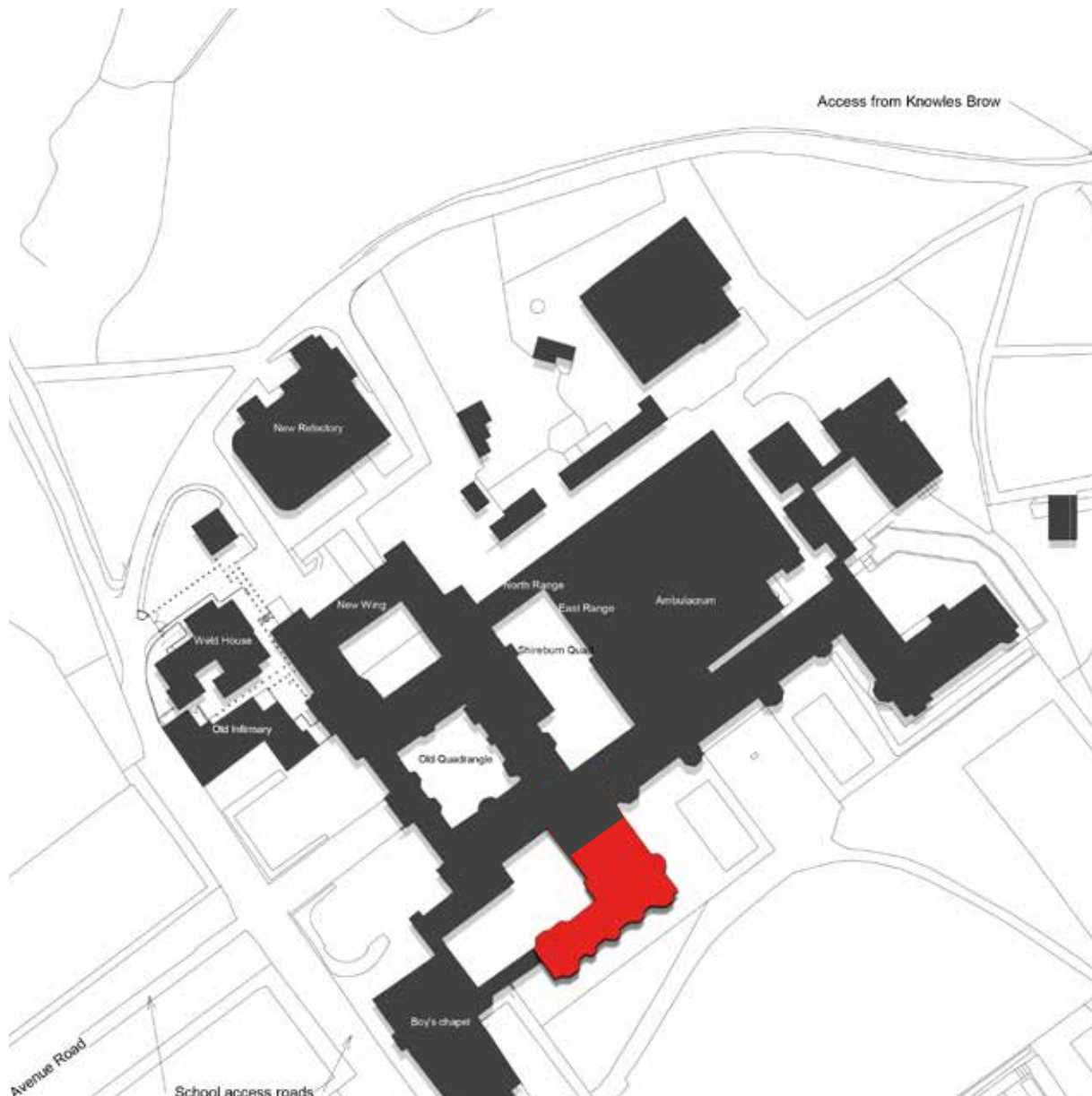
2.3 Site description

The 1878 South Front is, as described, built as the South part of the main Stonyhurst College building, to the East of St Peter's Church. West Wing is fronted by a grassed area to the south and former tennis court car park to East. To the North West, an external courtyard is formed.

The West Wing consists of four principle levels. The three floors above ground consist of Syntax bedroom accommodation whilst the ground floor includes low quality social space. The large ground floor former washing space, now known as the Champion Room, sits beneath the Boys Chapel which itself is on the first floor of the building.



View of corridor leading to St Peter's church



Site location plan - not to scale



18th Century view of the south elevation showing the north range block on the far right, prior to the erection of the South Fronts

2.4 Historic development context

The buildings at Stonyhurst College have been formed over the past four centuries, starting with the creation of the Gatehouse by the Shireburn family in 1606. The origins of the estate itself date back to the 13th Century. The College moved to Stonyhurst in 1794. Extensive detail and explanation can be found within the 2015 Conservation Management Plan.

2.5 West Wing history

As described in the CMP, the West Wing ground floor forms part of the significant South Front. A grand Victorian construction that commenced in 1876, the buildings were erected in stages, taking a number of years to construct. The Boys Chapel ornate interior, (which is situated above the washing place adjoining West Wing ground floor) was not finished until 1900.

