

## A(VIII): Convent chapels<sup>1</sup> & related works

### a) Realised (9):

1. **1860: Wolverhampton, WV2 4DB, W Midlands – Chapel at St Joseph’s Convent (RSM):** the upper floor of a single cell, 2-storey building in red brick with patterning in blue and with ashlar dressings, comprising: 4-bay stalled nave (choir) under same roof-line as the 2-bay apsidal sanctuary, which opens to the N through a pointed arch (with grille) into an invalid bay in the adjacent convent; W-gallery. Octagonal turret tower at the SW angle of the nave with canted slate roof below the bell louvres, above which is a slate spire. The roof is panelled in 4 planes behind arch-braced principals on long wall-posts. The apse is lit by three 2-light windows with cusped lancets & cinquefoil tracery, and the nave by a W rose-window and from each side by three 2-light windows of trefoil-traceried cusped lancets.

In St John's Square. The Sisters left in 1978, and the chapel is now converted to secular use.

B[(1860, 7 Apr) 244]

<http://www.historywebsite.co.uk/listed/convent.htm>

[http://blackcountryhistory.org/collections/getrecord/WOHER\\_MBL469/](http://blackcountryhistory.org/collections/getrecord/WOHER_MBL469/)

<http://www.michaeltromans.co.uk/property/fountain-of-grace-church-st-johns-cloisters-st-johns-square-wolverhampton-wv2-4at/2293>

<https://archive.org/stream/leavesfromannals02sist#page/342/mode/2up>

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2. **1864(19 May)–65(15 Aug): Mayfield, TN20 6PH, E Sussex – Chapel of the Sacred Heart at the Convent of the Holy Child Jesus (SHCJ):** formed by roofing-in of the ruins of the original 14<sup>th</sup> century Banqueting Hall of the former Archbishopal Palace, and an associated restoration of the 3 enormous pointed diaphragm arches (said to be ‘the finest in England’) that span the entire 39ft width of the 69ft long, 3-bay building; the arches spring from corbels, and are externally stabilised by substantial buttresses. The original SW entrance is retained as the base of a 2-storey cross-gabled porch with a single 2-light traceried window to the 1st floor. It is likely that also the cross-gabled (W-facing) range abutting the porch to the W necessitated restoration at this time.

The chapel was created by roofing-in the ruins of the Banqueting Hall of a pre-Reformation Archbishopal Palace, which had been given to Mother Cornelia Connelly, the Foundress of the Society, by her friend, the Dowager Duchess of Leeds in 1863; the projected tower over the porch, with belfry and tall pyramidal roof, remains unbuilt. Metalwork by *Hardman & Co*; the High altar (1880), reredos (1881) & flanking niched statues of Our Lady & St Joseph (1882) by PP Pugin, and all sculpted by RL Boulton, were removed in 1951, returning the sanctuary to its original rather bare form. A wrought-iron screen (probably to the design of JH Powell), which had been installed in the 1880s to separate the laity from the Choir Sisters, had already been removed sometime before 1951. Other parts of the Palace were restored for conventual use by G Goldie, 1872-72, and as school buildings by *Pugin & Pugin*, 1896. The chapel is now part of St Leonards-Mayfield School for Girls.

Archives of the SHCJ B[(1864, 21 May) 382] BN[(1863, 24 Dec) 961: (1864, 20 May) 391] BoE[Sussex: East (2012) 549] T[(1865, 29 Jul) 469: (1866, 1 Sept) 548]

<https://historicalengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1353594>

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3. **1865: (*Pugin & Ashlin*): Cashel, Co Tipperary, Ireland – Convent Chapel (PBVM):** single-cell building in stone, comprising: square-ended sanctuary, Sister’s choir and lay nave all under the same roof. The interior is divided by an open-work screen into a Sisters’ choir (E) and a lay nave (W) served by altars on the W side of the screen. The roof is barrel-vaulted and boarded longitudinally between arched principals springing from corbels set high on the

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<sup>1</sup> The only chapels listed below are those that constitute separate, free-standing buildings – as opposed to being within a convent building, such as is the case at Nenagh [B(e)-1].

side walls. The sanctuary is lit by 3 graded E lancets and by a pair of lancets on each side. The choir is lit from each side by large windows extending into a pair of wall dormers at about gutter level. The lay entrance is in the centre of the W front flanked between 2 small trefoil lights above each of which (above the string-course) is a tall trefoil-traceried cusped lancet; in the apex of the W gable is a small sexfoil window under a semi-circular hood-mould.

