



79. Kidderpore Estate, c. 1890. Reproduced courtesy of Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London.

because “The situation is a good one, the thoroughfare of Fitzjohn’s Avenue being well known as an important residential position in which only houses of a first class character have been erected.”⁴⁷ In spite of the very respectable neighborhood, this house was rejected on the grounds that there would not be adequate garden space for recreation after building an addition, and too many alterations would be needed to the existing house to make it a feasible option.⁴⁸

By October 1889 the council was favorably inclined towards buying a house, also in Hampstead, called Kidderpore Hall. The village of Hampstead had seen irrevocable development in the 1880s, when Londoners flocked to buy the trend-setting ‘Queen Anne’ houses being built there. The larger estates were gradually being sold off and divided, developing into suburban communities. On one such estate was Kidderpore Hall. This was a Neo-Classical house built in 1846 for Charles Cannon, a wealthy businessman who made his money as a dyer in London. He named his estate after the Kidderpore district in Calcutta where he had business connections. He died in 1876 and left his estate to his three daughters, dividing it among them. By 1889 the land had been further reduced and developed until the Hall itself was put up for sale with just two and a half acres of grounds. It was this house that the council of Westfield agreed to buy. A bird’s eye view of the Kidderpore Estate from 1891 shows how rural the area still was, but the line of houses along Kidderpore Avenue foreshadow the development to come.

Kidderpore Hall itself was described in the freehold papers as an “elegant modern mansion . . . commanding rich and extensive views on all sides.”⁴⁹ Built in the Classical style with a symmetrical facade and a porch supported by simple Ionic columns and stuccoed a pale green color, it stands out dramatically against the red brick, ‘Queen Anne’ of the surrounding development. The ground floor has a large entrance hall with an elegant double stair, and spacious public rooms commanding

47. Westfield College, Minutes of the Council 1887–89, Queen Mary and Westfield College Archives, 188.

48. Letter of Canon Fleming, Minutes of the Council 1887–89, Westfield College.

49. Freehold Papers; describing the Particulars of Lot 1.16A.2R.25p, 1892, Queen Mary and Westfield College Archives.

CHAPTER THREE

80. Kidderpore Hall, Hampstead, 1846.



views of the garden. The first and second storeys provided sixteen bedrooms; those on the first floor fitted with dressing rooms and bathrooms, and connected by a “handsome Corridor.”⁵⁰ One of the most attractive features was a conservatory which stretched along the rear elevation of the house and offered a pleasant area for recreation or reflection for the early students.

From the start, additions to the existing house were needed. In a meeting of 28 October, 1889, the council decided to investigate Kidderpore Hall in more detail. One item under consideration was the “class of house to be built on the land adjoining Kidderpore Hall.”⁵¹ As discussed in previous chapters, the use of the term “house” for many of the additions or new buildings for the women’s colleges is significant. It strongly suggests that the councils or committees perceived their college buildings as domestic, even though in the case of Westfield, the addition would have made a large and institutional home.

In November 1889, the final decision was made to buy Kidderpore Hall, and a competition was held for an architect to design the addition. Instructions were drafted for the architects, including the stipulation that each student was to have two rooms. These guidelines were sent off to five competing architects: Mr. Falconer MacDonald, Mr. Fenning, Mr. Luck, Mr. Williams and Mr. Creed. All were requested to send back “plans showing economy combined with good effect.”⁵² How these five men were chosen is unclear, and the archival material sheds no light on the issue.

By February, the plans were received by the council, and were exhibited in two venues in London over two weeks. The council’s choice was unanimously in favor of designs by Robert Falconer MacDonald. MacDonald was the son of the writer George MacDonald⁵³ and had been articled to J. J. Stevenson for three years. He had then been a draftsman in the office of George and Peto for two years, thus his background was primarily domestic and his grounding in the ‘Queen Anne’ strong. After his work for Westfield he went on to forge a partnership with Herbert Read, with

50. Ibid.

51. Westfield College, Minutes of the Council 1887–89, 28 October 1889, Queen Mary and Westfield College Archives, 233.

52. Westfield College, Minutes of the Council 1889–94, 10 December 1889, Queen Mary and Westfield College Archives, 9.

53. Sondheimer, *Castle Adamant*, 41.

81. Maynard Hall, garden front (by R. F. MacDonald, 1890).



whom he worked until his death in 1913. He was made a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1899.

MacDonald's addition to Westfield was one of his earliest works. It replaced the stables and gardening sheds of the existing house (see color illustration 14). The building is a long simple range of red brick with a Roman cement cornice.⁵⁴ It is symmetrical, with the entrance emphasized by twinned gables, a cupola and a central stair leading to the door. It does not front Kidderpore Avenue, but in 1890 it looked out over what was then a large expanse of fields and countryside. This has since been developed into a residential suburb, and the Maynard Wing, as it came to be called, now faces a loose quadrangle of later residential halls.

Although the stipulation of careful economy meant the resulting building appears more institutional than the other colleges discussed, MacDonald did employ certain architectural elements which added interest. In the long, regular range MacDonald placed Palladian windows in the gables. White casement dormers relieve the otherwise uninterrupted roof-line. The garden facade however is an unforgiving range of white sash windows and simple brick. The center is pulled forward in a bowed projection which only slightly softens the regularity. Overall, the unrelenting red brick with large white sash windows and simple hipped roofs foreshadow the institutional, pared down 'Wrenaissance' designs of many of the halls of residence built in the first four decades of the twentieth century.

