

A CHARACTERISATION OF THE CURRAGH CAMP

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ABSTRACT

The primary objective of this dissertation was to initiate an exploration of the planning and architecture of the Curragh Camp and provide the research required for future evaluation of The Curragh in relation to other defence heritage sites, both in Ireland and Britain. An attempt was made to define its merit through an examination of the diverse historical events that have shaped the Curragh Camp and the development of a framework to help identify and record the different architectural “types” and planning that evolved as a reaction to these occurrences.

Ireland's defence heritage has suffered greatly over the past decade and if it is to receive the attention and protection it deserves, it must first be understood. The Curragh is a suitable primary case to stimulate a renewed interest in defence heritage as it is by far the largest camp in the country and possesses the most diverse range of existing building types, dating from various periods of construction starting in 1855. Douet, in his comprehensive study of barrack architecture states that “*remarkably few detailed studies of individual barracks have been published... and no barracks complex has enjoyed a rigorous, modern analysis of its planning or construction*”.¹ If this is a true assessment of the research carried out on barrack infrastructure in Britain, then it is even more applicable to the Republic of Ireland. He also states that due to a lack of time and resources, the British military barracks located in Ireland could not receive the attention or analysis they deserved during his research. This dissertation begins to address this lack of awareness through an exploration of the barracks to be found in the Curragh Camp.

¹ J. Douet and English Heritage, *British Barracks 1600-1914: Their Architecture and Role in Society* (Stationery Office, 1998).

INTRODUCTION

Why the selected topic?

My association with the subject matter covered in this dissertation can be dated exactly to Sunday the 14th of September 1980, when at 1500hrs, I had the good fortune to be born in the Curragh “Families” Maternity Hospital, not long after which, it closed its doors for the final time. And although by the time of my birth my family had moved out of married-quarters, I would spend the rest of my infancy and childhood in or around The Curragh. However, by this time, what had once been a thriving garrison community, often referred to in utopian terms by those who had lived there during the fifties through to the seventies, was now noticeably in the early stages of decline². The reasons behind this decline are beyond the scope of this dissertation and already have been subject to a comprehensive study³, one which provides a fascinating and very positive account of life on a military camp.

The most noticeable changes that occurred during this period were that many of the married-quarters, through lack of maintenance and upkeep, fell into serious states of disrepair and many of the soldiers and families who could afford to do so, moved off the camp to the surrounding towns of Naas, Kildare and Newbridge⁴. This resulted in an increasing number of married quarters being left unoccupied and as these buildings received little or no maintenance, the problem further escalated. This was exacerbated by a policy of blocking up vacant premises adopted by those in charge of maintaining the buildings on the camp, even though neighbouring accommodation may still have been occupied. The lack of maintenance was not limited to married quarters and almost all of the buildings on the camp were in need

² J Glavin, "Mia: A Lost Community – an Investigation into the Demise of the Garrison Community of the Curragh Camp." (2012).

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

of repair to some extent⁵. The ensuing exodus of personnel off the camp meant that many of the amenities and recreation facilities could no longer be sustained due to the reduction in population and as such, facilities like the cinemas, sports clubs, shops, chemists etc. began to close. Again, this had a further knock on affect on the community and by the early nineties there were parts of the Curragh that were arguably among the least attractive places to live in South Kildare.

By the late nineties, whole rows of married-quarters were boarded up and whatever population remained on the camp was being moved to a number of designated quarters. The strategy of demolishing empty married quarters and other disused buildings that had begun in the early nineties now intensified and noticeable changes to the existing built environment were occurring at an increasing rate. Around this time the official title of the Curragh Camp changed to the Defence Forces Training Centre, reflecting a desire on the part of the Department of Defence to eventually remove all civilian and family members from the camp.

In 2003 I moved overseas for a number of years, however The Curragh was never too far from my thoughts while I was abroad. My time away gave me the opportunity to remember what The Curragh had been like in the times of my youth and recall what of the camp had now been lost to progress. It became clear to me that the Curragh Camp, being the size of a small town, could conceal these sustained minor changes that were taking place, without the actual extent of change being fully recognised until it was too late. When I arrived home in 2005 to return to education, I did so with a renewed interest in what it was that made The Curragh so distinctive and a determination to understand just what it was that stood to be lost if this sustained change went unchecked.

⁵ John Purcell, "Report on Value for Money Examination," ed. Department of Defence (1998). Pg. 05

Research Question

What is the significance of the architecture to be found on the Curragh Camp?

This study is an exploration of the history and development of the architecture of the Curragh Camp. In order to answer the research question, the study must first establish its historical significance or what it is that gave that architecture of the Curragh its worth in the first place. The evolution of the camp was determined by the actions and instructions of the British Government, some of which were a reaction to the requirements of war, while others were in response to pressure for reform within the British Army and in particular the standard of environment being provided for the troops. The first part of this dissertation attempts to establish a connection between the architecture and the historical events that produced it.

The next question which needs to be addressed is what presently remains of the original architecture of the camp? As mentioned earlier, there is very little evidence left of the thriving garrison community that once resided there, with the vast majority of married quarters now having been demolished. However quarters are only one element of the barracks composition, with many other building types. Although the loss of the quarters is regrettable, what has been lost cannot be regained. But, what is left can be protected. The second part of this dissertation will attempt to provide as much information as possible on the present condition and integrity of the remaining buildings in the camp.

Research Methodology

Characterisation

Characterisation is a research strategy promoted and utilised by English Heritage for use in establishing and investigating the particular character of a chosen area and its significance.⁶ Applicable to various scales of development, ranging from whole counties to smaller thematic developments such as industrial or military sites, the method is flexible and can be adapted to suit each particular case. I identified characterisation as a suitable research method to assess the Curragh Camp for the following reasons:

Its focus on overall character rather than singular cases of sophisticated or stylish architecture is suitable for defence heritage, especially barracks, where the built environment derives its architectural merit from overarching characteristics such as consistency through materiality, hierarchy through form and order through planning and layout.

Methods of characterisation have been specifically developed for application in cases of thematic significance such as sites that were developed collectively to serve a particular function, of which defence heritage plays a large part. As such, there were many existing case studies from which to take precedence.

Characterisation is designed to facilitate and manage change in environments of historic significance and “not to prohibit it”. The Curragh Camp, being a fully functional army training centre, requires this flexibility to change and makes characterisation the best avenue for research in order to produce

⁶ Characterisation as a research tool has now also been adopted by the Heritage Council of Ireland.

documentation and information adequate for use in guiding future management and alterations to the camp.

The layout, focus and arrangement of a characterisation analysis aids straightforward integration of collected data into the records of those responsible for the management and planning of the area in question, usually planning authorities, but in this case the Property Management Branch of the Irish Defence Forces.

Structure

The architectural heritage of the Curragh is diverse and differs from barracks to barracks, featuring architecture built during different periods, to satisfy different political pressures and military requirements. As such, a detailed and comprehensive analysis of the whole camp could not be addressed adequately within the timeframe or structural limitations of this dissertation. Therefore, the research was structured and organised so as to assess the camp at three different levels of detail, ranging from a general overview to detailed case studies of particular buildings. The research is presented in the following sequence.

Broad Historical Analysis - General

Chapter 3 is a historical overview of the camp, covering the period leading up to the construction of the first permanent training camp in 1855, to its handover by the British to the Irish Free State Army in 1922. This research aims to provide the reader with a general understanding of the different political, social and military developments that informed the evolution of the

camp, while also discussing some of the military planning principles applied in its construction. The information required to produce this study was gathered

Barracks Characterisation - Strategic

In chapter 4, the seven original barracks from the reconstruction period are grouped into five strategic character areas. Each character area is then analysed in further detail, exploring and highlighting some unique historical associations, planning decisions or distinctive architectural features while also highlighting the different buildings to be found in each barracks.

Building Case Study - Detailed

Chapter 5 is devoted to a more in-depth analysis of two chosen buildings. The purpose of this research is to show some examples of how the requirements of military architecture often called for complex and innovative design solutions. The study examines two examples from different barracks, one which incorporates reforms geared toward improving the health of the troops, while the other shows how incredible attention to detail passively provided an efficient and hygienic unit with which to tend to sick horses of the cavalry. This will also serve to highlight the possible expected design variations to be found if an extensive examination of the different typologies to be found on the camp was conducted.

Surveys

Being a functioning military base, movement within the camp is restricted to a certain extent, while surveying techniques such as photography and sketching are strictly prohibited. I contacted the Operations Section at Defence Forces Training Centre Headquarters during the preliminary stages of my investigation and provided a letter outlining my ambition to survey certain areas of the camp. The request for permission was eventually granted under the condition that I be accompanied by a member of the operations section. The survey was carried out at two different levels of enquiry and was to satisfy two separate elements of research.

The first phase of surveying was a more general analysis of the overall existing building stock of the camp, involving a perambulation of the camp and contrasting what now exists against the buildings shown on a map from early 1920. The objective was to identify what change has taken place since the handover of the camp and generally provide a current record of the integrity of what now remains. A record of the current building occupation was also conducted, the purpose of which was to highlight problem areas, as there are a number of locations within the camp where groups of buildings are being let fall into serious states of disrepair as a result of not being occupied.

The second phase of the survey was to carry out the two building case studies outlined earlier and this would required site visits to the Equitation School in Plunkett Barracks and the billet accommodation in McDonagh Barracks.

Literature Review

There were two primary areas of preliminary enquiry necessary in order to develop a solid foundation on which to construct this dissertation. Firstly, there is literature relating to defence heritage in general and barrack architecture in particular, much of which has been produced in the past ten to fifteen years. However, I discuss this area in greater detail in the next chapter as it deserves a thorough discussion in itself. Next there is literature produced primarily on the topic of the Curragh Camp and the landscape in which it is situated. It is this literature that is the primary area explored in this review.

The Curragh has been the focus of a number of works exploring the different issues relating to the camp, some focusing on providing a more general overview while others have endeavoured to illuminate more particular concerns. The definitive historical work on the Curragh Camp is without doubt Con Costello's "*A Most Delightful Station*",⁷ which provides a comprehensive account of the British military presence in the Curragh, from the construction of the first camp in 1855, to its hand-over to the Irish Free State army in 1922. The book explores a multitude of subjects including, but not limited to, history, military, economics, society and culture. Costello also dedicates a large part of two separate chapters to the two major phases of construction which occurred during the period covered in the book. In chapter two Costello discusses the political situation and military escalation in Ireland leading up to the decision to build the first permanent camp on the Curragh Plains. He further elaborates on the information set down in Lugard's narrative regarding the design and building of the camp, exploring the economic benefits, tender process and contractors. He also makes reference to a number of articles published in the *Leinster Express* and

⁷ C. Costello, *A Most Delightful Station: The British Army on the Curragh of Kildare, Ireland, 1855-1922* (1996).

some other interesting firsthand accounts from the time. In chapter eleven he focuses on the reconstruction of the camp which began around 1870 and provides some valuable chronological information concerning the reconstruction. Again he also explores the economic benefits to the local economy and the costs associated with such a major overhaul of the camp. However, Costello's account, while illuminating in many different areas, is not an architectural text and does not engage with the details or general organisation of barrack architecture. Nevertheless, the text and in particular the accompanying bibliography guided my research and provided a sound foundation from which to start.

In "*A Study of the Architecture of the Curragh Camp 1890-1910*"⁸, an undergraduate thesis produced by Sorcha Richardson, she presents an assessment of the development of the camp and the architecture built during the reconstruction in that period. The thesis also focuses on the contractors and procurement of construction materials from local businesses. Although it would be impossible to present a thorough analysis of The Curragh without covering ground already trod by Richardson, I have endeavoured to produce a more comprehensive investigation which places more emphasis on the significance and influence of military planning and progress, rather than the architectural merits of particular buildings or styles.

I could find no existing research which attempted to determine what remains of the original camp or quantify how much has been lost in more recent times.

⁸ Sorcha Richardson, "A Study of the Architecture of the Curragh Camp 1890-1910" (Trinity College Dublin, 2009).

DEFENCE HERITAGE

In the past, certain categories of military infrastructure had received much attention by way of research and conservation, while others had largely been neglected. Douet explains the difference between the two primary class of domestic defence infrastructure by using the “teeth and tail” analogy usually applied in military circles to denote the combat or support role of a certain regiment, company or battalion.⁹ The “teeth” refers to military infrastructure which served to facilitate combat formations and front line fortifications such as castles, forts and coastal defences. The “tail” refers to military infrastructure designed to facilitate training, support and logistics, buildings such as naval and air-force bases, barracks and magazines. In the early nineties a disproportionate past focus on the “teeth” was recognised by English Heritage and a conscious effort was made to address this imbalance¹⁰.

Between 1994 and 2004 a considerable amount of research was commissioned on “tail” defence sites as part of the Thematic Listing and Monument Protection Programme¹¹. One of the first thematic studies was carried out by James Douet on the subject of barracks and in 1998 the fruit of this research led to the publication of *British Barracks 1600-1914*. In the book, Douet explores the history and evolution of the British Barracks and prepares a case for the protection of such architecture along the lines that it is a far more complex subject than was then appreciated, “*overlapping many other areas of military, urban, social and architectural history*” and which to a large extent had “*remained unexplored*”¹². The publication has been credited with drawing attention to the subject at a “critical” time, when a restructuring within the British Armed Forces meant that the sites of many barracks were no longer needed

⁹ Douet and Heritage, *British Barracks 1600-1914: Their Architecture and Role in Society*.

¹⁰ *ibid*

¹¹ Recent Military Heritage : A review of progress 1994-2004

¹² Douet and Heritage, *British Barracks 1600-1914: Their Architecture and Role in Society*. pg. xi

and were being sold to private developers¹³. The research and findings meant that many of the sites received differing degrees of protected status before being sold off, while also raising awareness of the potential added value and opportunity for developers presented by a listed status¹⁴. Essentially, this meant that although the function of the barracks would change, the form and layout of the built fabric would for the most part remain unaltered, thus rescuing the barracks from demolition.

With regard to Irish military architecture there has been very little interest per se, perhaps due to the fact that there has not been very much produced. In fact only two new barracks were ever planned and executed exclusively by the Irish Defence Forces¹⁵, Monaghan Barracks was built in 1976 and closed in 2009, while Dun Ui Neill in Cavan was built in 1990 and closed in March 2012.¹⁶ Therefore the vast majority of facilities occupied by the Irish Defence Forces were constructed prior to independence in 1922 and as such, architecturally, represent the endeavours, organisation and achievements of the British Army. When one considers the historical connotations of the British presence in Ireland during this time it is not surprising that these architectural remnants of a occupying military presence have been offered little more than mere tolerance in the past.

But despite this indifference, up until quite recently, the network of British built barracks on the island had remained largely intact. While the British M.O.D. demolished, renovated and updated much of their military facilities during World War II and the ensuing Cold War¹⁷, Ireland's policy of neutrality negated the need for any such action. The result being that at the turn of the millennium, Ireland possessed

¹³ Military Sites Research: Army and Naval Barracks

¹⁴ *ibid*

¹⁵ Report on Value for Money Pg. 05

¹⁶ Some barracks were rebuilt after independence on existing British barrack sites. Magee Barracks in Kildare Town is an example.

¹⁷ Douet and Heritage, *British Barracks 1600-1914: Their Architecture and Role in Society*. Pg. 196

some of the best preserved examples of British military architecture in the British Isles. Prior to 2000, Griffith and Collins were the only two major barracks to have been relinquished by the Department of Defence¹⁸, the former in 1991 and the latter in 1997. However, Griffiths Barracks, with the addition of a number of new buildings, was sensitively converted to serve as the new campus for Griffith College Dublin, while Collins Barracks was also converted and now accommodates the decorative arts and history collection of the National Museum of Ireland.

During the late nineties the Irish Defence Forces were preparing for a period of similar restructuring to the one occurring in the British Army at that time and referred to earlier. As a result the Department of Defence would also witness a parallel scenario arise regarding surplus barracks and sites. The subsequent measures were part of a policy framework and development strategy set out in a defence White Paper published in 2000¹⁹, the primary objective of which was to modernise the Defence Forces. Prior to the publication of the white paper, an investigation into the Department of Defence property portfolio was carried out and in December 1998 a “Report on Value for Money Examination” was published. The report focused primarily on the condition and justification for continued occupation by the Defence Forces of the “34 permanently occupied barracks which were taken over from the British Government in 1922”²⁰. Ultimately the report concluded that practically all the defence property assets were in a poor state of repair, yet the costs for maintenance and management were “astonishingly high”²¹. It also highlighted the fact that there was no assets register or records and as a result made efficient and effective maintenance of the property assets practically impossible. The report recommended

¹⁸ Report on Value for Money Pg.

¹⁹ White paper

²⁰ Report on Value for Money Pg. *i*

²¹ Report on Value for Money Pg. 13

that a comprehensive system of recording property related data should be developed and made recommendations about how best to proceed with an announcement made by the Minister of Defence the previous July to close and off-load six barracks which were deemed surplus to requirement.

Unfortunately, there was no such surge in interest in defence heritage at this time on the part of the Heritage Council, Ireland's equivalent to English Heritage and despite the report highlighting the fact that the majority of the Defence Forces inherited architectural assets were of 18th and 19th century stock, there was no consideration whatsoever of the value or significance this should have had on any decision to either retain or sell the properties. The recommendations of the Report on Value for Money in tandem with a separate report prepared by PricewaterhouseCooper regarding efficiency and rationalisation were taken on board by the Department of Defence and informed the recommendations set out in the defence White Paper, which was published the following year.

Today, the Property Management Branch of the Defence Forces supervises a portfolio consisting of just twenty-three permanently occupied military facilities²², which would imply that since 2000 and the publication of the white paper, it has closed and released 11 barracks, accounting for just under one third of previously occupied barracks. The fate of the released military sites is beyond the scope of this dissertation, suffice to say some no longer exist and some have been let fall into such a poor state that they are now considered a danger and will need to be demolished. There are two such examples of barracks which were located within a fifteen mile radius of the Curragh Camp. Devoy in Naas, an infantry barracks dating from 1810 was closed in 1998 and subsequently demolished, while Magee Barracks in Kildare

²² Defence Forces Property Management Website

town, originally built in the early 1900's, was closed and earmarked for possible conversion into social housing. The pictures below provide a flattering depiction of the barracks in its current state and do not portray the extensive fire damage that has occurred as a result of lack of security and vandalism. It is now scheduled for demolition some time before the end of 2012.

The handling and execution of the barracks closure policies exposed a gross under-appreciation by both the Department for Defence and the Defence Forces Property Management Branch of its defence heritage with the above text serving to portray the context in which the Curragh Camp and its architectural heritage must now be considered.



Figure 1 Magee Barracks, Kildare Town

THE CURRAGH

The Plains

The Curragh Plains consists of a sward of approximately five thousand acres of lowland grasslands, two miles wide in parts, by five miles in length, making it the largest semi-natural grassland of its type in Ireland. As “*an area of outstanding ecological interest and an archaeological complex*”²³ the Curragh’s environmental significance was confirmed in 1994 when it was classified as a National Monument. The intricate and unique eco-system, plants and varieties of fungi which it supports are attributed to the fact that it has supposedly remained unfenced and uncultivated for over two thousand years.

The plains have produced evidence of human inhabitation dating back to the Neolithic period and as per the recent survey carried out by Kildare County Council in association with the Heritage Council, possesses over two hundred pre-historic sites of archaeological significance²⁴.

Today, the plains play host to three primary parties, the horse racing industry who train their horses within the “blue lands”, the farmers who continue to hold grazing rights on the “blue lands” and “yellow lands” and the military who inhabit the camp located within the boundaries of the “brown lands”, but who reserve the right to carry out manoeuvres and exercises throughout all of The Curragh.

²³ John Feehan, *Cuirrech Lífé : The Curragh of Kildare, Ireland* (Dublin: School of Biology and Environmental Science, UCD, 2008).

²⁴ Jason Bolton, "Directory of Archaeological Sources Relating to County Kildare," in *Kildare Heritage Plan 2005 - 2009*, ed. Kildare County Council (2008).

Historical military associations

Considering the expanse of wide open space, it is not surprising that throughout history, The Curragh has been a popular place for the mustering of troops and the location of many acts of conflict. Prominent in Irish folklore as the hunting ground of the legendary band of warriors, the Fianna, the Curragh is also mentioned in the annals of the four masters dating from 777 AD as the location of a battle between local tribes.²⁵ The following military occurrences have been recorded in more recent history.

1599_ The Earl of Essex, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, camps his army, stating that “A better place for deploying of an army I never beheld.”²⁶

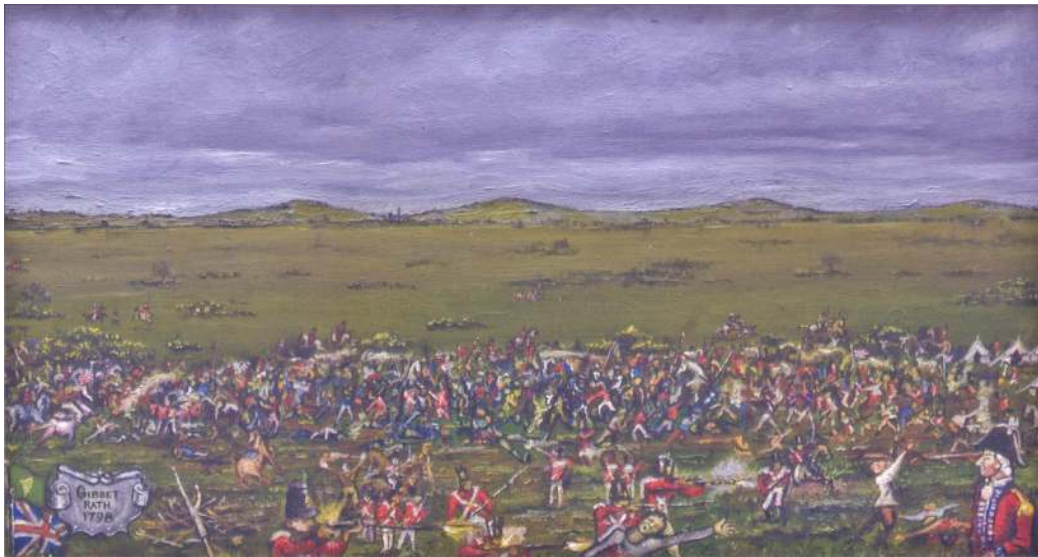


Figure 2 Gibbet Rath Massacre by John Hughes

1641_ James Butler, 1st Duke of Ormonde camps his army on the Curragh.²⁷

1690_ The retreating army of James II stops to rest on the plains after defeat at the Battle of the Boyne.

1709_ The plains are used for the practice of military exercises for the first time.²⁸

²⁵ Costello, *A Most Delightful Station: The British Army on the Curragh of Kildare, Ireland, 1855-1922*.

²⁶ Guy Williams, "The Curragh, a Land Divided.," in *Hayden Lecture* (Kildare Town2007).

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Ibid.

1798_ Gibbet Rath massacre takes place when Maj. Gen. Sir James Duff and his men open fire on “several hundred” United Irishmen who had surrendered following the rebellion of that year.²⁹ (Figure 2)

1803-04_ Militia units numbering up to 13,000, camp on the Curragh in preparation for the war in France.³⁰

1808_ Militia and regular forces numbering 11,000 attend a training camp on the Curragh.³¹

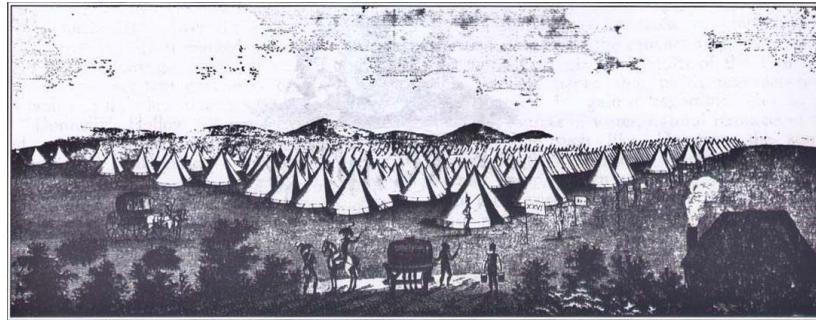


Figure 3 Engraving of training encampment on Curragh circa 1800

Up until 1840 and despite this regular military usage, the Curragh was still in the primary domain of those involved in the training of horses and the local farmers who had the right to graze their sheep on the plains. In the “*History of the British Turf*”, a horse racing almanac of sorts dating from this period, the author describes the conditions on the Curragh as follows;

“...an extensive sheepwalk of about 6000 acres, forming a more beautiful lawn than the hand of art ever made. Nothing can exceed the extreme softness and elasticity of turf, which is of a verdure that charms the eye and is still further set off by the gentle inequality of the surface.”³²

However developments occurring on the continent throughout the following two decades would dictate that the sheep farmers and horse trainers would soon need to make way for another permanent tenant on the camp.

²⁹ Costello, *A Most Delightful Station: The British Army on the Curragh of Kildare, Ireland, 1855-1922*.

³⁰ *Ibid.*

³¹ *Ibid.*

³² J.C. Whyte, *History of the British Turf* (Henry Colburn, 1840).

CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE FIRST PERMANENT CAMP AT THE CURRAGH

Large scale manoeuvres orchestrated by the British Military in 1853 and held at Chobham Commons in Surrey demonstrated the potential advantages of better organisation and training within the armed forces.³³ The outbreak of the Crimean War in October of that year served to further heighten awareness of the necessity of having a well trained army, both to send to the front to fight and also to man the coastal defences of Britain in case of invasion. Between 1853 and 1854, 10,000 acres were purchased by the British Government in Aldershot at the behest of the commander in chief, in order to establish a “*permanent camp of instruction*”.³⁴

Aldershot would be the first permanent training camp of its type and marked a departure from the tented accommodation which had been provided for manoeuvres up until this time. In 1854, work commenced on the construction of the camp with timber as the choice of construction material for the soldiers huts, although the more permanent “Marlborough Lines” would be built of brick and stone. Within less than two years, Aldershot would be capable of supporting the training and instruction of 20,000 men.

Further land was acquired by the British Government and the construction of three more camps was begun at Colchester, Shornecliffe and Pembroke³⁵ before, on January 24th 1855, an “*intimation was received by the Commanding Royal Engineer in Ireland, that a camp would probably be required at the Curragh of Kildare, capable of accommodating 10,000 men.*”³⁶

³³ H.E. Raugh, *The Victorians at War, 1815-1914: An Encyclopedia of British Military History* (ABC-CLIO, 2004).

³⁴ *Ibid.*

³⁵ Douet and Heritage, *British Barracks 1600-1914: Their Architecture and Role in Society*.

³⁶ Lugard H W., *Narrative of Operations in the Arrangement and Formation of a Camp for 10,000 Infantry on the Curragh of Kildare* (Dublin: Alex. Thom and Sons, 1858).

“LUGARDS NARRATIVE” AND THE PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE FIRST TRAINING CAMP ON THE CURRAGH

The officer who oversaw the planning of the new camp at The Curragh was Lieutenant General H.W. Lugard of the Royal Engineers. When word had reached Ireland that a camp may be required, Lugard had searched for any plans or documents dating from the preceding encampment on the Curragh which had taken place 50 years previous, so as to ascertain any information that would be of benefit regarding the best location and layout of the new camp.³⁷ However, he was unable to find much information of any use, beyond the testimony of a few old officers who had been present at the time and who could recall the figures regarding troops present and the hardship that arose due to the want of clean water. In order to avoid this loss of valuable information occurring again, Lugard decided to provide a record of the planning and execution of the new camp, which could in turn be used to inform any other permanent camps that would be planned in similar locations and circumstances.