The chapel abuts the S end of the principal convent range at right angles to it, and extends E well beyond the depth of this range. The architects are named as *Pugin & Ashlin* in the *Limerick Chronicle*<sup>2</sup> of 4 Jan 1866, whilst Pugin alone is mentioned in *Freeman's Journal* of 2 Oct 1877. It is known that Ashlin was later engaged 1884-85 to do additional work on the chapel, as was JF McMullen in 1887. The Sisters left in 2001, after which the convent was used as the Parish Centre until 2003 when it became *St Teresa's Nursing Home*; the original chapel has now been divided by a partition, and the E section used as the residents' chapel.

Archives of the Presentation Sisters *Freeman's Journal*[(1877) 2 Oct] *Limerick Chronicle*[1866] 4 Jan]  
<https://www.dia.ie/works/view/354/building/CO.+TIPPERARY%2C+CASHEL%2C+PRESENTATION+CONVENT>  
<http://catalogue.nli.ie/Record/vtls000320238>  
<http://catalogue.nli.ie/Record/vtls000317353>  
<http://catalogue.nli.ie/Record/vtls000317354>  
<http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/niah/search.jsp?type=record&county=TS&regno=22105073>

4. **1866(4 Apr)–67 (1 May): (*Pugin & Ashlin*): Clonakilty, Co Cork, Ireland – Chapel at the Convent of Our Lady of Mercy & the Sacred Heart (RSM, Fig.74a):** aisleless, single-cell building in snecked limestone comprising: 3-bay nave (for seculars) under the same roof-line as the 2-bay sanctuary that opens on each side through 3 semi-circular arches into a S-facing stalled nuns' choir to the N (behind a grille) in the pre-existing adjacent convent, and into a chapel to the S under a lean-to roof; the arches are supported on slender columns of pink marble on very high bases; sacristy (with central cross-gable) to W of the S side-chapel. Seculars' entrances in the W wall and in the W-most N bay of the nave. The roof is panelled in 2 planes between arch-braced principals alternating with subsidiary scissor braces. The sanctuary is lit from the E by 3 graded single lights with quatrefoil heads, and from each side by 2 circular windows above the arcades; the nave by two 2-light, round-headed W windows (the lights of each pair linked by a superior quatrefoil) above which is a central rose-window, and from each side by three round-headed single lights at clerestory level; the S chapel is lit by 3 round-headed S windows, the central one within a round-headed recess. Stained-glass windows by *Earley & Powells*, 1867, and in the nuns' stalled choir, 1869.

In Romanesque style to match existing convent buildings. Plans date from 1865, and could well be by Ashlin alone, who later in his career (after c.1880) worked almost exclusively in this idiom. The original High altar was replaced with one by Ashlin in 1872, which, *post*-Vatican II, was itself replaced by a forward table. The convent was closed in 2007, but the building remains intact.

BN[(1867, 12 Apr) 261] DB[(1866) 1 Jul] 166, 170(illus.) O'Dwyer[(1989) 59, 62]  
<http://www.failteromhat.com/conventofmercy.php>  
<http://www.dia.ie/works/view/14833/building/CO.+CORK,+CLONAKILTY,+CONVENT+OF+MERCY>  
<http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/niah/search.jsp?type=record&county=CO&regno=20846197>  
<http://archiseek.com/2016/1866-chapel-convent-mercy-clonakilty-co-cork/>  
<http://catalogue.nli.ie/Record/vtls000323914>  
<http://catalogue.nli.ie/Record/vtls000323915>  
<http://catalogue.nli.ie/Record/vtls000323916>  
<http://catalogue.nli.ie/Record/vtls000323917>  
<http://catalogue.nli.ie/Record/vtls000323918>

<sup>2</sup> I am indebted to Dr Freddie O'Dwyer for this reference.