However, MacDonald created a slightly more welcoming and domestic street facade. This consists of twinned gables with Palladian windows within the gables and dormer windows between. The ground floor is elaborated by paired bay windows which light what was the dining room, each topped by curving crenellation and ball finials. These, plus the curving window aprons which the architect insisted upon,⁵⁵ are simple details borrowed from the 'Queen Anne' vocabulary, which ensured the 'good effect' despite the council's insistence on economy.

The floor-plan of the Maynard wing relies, like the other colleges discussed, on a

54. Roger Bowlder of English Heritage, "Westfield College, Kidderpore Ave., L. B. Camden," unpublished essay, 29 September 1989, 1.

55. Westfield College. Minutes of the Building Sub-Committee, 21 May 1890, Queen Mary and Westfield College, 52.

central corridor. This runs the length of the building and was lit at both ends by windows. On the ground floor a dining room extended in line with Kidderpore Hall. A large lecture room occupied the center of the range, opposite the entrance. The rest of the rooms along the corridor were allocated for students' bedrooms and sitting rooms. On the first floor a sick room and nurse's room were included at the far end of the building away from Kidderpore Avenue and another lecture room was found again in the center bow. Two floors above the dining hall were the servants' rooms, which could be accessed by a separate stair. Overall, the layout, with the students' rooms, corridors, front and back stairs, and infirmary, is much like the floor-plans of the other colleges discussed thus far, and was conditioned by the same concerns.

The details of the addition were worked out by both the building sub-committee and the household committee. During various meetings of the building sub-committee, it was decided to tile the floor of the corridor on the ground floor and use wood on the upper floors. All the bedrooms were to have red tile hearths and hanging closets. It was also decided that:

*bells be fitted from each passage to the Servants' bed-room, from the Lecturers' room to the gyp-room, from the new Entrance to the passage, and an electric call-bell from the Ground floor passage to the basement of the old house.*⁵⁶

The household committee concerned itself with the smooth running of the house; the responsibilities of various servants, the ordering of carpets and wallpapers, and the basic assignments of rooms. It was decided at one meeting that the public rooms in Kidderpore Hall would be reassigned. The two smaller drawing rooms would be used as lecture rooms, the small sitting room would be for the committee and the large drawing room would be used as a common room. The library was placed in one of the large rooms on the first floor, as there was plenty of space and good light from the windows.

With the new house and its addition, life at Westfield continued in more spacious surroundings. While the numbers were seldom large enough to fill MacDonald's building, the students who did attend did well academically.⁵⁷ There were several changes to the staff during these years, with some of the lecturers leaving for other posts as lecturers and head mistresses. But overall, those who remained and those who arrived were praised for their teaching abilities. It should be remembered, however, that at this time Westfield would accept women of various degrees of academic competence. While some had passed the Matriculation exam and sought Honors or Firsts after a full three years, others arrived for a shorter time who had not passed the Matriculation exam, but wanted further training in certain subjects. This made the task of the lecturers more difficult as they had to cater to the needs of a more unevenly trained student body than their counterparts at Girton or Newnham.

It was also during this time that the University of London was undergoing reorganization. For many years the University had been criticized for being merely an examining board without proper standards of assessment. Over a period of several years, the issues of standardization and improved organization were addressed. In 1898, the University of London Act was passed, which established Statutes drawn up by seven Statutory Commissioners. Part of their work included preparing a list of

56. Westfield College, Minutes of the Building Sub-Committee, 20 March 1890.

57. Sondheimer, *Castle Adamant*, 53–54.



82. Skeel Library, Hampstead (by MacDonald, 1902).

which institutions were adequately qualified to prepare students for the University degree.⁵⁸ When the report was published in 1900, the Council of Westfield was dismayed not to find its name on the list. It applied to the Senate but was rejected on two points. The first was that some subjects were taught by teachers who were not recognized by the University and the second was that the library and laboratory were not up to the accepted standard.⁵⁹

This problem sparked the decision in 1902 to recall MacDonald to build a proper library and more lecture rooms. The Skeel Library was opened in 1903. This purpose built library was a formal assertion of Westfield's collegiate status. As such it makes a more dramatic and impressive statement than the domestic Maynard wing. The building continues the facade along Kidderpore Avenue. The ground floor is of the same warm brick MacDonald had used in 1890, with large white sash windows and brick apron curtains. The main architectural interest of the building is on the first floor. Here grey stone surrounds the full-length windows. Semi-attached Ionic columns frame the large projecting bay. The building is crowned with a small cupola atop a large sheltering hipped roof. Though formal, the composition works well within its largely domestic environment. While the red-brick and large roof continue a domestic vocabulary, the use of stone and the Ionic order add a formality to the facade which proclaims a different function for this wing.

58. *Ibid.*, 57.

59. *Ibid.*, 58.

