



Address	Millennium Forum
Name	Millennium Forum
Map Reference	N1
Plot Number	95-103
Listed Building Reference Grade	no n/a n/a
Conservation Area Reference	yes historic city
Building at Risk Reference	no n/a
Date of Construction	2000
Original Use	arts centre/retail
Present Use	arts centre/retail

Description

Approached by a number of steps at East Wall in the City, the building is designed by HMD Architects Ltd, and built by J C Kennedy & Co. the total project cost was £13.8million with funding from the Arts Council Lottery Fund of £2.5million, Derry City Council and Millennium Commission. The building received a number of architectural awards, including a Civic Trust Award and the RICS Award for Excellence in the Built Environment in Northern Ireland both in 2003.

‘The Millennium Forum was designed for a mix of community and professional performances. A large stone-clad building, with stylish internal spaces which use a variety of high quality, well finished natural materials, on a plan echoing the historic street plan of the old city, it is well sited within the city’s East Wall – a highly sensitive historic site. The dominating feature is an elliptical ‘lozenge’-shaped copper dome...The site slopes steeply downwards in the direction of the Foyle, allowing for lower entrance access from the walls, this entrance now marked by a sculpture (‘Untitled’) by Anthony Gormley relocated from another site on the walls. The facilities include a 1,012-seat trapezoidal oak-filled theatre auditorium, indoor shops, restaurant, conference rooms, a bar and a coffee shop.’

Building for the Arts, Arts Council

‘The internal spaces of the building combine natural materials in a stylish, spacious situation...its location is similarly impressive, standing on a steep site beside the old City walls.’

Civic Trust Awards, 2003

History

Site formerly occupied by a large number of buildings fronting on to Newmarket Street, East Wall and Linenhall Street (Rosemary Lane). The 1834 valuation map indicates the Linen Hall, built circa 1770, demolished circa 1860, replaced by the YMCA in 1867 which was later extended with the addition of a Gymnasium in 1891. 1834 valuation map also indicates the meat market being close to the site. The area became known as the new Shambles, replacing Butcher Street. Meat market established 1775, active until circa 1855.

The 1899 valuation map indicates the presence of the Wesleyan Chapel, YMCA and Gymnasium, McMahon's Hotel, 4no. shops, 4no. offices and 8no. houses. Buildings were generally two and three-storey to Newmarket Street, three and three-and-a-half storeys plus basement to East Wall and two or three storeys to Linenhall Street.

In 1970 the buildings were in a very poor state of repair and a number had already been demolished at the foot of Linenhall Street and used as a surface car park. The site as a whole was substantially cleared by 1973, the lone remaining building, the former YMCA demolished some time later. The site remained vacant until the building of the Millennium Forum completed in 2000.

'East Wall Terrace

The Registry Office of the Diocese of Derry is at the office of Samuel L Crawford Esq, Solicitor and Deputy Register, East Wall.'

Annals of Derry, Robert Simpson, 1847

Owners/Tenants

1 East Wall

1876	William Johnston
1879	William Johnston
1884	Lowery E Archibald
1889	Lowery A Archibald
1895	Samuel M'Ilhinney; Phillip O'Hagan, solicitors; Michael Downey
1905	Samuel M'Elhinney; Phillip O'Hagan, solicitors; Michael Downey, office; R. Hastings
1909	Philip O'Hagan, solicitor, USA Consul; Michael Downey, office; Mrs Stewart
1918	Michael Downey, office; Mrs Stewart
1927	P F Casey, office; National Sailor's and Fireman's Union; National Amalgamated Union of Labour
1941	Irish Union Association; Mrs M'Laughlin
1949	John Caldwell; Frank Courtney
1953	John Caldwell
c1970	demolished
2000	Millennium Forum

1876+1884-1953 Derry Almanac; 1879 Giveen's Almanac; and others

2 East Wall

1876	John Christie
1879	John Christie
1884	John Christy
1889	John Christy
1895	John Christy
1905	Samuel Morrison, solicitor; J M C Knox, architect; Joseph Dunn, office; R J B Harper
1909	Samuel Morrison, solicitor; J M C Knox, architect
1918	J R Lynn, BA, LLB, Morrison & Lynn, solicitor; J M C Knox, architect; H M Coastguard office
1927	J M C Knox, architect
1941	J M C Knox, architect
1949	The Belfast Advance Co. Ltd; Edwards & Co; J M C Knox, architect; Ministry of Pensions
1953	The Belfast Advance Co. Ltd; Edwards & Co; J M C Knox, architect; Ministry of Pensions
c1970	demolished
2000	Millennium Forum

1876+1884-1953 Derry Almanac; 1879 Giveen's Almanac; and others

3 East Wall

1879	Hugh Galbraith
1884	Patrick M'Mahon
1889	Patrick M'Mahon
1895	Patrick MacMahon, hotel
1905	Mrs MacMahon, hotel
1909	Mrs MacMahon, hotel
1918	Mrs MacMahon, hotel
1927	P A Sherry
1941	Joseph Reid
1949	tenement house
1953	tenement house
c1970	demolished
2000	Millennium Forum

1884-1953 Derry Almanac; 1879 Giveen's Almanac; and others

4 East Wall

John Guy Ferguson appears in the 1876 and 1884 Derry Almanac; and in Giveen's Almanac 1879. Also see P17, 20 Pump Street and L2, 9-13 London Street.