Figure 4 Walkers Map 1807 before the camp, showing Long Hill, the elevated section of the plains along which the camp was aligned.

The subsequent text, including copies of the plans and construction drawings were published under the title “*Narrative of Operations in the Arrangement and Formation of a Camp for 10,000 Infantry on the Curragh of Kildare*”. That text provided the facts for much of the following analysis of the planning and design of the first camp.

³⁷ Ibid.

General Planning

The location and orientation of the camp was chosen so as to sit along the ridge of an elevated section of the Curragh known as Long Hill (Figure 4). This was for practical reasons such as good drainage etc. but also as it offered superior views across the plains which became particularly important during the observation of manoeuvres and exercises. The camp was separated into two divisions, each with five squares, designated alphabetically from west to east³⁸. A natural valley further divided the right division into two parts. Each square was designed to accommodate either two small regiments of 500 personnel or one large regiment of 1000, in “*a formation derived from the fundamental regimental divisions and loyalties of the British Army*”.

An administration and recreation area was situated between the two divisions, on an area of ground which was “*somewhat more elevated and of uneven surface*”³⁹. This area contained important buildings such as the Post Office, Protestant and Catholic Churches, the Water Tower, Military Police H.Q. and Brigade offices. The hospital for the left division was located on the extreme west of the camp, in a somewhat unusual hexagonal compound, while the hospital for the right division was located below G lines in a more orthodox rectangular configuration.

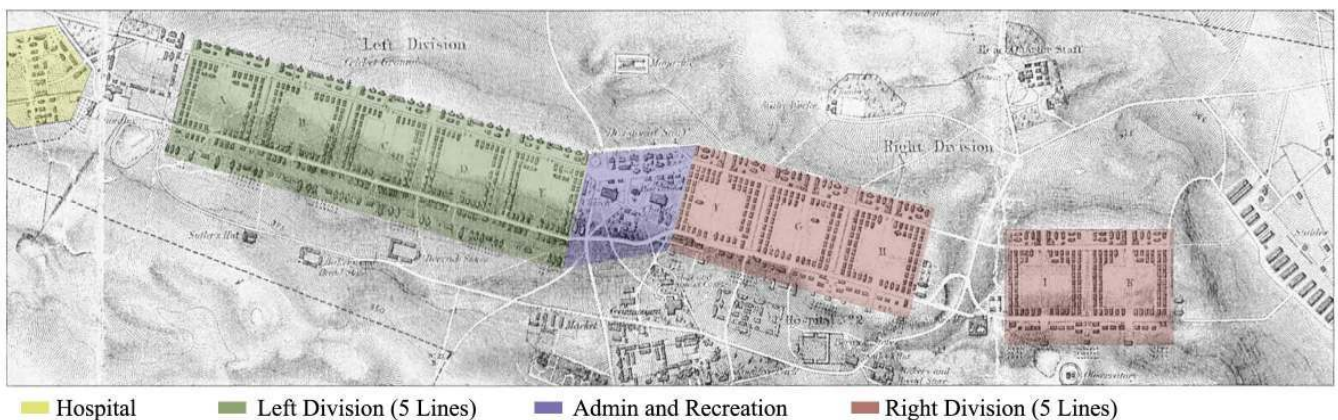


Figure 5 Diagram showing layout of camp along “Long Hill”

³⁸ There are no “J lines”. I was unable to establish an explanation.

³⁹ W., *Narrative of Operations in the Arrangement and Formation of a Camp for 10,000 Infantry on the Curragh of Kildare*.

The plans from Aldershot had been sent to Ireland in January of 1855, however a comparison with what was built in both camps demonstrates a completely different approach to planning, with the Curragh maintaining the traditional, square centred plan.⁴⁰ In his Narrative, Lugard outlines those concerns which most influenced his decisions regarding the planning and layout of the buildings across Long Hill;

*“The separation of regiments in their discipline, recruit and punishment drills; good regimental police arrangements; facilities for the assembly of troops on ordinary occasions and general parade; and the avoidance, as far as practicable, of the risk of extensive loss from fire.”*⁴¹

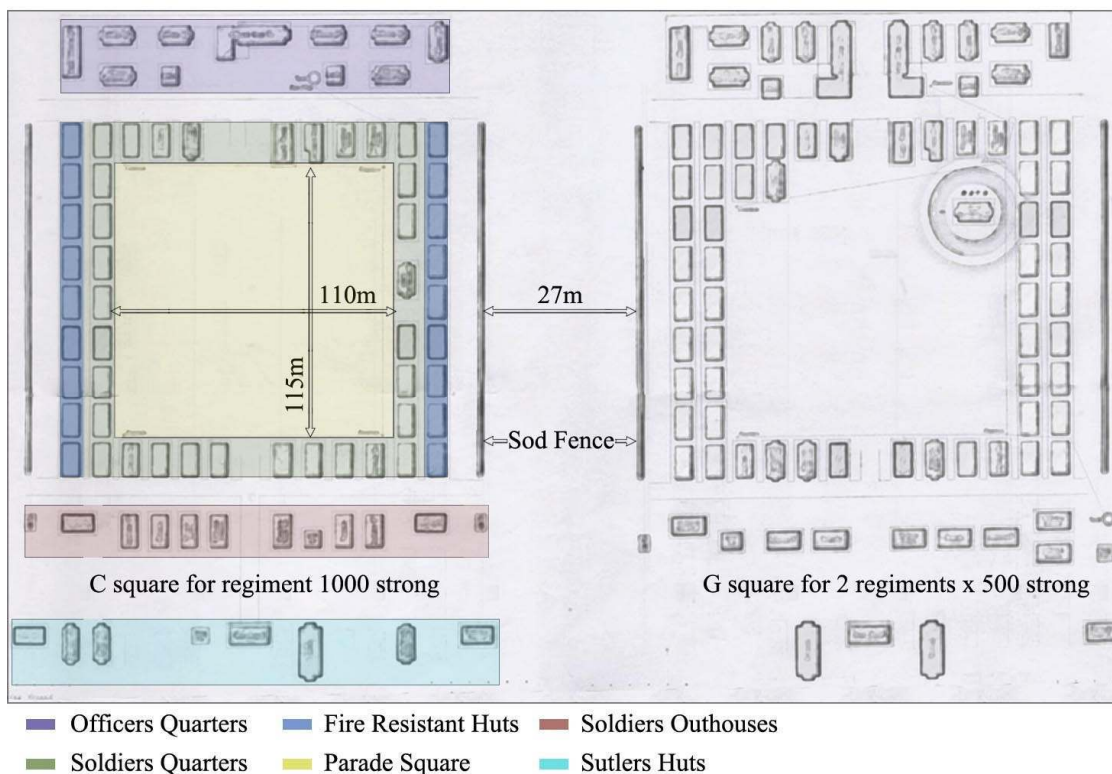


Figure 6 General layout of each square

All squares fronted to the north, with the officers quarters and ancillary accommodation located 40 meters on front of the soldiers lines. The officers huts sat on the brow of Long Hill so as to overlook the squares as they fell to the south.

⁴⁰ Douet and Heritage, *British Barracks 1600-1914: Their Architecture and Role in Society*.

⁴¹ W., *Narrative of Operations in the Arrangement and Formation of a Camp for 10,000 Infantry on the Curragh of Kildare*.

The soldiers huts were configured around a parade square 115x110m, for use in practicing marching and drill. The huts on the extreme left and right of each square were built using fire resistant materials such as corrugated iron roofs and brick walls so as to check the spread of fire between squares. As a further measure against the spread of fire, all squares were space 27 meters apart with a 3 meter high sod fence placed along the center of this zone. These latter measures were also to keep the men from each regiment separated, affording more control to the Provost and Military Police. The latrines and ablution huts are located to the rear of the soldiers huts with the sutlers⁴² huts further to the rear again.

Design and Construction

All design, drafting and drawing up of the contracts was carried out by the Royal Engineers and although the pressures of war no doubt played a part, the efficiency and speed with which they organised the works on the Curragh would appear to be most impressive. The order to proceed with the construction of the camp was received on the 27th of February 1855. By March 1st the contracts were advertised and on the 13th the first tender was accepted. Two "*eminent manufacturing firms*" secured the contracts for the majority of work, Messers A & G Holme of Liverpool and Messers Courtney & Stephen, who were based in Blackhall-Place in Dublin.⁴³

Holme's accepted tender included a more complex range of specialist buildings including officers quarters, the guard rooms and hospitals, while the latter contractor secured the contracts for the construction of the more straight forward buildings including 430 soldiers huts. Holme's also secured the contract for the supply of water to the camp which was of the upmost concern.

⁴² A sutler is a merchant who deals specifically in provisions for the army.
⁴³"The Military Camp at the Curragh 1855," *Leinster Express May 5th 1855*.

The following extract from an article published in a local paper at the time gives an idea of the scale of construction that was being executed and also the impact this new development would have had on the normally tranquil surroundings of The Curragh.

“The visitor from Dublin has to traverse a vast extent of this wide prairie before he catches a glimpse of the camp, but in turning round the base of the grassy mound crowned by an old rath, he comes in view of the spot where a considerable portion of this miniture-city has been already erected and presenting in its crowded and busy aspect a striking contrast to the silence and solitude of the wide expanse which surrounds it.”⁴⁴

Although referring to the Curragh as a miniature city might have been a slight exaggeration, the drawing schedule (Figure 7) reveals that if not a small city, it was certainly at least a town of considerable size.

| INDEX TO DETAIL PLANS | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|---|-------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| N ^o 1 | Officers' Quarters | Hut for General Commanding. | N ^o 29 | Hospitals | Ablution House & Dead House. |
| 2 | " | First Class Staff Hut for Brigadiers &c. | 30 | Church | Plan. |
| 3 | " | First Class Staff Hut for Deputy Adj. General &c. | 31 | " | Sections. |
| 4 | " | Second Class Staff Hut & Hut for Com ^d Officers. | 32 | " | Elevations. |
| 5 | " | Officers Huts. | 33 | Schools | Plan & Sections. |
| 6 | " | Mess Establishment. | 34 | Racket Court | Plan. |
| 7 | " | Hut for Officers' Servants & Cellars. | 35 | " | Sections & Elevations. |
| 8 | Soldiers' Quarters | Huts for Staff Sergeants &c. | 36 | Clock Tower | Plan & Sections. |
| 9 | " | Huts for Sergeants. | 37 | Post Office | and Suters' Hut. |
| 10 | " | Huts for Provost Sergeants & Married Men. | 38 | Barrack Stairs | For Bedding & Utensils. |
| 11 | " | Soldiers' Huts. | 39 | " | Straw Sheds. |
| 12 | " | Cooking House. | 40 | Bakery | Plans & Sections. |
| 13 | " | Ablution Houses. | 41 | Butchery | Butchers' Quarters. |
| 14 | " | Privies. | 42 | " | Slaughter House & Stairs. |
| 15 | " | Urinals &c. and Cells. | 43 | Commissariat Stores | For Hay & Straw. |
| 16 | Guard House | Chimney pieces, Lamps &c. | 44 | " | For Corn. |
| 17 | Grates, Stoves | For Tailors, Shoemakers, Armourers & Farriers. | 45 | " | Forge Barn. |
| 18 | Regimental Workshops | For Collar Makers & Whalers | 46 | Royal Engineer Dep ^t | Huts for Civil Staff. |
| 19 | " | For Officers. | 47 | " | Huts for Offices. |
| 20 | Stables | D ^o | 48 | " | Workshops. |
| 21 | " | For 40 Horses. | 49 | Police | Court House. |
| 22 | " | For 60 Horses. | 50 | " | Constabulary Barracks. |
| 23 | " | Forge & Infirmary Stables. | 51 | " | D ^o |
| 24 | Gun Sheds | Plan & Sections. | 52 | Water Works | Plan. |
| 25 | Hospitals | Medical Officers' Quarters. | 53 | " | Section & Elevation. |
| 26 | " | Hospital Huts. | 54 | " | D ^o |
| 27 | " | Stores, &c. | 55 | " | Plan showing arrangement of water |

Figure 7 Drawing schedule for camp construction

⁴⁴ Ibid.

Accommodation

Regardless of the variety of building uses on the camp, the vast majority of huts were just variations of the same unit and “the size common to nearly all huts may be quoted at 40 by 20 feet.”⁴⁵

Figure 8 shows the plan, section and elevation of a typical hut expected to accommodate 25 men.

At just 6 x 12 x 2.4 meters, the huts would have been extremely cramped, offering each soldier an area of just 2.8m² to himself and just over 7m³ of

breathing space per person. Soldiers were not

only expected to sleep and live in these conditions, but would have to return to the huts after retrieving their food from the cookhouse and eat there also. The full extent of how overcrowded and unsuitable these conditions must have been will become

apparent further on when discussing some of

the barrack reforms that occurred not long after the building of the Curragh Camp.

Heating was provided by a “Canadian stove” which would have been located at the centre of the billets while ventilation was provided by two small windows on each of the long elevations, one small window above the entrance on each gable and two vents installed to the ridge of the roof.

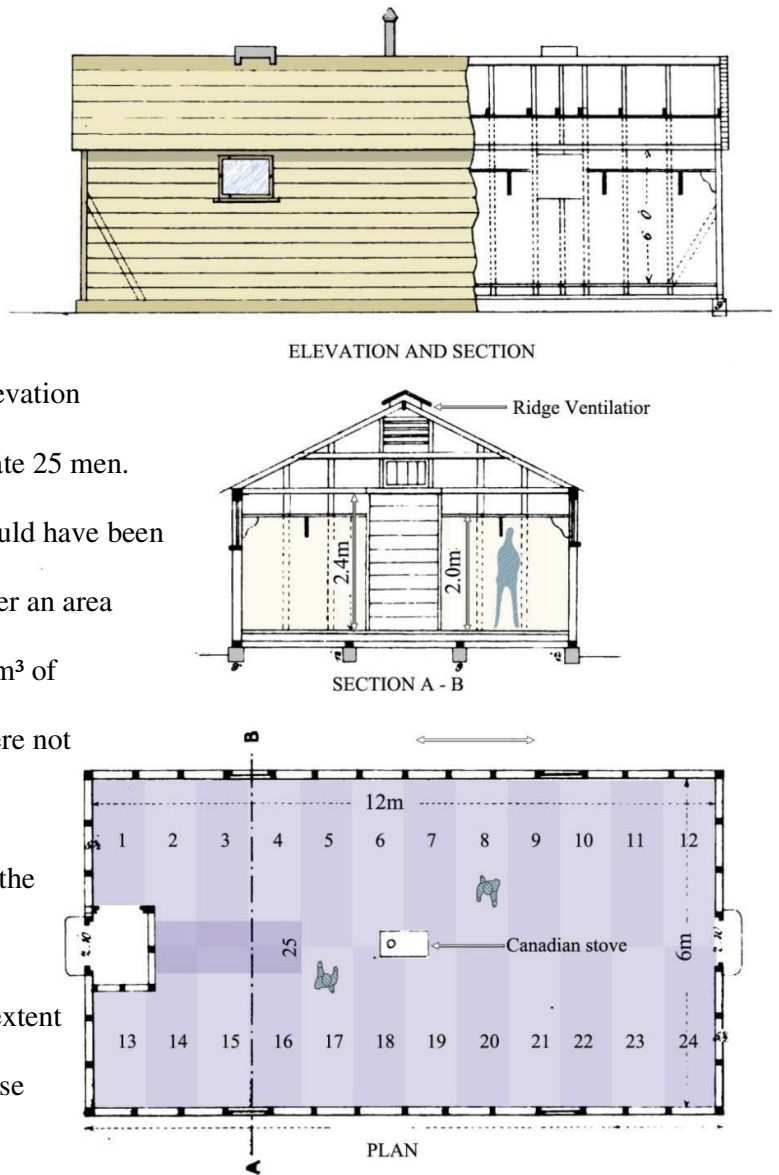
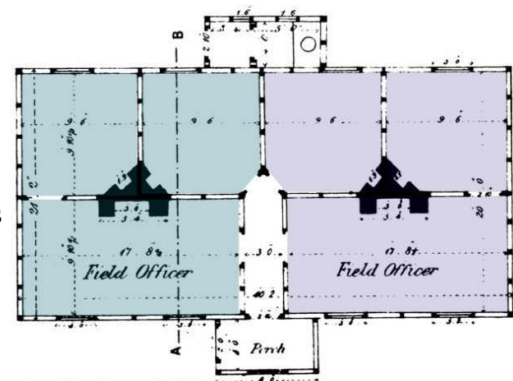


Figure 8 Diagram of typical soldiers accommodation

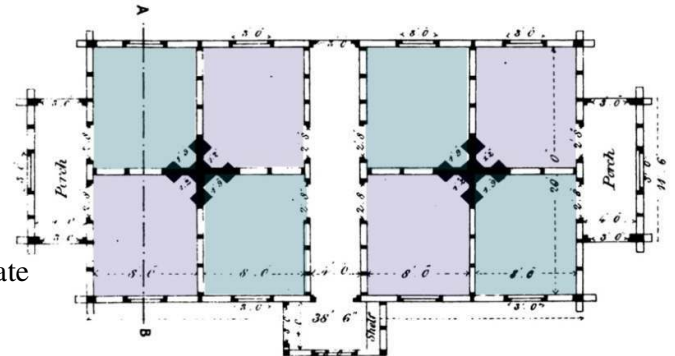
⁴⁵ W., *Narrative of Operations in the Arrangement and Formation of a Camp for 10,000 Infantry on the Curragh of Kildare*.

Not all huts were so confined however and a comparison (Figure 9) between the living quarters afforded to the different ranks clearly demonstrates the hierarchical divide present in the British Army during the middle of the 19th century.

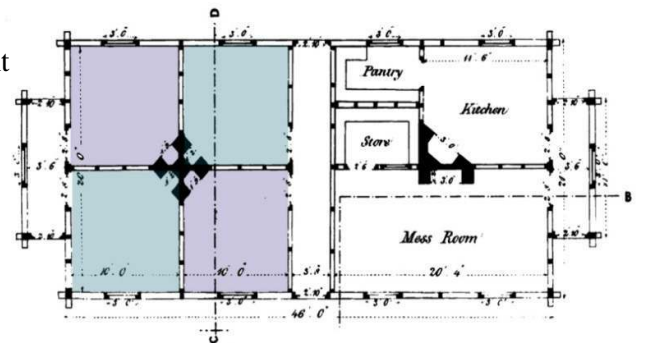
An officer (second class) enjoyed the personal space which would have had to be shared by 4 enlisted soldiers, that being an area of 11m². Despite having to accommodate far fewer men, the N.C.O.'s and officers huts received much more consideration regarding ventilation and heating. Larger and more frequent windows were provided, while brick fireplaces faced directly into each partitioned room. Although far from opulent, it shows with how little regard the conditions of the enlisted soldier were measured. Those enlisted soldiers who wished to get married and were fortunate enough receive permission⁴⁶, were expected to live with their wife and family in one room the same size as that afforded to the officer (second class). Although this might seem inadequate, it was actually an improvement on previous



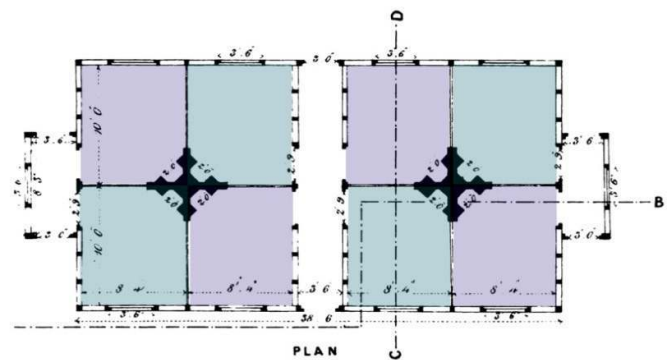
Hut for 2no. Field Officers



Hut for 8no. Officers



Hut for 4no. Staff Sergeants incorporating mess facilities



Hut for 8no. Married Soldiers

Figure 9 Layout of different living quarters according to rank and circumstance

⁴⁶ Enlisted soldiers who wanted to get married during this period first had to get the permission of their commanding officer.

arrangements whereby the family would be expected to share a section of the common billets with single soldiers, which was merely cordoned off with sheets.⁴⁷ Many married personnel on The Curragh at this time may have had to live under such conditions as the married quarters provided, two huts per square, fell far below the expected 6% of overall accommodation which would have been needed to match demand.

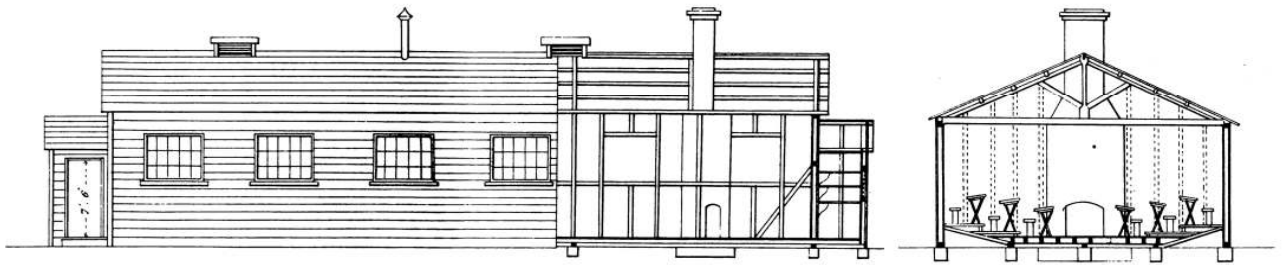
Amenities and Infrastructure

Whereas domestic barracks in the past had been situated largely in urban areas and could expect to avail of all the services, amenities and infrastructure already found in these locations, the new camps such as Aldershot, Caterham and the Curragh, built as they were on remote greenfield sites, would need to incorporate such facilities into their design and layout. Figure 10, from a later map (1869), shows the location of some of these facilities within the new camp. Figure 11 on the following page shows examples of some of the building types that were to be found on the Curragh.

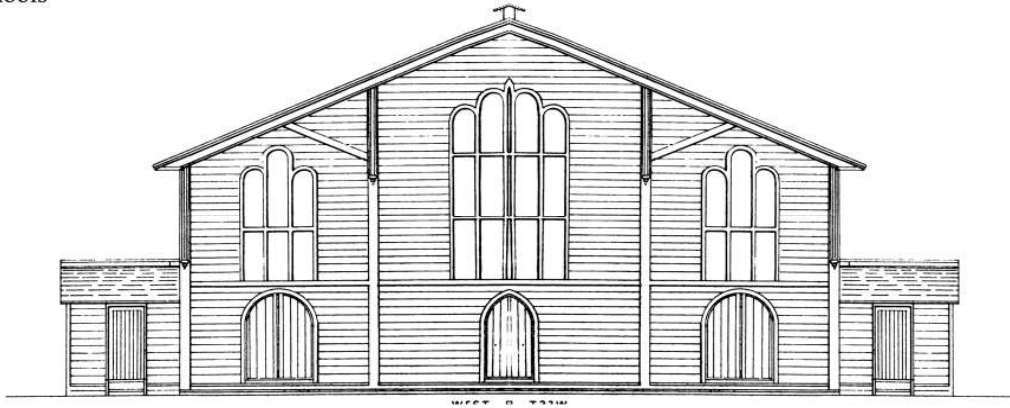


Figure 10 Diagram showing amenities in the centre and right division of the camp.

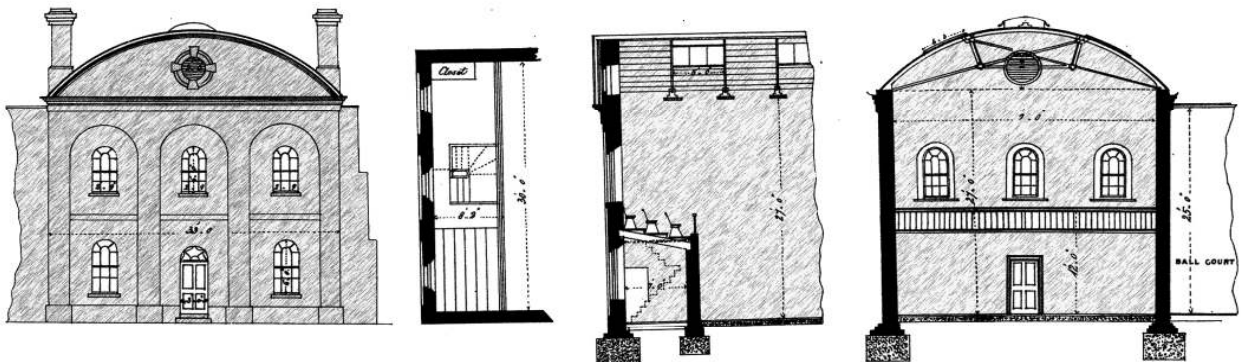
⁴⁷ M. Trustram, *Women of the Regiment: Marriage and the Victorian Army* (Cambridge University Press, 1984).



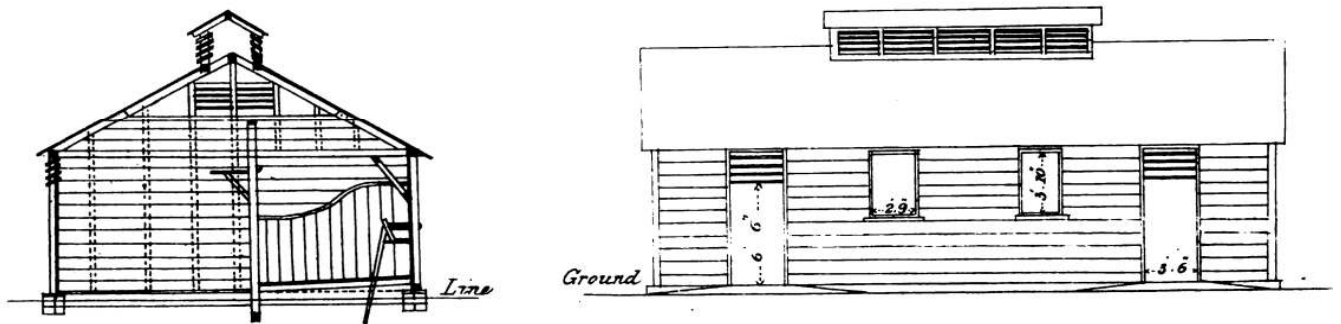
Schools



Catholic & Protestant Churches



Racquet Court



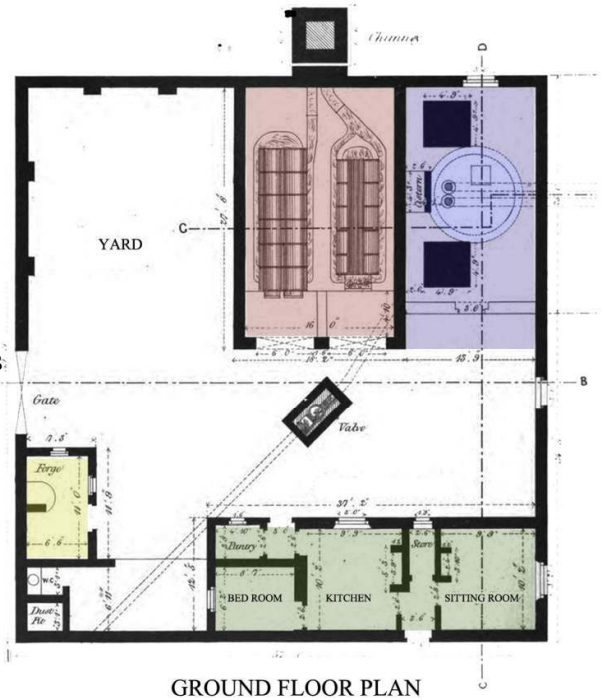
Stables

Figure 11 Sections and Elevations from the construction of the first camp.