5. **1866-69: (Pugin & Ashlin): Dundrum, Co Dublin, Ireland – Mount Anville Convent Chapel (RSCJ, Fig.74b):** the upper floor of a two-cell building that abuts conventual buildings to the W, comprising: semi-circular apsed sanctuary narrower than the nave and under a lower canted roof; bell-cote towards the W end of the nave roof. The E-most bays the nave open into lower roofed transepts. The roof is a semi-circular barrel vault. The apse is lit only<sup>3</sup> from each side by a single round-headed window, each transept by a long round-headed end window, and the nave from each side by shorter round-headed windows that descend from clerestory level. (1 per bay).

The chapel is in Classical (Italianate) style to match existing buildings, and could well be by Ashlin alone. The present form of the chapel is very different from that described above in that the nave has been continued by 3 bays E of the transepts and the semi-circular apse rebuilt, but now above arches in a *square* base; these arches continue W where, on each side of the 3 new bays of the nave, they support flat-roofed extensions that are low enough to permit the fenestration of the new bays of the nave to be kept at the same level as in the original nave; the extensions are lit from the side by 3 pairs of round-headed windows. The nave is now configured as a nuns' choir with stalls against the N & S walls; whether this was so before the extension is not known. Documentation in the archives of the Order (under the heading 'New Chapel') indicate that (at least some of) this work was executed 1887-1890 under the supervision of GC Ashlin; specific mention is made of moving the altar.

The convent closed in May 2007, and is now Mount Anville Secondary School; the chapel still exists, and is now used by the school.

DB[(1866, 15 Jun) 160] IB[(1868, 15 Mar) 74] O'Dwyer[(1989) 60]

<http://www.dia.ie/works/view/39919/building/CO.+DUBLIN%2C+GOATSTOWN%2C+MOUNT+ANNVILLE+ROAD%2C+MOUNT+ANVILLE%2C+CONVENT+OF+THE+SACRED+HEART>

<https://www.irishtimes.com/opinion/letters/closure-of-mount-anville-convent-1.1200022>

<http://www.heritageandhorizon.ie/schools/sacred-heart-schools-network/mount-anville-secondary-school-dublin-ireland/>

6. **1867(8 May)–68(30 Apr): (Pugin & Ashlin): Skibbereen, Co Cork, Ireland – Convent Chapel (RSM):** single cell of 5 bays (70ft × 25ft), faced in polychromatic randomly coursed dressed stone with sandstone quoins, comprising: 2-bay square-ended sanctuary under the same roof as the 3-bay aisleless nave; octagonal NW tower with hipped sprocketed roof, connected to the adjacent convent buildings by a cloister (with lean-to roof) external to the N wall of the nave. In the W front is a central, pointed arch door below 6 narrow cusped lancets (to the organ gallery) above which is a wheel-window set high in the gable. The sanctuary opens to the N through 3 depressed arches (with iron screens) into a lateral (pre-existing) chapel running N-S. The roof is supported on arched principals and sheeted in timber. The sanctuary is lit by a large 5-light E window with geometrical tracery (with glass by *Earley & Powells*) and from the S side by 2 trefoil-traceried cusped lancets (1 per bay); the nave is lit by the W windows and from the sides by trefoil-traceried cusped lancets (1 per bay). The High altar is supported on 4 colonnettes between which are carved 3 cinquefoil reliefs. Above the tabernacle, the exposition throne is surmounted by a high open-work spire; each side of the tabernacle are 2 gabled panels between which is surmounted an angel with upstretched wings, and at each end of the reredos is a prominent crocketed finial. Each side of the High altar is a minor altar within a pointed recess.

The W wheel-window is identical to the central part of that at *All Saints'*, Barton-on-Irwell [A(IIIa)–44(Fig.29a)] and Ratcliffe College Chapel [A(Va)-4(Fig.58)]. The convent was closed in 2003, sold in 2004, and gutted by fire on 29 Sept 2020.

