



Case information

Case ID	300016456		
File Reference	HGH/B/DC/37		
Name of Site	43 Newall Terrace, Dumfries		
Local Authority	Dumfries and Galloway Council		
National Grid Reference	NX 97441 76241		
Designation No. (if any)	LB26287		
Designation Type	Listed Building	Current Category of Listing	B
Case Type	Amendment		
Received/Start Date	2015 [Drill Halls Listing Review]		
Decision Date	25/05/2016		

1. Decision

In our current state of knowledge, 43 Newall Terrace, Dumfries continues to meet the criteria for listing. The statutory listing address and the listed building record have been amended. The category of listing will remain at B.

Current Statutory Address	43 Newall Terrace including lions
Proposed Statutory Address	Loreburn Hall (former Drill Hall), including lions, 43 Newall Terrace, Dumfries

2. Designation Background and Development Proposals

2.1 Designation Background

This building was listed at category B on 11/10/2006. It is located in the Dumfries Conservation Area.

2.2 Development Proposals

There are no known development proposals.

3. Assessment

3.1 Assessment information

The Loreburn Hall (former Drill Hall) was considered for amendment as part of the Drill Halls Listing Review 2015-16 and was visited on 3/06/2015. The exterior and interior of the building were both seen during the visit.

3.2 Assessment against designation criteria

The building was found to no longer meet the criteria for listing.

An assessment against the listing criteria was carried out. See **Annex A**.

The designation criteria are published in the Historic Environment Scotland policy statement June 2016, Annex 2, pp. 51-53.

<https://www.historicenvironment.scot/advice-and-support/planning-and-guidance/legislation-and-guidance/historic-environment-scotland-policy-statement/>

Elizabeth McCrone

Head of Designations
Heritage Management
Historic Environment Scotland

Contact	Yvonne Hillyard, Designations Officer Yvonne.hillyard@hes.scot, 0131 668 8088
----------------	--

ANNEX A – Assessment Against the Listing Criteria*

Loreburn Hall (former Drill Hall), including lions, 43 Newall Terrace, Dumfries

1. Description

The building was designed by Alan Burgess Crombie in 1890, with additions and alterations by Wilfrid Fitzalan Crombie in 1909 and further alterations in 1967. It is a 2-storey, 3-bay former drill hall in the Scots Baronial style, approximately T-shaped in plan and now a community hall. The front part of the building is built of squared and snecked bullfaced red sandstone with polished ashlar dressings, while the hall is of dry-dashed brick. The front elevation of the hall and offices is symmetrical with a string course at first floor level and an eaves course. The central bay has a round arched doorway with an oriel window above and a short, stumpy slated spire with an open iron crown. The slightly advanced outer bays terminate in crowstepped gables with square pyramid-roofed bartizans at the outer corners. There is a decorative cast iron framed shelter to the right with a glazed roof and to the left is a wide arched twin-leafed timber door set back from the main building line that gives direct access to the hall. The lions on either side of the door were sculpted by John William Dods of Dumfries.

There is mainly 4-pane glazing in the upper sashes and single pane glazing in the lower sashes in timber sash and case windows. There are grey slate roofs and chimney stacks with yellow clay cans on the front part of the building, and non-traditional roofing material on the drill hall.

The interior, which was seen in 2015, retains a good late 19th century decorative scheme. The office section has some simple cornices, timber panelled doors and a main staircase with decorative wrought iron balusters. The room above the main entrance has timber boarding to dado height. The hall has a shallow pitched roof supported on delicate wrought iron lattice trusses which are curved at the wallhead and with timber lining and roof lights running much of its length. There is a recessed raised area at the north end which is flanked by pilasters and a decorative plaster frieze above. The doors on either side surmounted by decorative mouldings enclosing panels.

2. Assessment Against the Listing Criteria (HES Policy Statement, 2016) Annex 2, pp. 51-52

Criteria for determining whether a building is of ‘special architectural or historic interest’ for listing under the terms of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997 [www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1997/9/contents]

To be listed, a building need not meet all the listing criteria. The criteria provide a framework within which judgement is exercised in reaching individual decisions.

