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Telephone : 2-5294

CENTRAL LIBRARY

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, 1

OUR REF.

Cr/R12

6 April 1961

OUR REF.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of April 3rd, concerning Newcastle streets and inns, we have to inform you that we are sending you, under separate cover, a copy of Oliver's map of Newcastle, 1844. You may have this on loan for a few days to help you locate the various streets and buildings. Please sign the enclosed pink form on receipt of the map, and return it to us.

A. Bell's Court lies just to the right of the Racquet Court (numbered 87 on Oliver's Map) which in turn lies behind the Assembly Rooms (83) in Fenkle Street.

B. Ridley's Court is not shown on Oliver's map, but lies just above the court leading to the Groat Market Chapel (32), which is in the block of buildings bounded by Groat Market, Collingwood Street, and Pudding Chare. We regret we do not know the exact location of the building formerly used by the Literary and Philological Society, but it is quoted as "adjoining Ridley Court".

C. Castle Garth is shown on the map above the Castle (89) and is directly above the figure 9.

We cannot place the inns you name with any certainty because the maps of the period are not detailed enough to give the names, and our set of directories is very sketchy till the middle of the nineteenth century. It is not until 1844 that a street arrangement is used. Some of the inns are, we believe, still on their original site.

D. The King's Arms (or King's Head), Quayside. We regret we have no record of this inn.

E. The Half Moon Tavern, Bigg Market was situated at No. 3 Bigg Market and would be opposite and above the first letter G in Bigg Market.

F. The Three Tuns, Cloth Market was No. 10 and would be approximately opposite and to the right of the letter M in Cloth Market.

P.T.O.

All communications to be addressed to the City Librarian, Central Library, Newcastle upon Tyne, 1, quoting Reference Number

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE
CITY LIBRARIES

CITY LIBRARIAN : E. ALISTAIR HITCHIN, B.A., F.L.S.



G. The White Hart, No. 7 Cloth Market would be opposite the K in Cloth Market.

H. The Scotch Arms, in Newgate Street, we cannot, unfortunately, locate

I. The Chancellor's Head, No. 38 Newgate Street, would be opposite and to the right of the letter G in Newgate Street.

J. The King's Head was, according to the 1833 directory, at No. 1 Percy Street, but in fact it occupies the corner site and has an entrance in Blackett Street. It still occupies the same site.

We hope this information will be useful to you, we have been as accurate as possible in locating the various places.

Yours faithfully

E. Alistair Hitchin
City Librarian

R.S. Blackledge, Esq.,
"Ravenscroft",
68 Hollyfield Road,
Sutton Coldfield,
Warwickshire.

WGI/VR

1. The Three Tuns, Cloth Market was No. 10 and would be approximately opposite and to the right of the letter M in Cloth Market.
2. The Half Moon Tavern, Big Market was situated at No. 3 Big Market and would be opposite and above the letter G in Big Market.

P.T.O.

26th April 1961.

My dear Robert.

Herewith, as promised in my letter to you of yesterday, the inscription on the Corner Stone of the Masonic Temple.

These people really have been most co-operative. It may have been somewhat "cheeky" on my part when I asked Mr Dodds if he would let a clerk take it down & type the lettering, as I realised it would look so much better than if I had taken it down & written the inscription & he agreed at once, — if he had hesitated I was ready to say that I would take a note of it there & then but he agreed there & then & it has come to hand this A.M.

If I hear from the Brethren who have been written to I will let you know at once — One of them, by the way, is the Hon. Librarian of the Temple & he may have some information.

In haste & as always Edward St Brown

This Corner Stone
was laid with
Full Masonic Ceremony
by the Right Worshipful
Provincial Grand Master
of the Province of Northumberland

The Right Worshipful
Sir Matthew White Ridley, Bart. M.P.
on Wednesday 25th July 1894.
Ald. Richard Henry Holmes F.R.S.
Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

John Johnson A.R.I.B.A.
Architect

J. & W. Lowry
Builder

Copyright Worcestershire Masonic
Library and Museum Trust

Particulars & conditions of Sale of Freehold Valuable
premises known as the
Masonic Hall

in Pilgrim Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne

which will be offered for

sale by Auction

by

Messrs

Atkinson & Garland

at their ¹³⁹

sale Rooms, Pilgrim Street

Newcastle-upon-Tyne

on the 7th day of March, 1938

at three o'clock in the afternoon.