As a military training camp, good infrastructure was a priority, with excellent transport and means of communication imperative. The primary road structure can be seen to have been formed as a direct consequence of the configuration and layout of the squares (Figure 14). The “North Road” was built to offer entry into the camp via the front division between the squares and the officer’s quarters, with “Barrack Road” running adjacent on the far side of the square between the ablution facilities. The North Road would have been reserved primarily by officers travelling to and from their quarters, while Barrack Road would have served a more functional role for the movement of troops and supplies, the collection of waste from the toilet facilities and also access to the No.1 Hospital located at the western most point of the camp. Another secondary road ran below barrack road giving access to the stores and sutlers huts on the west side and the No.2 hospital, ordnance yard and rifle grounds on the east side. A road running along the north south axis and connecting Brownstown and Newbridge also ran through the centre of the camp. This road gave access to the main Dublin Road just over one mile north of the camp, presenting the opportunity for quick deployment of the troop to the capital if necessary.

The road network of the camp, although it does not appear to be of any immediate significance, is the template around which the camp has developed. As the built environment has evolved and changed down through the years, the arrangement of the roads remained the same, following more or less the same layout today.

Considering the numbers of troops being facilitated, another primary concern that needed to be addressed even before construction began was to source an ample supply of clean water. Plans were initially made to pump the water over two miles from the River Liffey. However a tender received by Messrs Holm suggested that a “deep and extensive shaft be sunk upon the Curragh”⁴⁸ in order to gain the supply. This tender was accepted and a natural hollow on the north side of the camp (Figure 14) was chosen to sink a test hole. This first hole proved to be a success as “at a depth of fifty-four feet, the flow of water overcame the temporary pumps...at a rate of about 200,000 gallons a day for three consecutive days and has since proved itself inexhaustible and productive of a never-failing abundance of pure water, fit for all domestic purposes and delicious to the palate.”⁴⁹ A brick compound was then built to house the pumping machinery, into which the engineer’s quarters were then incorporated.



- BOLIER ROOM
- PUMP ROOM & WELL
- ENGINEERS QUARTERS
- FORGE

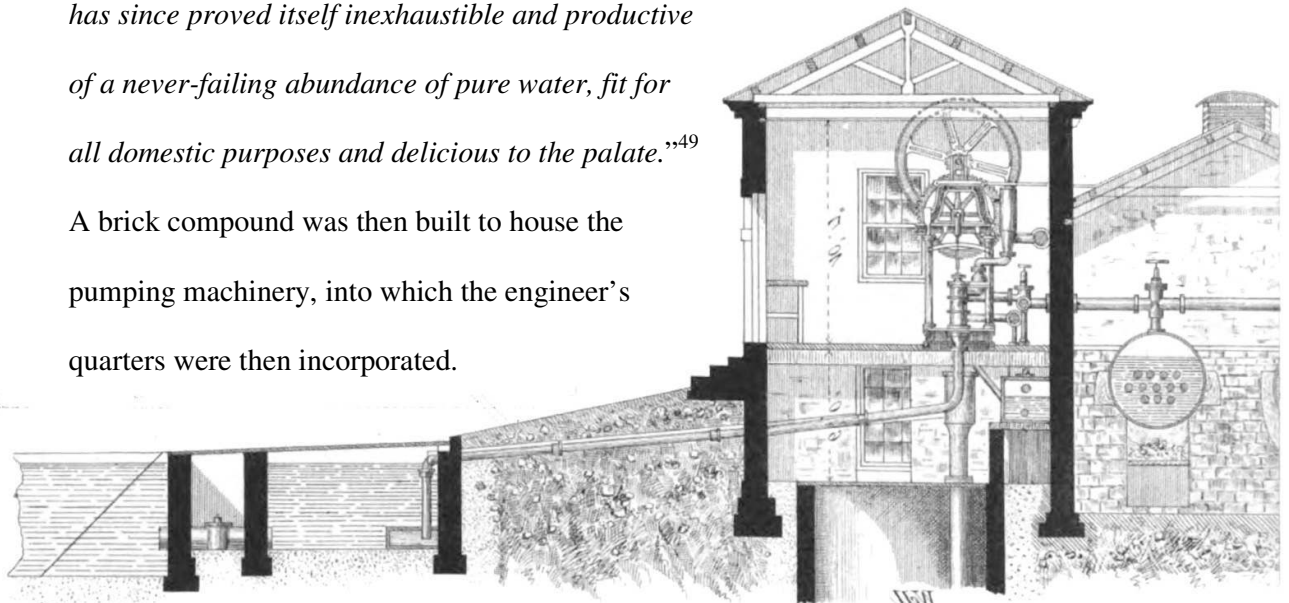


Figure 12 Plan and Section of waterworks compound

⁴⁸ W., *Narrative of Operations in the Arrangement and Formation of a Camp for 10,000 Infantry on the Curragh of Kildare.*

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*

Although much of the architecture built during the construction of the first camp was the result of considerations motivated wholly by necessity and the pressures of war, there were however some exceptions. The best example perhaps is the water tower⁵⁰, the purpose of which was to receive, at an elevated position, the water pumped from the waterworks so as to create enough pressure for it to be capable of reaching the extremities of the camp. It was constructed using red and yellow brick, producing the polychromatic style that was in fashion at the time.⁵¹ The form was also considered aesthetically, featuring military symbols and references as shown in figure 13.⁵² Being the tallest building on the camp at the time and flanked by the two churches, it would have dominated the surrounding landscape for miles (Figure 15). The waterworks and the clock tower are two of only three buildings that remain from this period of construction, the other being the racket court. All three were built using brick.

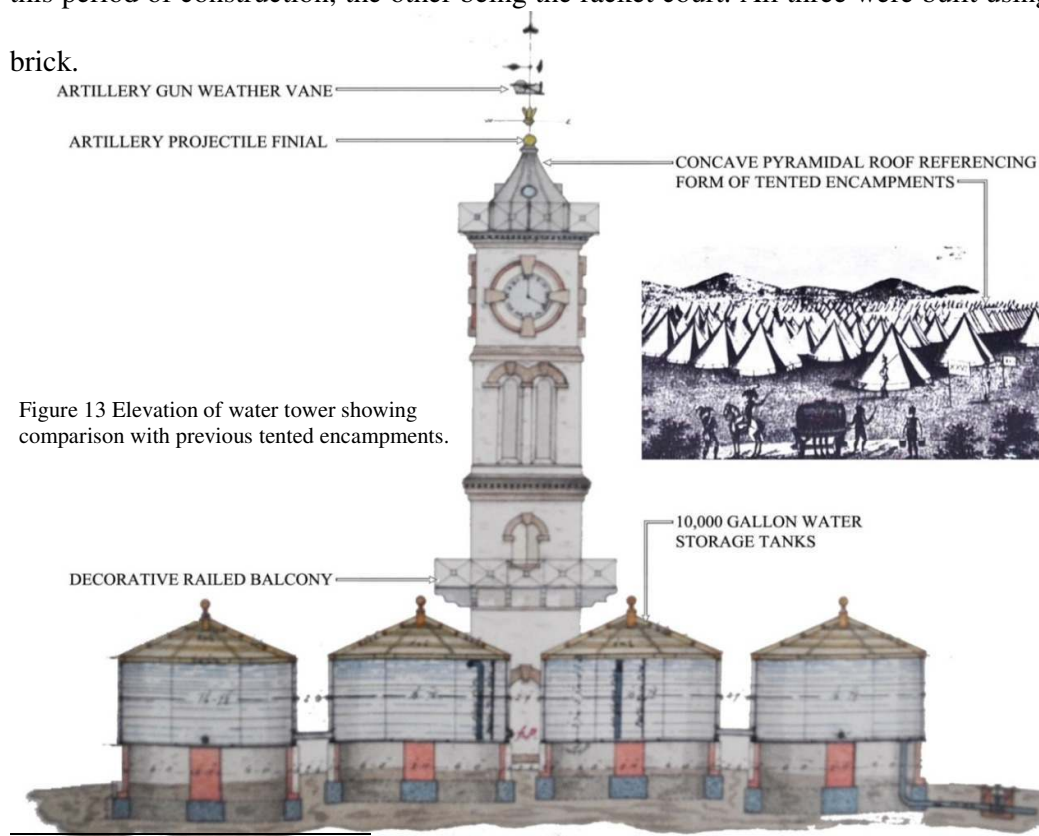


Figure 13 Elevation of water tower showing comparison with previous tented encampments.

⁵⁰ This structure is now referred to as “the clock tower”, as a new water tower was completed in 1900

⁵¹ N.I.A.H.

<http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/niah/search.jsp?type=record&county=KD®no=11902307>

⁵² The significance of these features was pointed out during interview with Sgt. Charlie Walsh.



Figure 14 Infrastructure layout of the camp

Completion of the first camp

When the camp was finally completed, Lugard stated that he was more than satisfied with the planning and execution of the camp, his only regret being that “*the exigencies of war*” had prevented the camp being built of more permanent materials. But the truth was that some opportunities had been missed in the construction of the camp, especially considering the tabula rasa he had been given. The engineers in charge of the design and layout of the other training camps had used the opportunity offered by a Greenfield site to experiment with layout⁵³ and also attempted to incorporate some of the recommendation made in the barrack accommodation report which had been published in July 1855.⁵⁴



Figure 15 The completed Curragh training camp from Newbridge direction (North West) Jones Lamprey 1861

⁵³ The Curragh being the only camp to retain the *traditional, square centred plan*.

⁵⁴ Great Britain. War Office. Committee on Barrack Accommodation for the Army, *Barrack Accommodation: Return to an Address of the Honourable the House of Commons, Dated 12 July 1855. Report, with the Minutes of Evidence, Appendix and Index. Ordered, by the House of Commons, to Be Printed, 18 July 1855* (1855).



Figure 16 “E Square/Lines”



Figure 17 “J Square/Lines”

The three primary recommendations in the report were that soldiers should be provided with separate eating facilities so as not be served food in their living accommodation, separate accommodation be provided for married men and their families and that the canteens provided for the socialising of the soldiers be run in a more efficient and affordable fashion.⁵⁵ The failure to incorporate these changes and the sub-standard “*temporary and perishable materials*”⁵⁶ used in its construction, meant that The Curragh, despite being a new camp, compared poorly to the other training camps, prior even to the raft of barrack sanitary reforms which would follow soon after the end of the Crimean War.

⁵⁵ Douet and Heritage, *British Barracks 1600-1914: Their Architecture and Role in Society*.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

POST-CRIMEAN THINKING

Despite the speed and efficiency with which the camp was built, the Crimean war had ended in 1856, prior to its completion. Many harsh lessons had been learned during the three years of conflict, highlighting the need for major changes within the British Army. One figure in particular, more than anyone else, was responsible for bringing about initial reform. In 1854, Florence Nightingale contacted the then secretary of state for the Colonies, Sidney Herbert, to volunteer her services to nurse the troops in Selimiye Barracks, where she then worked caring for the troops for the duration of the war. Nightingale was appalled by the condition endured by the troops and was determined to prove the benefits of improving the general standards of health and hygiene within the British Army. She monitored and recorded statistics relating to the health and fatalities of the troops during the war and produced graphic data (Figure 18) which highlighted the fact that the vast majority of deaths during the war were being caused by disease. She felt that the number of casualties could be reduced dramatically with simple improvements to the standard of hygiene and sanitation.

Upon her return home, Nightingale continued to pursue her analysis of the conditions suffered by the troops, conducting research which showed that the conditions and health of the troops in barracks at home was not much better than those who had been fighting on the continent, with the mortality rate of soldiers between the ages of

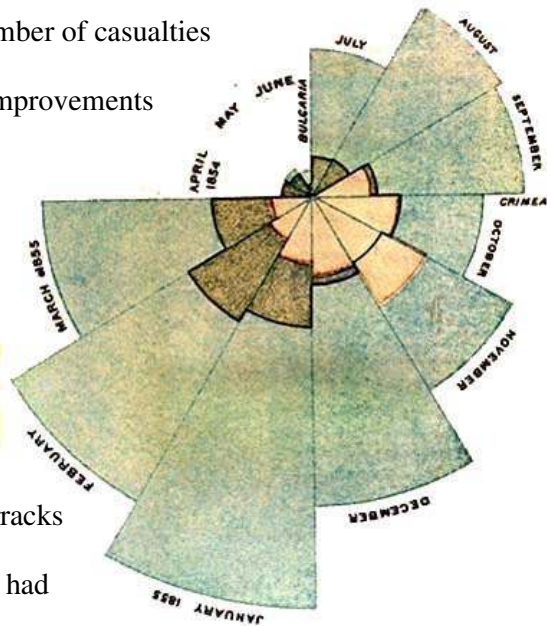


Figure 18 Graph produced by Nightingale during Crimean war showing the fatalities caused by sickness (Green), in relation to deaths caused during fighting (Red).

18-30 being twice that of their civilian counterparts.⁵⁷ On the back of her achievements during the war, Nightingale met with Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, demonstrating the need for reform revealed by the results and statistics of her research.

Her request for an official investigation was approved and eventually led to the establishment of the Royal Commission on the Health of the Army⁵⁸ in 1856. The results of this enquiry followed the next year, with the recommendation that four sub-commissions be set up to deal with different areas deemed in need of change or reform, the most important being The Commission for Improving Barracks and Hospitals which was charged with the responsibility of organising improvements in areas such as “ventilation, heating, sewage disposal, water supply and kitchens.”⁵⁹ This assembly would later become the Army Sanitary Commission, responsible for implementing the reforms that would eventually completely transform the conditions to be found in barracks.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.*

⁵⁸ *JJ O'Connor and E.F. Robertson*, "Florence Nightingale," <http://www-history.mcs.st-and.ac.uk/Biographies/Nightingale.html>.

⁵⁹ I. Bernard Cohen, "Florence Nightingale," <http://www.unc.edu/~nielsen/soci708/cdocs/cohen.htm>.

FIRST PHASE OF RECONSTRUCTION (1865-89)

Despite much activity happening elsewhere, improvements at the Curragh would be slow to occur and it would be many years before the improvements set out in the Barrack Accommodation Report were achieved, let alone those set out by the Army Sanitary Commission. The speed at which conditions deteriorated at the Curragh is evident from the following extract from a poem outlining the harsh condition to be experienced there. It was published in the satirical *Punch* magazine in the Autumn of 1860, less than four years after the camp was completed under the title “*Under Canvas*” and signed off “*from my swamp, the Curragh*”:

*“You volunteering gentlemen, who live at home in ease,
How little do you think of us, In mud up to our knees—
While in the huts at Aldershott, Or on the Curragh bare.
'Neath the canvas damp, we curse the camp, It's lucky we're free to swear.”*⁶⁰

Another depressing depiction of the Curragh from the same year was provided in a letter by “*an officer of the “Fourth Lights” considering the site of the camp.*”⁶¹

“It is the worst that could possibly have been chosen on the Curragh, being literally a bog, a swamp of the dismallest kind encircling more than half of it . . . The miserable state of both horses and men, unless seen, can hardly be imagined; the latter crammed 10 or 12 in a tent hardly as many yards in diameter—while the horses, poor beasts, patiently stand up to their hocks in a lake of liquid mud, which rivals that once existing in the' neighbourhood of Balaclava.”

Nevertheless, an analysis of the changing plans and construction drawings produced for the camp during this period demonstrate that slow but steady changes as a direct result of the commission did occur.

⁶⁰ M. Lemon et al., *Punch* (1860).

⁶¹ Costello, *A Most Delightful Station: The British Army on the Curragh of Kildare, Ireland, 1855-1922*.

Hospital Pavilions

One of the first major renovations to occur on the camp was the new pavilion style hospitals wards which by 1869 had begun to replace the buildings of No.2 Hospital. One of the members of the sanitary commission was Captain Douglas Galton of the Royal Engineers, who was “one of the key proponents of the pavilion principle in hospital design.”⁶² The pavilion principle was promoted by Florence Nightingale based on the theory that with the improved circulation of air, sickness and fatalities could be reduced dramatically. The pavilions were long shallow plan buildings with a large glazing ratio on the extended elevation, that, when opened, would provide ample air change via cross ventilation.

Gymnasium

Another reform focused on improving the general health of the troops was the order that Gymnasiums be built at all barracks to facilitate the exercise of the troops.⁶³ The order was delivered in 1862 and the new gymnasiums would be manned by instructors from the recently formed (1860) Army Gymnastic Staff, later to become the Army Physical Training Staff (APTS). However, the gymnasium was not completed at the Curragh until seven years

later in 1869, having begun in 1867 and costing £2586.⁶⁴



— Hospital Pavillions x 4
— Gymnasium (1869)

Figure 19 Curragh Map (1869)

⁶² Douet and Heritage, *British Barracks 1600-1914: Their Architecture and Role in Society*.

⁶³ Ibid.

⁶⁴ National Archives, MPHH 1/337



Figure 20 Curragh Camp Gymnasium (1869) From MPH 1/337

The gymnasium built in the Curragh can be seen here (Figure 20) and bears a very close resemblance to the one still existing in Brompton Barracks and designed by Archibald MacLaren. A pioneer in methods of fitness and exercise, MacLaren acted as a consultant to the army during this period of increased interest in the health and well-being of the troops.

Married Quarters

One of the primary recommendations made by the commission was for the provision of separate and better quality quarters for married men and their families. In 1860 a model plan was developed by the War Office for married quarters in order to address the problem, with the first example being built at the Cavalry Barracks in Hounslow.⁶⁵ As mentioned earlier, married quarters at the Curragh were insufficient in number from the beginning and many married soldiers and their families may have had to live “*cheek by jowl*” with single soldiers.⁶⁶ An article in the British Medical Journal describes how 4 families of up to eight people each are forced to share a common barrack hut with “*no attempt at separation but such as the families can accomplish by*

⁶⁵ Douet and Heritage, *British Barracks 1600-1914: Their Architecture and Role in Society*.

⁶⁶ Ibid.

means of clothes-lines, blankets and rugs”.⁶⁷ In his narrative, Lugard had referred to the shortage of quarters and had suggested that rectifying the situation would not only provide the married quarters that the soldiers and their families deserved, but by taking the married soldiers out of the single men’s accommodation, it would reduce the overall population of the soldiers huts “to a more fitting proportion: which should be twenty men per hut instead of twenty-five”.⁶⁸ However, married quarters along the lines of those built in Hounslow would not be built on the Curragh for a further 30 years, but the issue was addressed to a certain degree between 1867 and 1869, when 114 huts were converted into married quarters.⁶⁹

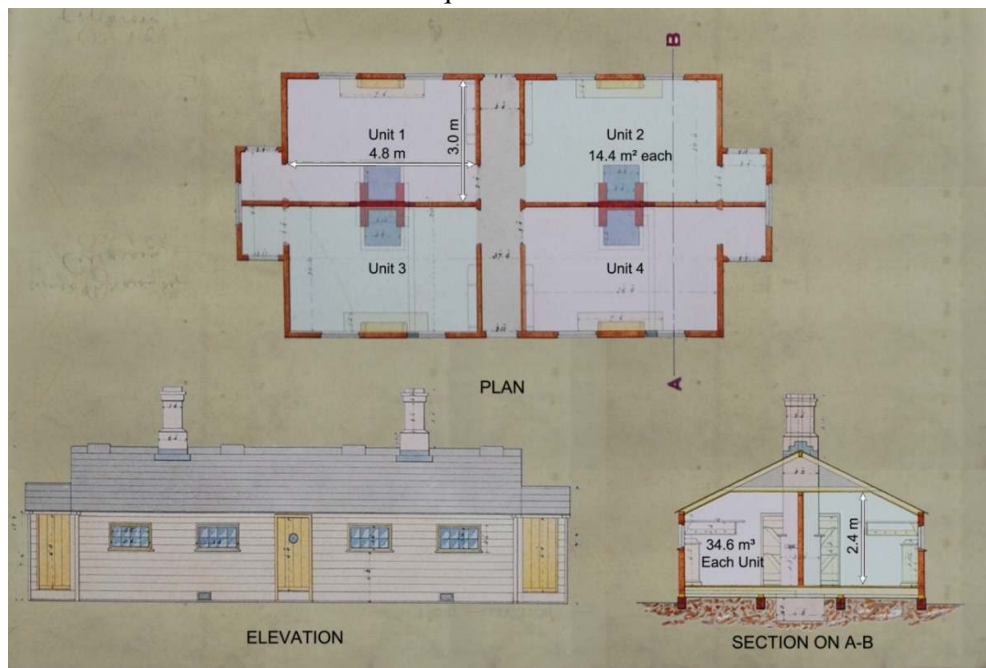


Figure 21 Married Soldiers Quarters, converted from soldiers huts (1867-69) From WO 78/2878

Although still just one single room, a comparison with the few married quarters originally provided shows that the new quarters almost doubled the space allotted to each family, marking a definite improvement in the circumstances of the soldier’s family. There were two means of access/egress provided for each unit, improving the standard of safety with regard to fire while also affording the occupant more privacy.

⁶⁷ "The Curragh: Its Hospitals and Married Quarters," *The British Medical Journal* 2, no. 358 (1867).

⁶⁸ *British Barracks 1600-1914: Their Architecture and Role in Society*.

⁶⁹ National Archives, WO 78/2878

Military Labour

In order to carry out the work and maintain the barracks which had been built, the construction of workshops had also been advised by the commission.⁷⁰ The building shown in Figure 22 is a workshop built for the Smiths and Plumbers in the Royal Engineer compound located on the east side of the camp. This building and others to be found in that particular area are significant for several reasons. Firstly, they were the first to use the type of red-brick that would later become synonymous with the camp, also making them among the oldest buildings presently existing on the camp. Secondly, they represent early examples of experiments carried out by the Royal Engineers in using military labour in the construction of the camp. These trials were carried out to try establish whether or not an “*authorized organization should be adopted for extending the system of 'Military labour to Military works' to all stations of Her Majesty's army*”⁷¹ in a bid to lower military expenditure on construction.

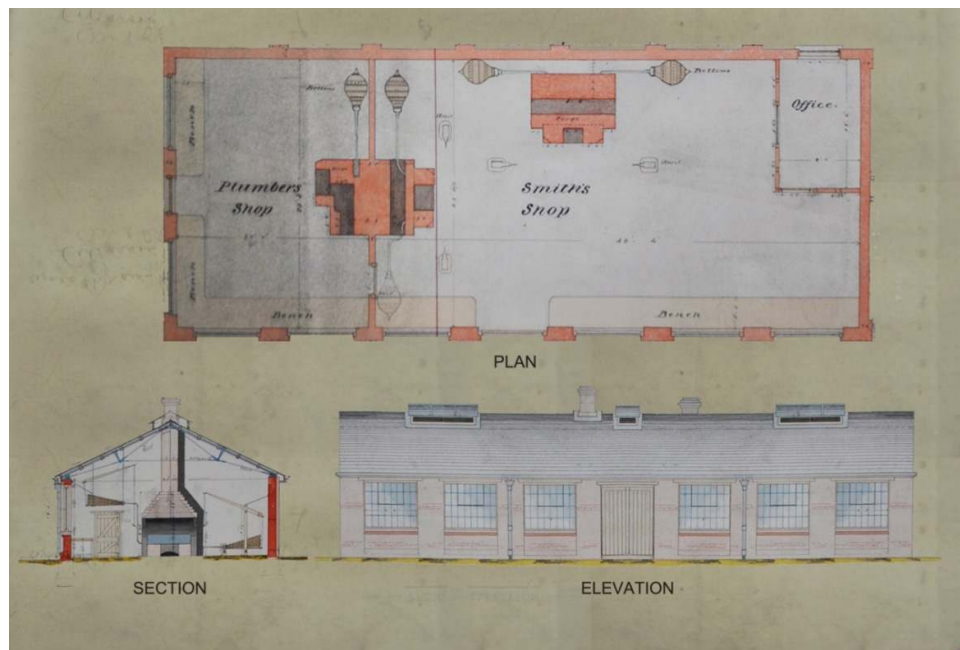


Figure 22 Smiths and Plumbers workshops, Royal Engineer Compound (1872) From MPH 1/381

⁷⁰ Edward Cardwell, "Army Employment of Soldiers," ed. House of Commons Debate (18 July 1872 vol 212 cc1359-60).

⁷¹ C.E. Webber, *Military Work by Military Labour. With a Few Remarks on Mr. Hanbury Tracy's Motion before Parliament. By an Officer of Royal Engineers.* [(Buck, 1869).

The experiments were tried in various camps, but by all accounts were an overwhelming success at The Curragh, resulting in considerable savings.

*"The employment of soldiers at the Curragh has been attended with the most satisfactory results. The saving is estimated at 39 percent"*⁷²

Despite the use of brick during this time for the construction of numerous building in and around the Royal Engineers (R.E.) yard and in replacing a number of the timber huts, it was not adopted as the primary material of choice on the camp for another 15 or so years. Instead, in 1870, the first major reconstruction of barracks began on C-Lines, where the timber huts were replaced by mass concrete (Figure 23), built using a "patent apparatus" by Mr John Tall.⁷³ Again, the construction labour was executed using military personnel, achieving what appears to be a significant reduction in the cost of each hut.

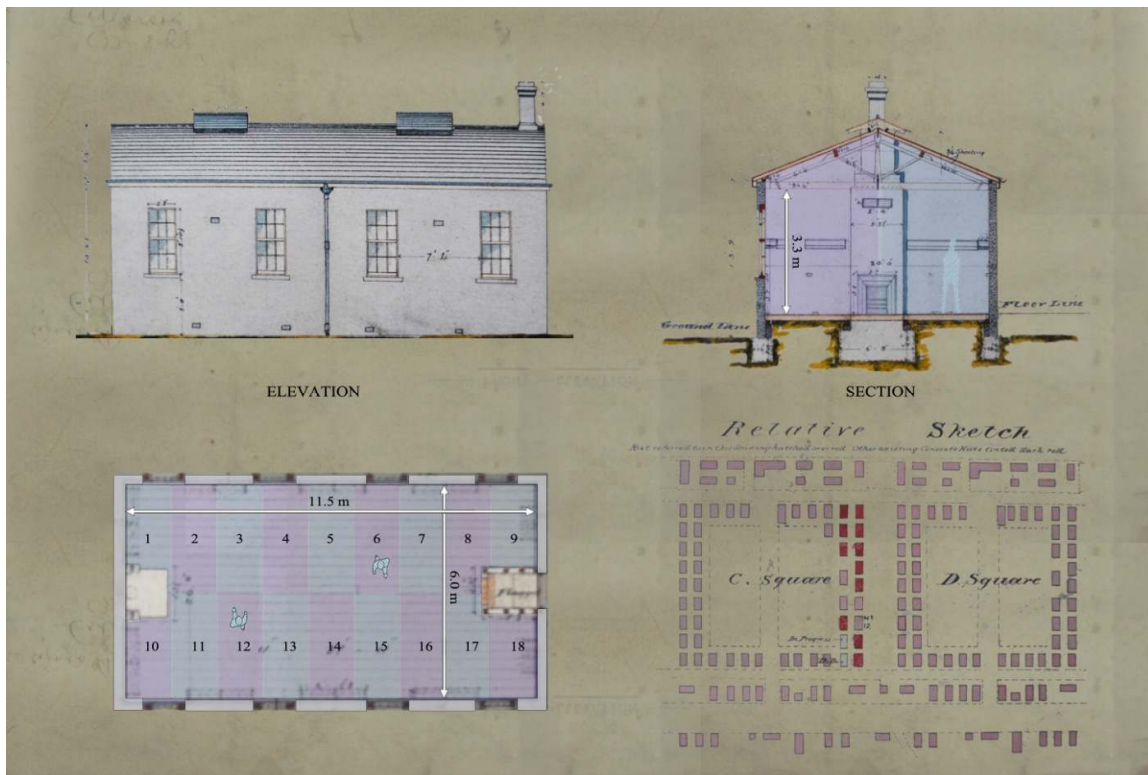


Figure 23 Concrete Huts erected by Military Labour in "C Square" (1874) From WO 78/2777

⁷² Ibid.

