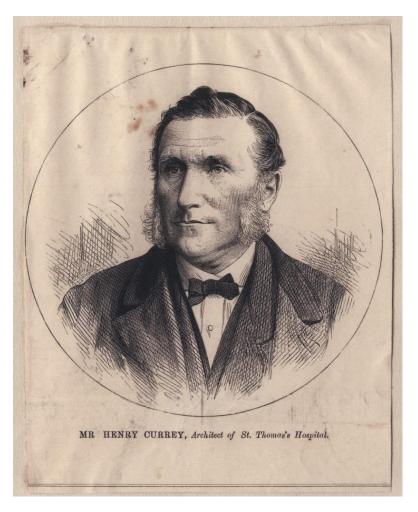
## Henry Currey (1820-1900)

In 1859, the 7th Duke of Devonshire appointed Henry Currey as his architect. The Duke was responsible for developing large parts of his estate in Eastbourne during the Victorian period and employed him on a number of local projects.

Currey began his career working for Decimus Burton (the original architect for Holy Trinity Church, Eastbourne) and went on to design St Thomas's Hospital, London, on the south bank of the Thames.

During his time in Eastbourne, he designed several buildings for the College, including School House (1870), the Chapel (1874) and the octagonal Cavendish Library (1888).

Much of his work can be seen in the town, such as the Devonshire Park Theatre and his largest project, the Queen's Hotel (by the pier), which was built in eleven months and opened to guests in 1880.



## Henry Currey's buildings



The College Chapel opened in 1874





A current view showing later additions

Currey's design for School House. Note the bell tower. This view, taken across Blackwater Road, is now obscured by later additions to the frontage



The Queen's Hotel, Eastbourne. Another of Currey's creations, it opened in 1880 and was allegedly built to shield the grander 'west end' from the town east of the pier

Built on the site of Field House, the hotel was later extended with the addition of the west wing

Devonshire Park Theatre, Compton Street, Eastbourne, designed by Henry Currey and opened in 1884. The interior was later remodelled by renowned theatre designer, Frank Matcham



# The Chapel

Some of the most beautiful features of the College Chapel are the stained glass windows designed by artist Mary Lowndes.



Mary was one of the earliest female stained glass artists in Britain and was influenced by the work of Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood and the Arts & Crafts movement.

She was a leader in the women's suffrage movement and designed posters and banners to be used in marches.

Mary Lowndes (1856-1929)



A window depicting Sir Percivale dedicated to eight of the former pupils of the College killed in the First World War

## Henry Singleton Pennell (Blackwater House 1887)



Henry Singleton Pennell was awarded a Victoria Cross for his bravery while attempting to rescue a brother officer during an attack on the Dargai Heights in India in 1897.

He was accidentally killed on 19 January 1907 while tobogganing on the Cresta Run at St Moritz, Switzerland

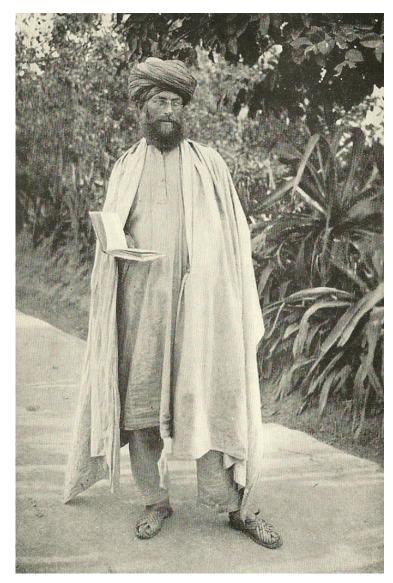


The stained glass window designed by Lowndes (depicting Gideon) was installed in memory of Pennell in the Chapel



Pennell's ceremonial helmet

## Dr Theodore Pennell (Day Boy 1879-82)



Theodore Pennell, a distant cousin of Henry Singleton Pennell, qualified as a doctor in 1890.

He travelled to India, visiting villages wearing local dress, preaching and offering medical care. He later moved to Afghanistan where he established a hospital and school at Bannu.

Pennell House at the College is named after him.

Mary Lowndes' window in the Chapel depicts Pennell as the Good Samaritan



Pennell on his travels in Afghanistan

## Big School (College Theatre)

What is now the College Theatre was originally built as an assembly hall and was opened by the Duke of Devonshire on Speech Day, 1909. The architect was William Hay Murray who also produced the early plans for the Memorial Building.

The space under the stage was used as a masters' common room. It was later used to house the art department's printing press.

Mr E C Arnold (Headmaster 1924-29) encouraged the boys and masters to create wooden carvings to cover the walls and in 1932 a painted reproduction of the Bayeux Tapestry was begun along the sides of the galleries.



The interior and the carvings were destroyed by fire in 1981.