Central Masonic Hall, Sunderland

having a total & prominent frontage

of 34 feet to Pilgrim Street, 24 feet

to Shakespeare St & 109 feet to High Street

The whole covering an area of 717 sq yds

Contains:

Grand assembly hall 72ft x 34ft

cloak & changing rooms on suite

leading on imposing Main entrance

in Pilgrim St. 6 large meeting rooms,

rest-rooms, ante rooms etc

two kitchens fitted with ^{Cookery} Gas & sink

connected to rooms above.

Wine & coal cellars. Fireproof steel

engine house with gas engine ^{Room}

boiler & ventilating plant

5 shops in High Street, one in

Pilgrim St & one in Shakespeare St.

Ventilated & heated by the Flamm system,

light by electrics. House telephone

Public Hall licensed for music & dancing

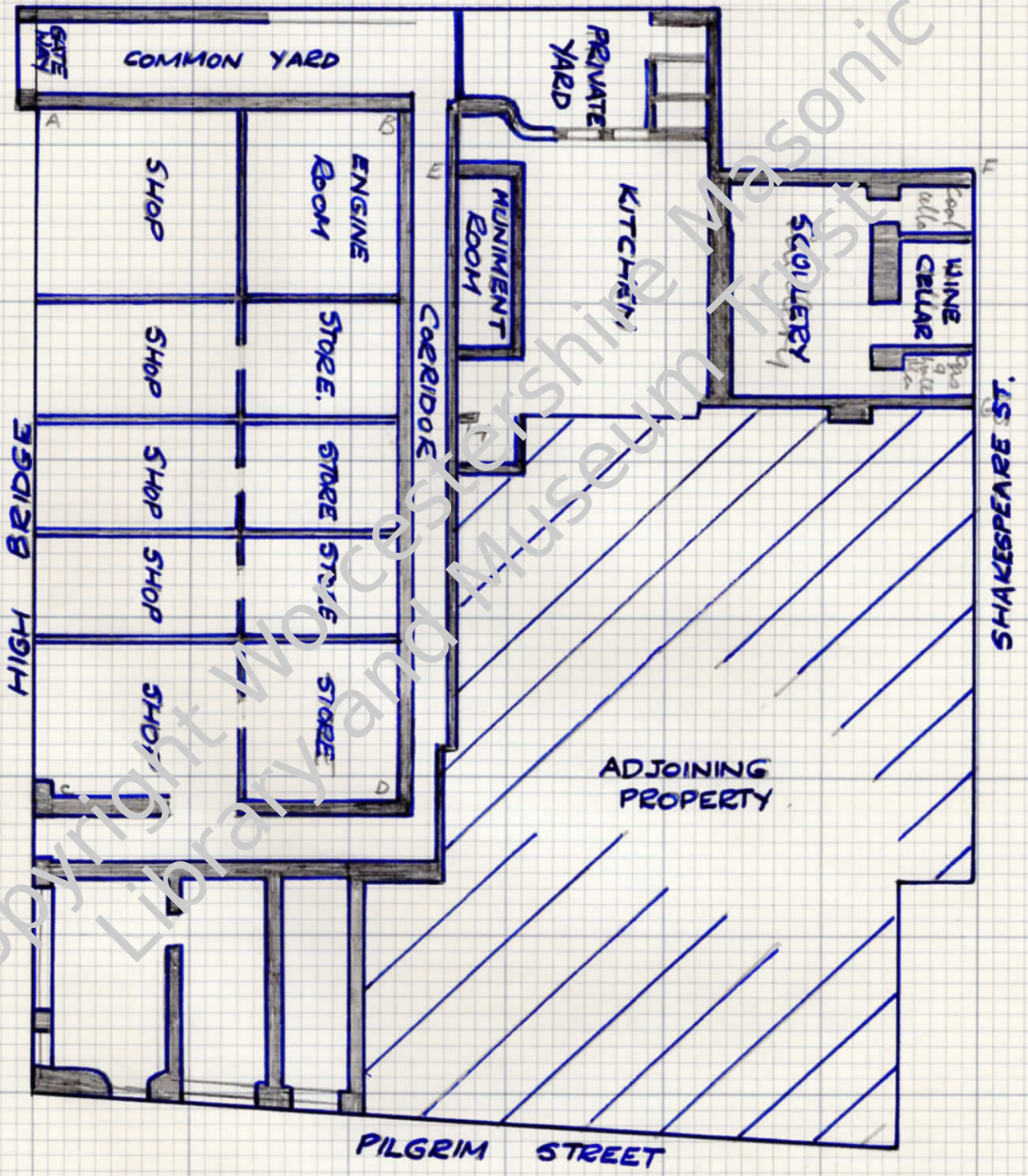
High Street

St. Mary's Church

Pilgrims St

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1" = 1/16" A



<u>BASEMENT</u> :-	Shops, Monument Room. Cellars etc. see Plans.
<u>GROUND FLOOR</u> :-	Grand Ball 72' x 34' [Lower ABCD] Shop, corner High Bridge & Pilgrim St. " Shakespeare St 2 - large cloak rooms.
<u>ENTRESOL PLAN</u> :-	Upper part of Grand Ball, 72' x 34'. Dressing Rooms 2 Ball 40' x 30' 40' x 24' over EFGH.
<u>FIRST FLOOR</u> :-	Meeting Room over Grand Ball (set back from High Bridge) 64' x 34' 64' x 27' Ball 34' x 24' (corner High Bridge 34' & Pilgrim St. 24') Meeting Room 40' x 26' over EFGH.
<u>SECOND FLOOR</u> :-	Meeting Room 28' x 23' corner High Bridge (28') & Pilgrim St (23'). Meeting Room 32' x 24' over EFGH. Library 20' x 14', front High Bridge (immediately below the 28' x 23' Meeting Room).

Telephone
65-5257

28, SEFTON AVENUE,

HEATON,

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, 6.

NEWCASTLE CENTRAL MASONIC HALL, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