2.5.1 c1876-1888 (South Front overview)

Designed by architects Dunn & Hansom. Built on site of demolished early C19 school, extending further east. The buildings are four-storey over partial basement (east wing). East and west wings (L-plan) flank a symmetrical central block. Plan comprises of classrooms, playrooms, washing place on ground floor, more classrooms, Study Place and Academy Room on 1st floor, 2nd floor dormitories. From West Wing, there is a single-storey link to St Peter's Church. The style/materials is English Renaissance. Faced in sandstone with mullioned and transomed windows and richly moulded details to the south. Plainer rear and east elevations. Asphalt to flat roofs.

2.5.2 c1877-1881 and 1885 (West Wing)

West Wing (1877-1881) with washing place on ground

floor (1885) and Jesuit community rooms on south side with single-storey link to St Peter's Church.

2.5.3 c1960 (West Wing - Syntax)

West Wing adapted for Syntax after Jesuit Community moved to Shirk.

2.5.4 c1980 (Washroom - champion)

The West Wing washing place and corridor adapted/sub-divided for teaching and renamed the Champion Room. As a late 20th Century addition, these works have no heritage significance.

2.5.5 Early 21st Century (Champion Room)

Early C21: remodelling, Cassidy & Ashton

- Champion Room refurbished and corridor to West Wing reinstated.

These works have no heritage significance.



South elevation of North range as it is today

2.6 Heritage context

The Stonyhurst site contains a number of Grade I, II* and II listed buildings, as itemised below. Much of the College resides within a Grade II* Historic Park and Garden, as illustrated on the diagram (bottom). The West Wing is Grade II* listed as part of the South Front - refer to appendices for the official list entry.