CHAPTER THREE

83. Dudin-Brown Wing, Hampstead (by MacDonald, 1905).



MacDonald's last work for the college was a small extension called the Dudin-Brown wing, added to the Skeel Library in 1905. It included sixteen more sets of students' rooms as well as rooms for a resident lecturer. The style was simply a continuation of the Maynard wing, with dominant gables, white sash windows and apron curtains. At the request of the committee, the casement dormers were replaced with sash windows. For safety, an iron spiral staircase was included which led to exit doors that could only be opened from the inside.⁶⁰ The use of iron bars on the ground floor windows was also considered, for reasons of protection. It was decided to reject them on the grounds of appearance and to seek other alternatives.⁶¹ The alternatives decided on were probably the bolts which were fixed onto all the ground floor windows when the Maynard wing was built.⁶² These precautions are all part of the overall concern for women's health and safety which conditioned so many of the decisions regarding the building of the women's colleges.

No more was built at Westfield until the 1920s. In 1927, Arthur Thompson and William Walford, a team of architects based in London who also worked with G. H. Fielder, were brought in to design another residential hall. This was called the Chapman Wing named after Lady Chapman, a faithful and long-standing member of the Council. This continued the red brick, white sash windows and dominant gables with Palladian windows which MacDonald had used previously. In 1929, Morley Horder and Verner Rees built a small and simple chapel in a secluded corner of the garden. Horder had done considerable work for other universities such as Nottingham, and at this point he and Rees were working on the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in London. Rees was again hired by Westfield in 1935 to build the Orchard Wing, another residence, and to remodel and enlarge the dining room. The Orchard Wing, a simple, streamlined, red brick block, together with a laboratory of 1921, served to enclose a loose quadrangle. The addition of the Orchard Wing brought the numbers of students up to 150, the maximum desired by the council at this time.

Discussions of the social life in women's colleges in their early years have been based thus far, on diaries, journal articles and novels which all endeavored to paint a

60. Westfield College, Minutes of the Building Committee, 28 April 1904.

61. Westfield College, Minutes of the Council, 9 November 1904, 277.

62. Westfield College, Minutes of the Building Committee, 18 March 1891.

rosy picture of the happy domestic life led by students away from home. In most cases, problems were minimized or ignored altogether for fear that they would result in bad publicity, and jeopardize the college's hopes of success. Westfield in its turn publicized a contented family life and laid great stress on the Christian virtues taught and encouraged above all else. But in the diaries of Louisa Maynard, which she kept on and off throughout her life, early college life was more honestly recorded and the troubles and fears of one of the early pioneers in women's education plainly voiced.

Maynard's behavior and attitudes were conditioned by her very strict, evangelical family background. Her desire to attend Girton when it first opened, and then to continue in women's education, was justified as a call from God and therefore a duty, while the pleasures of independence and scholarship were played down. She rejected an early proposal of marriage which she considered unequal in terms of both affection and values. This saddened her family who would have preferred her to marry and have children. Indeed, just prior to the opening of Westfield, her sister Nora expressed her disappointment at Maynard's career choice. Apparently, Nora lamented that Maynard had refused marriage to Christopher Roberts who "might have saved you [Maynard] from this solitary, hard, repressing life, that will spoil your face and your spirits and your pretty ways."⁶³ Not only does this illustrate the lack of support promised to Maynard as she began the career that would occupy her for the rest of her life, but it points out predicted repercussions that would result from such a career. Thus Maynard began her project without family encouragement or understanding, and with the decline of her femininity bleakly forecast. Such a quote gives an insight into the personal challenges confronted by women who were committed to careers outside marriage, and gives an indication of the problems which they faced not only from anonymous critics, but from family and friends as well.

The college venture was never easy for Maynard. She had moments of great joy and triumph, but these were less common than the times when she anxiously doubted herself, and was tormented by loneliness. Where Emily Davies was ambitious but distant, and Miss Clough was so obviously maternal, Maynard appears caught in the middle. She set about to play the role of mistress professionally, yet in a way her work at Westfield served as an outlet for her emotional feelings. She called the students her children, and was affectionate and loving. While she wanted to be responsible and caring, she herself longed to be supported and loved and at times her own and her students' needs became confused.

The affection she lavished on her early students was sometimes misconstrued, as one unfortunate incident illustrates. In January of 1883, one of her students, a Miss E. S. Maunder, had an attack of insanity, brought on by the tangle of her emotions, desires and society's expectations. Maynard recorded how Miss Maunder began to insist upon sleeping with Maynard every night, and reacted violently when Maynard called their relationship a friendship, insisting that it was a marriage. Maynard wrote of her attempts to soothe her student:

*we talked in snatches on incoherent subjects. Some were very touching, giving glimpses of her past life, and of the problems of the hopeless perfectly self-controlled love that had evidently brought her to this state, and again she would talk of right and wrong and duty as if bracing herself to meet the whole world.*⁶⁴

⁶³. Maynard, Green Book 18, 17 September 1882, Queen Mary and Westfield College Archives, 144.

⁶⁴. Maynard, Green Book 19, 14 January 1883, 45.

Maynard met this situation responsibly and did her best to counsel and console the woman before she was withdrawn from Westfield. Care was taken that the incident was not publicized, as such a nervous breakdown would obviously be blamed on the “unhealthy” conditions of a house full of women and the mental strain of academic life.