'John Guy Ferguson, architect, was a son of John Ferguson, also an architect who designed Christ Church (CI), Infirmary Road, Derry, built 1830. J G Ferguson was in practice from 1861-1863 as a member of the firm of Frazer Ferguson & Frazer. In 1868 he was appointed architect to the diocese of Derry and Raphoe. By this year he had set up in business on his own in Shipquay Street, Derry, whence he removed to East Wall [no.4] in 1875 and to Pump Street in 1891 [1889?]. His son had joined him in the practice by 1895.' 'Ferguson died 'at a very advanced age' at the beginning of 1901. The brief notice of his death in the *Irish Builder* describes him as 'a prominent Freemason and Orangeman'. The following year a mural tablet to his memory was erected in the vestibule of the Apprentice Boys' Memorial Hall, which had been built to his designs. His pupils and assistants included Edward J Toye, architect.

Dictionary of Irish Architects 1720-1940, Irish Architectural Archive, 2012

1876	John Guy Ferguson
1879	John Guy Ferguson C E
1884	John Guy Ferguson C E
1905	Mrs MacMahon, hotel
1909	Mrs MacMahon, hotel
1918	Mrs MacMahon, hotel
1927	Mary Creggan?
1949	Mrs Juliane Smiley; Catholic Social Services; S Delpinto
c1970	demolished
2000	Millennium Forum

1876+1884-1949 Derry Almanac; 1879 Giveen's Almanac; and others

5 East Wall

1876	James M'Knight, LLD
1879	J E O'Doherty, solicitor
1884	Jas E O'Doherty
1889	O'Doherty & Toland, office
1895	J E O'Doherty, solicitor
1905	James E O'Doherty; James E O'Donnell
1909	James E O'Doherty; James E O'Donnell; Charles O'Doherty

1918	Jas E O'Doherty & Co.; James E O'Donnell; Charles O'Doherty
1927	Jas E O'Doherty & Co.; James E O'Donnell
1941	Jas E O'Doherty & Co.; James E O'Donnell
c1970	demolished
2000	Millennium Forum

1876+1884-1941 Derry Almanac; 1879 Giveen's Almanac; and others

6 East Wall

An occupied Methodist Manse is listed next to the Methodist Chapel. See also Methodist Chapel next in list; and see also No. 8 East Wall.

1876	Joseph Logan
1879	Joseph Logan
1889	Rev. James Donnelly, Methodist Manse
1895	Rev. W H Quarry, Methodist Manse
1905	vacant
1909	vacant
1918	vacant
1941	tenement house
1949	tenement house
1953	tenement house
c1970	demolished
2000	Millennium Forum

1876+1889-1953 Derry Almanac; 1879 Giveen's Almanac; and others

7 East Wall: Methodist Chapel

New Wesleyan Methodist Chapel

'The New Wesleyan Methodist Chapel is situated between Linen Hall Street and the northeast bastion. It was opened on Sunday the 8th of November 1835, on which occasion the service was performed by the Rev Mr Beaumont, of Edinburgh. Much pecuniary assistance was rendered to the congregation by members of other persuasions. The Lord Bishop of Derry attended and acted as one of the collectors. The estimated expense is £1100, which has been raised by a subscription to which the Irish Society have contributed £100. The lower story is intended for a vestry room and a school room for 300 children. The front, which is Doric, was tastefully designed by Mr Smyth, of Belfast. The Chapel can accommodate 650 persons.'

Ordnance Survey of the County of Londonderry, Thomas Colby, 1837

'The Primitive Wesleyan Methodist Chapel is situated below Butcher's gate, in Magazine Street. It was, we believe, originally a store but was converted into a Preaching house in 1765, on the first visit of John Wesley to Derry in 1765, and on that account the term Primitive has been latterly applied to it. The Preacher is not permanently settled.' 'The New Wesleyan Methodist Chapel which was raised by subscriptions in 1835 adjoins the East Wall within the City The situation and entrance are most eligible The front of the house is Doric and is tastefully executed The interior is respectable and well seated and affords accommodation for about 650 persons The Preachers are not permanently settled.'

Annals of Derry, Robert Simpson, 1847

The property appears as Old Methodist Chapel in the Derry Almanac of 1905. The property may have been out of use by this date. The Chapel is used as a factory. Then used as a Gospel Hall.