2.1 Age and Rarity

The drill hall and offices in Dumfries were built in 1890, and this date is inscribed on a stone over the front door. The 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map (surveyed 1893, published 1894) shows that the footprint of the building, which was initially symmetrical, is largely unchanged except for some small additions at the right hand side of the principal elevation, where the covered shelter now stands (these changes may date from 1909), and some minor changes at the rear.

Some details about the progress of construction can be gleaned from newspaper reports. In March 1890 the building was in the course of construction and a sketch of the building was illustrated at that date (Dundee Evening Telegraph, 14 March 1890). The hall was in use by November 1890, as a dog show was held there that month. By October 1891 there was still a debt outstanding on the building and a grand bazaar in aid of the 'headquarters, drill hall and equipment' for the volunteers was held in the hall, opened by the Duke of Buccleuch. The total cost of the hall was estimated at £4000, of which £1000 had been collected by subscription by this date. Newspaper reports state that it was intended to be used for flower shows and public meetings as well as for drill purposes.

The 1st Administrative Battalion Dumfriesshire Rifle Volunteers was formed on 4 January 1862. By the time of the construction of the drill hall the battalion had been reformed as the 3rd Volunteer Battalion of the King's Own Scottish Borderers. As far as can be established this is the first drill hall to be built in Dumfries and it was built on an adjacent site to the militia barracks (as evidenced on the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map), so the volunteers may have shared some of the barracks' facilities until 1890.

In the late 1850s there was concern in the British Government about the Army's ability to defend both the home nation as well as the Empire. Britain's military defences were stretched and resources to defend Britain needed to be found. One solution was to create 'Volunteer Forces', a reserve of men who volunteered for part-time military training similar to that of the regular army and who could therefore help to defend Britain if the need arose.

In 1859 the Rifle Volunteer Corps (and Artillery Volunteers Corps in defended coastal towns) were formed and the Volunteer Act of 1863 provided more regulation on how the volunteer forces were run and it set out the standards for drills and a requirement for annual inspections. Most purpose-built drill halls constructed at this time were paid for by a major local landowner, the subscriptions of volunteers, local fundraising efforts or a combination of all three. The Regulation of the Forces Act 1871 (known as the Cardwell Reforms after the Secretary of State for War, Edward Cardwell) gave forces the legal right to acquire land to build a drill hall and more purpose-built drill halls began to be constructed after this date. The largest period of drill hall construction, aided by government grants, took place between 1880 and 1910. The Territorial and Reserve Forces Act 1907 (known as the Haldane Reforms after the Secretary of State for War, Richard Haldane) came into force in 1908 and the various Volunteer Units were consolidated to form the Territorial Force. The

construction of drill halls largely ceased during the First World War and in 1920 the Territorial Force became the Territorial Army.

In the 20th century changes in warfare and weaponry made many of the earlier drill halls redundant and subject to demolition or change to a new use. Around 344 drill halls are believed to have been built in Scotland of which 182 are thought to survive today, although few remain in their original use. Drill halls are an important part of our social and military history. They tell us much about the development of warfare and the history of defending our country. They also, unusually for a nationwide building programme, were not standardised and were often designed by local architects in a variety of styles and they also have a part to play in the history of our communities.

The drill hall in Dumfries is constructed during the most intense period of building activity from 1880-1910. What distinguishes it from many others of this building type and date is the quality of the detailing and its large size. Reports vary but give the capacity as providing accommodation for 3000 (Dundee Evening Telegraph 14th March 1890) to 4000 (Glasgow Herald 21 October 1891) people.

2.2 Architectural or Historic Interest

Interior

The interiors of drill halls were designed to be practical and largely unembellished. The main requirement was the provision of a large open space unimpeded by columns. In some cases a viewing balcony would be included. A wide entrance was also a typical feature to allow large groups of drill marching volunteers to enter and exit the building.

Within the front part of the building, the original offices for the hall retain some late 19th century details, including deep plaster cornices and timber panelled doors and the main stair has decorative wrought iron balusters. This detailing is typical for a drill hall of this date. The room over the front door was probably that of the Adjutant (mentioned in the Dundee Evening Telegraph 14 March 1890). The hall itself is very large (originally measuring 137 feet by 86 feet), with brick walls and an unusual shallow pitched roof which is curved at the wallhead and supported on wrought iron lattice trusses. The roof is timber lined and has roof lights running much of its length. There is a recessed raised area at the north end (a common feature on drill halls, in place of a viewing balcony) but unusually for such a functional space, there is a decorative plaster frieze above and on the capitals of the pilasters flanking the stage, and the doors on either side are also surmounted by decorative mouldings enclosing panels.