Although Maynard never collapsed so completely, she too was torn by doubts and confused by her feelings for her students and friends. Of one friendship she had with an early student, Margaret Brooke, Maynard wrote of their love as pure, but was not quite certain if her feelings were “kept in the right place.” She assured her diary that “all these three months I have not only kept myself a little under control, but have scarcely dared to let myself accept the sweetness of her passionate endearments.”⁶⁵

Her diaries express a conscious attempt to repress her feelings for others. The love and support which she found from her students or the other lecturers was snatched as an illicit pleasure which she tried to deny herself. She fully condoned conventional relationships while with a martyred tone rejecting them for herself. One entry praises the heterosexual relationship and its “intoxicating”⁶⁶ effects, stating that she knows this well for never having indulged in the feelings. Maynard’s emotional life suffered as she tried to appear conventional while rejecting its structures; tried to be maternal and supportive to those whose support she needed; and tried to appear cheerful and content when she was wracked with loneliness and despair. Maynard wanted to work as professionally as possible, while nurturing a familial environment within the close quarters of the house. But the intimacy of the situation in which work was designed to mirror family life, put a tremendous emotional strain on Maynard. She was torn by the strong desire to fulfill what she saw as her Christian and professional duty and her own, sometimes rebellious, emotions.

Maynard’s life was fraught with dilemmas which made happiness and satisfaction difficult to achieve. On one of her depressed days she wrote:

*college life so bright, so full of happy work here-to-fore, is shaded so that when I look at the animated faces around my table with a sort of longing pity, and when alone can scarcely get through a day without the bitter tears of blank loneliness. Work is good, but it is not one’s whole being, Love is sweet but it leaves a sad craving, an aim is a comfort yet one sinks down before it wearied and dispirited.*⁶⁷

Maynard was plagued by these fits of depression, as she struggled for what she believed against the tide of criticism from the very society to which she belonged. While she may have been moodier and more prone to depression than other women in similar situations, many of the issues that drained her, put a strain on those women as well, as they struggled to carve out an alternative to the narrow confines of the traditional female sphere.

It was not only her emotional life which confused her. Ever since her years at Girton, she had heard strong arguments in favor of secular education. While she listened with dismay and sometimes agreement to these petitions, she could not relinquish her determined faith. But her ardent belief in Christian education deprived her of the support of others involved in women’s education, and served to further undermine her confidence and confuse her. Maynard’s diaries provide an honest portrayal of one woman’s dilemmas and struggles during this time of social

65. Maynard Green Book 19, 19 February 1883, 58.

66. Maynard Green Book 19, 1 April 1883, 76.

67. Maynard Green Book 19, 13 May 1883, 85.

upheaval. They illustrate some of the tensions which women faced when freed to live new independent lives, while plagued by feelings of guilt and repression due to the strict codes of behavior which society tried to enforce.

Everything in these women's lives had to be scrutinized before it was accepted or rejected. For example, when bicycles were becoming popular and students were requesting permission to ride them, Maynard and the council spent much time deliberating over the issue, trying to decide whether it would be seen as scandalous or acceptable by society. Similarly, Maynard and another resident lecturer and friend, Ralph Grey were very concerned about which books the library should keep. Since Westfield was such an evangelical institution their choices were small; they could only stock such books as would give the students a proper Christian message, and would in no way encourage radical or alternative thinking. What brought pleasure or pure entertainment was regarded first with suspicion.

Thus far women's colleges have been discussed within their architectural context and to see how the domestic house served as a model for the colleges for women. Both in architectural and social terms, domestic convention helped to alleviate fears about women away from their homes. Adherence to this convention meant that a familiar environment was created, thereby cushioning the drama of women's higher education. But Maynard's diaries give a glimpse of the stresses inherent within this domestic collegiate environment. At the women's colleges, proper social roles had to be followed more closely. Yet by their very nature, the women at these new institutions were rebelling against conformity by seeking alternatives to the private sphere. Inevitably, those women involved were torn by their desire for achievement, independence or their disregard for typical home-life, and their respect for decorum and propriety. These women, by leaving home, could not escape convention, indeed they were forced to cling to it more closely. It is not surprising then, to read of Maynard's conflicting desires, and her voice which spoke authoritatively of duty, right and wrong, while plaintively seeking a happiness which social convention could not offer.

Martha Vicinus wrote of this conflict that:

*the public roles engendered a need for strong emotional support that was at odds with the characteristics that made for public success. In effect, single women established all-female families within their institutions, continuing the supportive, emotional ties of the traditional Victorian extended family, while attempting cool, professional ways of behaving and working on the job and in the world outside.*⁶⁸

Miss Wordsworth, Miss Shaw Lefevre and Miss Maynard all sought to recreate the home at college. They acted out of a shared conviction that a small intimate scale and domestic routine would protect both the students and the venture as a whole. What Miss Maynard's diaries clearly illustrate, is that this domestic environment, which so reassured parents and critics alike, and which provided opportunities for counsel and supervision, continued to inhibit and restrict the women involved. For this first generation, domesticity was both a positive part of the crusade for women's higher education, and the means of ensuring a static, at times stifling, code of social behavior.

68. Martha Vicinus, "One Life to Stand Beside Me": Emotional Conflicts in First-Generation College Women in England" in *Feminist Studies* 8, no. 3 (Fall 1982): 604.