'This building was formerly the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, opened on 8 November 1835, to replace a former chapel built in Linenhall Street in 1768 and a Primitive Wesleyan Methodist Chapel erected in Magazine Street 1763. The façade is a severe neo-classical design with

pilasters in the Doric style, entablature, triglyphs, metopes and pediment, and possesses a fine doorway. The lower floor was intended for a vestry and school room. The building is rather disfigured by the name-sign of the present offices.'

Historic Buildings in and near the City of Derry, Ulster Architectural Heritage Society, 1970

1835	New Wesleyan Methodist Chapel
1876	Methodist Chapel
1879	Methodist Chapel
1884	Methodist Chapel
1889	Methodist Chapel
1895	Methodist Chapel
1905	Old Methodist Chapel
1909	R N Anderson, hosiery manufacturers
1918	Maclean & Reaper, factory
1927	Maclean & Reaper
1941	Gospel Hall
1949	Gospel Hall
1953	Gospel Hall
1969	Belfast Telegraph office
c1970	demolished
2000	Millennium Forum

1876+1884-1953 Derry Almanac; 1879 Giveen's Almanac; and others

8 East Wall

1876, 1879 and 1884: Property consistently occupied by Minister of Religion. This property is next to the Methodist Chapel; and close to the YMCA building located between No. 10 and No.11 East Wall. See also Methodist Chapel, No 7 East Wall; Methodist Manse, No. 6 East Wall.

1876	Rev. John Green
1879	Rev. John Moore
1884	Rev. Hugh M'Gahie
1889	Donald Macrea
1895	Samuel H Johnston, solicitor
1905	J M Robinson, CE; Guy & Co., house agents; Robert Mitchell
1909	Guy & Co., house agents; C G O'Brien
1941	tenement house
1949	tenement house
1953	tenement house
c1970	demolished
2000	Millennium Forum

1876+1884-1953 Derry Almanac; 1879 Giveen's Almanac; and others

9 East Wall

1876	Thomas Walker
1879	T Walker, commission agent
1884	Patrick Maxwell, office
1889	Patrick Maxwell, office
1895	Patrick Maxwell, solicitor
1905	Patrick Maxwell; R Henderson
1909	Patrick Maxwell
1918	Andrew Robb, solicitor; Mrs Maxwell
1927	Andrew Robb; Mrs Maxwell

1949	Michael Deery; Mrs M K M'Nally
1953	Tillie Donaghey; Dominick O'Doherty
c1970	demolished
2000	Millennium Forum

1876+1884-1953 Derry Almanac; 1879 Giveen's Almanac; and others

10 East Wall

1876	Richard Gallagher
1879	Richard Gallagher
1884	Joseph Crawford
1889	J Doherty
1905	Patrick Maxwell; R Henderson
1909	Patrick Maxwell
1918	Andrew Robb, solicitor; Mrs Maxwell
1927	Andrew Robb; Mrs Maxwell
1941	Jennie S Maxwell; Patrick Maxwell, MP
1949	Patrick Maxwell, MP
1953	Patrick Maxwell, MP
c1970	demolished
2000	Millennium Forum

1876+1884-1953 Derry Almanac; 1879 Giveen's Almanac; and others

Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA). (Un-numbered between No. 10 and No.11 East Wall)

'1867: YMCA Building, East Wall. Architect: J G Ferguson. Builders: Robert Ferguson & Sons. This building fronting on to East Wall, was opened in November 1867 at a cost of £20,000 [£3,000?]. It presents a neo-classical façade of pediments, pilasters and moulded string courses all finished in painted rendering. It is interestingly sited, being angled to East Wall. The gymnasium to the rear of the building was added in 1891 by W A Barker, architect. Recently the building has been re-decorated: this has effected a huge improvement.'

Historic Buildings in and near the City of Derry, Ulster Architectural Heritage Society, 1970

'YMCA News Rooms. Foundation stone laid Oct 1866. On site of the Old Linen Hall. Ionic order. Cornice enriched with medallions of heads of Calvin, Luther, Knox and Cranmer. Cost £3000.'

Dictionary of Irish Architects 1720-1940, Irish Architectural Archive, 2012

c1770	Linenhall
c1860	demolished
1876	Young Men's Christian Association
1879	Y M Christian Association
1884	Y M Christian Association
1889	Y M Christian Association
1895	Y M Christian Association
1905	Y M C A, Phillip Pass-more, caretaker
1909	Y M C A, John M'Clelland, caretaker
1918	Y M C A, John M'Clelland, caretaker
1927	Y M C A, Samuel Car-ruthers, caretaker
1941	Y M C A, Samuel Car-ruthers, caretaker
1949	Y M C A, Samuel Car-ruthers, caretaker
1953	Y M C A, Robert Simms, caretaker
c1980	demolished
2000	Millennium Forum