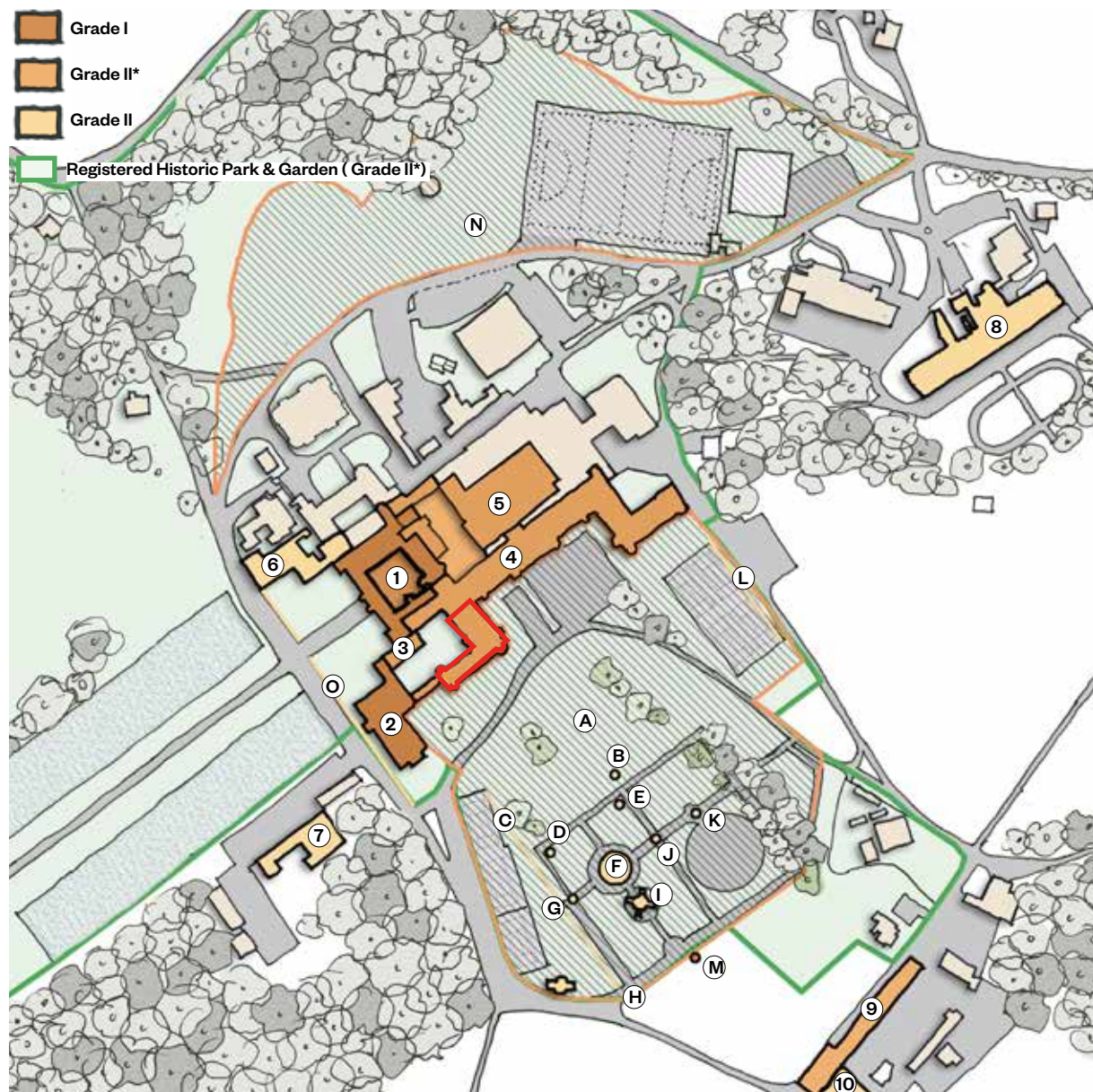
Buildings

- 01. Old Quadrangle
- 02. St. Peters Church
- 03. Shirk
- 04. South Front and Boy's chapel
- 05. Shireburn Quadrangle, Ambulacrum and former laboratories
- 06. Old Infirmary
- 07. Corn mill and Granary
- 08. St. Mary's Hall

- 09. Barn on north west side of farmyard
- 10. Barn at south east side of farmyard
- 11. Woodfields Farmhouse and No. 8L

Landscape features

- A. Gardens (character area)
- B. Gate piers
- C. Wall and gateway door
- D. Statue of St Jerome
- E. Statue of St Mary Magdalene
- F. Retaining wall, statue and observatory pond
- G. Garden steps walls and piers
- H. Gate piers
- I. Observatory
- J. Garden steps and walls
- K. Former font
- L. Wall
- M. The garden pavilions and connecting wall
- N. Harry Meadow (character area)
- O. Two piers and wall



Listed buildings and structures at Stonyhurst - not to scale



Heritage significance diagram (re-presentation of CMP diagram)

- Significant facade
- Highest
- High
- Medium
- Low
- High exterior / low-medium interior
- Medium exterior / low-medium interior

2.7 Conservation Management Plan

The Stonyhurst CMP consists of three separate volumes and was compiled in 2015 by The Architectural History Practice Ltd. Previous conservation plans were produced in 1999 by Martin Stancliffe Architects and in 2008 by Nightingale Associates. The document was produced to describe and explain the significance of the historic buildings, archaeology and landscape of Stonyhurst, in the context of the latest conservation practice and planning policy (as of 2015). The brief for the Conservation Management Plan was agreed with Historic England.

2.8 Heritage significance

Part 1, Section 4.2 of the Conservation Management Plan includes a significance assessment of the buildings, per key principles of the NPPF relating to the management of heritage assets, and change to those assets. A diagram representing this information has been re-presented above to communicate the most significant parts of the building in simple terms.

As described in Part 2 of the CMP, West Wing ground floor is categorised as having high significance for historic, aesthetic and communal values (Section 6.2, p.96). The CMP identifies it as a fine example of a late C19 boarding school development, designed for Jesuit educational principles. Late C20/C21 insertions and finishes have no heritage significance and altered/sub-divided rooms have medium significance. This significance assessment has informed the design proposals.

2.9 Existing room usage

For existing room functions refer to the drawing 3477L-LB-WW-00-DP-A-1030 - Existing plan that accompanies this application and the photographic survey that accompanies this application.

3.0 Heritage assessment

3.0 Heritage assessment

This section describes the purpose and need for the proposed alterations to the West Wing and justifies the reasons why this option has been adopted over possible alternatives.

3.1 Heritage policies

The National Planning Policy Framework [NPPF] was issued in March 2012 and immediately replaced the old system of PPGs and PPSs. The NPPF was later updated in July 2021.

The NPPF introduced a presumption in favour of sustainable development [para. 11] whereby proposed developments which correctly balance the requirements of economic, social and environmental issues should be granted planning permission unless there are strong reasons why permission should not be granted.

With regards to heritage issues the following extracts are considered of particular relevance:

Para. 184: . Heritage assets range from sites and buildings of local historic value to those of the highest significance, such as World Heritage Sites which are internationally recognised to be of Outstanding Universal Value. These assets are an irreplaceable resource, and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations.

Para. 185: Plans should set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. This strategy should take into account:

a) the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets, and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
b) the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring

Para. 189: In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe

the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary.

Para. 192: In determining applications, local planning authorities should take account of:

a) the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
b) the positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and
c) the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness.

Para. 196: Where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal including, where appropriate, securing its optimum viable use.

Ribble Valley Core Strategy was adopted by the Council on 16 December 2014. Policy EN5 states that there will be a presumption in favour of the conservation and enhancement of the significance of heritage assets and their settings. Assets and their settings will be conserved and enhanced in a manner appropriate to their significance for their heritage value; their important contribution to local character, distinctiveness and sense of place; and to wider social, cultural and environmental benefits.

3.2 Heritage assessment methodology

Paragraph 189 of the NPPF states that in determining

applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of the heritage assets affected, including the contribution made by their setting. This heritage assessment has been prepared in accordance with this guidance to evaluate the significance of the relevant and impacted heritage assets at Stonyhurst and the potential impact of the proposal upon this significance.