VICTORIAN AND EDWARDIAN HAMPSTEAD

Alastair Service

TWO WALKS
THROUGH ITS STREETS AND BUILDINGS



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and 18–24 of 1900 to Quennell's immature 1897–98 designs, and other early and very pleasing Quennell-Hart semi-detached houses (all Briardale Gardens, 1898–1900) will bring you to another left turn into Ferncroft Avenue, up its rise and down the other side between the rows of Quennell houses already mentioned, and so back to the same point on the corner of Kidderpore Gardens.

KIDDERPORE GARDENS

This little street was called Cecilia Road until about 1906, when the row of small semi-detached houses numbered 5–23 was completed. These were designed by QUENNELL and built by Hart in their most nestling and restrained mood. The houses on the opposite, southern side of the street are of the same period but done by other people.

KIDDERPORE AVENUE — WESTFIELD COLLEGE

At the farther end of Kidderpore Gardens, we are on the corner with Kidderpore Avenue and approaching the furthest and most impressive part of our walk. On the right, No. 6 is a noticeable house in the Arts and Crafts style of c1900, perhaps by Arthur Keen. On the opposite side of the road, No. 9 is a long low house of 1904, apparently the only one designed by QUENNELL in this street. It is an unusual plan for him — normally he had to arrange his rooms economically around a central smallish hall, but here he had the space to use a fairly long corridor to connect them. Turning to the right up Kidderpore Avenue, beyond these two houses all is Westfield College, part of the University of London, founded in Hampstead as the London College for Ladies in 1882 with five resident lady students at what is now 4–6 Maresfield Gardens, near the bottom end of Fitzjohn's Avenue. The College moved here to Kidderpore Avenue in 1891.

Westfield College was the creation of a formidable pioneer of women's university education called Miss Constance Garnett, who remained Mistress of the institution as it grew, up to 1913. In 1883, with eleven students, a dispute over the proposal to call it St Hilda's was ended by agreement on the temporary name College for Ladies at Westfield, a name which survives over 100 years later.

In 1889, now with 18 students, Miss Garnett (largely funded by a feminist called

62. Briardale Gardens, off Platts Lane. A pair of semi-detached houses designed 1897–98 by C. H. B. Quennell. The first of his numerous designs in this area for the quality builder-developer George Washington Hart. These designs, repeated with variations all along this side of the street, show a keen awareness of Arts and Crafts architects, such as Voysey, and the progressive contemporary work of the LCC Architects' Department.

63. Kidderpore Hall, Kidderpore Avenue, built 1840–43. A neo-classical villa designed by an unknown architect for the retired Nabob John Teil, whose fortune had been made in Calcutta. Since 1889 it has been the centre of Westfield College.



64. The old Skeeel Library, Westfield College. Designed 1903 by R. Falconer Macdonald. A charming Edwardian building, currently sadly abused.



Miss Dudin Brown), purchased for Westfield the large stucco-walled Neo-Classical villa Kidderpore Hall. The house had been built in 1840–43 for a Nabob called John Teil, a retired merchant, wealthy from trading in army accoutrements in Kidderpore, near Calcutta. The name of Teil's architect is not known, but it is a dignified design in the tradition of, say, Decimus Burton. Teil died with his estate heavily mortgaged in 1854. After several changes of ownership and some alterations, it fell into the hands of the shipbuilder Sir Alfred Yarrow in 1889, who sold most of it as high-class residential plots. Westfield College bought the big house and two and a half acres of grounds for £12,000.

Miss Garnett then organised an open architectural competition in 1889 for the alterations and new buildings to transform the villa into a university college. This was won by ROBERT FALCONER MACDONALD (1862–1913), later to be one of the successful architectural partners known as Read and Macdonald. Educated in the evenings at the Royal Academy Schools, he also worked under two distinguished architects to complete his training — these were the London Scot J.J. Stevenson and then Sir Ernest George when his firm (George and Peto) was building its great series of Kensington houses in the mid 1880s. Macdonald set up his own practice in 1887, won the Westfield competition two years later and in 1891 formed a partnership with his former colleague in George's office, Herbert Read. Together they later did Stanford's Map Shop in Long Acre (1901), the excellent Nos. 57–59 Piccadilly (1904), 22 Grosvenor Square and many other buildings in London and elsewhere.

In the 1980s, Westfield College consists of a bewildering complex of around twenty buildings of contrasting sizes and styles. To give an idea of the development and sequence, it is best to stand in Kidderpore Avenue opposite the original stucco villa of 1840. This still contains the heart of the College, including the Principal's rooms. Falconer Macdonald's very attractive first designs were executed in 1890–91. Apart from internal alterations to the old villa, they included the new Dining Hall to its right (as seen from Kidderpore Avenue) and the Maynard Wing with students' rooms behind that at right-angles to the road (so forming the first side of a planned future quadrangular court). The style of the new 1890 buildings is a free and gentle version of the Baroque, done in a soft brownish-red brick. Astonishingly (to us a hundred years later), the classical stuccoed villa was painted 'a good beef red' to match the new brick buildings.

The next building is perhaps the most engaging of all Falconer Macdonald's designs. This is the Skeel Library, with a pretty cupola above and a swelling bow window, built to the right of the dining Hall in 1903 (gallery added around its main upper room in 1911, again by Macdonald). This old Library is Edwardian Baroque architecture at its most relaxed, yet characterful and distinguished. It is one of the five really fine buildings in the College and occupies a central position second only to the original Neo-Classical villa. It is therefore all the more shameful that the interiors of both the upper reading room and the large room below have been sadly wasted and vandalised since a separate college library was built across the road in 1968.