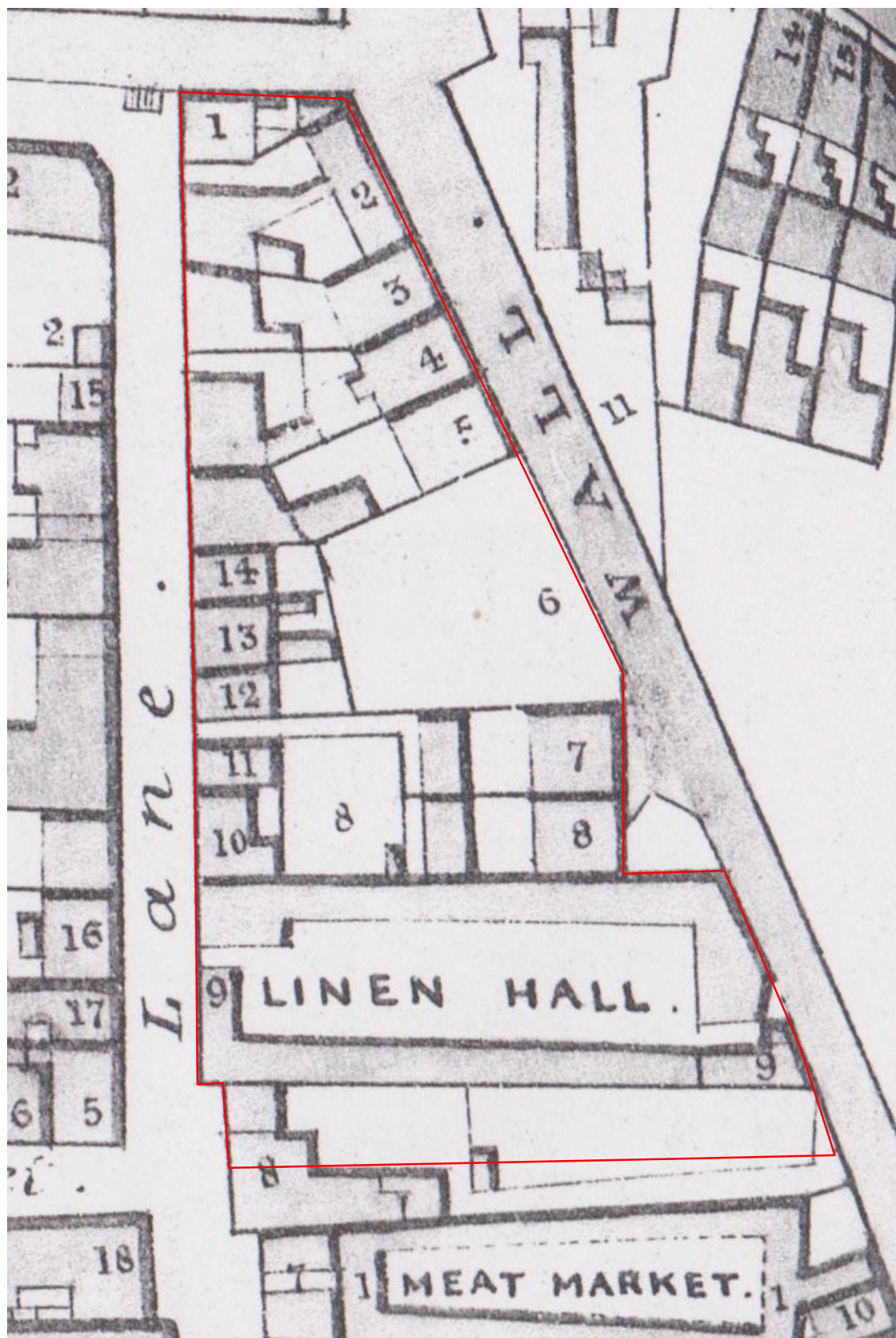
1876+1884-1953 Derry Almanac; 1879 Giveen's Almanac; and others