4th January 1893: Block plan passed by the Town Improvement Committee, for "Site for new Central Masonic Hall Co. Ltd." at corner of High Bridge, and Pilgrim Street.

26th April 1893: Plan showing amendments to "Ducrow Public House" endorsed "The Newcastle-On-Tyne Central Masonic Halls Co. having re-sold the Ducrow Public House, Shakespeare Street, Newcastle, submits an amended plan showing the boundaries of the property and also that portion of the alterations to be abandoned in consequence of such resale." -- ~~rejected by~~ Rejected by same Committee.

10th May 1893: Amended plan of proposed alterations passed.
Architect -- A. P. Farthing, 21, Pilgrim Street.

See A

13th September 1893: Plans fully detailed for new Masonic Hall, Pilgrim Street, passed by Committee, prepared by John Johnson, A.R.I.B.A. 9, ~~10~~ Queen Victoria Street, Mansion House, London, E.C. (See B)

West
Newcastle Masonic Hall Co., Ltd. offices 9, Grainger Street, Newcastle.

24th April, 1895 Amended plans passed by Committee.

Sub-basement	Cellar
Basement	Shops, Stores, Kitchen, Scullery and Muniment Room.
Ground floor	Public Hall and cloakrooms
Entresol	Upper part of public hall, dressing room and refreshment, Ball and supper room
First floor	Royal Arch Chapter room, Tyler's room, Grand Central Lodge room and ante rooms, smaller Lodge room.
Second floor	Mark Master Masons room, upper part of Grand Central Lodge room, equerries room and Knight Templars encampment.

10th July 1901: Plans of proposed Alterations to Masonic Buildings for Messrs. Runciman were approved.

Block plan shows building (without Shakespeare Street frontage, as "~~Cent~~" "Central Masonic Hall".

19th September 1901 :-- Further plans: 24th December 1901 - further plans All refer to "Central Masonic Hall".