⁷³ Irish Builder 13, Feb 1871. 26

An “As built” drawing (WO 78/2777) outlining the specification, quantities and costs of the concrete huts, offers figures suggesting that the construction was completed at one fifth of the expected cost.

The new huts were only more spacious in height than the ones they were replacing, occupying practically the exact same footprint and layout. Nevertheless, as they were only expected to house 18 men (7 less than the previous wooden huts had accommodated), conditions in the new barracks would have been a little more commodious, if nothing else. The four sash windows adjacent to one another on each of the long elevations would also have provided a good source of ventilation and air movement, something considered very important at the time by those pushing for sanitary reform in the barracks.⁷⁴

The Cardwell Reforms

Many of the recommendations for reform made by the army sanitary commission had been largely ignored up until the 1870’s. However, difficulty in recruiting sufficient numbers for the army, in part a result of growing prosperity and high rate of employment and partly down to the poor conditions one might expect to endure in the army, soon resulted in the implementation of another raft of changes.⁷⁵ This time, the driving force behind change was the then Secretary of State for War, Edward Cardwell, himself an ex-soldier. In 1872, the Military Localisation Bill restructured the army around new military “depots”, which were basically larger and better organised barracks that could act as *“a combined home, training ground and recruitment centre”*.⁷⁶ Cardwell secured a loan of £3.5 million to initiate the changes outlined in the planned restructure, with £1.6 million solely for the transformation of

⁷⁴ Similar to the concept behind the pavilion hospitals. Florence Nightingale and other prominent members of the reform movement were miasmatists, believing in the theory that much of the sickness to be found in military accommodation was caused by “*bad air*”.

⁷⁵ Douet and Heritage, *British Barracks 1600-1914: Their Architecture and Role in Society*.

⁷⁶ Ibid.

depots. Barracks in both the Curragh and Naas were designated as such, the former continuing in its role as a training camp, while Naas would continue as a recruitment centre.

At the Curragh, focus on improvements to barracks accommodation remained initially around the location of “C Square” where, between 1880 and 1889, there had been the addition of a new cook house, drill shed, reading rooms, guard room, NCOs’ mess and canteen. That they were built using brick might be a consequence of the fact that by 1885 (only fifteen years after they had started being built), the concrete huts in C Square had been “*found to be damp and unsuitable for use as billets by the troops.*”⁷⁷

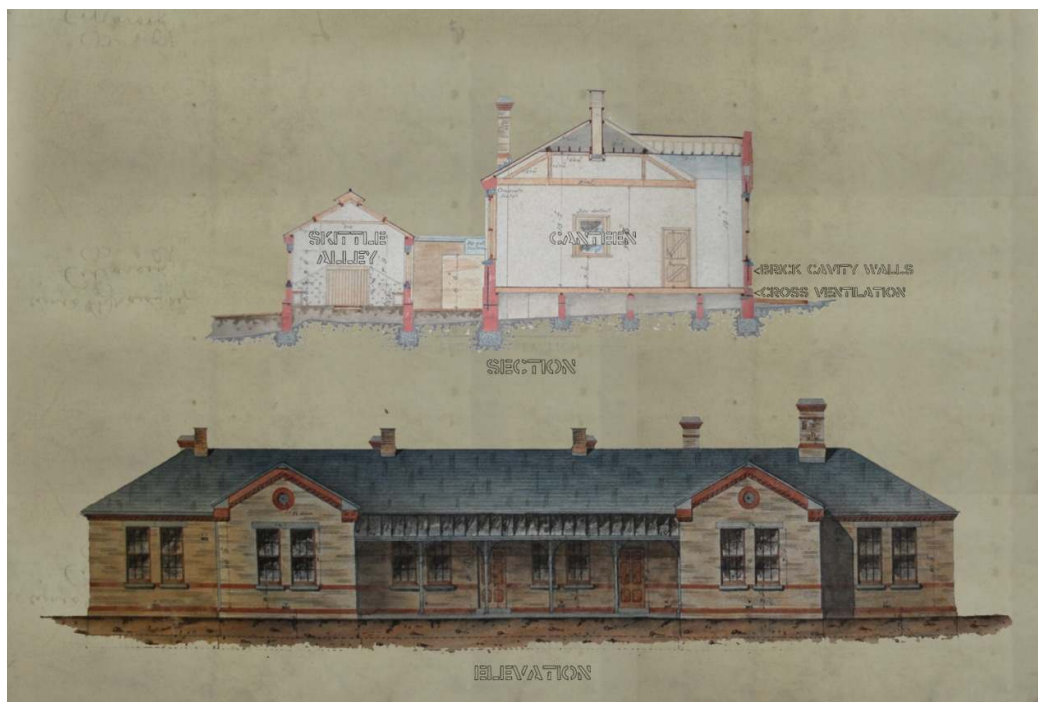


Figure 24 “C Square” Canteen (1886)

The drawing in Figure 24 shows how brick cavity wall construction was adopted in the building of the canteen, perhaps in response to the dampness that occurred in the mass-concrete huts. There is also a suspended timber floor with cross ventilation

⁷⁷ Costello, *A Most Delightful Station: The British Army on the Curragh of Kildare, Ireland, 1855-1922*.

below, facilitated by ventilation bricks placed in the wall just above ground level. The section also reveals a purpose built indoor skittle alley attached to the rear of the canteen, providing an example of the rising standard of recreation now available to those billeted at “C square”.

A colour coded map (Figure 25) dating from 1887 identifying the different materials used in the reconstruction of the camp, demonstrates that outside of “C Square” and the R.E. yard, not much change had occurred on the Curragh throughout this period. Apart from the hospital, which now had 7 brick pavilion wards, the new bakery (also brick) and a long concrete building that had replaced two lines of huts on the east side of “E lines”, the rest of the camp still remained predominantly timber hutments, which by 1890 were in a “*deplorable condition*”⁷⁸.

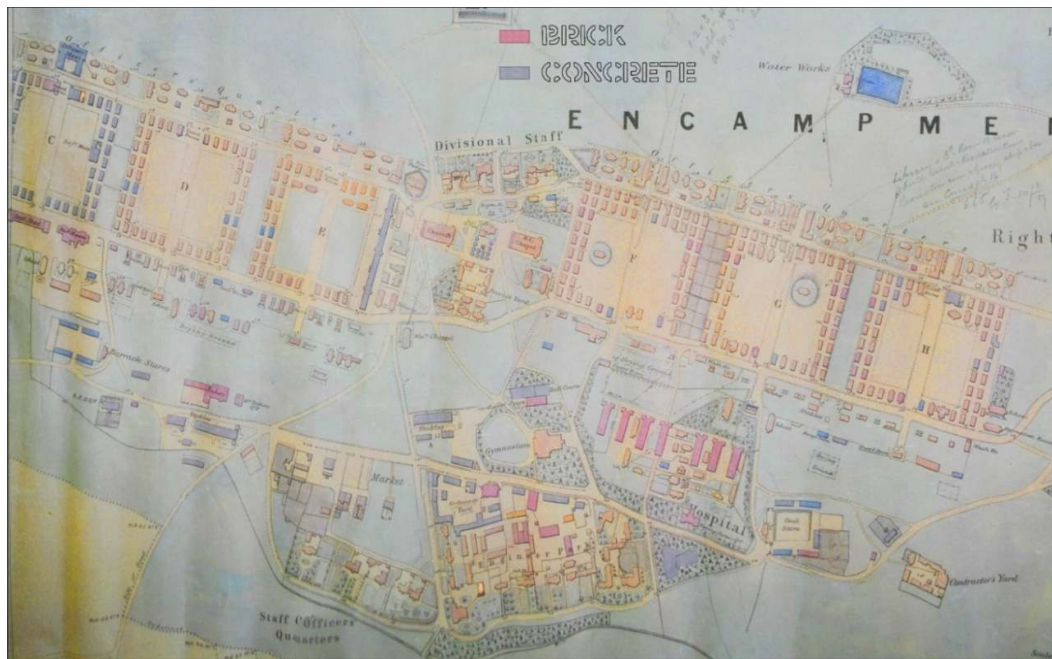


Figure 25 Colour-coded plan of camp and adjoining land. (1887) From WO 78/3310

Nevertheless, the reconstruction of “C Square” represented the first permanent barracks to be built on the camp, incorporating some of the amenities and recreation facilities as advised by the army sanitary commission and imposed by Cardwell. It

⁷⁸ Edward Stanhope, "Barracks (Consolidated Fund)." (*HC Deb 27 February 1890 vol 341 cc1422-43*).

would not be long until the other barracks on the camp followed suit, with the issue of sub-standard accommodation at the big camps such as the Curragh and Aldershot soon to be addressed with the Barrack Act of 1890. This would be a significant piece of legislation for the Curragh and initiate the transformation of the camp into the fine complex of red brick structures that stands there today.

SECOND PHASE OF RECONSTRUCTION (1889-1922)

Continued pressure from the Army Sanitary Commission regarding the poor conditions still to be found at some of the barracks resulted in the first Barrack Act of 1890, which made available loans of £4.1 million in order to “*refinance construction and accelerate the repairs*”⁷⁹ which had been initiated by the Cardwell reforms. Of this money, £1,980,000 was earmarked for construction and reconstruction of camps including married quarters⁸⁰, of which £410,000 was to be spent at the Curragh.⁸¹

Stewart and Ponsonby

This first allocation of finances was to be spent on the clearing of timber hutments at “A” and “B” squares, to make way for the construction of two red brick cavalry barracks. The new complex of buildings were to facilitate a proposal “*to concentrate the cavalry regiments scattered in different parts of Ireland*”⁸² and would be renamed Stewart and Ponsonby Barracks following their completion . By June 1891 the plans for the reconstruction of the barracks were all but ready⁸³, but construction did not commence until sometime in 1893/94 with mentions of further delays occurring during building to be found in parliamentary debates.

The following extract from an article in the Kildare Observer provides a synopsis of the accommodation being provided, the work being carried out and the contractors who made the successful tenders;

“The work was divided into six contracts, viz-No. 1 comprised 16 blocks of troop stables with men’s rooms over and 8 blocks of litter sheds, latrines, &c and was

⁷⁹ Douet and Heritage, *British Barracks 1600-1914: Their Architecture and Role in Society*.

⁸⁰ Commons Great Britain. Parliament. House of, *Barracks Act, 1890. Account, 1892-93. Account Showing the Money Raised and Issued under the Provisions of the Barracks Act, 1890 (53 & 54 Vict. C. 25)*, [Electronic Resource], House of Commons Parliamentary Papers : 19th Century, 1801-1900. (Cambridge [England] :: Proquest LLC, 2006).

⁸¹ Edward Stanhope, "Barracks Bill.—(No. 234.)," (*HC Deb 26 June 1890 vol 346 cc90-115*).

⁸² Stanhope, "Barracks (Consolidated Fund).".

⁸³ Edward Stanhope, "Supply - Army Estimates, 1891–2.," (*HC Deb 25 June 1891 vol 354 cc1441-525*).

carried out by Messrs J. and W. Beckett, contractors. No. 2 was for officers' quarters and mess establishments, C.O.'s and quartermasters' quarters, &c. No. 3, staff-sergeants' and married soldiers' quarters, laundries, &c. Both contracts are being carried out by Mr. P. Sheridan. No. 4 Various accessory buildings, such as recreation rooms, canteens, warrant officers' quarters, infirmary, stables, forage stores, &c. Messrs Collin Brothers, contractors. No. 5 Sergeants' messes, officers' stables, guard houses, cook and bath houses, band rooms, fencing room, &c. Mr. P. Sheridan, contractor. No. 6. Two covered menages, iron structures, each 300 feet long and 66 feet wide."⁸⁴



Figure 26 Map showing partial boundary of camp and the locations of the new cavalry accommodation and hospital extension. (1897) From WO 78/2878

The above map of the camp dating from 1897 shows the sixteen new soldier's accommodation blocks at A and B square finished, with the rest of the ancillary accommodation yet to be completed. The new extension to the military hospital can also be seen on the east side of the camp, featuring a new administration block to the front and an extension connecting the nine existing pavilions to the rear.

⁸⁴ "Curragh Camp - 1898 Reconstruction," *Kildare Observer* 1898 July 23,.

The design of the cavalry blocks signalled a new direction in both the planning of barracks and the general arrangement of accommodation at the Curragh. For the first time the traditional square centred plan was abandoned in favour of a somewhat less geometric layout. The configuration of the primary buildings in both barracks was for the most part identical. The accommodation arrangements provided were specific to the cavalry corps, with the stabling for horses located at ground floor level and the soldiers accommodation located above on the first floor. The soldiers accommodation was accessed via a cast iron veranda feature that runs between the pedimented blocks which terminate the elevation each side. A modest Neo-Georgian language was utilised throughout the entire barracks, with the intricacies and detailing being intensified in buildings such as the Officers Mess and the C.O.s quarters.



Figure 27 Front elevation of new hospital administration wing.



Figure 14 Cavalry accommodation blocks showing veranda access to first floor soldiers dorms, with stabling underneath.

R.E. and A.S.C. Barracks

With the provision of a further £5.4million through the Military Works Act of 1897, the reconstruction of the camp could be maintained, continuing as it did on the west side at “A & B Squares”, working its way east, but skipping “C Square”, which despite the dilapidated condition of the concrete huts, were not included as part of the rebuilding strategy. “C Square” had by this point been renamed Beresford Barracks. From around 1898 work would begin on the transformation of “D and E” squares into

new barracks to accommodate the A.S.C. (Army Supply Corps) and R.E. (Royal Engineers). As was the case with the cavalry barracks, the configuration, form and function of the primary buildings of both A.S.C. and R.E. barracks were practically identical, just mirrored along the separating axis, Gordon Hill Road. The accommodation blocks were different from those to be found at the cavalry barracks, with no requirement for stables to be incorporated, soldier's accommodation was provided on both levels.

Reconstruction of Civic Buildings

Around 1893/94, an architectural competition had been announced for the design of the new water tower and fire engine station.⁸⁵ There were at least five entries, three of which are shown in Figure 29, all interesting in their own right. The winning entry (Figure 30) was a five story masonry structure, with rusticated cut granite elevation treatment at ground floor and the above four levels built of red brick in English bond. By far the tallest building in the area at the time, along with its elevated position on Long Hill, the new water tower and fire engine station dwarfed the old water tower, dominating the skyline for miles around, being visible from the surrounding towns of Kildare and Newbridge. It was completed in 1900 and according to the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (N.I.A.H) record of the building, is one of the first purpose built fire stations in Ireland.

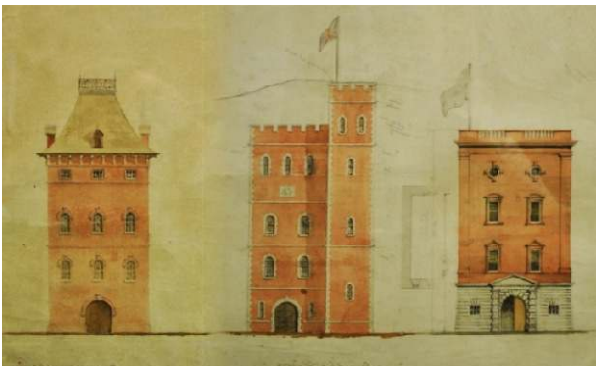


Figure 29 Water Tower competition entries (1899)

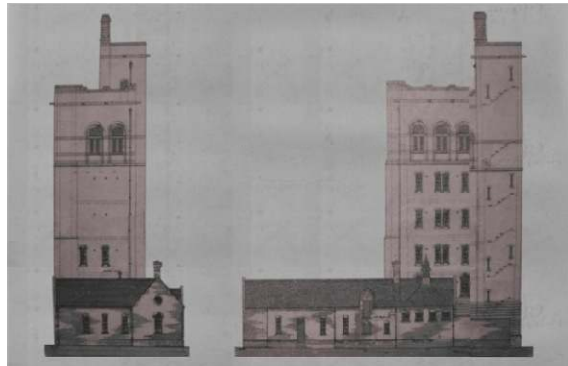


Figure 30 Water Tower competition, winning entry. (Built 1900)

⁸⁵ Title on original competition drawings. Curragh Military Museum.

Another major civic addition to the camp and again completed in 1900, was the Post Office. The facade consisted primarily of red brick applied in English bond, featuring an impressive dressed stone door surround with stone sills and keystones to the ground floor windows. Aside from the fine detailing and elegant treatment of the elevations, this building is also significant in that it is listed as the second purpose built Post office in Ireland, after the G.P.O. in Dublin.⁸⁶



Figure 31 Curagh Camp Post Office

Gough and Keane

In 1899, with the reconstruction of the west division of the camp almost complete and the onset of the second Boer War, the second Military Works Act made a further 2.8 million available for the reconstruction of barracks and focus could now turn to the east side where there still remained five lines featuring timber huts that were now close to fifty years old. “F”, “G” and “H lines” would be replaced by two infantry barracks, to be renamed Gough and Keane.

⁸⁶ N.I.A.H. Record
<http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/niah/search.jsp?type=record&county=kd®no=11902303>

The soldiers' accommodation was of the "Half Battalion Type", similar examples of which were also built at the camps in Colchester and Tidworth during this period.⁸⁷ Each barracks consisted of four accommodation blocks configured in a standard grid plan, with the parade ground to the north and the canteen, transport stables and wagon sheds located to the south. The two barracks were terminated to the east and west with a complex of buildings including the recreation establishment, drill shed, stores, guard room, sergeants mess and warrant officers accommodation.

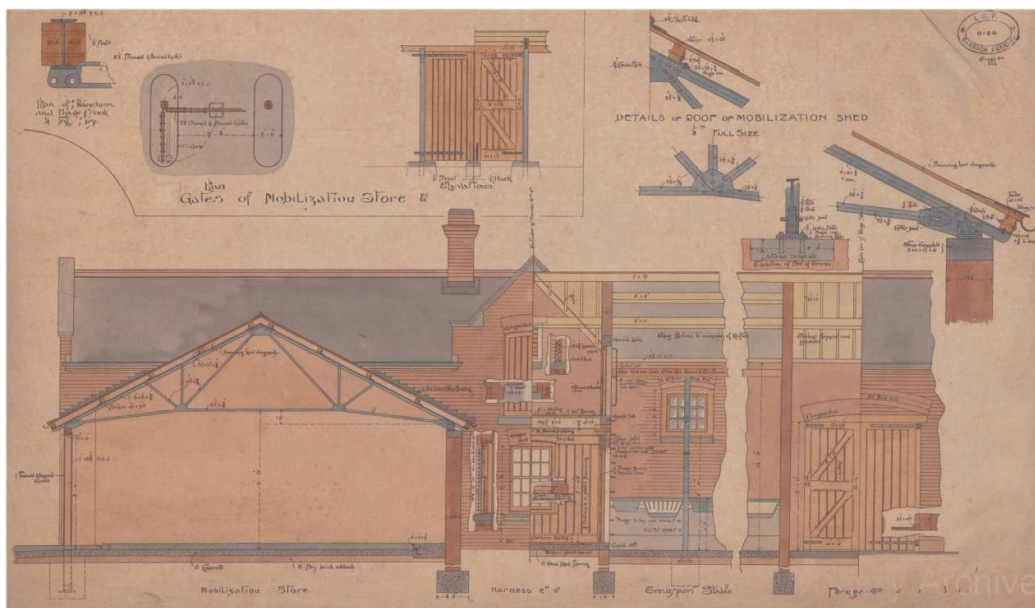


Figure 32 Keane and Gough Drill Hall

Despite much progress being made with regard to the condition of the barracks on the west side of the camp, some of the most fundamental reform recommendations had still been disregarded. For example, the recommendations made in the Barrack Accommodation Report that soldiers be provided with separate dining facilities had not been implemented in any of the barracks rebuilt on the west side and soldiers would have to continue to return to their living quarters to eat after visiting the cookhouse at mealtimes. Another example is where the two cavalry barracks, Stewart

⁸⁷ Douet and Heritage, *British Barracks 1600-1914: Their Architecture and Role in Society*.

and Ponsonby, were built following a specific layout and plan (soldiers' accommodation over stables) which had been stopped in Britain following a report for improving the sanitary condition of barracks in 1861. Gough and Keane would differ in this regard and represent examples of the most modern planning and construction standards in barrack architecture executed during this period. The improvements to be found at Keane and Gough Barracks are explored further as a case study in the next chapter.

Married Quarters

During the period of reconstruction, new married accommodation was provided for the six new barracks and also at Beresford. It was a huge improvement on what had been afforded previously, with many variations in type, depending on rank. The married soldier's and NCOs accommodation were mostly all located on the south side of the newly formed barracks, for ease of access to the recreation rooms and canteens provided⁸⁸. The accommodation consisted of two primary types; two story terraced housing which in appearance recalled "the typical English workers cottage"⁸⁹ and the "veranda" type, which were basically developed from the model housing type provided at Hounslow Barracks. The type at the Curragh consisted of a two story block with two or three bedroom apartments over one level, with those on the first floor accessed via an external veranda, not unlike the soldiers accommodation at the cavalry barracks. Communal toilet facilities were provided at either end of the block with shared laundry facilities located in a separate building. All accommodation was built using red brick.

⁸⁸ G.B.W.O. Works, *Design and Construction of Military Buildings; a Handbook for the Use of Royal Engineer Officers and Their Staff* (General Books LLC, 1905).

⁸⁹ N.I.A.H. Record

<http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/niah/search.jsp?type=record&county=KD®no=11902311>



Figure 33 Married Quarters-Keane Barracks



Figure 34 Warrant Officer Quarters - A.S.C. Barracks

Senior N.C.O.'s and Warrant officers were provided with separate quarters, usually located in or around married soldier's accommodation, with the exception of Gough and Keane Barracks where in keeping with traditional military procedure were found to be located "*conveniently accessible from the Guard House Block*". Typically built as semi detached or terraced, each unit was more spacious than that provided for soldiers married quarters and were also distinguishable externally from said by increased use of decorative brick work and general detailing.

The conditions of the officers on the Curragh and the standard of their accommodation would improve immeasurably compared to the 11m² provided prior to reconstruction. Single officers' quarters were incorporated into the Officers Mess Establishment, with one mess building being provided for each barracks. Officer's accommodation in general continued to occupy the area to the north side of the camp, separated from the ranks by the parade square and the guard room. Whereas it had been a traditional arrangement in the past for the officers mess to overlook the parade ground, the mess in Stewart, Ponsonby, A.S.C. and R.E. barracks turn their flank to the parade square, instead overlooking the generous mess gardens provided for each, while the officers mess in Beresford, Gough and Keane turn their back to the camp altogether, choosing to orientate the main elevation facing north out onto the plains.

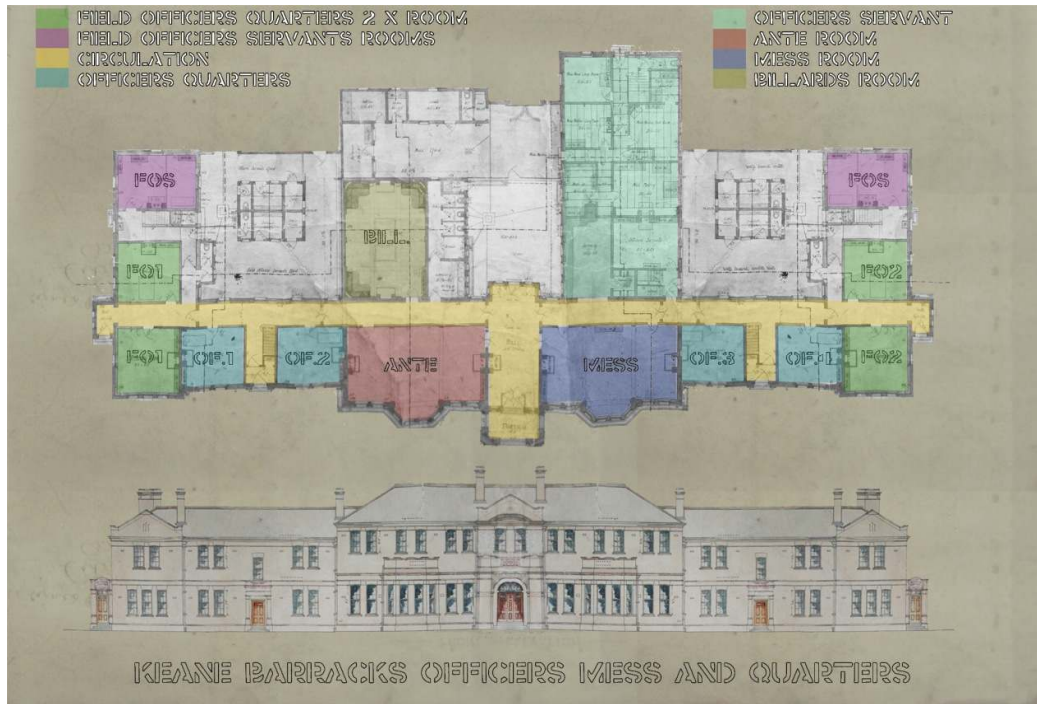


Figure 35 Diagram showing ground floor layout of Officers Mess

The main entrance is via a portico which leads into a large hall. The mess room is on the right, where the officers would have dined, while the ante room is on the left, where the officers could retreat to read and relax. The billiards room is to the rear, so that light can be brought in from above via a lantern style skylight.⁹⁰ Officers' accommodation is located in the two wings that extend the elevation both sides and on the first floor. Field officers had the luxury of two rooms, a large bedroom and a similarly sized sitting room, located on the extremities of the ground floor. The kitchen and servants quarters are strategically situated to the rear of the mess establishment in a self contained arrangement, with personal access and

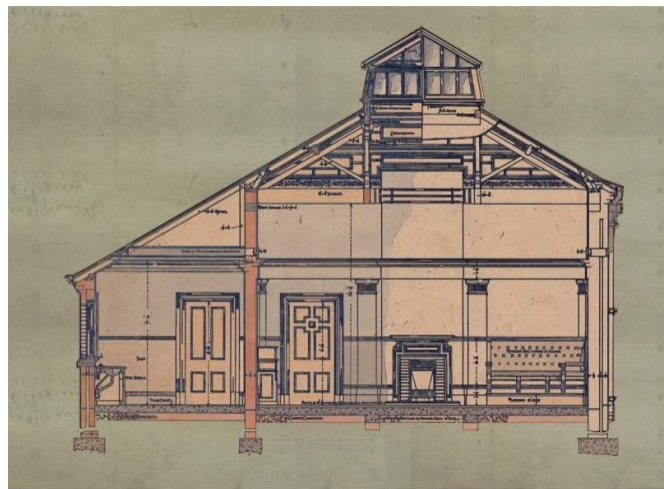


Figure 36 Section through Billiard Room showing lantern detail.

⁹⁰ "Barracks," in *Encyclopedia Britannica* (1911).

circulation so as to keep servants from having to use the “*officers’ passages*”.⁹¹

Located in close proximity to the officers mess are the commanding officer quarters. A detached house of some 6 bedrooms and possessing its own cultivated gardens, these buildings were by far the most comfortable and luxurious dwellings on the camp. On the ground floor was the study, dining room, drawing room, kitchen and butlers accommodation, while to the rear of the yard was personal stabling for two horses, including a forage store, harness room and loft.



Figure 37 Commanding Officers Quarters at Gough and Keane Barracks.