Accordingly, the following approach was undertaken to produce the heritage assessment:

- Desktop study of existing literature including listing description and associated documents, photos and drawings (including the three parts of the Conservation Management Plan);
- Site visit to review the context in respect of the existing condition of West Wing;
- Assessment of the results of the first two stages to establish the significance of the site, its heritage assets; and
- Assessment of the impact of the proposed development upon the identified assets.

The application sits comfortably within this local and national policy context. The proposed refurbishment secures the continued, viable long term (boarding accommodation) use for this area of the building whilst facilitating essential growth of numbers and improvement to facilities to meet updated, mandatory boarding accommodation standards, including en-suite provision. Furthermore, this assessment determines that the proposals will lead to less than substantial harm due to the sensitive design approach and minimal structural alterations. There are no alterations proposed to the historic external fabric with minimal additions (low level ground ventilation in landscape) and it is set out that the development would not have a detrimental impact upon:- the significance of the Registered Park and Gardens, the composition of the Fronts, the asset or any of the Listed Buildings on site. Internal works will restore legibility to the historic cellular plan form (in keeping with the approach of the 2018 masterplan) whilst retaining/preserving key internal historic features, where they remain.

3.3 Overview of the works

The application seeks listed building consent to allow for the refurbishment of the ground floor of West Wing to create improved Syntax boarding facilities, including six new twin en-suite rooms. Existing changing/shower rooms, staff accommodation and evening social space will be

replaced with the 12 new new bed spaces, a larger staff flat and improved evening boarding welfare facilities. The Campion 'playroom' social space will be enlarged by merging adjacent spaces (including small adjacent classrooms) with pastoral supervision facilitated via an improved office facility.

3.4 Masterplan context / future alternative use

The 2018 Masterplan identifies the continued use of West Wing to accommodate Syntax. The location is correct in terms of the historic 'East to West' boarding year progression and the capacity as a contained area meets long term boarding targets.

3.5 Scope of work

In brief, the scope of works consists of the following, as described further on the accompanying drawings:

- Removal of modern decorative wall coverings
- Removal of modern suspended ceilings
- Removal of some modern partitions
- Remedial repair works/patching to plaster as required, ensuring to use a lime based product to historic stone walls in lieu of gypsum
- Removal of some modern existing doors
- Creation of new wall openings in some existing (modern) walls to facilitate passive supervision
- Replacement of some frosted glass to existing windows (where the function changes from bathroom/toilets to office space)
- Paint decoration of existing; walls, doors, woodwork, interiors of windows
- Rewire (re-use existing chases where possible)
- En-suite bathroom pods with associated extract ductwork vented to ground vents
- New hot and cold water pipework distribution with existing radiators generally reused
- Construction of new acoustic stud and plasterboard partition walls to re-organise the facilities and provide more bed spaces
- Construction of new MF ceilings
- Installation of specialist fixed FF+E

Any hidden and as yet undiscovered existing historic features will be retained and protected for the duration of the works. Existing (original) coving will remain in place where discovered. Existing (original) skirting, window surrounds and architraves will be retained, repaired where necessary and decorated.

New elements, such as partitions and ceilings, will be connected to the existing fabric using soft joint detailing with joinery scribed to existing finishes,

An updated asbestos refurbishment survey will be undertaken at the earliest opportunity. This will necessitate some opening up works but is absolutely necessary from a Health and Safety and Building Regulations perspective. The shortlisted contractors have prior experience of working at the College and will be thoroughly briefed with regards to minimising harm to the existing fabric.

3.6 Stakeholder consultation

Due to time constraints, a formal pre-application has not been submitted to Ribble Valley Borough Council on this occasion. However, the principle of the proposals to refurbish the boarding area have been discussed informally with Planning / Conservation Officer Adrian Dowd on 9th September and no immediate objections were raised in principle.

A historic telephone call was made to David James of Historic England on 18th January 2019 to discuss the comparatively much more extensive boarding refurbishment proposals to the Old Infirmary. David had familiarity with the strategic Masterplan for Stonyhurst College, and provided formal feedback in May 2018 following a walkaround with Levitt Bernstein and a review of the Masterplan document. It was informally agreed at the time that pre-application consultation with Historic England was not essential or indeed necessary for all refurbishment projects such as the Old Infirmary (and by extension this less impactful health centre refurbishment) where the impact on the historic fabric is kept to a minimum (which it is) and the proposals are in keeping with the Strategic Masterplan (which they are, given the health centre is a continuing function). Furthermore, it was also acknowledged generally by both parties that consultation would be undertaken during the assessment of the application and a formal opportunity for feedback would be given at this point, regardless.

With respect of alterations to the buildings, Part 1 - Section 5.3 of the Conservation Management Plan suggests a degree of internal consultation:

“A lot of valuable knowledge about the buildings is held by the College’s Curator, the Archivist, the Maintenance Manager and other long-standing members of staff, and this internal resource should be used when questions arise about the buildings.”

On this basis, the Estates / Maintenance Manager and Curator have been consulted during the

initial design process, to ascertain knowledge of the existing buildings and appropriateness of the proposed refurbishment respectively. Further and ongoing consultation will be undertaken to agree suitable colours and furniture finishes in due course.