~~10th April 1907:~~

10th April, 1907: Alterations to Moor Buildings

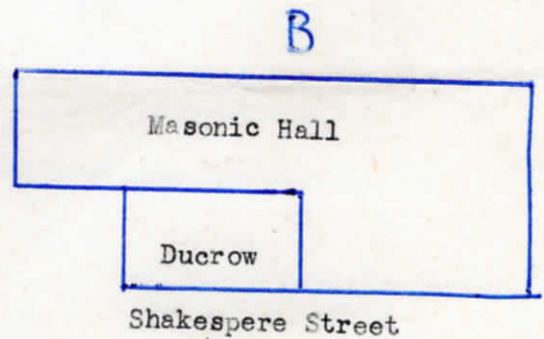
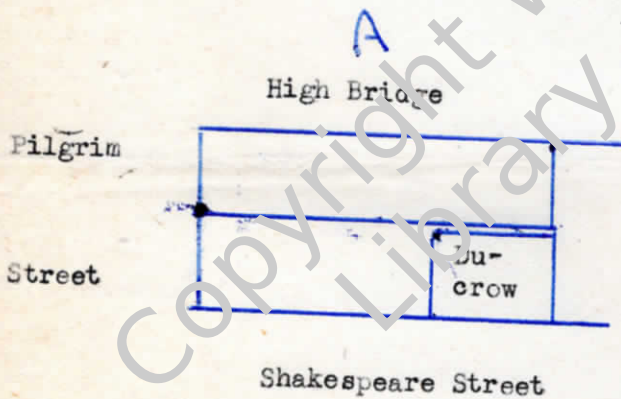
6th October 1909: Ditto, still shows "Temple Room".

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4th January 1893: Plan (in pieces). Showing proposed alterations to Ducrow Public House, Shakespeare Street, Newcastle, making it a lock-up bar and alehouse so that the premises above may be used for Masonic Lodge meetings and other purposes; shows area on Moor Building site marked "New Masonic Hall"

Further plans approved 1922, 1950 and 1956: No further reference to Temple.

There is a corner stone on the building - laid 25th July 1894 "with full Masonic Ceremonial".



Basement. Shops. Miniment Room. Cellars.

Ground Floor

Grand Ball 72' x 34' over ABCD
Shop Corner High Bridge & Palam St
" Shakespeare St
2 Cloak Rooms large.

Centerset Plan
1st floor

Upper part of Grand Ball 72' x 34'
Dressing Rooms 2
Hall 40' x 30' over EFGH
40' x 24'

First floor

Meeting Room over Grand Ball
(set back from High Bridge)
64' x 34' 64' x 27'
Hall 34' x 24' (corner High Bridge (34')
& Palam St (24'))
Meeting Room 40' x 26' over EFGH

Second floor

Library about 20' x 14'
Meeting Room 28' x 23' corner High Bridge & Palam St
Meeting Room 32' x 24' over EFGH 28' High Bridge
23' Palam
Space over grandball not designated
Left from High St
elevators

20' fronting High Bridge below
Meeting Room 28' x 23'

14th May 1961.

My dear Robert.

Further to my letter of yesterday, I have this A.M. received the enclosed which gives more detailed information than the one I posted yesterday & has come from W. Bro. Fred Mitchell as 28 Sefton Avenue is his home address but he did not include any note as to ~~who~~ from whom the information came, but I rather feel that it has come from W. Bro. Walter Robinson who loaned me the Book of the accompanying notes which I hope you have read this A.M.

I must say that I have found this whole matter quite interesting & hope that the present note fits the purpose you are searching for.

I doubt if much more can be discovered but if more comes to hand I will post it on to you.

I tentatively discussed the matter with two additional friends last evening but neither could supply anything more than we already have, - on the contrary I was able to tell them things about the Maronic Hall which they did not know.

P.S. Did I tell you that last week I was offered the office of Assist Sec in the Royal Order

as a hobby & I sincerely

Yours truly
Walter Robinson

Telephone
65-5257

28, SEFTON AVENUE,
HEATON,
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, 6.

Notes provided by Walter Robinson re the Newcastle Central Masonic Hall.

First suggestion made in Provincial Grand Lodge 11th November 1864 and considered impracticable.

Foundation stone laid 25th July 1894.

Provincial Grand Lodge -- 24th November 1896 -- resolved to "Call in" all Provincial investments and invest same in the new Hall.

Provincial Grand Lodge - 29th December 1897 (first held in the new Hall) -- Provincial Grand Master (Sir Matthew White Ridley) referred to financial difficulties with the new Hall which had NOT been surmounted. He also said that "certain" brethren had made promises that these would be overcome.

Membership of Province 1897 was 2787 and number of Lodges 28.

Craft Lodges: Newcastle No. 24	Northern Counties 406
St. Peter's 481	De Lorraine 541
Walker 1342	Percy 1427
St. Nicholas 1676	Hotspur 1627
St. John's 1712	Ridley 2260
Prince of Wales 2520	Temperance 2557
Delaval 2568	Swinburne 2680

Mark Lodges: Northumberland & Berwick T.I. Tristram 346

R. A. M. Lodge: ~~Northumberland & Berwick~~ Berwick

R.A. Chapters: De Swinburne De Sussex St. Peter's

All met at Pilgrim Street in 1899; also Knight Templars, Rose Coix, Allied, &c.

