



Figure 51: Room G10 (looking east) - This room formed the second reception room of the western dwelling and would have been originally entered from the former entrance hall corridor (now Room G11). This room retains all of its original 18th century plaster cornice featuring highly decorative cherub faces (See Figure 52). (Source: SLHA 2017 – Note the current condition of the building has since worsened)



Figure 52: The 18th century cornice in Room G10. (Source: SLHA 2017)



Figure 52a: The current condition of Room G10. (Source: Watch This Space (Jembrana) Ltd 2022)



Figure 53: Room G04 (looking east) – This room was originally one of two reception rooms to the eastern dwelling and was divided into a main reception room to the eastern part (including chimney breast) and an entrance hall (located just off the image to the left). These two rooms were combined during the removal of the original entrance door from Chester Road and would have been redecorated accordingly during the c1880s with a new plaster cornice being installed. (Source: Watch This Space (Jembrana) Ltd 2022)



Figure 54: The south-west corner of Room G04, showing the two original 18th century doors/architraves forming the original door from entrance hall to staircase hall (left – Room G02) and door from entrance hall into second reception room (right-G05). (Source: SLHA 2017 – please note the condition of the building has significantly worsened since 2007)



Figure 55: Detail of the original door from entrance hall to staircase hall (Room G02) (Source: SLHA 2017 – please note the condition of the building has significantly worsened since 2007)



Figure 56: The heavily detailed original/early plaster ceiling rose as it appeared in Room G04 in 2007. (Source: SLHA 2007)



Figure 57: The current condition of the ceiling rose, which has fallen due to water ingress since 2007 and is now stored within the room. (Source: SLHA 2017)



Figure 58: Room G03 (looking west) – This simpler room formed one of two original rear rooms, and was substantially altered to create a link corridor between the two former dwellings (right) in the late-19th century and is likely to have received the current plaster cornice in this period. The original open fireplace was blocked (note air vent cover) and the narrow alcove to the left covered in 1977 (Source: SLHA 2007 – please note the condition of the building has significantly worsened since 2007)



Figure 59: Room G05 (looking west) – This room formed the second reception room to the eastern dwelling. The room retains its original plaster cornice, and a walk-in alcove cupboard which was installed at a later date during the c19th century. (Source: SLHA 2017 - please note the condition of the building has significantly worsened since 2007)



Figure 60 & 61: Room G02 (looking southwards) – The original staircase to the eastern dwelling, showing the believed to be c19th century hardwood balustrades. (Source: SLHA 2017 - please note the condition of the building has significantly worsened since 2007)



Figure 61a: The staircase and staircase hall as seen presently, showing its worsened general condition (Source: Watch This Space (Jembrana) Ltd 2022)



Figure 62: The original stone flag floor in Room G02. (Source: SLHA 2017)



Figure 63 & 63a: Looking into the staircase hall from the east and west showing the current dilapidated condition of the space (Source: Watch This Space (Jembrana) Ltd 2022)

Table 2: First Floor Gazetteer – 18th Century Dwellings (N.B It should be noted that since 2007 the condition of the building has become significantly worse and full access to the building is now limited due to health and safety reasons).



Figure 64: Room F17 (looking west) – This room retains areas of plain 18th century plaster cornice (Source: Watch This Space (Jembrana) Ltd 2022)



Figure 65: Looking towards the eastern end of Room F17– This room was originally two rooms (as mirrored in the eastern dwelling and below in the former entrance halls). The small room to the left (A) was likely originally a dressing room accessed from one or both principal front bedrooms.

The original location of the dressing room's landing wall is shown to the centre, which would have provided a slightly recessed extension (B) of the adjacent landing (Room F16). Evidence of this can be seen in the original landing plaster cornice return in this room and Room F16. (Source: SLHA 2017 - please note the condition of the building has significantly worsened since 2007)



Figure 67: Room F16 (looking north) – This room was originally the landing of the western dwelling. The north wall shows evidence of the 1977 infilling of the original extension/alcove which gave access into the former dressing room (marked B in Figure 66 above). Note the return section of original plaster cornice denoting the corner of this now blocked alcove (outlined). (Source: SLHA 2017 - please note the condition of the building has significantly worsened since 2007)



Figure 68: A closer view of the remaining piece of highly decorated plaster cornice return in Room F16. (Source: SLHA 2017)



Figure 69: Room F16 (looking south-west) showing the entrance into the original servant's attic stairs (right) (Source: SLHA 2017)



Figure 70: Room F22 (looking north) – this room was originally part of the adjacent Room F21, but subdivided in the 20th century. (Source: SLHA 2017 - please note the condition of the building has significantly worsened since 2007)



Figure 71: Room F32 (looking west) – This link corridor was inserted east-west through both dwellings in the c1880s. (Source: Watch This Space (Jembrana) Ltd 2022)



Figure 72: Room F31 (looking east) – This room forms part of one of the rear bedrooms of the western dwelling before the link corridor was inserted. (Source: SLHA 2017)

Table 3: Basement Floor Gazetteer – 18th Century Dwellings (N.B It should be noted that since 2007 the condition of the building has become significantly worse and full access to the building is now limited due to health and safety reasons).