Annals of the Skibbereen Convent of Mercy BN[(1867, 12 Apr) 261: (1868, Jun) 385] DB[(1866, 1 Nov, 15 Nov) 266, 268] IB[(1867, 15 May, 15 Aug) 127, 208, 209(illus): (1868, 1 Jun) 142] O'Dwyer[(1989) 60]

<http://archiseek.com/2009/1867-convent-of-mercy-skibbereen-co-cork/>

(Continued)

<sup>3</sup> The central part of the apse has 3 semi-circular blind arches.

<http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/niah/search.jsp?type=record&county=CO&regno=20841055>  
<http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/niah/search.jsp?type=images&county=CO&regno=20841055>  
<http://catalogue.nli.ie/Record/vtls000298575>  
<https://www.dia.ie/.../CO.+CORK%2C+SKIBBEREEN%2C+CONVENT+OF+MERCY>

7. **1867–68**(20 Oct): **St Leonards-on-Sea, TN37 6EG, E Sussex – Convent Chapel of St Michael & All the Holy Angels (SHCJ, Figs.73):** 2-cell building (126ft × 50ft) in coursed rubble with ashlar dressings and slate roof, comprising: 4-bay, square-ended retro-choir under a lower roof-line than the 6-bay nave; lean-to aisles, the N aisle terminating in an arch opening into a chapel under a low-pitch roof, the S aisle in an arched double-door leading to a large flat roofed sacristy; abutting the S aisle is a large porch from the original building (*vide infra*). In the centre of the W front is an apsidal projection (again from the original building) above which in the gable and flanked by buttresses is rose-window with sexfoil tracery, below a gabled stone bell-cote at the apex. The nave arcade comprises 5 arches on clustered piers of quatrefoil cross-section with moulded capitals, the E-most bay accommodating the sanctuary and the W-most bay the organ gallery that interconnects with an invalid tribune (with access directly from the adjoining convent) over the end of the N aisle. The sanctuary is bounded to the E by a prominent stone arch (the inner mould of which is supported on high-sited colonnettes) that opens into the lower roofed retro-Choir. The retro-choir and side-chapel roofs are panelled in 4 planes, the nave is open-timbered with arched scissor, doubled-back principals, the aisle roofs are panelled, supported on transverse, arched timber trusses, and the S porch is groined. The retro-choir is lit by a 5-light E window with geometrical tracery, and from each side by four 2-light trefoil-traceried windows below a sexfoil; the N side-chapel by an E rosette window with trefoil tracery, and from the side by 2 trefoil-traceried cusped lancets, the nave by the W rose-window and from each side by a clerestory of five sexfoils above paired trefoils. Each aisle is lit from the side by four 2-light windows with trefoil tracery set behind interior matching tracery, and from the W by a small rosette window; the S aisle has a similar window above the sacristy door. High altar carved by W Farmer, below which is a recumbent figure in wood of the dead Christ. Encaustic sanctuary tiles by *Minton & Co*, 1868; original (cathedral) glass by *Barnett of Leith* (now replaced by *Hardman* stained-glass. Extending the full width of the arch, dividing nuns' retro-choir from nave, is an open-work screen reredos in the centre of which is a high spire above the exposition throne – the throne being visible from both nave & retro-choir. E window by *Hardman & Co* (1872), tabernacle by CW Pugin (1875-76), choir stalls (1876). Numerous other altars, including that in the W apsidal *Seven Dolours* chapel (1884, the reredos of which incorporates a central window opening inherited from the original building), and the Lady altar in the NE chapel (1885), both by *Pugin & Pugin*, and carved by RL Boulton.

Cost: For the original (pre-Pugin) building up to top of aisle windows, aisle arcades and burial vault under the sanctuary: £6000. Tender for EW Pugin's completion signed for £2965, but eventually the cost was nearer to £5000, exclusive of £500 agreed extras.