Completion of reconstruction

With the completion of Gough and Keane barracks, the transformation of the camp was for the most part complete. The two squares (“I” & “K”) further east would not be replaced and over the following years would gradually be cleared, reducing the number of barracks on the camp to seven.

At the outbreak of World War I the numbers of personnel on the Curragh swelled to 14,000 and the camp became an important training ground for many of those who would be sent to fight in the war.

⁹¹ Works, *Design and Construction of Military Buildings; a Handbook for the Use of Royal Engineer Officers and Their Staff*.



Figure 38 West side of camp from top of water tower after reconstruction.

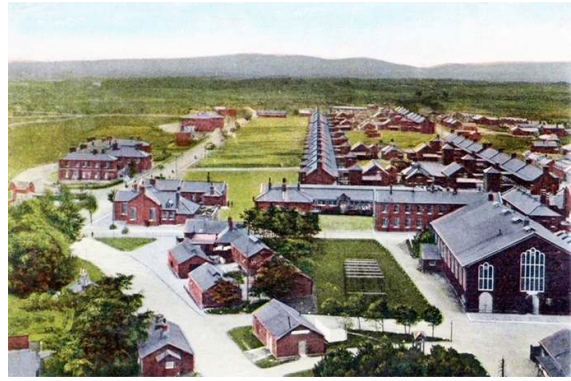


Figure 39 East side of camp from top of water tower after reconstruction.

The introduction of improved married quarters on the camp had made possible the development of a healthy and strong garrison community and would continue to do so after the handover of the camp to the Irish Free State in 1922. Improvements to the camp were still being carried out up to this point and despite the British withdrawal, orders were given that all outstanding contracts and construction be finished.⁹² The immaculate condition of the camp on handover was summed up in an interview of Captain Sam Irwin by Comdt. Desmond Swan, who recalled that “*even the billiard tables in all the messes were brushed clean*”.⁹³ The next chapter attempts to establish what remains of this inheritance.

⁹² Costello, *A Most Delightful Station: The British Army on the Curragh of Kildare, Ireland, 1855-1922*.

⁹³ Comdt. Desmond A. Swan, "An Cosantóir," *The Curragh Commemorative Issue* (1972).

SURVEY OF CHARACTER AREAS

The purpose of this survey is basically to establish what has been lost over the past 90 years and to provide a record of what presently remains, with a brief commentary on the state of some of the more significant buildings and specifics of each barracks. After the handover of the camp to the Irish Free State Army in the 1920's the names of the barracks were changed as follows:

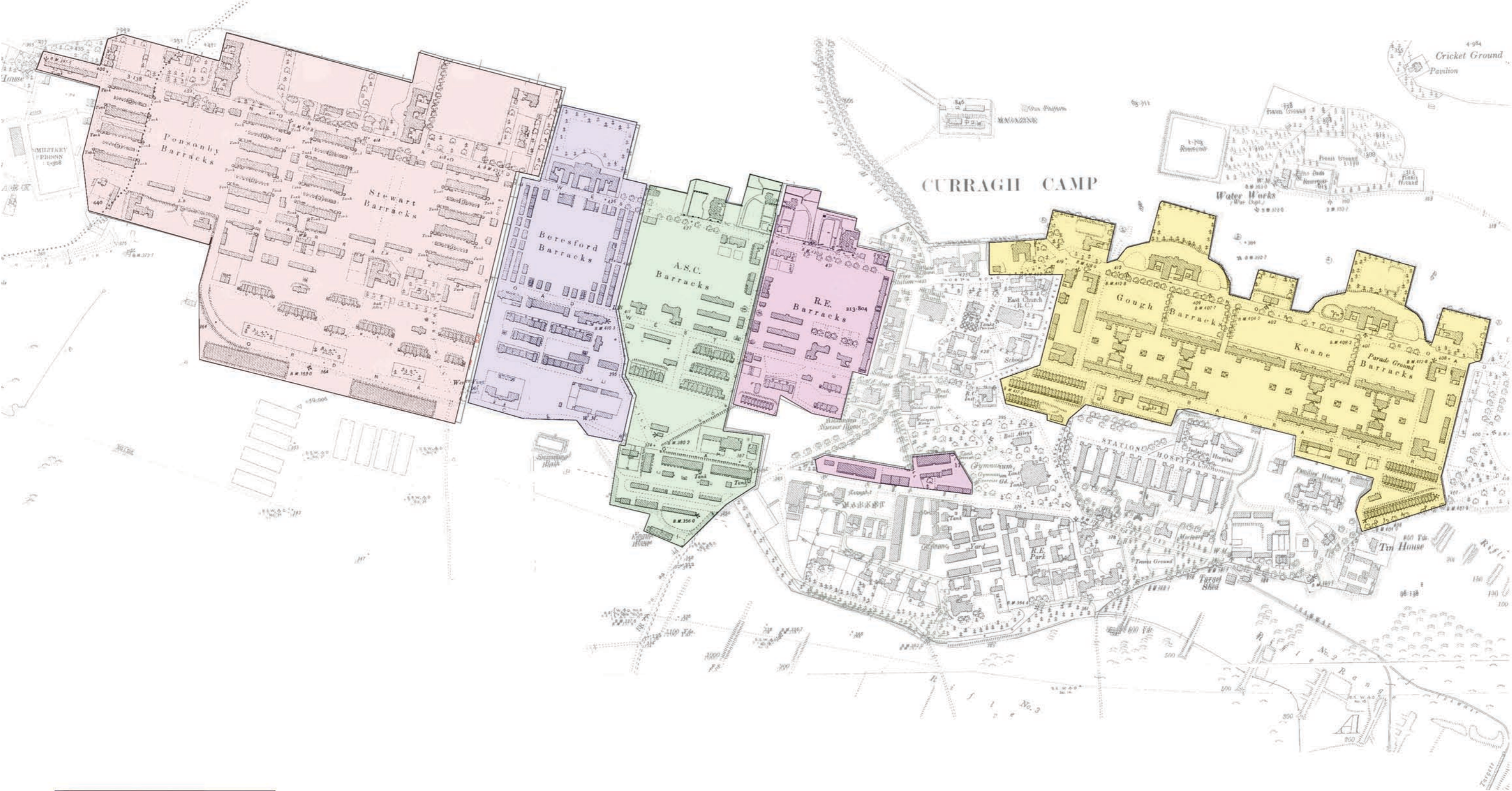
| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| “Stewart” to “Plunkett” | “Ponsonby” to “Connolly” |
| “Beresford” to “Ceannt” | “A.S.C.” to “Clarke” |
| “R.E.” to “McDermott” | “Gough” to “McDonagh” |
| “Keane” to “McDonagh” | |

The barracks were renamed after executed leaders of the 1916 Easter Rising and are referred to as such hereafter.

Characterisation

Through analysis of the information gathered during the investigation of the evolution of the camp, I could identify the original boundaries of each barracks, period of construction and the initial function of most buildings. Five character areas were then identified and grouped according to similarity of period of construction, location and function. For example, Plunkett and Connolly Barracks are dealt with as one character area as both were built and designed as cavalry barracks to the same specification and contain practically the same programme. The same is to be said for McDonagh and Pearse barracks, with the exception that these barracks were designed to facilitate infantry training and troops. Although a large section of Clarke and McDermott are identical, there was deemed sufficient variation in order to be analysed separately.

CHARACTER AREA KEY - CURRAGH CAMP



| |
|------------------|
| Character Area 1 |
| Character Area 2 |
| Character Area 3 |
| Character Area 4 |
| Character Area 5 |

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Character Area 1 – (CA1) Plunkett & Connolly Barracks | |
| <i>Period of Construction – Mid 1890's</i> | <i>Barracks Type – Cavalry</i> |

General

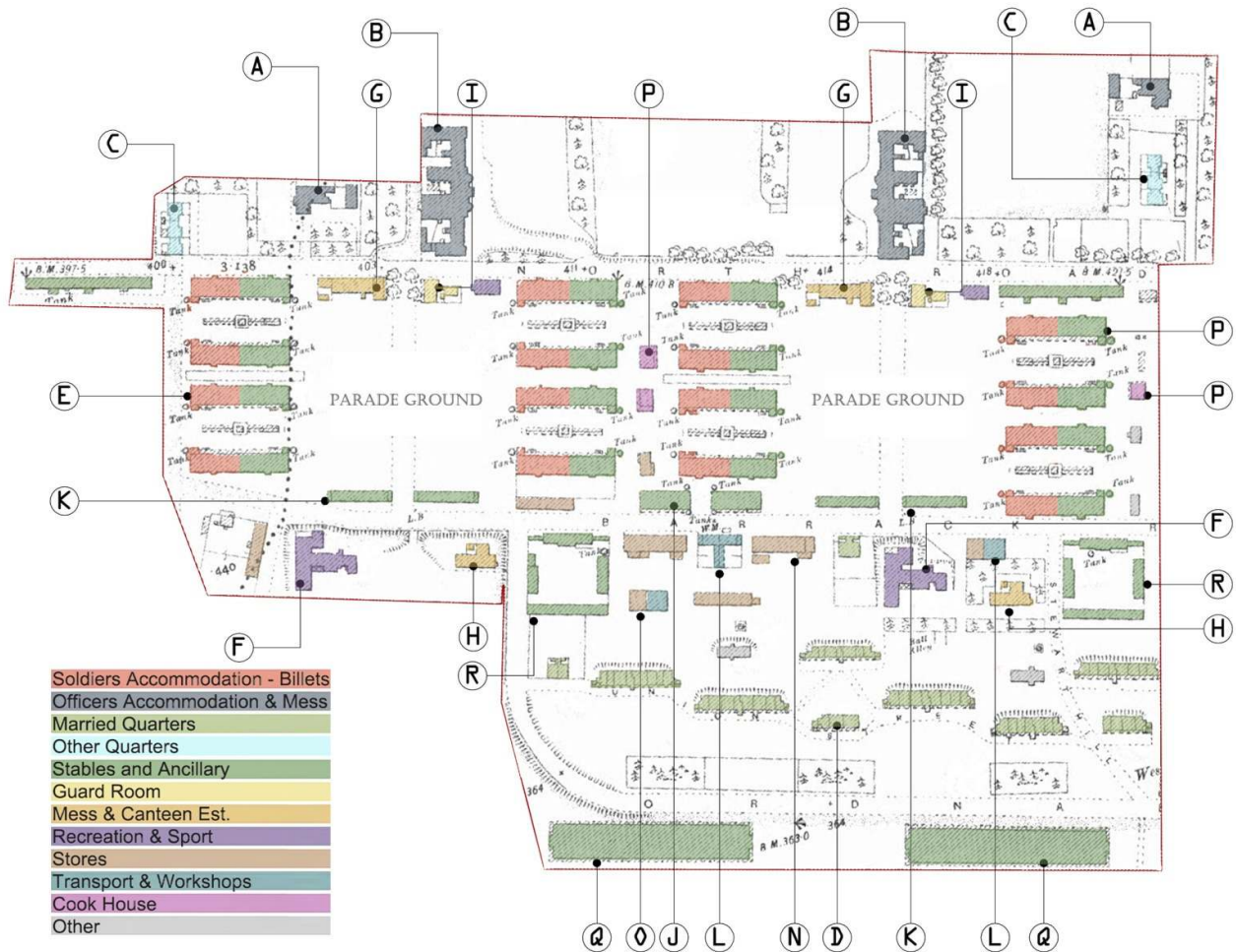
These were the first two barracks to be rebuilt during the second phase of reconstruction and were designed to house two regiments of Cavalry and as such, much of its planning, organisation and function was geared toward the accommodation of horses. Therefore many of the building types found within this character area are not to be found elsewhere on the Camp.

Buildings of note

As was discussed in the last chapter, the design of both cavalry barracks on the Curragh failed to incorporate many of the reforms which had been introduced by the Royal Commission. In 1864 the practice of accommodating men over stables had been abolished as it was found to be most unsanitary. Yet the cavalry accommodation blocks built on the Curragh almost thirty years later were built in such a fashion. Chateau Barracks in Colchester consists of two blocks of similar arrangement and is described in its listing description as representing “*the last remaining example of the traditional barrack rooms above stable plan form*”.⁹⁴ Yet there are sixteen remaining blocks of this kind still to be found in this Character Area and although many alterations have been made over the years, much of the original features and fittings are still intact. Another building of interest located within this character area is the Infirmary Stables and is explored in further detail as a case study in the next chapter.

⁹⁴ English Heritage
<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/content/imported-docs/u-z/woolwich-chap7.pdf>

CHARACTER AREA 1 - PLUNKETT AND CONNOLLY BARRACKS



PLAN OF ORIGINAL LAYOUT <1920>

| Building # | Period | Original Use | Current Use | Remarks |
|------------|------------|--|--|--|
| CAI-A | After 1890 | Commanding Officers Quarters and Stables. x 2 | Plunkett - Sub Unit H.Q. Offices Connolly - Demolished | Plunkett - Original stables demolished Connolly - Demolished due to fire damage |
| CAI-B | After 1890 | Officers Mess and Quarters x 2 | Plunkett - 3 Corp Schools Connolly - Officers Accom. | Plunkett - Large Extension in 1990's inc. workshop Connolly - Still in original use |
| CAI-C | After 1890 | Warrant Officers Quarters x 2 (4 Units) | Plunkett - Officers Quarters Connolly - Officers Quarters | Plunkett - Still in use Connolly - Still in use |
| CAI-D | After 1890 | Married Quarters (2 x 4 Blocks_ 1 - 4 & 1 - 4) | Plunkett - Demolished Connolly - Demolished | All married quarters were demolished during the 1980's & 90's |
| CAI-E | After 1890 | Soldiers Accom. Blocks (2 x 8 Blocks_ 1 - 8 & 1 - 8) | Plunkett - Soldiers Accom. Stores & A.R.W. Connolly - Sec. Inst., Lecture Hall & Soldiers Acc. | Buildings serving different uses, all stables below now converted. Some original features remain |
| CAI-F | After 1890 | Recreation Establishment x 2 | Plunkett - Derelict Connolly - Privates Mess | Plunkett - In poor condition due to lack of use/maintenance Connolly - Renovated and now functions as Canteen |
| CAI-G | After 1890 | Sergeants Mess. x 2 | Plunkett - Not in use Connolly - Not in use | Both properties were closed due to camp restructuring (mid 1990's) Now derelict. |
| CAI-H | After 1890 | Canteen. x 2 | Plunkett - Demolished Connolly - Not in use | Connolly Canteen now derelict. |
| CAI-I | After 1890 | Orderly Room and Guard Room. x 2 | Plunkett - Lecture Hall Connolly - Not in use | Connolly - Renovated relatively recently, however currently not in use |
| CAI-J | After 1890 | Officers Stables. x 2 | Plunkett - Demolished Connolly - Demolished | - - |
| CAI-K | After 1890 | Remount Stables | Plunkett - Demolished Connolly - One not in use, one used as R.D.F. stores | - - |
| CAI-L | After 1890 | Wagon Sheds. x 4 | Plunkett - One currently in use, one demolished Connolly - One in currently use, one demolished | Double wagon shed facing onto road now demolished Other two sheds renovated and in use as office and stores |
| CAI-N | After 1890 | Forage Stores | Plunkett - General use sheds Connolly - General use sheds | Plunkett - Still in use Connolly - Still in use |
| CAI-O | After 1890 | Mobilisation Store | Plunkett - Stores & Offices Connolly - Stores & Offices | Both renovated and currently in use |
| CAI-P | After 1890 | Cook House x 6 | Plunkett - Demolished Connolly - Demolished? | - - |
| CAI-Q | After 1890 | Manege x 2 | Plunkett - Vehicle Workshops Connolly - Demolished | Plunkett - Extension and conversion into vehicle workshops. Currently in use |
| CAI-R | After 1890 | Infirmiry Stables | Plunkett - Equitation School Connolly - Board of Works Yard | Plunkett - In use. Many original fittings still remain Connolly - In use. Has been altered considerably |

BUILDING SCHEDULE



CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 1A



CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 1B



CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 1C

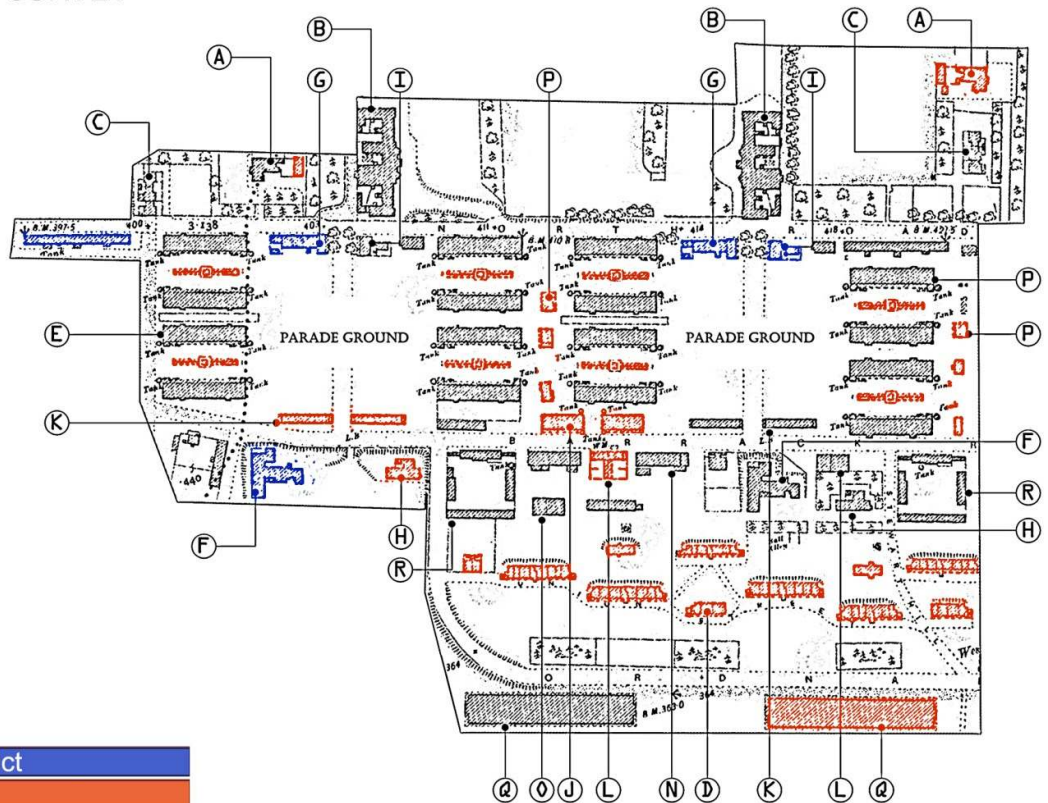


CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 1D

FIGURE 1_ Soldiers Accommodation Block Plunkett
FIGURE 3_ Officers Married Quarters

FIGURE 2_ Soldiers Accommodation Block Plunkett - Rear Elevation
FIGURE 3_ Derelict Offices - Plunkett

PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY



| |
|-------------------------|
| Not in use/Derelict |
| Demolished |
| Still existing & In Use |

PLAN SHOWING EXISTING <2012>

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Character Area 2 – (CA2) Ceannt Barracks | |
| <i>Period of Construction – Pre 1890's</i> | <i>Barracks Type – Infantry</i> |

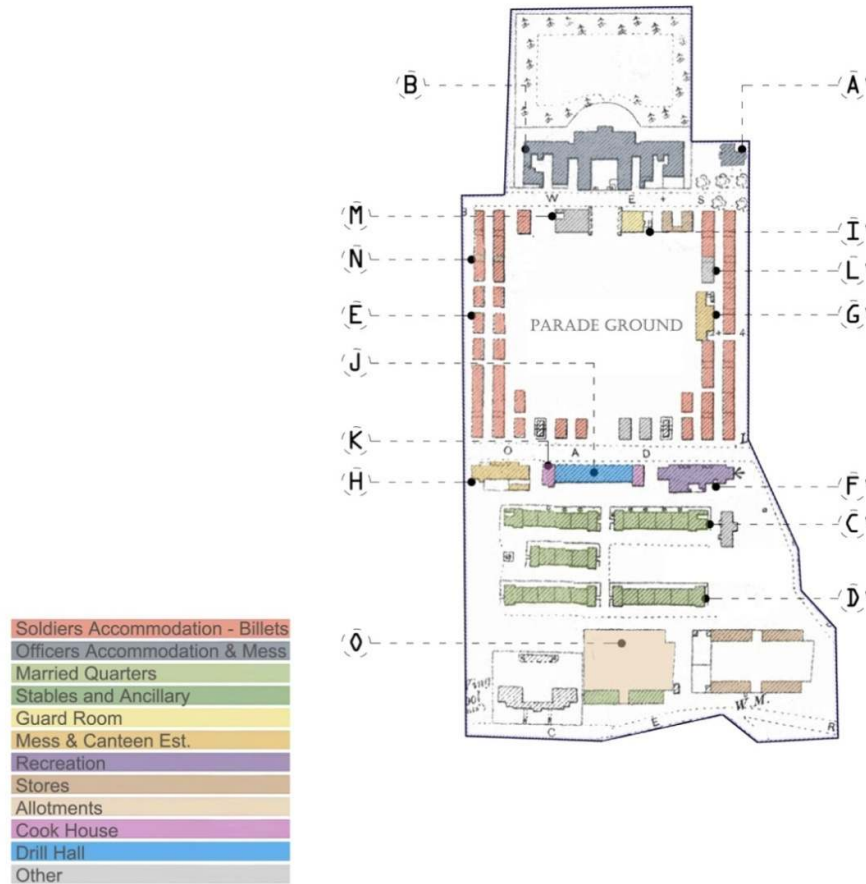
General

This barracks was the first to be rebuilt and replaced directly what was “C” square in Lugard’s original layout. The planning and layout of the previous lines were retained, the old wooden huts merely being replaced by buildings of a similar function and typology but this time constructed using mass concrete. The removal of wooden huts began in the early 1870’s and Figure 23 (Page 41) from an “as built” drawing shows how the majority of buildings on the east side of the square had been replaced by 1874. However, reforms taking place in barrack accommodation meant that shortly after they were finished being rebuilt, they would have been outdated. Despite this, the accommodation continued to be used right up until the 1970’s, when the soldier’s huts were finally condemned and demolished. During the eighties construction began on the new barracks that now stands in the location of the old “C Square”. This new barracks, although built quite recently, is worthy of future attention as it represents an example of early barracks architecture carried out by the Irish Defence Forces.

Buildings of note

Despite the demolition of the soldier’s accommodation, many of the ancillary buildings built for this barracks during the first reconstruction period of the camp remain intact. These buildings, including the reading and recreation rooms and canteen represent some of the initial measures taken at the Curragh to implement the reforms regarding recreation facilities for the troops. The Reading and Recreation rooms have been recorded by the N.I.A.H. as being of “Artistic, Architectural, Historical and Technical interest”. Both the reading rooms and canteen have received little by way of maintenance in many years and are now in very poor condition.

CHARACTER AREA 2 - CEANNT BARRACKS



PLAN OF ORIGINAL LAYOUT <1920>

| Building # | Period | Original Use | Current Use | Remarks |
|------------|------------|---|------------------------------|---|
| CA2-A | After 1890 | Commanding Officers Quarters | Sub Unit Headquarters Office | - |
| CA2-B | After 1890 | Officers Mess and Quarters | Officers Mess and Quarters | - |
| CA2-C | After 1890 | Warrant Officers Quarters (2 Units) | Demolished | - |
| CA2-D | After 1890 | Married Quarters (2 x 4 Blocks - 1 - 4 & 1 - 4) | Demolished | The majority of Ceannt soldiers married quarters were demolished during the 1980's & 1990's |
| CA2-E | Pre 1890 | Soldiers Accommodation Huts | Demolished | Demolished during the 1970's |
| CA2-F | Pre 1890 | Recreation Establishment | Board of Works | In use but in poor condition due to lack of maintenance, gutters etc broken, causing continuous water damage to brickwork |
| CA2-G | Pre 1890 | Sergeants Mess | Demolished | Demolished. Replaced with dining hall and N.C.O.'s mess during the 1990's |
| CA2-H | Pre 1890 | Canteen | Not in use | In poor condition due to lack of use/maintenance |
| CA2-I | Pre 1890 | Orderly Room and Guard Room | Demolished | - |
| CA2-J | After 1890 | Drill Shed | Not in use | - |
| CA2-K | Pre 1890 | Cook House | Not in use | - |
| CA2-L | Pre 1890 | Armourers Shop | Demolished | - |
| CA2-M | Pre 1890 | Commanding Officers Office & Shop | Demolished | - |
| CA2-N | Pre 1890 | Meat & Bread Stores | Demolished | - |
| CA2-O | Pre 1890 | Allotments | No longer in use | - |



CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 2A



CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 2B



CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 2C



CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 2D

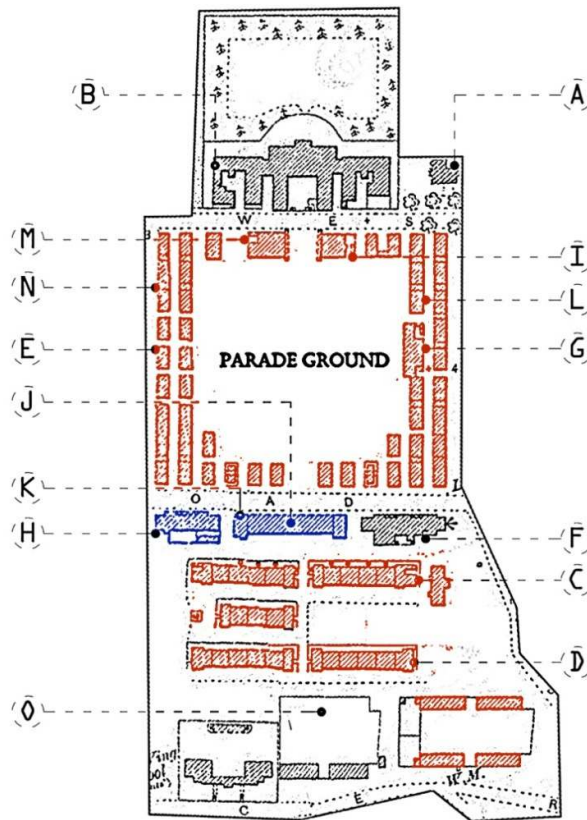
FIGURE 1_ Former Canteen - Ceannt

FIGURE 2_ Former Reading and Recreation Rooms - Ceannt

FIGURE 3_ Offices & Soldier Accommodation - Ceannt

FIGURE 4_ Dining Hall & N.C.O.'s Mess - Ceannt

PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY



| |
|-------------------------|
| Not in use/Derelict |
| Demolished |
| Still existing & In Use |

PLAN SHOWING EXISTING <2012>

| |
|---|
| Character Area 3 – (CA3) Clarke Barracks |
| <i>Period of Construction – Mid 1890's</i> <i>Barracks Type – Army Supply Corps</i> |

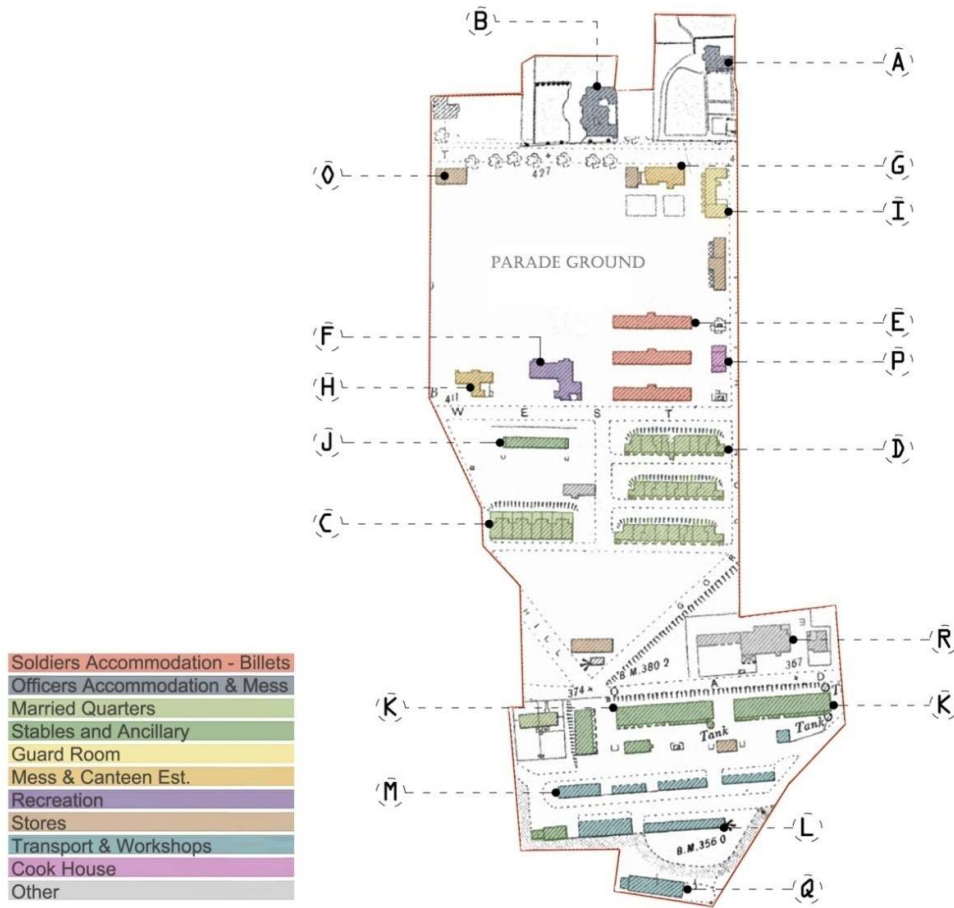
General

This barracks was built to accommodate the newly created Army Service Corps, which in December 1888 had been formed through the amalgamation of the Transport Corps and the Commissariat Corp. The A.S.C. were primarily concerned with issues such as the organisation, storage and supply of food, water and fuel and the storing and issuing of essentials like clothing and equipment, with the organisation of transport and logistics also within their sphere of activity. British logistics and support infrastructure had been exposed as completely inadequate during the Crimean war and a new found appreciation of roles carried out by both the A.S.C. and the Royal Engineers influenced to a great extent the new “Post Crimean Thinking”, paving the way for long over-due reforms in the British Army.