Figure 73: Room B07 (looking west) – This room was originally the main kitchen for the eastern dwelling, and has not been used since the late-19th century. This very lofty room retains the original 18th century stone surrounds to the former kitchen range, along with parts of the original/early cast iron range/ovens and mechanical spit. (Source: SLHA 2017)



Figure 74: Room B06 - The 18th century battened door into the original wine cellar of the eastern dwelling, including original iron grill. Above this door are the remains of the original 18th century servants bell board (Room B01). (Source: SLHA 2017)



Figure 75: Looking into the original 18th century wine cellar (Room B06), complete with brick wine shelves. (Source: SLHA 2017)



Figure 75a: Detail of the 18th century handmade iron hinges to the wine cellar door. (Source: SLHA 2017)



Figure 75b: The remains of the original 18th century servant's bell board (Source: SLHA 2017)



Figure 76: Room B11 (looking west) -This room would have formed the washhouse connected to the main kitchen of the western dwelling, and retains its 18th century stone fire surround, stone sink and brick and stone corner 'copper' (fire heated clothes washing tub). (Source: SLHA 2017)



Figure 77: Room B01 (looking south-east) – This room formed the main servant's hall/circulation space, and gave access to all service rooms. Surviving parts of the original servant's bell board survives to the north elevation (behind). The original stone and cast iron staircase leads to G02. (Source: SLHA 2017)



Figure 78: Detail of the surviving original cast iron balustrade to the servant's basement steps in Room B12. (Source: SLHA 2017)



Figure 79: Room B12 (looking south) - This room would probably have formed the scullery to the main kitchen of the western dwelling, and retains a surviving 19th century cast iron kitchen range and stone surround. (Source: SLHA 2017)

Table 4: Attic Floor Gazetteer – 18th Century Dwellings (N.B It should be noted that since 2007 the condition of the building has become significantly worse and full access to the building is now limited due to health and safety reasons).



Figure 80 & 81: Room F34 (looking west) – The remaining 18th century timber panelling and staircase from the original landing area of the western dwelling (Room F16) into the attic and servant's accommodation above. (Source: SLHA 2017)



Figure 82: Room A15 (looking west) – This room forms the attic landing and corridor of the western dwelling and would have originally been used as servant's accommodation. This attic space, and the three rooms leading off have not been decorated since the 19th century, and retain early paint schemes, original doors/architrave and skirting. (Source: SLHA 2007 - please note the condition of the building has significantly worsened since 2007)



Figure 83: Room A15 (looking east) – The attic corridor is shown here looking east, and illustrates the original/early boarded partition to the right. (Source: SLHA 2020 - please note the condition of the building has significantly worsened since 2020)



Figure 84: Room A14 (looking north) - Looking into the windowless central attic room, which is located within the central pediment of the western dwelling. Originally there was a small glazed rooflight which has since been covered. The two small openings to the left and right lead into the roof voids. (Source: SLHA 2007 - please note the condition of the building has significantly worsened since 2007)



Figure 85: Room A12 (looking south-west) – This image shows the early partitioned attic landing (with internal window) with a small room to its south (Room A11). (Source: SLHA 2007 - please note the condition of the building has significantly worsened since 2007)



Figure 86: Room A11 (looking east) – this image is looking into Room A11 from Room A12. The door retains a c18th century latch. (Source: SLHA 2007 - please note the condition of the building has significantly worsened since 2007)



Figure 87: Room A06 (looking west) – This image shows a surviving original 18th century cast iron register grate and fire surround. (Source: SLHA 2017 - please note the condition of the building has significantly worsened since 2017)



Figure 88: Room A06 (looking west) – Detail of the surviving original 18th century cast iron register grate and fire surround. (Source: SLHA 2017)



Figure 89: Room A05 (looking west) – This image shows an unusual design of an 18th century cast iron projecting fireplace found on the western elevation (Source: SLHA 2007).