11 East Wall

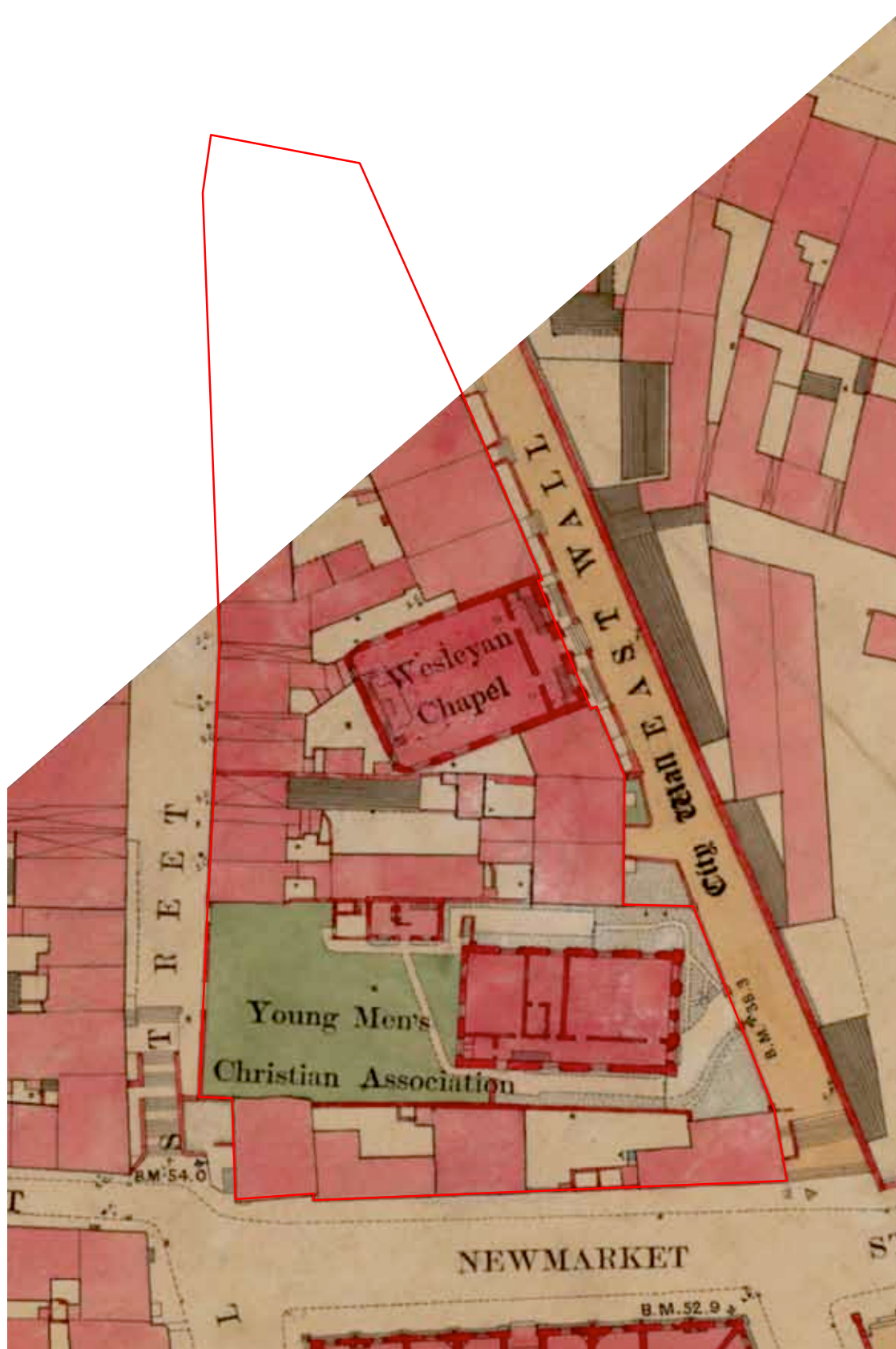
1876	Michael Henry
1879	M Henry, solicitor
1884	Andrew M'Cafferty and James M'Cafferty, office
1889	Andrew M'Cafferty and James M'Cafferty, office
1895	Thos. C Wylie, solicitor; T Johnston, architect and surveyor; City of Derry Advertising Company; John H Dahill
1905	T Johnston; Phillip O'Doherty
1909	T Johnston; Phillip O'Doherty MP
1918	Phillip O'Doherty MP
1927	Patrick Hutton
1941	S Johnston, carpenter
1949	Joseph Breslin
1953	Minnie Breslin
c1970	demolished
2000	Millennium Forum