The nave and aisles conform to a pre-existing ground-plan (defined by partly-constructed walls up to and including the tops of the window arches) of a church (dedicated to *All Souls*) by an unknown architect<sup>4</sup>, the building of which had ceased in 1843, 5 years before the arrival of the Sisters. The Society rejected a scheme submitted by G Goldie in 1867, for the completion of the earlier building as a conventual church, in favour of one by EW Pugin<sup>5</sup>. The chapel, which still exists, was closed in 1976 when the Sisters moved to their Society's C

<sup>4</sup> The annals of the *Society of the Holy Child Jesus* state that the architect *might* have been AWN Pugin, but, so far, it has not been possible to confirm this, the only traceable reference to Pugin being in *The Builder* of 1850, reporting the exhibition at the Royal Academy of a drawing of 'Pugin's St Leonard's College Rood-screen'; this is a mistake – St Leonard's College should read **St Edmund's** College [Ware, Herts].

<sup>5</sup> An earlier scheme by WW Wardell in 1855 was not pursued owing to lack of funds.

convent in Mayfield, E Sussex (*see* [A(VIIIa)-2]), and is now in private hands.

**B**[(1867, 2 Mar) 158: (1885, 10 Jan) 88] **BN**[(1885, 9 Jan) xvii] **BoE**[Sussex: East(2012) 458]

**T**[(1868, 31 Oct) 693]

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1043478>

8. **1868: (*Pugin & Ashlin*): Drumcondra, Co Dublin, Ireland – Chapel at the former Hampton Monastery of the Incarnation (OCD nuns):** 1-bay, square-ended chancel under the same roof as the 3-bay nave; bell-cote on E gable above a niched statue of Our Lady of Mt Carmel; N off the chancel, through 3 (almost semi-circular) arches with grilles, is the nuns' 3-bay, stalled choir, which communicates with the adjacent conventual buildings, from 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>-floors of which there is a view into the choir for the infirm; E off the 1<sup>st</sup> bay of the nuns' choir is a 2-storey, pitched-roof range (parallel to the chapel) accommodating the nuns' sacristy (which communicates with the priest's sacristy to the E of the chancel) and an organ & choir tribune on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, which opens into the choir above the sacristy door. The W front contains the public entrance, flanked by small cusped lancets, above which is a small sexfoil below a gabled statue of St Joseph. The chancel is separated from the nave by a full-height segmental arch supported on columns of square cross-section. High up on the E wall, each side of the High altar, is a pedestalled statue. N off the E-most bay of the nave is a cloister along the exterior of the W-wall of the nuns' choir, which communicates with the former school in the convent. The roofs of the chancel and nave are panelled in 4 planes. The chancel is lit by a small sexfoil in the E gable and from the S by a 2-light window with quatrefoil tracery in the head, above which rises a small cross-gable (wall-dormer) that dies back into the main roof; the nave is lit by the W windows and from each side by 1 lancet per bay (except in the bay off which is the cloister); the choir is lit by square-headed windows (1 per bay) except in the bay with the door to the 2-storey range, the 1<sup>st</sup>-floor of which is lit by a 2-light Y-tracery E-window and by 3 N windows. The mensa of the High altar is supported on 4 marble colonnettes with carved capitals, between which are 3 carved panels in *bas relief*; there is no reredos, the top of the tabernacle serving as the exposition throne behind which rises a crocketed gabled panel that serves to highlight the monstrance. Below the S wall-dormer is a side-altar.

A pitched-roofed W porch, super-altar and a new tabernacle surmounted by a canopied exposition throne were added at some unknown date. The whole chancel was gutted 1974-75, when all original furnishings and decoration were removed, a forward-facing altar installed, and the triple arcade to the nuns' choir replaced by a single segmental arch with grille; at the same time, the opening of the organ/choir tribune onto the choir was bricked-up. The stained glass was restored in 1998, and the chapel & choir re-roofed in 2007, just prior to the closure of the convent later that year. The chapel remains intact, and is currently being restored to its original state by the owner of the site who is converting the former conventual building to residential accommodation.

Although reported in the *Irish Builder* as being by *Pugin & Ashlin*, certain stylistic features of the chapel, such as the way in which the bell-cote is *not* corbelled out of the gable apex, the small size of the E & W windows and the segmental chancel arch (and, in particular, the way it is supported), strongly suggest that it was designed by *Ashlin alone* – *see* remarks in the *Prologue* of the book concerning the difficulty of establishing the relative participation of the partners of an architectural partnership in a particular commission.