Figure 90: Room A05 (looking north) – This image shows an example of an original 18th century panelled door and rim lock with surviving brass Dutch drop handle. (Source: SLHA 2007)



Figure 91: Room A02 (looking east) showing a 19th century cast iron fire surround and 19th century “sanitary” ceiling wallpaper. Note the now blocked window outlined (left), as seen in Figure 22 & 42. (Source: SLHA 2017 - please note the condition of the building has significantly worsened since 2017)



Figure 92: Room A03 (looking west) – the original attic corridor to the eastern dwelling, showing 1930s paint scheme. This attic area was lived in by the on site porter (Source: SLHA 2017 - please note the condition of the building has significantly worsened since 2017)



Figure 93: A surviving original 18th century paneled door into room A06. (Source: SLHA 2017)



Figure 94: Original 18th century battened access hatch into the roof void from A03. This door retains two 18th century hand-forged, iron butterfly hinges. (Source: SLHA 2007 - please note the condition of the building has significantly worsened since 2007)



Figure 95: Detail of the two 18th century hand-forged, iron butterfly hinges to the attic access hatch (Source: SLHA 2007)



Figure 96: The eastern dwelling attic staircase from Room F26. (Source: SLHA 2007 - please note the condition of the building has significantly worsened since 2007)



Figure 97: The original panelled door into Room A02 (Source: SLHA 2007)

5.1.3 Building description – 1842-3 Bridgewater Canal Company office – Exterior

The 1842-3 rear extension, which formed the new purpose-built office for the trustees of the Bridgewater Canal Company, is of two-storeys with extensive basement but no attic.

The west elevation of the office extension is of two-stories, surmounted by a buff sandstone cornice which terminates with a parapet wall and stone coping. The elevation is arranged symmetrically and is seven-bays wide. The ground floor has an arched doorway to the north and south ends which have since been converted into windows in 1977.

The first floor level has a sequence of narrow blind arched niches with sash windows set within larger arched niches in an Italianate Palazzo style. The openings have six-over-six sash windows at ground floor level and three-over-six sash windows at first floor level.



Figure 98: The west elevation as seen in 2007, showing the 18th century dwelling to the left, the 1842-43 office extension to the right, and later, narrow link in-between. (Source: SLHA 2007)



Figure 99: The principal west elevation of the 1842-3 Bridgewater Trustees Office, as seen when used by the Manchester Ship Canal in c1920 (Source: Canal & Rivers Trust)



Figure 99a: The current appearance of the west elevation as seen in 2022. Note the original windows to the south elevation were in-filled in 1977 (compare with Figures 103 & 104 below) (Source: Watch This Space (Jembrana) Ltd 2022)

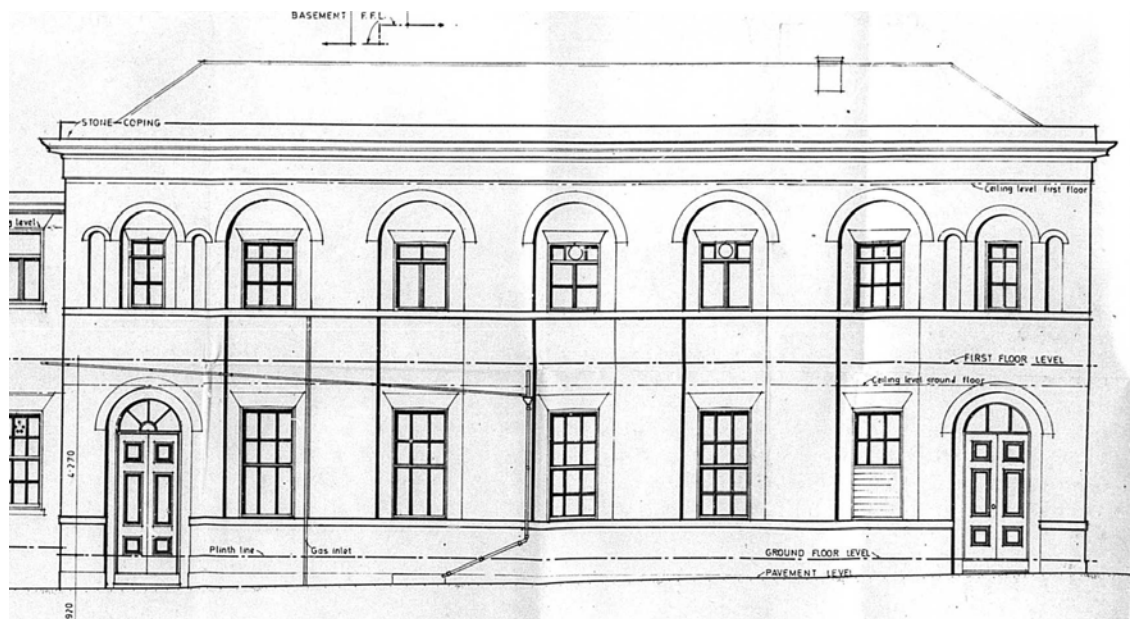


Figure 100: The same elevation as seen in 1976 following its purchase by Securicor Ltd, showing the alteration of some original sash windows and removal of original ground floor iron security railings. Source: Manchester City Council)