3.7 Significance assessment

Para. 189 of the NPPF requires applicants to identify and assess the particular significance of heritage assets or their setting and take this into account when considering the impact of a proposal in order to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset’s conservation and any aspect of the proposal.

The significance of a heritage asset may comprise a number of factors which are similar to the criteria for listing and include, but are not restricted to:

- Age and rarity: most buildings built before 1700 which survive in anything like their original condition are listed, as are most built between 1700 and 1840
- Architectural interest: through architectural design, decoration and craftsmanship and also important examples of particular building types and techniques
- Historic interest: encompassing buildings which illustrate important aspects of the nation’s social, economic, cultural or military history, or close historical association with nationally-important people or events
- Group value: especially where buildings are part of an important architectural or historic group or are a fine example of planning (such as squares, terraces and model villages)

Taking such factors into account, the relative significance of the elements of the site can be assessed, using the following scale:

- **High significance** – buildings/features which make an important contribution to the architectural and historic interest and character of the site, through age, rarity, architectural merit or historical association or group value, and whose preservation and enhancement is considered essential.
- **Medium significance** – those making a lesser contribution, but which nevertheless are also considered worthy of preservation or enhancement.
- **Low significance** – those making only a limited

contribution to the site overall, although not necessarily detracting from it.

A significance assessment of the West Wing is set out in section 2.8, and volume 2 of the CMP. The breadth and scope of the CMP, that was published following extensive consultation with Ribble Valley Borough Council and Historic England, the College Curator and Heritage experts, is determined by Levitt Bernstein to be of sufficient basis to accept and on which to base this application.

3.8 Impact assessment

As an internal refurbishment project, it is the interior significance assessment (from the conservation management plan) that is of particular relevance. West Wing is covered under the South Front:

“High significance for historic, aesthetic and communal values (Section 6.2, p.96). Late C20/C21 insertions and finishes have no heritage significance and altered/sub-divided rooms have medium sign..”

The design philosophy is to retain the historic fabric (windows, stone walls, timber floors, structure etc) and historically important features to prevent their loss. The proposals will therefore retain the coving, decorative mouldings and fireplaces, which will be protected during the construction phase of the works. The features will be retained for their evidential and aesthetic value. To meet fire separation requirements between floors, some of these features will be concealed by new finishes, that will be ‘soft’ jointed in their interface with historic fabric, to ensure potential reversal in the future.

Existing plaster finishes in the building are in reasonable condition and will be retained. Where plaster patching is required to historic stone walls, such as where it is discovered to be loose or where there is minor disruption from new fixings or service chases, a suitable lime-based plaster will be used for repair. This will ensure appropriate respect towards the historic fabric whilst ensuring the walls remain suitably breathable. Some walls may need to be over-skimmed to ensure a suitable wall finish but initial investigations suggest this will be limited and will be reviewed on a case by case basis, as would be the case during cyclical maintenance cycles, regardless. Modern partition walls may need to be dry lined or replaced for acoustics or fire separation services. The details of this are pending



Existing social space (Campion Wing)



Typical existing corridor with modern arched infills on right



Existing shower/ changing space is detrimental to the historic fabric

final agreement with Building Control, although the principles are set.

The proposals include the removal of late 20th Century / early 21st Century walls, doors and finishes which have no historical significance. Indeed, we would argue that their removal will restore the historic cellular plan and partly restore the volume of the historic washrooms for net heritage gain. The proposals also include the removal of the existing changing / shower facilities, that are in poor condition and of detrimental historic value. Altering the use to evening social space and boarding rooms is arguably much more appropriate and in keeping with the historic community Jesuit space use.

The proposals include the removal of some existing panelled doors, that do not meet the necessary fire rating through a combination of their build-up and unacceptable gaps between door leaves. New fire doors will ensure that bedroom doors have suitable fire ratings to provide the statutory separation from the fire escape corridor. The corridor and bedroom doors are all understood to be modern, stained pine in the historic style. If any are discovered to be original, then they would be retained for future re-installation. Despite their suspected modern nature, these panelled doors are problematic in that they lack dimensional stability and cause repeated maintenance problems. Proposed doors will be as the Old Infirmary project. Architraves and door reveal linings will be retained, although are not understood to be original and so the historic evidential value is limited. It is determined that should any doors prove to be original, their removal may cause minor heritage harm but within the threshold set out in paragraph 199 of the NPPF, and to enable the optimum viable use of the building as boarding accommodation.

The proposals include the insertion of new en-suite bathroom pods. The associated infrastructure will require minor holes in the floor and potential localised coring to walls to enable the distribution of drainage and hot / cold water but this pipework, unlike that already in the building, will not be visible. On this basis it is determined to cause negligible heritage harm and no reduction in the significance of the asset. The works can also be reversed in the future.

To ensure suitable fire separation with the floors above the boarding rooms and adjacent corridor, new MF ceilings are required. There is potential for a (temporary) impact on aesthetic significance. To mitigate the impact, details for new ceiling and indeed wall interfaces are designed to facilitate reversal in the future. On this basis we assert that new walls and ceilings to be fully justified particularly as the proposals optimise the layout of the building.

