

## A(IV): Dual-purpose chapel-schoolrooms

### a) Realised (9):

1. **1853(Feb)-1853(26 July): Clehonger, HR2 9RX, Herefords – *Ss Peter & Paul* (& schoolmaster's house, Fig.55):** a 2-cell building in roughly coursed limestone and sandstone with limestone & brick dressing, comprising: chancel under a lower roof than the 4-bay school-room/ nave (for c.40 pupils); 'Sanctus' bell-cote at the junction; sacristy with lean-to roof S of the chancel. The roof of the school-room/ nave is supported by scissor principals (rising from corbels) with 2 ranks of purlins and a ridge beam. The chancel is lit by a 2-light E window with a trefoil in the head, and the school-room/ nave by 3 equal, cusped lancets per bay, under a square head.

Abutting the school-room/ nave to the W, as a cross-wing, is the teacher's house, the principal W-facing elevation of which has three 3-storey bays to the RHS and a single 2-storey bay to the LHS. The central bay of the RH range has an arched door within a gabled porch above which is a single light window; each of the outer bays have mullioned & transomed 3-light ground-floor windows, 2-light casements to the 1<sup>st</sup> floors, and gabled dormers to the attic rooms; the ground-floor LH bay has a similar window, and a 2-light gabled dormer to the attic. The gabled RH (S) return has a square, mullioned & transomed bay with hipped stone roof, below a 3-light casement, above which in the gable is a single casement to the attic. At the junction with the school-room/nave is a large chimney-stack with 5 flues, and in the LH (N) return is a stack with octagonal brick flues.

Built through the munificence of FR Wegg-Prosser, MP, FRAS. The school was initially staffed by the Sisters of Charity of St Paul, the adjoining house serving as their convent until 1859, when they were replaced by lay teachers, the schoolmaster residing in the house until 1916. The school-chapel continued as the elementary school of the surrounding district until 1947, and in 1955 it became the Library of Belmont Abbey [B(a)-1]; it now the Parish Centre. A modern flat-roofed extension now adjoins the W end of the (ritual) N elevation.

BoE[Herefordshire (2012) 99] *Freeman's Journal*[(1859) 23 Feb] O'Donnell[(2002) 52, plate between pp. 94-95] T[(1859, 11 Feb) 101] Whelan[(1959) 12] Whitehead[(2020) 8]  
<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1348796>

2. **1855(12 Nov)–56: Willenhall, W Midlands – *St Mary*:** Early English, consisting of: chancel, nave, one aisle<sup>1</sup> and sacristy, externally buttressed and ornamented with bricks of differing colours; it was completely furnished by 1864.

Cost £600; seating capacity 450.

*St Mary's* was originally a Chapel of Ease served from Bilston until 1863, becoming an independent parish in 1864. *The Tablet* and the *Catholic Directory* reported that at the laying of the Foundation Stone the procession was 'led by the architect, EW Pugin, in costume'. The building continued to serve as both school and chapel until c.1877, when a separate school adjacent to the chapel was opened. In 1881, modifications were made to the Pugin building (which by then had become used solely as a church), including a W gallery and a side entrance to replace the original one. A new church on a different site by AJC Scoles was opened on 4 Feb 1906, and by 1910 the former school-chapel had become leased for secular use as *The White City*, a place of entertainment, serving first as a Music Hall and later as a cinema.

B[(1856, 3 May) 244] Birmingham Provincial Directory for 1915 Catholic Directory for 1857  
Morris (1964) T[(1855) 741]  
<https://taking-stock.org.uk/building/willenhall-st-mary/>  
<http://www.stmaryswillenhall.co.uk/history>

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<sup>1</sup> This description, given in *The Tablet* of 1855, conflicts with that given by Morris (1964), which mentions *two* aisles and 6 pillars – presumably 3 on each side, given the relatively small size of the building.

3. **1862–63**(20 Mar): **Maidstone, ME14 1RH, Kent – *St Francis***: in brick, relieved by a stone course and red brick patterning, comprising: 12ft deep chancel, separated by a movable screen from 4-bay nave/school-room (65ft × 23ft). The N gable is surmounted by a wrought-iron cross and a carved stone finial.