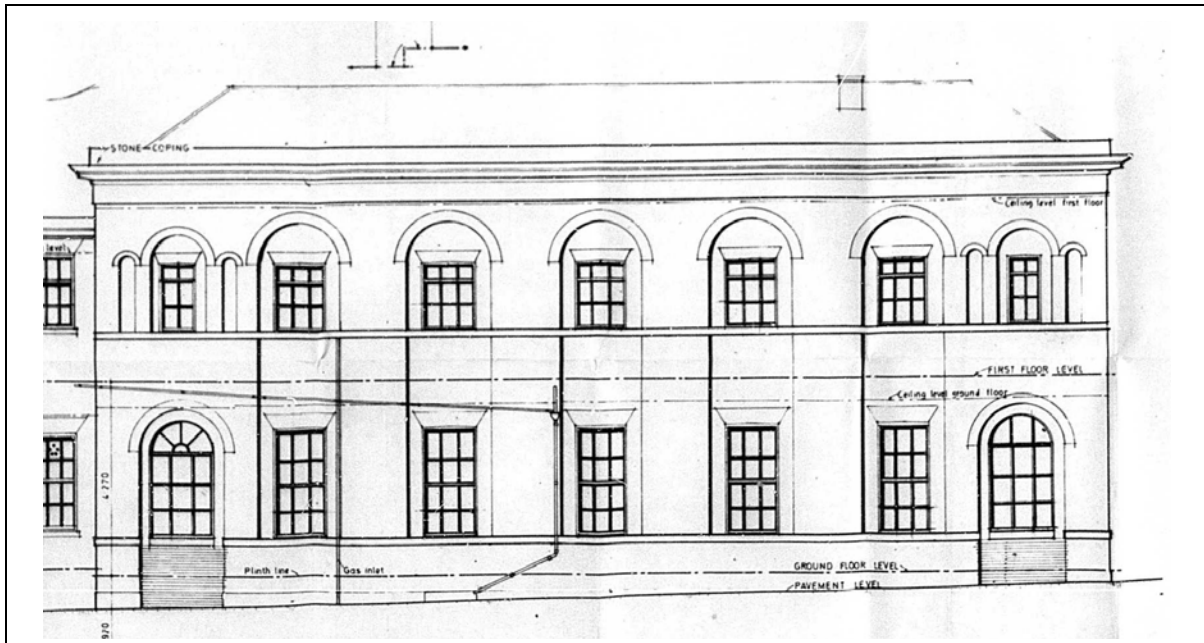


Figure 101: The proposed west office elevation as seen in 1976 following showing the alterations undertaken by Securicor Ltd, including the removal of the two original pairs of panelled entrance doors and the restoration of altered sash windows. (Source: Manchester City Council).

The roof of the office extension was also covered with Welsh slate over a shallow, double-hipped timber roof construction. This original roof covering was removed and covered with blue plastic sheeting in 2008.

The east elevation of the building is two-storey high surmounted by a sandstone parapet and coping. The two-bay wide section adjoining the main building is a recent addition of c1985, which terminates with a parapet wall and flat roof. The openings have soldier arches and twelve pane sash windows at ground floor level and nine pane sash windows at first floor level having different types of glazing bars and moulded frames.



Figure 102: The east (right) and south (left) elevations of the 1842-3 office extension as seen in 2007, showing the 1977 alterations, including the infilling of the two original small windows (left) and addition of two-storey matching link in the location of the original office staircase and toilets (outlined right).