The proposals will require the careful removal of existing partition joinery from the existing staff flat, which will be safely stored for potential future re-installation. It is unclear whether this joinery is Victorian or from the 1960s boarding, due to a legacy of imitation joinery in the historic style. The removal may cause some minor heritage harm, partly mitigated by its' safe storage for evidential value and mitigated by potential future re-installation. The removal is also necessary to ensure that the en-suite pods can be installed, which is vital to the boarding offer in terms of pupil retention and growth to ensure sustainable long-term usage of the buildings.

To install fully fitted joinery in keeping with the 2019 Old Infirmary project (that is more resistant to damage, wear and tear), some existing fireplaces will need to be boxed in. Whilst there will be a (reversible) impact on their visible aesthetic and evidential value, this will protect them from damage and mis-use - open fireplaces are not generally appropriate in boarding accommodation.

A full set of existing drawings and an internal photographic survey are provided as part of this application. This will provide a publicly accessible resource with regards to any evidential value that may be determined to be held by the current layout, prior to any strip out works or alterations. Given that the interiors and plans have already been fairly extensively re-modelled in places, the evidential value is likely to be very limited. Indeed, the proposed plan is closer to the historic plan form.

Overall, the impact of the proposals on the significance of the asset is determined to be minor. The CMP states to carefully manage the insertion of new services, fittings and partitions to reduce the impact on historic fabric and maintain legibility of Dunn & Hansom design and spaces. In stripping back some of the late 20th and early 21st Century fabric, the proposals are determined to be in keeping with this principle. The refurbished and greatly improved boarding function including en-suite provision is determined to be viable continued long term use of the building, in keeping with the principles of the 2018 masterplan and therefore determined to be both appropriate, and, sustainable.

4.0 Appendix

4.0 Appendix

Appendix A - Statutory Listed Building Description

List entry summary

This building is listed under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended for its special architectural or historic interest.

Name: Stonyhurst College, South Front, Boys' Chapel and Shirk

List entry Number: 1419717

Location

Stonyhurst College, Stonyhurst, Clitheroe, Lancashire, BB7 9PZ

The listed building(s) is/are shown coloured blue on the attached map. Pursuant to s.1 (5A) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 ('the Act'), structures attached to or within the curtilage of the listed building (save those coloured blue on the map) are not to be treated as part of the listed building for the purposes of the Act.

The building may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

County: Lancashire

District: Ribbles Valley

District Type: District Authority

Parish: Aughton, Bailey and Chaigley

National Park: Not applicable to this List entry.

Grade: II*

Date first registered: 14-Jan-2015

Date of most recent amendment: Not applicable to this List entry.

Summary of buildings

School buildings, c1799 and later by Dunn & Hansom, Edmund Kirby and others.

Reasons for Designation

The South Front, Boys' Chapel and Shirk at Stonyhurst College are all listed at Grade II* for the following principal reasons:

* Architectural Interest: Shirk is a late-C18 Georgian design, notable for the pedimented south elevation and plan-form. The South Front, including The Boys' Chapel, is an accomplished late-C19 Renaissance revival design by some of the most notable Catholic architects of the C19 and early C20, by Dunn & Hansom with later work by Edmund Kirby; * Historical Interest: Stonyhurst was the destination for Jesuits fleeing continental persecution in 1794, and played a central role in the growth of the Roman Catholic Church in England throughout the C19 and C20, as the principal school and college for the Society of Jesus in England; * Group Value: the buildings form part of a strong group with other elements of the complex at Stonyhurst.

History

The buildings at Stonyhurst College grew out of a courtyard plan house commenced by Sir Richard Shireburn in 1592, on or close to the site of a medieval house. Work continued under his successors, including Sir Nicholas Shireburn who added classical features and a formal landscape setting after 1690. The Shireburns and their descendants were a notable recusant Lancashire Catholic family. Mary, the daughter of Sir Nicholas married the 8th Duke of Norfolk, inheriting the estate in 1732, but the house was largely unoccupied during the rest of the C18.

In 1794 the Society of Jesus fled from a temporary school in Liège, and came to Stonyhurst at the invitation of Thomas Weld, the Shireburns' descendant. In 1809, Weld gifted the buildings and estate at Stonyhurst to the Jesuits. In 1803, the Society of Jesus was re-established in England at Stonyhurst under the Provincial Marmaduke Stone,

although the Society was not formally recognised by the English Bishops until 1829. In this location, the school continued the lineage of Catholic boys' education and the training of Jesuit priests for the English Mission established at Saint-Omer (St Omers), France by Father Robert Persons in 1593, following Elizabeth I's Protestant Religious Settlement of 1559. In affiliation to the University of London, from 1840 to 1916, Stonyhurst provided degree-level education for men (known as the Philosophers) at a time when Catholics were excluded from Oxford and Cambridge. As the centre for the Society of Jesus in England a seminary was maintained at St Mary's Hall (NHLE 1362219) from 1828 to 1926. Stonyhurst has been co-educational since 1988, continuing to expand on the site and to adapt existing buildings. This long history of Catholic education is reflected in an important collection of Catholic and Jesuit artefacts, devotional relics and works of art, many in situ within the college buildings since the C19.

