



Case information

Case ID	300016485		
File Reference	HGH/B/SP/29		
Name of Site	43 Titchfield Street, Kilmarnock		
Local Authority	East Ayrshire Council		
National Grid Reference	NS 42767 37555		
Designation No. (if any)	LB48786		
Designation Type	Listed Building	Current Category of Listing	C
Case Type	Amendment		
Start Date	2015 [Drill Hall Listing Review]		
Decision Date	25/05/2016		

1. Decision

In our current state of knowledge, 43 Titchfield Street, Kilmarnock continues to meet the criteria for listing. The statutory listing address and the listed building record have been amended.

Previous Statutory Address	43 Titchfield Street, Former Headquarters of the 4 th Battalion of the Royal Scots Fusiliers
Amended Statutory address	43 Titchfield Street (former headquarters of the 4 th Battalion of the Royal Scots Fusiliers), Kilmarnock

2. Designation Background and Development Proposals

2.1 Designation Background

This building was listed at category C on 01/08/2002 when Kilmarnock Ward, where this building is located, was resurveyed.

2.2 Development Proposals

There are no known development proposals.

3. Assessment

3.1 Assessment information

43 Titchfield Street was considered for amendment as part of the Drill Hall Listing Review, 2015-16. The building was visited on 24/06/2015 and the exterior of the building was seen. The ground floor interior was partially seen, but other interiors were not seen.

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/>

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ANNEX A – Assessment Against the Listing Criteria*

43 Titchfield Street (former headquarters of the 4th Battalion of the Royal Scots Fusiliers), Kilmarnock

1. Description

43 Titchfield Street was designed by Gabriel Andrew & Son in 1914 and is a 3-storey, 3-bay, L-plan, castellated former Battalion headquarters with crow-stepped gables and a squared, battlemented tower at the northeast corner. It is situated on a corner site at the north end of a row of tenement buildings. The front section is constructed of bull-faced red Ballochmyle sandstone with ashlar dressings and with red brick construction for the rear section. There is a deep, battered base course. The second and third storeys of the east (front) elevation outer bays have projecting, battlemented, squared bays with tripartite windows.

The east elevation has a central architraved doorway with a part-glazed timber panelled door and a fanlight above and there are flanking wide, round-arched window openings with moulded architraves.

The windows are predominantly non-traditional replacement and there is a piended, grey slate roof and cast iron rainwater goods.

The interior of the ground floor was partially seen in 2015. This is currently a restaurant and there are no apparent features of special architectural interest.

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

This corner site of Titchfield Street and Old Cast Lane in Kilmarnock was redeveloped in 1914 as a headquarters for the 4th Battalion of Royal Scots Fusiliers. Titchfield Street at the time was an important thoroughfare in Kilmarnock. The building was commissioned by Colonel Barnett, the commander at the time and was built as offices and recreation facilities. The plans for the site also included a caretaker's house to the northwest and a single storey drill hall at the rear of the building, running adjacent to the riverbank. Local information suggests that this drill hall was not built, but there is a possible drill hall marked on the 1940 Ordnance Survey map.

The 4th Battalion of the Royal Scots Fusiliers was a territorial battalion, formed of volunteers, based at Kilmarnock. The battalion saw a substantial amount of action in the First World War, including at Gallipoli. Territorial battalions were formed of volunteers from the area in which they were based, in this case Kilmarnock.

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 was 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 Regulations of the Force 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 defending of 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.

Built in 1914, this former battalion headquarters at 43 Titchfield Street was constructed in a period of intense building activity of drill halls following the Haldane Reforms. A lot of the special interest of this drill hall comes from the distinctive architectural detailing to the street elevation (see below).

2.2 Architectural or Historic Interest

Interior

The ground floor of the building has been converted into a restaurant and no apparent features of special interest were evident. The upper floors were not seen and have not been taken into account in this assessment.

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 here, with the administrative block in a separate building from the drill hall and caretaker's accommodation is therefore slightly more unusual. The current building at 43 Titchfield Street is similar in footprint to the outline in the 1940 Ordnance Survey map.

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 building is constructed in red sandstone from the Ballochmyle quarry in Mauchline, and this is a typical building material in this area. The castellated motifs used here was an architectural detail used for a number of other drill halls, including Huntly (1901-2) and Blair Atholl (1906-7), which is listed at category B. In the Titchfield Street drill hall the crowstepped gables, the battlemented sections to the front elevation and the tower that dominates the building gives it a distinctive military style appropriate for a drill hall. This elevation has been altered by the non-traditional replacement of the windows.

Gabriel Andrew (1851-1933) was the architect of many commercial buildings in Kilmarnock and was the retained architect of Johnnie Walker & Sons, a whisky distiller and prominent business in Kilmarnock in the late 19th and early 20th century. Andrew had practised in Kilmarnock for many years, being based originally in East George Street before moving into a building he designed for Walker & Sons in Croft Street. He then moved to Portland Street, with his then partner William Newlands. By 1910, however, he was based in Walker's Bank Street office building but in partnership with his son. The Dictionary of Scottish Architects does not record any other drill halls designed by Andrew.

Setting

The building is situated on a main thoroughfare in Kilmarnock and is a distinctive building in the street. It forms the end block of a row of red tenement buildings by the same architect, and is distinguished from the others by the crowsteps, the tower and the detailing of the stonework.

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 43 Titchfield Street has particular interest under a.

- a. the former drill hall at 43 Titchfield Street is a good use of a traditional Scottish architectural style for a military purpose with a distinctive tower, battlemented window bays and battered base course.

4. Summary of Assessment Against the Listing Criteria**

43 Titchfield Street dates from 1914 and was designed by the Kilmarnock architect Gabriel Andrew & Son as the Headquarters of the 4th Battalion of Royal Scots Fusiliers. The building has a distinctive battlemented tower on the northeast corner. This, the crow stepped gables and battlemented window bays gives the building a military appearance which relates to its original function and distinguishes it from the other surrounding red sandstone tenements. The building has some decorative detailing to the front elevation in the moulded architraves around the ground floor windows.

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 C is for buildings of local importance; lesser examples of any period, style, or building type, as originally constructed or moderately altered; and simple, traditional buildings that group well with other listed buildings. The building has good stonework detailing on the front elevation and is distinctive in the street. The building has been altered and, unusually for this type of building, there is no linked drill hall. The building is considered to be of local interest and therefore category C is the most appropriate.

6. Other Information

N/A

7. References

Canmore: <http://canmore.org.uk/> CANMORE ID 234163

Maps

Ordnance Survey (surveyed 1938, published 1940) Ayrshire Sheet 018.13. 25 Inches to the Mile map. Southampton: Ordnance Survey.

Archive

Kilmarnock Dean of Guilds (1914) case 1500 -1600, plan 1592, Battalion Of Royal Scots Fusiliers, Colonel Barnett Vc Commanding, Andrew & Son G Andrew & Son, 37 Bank Street).

Printed Sources

Close, R. and Riches, A. (2012) *The Buildings of Scotland: Ayrshire and Arran*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press. p.450.

Beattie, F. (2000) *Streets and Neuks - Old Kilmarnock*. East Ayrshire: Alloway Publishing Ltd. p.55.

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

Online Sources

Dictionary of Scottish Architects, *Gabriel Andrew* at http://www.scottisharchitects.org.uk/architect_full.php?id=100036 [accessed 20/01/2016].

* 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/>