

Report on the state of the old building in the back Court of Queens College

The whole of the covering of the roof is in very bad condition so as to render it necessary to be stript at the first convenient opportunity. On examining the roof itself, it appears to have undergone an extensive repair some years back as all the spars and principal rafters have been lined out or cased to make the roof, which was much crippled appear straight. At the south end of the roof some serious damage must have occurred by the effect it has produced upon the walls, within a few feet of the Chappel. At this point it is considerably pushed from its former upright position. In another part, some Iron work has been found necessary to strengthen the roof, probably at the time the repair before mentioned took place.

The materials of the roof which are chiefly oak, appear as far as can be seen to be in tolerable preservation. The walls on inspection will be found much injured on their surfaces by the water from the roof being suffered to run down them so many years. This evil may be remedied by carrying out a parapet as in the first court. The walls though of considerable thickness are not sound enough to justify the putting any considerable addition of weight upon them. The windows are in a very bad condition, the stone work being in many places so worn away as nearly to let out the glass.

As an effectuall mode of repairing the above dilapidations and preventing a recurrence of them I beg leave to suggest – taking off the present roof and substituting one of fir, which will relieve the walls of a considerable weight, and allow good gutters to be gained behind the parapets. I have made the following estimate of the cost of a new roof of the best Memel Crown timber Covered with the best Welch rag slating on battens with Copper nails. Cast lead gutters 12ⁱⁿ wide in the clear of lead 7^{lb} for the foot: And all the iron work necessary for the roof.

The whole expense of the	
Carpenters work	
Slaters d ^o	
Plumbers d ^o	
Smiths d ^o	379. 0. 0

The value of the old materials would not be less than	90. 0. 0
but probably more.	

R. Woods

[Transcribed from Queens' College Archives Box 101 by R.D.H. Walker July 2018]

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