The Jesuits adapted the Shireburn domestic buildings and added new school ranges including Shirk, as well as striving towards self-sufficiency with its own gas plant for lighting and later a corn mill. As Catholic ambition and confidence grew after the Emancipation Act (1829), the Jesuits built (and still own) St Peter's Church (1833-35), to serve local Catholics as well as the college. The college buildings expanded in the mid-C19 with the completion of the north side of the Front Quadrangle and the Sodality Chapel (1859). Further development in the mid-C19 included an infirmary, new kitchens, the Ambulacrum and extended chemistry laboratories. More ambitious rebuilding culminated in the new South Front and Boys Chapel designed by Dunn & Hansom, 1875-1888. Early C20 development included a gymnasium and physics laboratory and, in the 1960s, an accommodation block known as the New Wing.

This building was previously Listed under an entry on the NHLE which covered the entire complex of

school buildings at Stonyhurst (NHLE 1072336)

Details

Roman Catholic boarding school, comprising classrooms, playrooms, dormitories, chapels, libraries, former infirmary, communal areas, collection display rooms and archive stores, and offices.

SHIRK, 1799 for Father Charles Wright. SOUTH FRONT 1875-1888 by Dunn & Hansom, including Boys Chapel.

MATERIALS: sandstone ashlar or coursed dressed stone, with deep moulded plinths, string courses, pilasters, cornices and parapets; pitched Welsh slate roof to Shirk, flat asphalt roofs to the South Front. Georgian and Renaissance Revival style. **PLAN:** SHIRK has corridor along north side of each floor, rooms arranged to face south. The SOUTH FRONT has central entrance block with corridors, called galleries, along north side, L-plan east wing arranged over four floors and L-plan west wing on three floor incorporating the Boys Chapel over two floors.

EXTERIOR: SHIRK: 1799, for Father Charles Wright; the first building erected for the Jesuits. 3-storey, 3:2:3 bays to south front. Pedimented central element breaks forward, with chamfered quoins. Coursed dressed sandstone with ashlar dressings, Welsh slate roof, missing stacks. First-floor sill band, plain parapet. Ground-floor windows have Gibbs surrounds, upper floors have plain architraves; first-floor tripartite windows are carried up to second floor as Venetian windows. Right return has semi-circular headed stair window. Rear elevation facing north is plainer, with one upper-floor tripartite window. Blind west gable-end.

SOUTH FRONT: 1875-1888, by Dunn & Hansom. On site of demolished south front built c.1810. 3-storey, 15-bay central range flanked by similar but

Appendix A - Statutory Listed Building Description (continued)

unmatched wings which break forward to enclose a wide forecourt; 8-bay 3-storey west wing, 9-bay east wing is 3-storey over a basement. Sandstone ashlar, asphalt flat roofs, recessed lead rainwater goods. English Renaissance Revival style. Richly detailed south, east and west elevations with moulded plinths, string courses, pilasters, strapwork friezes, pierced parapets. Mullioned and transomed windows, projecting bays. 5-bay entrance block breaks forward from central range with ground floor arcaded loggia and 24-light mullioned and transomed windows to first floor More Library, flanking octagonal turrets with copper domed cupolas. West-wing stair turret is similar. North elevation is plainer. East elevation oriel window, 1922 by Edmund Kirby, for WWI war memorial.

BOYS CHAPEL: 1888 by Dunn and Hansom. First-floor chapel between the west wing and the central block. Ashlar, copper roof. Gothic Revival style. Principal elevation faces west but is not prominent: 2-storey, 6-bay. Elevation divided into two levels above ground floor; confessionals and sacristy at first-floor level with flat roof behind battlemented parapet, above and set-back are six 4-light pointed windows with Perpendicular tracery, recessed within an outer arcade. Richly embellished pilasters have statues on plinths below traceried canopies at confessional level, carried up to gargoyles at eaves level, rising above the pierced battlemented parapet are seated statues. 4-bay east elevation has plainer fenestration with square-headed windows, and Gothic Revival stepped buttresses and rich detail at eaves parapet level.

INTERIORS: SHIRK has stone flagged floor to ground floor corridor, with two blocked tracery windows to Bayley Room.

SOUTH FRONT by Dunn & Hansom has longitudinal north corridors (**LOWER AND TOP GALLERIES**) to ground and first floors with terrazzo floors, pitch pine 6-panelled doors in moulded architraves, tongue and grooved ceilings are compartmentalised with moulded pine beams. **CHAPEL LANDING** to west end has timber open-well staircase with closed strings, square vase balusters, carved mythical

