MS 82 Belfast City Hall 19th Century Architectural Drawings Collection

About the Collection

The collection is composed of 14 original architectural drawings, 19th century prints, and one telegram dated 19th October 1896 regarding a heating apparatus and ventilation system for the "Proposed City Hall".

The original architectural drawings are of unbuilt building designs showing floor plans, sections, and façades. Two plans pasted on verso and reverse of a thicker cardboard, executed in black ink on high quality thick paper. There is also one plan with numerous contemporary pencil notations.

The collection also contains five duplicate 19th century prints: "Competition Design For Municipal Buildings Belfast" by Messrs. A.G. Humphry and W.B. Hopkins. Ink-photo by Sprague & Co. Ltd. 4 & 5, East Harding Street, Potter Lane, E.G. Reprinted from "The Builder" April 1, 1899.

Special Collections and Archives purchased the collection in April 2022. It originated from the archive of the British architect William Bonner Hopkins (born 1868). Hopkins studied for a year in the office of George Frederick Bodley. He commenced practice in London in 1893, and from 1900 to 1905 he worked in partnership with Ernest Robert Walker. In his later years he practised in Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire (Dictionary of Scottish Architects).

ESTP1845

Abbreviations used:

MS: Manuscript

p. /pp. page/pages

TLS: typewritten letter signed.

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MS 82/1 19th Century Architectural Drawings of Proposed New Belfast City Hall

Fourteen Architectural Drawings of various sizes, which depict the 'New City Hall Belfast'. The architectural drawings are of unbuilt building designs showing floor plans, sections, and façades, drawn either in pencil or black ink on white card and thick white paper. Some drawings have handwritten annotations in pencil.

MS 82/1/1 c1896-1898 Architectural Drawing of the façade of 'New City Hall Belfast'

Highly detailed late 19th century architectural drawing of the façade of the New City Hall Belfast. The drawing is in pencil, there is also a smaller drawing in pencil on the same page of a [?] room. Dimensions 68cm x 35cm.

MS 82/1/2 c1896-1898 Architectural Drawing of the Ground Floor Plan of 'New City Hall Belfast'

Architectural Drawing of the Ground Floor Plan of New City Hall Belfast. Rooms are shown with dimensions. The scale is given as 5 - 100. 'NEW CITY HALL BELFAST' is printed in black ink at the top of the map, '*Otherside*' is written in pencil across the top and the number 13 is stamped in blue ink in the top right corner. The drawing is completed in black ink. Dimensions 65cm x 46cm.

MS 82/1/3 c1896-1898 Architectural Drawing of the First Floor Plan of 'New City Hall Belfast'

Architectural Drawing of the First Floor Plan of New City Hall Belfast. Rooms are shown with dimensions. The drawing is completed in black ink. Dimensions 64cm x 46cm.

MS 82/1/4 c1896-1898 Architectural Drawing of the Second Floor Plan of 'New City Hall Belfast'

Architectural Drawing of the Second Floor Plan of New City Hall Belfast. Rooms are shown with dimensions. The drawing is completed in black ink. Dimensions 64cm x 48.5cm.

MS 82/1/5 c1896-1898 Architectural Drawing of the Roof Plan of 'New City Hall Belfast'

Architectural Drawing of the Roof Plan of New City Hall Belfast. The drawing is completed in black ink. Dimensions 56cm x 48cm.

MS 82/1/6 c1896-1898 Architectural Drawing of the Basement of 'New City Hall Belfast'

Architectural Drawing of the Basement of New City Hall Belfast. Rooms are shown, some with dimensions. The drawing is completed in black ink. Dimensions 62cm x 30cm.

MS 82/1/7 c1896-1898 Architectural Drawing of the North Façade of 'New City Hall Belfast'

Architectural Drawing of the North Façade of New City Hall Belfast. 'NEW CITY HALL BELFAST' is printed in black ink at the top of the map, and the number 13 is stamped in blue ink in the top right corner. The drawing is completed in black ink. Dimensions 56cm x 31cm.

MS 82/1/8 c1896-1898 Architectural Drawing of the South Façade of 'New City Hall Belfast'

Architectural Drawing of the South Façade of New City Hall Belfast. The drawing is completed in black ink. Dimensions 56cm x 31cm.

MS 82/1/9 c1896-1898 Architectural Drawing of the East Façade of 'New City Hall Belfast'

Architectural Drawing of the East Façade of New City Hall Belfast. The drawing is completed in black ink. Dimensions 40.5cm x 31.5cm.

MS 82/1/10 c1896-1898 Architectural Drawing of the West Façade of 'New City Hall Belfast'

Architectural Drawing of the West Façade of New City Hall Belfast. The drawing is completed in black ink. Dimensions 40.5cm x 31.5cm.

MS 82/1/11 c1896-1898 Architectural Drawing of 'New City Hall Belfast' labelled Section C-D

Architectural Drawing of New City Hall Belfast labelled Section C-D. The drawing is completed in black ink. Dimensions 62cm x 41cm.

MS 82/1/12 c1896-1898 Architectural Drawing of 'New City Hall Belfast' labelled Section E-F

Architectural Drawing of New City Hall Belfast labelled Section E-F. 'NE' is printed in black ink at the top of the map. The drawing is completed in black ink. Dimensions 63cm x 14cm.

MS 82/1/13 c1896-1898 Architectural Drawing of 'New City Hall Belfast' labelled Section G-H

Architectural Drawing of New City Hall Belfast labelled Section G-H. 'NEW CITY HALL BELFAST' is printed in black ink at the top of the map. The drawing is completed in black ink. Dimensions 65cm x 16.5cm.

MS 82/1/14 c1896-1898 Architectural Drawing of 'New City Hall Belfast' labelled Section G-H

Architectural Drawing of New City Hall Belfast labelled Section G-H. The drawing is completed in black ink. Dimensions 65cm x 16.5cm.

MS 82/2 01/04/1899 Prints of 'Competition Design for Municipal Building Belfast'

Five duplicate prints of 'Competition Design for Municipal Building Belfast' by Messrs A.G Humphry and W.B Hopkins. Ink photo by Sprague & Co Ltd, 4 & 5 East Harding Street, Potter Lane E.G. Reprinted from "The Builder" April 1, 1899. Dimensions 38cm x 25cm.

MS 82/3 19/10/1896 Telegram providing an estimate for Heating and Ventilation for the "Proposed City Hall Belfast."

Telegram No 5996, from Wenham & Waters Limited, Sanitary Heating & Electrical Engineers, Iron & Brass Founders, Paragon Works, Vicarage Road, Croydon; to Messrs Hopkins and Humphrey, 7 Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster S.W. The Telegram gives an approximate estimate for heating apparatus and a ventilation system for the "Proposed City Hall Belfast." The Telegram describes the proposal of heating the New City Hall Belfast by way of a low-pressure hot water apparatus. It also refers to materials, radiator fixtures and the fitting of lever handles for the "purpose of regulating the admission of fresh air."

The cost of providing and installing the heating apparatus would be 'four thousand, five hundred pounds' (£4,500). There is also a quote given for a Ventilation System using an electric fan, this work is estimated to cost 'one hundred and fifty pounds' (£150).

TLS in blue ink "We are, Yours Obediently, pro Wenham & Waters Ltd." However, there are also handwritten pencil annotations and a handwritten signature in pencil 'Charles Hunt [?]'. 4 pp.

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