Buildings of note

Despite the A.S.C.’s responsibility for the storage of clothing, food etc, there are no extra stores to be found in the barrack as might be expected. Instead, personnel from the A.S.C. manned and operated the stores which were located in other barracks. Consequently, the only building type or typology completely unique to the A.S.C. was a large bakery, now since demolished. The logistic responsibilities also dictated that there was a large transport yard for the parking and upkeep of wagons. Perhaps the most significant building remaining in this barracks is the Warrant Officers Married Quarters which have been recorded by the N.I.A.H as being of “Architectural, Historical and Social interest.”

CHARACTER AREA 3 - CLARKE BARRACKS



PLAN OF ORIGINAL LAYOUT <1920>

| Building # | Period | Original Use | Current Use | Remarks |
|------------|-------------|---|-------------------------------|--|
| CA3-A | After 1890 | Commanding Officers Quarters and Stables | Offices | In use. Renovated relatively recently |
| CA3-B | After 1890 | Officers Mess and Quarters | Not in Use | Not in use. Derelict |
| CA3-C | After 1890 | Warrant Officers Quarters | Soldiers Married Quarters | Still in use. Listed Status - Reg. No. 11902302 Of Architectural, Historical & Social Interest |
| CA3-D | After 1890 | Married Quarters (3 Blocks _ 1-2-3) | Demolished | All original soldiers married quarters in Clarke were demolished during the 1980's & 90's |
| CA3-E | After 1890 | Soldiers Accom. Blocks (3 Blocks _ A-B-C) | Soldiers Accommodation Blocks | The three blocks are still used as soldiers accommodation |
| CA3-F | After 1890 | Recreation Establishment | Not in use | In poor condition due to lack of use/maintenance |
| CA3-G | After 1890 | Sergeants Mess. | Not in use | In poor condition due to lack of use/maintenance |
| CA3-H | After 1890 | Canteen. | Demolished | - |
| CA3-I | After 1890 | Orderly Room and Guard Room. | Offices & Unoccupied Stores | - |
| CA3-J | After 1890 | Officers Stables. | Demolished | - |
| CA3-K | After 1890? | General Stables | Vehicle Parking/Storage | - |
| CA3-L | After 1890 | Wagon Sheds | Demolished | - |
| CA3-M | After 1890? | Workshops | Vehicle Parking/Storage | - |
| CA3-O | After 1890 | Mobilisation Stores | Demolished | - |
| CA3-P | After 1890 | Cookhouse | Demolished | Replaced with new dining hal 1960-70's? Building now not in use |
| CA3-Q | Pre 1890? | Traction Engine Shed | Demolished | - |
| CA3-R | Pre 1890 | Bakery | Demolished | - |



CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 3A



CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 3B



CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 3C



CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 3D

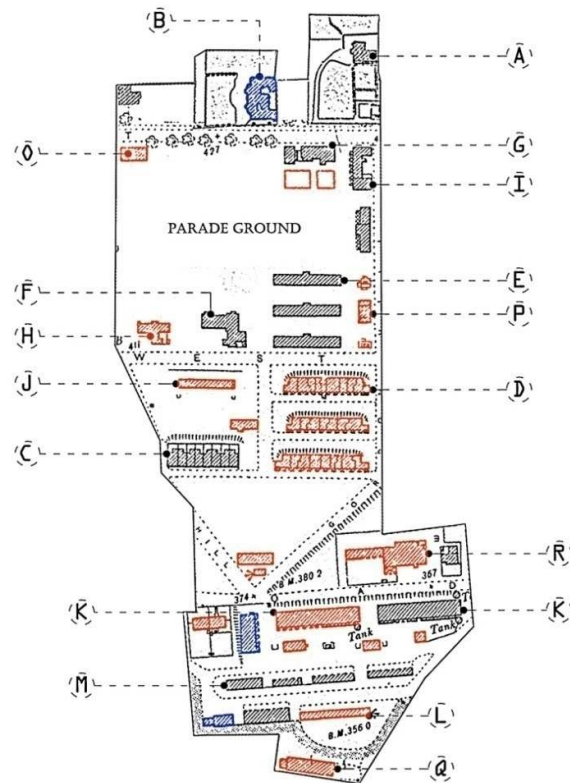
FIGURE 1_ Officers Mess & Quarters - Now Derelict

FIGURE 2_ Transport Yard - Former A.S.C. Stables

FIGURE 3_ Soldiers Accommodation

FIGURE 4_ Soldiers Accommodation

PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY



| |
|---------------------|
| Not in use/Derelict |
| Demolished & In Use |
| Still existing |

PLAN SHOWING EXISTING <2012>

| |
|---|
| Character Area 4 – (CA4) Mc Dermott Barracks |
| <i>Period of Construction – Mid 1890's</i> <i>Barracks Type – Royal Engineers</i> |

General

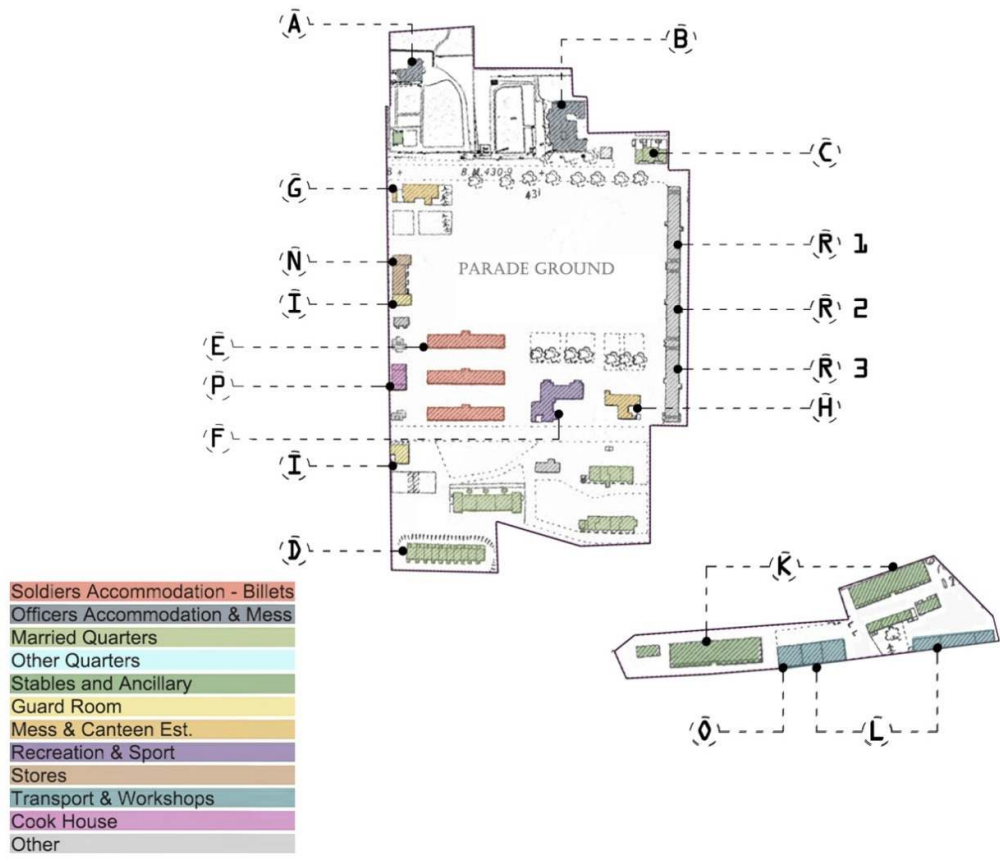
The extent and involvement of the Royal Engineers in the planning and execution of the original camp and in its subsequent reconstruction has already been highlighted, an example being where the Curragh was used to test the viability of using military labour. Some of the buildings built both by and for the Royal Engineers during this period are located in the R.E. yard and many of which are types specific to the operations of the R.E. Corps such as workshops, engine room and fitters shops. However the R.E. yard is separate to the barracks and was not recorded as part of this survey, but is worthy of future consideration and examination.

Buildings of note

One of the last two remaining examples of quarters provided for married soldiers are located within this character area, the other example being Pearse married quarters on the east side of the camp. Although some of these units are still occupied, the majority of the terrace is derelict and in very poor condition, having received little or no maintenance for a number of years. As the units are being vacated they are being boarded up and it would appear that the plan is to demolish the terrace once fully vacated.

The Curragh Military Museum is also located within this character area and represents a great example of the successful renovation and reuse of some of the older buildings on the camp.

CHARACTER AREA 4 - MCDERMOTT BARRACKS



PLAN OF ORIGINAL LAYOUT <1920>

| Building # | Period | Original Use | Current Use | Remarks |
|------------|------------|---|--|---|
| CA4-A | After 1890 | Commanding Officers Quarters and Stables | G.O.C.'s Quarters | In use. Renovated relatively recently |
| CA4-B | After 1890 | Officers Mess and Quarters | D.F.T.C. H.Q. Offices | In use. Renovated relatively recently |
| CA4-C | After 1890 | Warrant Officers Quarters | Soldiers Married Quarters | Still occupied |
| CA4-D | After 1890 | Married Quarters (3 Blocks _ 1-2-3) | 2 Blocks demolished 1 Block still partially occupied | Remaining Quarters boarded up as they become unoccupied. For future demolition |
| CA4-E | After 1890 | Soldiers Accom. Blocks (3 Blocks _ A-B-C) | 1 x Soldiers Accommodation Blocks 2 x Curragh Post Primary School | - |
| CA4-F | After 1890 | Recreation Establishment | Unit Offices | - |
| CA4-G | After 1890 | Sergeants Mess. | Military Police N.C.O.'s Mess | In use. Renovated relatively recently |
| CA4-H | After 1890 | Canteen. | Training Rooms/Classrooms | In use. Renovated relatively recently |
| CA4-I | After 1890 | Orderly Room and Guard Room. | Not in use | In poor condition due to lack of use/maintenance |
| CA4-K | After 1890 | General Stables | Curragh Military Museum | Recently renovated to accommodate the collection of the Curragh Military Museum |
| CA4-L | Pre 1890 | Wagon Sheds | Curragh Military Museum Board of Works | Recently acquired by the Curragh Military Museum |
| CA4-N | After 1890 | Ration Stores | Not in use | Not in use. Renovated relatively recently |
| CA4-O | Pre 1890 | Mobilisation Stores | Curragh Military Museum | Recently acquired by the Curragh Military Museum |
| CA4-P | After 1890 | Cookhouse | Not in use | In poor condition due to lack of use/maintenance |
| CA4-R1 | Pre 1890 | HQ Offices | Conference Centre | In use |
| CA4-R2 | Pre 1890 | HQ Offices | Not in use | Not in use |
| CA4-R2 | Pre 1890 | HQ Offices | Offices, Lecture Hall & Stores | In use. Renovated relatively recently |



CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 4A



CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 4B



CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 4C



CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 4D

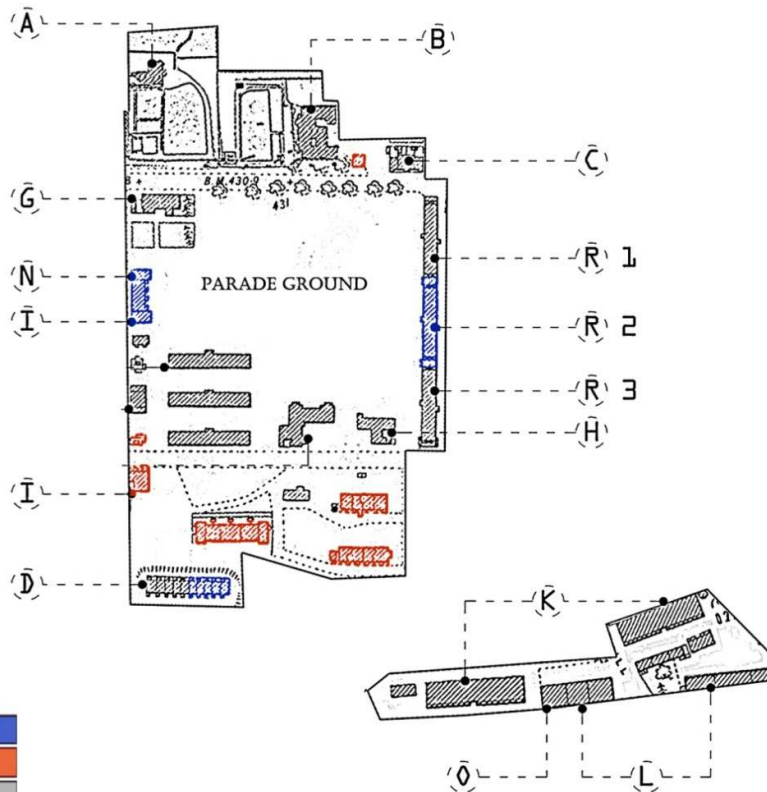
FIGURE 1_ Curragh Military Museum

FIGURE 2_ McDermott Square

FIGURE 3_ Soldiers Married Quarters

FIGURE 4_ Mc Demott Guard Room

PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY



| |
|-------------------------|
| Not in use/Derelict |
| Demolished |
| Still existing & In Use |

PLAN SHOWING EXISTING <2012>

| |
|--|
| Character Area 5 – (CA5) McDonagh & Pearse Barracks |
| <i>Period of Construction – Mid 1890's</i> <i>Barracks Type – Infantry</i> |

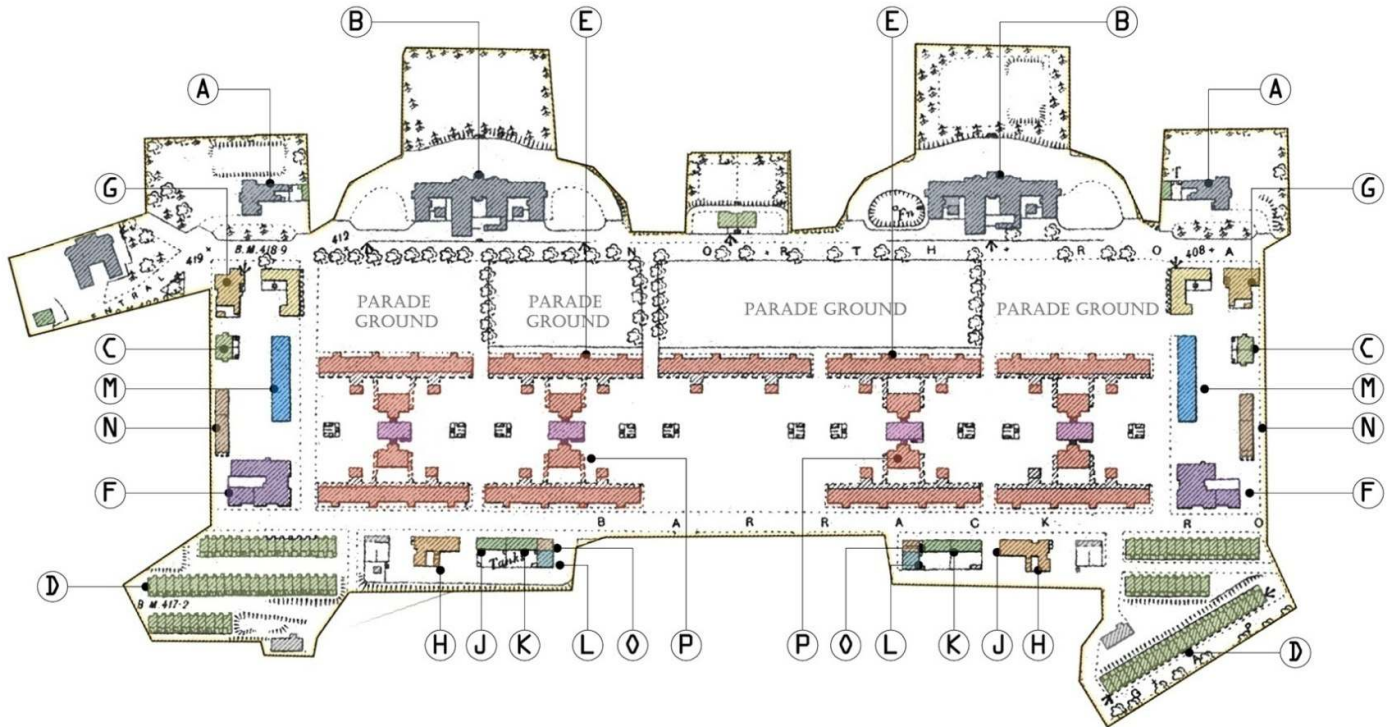
General

This character area covers the two barracks remaining on the east side of the camp. Two groups of buildings within this character area have been recorded by the N.I.A.H. The first is Pearse Married Quarters, a group of twenty two terraced houses. Unfortunately, as buildings on the camp are not subject to normal planning procedure, these buildings were demolished during the last decade. Fortunately, one row of sixteen identical houses stills remains, although some are now derelict. The other recorded building is McDonagh soldiers' accommodation, the merits of which are examined further as a case study in the next chapter.

Buildings of note

As infantry barracks, the drill hall would have been considered one of the more essential buildings and as such received more attention to detail in its design and construction. The two recreation establishment are also of particular architectural merit and both are in good condition and currently in use. However the four buildings located on the south of the middle road are of particular concern, with three not currently being used and the fourth to become vacant before long, with the planned phasing out of the B.F.W. (Board for Works).

CHARACTER AREA 5 - MCDONAGH AND PEARSE BARRACKS



| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Soldiers Accommodation - Billets | Recreation |
| Officers Accommodation and Mess | Stores |
| Married Quarters | Transport & Workshops |
| Stables and Ancillary | Cook House |
| Guard Room | Drill Hall |
| Mess & Canteen Est. | Other |

PLAN OF ORIGINAL LAYOUT <1920>

| Building # | Period | Original Use | Current Use | Remarks |
|------------|------------|---|---|--|
| CA5-A | After 1900 | Commanding Officers Quarters and Stables. x 2 | McDonagh - H.Q. Military Offices Pearse - U.N. School | McDonagh - In use Pearse - In use |
| CA5-B | After 1900 | Officers Mess and Quarters x 2 | McDonagh - Cadets Accom. Pearse - Officers Mess & Accom. | McDonagh - In use Pearse - Still in original use |
| CA5-C | After 1900 | Warrant Officers Quarters x 2 (4 Units) | McDonagh - Soldiers Married Quarters Pearse - Soldiers Married Quarters | McDonagh - Still in use Pearse - Still in use |
| CA5-D | After 1900 | Married Quarters (6 Blocks 1-2-3 x 2) | McDonagh - Demolished Pearse - 2 Demolished 1 Remaining | Still in use. Listed Status - Reg. No. 11902311 Of Architectural, Historical & Social Interest |
| CA5-E | After 1900 | Soldiers Accom. Blocks (9 Blocks A-B-C-D x 2 & E) | McDonagh - 2 x Accom 1 x not used 1 x Demolished Pearse - All serving as accommodation and offices | All buildings generally well maintained |
| CA5-F | After 1900 | Recreation Establishment x 2 | McDonagh - Weapons Wing Pearse - Library | Both building are well maintained |
| CA5-G | After 1900 | Sergeants Mess. x 2 | McDonagh - Curragh Youth Centre Pearse - Not in use | Pearse N.C.O.'s Mess now in poor condition due to lack of use/maintenance |
| CA5-H | After 1900 | Canteen. x 2 | McDonagh - Not in use Pearse - Not in use | Both building in poor condition due to lack of use/maintenance |
| CA5-I | After 1900 | Orderly Room and Guard Room. x 2 | McDonagh - Still in use as Guard Room Pearse - Not in use | Pearse Guardroom is in poor condition due to lack of use/maintenance |
| CA5-J | After 1900 | Officers Stables. x 2 | McDonagh - Not in use Pearse - Museum Storage | Both building in poor condition due to lack of use/maintenance |
| CA5-K | After 1900 | Remount Stables | McDonagh - Not in use Pearse - Board of works | Both building in poor condition due to lack of use/maintenance |
| CA5-L | After 1900 | Wagon Sheds. x 4 | McDonagh - Not in use Pearse - Not in use | Both building in poor condition due to lack of use/maintenance |
| CA5-M | After 1900 | Drill Shed | McDonagh - Stores Pearse - Drill Shed | McDonagh - Still in use Pearse - Still in use |
| CA5-N | After 1900 | General Store | McDonagh - Not in use Pearse - Not in use | Both building in poor condition due to lack of use/maintenance |
| CA5-O | After 1900 | Mobilisation Stores x 2 | McDonagh - Not in use Pearse - Not in use | Both building in poor condition due to lack of use/maintenance |
| CA5-P | After 1900 | Cook House x 4 Dining Rooms | McDonagh - Offices & Lecture Halls Pearse - Offices & Lecture Halls | All buildings generally well maintained |



CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 5A



CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 5B



CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 5C



CHARACTER AREA SURVEY 5D

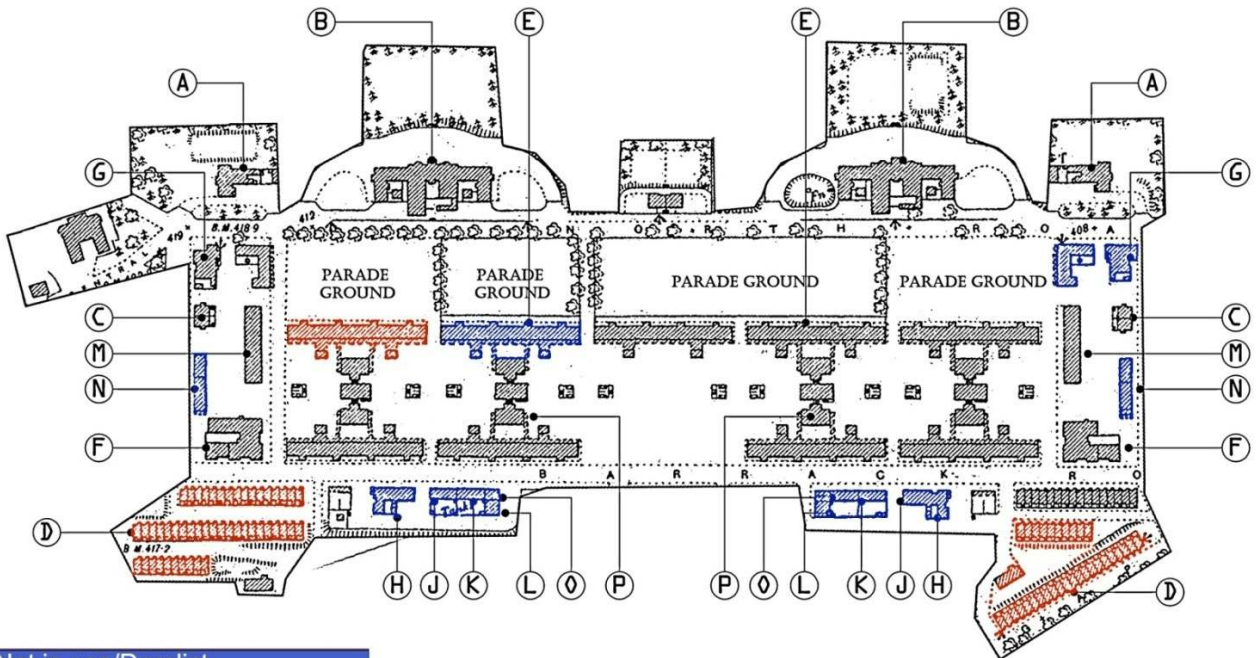
FIGURE 1_ Library & former Recreation Rooms - Pearse

FIGURE 2_ U.N. School - Pearse

FIGURE 3_ Soldier Accommodation - Pearse

FIGURE 4_ Drill Hall - Pearse

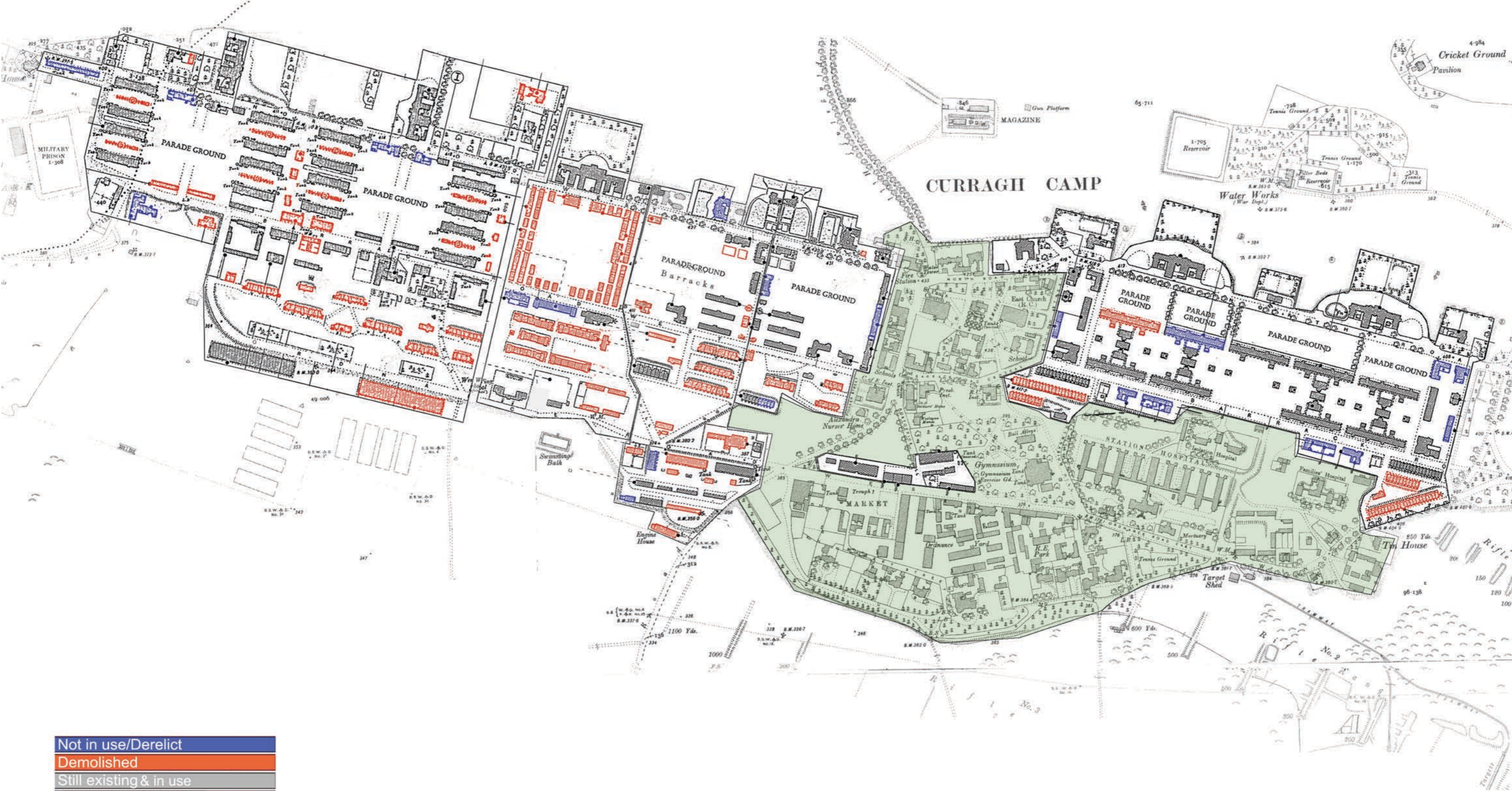
PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY



| |
|-------------------------|
| Not in use/Derelict |
| Demolished |
| Still existing & In Use |

PLAN SHOWING EXISTING <2012>

CHARACTER AREAS - OVERALL SURVEY



| |
|-------------------------|
| Not in use/Derelict |
| Demolished |
| Still existing & in use |
| Area not part of survey |

CASE STUDIES

The purpose of this chapter is to demonstrate the diversity of buildings to be found in the camp through a more thorough analysis of two building types. Ideally, a case study of each of the typical building types to be found common to each barracks would have offered a more comprehensive portrait of the innovative design to be witnessed in the architecture built by the British Army during this period. However, such a comprehensive study was beyond the scope of this dissertation. The first case study examines a building type common to all barracks, while the second case study examines one of the many buildings unique to the cavalry.