beasts to newels, moulded handrails and Hawksleys patent treads. Late-C19 gothic niche with statue of Sacred Heart to north wall, and fine heraldic stained glass by Paul Woodroffe, c1920, C16 style decorative plasterwork. Bronze South Africa War Memorial also by Paul Woodroffe, set in wall panelling. Other staircases in similar, simpler style and with arcaded landings; east staircase walls fitted with collection of late-C19 memorials, and gothic relief panel with traceried canopy, ornate cast-iron radiator cover to ground floor. **FIRST WORLD WAR MEMORIAL** at east end of Top Gallery in apsidal projection by Edmund Kirby & Sons, 1922, with bas relief crucifixion by Gilbert Ledward, stained glass by Patrick Feeny, 1993. Classrooms and playrooms have pine beams on stone corbels and bolection moulded stone chimney pieces. Second-floor dormitory retains some pitch pine bed cubicles. Inserted partitions and mezzanines are not of special interest. Service staircase in east wing has continuous handrail and lifting gear. **ACADEMY ROOM** to east wing has ornate plasterwork, stage, raked seating and linenfold panelling, proscenium arch added 1924. Music rooms in basement retain some late-C19 pine and glass cubicles.

WEST WING, formerly accommodation for Jesuit priests has cellular plan, pine joinery, corridors with ribbed flat or vaulted plaster ceilings and cast-iron fireplaces in marble chimneypieces, timber spiral staircase with cast-iron twisted balusters. Former washing place (now **Campion Room**) has octagonal pine columns to compartmentalised pine ceiling and arcaded wall to corridor. **Angel Chapel** has 1930s stained glass. **BOYS CHAPEL** entered by rich gothic stone ogee aedicule with pinnacles over a pair of pointed doorways, oak organ loft over narthex with traceried arcade, linenfold panelling to gallery, 7-bay roof with timber fan-vaulting over nave and sanctuary. Four traceried oak oriel windows flanked by stone statuary, at upper level on liturgical north wall for Jesuit community use. Richly carved gothic-style marble high altar and reredos by Hansom, with tabernacle by Fr Vaughan and gesso paintings of life of St Aloysius by Percy Bacon set in carved oak panel. Oak altar rail and pew, parquet floor. Sacristy has oak panelled dado and door.



Stonyhurst College, South Front, Boys Chapel and Shirk (with site boundary overlaid)

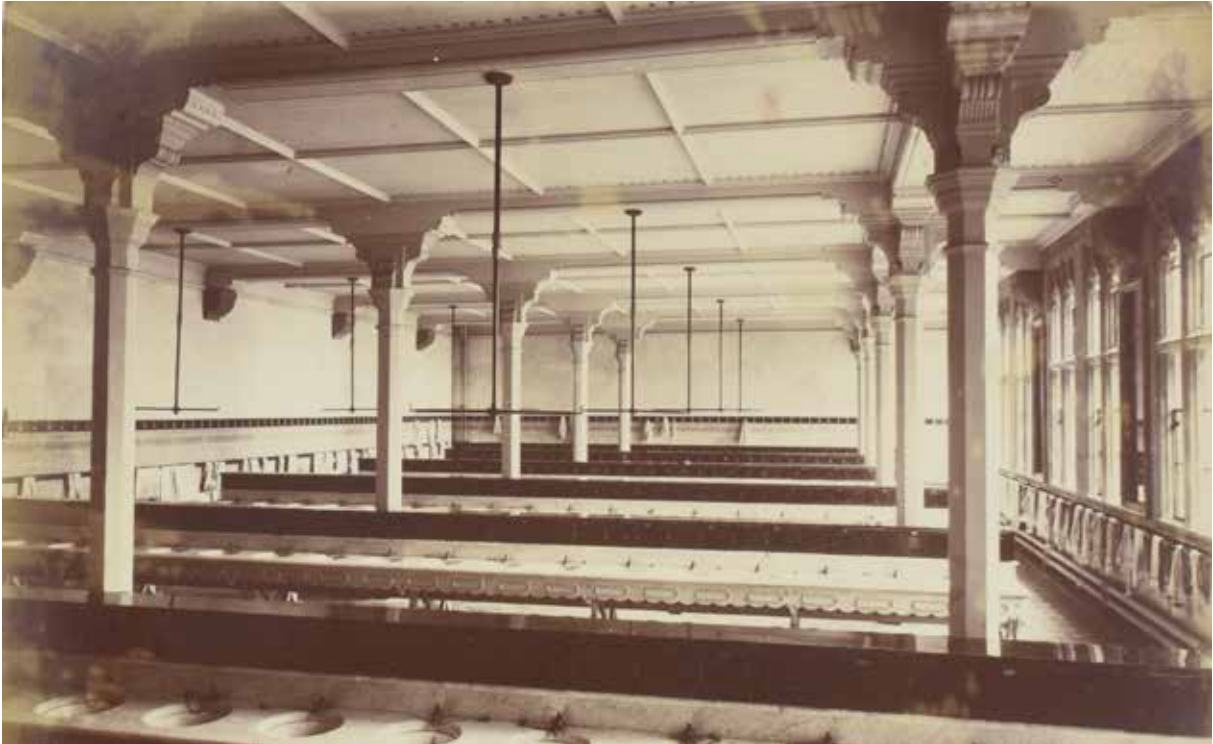
Appendix B - Historic photos



Aerial from South West (unknown date)



Aerial from South (unknown date)



Washing place c.1900 (Stonyhurst collection)



West (Community) Wing c.1905

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