Lodges 685 Northumberland and 2666 Reserve Forces met at Grainger Street.

Northumbrian Masters Lodge, No. 3477

Secretary:

L. E. L. JONES,

Phone: NEWCASTLE 81-1907

16, Tankerville Terrace,

Jesmond,

Newcastle upon Tyne, 2.

26th April 1961

Dear W. Bro Mitchell

In reply to your letter of yesterday, the Masonic Temple at Pilgrim Street was I believe included in the design of the building when it was erected about 1901-2. I have seen photographs of the interior of the Temple when it was ready for use.

It appears that the promoters of this scheme circulated the Newcastle Lodges and I have seen minutes of Lodges when the proposed move to Pilgrim Street was discussed. I am certain that some Lodges, mostly I believe from Magpie Terrace met there for about two years. I think the dates are 1902-1904 but cannot be certain of this without searching for information.

However the annual cost was so high that the scheme was a complete failure and the few Lodges (I am not certain how many) who had moved there returned to their former meeting places. When I have time I will sort out the facts, at the moment I can have this general picture of the story.

Attention has been focused on this former venture recently by the uncovering of an inscribed foundation stone which appears to have been laid with full masonic honours. This stone had been concealed by business name plates for many years.

I think it is well for us to keep in mind this story of a

failure to provide additional accommodation when we recall
the failure of initially the same generation of masons to occupy
the Old Assembly Rooms.

Finally I would say that I have no notion of this Pelgrims
Street Temple to hand and the details I quote are from memory.
They could be a year or two out, but the story is substantiated in
in essence.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely

Leslie E. Jones

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Mark Masonry

Provincial Grand Lodge of Northumberland.

FREDERICK MITCHELL, P.G.D.

PROVINCIAL GRAND SECRETARY

TELEPHONE 2-2552

27th April 1961

61, WESTGATE ROAD,

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, 1.

Dear Bernard,

Herewith a letter from W. Bro. Leslie Jones in reference to your enquiry as to the Masonic Hall in Pilgrim Street.

This morning I had a conversation with W. Bro. J. Mutch, of the N/cle Wherry Co., who told me that his two Chiefs held 100 shares in the N/cle Central Masonic Hall Co. dated 1892 and he referred me to Bro. Harold ^{Dodds} Jones (of Runciman's Office) and he said that ^{Dodds} Jones is a member of a Whitley Lodge. Perhaps you know him or can get in touch with him, because I have not contacted him or even tried to do so. Any further information which comes to me I will send on to you.

Yours very sincerely and fraternally,

Frederick Mitchell

Springfield
Cullinstown.

TELEPHONE: 20884 (5 Lines)
TELEGRAMS:
"UNIONIST, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE."

Northern
Conservative and Unionist Club,
Newcastle upon Tyne, 1.

24. 5. 61

My dear Robert,

Herewith a further letter per Fred Mitchell which he gave me about a fortnight ago but I did not then send it on as there was not much new in it. Mitchell was expecting a letter from the Secretaries from another lodge - Dr. Lavaine I think - which has some old minute books but this has not yet come to hand & his researches may not have brought anything to light.

I think it was in my letter to you of 4th inst. which had been typed by Fred Mitchell that I suggested that the information had come from Walter Robinson - that is not so - Mitchell's son-in-law is a Civil Engineer with the City Engineer's Dept. & he searched the City's archives of the appropriate (- "relevant" - is a better word) dates & extracted that information. They also have copies of the Architects' plans.

Mitchell put these notes in a
Typewritten form as he wanted to send
a copy to Leslie Jones who is The
Sec^y of the Northumberland District
 Lodge & also acts as Hon. Librarian
to the Province at their Office &c.
at Broomfield Hall - he mentions
Broomfield in the enclosed letter.

Re. Royal Order, Case that we
have 2 Candidates for the 3rd June
so I am hoping you will be
able to support me in the little
bit that I had to do.

As you say I go to Assint. Sec^y next
Year so I will not have anything
to do - Where do you go?