1876+1884-1953 Derry Almanac; 1879 Giveen's Almanac; and others

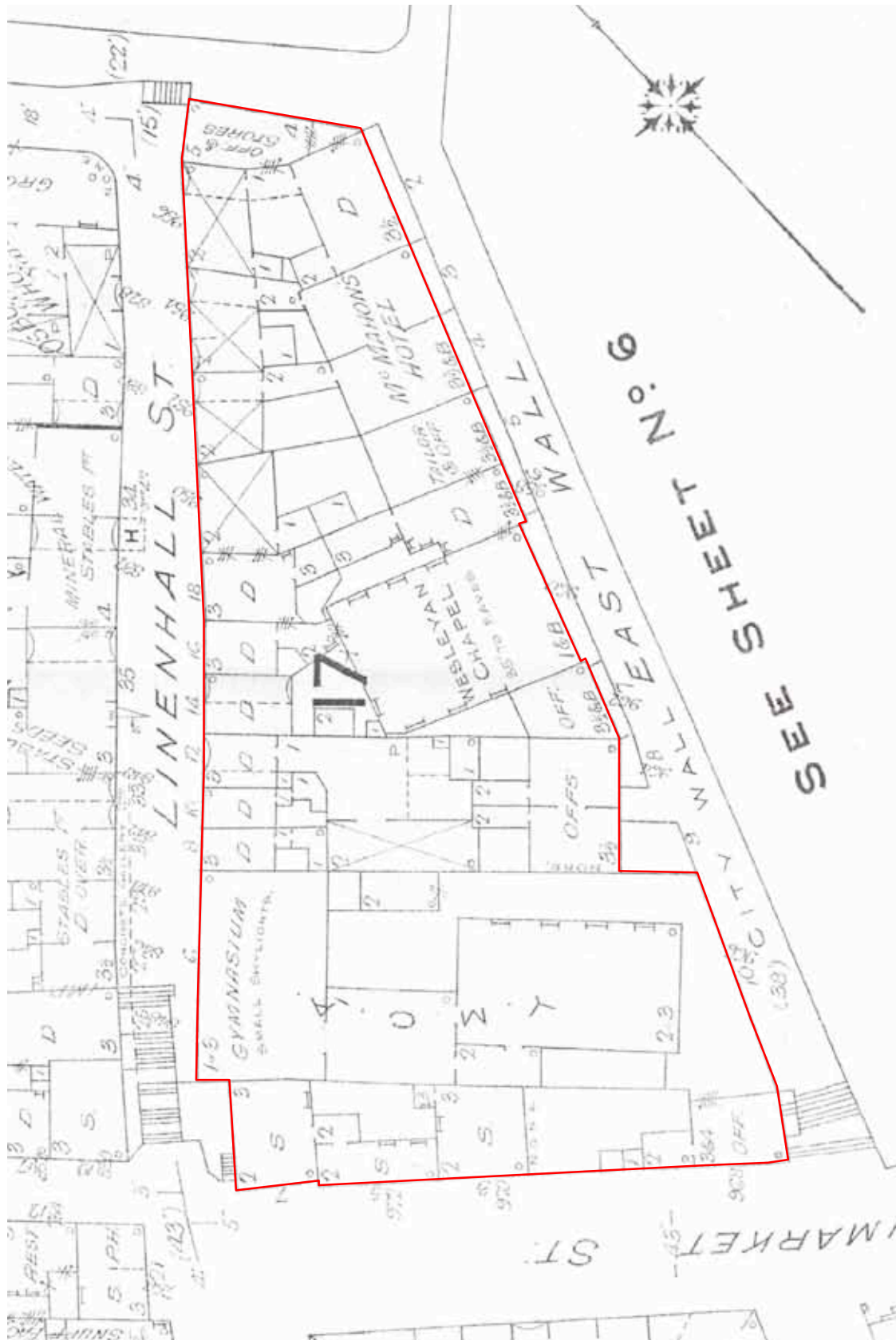
Archive Maps



Site of the Millennium Forum. Valuation Map, 1834

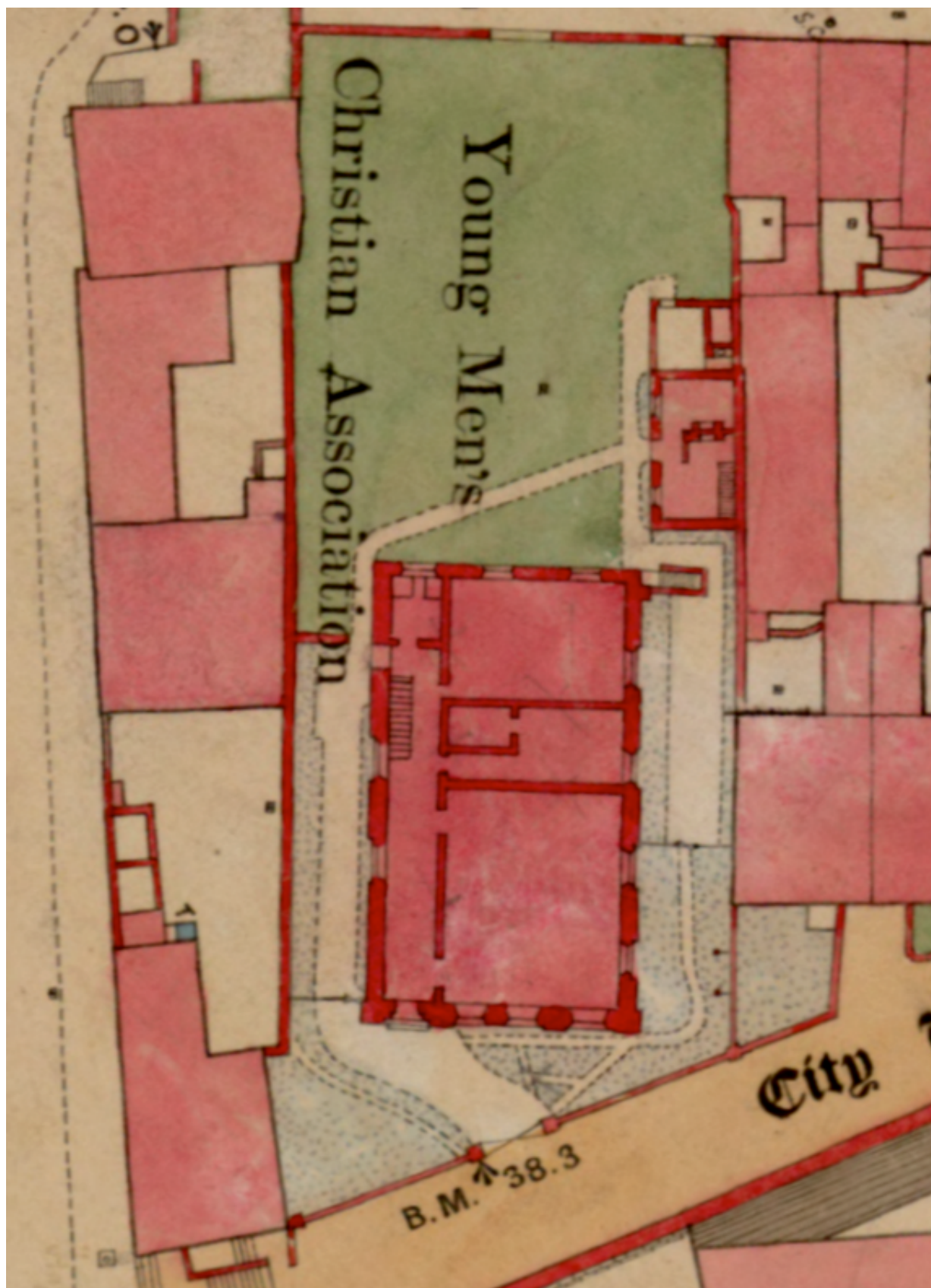


Site of the Millennium Forum. Ordnance Survey, 1873



Site of the Millennium Forum. Valuation Map, 1899