**IB**[(1868, 1 Aug) 195] **O'Dwyer**[(1989) 59]

<https://www.dia.ie/works/view/35399/CO.+DUBLIN%2C+DUBLIN%2C+GRACE+PARK+ROAD%2C+HAMPTON+CARMELITE+CONVENT>

9. **1868(18 Oct) (*Pugin & Ashlin*)–73(16 Apr) (*completed by Ashlin*): Fermoy, Co Cork, Ireland – Loreto Convent Chapel (IBVM):** single cell (80ft × 28ft) in red sandstone with limestone ashlar dressings, comprising: semi-octagonal, 1-bay sanctuary with canted roof under the same roof as the 5-bay choir/nave with stalls in Riga oak; hipped roofed 2-bay sacristy off the

N side of the sanctuary. At the junction of the W end with a conventual range is a 2-stage tower surmounted by a steep chisel spire. The ceiling of the building is sexpartite vaulted throughout, supported on Caen stone shafts extending down to angel corbels just above the wainscoting behind the stalls on the N & S walls. The W-most bay of the nave accommodates the organ gallery beneath which is an open timber screen with the abbatial throne in the centre. The sanctuary is lit by five 2-light windows with sexfoil tracery, and the nave by the same (1 per bay). Stained-glass in the 3 central apse windows by *Barnard & Co of Glasgow*. Below the mensa of the High altar is a carved panel depicting the Last Supper, and above the tabernacle is a spired exposition throne in marble.

The chapel is usually attributed to Ashlin alone, and there is no mention of EW Pugin in the annals of the Institute; the plans must, however, predate the dissolution of the partnership towards the end of 1868 (the Foundation Stone being laid in October 1868), but *stylistically it would appear that Ashlin was most likely to have been the architect*. To the W, the chapel abuts a conventual range by Ashlin. The chapel now serves the school associated with the former convent whose buildings the school now occupies.

IB[(1869 15 Sept) 210 & plate]

<http://www.dia.ie/works/view/383/building/CO.+CORK%2C+FERMOY%2C+LORETTO+CONVENT>

<http://archiseek.com/2015/1870-chapel-loreto-convent-fermoy-co-cork/>

<http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/niah/search.jsp?type=record&county=CO&regno=20820118>

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#### b) Unrealised (4):

1. **pre-1859: (Pugin & J Murray): Bantry, Co Cork, Ireland – Mercy Convent Chapel:** Wedgwood's *Catalogue of the Drawings Collection of the RIBA* describes it thus: 'The chapel, at one end of the main range, has an apse and a steeply pitched roof.'

The autographed drawing in the above Collection is the only known reference to the involvement of *Pugin & Murray*. The existing chapel is by SF Hynes, 1877-78 – see also [B(b)-3].

DB[(1859) 164] IB[(1877, 15 Aug, Vol. XIX) 236, 239(plate): (1878, 1 Mar, Vol. XX) 77]

Wedgwood[(1977) 117<sup>1</sup>]

<http://archiseek.com/2009/1877-convent-of-mercy-chapel-bantry-co-cork/>

<http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/niah/search.jsp?type=record&county=CO&regno=20834090>

<http://www.dia.ie/works/view/8833/building/CO.+CORK%2C+BANTRY%2C+CONVENT+OF+MERCY>

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2. **1862–63: Bartestree, Herefords – Chapel at the Convent of Our Lady of Charity & Refuge (OLC):** several designs were made, which include both square-ended and apsidally terminated chancels (under the same roof-line) off which was a stalled Choir for the Community. At least 3 designs feature a prominent flèche.

It was intended that the chapel would lie between the convent and the House of Mercy, but the Community and its chaplain rejected EW Pugin's design, and the commission went to B Bucknall whose chapel of dedicated to St Anne was built 1866-67, abutting the tower of Pugin's conventual buildings [B(a)-4]; High altar & reredos by PP Pugin, c.1900 (now in Chicago, USA).