Chosen Buildings

The building type selected for the first case study is the soldiers accommodation block in McDonagh and Pearse. This building was chosen to demonstrate the massive improvements in the circumstances of the enlisted soldier achieved in the 40 years that had passed since the construction of the first camp. There are three different accommodation block types still existing in the Camp, and although they were all built within ten years of each other, each one is built to a different specification, reflecting the rapid improvements in standards of that particular period.

The building selected for the second case study is the Infirmary stables in Plunkett Barracks. This building was chosen to provide an example of the wide variety of buildings on the camp specifically developed to suit the different requirements of each corps. The characterisation exercise yielded existing examples of specialist building for the Cavalry, Infantry, Royal Engineers and Artillery Corp.

| | |
|---|---|
| Case Study 1 – (CA5-E) McDonagh & Pearse | |
| <i>Current Use – Soldiers Quarters</i> | <i>Original Use – Soldiers Quarters</i> |
| <i>Period of Construction – 1899</i> | <i>Original Corp – Infantry</i> |

As referred to previously, the soldiers accommodation provided in the construction of Gough and Keane barracks represent exceptional examples of how the successes of advocates for health reform and improved organisation within the British Army are to be best observed through the evolution of its architectural designs.

Each barracks consisted of four two story “Double Company” or “Half Battalion” accommodation blocks, grouped in adjacent pairs facing one another and “conveniently sited to the parade ground”.⁹⁵ Between the two groups of four blocks is a single block, original built to accommodate members of the army band, all other blocks being for infantry. Each block is divided into 16 separate rooms, 8 on the ground floor and eight on the first floor. The first floor rooms are accessed externally by a veranda arrangement which runs along the inside elevation of each block, similar to the arrangement of the Cavalry Barracks is Plunkett and Connolly. The stairs differ in McDonagh and Pearse in that they project perpendicular to the main block, connected to a small separate building containing two rooms at each level which were used to accommodate the N.C.O.’s and for the storage of weapons and kit.

Each room was designed to hold just 12 men as “*this number forms a convenient division to suit the organisation of the company*”⁹⁶, but also because it was believed that this number was still large enough to maintain “*the feeling of barrack room comradeship which plays an important*

⁹⁵ Works, *Design and Construction of Military Buildings; a Handbook for the Use of Royal Engineer Officers and Their Staff*.
⁹⁶ , "Barracks," in *Encyclopedia Britannica* (1911).

part in the soldiers training".⁹⁷ Six large sash windows were provided in each room, adjacent to one another in order to achieve a means of cross ventilation. The 12 beds were configured to correspond with the fenestration so that each bed received the direct light and ventilation from at least one window. No more than two beds were to be located

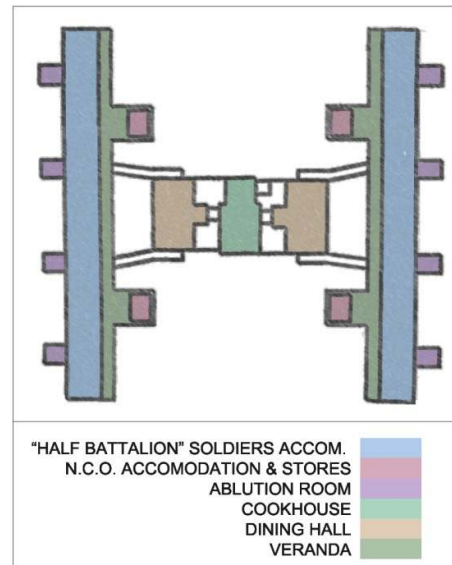


Figure 40 Layout of accommodation block

between windows and only one bed was to be located between the final window and the end wall of the room.⁹⁸ The importance placed on a generous supply of fresh air to soldiers quarters by those pushing for reform has been highlighted earlier. In response to this, to ensure a stable air change during conditions that were not suitable for windows to be left wide open, a system was installed whereby a ventilation shaft was fitted beside the chimney flue, connected to each room via ventilation grills. When the fire was lit, the air in the ventilation shafts would heat up and rise, exiting through an external grill placed in the chimney stack and initiating a passive flow of air through the rooms. These ventilation shafts were also incorporated into the access hallway where the urine tubs were now placed, having previously being located in the rooms. Located conveniently to the soldiers rooms so as to promote cleanliness, the ablution facilities were also now incorporated into the main block, located to the rear of the entry hallway.

After almost 45 years, the recommendation in the Barrack Accommodation Report (1855) that soldiers be provided with separate dining facilities was finally

⁹⁷ Ibid.

⁹⁸ Works, *Design and Construction of Military Buildings; a Handbook for the Use of Royal Engineer Officers and Their Staff*.

incorporated into the design of the new barracks. Located between the two dining halls, each cookhouse would cater for two blocks.

The improvements introduced at the new barracks are easy to underestimate when considered from a present perspective, however it is important to recognise the progress that had been made since the original billets that were constructed on The Curragh. Soldiers were now being provided with facilities beyond the standards enjoyed by many of their civilian counterparts, especially in Ireland. An exact plan and description of the soldiers quarters in McDonagh and Pearse was featured in the 1911 version of the Encyclopaedia Britannica entry on "Barracks", as an example of "*the modern accommodation now authorised*".⁹⁹ Similar variations of this accommodation were also built in Tidworth and Colchester in England at the same period, many of which have now been demolished.

Despite one block having been demolished, the remaining nine blocks are in relatively good condition. Some still function as accommodation for cadets, while others have been converted into classrooms and offices. The cookhouses and dining halls are still in place, although none function as such now with many having been converted into lecture halls and instruction rooms.

⁹⁹ Britannica, "Barracks."



Survey 1_Figure 1 - View towards accommodation blocks from across parade square



Survey 1_Figure 2 - Inside elevation showing cookhouse and dining hall



Survey 1_Figure 3 - Inside elevation showing store and N.C.O.'s block



Survey 1_Figure 4 - Covered passage to dining hall and cookhouse



Survey 1_Figure 5 - Verandas



Survey 1_Figure 6- Interior converted into lecture room



Survey 1_Figure 7 - Entrance to stores



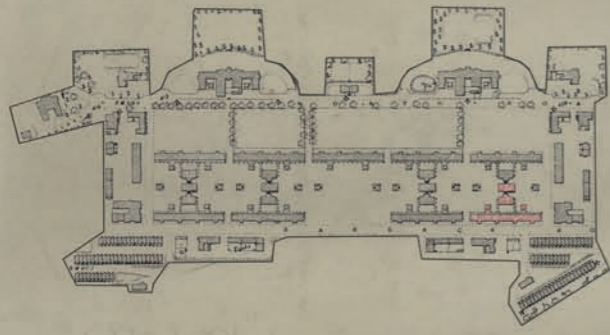
Survey 1_Figure 8 - Veranda



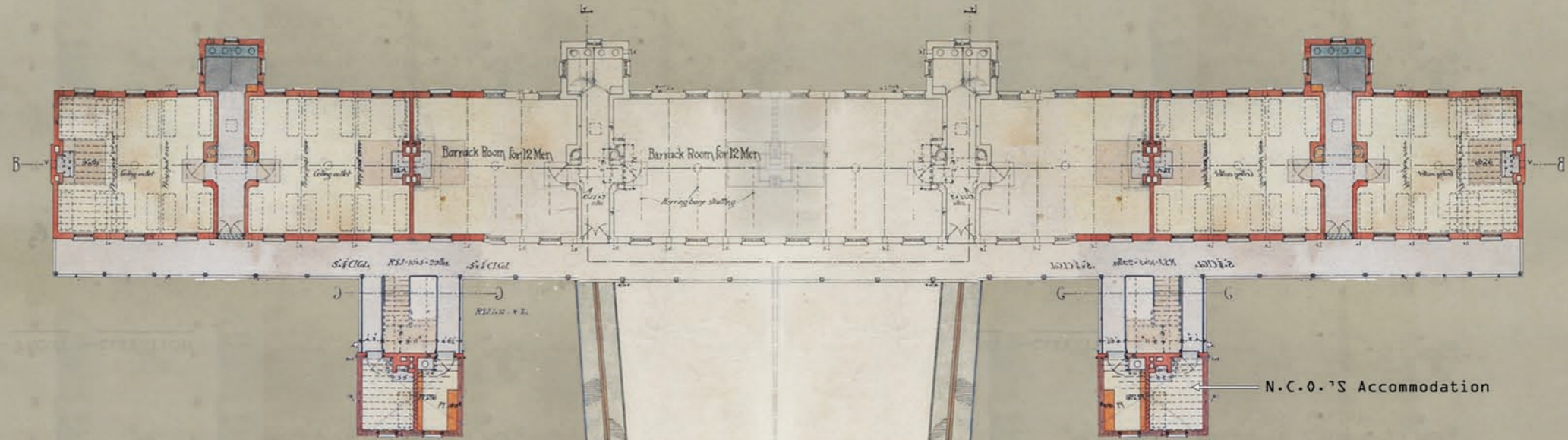
Survey 1_Figure 9 - Unusual brickwork detail
Showing extract vent installed in chimney stack



Survey 1_Figure 10 - Cookhouse

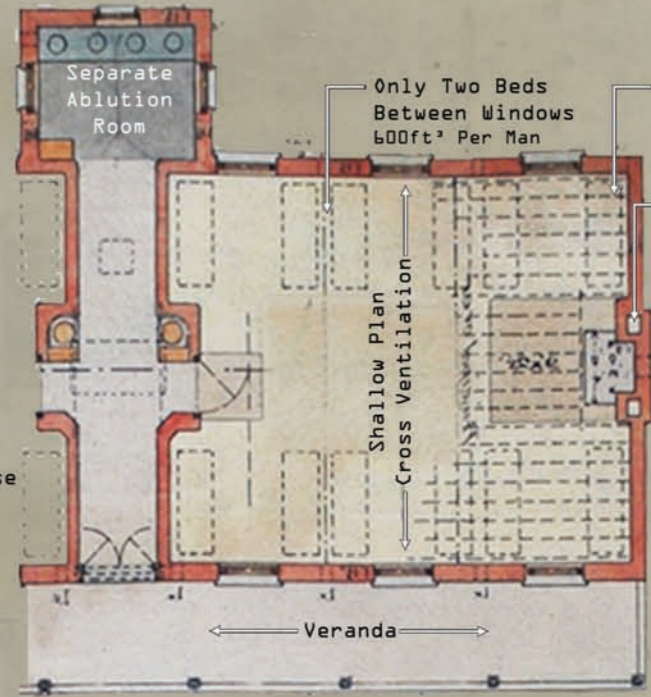


CHARACTER AREA 5
KEY LOCATION PLAN

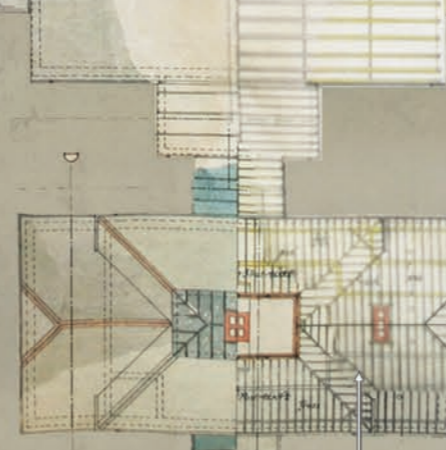


Separate Dining Facilities for soldiers

Only Two Beds Between Windows
600ft³ Per Man
Only One Bed Between Window And Corner
Ventilation System Incorporated Into Fireplace To Provide Passive Air Change

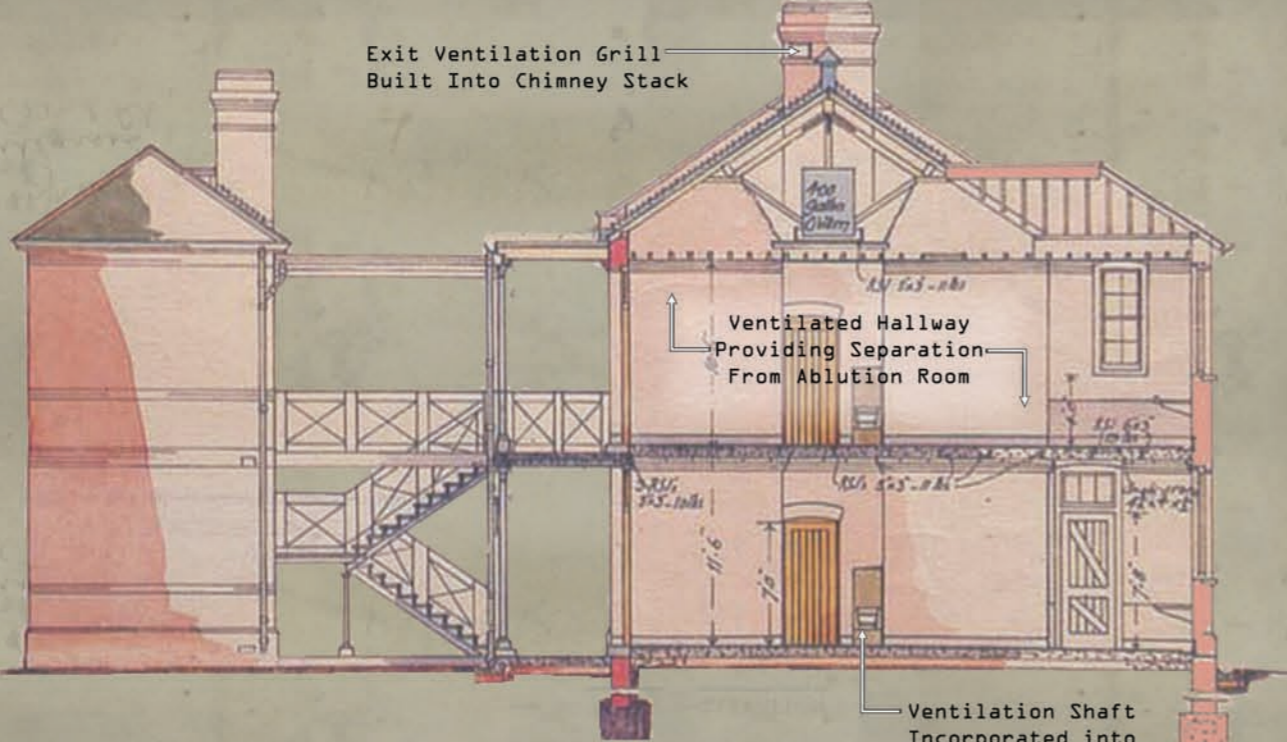


DETAIL



PLAN

Cookhouse

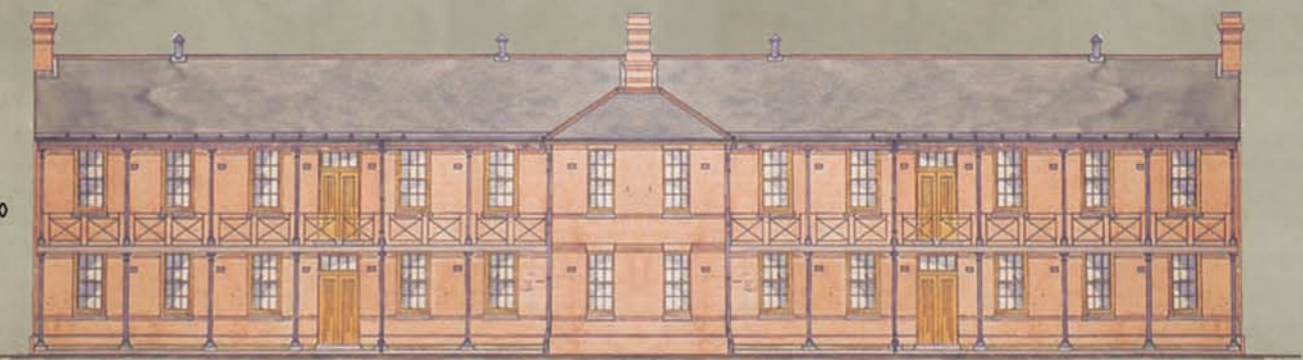


SECTION



SOUTH ELEVATION

INCREASED
GLAZING RATIO



NORTH ELEVATION

| | |
|---|---|
| <i>Case Study 2 – (CA1-R) Plunkett</i> | |
| <i>Current Use – Equitation School</i> | <i>Original Use – Infirmary Stables</i> |
| <i>Period of Construction – 1896-98</i> | <i>Original Corp – Cavalry</i> |

After the construction of Ponsonby and Stewart Barracks was completed in the late 1890's, the Curragh (including Newbridge Barracks) would have been considered one of the three principle cavalry barracks in the United Kingdom, the others being Aldershot in the UK and Portobello Barracks in Dublin. Both Ponsonby and Stewart, which were home to one Cavalry regiment each, would have to provide accommodation for upwards of 320 horses each during times of peace. The care and maintenance required to sustain 640 horses in acceptable sanitary conditions in a relatively confined area required efficiency in the planning and layout of the buildings.

As was the case with accommodating men at such high densities, the spread of sickness and disease in horses was also problematic and necessitated that an infirmary be provided, whereby any horse which displayed initial symptoms of sickness could be removed immediately to receive the required attention. The Infirmary was located in a separate compound from the main stabling and provided separate stables to isolate the horses and prevent disease from spreading. It was however, still to be located within convenient proximity of the main stabling, as along with the pharmacy, stables and loose boxes, the infirmary compound also housed the forge and shoeing shed. As a rule, every horse would require shoeing around once every month¹⁰⁰, which would suggest that the farriers and blacksmiths attached to each regiment at The Curragh would be required to produce and fit over 14,000 horseshoes every year

¹⁰⁰ Drayson A.W., *The Young Dragoon*.

or 26 horses per day. Ponsonby and Stewart barracks were each provided with a separate but almost identical infirmary.

The different buildings of the infirmary were arranged around a courtyard, with the two shoeing sheds and forge located facing onto Barrack road (the Middle road), close to the general stables for convenience of access. In this way, horses could be brought into the sheds and shod without needlessly entering the infirmary compound, thus avoiding contact with sick horses. The forge was located in the centre, with the blacksmith providing the shoes to the farriers working either side.



Figure 41 Layout of infirmary stables

The “Loose box” stables are grouped together on the opposite side of the courtyard. These are single stables where a sick horse could be confined, but which were larger than the average stable, allowing the horse to pace, turn around and lie down, thus offering enough space and comfort to facilitate a swift recovery. A minimum area of 230ft² per stable is specified, with a further recommendation that each loose box offer 3275ft³.

In order to keep the conditions as clean and hygienic as possible, each stable featured channels installed in the grooved concrete flooring which were then connected to a network of drains. All channels and drainage system were installed to precise gradients so as to passively facilitate the removal of waste water, urine etc. from stables. Also, the commodious specification for the stable area and its volume

was matched by the provision of a generous means by which to ventilate it. All stables featured ridge ventilators in the roof (Figure 3), which could manage the amount of ventilation, controlled by a system of hemp lines and pulleys. Special ventilation bricks are also installed at eaves level and just above ground level on both elevations of the stables to ensure a steady rate of air change via cross ventilation.

Much of the original building remains intact, with the pharmacy and office room being the only section to have been demolished. All the stables are in working order and are still in use by the army equitation school. Many of the original stable fittings, including doors, flooring, fanlights etc also remain in place.

The forge and the shoeing sheds have been out of use for many years and are in a poor condition as a result. However, many of the fittings and original furnishing are still to be found in-situ. The forge and original bellows (Figure 10) are of particular interest, while there are several pieces of the blacksmiths mechanical equipment still mounted in place. In the courtyard the original cast iron trough and water tank are still present.

Sergeant Phillip Doyle of the army equitation school, who supervised the survey and provided much insight into the planning and use of the stables, was in no doubt as to the buildings significance, stating that the infirmary complex represents the best preserved example of its type in Ireland, if not beyond.



Survey 2_Figure 1 - Loose box stables viewed from general entrance



Survey 2_Figure 2 - View toward original location of pharmacy



Survey 2_Figure 3 - Forge and Shoeing Sheds from Middle Road



Survey 2_Figure 4 - Original 3500 gallon watertank
Detail - "Douglas Bros. Blaydon on Tyne C&M 1896



Survey 2_Figure 5 - Stables Concrete Paving
Executed by The Mettalic Paving Company London



Survey 2_Figure 6 - Original iron working apparatus



Survey 2_Figure 7 - Original iron working apparatus
Detail - "J Spencer & Co, Hollinwood Manchester



Survey 2_Figure 8 - Original fittings in Forge



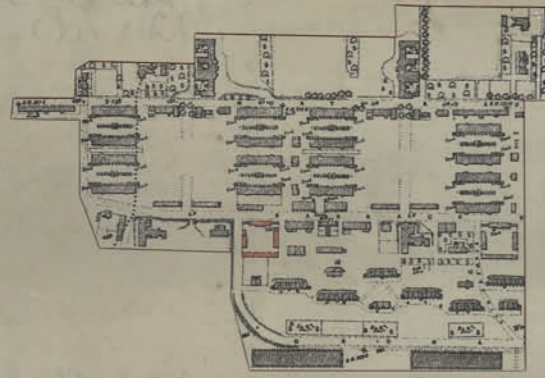
Survey 2_Figure 9 - Cast Iron door on Forge
Detail - "W.D." (War Department Logo)



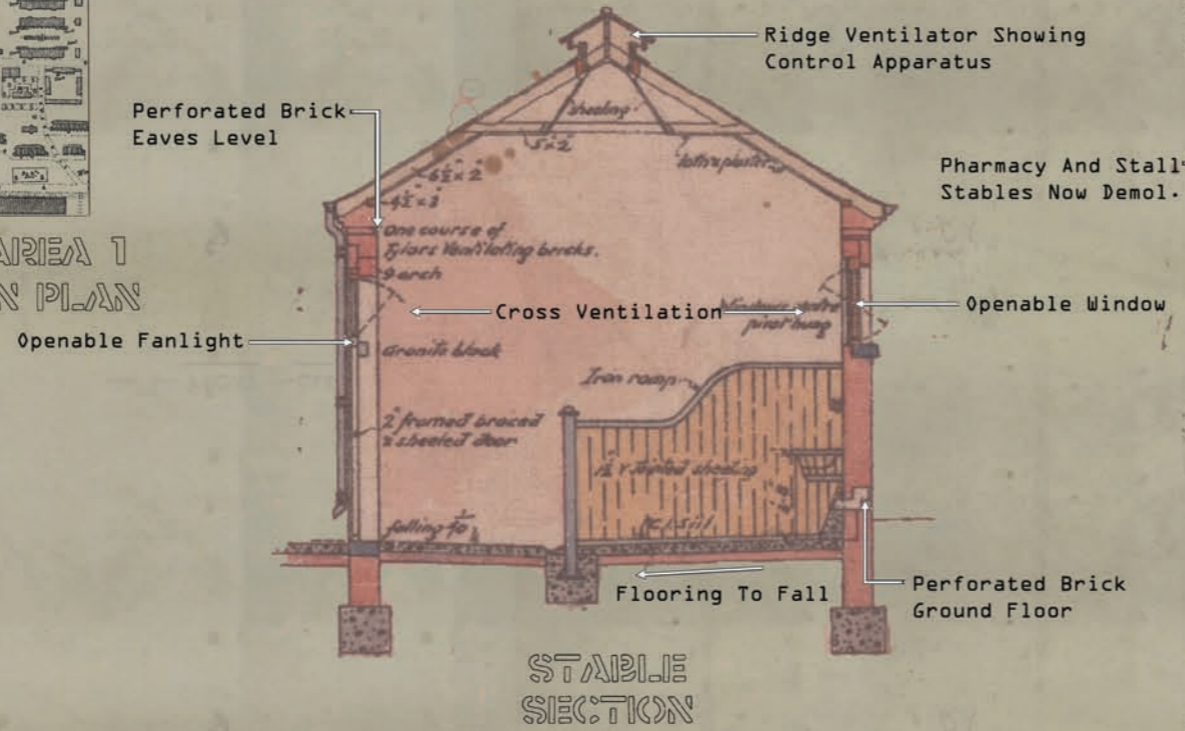
Survey 2_Figure 10 - View into Forge from Shed
Showing original bellows mounted to rear