Seating: 250

Work commenced shortly after Sept 1862. The building sufficed until a permanent church, to the design of CG Wray, opened in 1880, after which it was exclusively used as school premises. It later became the parish hall, but is now disused.

T[(1863, 28 Mar) 203]

<https://www.stfrancisparish.org.uk/history4.html>

<https://www.stfrancisparish.org.uk/history5.html>

<https://www.stfrancisparish.org.uk/history6.html>

4. **1863**(29 May)-**63**(13 Dec): **Mossley, OL5 0HB, Greater Manchester – *St Joseph* (& presbytery, Fig.56)**: a plain, 6-bay building in brick (82ft × 33ft) lying geographically E-W under a hipped roof, comprising: sanctuary (occupying the geographical W-most bay); aisleless nave/school-room; SW sacristy. The sanctuary could be screened off during the week, permitting the rest of the building to be used as a school-room. The ritual W front (geographical E-end) contains the principal entrance within a pointed arch, above which is a segmental-headed, transomed 3-light window. The longitudinal lateral extremities of the roof is splayed, externally suggesting aisles<sup>2</sup>, of which there are none. The central section of the roof is supported by scissor principals (anchored to wall-posts) that intersect the lower-pitch trusses anchored to the wall plate, which support the splay; the intersections are linked by a purlin (Fig.56). The sanctuary roof is horizontally boarded-in half way up the higher-pitch central section (beneath the geographical W hip), whilst the nave is open to the ridge, and is panelled between principals. The sanctuary is lit from the geographic N & S sides by a square window, and the nave from the N by 3 such windows, and by a narrow squared-headed window beneath the splayed outer sections of the roof each side of the entrance.

Seating: c600.

A choir gallery was installed in the western-most bay of the nave sometime between 1888 and 1908, during which period new altars were installed and other improvements made. It was originally intended that the building would function as a school-chapel only until a church could be afforded (plans for which had been prepared by EW Pugin already in 1861 [A(IIIb)-13]), after which it would serve solely as a school. This never happened, and the building continued to serve its dual purpose until 2 school-rooms were built, the first (in 1874) some 60ft geographically S of the school-chapel adjacent to the presbytery; the second (in 1885, for infants) was created by roofing-in the intervening plot of land between the 1874 school-room and the school-chapel, which had previously been partially occupied by a room adjoining the geographical S-side of the school-chapel. The schools continued to function as elementary schools until Nov 1932, after which they were replaced by a new one on another site, which was opened in May 1933; the 2 original school buildings were then used for parochial purposes. All 3 buildings were **demolished** c1962, followed by the presbytery [C(a)-14] in 1963 (the centenary of its erection) to make way for a new church (with the same dedication) that opened in 1965.

*Ashton under Lyne Reporter*[(1860) 2 Jun: (1863) 19 Dec] B[(1863, 22 Aug) 606] ‘*Borough of Mossley Jubilee Souvenir 1885-1935*’, Reporter Office, Ashton-Under-Lyne (1935)

*Centenary Souvenir Book for the Church of St Joseph, Mossley, 1862-1962*

T[(1860, 9 Jun) 357: (1863, 6 Jun, 19 Dec) 365, 807]

<https://taking-stock.org.uk/building/mossley-st-joseph/>

<sup>2</sup> As at Kentish Town [A(IIIa)-9, 1858-59], Westby [A(IIIa)-12, 1859-60], and Hanwell [A(IIIa)-32, 1863-64]

5. **1863**(11 May)-**64**: **Padiham, Burnley, BB12 7BN, Lancs – *St John the Baptist***: built externally in dressed stone, separated from the internal brick walls by a cavity.

Seating: 300.

This building continued to serve as a school-chapel until a permanent church designed by *Edward Simpson of Bradford*, built 1880-81, was opened, after which it was used as the parish hall; it is now derelict.