Big School looking north towards the stage





View from College Field

Boys carving panels for Big School



A carving in place

All destroyed by fire in 1981

Looking towards the balcony 1.18 11 1 STORE OF



# E C Arnold (Headmaster 1924-29)

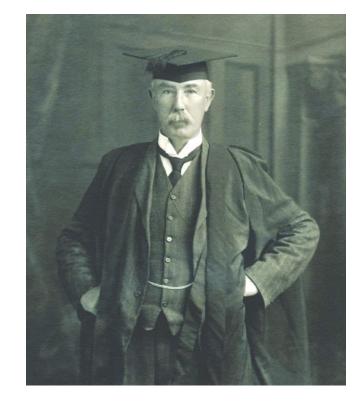
Mr Arnold joined the College in 1899 as an assistant master. He was to have a profound influence on the school, introducing the game of rugby in 1900 and promoting the construction of the Memorial Building, to commemorate former pupils killed in the First World



War, a project to which he contributed a large sum of his own money.

Mr Arnold was also a keen ornithologist and wrote and illustrated several books on the subject.

He wanted to bring a sense of history to the College and began to install 'relics' in Big School and elsewhere. These included a piece of wood from Henry VIII's ship the *Mary Rose* and a soldier's helmet worn in the charge at Balaclava.





Cartoon drawn by Arnold

Proposed war memorial building, 1919, as designed by WH Murray



#### EASTBOURNE COLLEGE JUBILEE AND WAR MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND.

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Details of donations made by masters and former pupils towards the new building and war memorial

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# The Devonshire Wing of the Memorial Building under construction in the early 1920s



The completed building

The Arnold Wing under construction, late 1920s

As part of the Memorial Building, the base of the tower was designed to house plaques with the names of those former pupils killed in the First World War. Work on the Devonshire Wing was completed in 1925. Lord Hailsham opened the final phase, the Arnold Wing, in June 1930.



Dedication of the war memorial hall, 1925



The Arnold Wing. The stone panels represent aspects of EC Arnold's life. Note the carvings of birds - ornithology was one of his passions

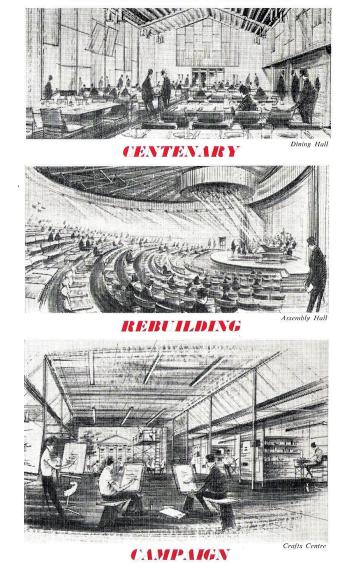
## Proposals

In the 1950s and 1960s, a number of proposals were put forward towards the development of the College.



The most ambitious plan (until the present development, Project 150) was proposed in the mid-1960s. If this plan had been fully realised, several of the College's Victorian buildings would have been demolished - the Headmaster's House in Old Wish Road being replaced by a new assembly hall.

#### EASTBOURNE COLLEGE



# Science Centre

The building of the Science Centre was just one of the many positive changes introduced by Headmaster Charlie Bush (1993-2005).



The new Science Centre opened in 2002. The sculpture in the foreground represents a DNA helix

It was during his tenure that the College became fully co-educational in 1995.



Charlie Bush

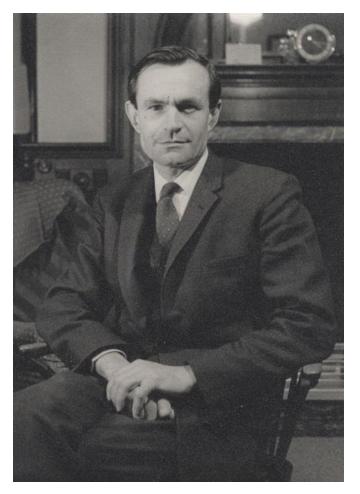
## **Birley Centre**



The space is used by many community groups including the Eastbourne Group of Artists and the Eastbourne Arts Circle.

The Centre was named after Michael Birley (Headmaster 1956-70), who abolished 'fagging' (boys doing chores for older pupils) and corporal punishment. He also oversaw the first girls joining the College sixth form in 1969.

Opened in 2011, the Birley Centre is used by the College and the town for a variety of activities including art, design, drama, music and dance.



### Project 150



The College has recently seen the completion of the Winn and Nugee buildings. These contain 32 classrooms, sports hall, swimming pool, gym, dance studio, large dining hall with function rooms and café, three-storey pavilion; full-height atrium attached to the side of the College theatre, reception area, new school shop and plentiful social and exhibition space, which will

transform the educational experience of boys and girls who attend the College.

A fundamental theme of Project 150 is that it will facilitate more opportunities for partnership with the town of Eastbourne; putting the College at the heart of the town in terms of education, creative arts, sport and charitable activity.

Project 150 has cost £33m. The College Charity is funding it from its own resources, fundraising and some borrowing. Its completion coincided with the College's 150th anniversary in 2017-18, providing both a fitting culmination to the past 150 years of educating Eastbournians and a superb investment for the next 150.



Aerial view of the Project 150 site, with Carlisle Road in the foreground and the Birley Centre at top right