Archive Plan



Young Mens Christian Association. Ordnance Survey, 1873

Archive Images



East Wall, circa 1960s



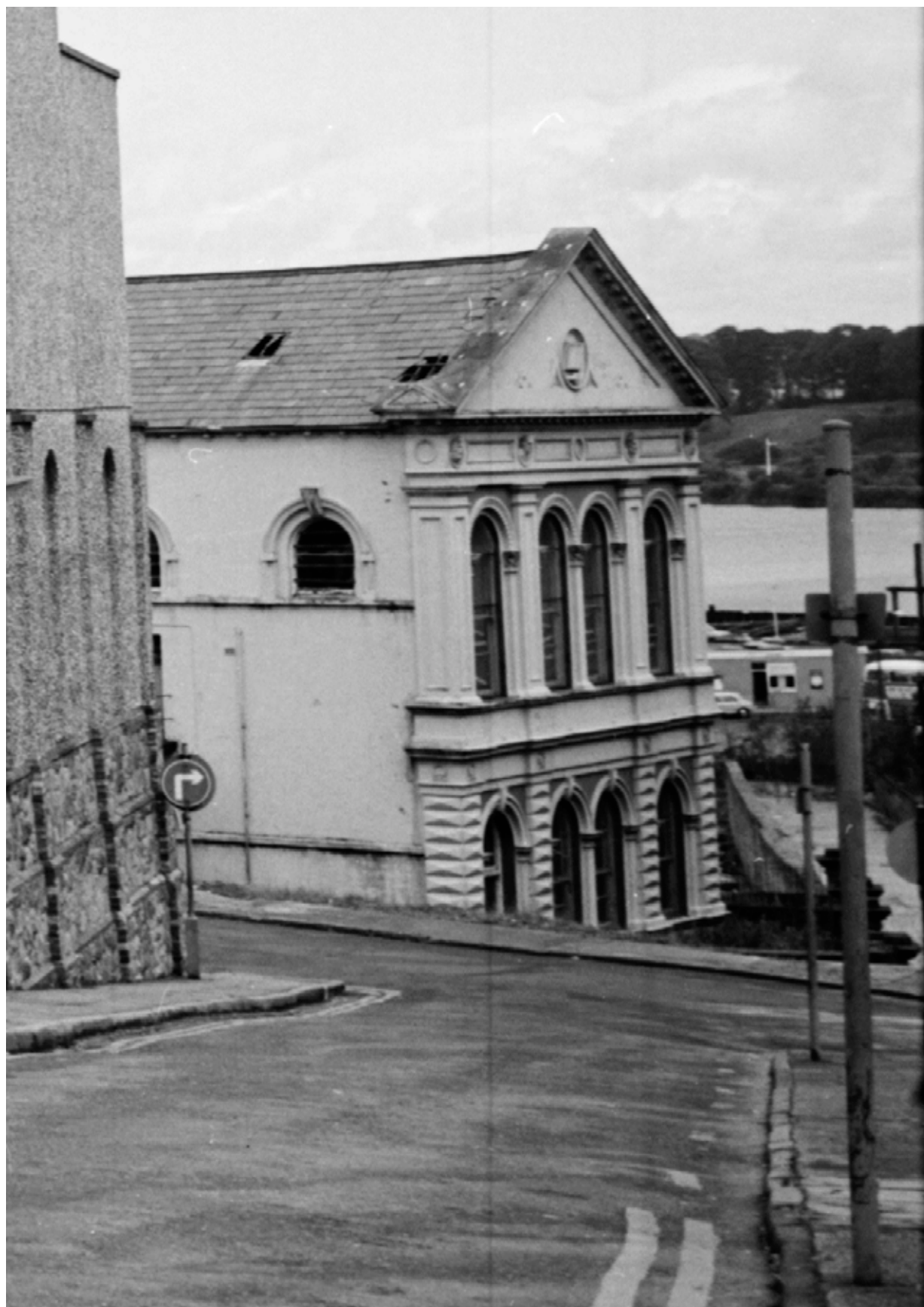
East Wall, circa 1960s



YMCA building, East Wall, circa 1960s



Former Methodist Chapel, East Wall



YMCA building, East Wall, circa 1973 (photo courtesy of DRD)