Plan form

The requirements for drill halls were basic – a large covered open space to train and drill as well as a place for the secure storage of weapons. The vast majority of drill halls were modest utilitarian structures. Most drill halls conformed to the pattern of an administrative block containing offices and the armoury to store weapons along with a caretaker or drill instructors accommodation, usually facing the street. To the rear would be the drill hall itself. Occasionally more extensive accommodation was

required, such as for battalion headquarters where interior rifle ranges, libraries, billiards rooms, lecture theatres and bars could all be included.

The plan form at Dumfries follows the standard pattern with offices, accommodation for the Sergeant Major, rooms for the Adjutant and orderlies and lavatories in the front part of the building and the hall at the rear. Direct access to the hall was provided through the double doors set back from the main building line which were originally symmetrically positioned on each side of the hall (although the entrance to the right was altered, probably in 1909). There are separate entrances within the building to the living area of the Sergeant Major and to the hall area.

Technological excellence or innovation, material or design quality

Drill halls were built in a variety of architectural styles and no individual type dominates. They were usually designed by local architects and constrained by tight budgets. They often had a strong link to their local communities and could be used for other community activities. Architectural style could reflect the streetscape of the local community and be small and modest, similar to surrounding domestic properties, or they could be more eye-catching and overtly military in appearance, particularly for larger forces or headquarter buildings.

The hall in Dumfries was designed by the local architect Alan Burgess Crombie. The building is designed in a Scots Baronial style, with the hall, according to newspapers, designed to harmonise with the style of the offices at the front. The stepped gable of the hall over the original side entrances indicates this (although this is now only visible on the left entrance). Although there was no standard style for drill halls, as noted above, the Scots Baronial style was favoured by a number of architects, no doubt because of the military and defensive impression it provided. Other examples can be seen in Stirling, Dornoch, and elsewhere. Crombie himself designed buildings using a wide variety of styles – for example Maxwelltown Courthouse, in Dumfries is neo-Jacobean in style while the Ewart Free Library, also in Dumfries, is neo-Baroque. Crombie seems to have favoured bullfaced masonry contrasted with polished ashlar which he used at Maxwelltown Courthouse and at the village hall in Locharbriggs as well as at the drill hall.

Throughout the drill hall there is a considerable use of wrought iron – not only in the roof trusses in the hall but the balusters of the stair and the unusual open crown in the roof, which may have supported the flagpole (this seems to be the case in the sketch which appeared in newspapers in 1891). Crombie was also responsible for Rosefield Mills, the large woollen mill complex in Troqueer Road. Some of the details bear a resemblance to those on the drill hall, although overall it is quite different in style. It is possible that the experience gained by Crombie in designing the mills was used in the drill hall design, as both required wide, uninterrupted interior spaces.

The alterations of 1909 were carried out by Crombie's son, Wilfrid Fitzalan Crombie (1882-1952). In 1904 he had taken over the practice after the early death of his father, and like his father he used wrought iron elements in the shelter to the right of the building.

Further interior alterations were made in 1967, and were probably in the entrance area. In January 1968 the Trustees of the Drill Hall transferred ownership to the Provost, Magistrates and Councillors of the Royal Burgh of Dumfries. The building, at the time it was visited in 2015, was being used as a gymnasium.

It is not known when the lions, sculpted by John William Dods of Dumfries, were placed on either side of the front door, as they do not appear in the sketch of the building drawn in 1890. The lions are said to be a patriotic symbol at the drill hall, but they may have been moved from elsewhere.

Setting

Newall Terrace, where this building is situated, is in a central position in Dumfries. The street has mixed commercial, domestic and public buildings, generally two and three storeys in height, and it is directly opposite the former Loreburn Street School. At the time the hall was built, the militia barracks were located in an area southeast of the hall but these have been replaced by the County Buildings. Most buildings are constructed of local red sandstone which gives the area a sense of cohesion. It is located in the Dumfries Conservation Area.