Herefordshire Record Office 'Bartestree Convent' holdings: BE14-7-1, BE14-9, BE 14-32, BE14-33

T[(1863, 4 Jul) 427: (1866, 7 Apr) 212]

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3. **1863-64: Hales Place, Canterbury, Kent – Carmelite Convent Church:** in Kentish rag on brick with Bath stone dressings, and groined throughout (96ft x 30ft), with nuns' chapel off (53ft x 23ft), and 120ft spire.

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## A(VIII): Convent chapels & related works

To have been built, through the munificence of Miss MBF Hales<sup>6</sup>, at the SE corner of a large projected convent [B(b)-7], the foundations of which were completed and walls built to 1<sup>st</sup> floor level. After building ceased in the late 1860s through lack of funds, the site was abandoned until 1874, when the site was gifted to the Cassinese Benedictines for their priory and novitiate, and some minor building work was undertaken, 1874-77. In 1876, *Dunn & Hansom* proposed a scheme for completing the priory, novitiate and church utilising, as far as possible, the already built foundations and walls; their design of the church, however, differed somewhat from that projected by EW Pugin. The entire site was levelled in 1928.

B[(1863, 14 Nov, 19 Dec) 816, 901] BN[(1876, 7 Apr, 14 Apr) plate, 368] T[(1863, 13 Jun, 21 Nov) 375, 743: (1864, 27 Feb, 11 Jun) 134, 381: (1874) 8 Aug) 180]

<http://machadoink.com/Hales%20Place.htm>

<http://www.machadoink.com/St%20Marys%20College.htm>

<http://www.kenthistoryforum.co.uk/index.php?topic=17299.0>

[https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=dpj\\_zC8qMF4C&pg=PA188&lpg=PA188&dq=St+Mary%27s+College,+Hales+Place&source=bl&ots=Jaqn19zj8O&sig=krJxYzcu8uxdz74b1jiDUiO9am4&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKewjfsYCy9tDXAhWG2BoKHdY4CEYQ6AEIQTAE#v=onepage&q=St%20Mary's%20College%2C%20Hales%20Place&f=false](https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=dpj_zC8qMF4C&pg=PA188&lpg=PA188&dq=St+Mary%27s+College,+Hales+Place&source=bl&ots=Jaqn19zj8O&sig=krJxYzcu8uxdz74b1jiDUiO9am4&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKewjfsYCy9tDXAhWG2BoKHdY4CEYQ6AEIQTAE#v=onepage&q=St%20Mary's%20College%2C%20Hales%20Place&f=false)

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4. **nd: Stanhope St, Dublin, Ireland – Convent Chapel (RSC):** incorporates a stumpy NE tower with an octagonal spire, low aisles, small clerestory windows and a panelled wagon roof.

The chapel was to have adjoined the W end of the Sisters' adjacent convent in Stanhope St. The Foundation Stone of a large church by Ashlin was laid in Aug 1870; it was demolished in 1986. Ashlin designed also the adjacent conventual buildings, which still remain, but which no longer serve as such. Wedgwood incorrectly assumes the Stanhope St address on the drawing in the RIBA Collection to be in London, whilst the entry for Ashlin's church of 1870 in the Dictionary of Irish Architects confuses the Sisters of Charity with the Sisters of Mercy.

Wedgwood[(1977) 114<sup>[8]</sup>]

<http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/niah/search.jsp?type=record&county=DU&regno=50070205>

<http://www.dia.ie/works/view/38644/building/CO.+DUBLIN%2C+DUBLIN%2C+STANHOPE+STREET%2C+CONVENT+OF+MERCY>

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### d) Realisation of chapels at convents commenced by AWN Pugin (2):

1. **1852-53(Sept)/ 1856-57: Birr, Co Offaly, Ireland – Chapel at St John's Convent (RSM):** of 4 bays in ashlar limestone, and is lit by a 4-light, traceried E window and by 2-light traceried side windows, 1 per bay. The roof is panelled in 4 (+2 vertical) planes above a deep coving.