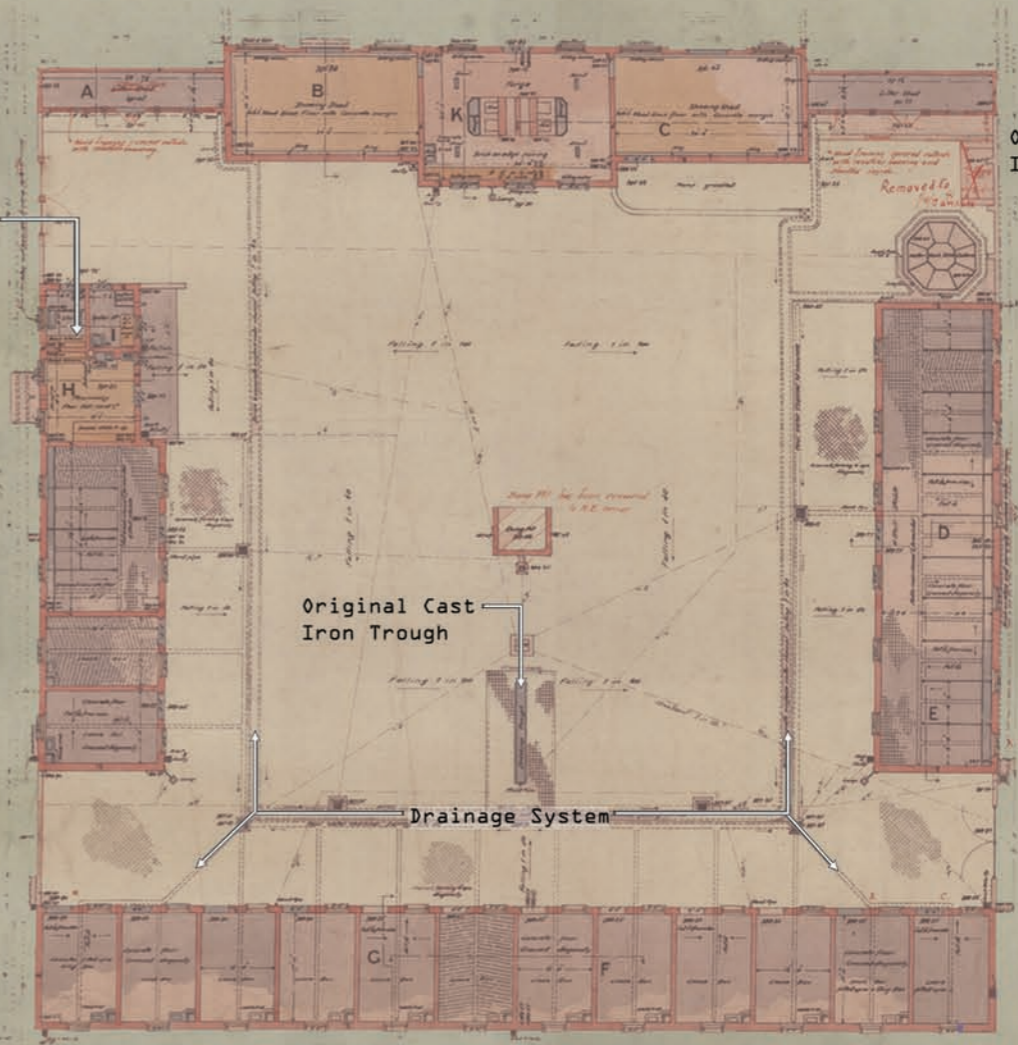
Survey 2_Figure 11 - Original cooling vessel



CHARACTER AREA 1
KEY LOCATION PLAN



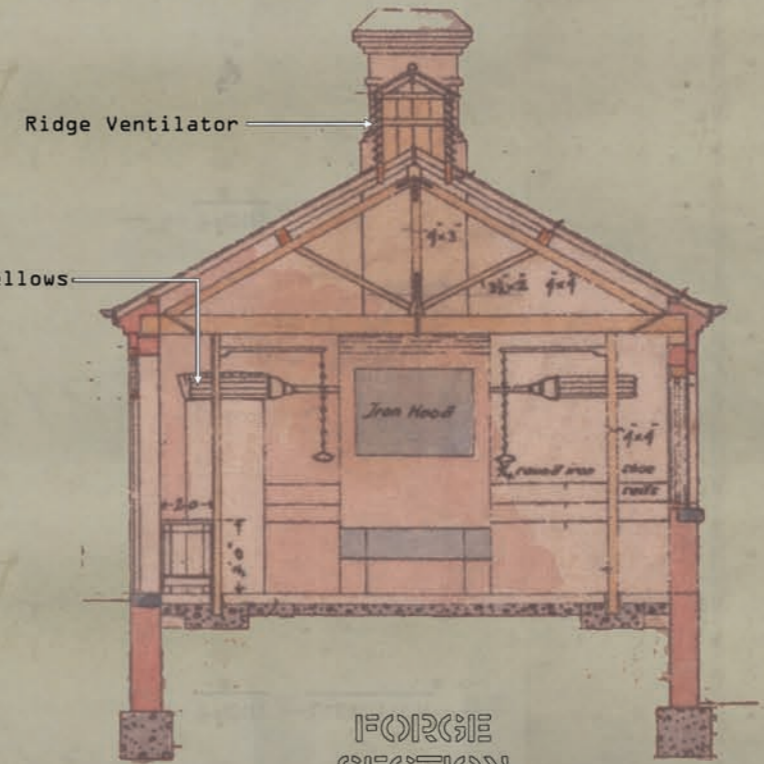
STABLE
SECTION



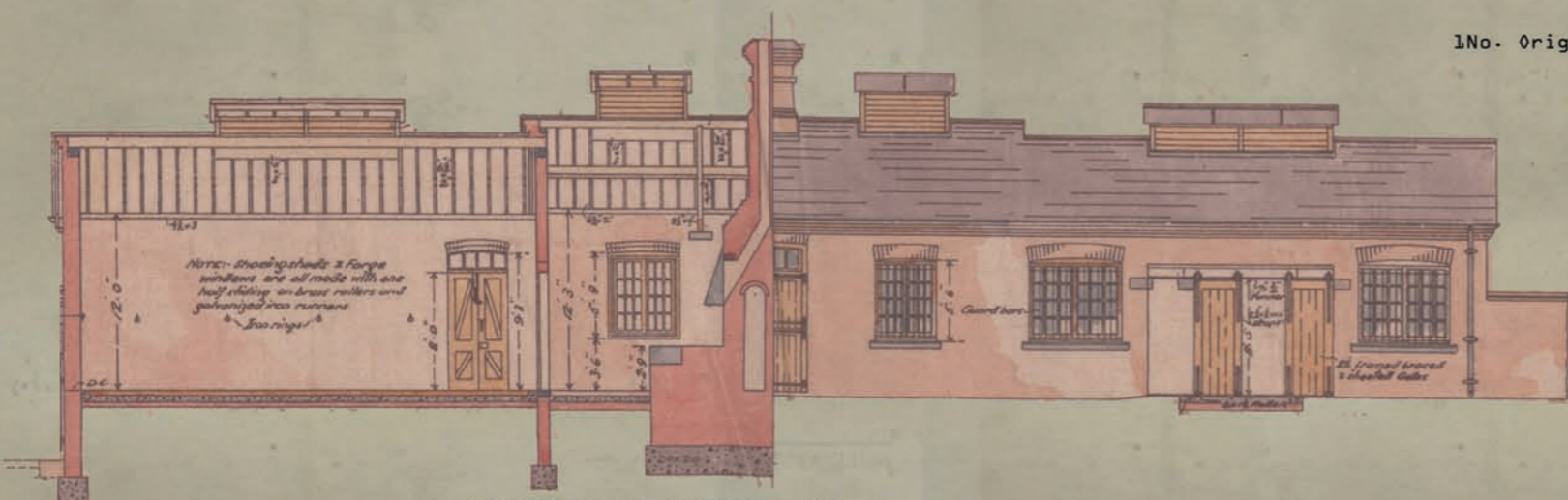
PLAN



PHARMACY ELEVATION



FORGE
SECTION



FORGE ELEVATION

CONCLUSION

If, for arguments sake, the Curragh Camp is considered as a town of average size (which it practically was for quite a long period of time), it would be no exaggeration to speculate that its vast historical associations, particularly with regard the era of British Imperialism, would be hard matched by any town of similar size throughout the rest of Ireland. From its birth as a response to the “exigencies” of the Crimean War to its hand over to the Free State Army after the Irish War of Independence, The Curragh was continuously wrought and shaped by occurrences far beyond Ireland or Britain. From the Clock Tower which still stands as a testament to Lieutenant Colonel Lugard and the efficiency with which he orchestrated the construction of the first camp, to the pavilion wards at the station hospital, representative of the tireless campaign for sanitary reform fought by the likes of Florence Nightingale, the new barracks built during the Boer Wars or even the vast network of trenches dug on the plains to train those being sent to the Somme, the influence and consequences of every major war during this period are manifest in the existing built fabric of the Curragh Camp.

The preliminary historical research conducted during this dissertation has allowed some light to be shed on the range and diversity of the architecture of the Curragh and helped strengthen the association between particular historical events and their ties to the development of various parts of the camp. Any further case for the protection of the architectural heritage of The Curragh would be reinforced by a further elaboration of these links.

Although the Curragh is not without examples of sophisticated or striking architecture, the majority of buildings on the camp are modest in their design, reflecting the practical and efficient preferences of the military. In the handbook for the design and construction of Military Buildings, produced by the Royal Engineers in 1904, the author states that “*Ornamentation should always be subordinate in character, the architectural effect of a building depending mainly on the grouping and balance of its various parts.*”¹⁰¹ This principle can also be applied to the overall planning of military architecture, giving each building an extra dimension by which to be considered. For example, what the infirmary stables lack in ornament or explicit creative merit, is compensated by the consideration it has received in relation to the overall ordonance of the barracks arrangement. For the honest merit of each building to be apprehended, its scale, form and proximity in regard to surrounding buildings must receive some consideration in order to ascertain its position within the overall hierarchical configuration. As such, with each seemingly insignificant building that is demolished, it is not just that building which is lost, but the remaining buildings also suffer by its absence.

The Irish Defence Forces have restructured many times in recent years, with different buildings within barracks being reassigned to different units, regiments etc. New divisions, both physical and administrative, are being created and abandoned frequently within the camp, with the result that the original clarity of planning is no longer as obvious or easy to apprehend. As this process continues, the impact of each individual barracks is eroded and when buildings are considered in isolation or without historical context, they are easily dismissed and as has been happening, are being let fall into serious state of disrepair and subsequently condemned to be

¹⁰¹ Works, *Design and Construction of Military Buildings; a Handbook for the Use of Royal Engineer Officers and Their Staff.*

demolished. The characterisation exercise re-establishes the original boundaries and provides an initial framework within which the remaining buildings can be considered in the context of their original grouping. This information could then not only be used to support conservation, but could also inform the location, scale and character of future architecture built on the camp.

As discussed in the chapter on defence heritage, one of the primary recommendations made in the “*Report on Value for Money Examination*” was that a full inventory of the buildings in the portfolio of the Defence Forces Property Management Branch be carried out, as without such a record, correct management was impossible. As per 2012, this inventory has yet to be produced and the D.F.P.M.B. do not record or assess any of the buildings prior to being converted or demolished.¹⁰² The two case studies carried out as part of this dissertation demonstrate the benefits of such a survey and the vast information to be yielded through a comprehensive analysis of each building. Beyond the architecture and its military interest, many of the buildings still feature original fittings, furnishings and equipment of outstanding medical, industrial, scientific, social and equestrian interest. Until these areas of interest are identified, recorded and appreciated, they will continue to be lost as buildings are renovated and demolished to suit the changing needs of the Defences Forces.

¹⁰² Glavin, "Mia: A Lost Community – an Investigation into the Demise of the Garrison Community of the Curragh Camp." Page 42

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1

The following is the list of maps and documents that were retrieved during a research trip to the British National Archives in Kews. This information proved invaluable in establishing the chronological development of the camp. Digital copies of all files were subsequently provided to the Curragh Military Museum and the moderators of the www.Curragh.info for future reference.

WO 78/4722

Plans of Gibbet Rath Camp, Curragh, Co. Kildare. Crosshavan Camp, Belmont, Queenstown, Co. Cork. Yougal Barracks. Bere Island Camp, Remount Depot Stables, Curragh, Co. Kildare. Troop Stables, Hare Park, Curragh, Co. Kildare. Troop Stables, Curragh, Morepark, Fermoy, Co. Cork. Victoria Barracks, Cork. North Bull Camp, Dollymount. Ballinvone Camp, Buttevant, Cork. Tipperary Camp, Tipperary. Nass Tralee Marlborough Barracks.
1627 – 1953

WO 78/2472/2

Ireland. Map comprising two joined sheets, mounted on a backing sheet: graphic indexes to the sheetlines of the six-inch scale 'Townland Surveys' of County Kildare and County Wicklow, trimmed and joined along the county boundary. Reference table to symbols and sheet prices on the County Kildare sheet; reference table to the acreages of areas and parishes on the County Wicklow sheet. Scale: 1 inch to 2 miles. County Kildare sheet engraved at the Ordnance Survey Office, Phoenix Park (Dublin), under the direction of Lieutenant Larcom, 1838, and revised to 1879; no such details are visible on the County Wicklow sheet. MS title: 'Map showing the Proposed Boundary of the Curragh District': coloured MS additions show the suggested military district boundary; MS note on the baronies falling within the new district; additions undated [probably made in 1900, at the same time as those on item (1)].
1838-[?1900]

WO 33/7

Interim report on barracks and hospitals in Curragh district
1859

WO 32/7195

OVERSEAS: Ireland (Code 0(AD)): Leasing of Curragh of Kildare for military purposes. Case on behalf of the Crown as to Crown entitlement, 1862
1864

WO 78/2862

Curragh Camp Plan and Section of Stores and Military Gun Shed. MS. Coloured Drawn by G. Yassen Corp. R.E. 5' to 1"
1865

MPHH 1/392/2-3

(2) 'The Curragh Sheet From an Electro-duplicate formed by the union of parts of Sheets 22, 23, 27 & 28. of the Townland Survey of the County of Kildare': composite Outline sheet, based on Ordnance Survey of Ireland six-inch series. Surveyed 1855; revised 1866; engraved and zincographed at the Ordnance Survey Office, Phoenix Park, 1868. MS, additions 1897. (3) Fully hachured version of (2); showing hill shading. This was the only fully hachured 6 inch Ordnance Survey of Ireland map to be published.

1868-1897

MPHH 1/392

Ireland: County Kildare. Plans of Curragh Camp. Detailed descriptions are given at item level.

1868-1921

WO 78/2888

Curragh Camp. Plan, Sections and elevation of Magistrates Quarters at Lumsville, with note on construction

1869

MPHH 1/337

Ireland: County Kildare. 'Curragh Camp Record Plan of Gymnasium as executed': plan, sections and elevations. Reference table. Scales: site plan: 6 inches to 1 mile; plan and elevation: 1 inch to 10 feet; section: 1 inch to 5 feet. By E H Elliott, Clerk of Works, 19 April 1869. Signed Lieutenant Colonel F R Chesney, Curragh, 19 April 1869; Colonel George Wynne, Commanding RE in Ireland, Dublin 25 May 1869. MS annotation: 'N^o 10.637'

1869

WO 78/2878

Curragh Camp Plans and Sections of Married Quarters MS Coloured 5' to 1"

1870

MPHH 1/212

Ireland: County Kildare. (1) 'Plan to accompany the Statement of W.D. [War Department] property in Ireland - showing the present arrangement of the W.D. property, and tenure of other portions of the Curragh of Kildare as per the "Curragh of Kildare Act 1868" also, the numbers, positions and distinctive marks of all B^y. [boundary] Stones as called for by W.O. [War Office] Order 24.11.70 Curragh 8/747': title sheet and reference table to accompany (2). Signed Charles Lancaster, 13 December 1870. (2) 'The Curragh Sheet'. Ordnance Survey of Ireland six-inch First Edition sheet. Camp and contours surveyed, 1855; engraved and published at the Ordnance Survey Office, Phoenix Park, Dublin. MS colouring and annotation: 'To accompany CRE's letter 14 Dec /70 Curragh 8/750'. Later MS additions, 1872-1889. Endorsed: 'Plan prepared in illustration of the Act of 1868 C.R.E. 14th Dec 1870'. 1870-1889

WO 78/2758/1

Plans and Sections of Lock Hospital

10' to 1", 5' to 1"

1872 – 1873

WO 78/2758/2

Site plan. 50' to 1".

1872 - 1873

WO 78/2758

Curragh Camp. MS coloured by W. Farren, Sergt. R.E.

1872-1873

WO 78/2817

The Curragh, 1" = 416.6' Survey made 1869, printed 1873. Coloured.

1873

MPHH 1/374

Ireland: County Kildare. Curragh Camp Record Plan, Shewing Plan Section & Elevations of the Buildings in connection with the Vidette Stables'. Reference table. Scales: plan: 1 inch to 15 feet; sections and elevation: 1 inch to 10 feet. By Sergeant W Farren, RE, Temporary Military Draughtsman, 18 September 1873. Examined Lieutenant RE, 6 October 1873; signed Lieutenant Colonel C W Barry, RE, 7 October 1873; and Colonel J S Hawkins, Commanding RE in Ireland, 20 December 1873. Inset: Site plan; scale: 1 inch to 200 feet; compass indicator.

1873

MPHH 1/381

Ireland: County Kildare: Curragh Camp. 'Record Plan,- Shewing Sections & Elevations of Smiths, Plumbers, Masons, & Painters Workshops'. Reference table. Scale: 1 inch to 5 feet. By Sergeant W Farren, RE, 20 February 1873. Signed Captain F B Mainguy, RE, 22 February 1873; Lieutenant Colonel C W Barry, RE, 26 February 1873; and Colonel J S Hawkins, Commanding RE in Ireland, 29 March 1873. Inset: relational sketch; scale: 1 inch to 90 feet; compass indicator.

1873

MPHH 1/328

Ireland: County Kildare. Site plan, plan, section and elevation of a regimental workshop built at The Curragh Camp. Reference table. Scales: site plan: 1 inch to 200 feet [1:2400]; plan: 1 inch to 15 feet [1:180]; sections and elevations: 1 inch to 10 feet [1:120]. By Sergeant W Farrer, RE, 26 June 1874. Signed Lieutenant Colonel C W Barry, RE, 30 June 1874. Annotated: "To accompany CRE in Ireland's Report to I.G.F. [Inspector General of Fortifications] dated 3rd Sept: 1874'; signed Colonel T A L Murray, Commanding RE in Ireland.

1874

WO 78/2777

Curragh Camp, co. Kildare. Plan and section of soldiers' concrete huts; site plan inset. 200' to 1" (site plan) 15' to an 1" (plan) 10' to 1" (sections) MS coloured, by W. Farren, Sergt., R.E.
1874

WO 78/2759

Curragh Camp, Plan and section of Regimental Store as built for a company of Royal Engineers. MS coloured by W. Farren Sergt. R.E. 10' to 1", 15' to 1".
1874

WO 78/2768

Curragh Camp, Plan and Sections of Royal Engineers stores. 15' to 1" (plan) 10' to 1" (sections, elevation) MS coloured, by W. Farren. Sergt., R.E.
1875

MPHH 1/363

Ireland: County Kildare. 'Curragh Camp Record Plan ...': plan, section and elevations showing the Butcher's Shop in the Market Square. Note of the details of the building requirements. Scales: plan: 1 inch to 15 feet; section and elevations: 1 inch to 10 feet. By Corporal J McPherson, RE, 14 November 1876. Signed: Lieutenant W D Lindley, RE, 15 November 1876; Lieutenant Colonel C W Barry, Commanding RE Curragh District, 17 November 1876; Colonel T A L Murray, Commanding RE in Ireland, 13 December 1876. Annotated: 'N ° 10.865 ...'. Inset: relative sketch; scale: 1 inch to 200 feet; compass indicator.
1876

MPHH 1/462/40-41

Ordnance Survey of Ireland six-inch First General Revision County Kildare sheets: surveyed 1837; engraved 1838; [published September 1839]; electrotype copy revised 1871; engraved 1873; published at the Ordnance Survey Office, Phoenix Park, Dublin [1873-1874]. (40) Part of sheet 22: possibly contoured in 1871 as part of the First General Revision. Coloured MS additions show land acquired in Kildare, west of The Curragh. Unsigned copy with no publication detail; forming the western extension of (41). (41) Sheet 23: map covers part of The Curragh. Signed Lieutenant Colonel Whitworth-Porter, Royal Engineers, and Colonel for Commander Royal Engineers in Ireland absent on leave, August 1877.
[1839]-1877

WO 78/2923

Curragh Camp Plans and Sections of Water Tanks.
1877

WO 78/2905

Curragh Camp Plan and Section of Bedding Store. MS. Coloured 15' to 1" & 10' to 1" Drawn by. J. Mc. Pherson. Sapr. R.E.
1877

WO 78/2943

Curragh Camp Plan and Section of Drapers Shop.
1878

WO 78/3010

Curragh Camp, co. Kildare Plans and sections of Transport Stables and Wagon Shed. 200' to 1" & 10' to 1"
1879

WO 78/3064

Curragh Camp. Plan of camp, showing drainage. 1:5000
1880

WO 78/3118

Curragh Camp. Plan and sections of Lazarette for horses.
1880

WO 78/4726

Plans of Curragh Encampment including A.S.C. Barracks and Infants' School for 272 children.
1886 and 1909

WO 78/3310

Curragh Camp. Plans of Camp and adjoining land.
1887

WO 78/3347

Curragh Camp. Plan of camp showing buildings 1:2500
1889

MPH 1/639/4

'Curragh Camp. Record Plans of Small Arms Ammunition Store etc at Main Magazine': plans, sections and elevations. Table of construction details. Drawn by J O'Connell, trainee Civilian Draughtsman, 13 January 1897. Signed by G A Cockburn, Lt Colonel CRE Curragh District, 24 July 1897.
1897

MPH 1/639

Four sheets of drawings of buildings at Curragh Camp, County Kildare, Ireland. Detailed descriptions are given at item level.
1897-1903

MPH 1/639/3

'Curragh Camp. Magazine. Proposed New Shell Store': plans, sections and elevations. Drawn by C Stewart, L/Cpl RE, 23 May 1898. Signed by G A Cockburn, Lt Colonel CRE, 31 May 1898.
1898

MPH 1/639/1

'Curragh Camp. Wagon shed and store for two field Companies R.E.': plans, sections and elevations. Notes on construction. Drawn by S Elder, Trainee Civilian Draughtsman, 26 April 1900. Measured, corrected and traced 5 February 1903. Signed by H E Rawson, Colonel CRE Dublin District, 20 march 1903.

MPH 1/639/2

'Curragh Camp. Record Plan of Barrack Wardens Q^{rs}. East Wing and West Wing': plans, sections and elevations. Notes on construction. Drawn by A B Long, Trainee Civilian Draughtsman, 19 January 1903.

WO 78/3070

Curragh Camp, Barrack Atlas plan of Camp.
1903 Amended to 1913

WO 78/2902

Curragh Plan and Map of Rifle Range.
1904

MPHH 1/517/4

'... Record Plan of Gun Shed & Battery Mobilization Equipment Store for R.F.A. [Royal Field Artillery]': plan, sections and elevations. Table of accommodation. Scales: plans and elevations: 1 inch to 8 feet; sections: 1 inch to 4 feet. Inset: location plan; scale: 1:2500. By F H Godwin, Technical Civilian Draughtsman, February 1904; coloured by William Elliott Murphy, 11 March 1904. Certified by Thomas Biggs, D O N R, 11 February 1904; and Colonel H E Rawson, Commanding Royal Engineer, Dublin District, Curragh, 23 March 1904. MS pencil annotation: 'To accompany report of G.O.C. [Major General Sir G de C Morton, General Officer Commanding] 7th Division dated 24 March 1904'. MS initialled J O C, 22 March 1904; signed by Lieutenant Quarter Master W [?] Bennett, A S C [Army Service Corps], Officer in Charge Newbridge Sub-District.
1904

WO 78/4434/5

Plan of proposed sites for sports ground at Curragh Camp. 1:2500
6.9.1905

WO 78/4732/21

Glen Imaal Artillery Ranges, Curragh.
16.3.1905

MPHH 1/392/1

Site plan of Royal Field Artillery Barracks, Curragh Camp: showing the position of a proposed fire-engine shed. Scale: 1:1250. Signed Lieutenant Colonel, Commanding RE Curragh, 1 August 1908. Coloured MS additions, February-March 1921.
1908-1921

WO 78/4732/22

Proposed Qrs. for Schoolmistress, Curragh. 1/8" to 1"
24.6.1909

WO 78/4732/14

Curragh Camp Generating Station. 8' to 1"
22.11.1910

WO 78/4731

Ordnance Survey Maps of Londonderry. Coleraine. Donegal. Strabane. Dungannon. Belfast. North Mayo. South Mayo. Westport and Clifden. Galway and Aran Island. Dublin. Curragh. Limerick Ennis. Listowel. Templemore. Tipperary. Killarney. Lismore Bantry and Cape Clear. Surveyed by John J. Gooch.
1916

WO 78/4743/8

Curragh Camp, Curragh District. 1:2500
17.4.1920

MFQ 1/1123/2

Ireland: County Kildare. Plan of Curragh Camp showing the proposed re-appropriation of 'Gas Chamber TC' in the 'Old Ball Court'. Buildings and their dimensions are also shown. No scale shown. Signed by Lieutenant E Patrickson, Royal Engineers and by Lieutenant Colonel G E Elliot, Commanding Royal Engineer, Curragh District.
1920

WO 78/3173

Curragh Camp. Plans of camp and adjoining land.
1920

MFQ 1/1123/4a-6

Ireland: County Kildare. (4a), (5a) and (6) 3 plans of Kildare Barracks showing the proposed re-appropriation of the adult and infants' schools and the sergeants' mess. Rooms and their dimensions are also shown. (4b) and (5b) are overlays to (4a) and (5a) respectively showing an alternative plan for the dining room, beer cellar/liquor store and reading room. Scales: 1 inch to 8 feet. Compass indicators. Signed by the Lieutenant Colonel Commanding Royal Engineer, Curragh District, (4a) and (5a) 23 February 1921. Sheet sizes between 44 cm x 63 cm and 19 cm x 14 cm.
[1920]-1921

WO 78/4712

Plans and Maps showing Divisional and Brigade Districts. North Irish District, Athlone, Curragh, South Irish, Dublin, Cork.
Aug. 1922

Appendix 2

The following is a record of drawings provided by the Military Archives in Dublin:

ad134156-007 – Infirmary Stables – Elevations & Sections - Stewart

ad134156-009 – Infirmary Stables – Plan - Stewart

ad134156-010 – Infirmary Detail – Ventilator Detail - Stewart

ad134194-008 – Officers Mess & Quarters – Entrance Stairs - Gough & Keane

ad134195-004 – Officers Mess & Quarters – Section Billiards Room - Gough & Keane

ad134195-006 – Quarter Masters Quarters – Elevation - Gough & Keane

ad134207-010 – Officers Mess & Quarters – Plans - Gough & Keane

ad134196-002 – Cook House & Baths – Elevations & Sections - Gough & Keane

ad134196-003– Cook House & Baths – Details & Sections - Gough & Keane

ad134196-010 – Officers Mess & Quarters – Rear Elevations - Gough & Keane

ad134197-004 – Officers and Transport Stables –Elevations - Gough & Keane

ad134197-006 – Officers and Transport Stables –Elevations - Gough & Keane

ad134197-007– Officers and Transport Stables –Section & Plan - Gough & Keane

ad134198-001– Quarter Masters Quarters – Elevation & Plans - Gough & Keane

ad134205-010 – C.O.'s Quarters – Elevations - Gough & Keane

ad134206-001 – C .O.'s Quarters – Elevations and Sections - Gough & Keane

ad134206-005– C .O.'s Quarters – Plans - Gough & Keane