The Meeting you attended at
Quentry for the Installation of a
Blind Brother must have been
unusually interesting, but what
an ordeal for the Brothers!

I am looking forward to the 3rd ult.
so until then.

Believe me, as always

Edward H. Brown

From

Tel. 81-4132

ARTHUR ROGERS,

Dealer in Rare Books and Pictures,

39 ST. GEORGE'S TERRACE,

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, 2

To.....

May 2nd 19 61

DEBTOR TO WE CAN QUOTE PLEASE SEND PLEASE QUOTE BOOKS WANTED BOOKS FOR SALE

In using this form *cross through* all the words except those which indicate the subject matter of the *writing*.

Robert S. Blackledge, Esq.,
68 Hollyfield Road,
Sutton Coldfield.

Dear Mr. Blackledge,

I have made some exhaustive enquiries about the Newcastle views about which you wrote in April, but regret to report that I have not been able to find anything. I know that I have seen at least some of them in the past, in the shape of picture postcards and if I come across any of them in the future will let you know.

With compliments,

Yours faithfully


Manager

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Northumbrian Masters Lodge, No. 3477

Secretary:

L. E. L. JONES,

Phone: NEWCASTLE 81-1907

16, Tankerville Terrace,

Jesmond,

Newcastle upon Tyne, 2.

5th May 1961.

Dear W Bro. Fred.

Thank you very much indeed for the information with regard to the Newcastle Central Menonic Hall.

I have been round to Broomfield and have been looking up the old Northumbrian Year Books and from them I have obtained the following information.

Year Books examined 1897 - 1905.

The following Leaps were received as meeting at

the Central Menonic Hall.

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Newcastle upon Tyne Leaps No 24. | 1897 - 1903 | New Old Assembly Rooms. |
| Northumbrian Leaps No 1006. | 1897 - 1904 | New Old Assembly Rooms. |
| St Peter's Leaps No 481. | 1897 - 1901 | New Maple Terrace |
| Leaps Belovains No 241. | 1897 - 1903 | New Old Assembly Rooms. |
| Walker Leaps No 342. | 1897 - 1903 | New Old Assembly Rooms |
| Percy Leaps No 1427. | 1897 - 1901. | New Maple Terrace |
| Horsman Leaps No 1626. | 1897 - 1900 1899. | |
| St Nicholas Leaps No 1676. | 1897 - 1903 | New Old Assembly Rooms. |
| St James Leaps No 1712 | 1897 - 1903 | New Maple Terrace |
| Kidley Leaps No 2260. | 1897 - 1899. | (1900 - 1 Central Menonic Hall or Grainger Street afterwards Grainger Street). |
| Prince of Wales Leaps No 2520 | 1897 - 1903 | New Old Assembly Rooms. |

Northumbrian Masters Lodge, No. 3477

Secretary :

L. E. L. JONES,

Phone : NEWCASTLE 81-1907

16, Tankerville Terrace,

Jesmond,

Newcastle upon Tyne, 2.

2.
Newcastle Lodge No 2568 1897-1901 again April 10th 1902-9
Maple Terrace.

Newcastle Lodge No 2680 1898 - 1903 then Old Assembly Rooms.

I will try and find year books earlier than 1897. As

that the above information is supplemented.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

L. E. L. Jones

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REFERENCE

- 1 Central Railway Station
- 2 Stephenson's Monument
- 3 Literary & Phil^s. Society. Museum. School of Design. Mining Institute & Coal Trade Office
- 4 Medical College
- 4 Castle & Antiquar^y Museum
- 5 County Courts
- 6 New Town Hall
- 7 Messrs Hodgkin & Co Bank
- 8 Post Office. Arcade
- 9 Messrs Woods & Co Bank
- 10 Printing Court Buildings
- 11 Guild Hall
- 12 London & Northern Bank
- 13 Custom House
- 14 Baths & Wash Houses
- 15 Gaol & House of Correction
- 16 Branch Bank of England
- 17 Theatre Royal
- 18 Messrs Lambton & Co Bank
- 19 Central Exchange
- 20 Butcher & Green Market
- 21 Music Hall
- 22 Lecture Room
- 23 Grey's Monument
- 24 Mechanics Institute
- 25 Baths & Wash Houses
- 26 Subscription Public Baths
- 27 Assembly Rooms
- 28 Savings Bank
- 29 Stephenson's Engine Works
- 30 Hawthorn's Do
- 31 Swinburn's Glass Works
- 32 Elswick Lead Works
- 35 Sir William Armstrong's Works
- 34 Infirmary
- 35 St Nicholas Church
- 36 St John's Do
- 37 St Thomas' Do
- 38 St Andrew's Do
- 39 All Saints Do
- 40 St Mary's Do Gateshead
- 41 Friends Meeting House
- 42 Unitarian Chapel
- 45 Blackett Street Do Presbyterian
- 44 Brunsvick Place Do Methodist
- 45 Waley Do Free Methodist
- 46 St Paul's Do Independent
- 47 Bonick Street Do Baptist
- 48 Roman Catholic Do
- 49 St Mary's Church
- 50 St Paul's Do
- 51 St Peter's Do
- 52 Clayton Memorial Church
- 53 Bath Lane Chapel
- 54 Wesleyan Do Gateshead
- 55 Roman Catholic Do Do
- 56 Mechanics Institute Do
- 57 Messrs Abbots Works Do
- 58 Messrs Hawks, Greenhay & Co Works