BoE[Lancashire: North (2009) 490] T[(1863, 10 Oct) 646]  
<https://taking-stock.org.uk/building/padiham-st-john-the-baptist/>

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6. **1866**(Nov): **Toxteth, Liverpool L8 Merseyside – *Our Lady of Mount Carmel***: a building in brick with stone dressings with a small E rose window; no further details are known.

Seating: 600 pupils; cost: £2208.

The project dates from 1864; this dual-purpose building in Chipping Street sufficed until the opening of the present church (by J O'Byrne) at a different site on 21 July 1878. The former school-chapel no longer exists, having been destroyed by fire in the 1970s.

Burke [(1910) 162] *Freeman's Journal*[(1864) 2 Nov]  
<https://taking-stock.org.uk/building/toxteth-our-lady-of-mount-carmel/>

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7. **1872**(6 Mar, opened): **Egremont, Cumbria – possibly *St Mary* (OSB until 1965)**: no details known.

Egremont was served from Cleator until 1878, when a resident priest was appointed. A church (*St Mary*) was opened on 22 Sept 1907; it was replaced in 1941.

A[(1875, 12 Jun) 350] B[(1875, 12 Jun) 522] BN[(1875, 11 Jun) 670] *A brief history of the Benedictines in West Cumbria* [(1980) 19] Kelly[(1907) 165]

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8. **1872**: **Frizington, Cumbria –*St Joseph*?**: no details known.

The school listed under Frizington in the obituaries was actually a school-chapel, which served the locality prior to the establishment (from Cleator) in 1875 of a mission dedicated to *St Joseph*. There is no record of a school in Frizington until 1880, and the present church dates from 1896-97.

B[(1875, 12 Jun) 522] BN[(1875, 11 Jun) 670]  
<https://taking-stock.org.uk/building/frizington-st-joseph/>  
<http://www.stmarysandstjosephs.com/history.html>

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9. **1874**(post-Aug)-**74**(Nov): **Camberley (formerly Sandhurst), GU15 3EY, Surrey – *St Tarcisius***: in corrugated iron; no other details known.

Cost: £594.

The site was purchased in 1873. This small dual-purpose building continued to be used for worship until 1884 when, on part of the site, an iron church was built, which remained there until 1888 when it was moved adjacent to a new presbytery built on a different site given by Lady Southwell for a permanent church, the building of which (to the design of FA Walters) commenced in 1923; it opened the following year.

B(1874, 15 Aug) 698] MacDermott[(1953) 11] T[(1870, 21 May) 654: (1874, 10 Jan) 54: (1875, 11 Dec) 754]

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**b) Unrealised (1):**

1. **c1860: Batley, W Yorks – *St Mary & the Angels*: no details known.**

In 1859, the Earl of Wilton presented a site for a school-chapel, which was never built, as neither was the projected church [A(IIIb)-12].

A[(1875, 12 Jun) 350] B[(1875, 12 Jun) 522] BN[(1875, 11 Jun) 670] Kelly[(1907) 69]  
<https://taking-stock.org.uk/building/batley-st-mary-of-the-angels/>

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**c) Not known if ever realised (1):**

1. **nd: Bradford, W Yorks – School-chapel: no details known.**

The fact that two obituaries list not only a school but also a presbytery in Bradford [C(c)-3]-strongly suggests that the school was actually a school-chapel, and has thus been entered here as such. At least 2 school-chapels are known to have existed in Bradford during EW Pugin's lifetime, one of which could have been designed by him: *i) St Joseph's*, of 1868 in Grafton St, which became a parish in 1881, *ii) St Peter's*, of 1871 in Leeds Rd, which was served from *St Mary's*, and which was replaced by new school building, 1905-06.

A[(1875, 12 Jun, 350] B[(1875, 12 Jun) 522] BN[(1875, 11 Jun) 670] Kelly[(1907) 94]  
<https://taking-stock.org.uk/building/bradford-st-joseph/>  
<https://taking-stock.org.uk/building/bradford-our-lady-and-st-peter/>

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