Macdonald's last building for Westfield was the Dudin Brown residential building added to the right of the old library in 1905, forming a second arm for the courtyard. In 1913, the year that Miss Garnett retired as Mistress, Macdonald died. The authorship of these handsome Edwardian buildings was unknown until recently, and we have to thank Janet Sondheimer's researches into College records for allowing Falconer Macdonald to receive recognition for them.

A brief record of the other Westfield buildings will be useful here, for they include some excellent designs and their story is not readily available elsewhere. In 1927, a third side of the courtyard was enclosed by the Chapman Wing at the rear, parallel with Kidderpore Avenue. The architect was possibly P.R. MORLEY HORDER (1870–1944)

who, with his partner VERNER G. REES, designed the small dramatic masterpiece of a chapel (1928–29) at the far left corner of the garden beyond the original Kidderpore Hall villa. At the time they were also supervising the building of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in Gower Street. On the completion of *that* building in 1929 their partnership was dissolved and it was Verner Rees who kept the Westfield College work. Rees went on to re-do the Dining Hall building (1935, replacing the Edwardian bridge building between the 1890 dining hall and the 1903 library), and then designed the Orchard Wing residential building (1936, stretching from Kidderpore Avenue, further down the hill, into the right-hand side of the courtyard). Rees applied here and at the School of Tropical Medicine a theory of proportions based on the Golden Cut — the whole design was controlled by a magic grid, into which the shapes and spacing of the solids and voids were filled. Rees still went on after the 2nd World War to do the gargantuan Queen's Building (designed 1957, built 1960–62), a tower block for the teaching of sciences, on the opposite side of the road. He then retired, which was none too soon for his reputation or for the beauty of Westfield.

In 1962–63, the Refectory Building was put up on the south side of Kidderpore Avenue and the primitive New Orchard residential building finally closed off the fourth side of the original courtyard on the north side of the road in 1963–65 (architect not known).

In 1964 SIR HUGH CASSON was appointed Consultant to Westfield College and his firm Casson Conder and Partners designed almost all the subsequent buildings. These are the four imaginatively linked houses and common rooms known as Kidderpore Hall (1968–72) which serve as students' residences on the west corner of Kidderpore Avenue and Platt's Lane; the fine new Skeel Library (1968–72) also in the part of Westfield west of Kidderpore Avenue; the enchantingly elegant Queen Mother's Hall (1981–82) on the north side of the road between the original villa and the church. Like many a campus of a university or large school, the Westfield buildings form a heterogeneous jumble rather than an integrated whole, but there are gems among them.

KIDDERPORE AVENUE — northern end

Beyond the College, the right-hand side of Kidderpore Avenue has a group of four excellent buildings of the turn of the century, which worthily represent the architecture of the Arts and Crafts movement in a variety of modes. These buildings, together with the early parts of Westfield College, form the climax of this late Victorian and Edwardian walk.

The first two buildings are **No. 12, the Vicarage**, and then **St Luke's Church**, both designed by BASIL CHAMPNEYS whose own house, Hall Oak, off Froggnal, was described earlier in these walks.

Previously the local congregation had met in a ramshackle temporary structure on the site of the present vicarage, while the church was being built; St Luke's opened in 1898 and the vicarage was finished in 1899. Both were worth waiting for. Champneys gives variety to the composition of the frontage of the vicarage by open porches recessed into the walls of the house. Inside, the drawing room is a subtly complicated space. Down the passageway between vicarage and church can be glimpsed an intriguing chimney and the green copper of a most beautiful cupola floating over a turret at the rear. This is some preparation for the brilliant effervescence of the exterior of the church. The front gate has touches reminiscent of a castle. Its underlying architectural composition is quite restrained, but the whole elevation fizzles with delectable stone carving and other decoration set off by the soft orange-red brick. The interior is more solemn — brick walls painted white, arches and other features of pale cream stone, with dark wooden seating below and dark beams in the roofs above.

Beyond the church is another notable house, **No. 14**. This was designed by ARTHUR



65. St. Luke's Church, Kidderpore Avenue. Designed by Basil Champneys in 1898.



66. Annesley Lodge, no. 8 Platts Lane. Built 1895–96 by Charles Voysey for his father. One of the most distinguished Arts and Crafts free style houses anywhere.

KEEN in an outrageously exaggerated artistic way, to be the *atelier* of his friend George Hillyard Swinstead, the artist. The frontage swirls and swells with sculpture and Arts and Crafts motifs such as the turret, red-tiled dome and stylised weather vane. There are big transomed bow windows to left and right, and a charming hipped roof. A plaster plaque above the front door carries the date 1901.

If No. 14 makes one smile with pleasure at its extremism, the first sight of the corner house beyond it, No. 8 Platt's Lane, makes one catch one's breath. For this is the lovely house called **Annesley Lodge** that the great pioneer of Arts and Crafts architecture, CHARLES FRANCIS ANNESLEY VOYSEY, designed and built for his father, the Rev. Charles



67. Detail of Annesley Lodge.

Voysey, in 1895–96. The father himself was a most interesting man, for he was relieved of his duties as a Church of England clergyman in Yorkshire in 1871 for preaching that there is no Hell and no Hellfire. That was a shocking thing in the 1870s. Voysey senior came to London where he founded a sect called the Theistic Church, which preached the revolutionary doctrine of a benign God. It had a chapel building in Swallow Street, off Piccadilly, and flourished until its founder's death.