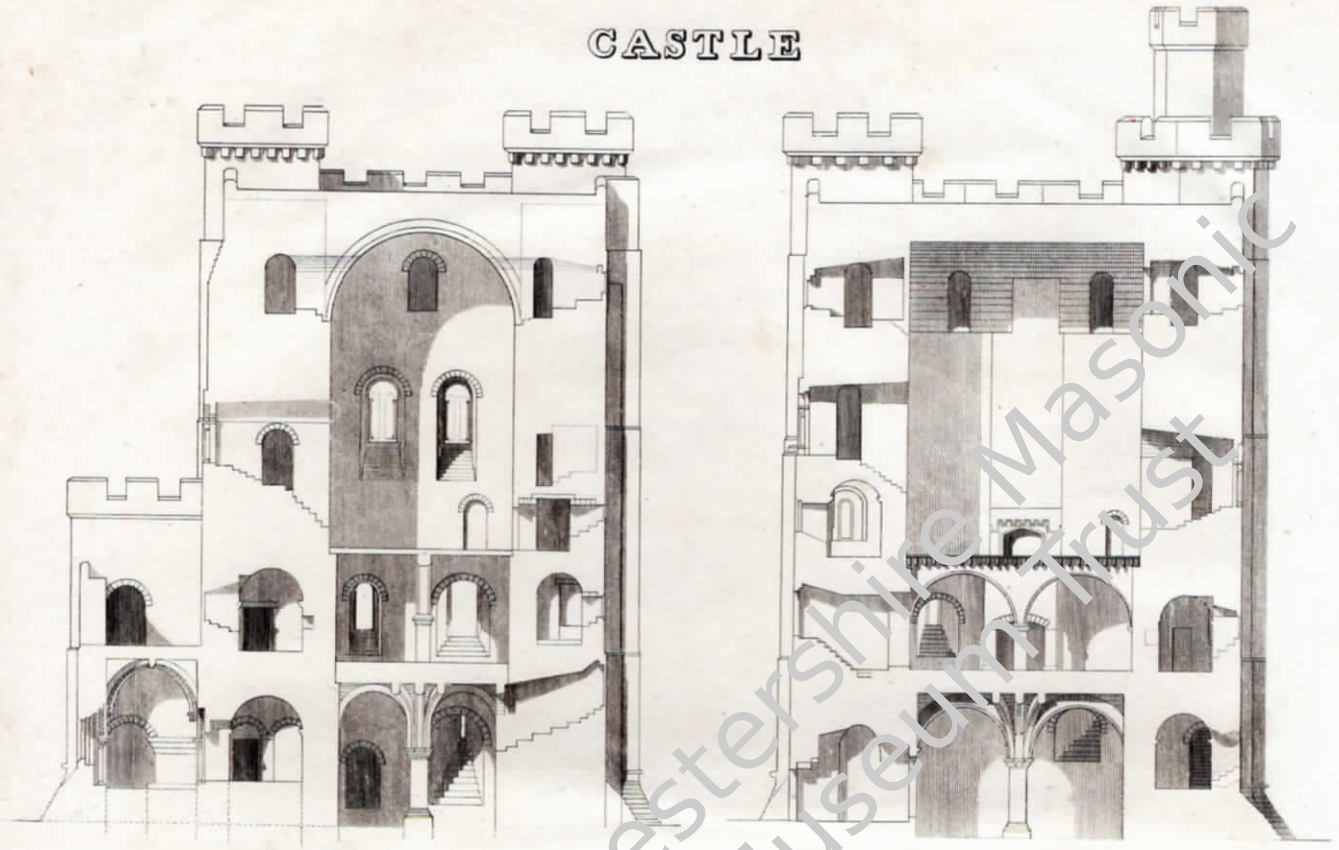


Plan
TO
REID'S HAND BOOK
OF
NEWCASTLE.