Demolition of buildings along East Wall, circa 1970



YMCA, Newmarket Street, circa 1973

Archive Articles

L. B. ARCHIBALD,
Commission Agent,
1, EAST WALL, LONDONDERRY,
— REPRESENTS —
JOHN ANDERSON & CO., Sugar Brokers, Greenock;
GALLAHER & CO., Tobacco Manufacturers, Belfast;
ALEXANDER FINLAY, Soap and Candle Manufacturers
Belfast;
W. & G. BOLDERSTON, Fruit Merchants, Liverpool;
JAMES GRAHAM, Fruit Merchant, Liverpool;
WILLIAM CLARK & SON, Cheese Merchants, Bristol.

Derry Almanac, 1889

MACMAHON'S PRIVATE HOTEL,
EAST WALL,
LONDONDERRY.

Derry Almanac, 1895

THOMAS JOHNSTON,
Architect AND Surveyor,
11, EAST WALL, DERRY.
Plans and Specifications for all kinds of Buildings
Carefully Prepared,
And the Work Personally Superintended.
PROPERTIES SURVEYED
And Maps Accurately and Neatly Prepared.
TERMS MODERATE.

Derry Almanac, 1895

J. M. C. KNOX,
Architect and
Surveyor, .
No. 2, EAST WALL,
LONDONDERRY.

Derry Almanac, 1905

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Commercial Union Fire.
Northern Fire.
Scottish Provident
Institution (Life).
Scottish Temperance
(Life).
7, EAST WALL, LONDONDERRY.

Derry Almanac, 1905

JOHN M. ROBINSON, C.E.,
Architect and
Surveyor, . .
7, EAST WALL,
LONDONDERRY.

Derry Almanac, 1905

THOMAS JOHNSTON,
Architect and Surveyor,
11, East Wall, and Newmarket Street, Derry ;
AND BUNCRANA.
— ★ —
*Plans and Specifications for all kinds of Buildings Carefully
Prepared, and the Work Personally Superintended.*
— ★ —
PROPERTIES SURVEYED,
And Maps Accurately and Neatly Prepared.
— ★ —
TERMS MODERATE.

Derry Almanac, 1905

THOMAS JOHNSTON
(Member Ulster Society of Architects),
Architect and Engineer,
11, East Wall, & Newmarket Street Buildings,
DERRY.
— ★ —
*Plans and Specifications for all kinds of Buildings carefully
prepared, and the Work Personally Superintended.*
— ★ —
PROPERTIES SURVEYED.
AND MAPS ACCURATELY AND
NEATLY PREPARED.

Derry Almanac, 1909

Michael Downey,
- - HOUSE AND - -
INSURANCE AGENT,
Secretary to . . .
The Paragon, East Wall (Terminating), and
City and Counties Building Societies,
AND
Commission Agent for the Sale or
Purchase of House Property.
OFFICES:
1, EAST WALL, LONDONDERRY.

Derry Almanac, 1909

Anderson & Co.,
HOSIERY
MANUFACTURERS,
EAST WALL AND LINENHALL STREET,
LONDONDERRY.
— ★ —

Derry Almanac, 1909

J. M. C. KNOX,
(Member Ulster Society of Architects),
Architect and —
— *Surveyor,*
No. 2, EAST WALL,
LONDONDERRY.

Derry Almanac, 1909

Michael Downey,
HOUSE AND
INSURANCE AGENT,
Secretary to City and Counties Building Society,
— AND —
COMMISSION AGENT FOR THE SALE
OR PURCHASE OF HOUSE PROPERTY.
— ★ —
OFFICES:
1, East Wall, Londonderry.

Derry Almanac, 1918

Telephone No. 520.
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Derry Almanac, 1949

ROBERT J. R. EDWARDS,
Phone 419.
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Rents Carefully Collected.
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Derry Almanac, 1927

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We will Advance £2 to £1,000
WITH OR WITHOUT SECURITY.
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2 East Wall - Londonderry
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SATURDAYS: 9.30 till 6 p.m.

Derry Almanac, 1953

ROBERT J. R. EDWARDS,
'PHONE 2419.
HOUSE, LAND AND
INSURANCE AGENT.
2, East Wall, Londonderry.

Derry Almanac, 1949