The house that the son designed for the father was one of a series that was just as revolutionary in architecture. Instead of building close to the road with a garden behind it, Voysey sited the house in an L-plan along the rear of the corner plot so that its arms formed two sides of a front garden reminiscent of a courtyard, and a five-foot high fence along the front completed that impression. The entrance gate to the garden is at the corner diagonally opposite the front door which is tucked into the inner angle of the building's L. Facing this front door from the road, the typically Voysey horizontal emphasis of the two wings makes them seem to fly out from the bold front door porch. The walls are of roughcast rendering painted white, with a touch of warmth given by trims of honey-coloured stone that add to the long horizontals of the band windows. Tall chimneys and slim buttresses give vertical relief and hold the composition together. It is a design that speaks of purity, beauty and originality.

In the Rev. Charles Voysey's time (the directories show him still there in 1910, but his name has vanished by 1913), the interiors were long and low, the entrance hall floor was of tiles but most other floors of plain polished wood, both with Persian rugs here and there. The walls were papered with some of Voysey junior's colourful 1880s or '90s designs for the manufacturers Essex and Co. (later for Sanderson's) up to a plain band about a foot below the ceiling. The furnishings and furniture were of simplified lines and sparse, leaving much space in the rooms.

Outside the front door, the materials and simplicity of the garden formed an entity with the house. Somehow, in 1983, planning permission was given for this marvellous house to be turned into flats. The alterations to the building were done with some sensitivity and the exteriors are little spoiled. But the wooden fence (proper for that



68. C.F.A. Voysey, architect, (1857–1941).

period) has been replaced by a wall and the garden has been invaded by numerous stunted brick wallettes that should be swept away if the freeholder does not want to be haunted by the outraged ghost of Voysey. But even that cannot ruin the pleasure to be gained from studying the delectable frontage of the house.

BACK ALONG KIDDERPORE AVENUE AND ITS SOUTHERN END

The outward part of our walk is completed with the great Voysey house and we walk back along the length of Kidderpore Avenue, passing a number of Arts and Craftish houses towards the farther end. Beyond QUENNEL'S No. 9 on the right, No. 7 is a nice L-plan house of c1900, built as Oak House for Herbert Dicksee and lived in by him throughout the Edwardian period. No. 5 is called The Studio and was originally attached to No. 7. On the left, No. 4 is a big long imitation Arts and Crafts house with black and white half-timbering. In 1905 Arthur Derry lived in it, but by 1913 it was owned by Senjiro Watanabe. Beyond that, No. 2 is Arts and Crafts in manner again, rather watered down but a lot nicer than No. 4; it was owned by W. Montagu Peters in Edwardian times. Finally, back on the right side of the street, No. 1, Birkdale, is an Edwardian house with Dutch gables, done for Edwin Henry Keen JP., probably by his brother Arthur Keen. We cross Heath Drive, pause to admire again Quennell's No. 33 on the corner, and go straight on along Bracknell Gardens.

BRACKNELL GARDENS

Bracknell Gardens was laid out and developed from 1905 onwards. But the first building we see at its western end is the block of flats (built 1986–87) on the left for which planning permission was given just before the Redington/Frognaal Conservation Area was designated in 1985.

On the other (western) side of Bracknell Gardens, there follow two very large Neo-Georgian houses, No. 31 (Bracknell Court) and No. 29 (Pelham House) of 1921, designed by RANDALL AND PILE, and built for two wealthy financiers. As an optional side-track to our walk further on along Bracknell Gardens, No. 30 is a pleasant tile-hung corner house of 1913, and No. 28 the sad remains of a Neo-Georgian design (again 1913) now a complete mess from modernisation of windows and other features. Beyond these, 16 to 26 on the left (1910–13) and 17 to 23 (1910–13) on the right are semi-detached pairs designed by C.H. SAUNDERS for the builder W.J. King (some have handsomely sculpted plasterwork on their porches) and then 6 to 14 (1907–08) on the left and 9 to 15 (1907–08) on the right are the excellent Free Style work of the builder James Tomblin and his architect WILLIAM A. BURR (who also designed houses on the north side of Wedderburn Road). Finally, of these houses, all of 1906–14, there is a funny little cottage of uncertain date at No. 3. But around the corner and a few yards down Frognaal Lane is **St Andrew's Presbyterian Church**, overlooking the junction with Finchley Road. It must be mentioned here especially for several small but richly dramatic stained-glass windows by the great Scottish designer DOUGLAS STRACHAN (pronounced *Strawn*), rather than for its decent Edwardian Gothic architecture of 1904 by PITE AND BALFOUR.