1863

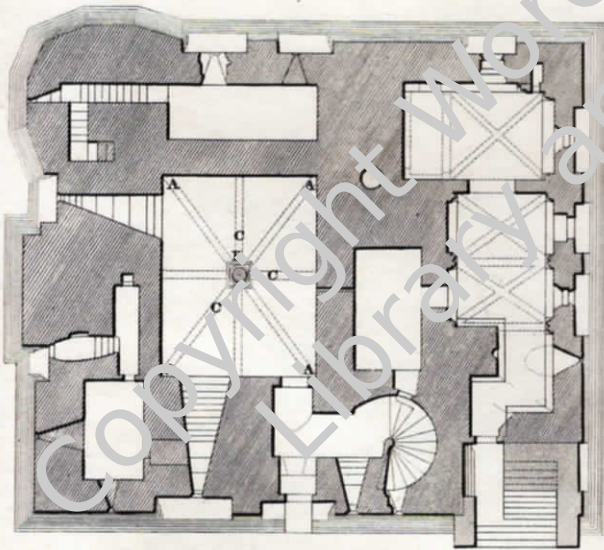
The Roman Wall is shown thus - - -

CASTLE

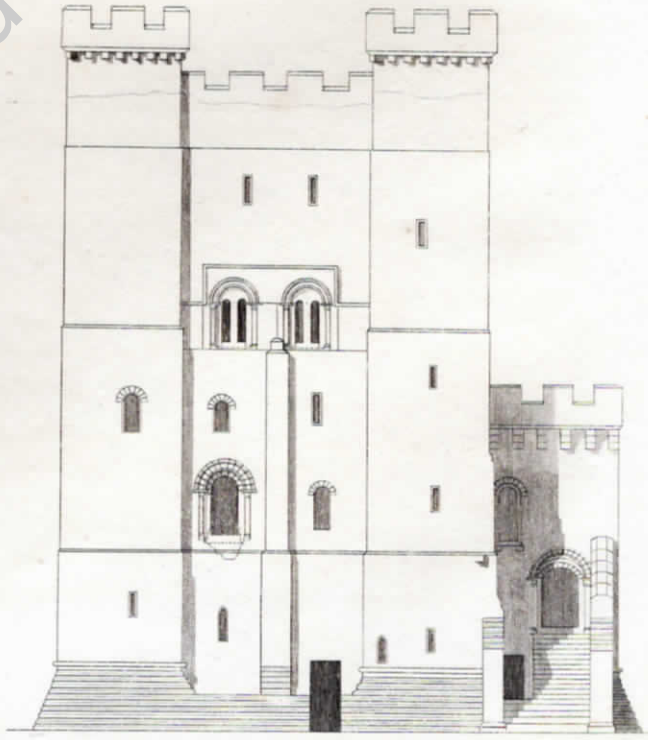


SECTION FROM EAST TO WEST

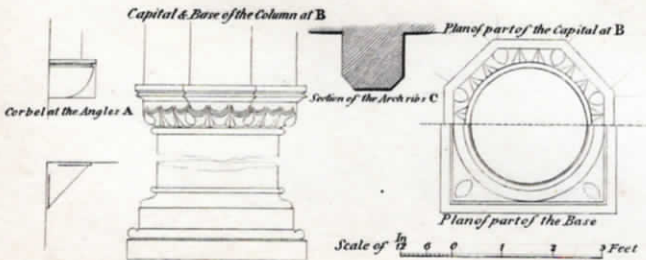
SECTION FROM NORTH TO SOUTH



PLAN OF THE GROUND STORY



SOUTH ELEVATION



Scale of $\frac{1}{12}$ 6 0 1 2 3 Feet

0 3 10 20 30 40 50 60 Feet

Engraved by J. Knox from Drawings by M. J. Debon Architect