When originally built, the south and east elevations contained full-depth lightwells that extended around the perimeter of the building in order to allow light into the basement rooms. (Source: SLHA 2007)

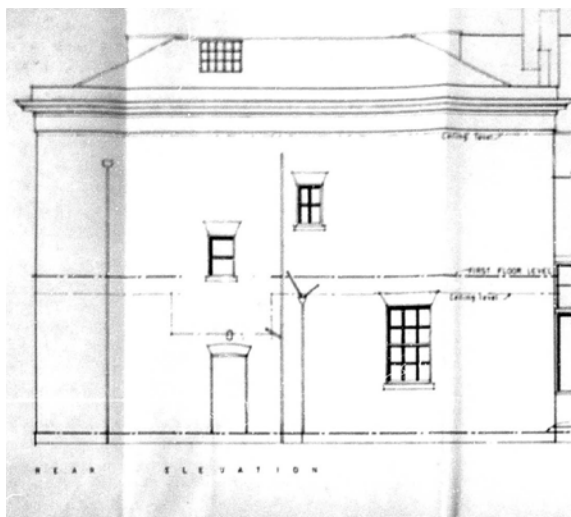


Figure 103: The southern office elevation as it appeared following its purchase by Securicor Ltd in 1977, showing the original single rear door and two small first floor windows to a former toilet and bathroom (Source: Manchester City Council).

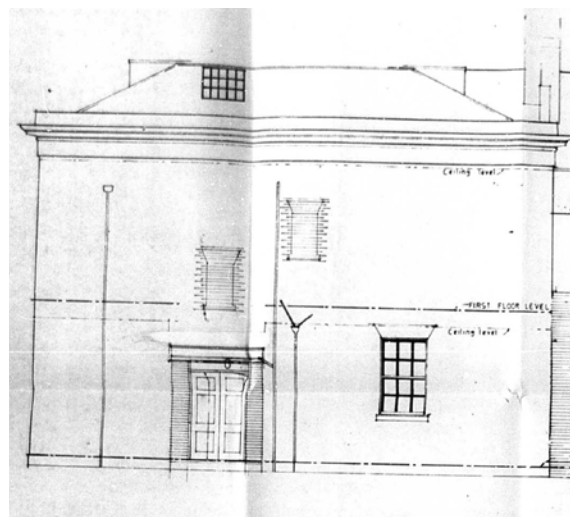


Figure 104: The proposed 1977 southern office elevation, showing the widened and extended rear door and blocking of first floor windows (Source: Manchester City Council).



Figure 104a: The current appearance of the rear elevation of the building (Source: Watch This Space (Jembrana) Ltd 2022)

5.1.4 c1843 Bridgewater Trustees Office Extension – Interior

When originally constructed, the entrances into the Bridgewater Trust Office were located on the principal west elevation on Crown Street, and accessed through two arched doorways which formed the address of 1 & 3 Crown Street as recorded in trade directories during the 1860s. These entrances originally contained double panelled doors, and were converted to the present windows in 1977.

The building originally housed offices/stores on the ground and first floors, with an extensive network of paper and document storerooms in its basement, including large staff kitchens and sculleries, and a laundry amongst other types of rooms and circulation corridors.

It appears that the office building was originally divided into two parts, each with a stone staircase, with the northern part being accessed from the entrance to the north on Crown Street, and leading into a series of stores and offices, whilst the shorter, southern part was separately accessed from the southern entrance on Crown Street, which appears to have led into a more domestic space possibly housing managers or caretakers. The original stone staircase to the southern part survives, and is lit by a large glazed rooflight.

The 1879 valuation report describes the building - *“The offices on Crown Street are also two stories high, and cellared under. The floor over the cellar is constructed of brick arches on cast iron beams and columns. The cellar is divided into various compartments and was meant to be fireproof. The stairs, cornices and base are stone, and the premises were very substantially built around 35 years ago. They contain book safes, water closets...”*

As the valuation report states, the building was constructed using a method of brick jack-arches at basement and ground floor levels, which were then hidden by lath and plaster ceilings and deeply moulded plaster cornice at ground floor level, which, along with splayed window reveals with panelled shutters, formed polite, fireproof office spaces.

The original plaster ceilings and cornice have now largely detached from the jack-arches due to prolonged water ingress. No original chimneypieces survive at ground and first floor levels.

The original, main stone staircase within the northern part of the building was removed in 1977. Evidence of this staircase can be found below at basement level, where the remnants of stone cantilevered steps survive.

The basement level is an extensive and convoluted series of store rooms and corridors, with rooms typically containing stone flagged floors, Victorian cast iron cooking ranges with scullery and kitchen sinks, stone shelving and historic limewash paint schemes.

The area of the basement which forms the infill link between the rear (south) of the western dwelling and the office appears to predate the construction of the office. The network of small rooms, walls and openings suggest that this part of the basement formed a lower-level covered yard area to the 18th century western dwelling, which projected out into its garden and contained outhouses, of which remains of their external walls and window openings can still be seen (Rooms B16, B37 and B38). Due to the secure and substantial design of the 1847 vault located above in Room G28, the walls of the vault were simply cut at basement level through the above earlier rooms.