Regional variations

There are no known regional variations.

2.3 Close Historical Associations

None known at present.

3. Working with the Principles of Listing (HES Policy Statement, 2016) Annex 2, pp. 53

In choosing buildings within the above broad headings particular attention is paid to:

- a. special value within building types*
- b. contribution to an architecturally or historically interesting group*
- c. the impact of vernacular buildings*
- d. authenticity*

When working with the principles of listing Loreburn Hall (former Drill Hall) has particular interest under a and d

a. It is a very large and well-detailed drill hall and office complex, built in 1890, during the most intense period of drill hall construction between 1880 and 1910, by a well-respected local architect and extended by his son. The quality of the architecture make it a very good example of a drill hall of this period.

d. The exterior of the building is largely unaltered since the early 20th century. Some rearrangement has taken place in the interior but the original layout is discernible, and the hall itself is largely unaltered.

4. Summary of Assessment Against the Listing Criteria**

Loreburn Hall (former Drill Hall) is a very good example of a drill hall and office complex built in 1890, designed by the well-respected local architect Alan Burgess Crombie and extended in 1909 by his son, Wilfrid Fitzalan Crombie. The exterior of the offices are designed in a robust Scots Baronial style with similar details to be found on the drill hall. The complex is situated in central Dumfries and has a prominent presence within the street.

In our current state of knowledge it continues to meet the criteria for listing.

5. Category of Listing

Categories of listing are non-statutory and buildings are assigned a category (A, B or C) according to their relative importance following the assessment against the criteria for listing.

Category definitions are found at: www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/heritage/historicandlistedbuildings/listing

Category B listing is for buildings of regional or more than local importance; or major examples of some particular period, style or building type, which may have been altered. The Loreburn Hall (former drill hall) is a well-designed drill hall which is considered to be of regional significance and therefore continues to meet the criteria at category B.

6. Other Information

N/A

7. References

Canmore: <http://canmore.org.uk/> CANMORE ID 208127

Maps

Ordnance Survey (surveyed 1850, published 1852). Large scale town plan, sheet O4. 25 inches to the mile. 1st Edition. Southampton: Ordnance Survey

Ordnance Survey (surveyed 1893, published 1894). Large scale town plan sheet XLIX.15.22. 25 inches to the mile. 2nd Edition. Southampton: Ordnance Survey

Printed Sources

Carlisle Patriot (28 November 1890) p.4.

Dundee Evening Telegraph (14 March 1890) p.2.

Gifford, J. (1996) *The Buildings of Scotland: Dumfries and Galloway*. London: Penguin Books Ltd. p.263.

Glasgow Herald (21 October 1891) p.9.

Historic Environment Scotland (2016) Scotland's Drill Halls Preliminary Report. Unpublished.

Online Sources

Dictionary of Scottish Architects. *Alan Burgess Crombie* at http://www.scottisharchitects.org.uk/architect_full.php?id=200343 [accessed 20/03/2016]

Dictionary of Scottish Architects. *Wilfrid Fitzalan Crombie* at http://www.scottisharchitects.org.uk/architect_full.php?id=200558 [accessed 20/03/2016] [accessed 20/03/2016]

Dumfries and Galloway Council. *Report on the Loreburn Hall* at <http://egenda.dumgal.gov.uk/aksdumgal/images/att13434.pdf> [accessed 20/03/2016] [accessed 20/03/2016]

Grierson, J M (1909) *Record of the Scottish Volunteer Force 1859-1908*. Edinburgh and London: William Blackwood & Sons at https://archive.org/stream/recordsofscottis00grierich/recordsofscottis00grierich_djvu.txt [accessed 20/03/2016].

* This assessment is based on our current state of knowledge and has been prepared for the purpose of consultation or to provide a view on the special interest of a building. This assessment is a consultation document and will form the basis of any new or updated listed building record should the structure be listed. The content of this assessment may change to take into account further information received as a result of the consultation process.

** A building may be found to meet the listing criteria but in some circumstances may not be added to the list. See 'When might Historic Environment Scotland list a building' at <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/advice-and-support/listing-scheduling-and-designations/listed-buildings/what-is-listing/>