The chapel was part of the completion by EW Pugin of the S side of AWN Pugin's projected quadrangle of buildings, which was begun in 1851. Its altar was consecrated on 6 June 1856, and the Hardman E-window installed in 1857. It is possible that EW Pugin modified his father's projected design to enable the chapel to initially serve as a temporary school-chapel pending the completion of the school-room adjacent to its W end [B(d)-2]. In 1879, Ashlin added a 2-bay chancel (under a lower roof-line) to the original chapel (furnishing it with new, larger altar & reredos in Caen stone, oak stalls & oak Rood screen) to create the present 2-cell building, into which the original E-window was re-installed. The convent was sold in 1996, and since 2006 the convent buildings have been used as Civic offices, and the chapel converted into a public library – see [B(d)-2].

Hyland[(2014) 120] O'Brien[(1994) 33] O'Donnell[(1995) 147] Stanton[(1971) 206] Welsh[(1975) 59]

<http://www.dia.ie/works/view/14049/building/CO.+OFFALY%2C+BIRR%2C+WILMER+ROAD%2C+ST+JOHN%27S+CONVENT+OF+MERCY>

<http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/niah/search.jsp?type=record&county=OF&regno=14819188>

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<sup>6</sup> Mary Barbara Felicity Hales (1835-85) inherited the Hales estates in 1837. She was born in France, and entered a French Carmelite Convent in 1858, but was allowed to continue to manage her estate in England. She transferred to the English Carmelites, and in 1863 began work on the convent at Hales Place. She was released from her vows in 1865 – see [B(b)-7].

2. **1862-63: (Pugin & Ashlin): Waterford, Co Waterford, Ireland – Chapel at Holy Cross Convent (PBVM):** realisation of AWN Pugin’s design, *except* the altar & reredos, which is by *Pugin & Ashlin* – see [H(Ia)-13]. The chapel (60ft x 20ft overall) is of 5-bays, comprising 1-bay sanctuary, 2-bay choir, and 2-bay ante-choir with gallery in the W-most bay above door into adjacent school-room running N from the chapel. In the S wall of the sanctuary is a grille into the Community’s Chapter room from where the infirm can participate in the liturgy, as they can also through small windows (2 per bay) high in the S wall of the chapel, which open into a corridor above the N cloister; N of the sanctuary is the sacristy. The choir (which contains 20 stalls) is separated from the ante-choir by a carved wooden, open-work Rood screen. The roof is open-timbered throughout with arched principals terminating in collars. The sanctuary is lit from the E by a pair of 2-light, traceried windows between which is a niche (containing a statue of St Helena<sup>7</sup>) below a small central roundel with trefoil tracery. The choir and ante-choir are lit from the S by the high windows already mentioned, and from the N by longer, 2-light traceried windows, 1 per bay, which descend to the top of the wainscoting. The sanctuary is paved with encaustic tiles; gilding and decoration by Nicholas Power and wood carving by Edmund Condon.

The roof structure is very similar to that in Shrewsbury Cathedral [A(Ia)-1], E-end fenestration to close that of the W-end of St Joseph’s Chapel [A(Vd)-1] at Ushaw College, and the design of the Rood-screen similar to that earlier installed (c.1858-59) in the Edermine Estate Chapel of problematic provenance [A(VIa)-i]. *The Tablet* reference of 1863 attributes the chapel fittings solely to Ashlin; since, however, at this date, he was in partnership with EW Pugin, the work here has been entered under *Pugin & Ashlin* [E(a)-i], although it is quite possible that EW Pugin was not involved. The completion date of 1856 given in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (*Buildings of Ireland* URL) does *not* apply to the chapel, which was not completed until 1863, and the installation of stained glass not until April 1866. The convent was sold in 2006, and since 2009 has been part of *Waterford Health Park*, but the chapel is preserved.

B[(1875, 12 Jun) 523] DB[(1861) 603: (1866) 80] O’Donnell[(1995) 147] Presentation Sisters Archives  
 Richardson[(1983) Figs. 165, 168, 172] T[(1863, 23 May) 332] Tobin (2018)  
<https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/22829002/presentation-convent-slievekeale-road-waterford-city-waterford-county-waterford>  
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/tags/presentationconvent>

<sup>7</sup> St Helena (mother of the Emperor Constantine) discovered what is considered to be the true Cross, to which the chapel is dedicated.