OAKHILL AVENUE AND GREENAWAY GARDENS

In the 1905 Hampstead street directory, Oakhill Avenue is described as a 'footpath to Finchley Road'. By 1907 it was being developed under the name of Barby Avenue; the first house is listed by 1908, by 1910 it had its present name and by 1912 it was built up. As we walk up its slope from Bracknell Gardens, we can still see how the developers mixed different sorts and sizes of high quality Edwardian houses. On the left (the northern side) there were no more than five fairly big houses in large gardens, Nos. 4 to 12, before we reach the slightly older house on the corner of Redington Road. All of

http://www.thesudentroom.co.uk/showthread.php?p=115782&highlight=lord cameron

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(Original post by **wild thing**)
International, but it's catered. Otherwise Hampstead. Maybe a bit far but at least the rooms are MASSIVE and it's truly a beautiful area.

I'd disagree with Luniah. I lived in international and I much preferred Hampstead. Everyone seemed to get more

reply 13-03-2006 16:57 15

Hampstead and Kings College Halls have an excellent halls atmosphere, which as far as I am aware doesn't exist elsewhere at the other accommodation.

reply 14-03-2006 17:32 16

Hampstead has an excellent hall atmosphere? Funniest thing ever. No disrespect intended but people only know people from their floor and as far as the entertainment provided by the campus (e.g. Hampstead bar, movies, karaoke nights etc.), barely anyone goes. It's surprising if more than 13 people attend. KCH is in a dodgy area (Brixton) and personally I wouldn't recommend going there although the main building is beautiful, but the room sizes are no way as big as the ones in Hampstead (esp. **Lord Cameron**)

can anyone give me any useful advice about choosing international hall?

reply 14-03-2006 18:34 17

Description of Hampstead Residence (Lord Cameron) from 2006

Source – www.thesudentroom.co.uk; Screenshot from 13 March 2015

http://www.thesudentroom.co.uk/showthread.php?p=689144&page=2&pr=14379421&highlight=lord%20cameron#post14379421

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like the guy said there are some rooms (especially in Lady Chapman and Lord Cameron buildings) which are huge and could easily fit another two beds in, so consider yourself lucky if you end up there.

reply 12-09-2008 20:30 36

MORE BASS! pook 2 badges (1 follower)

(Original post by **Surprise**)
the first picture is a non-standard small room so yours will be alot bigger. all of the standard rooms are at least as big as that room on the virtual tour, most are bigger. average size is probably slightly smaller than the room in my second picture.

like the guy said there are some rooms (especially in Lady Chapman and Lord Cameron buildings) which are huge and could easily fit another two beds in, so consider yourself lucky if you end up there.

Ah right, sounds good

Quick question - is internet wireless? And if so, is this in every room?

reply 13-09-2008 16:55 37

407 0 badges (0 followers)

Ooh, I'm in Cameron House (as is everyone who is moving in on the 24th). I guess everyone else is busy moving in right now, but I'll see you all tonight at the welcome party

reply 16-09-2008 16:08 38

MORE BASS! pook 2 badges (1 follower)

Hampstead is great!!

All internet is wireless in King's residences, which means you will not be able to use it until registration, when you get your KCL ID and passwords. You need to log in before getting any internet.

reply 16-09-2008 16:10 39

MORE BASS! pook 2 badges (1 follower)

11:36 13/09/2015

Description of Hampstead Residence (Lord Cameron) from 2008

Source – www.thesudentroom.co.uk; Screengrab from 13 March 2015

http://www.thesudentroom.co.uk/showthread.php?p=4280095&highlight=lord cameron

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24-05-2013 12:43 3

hey, could you give me some information about wolfson house? because i'm thinking of putting it as my first choice in applying for accomodation. I will be attending an LLM in law from september onwards. I'm from Italy. Are there many postgraduate students at wolfson house? and what about having guests once in a while, like friends for the weekend, is that a problem? It was quite difficult for me to find information online about the residences. I would be really really thankful if you were able to help me :)

319,900 0 badges 0 followers

(Original post by twister1)

Recently joined Kings and am torn between the two! was wondering how far ish Wolfson is from the strand as that is where i will be... is it significantly closer than Hampstead? I want self catered and very social. I get the impression that these both are... so on that basis i would put wolfson first but does it tend to be filled with medics and everyone studying at guys? or is there just as much of a mix as at Hampstead? I love Hampstead and the distance doesn't bother me that much, its just the thought of travelling every time i want to go to the gym etc., whereas at wolfson its right there? any advice?? thank you!

I live at Hampstead and not only does it take up to 40 mins to get to the Strand, the standard of building you get is a lottery. There are some really nice buildings such as **Lord Cameron**, but there are other parts where the rooms are tiny and run down looking. Although Hampstead was my first choice, with hindsight i wish i had put down Stamford Street or Wolfson. However, Hampstead is pretty social and there's a 24 hour gym within a 5 min walking distance (£15 to get a month) :)

25-05-2013 12:35

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Updated: May 25, 2013

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reply

OS, the same day you were in the same boat as not giving feeling. I've been about Hampstead but I wasn't able to give a 40-110 address some of the houses people have about Hampstead and give you a bit of information.

The biggest worry for most people is the distance from campus. Yes, it is far out. But personally I felt the opportunity to live in Hampstead compensated for the commute. It's an absolutely beautiful area. If you're at the Strand, the tube is 13 mins away, you'll be in the way in 10 mins. I wouldn't advise it for those 9 mins. Instead you can get the bus down the road (3 mins) to the tube station or walk it (10 mins) and then get the tube in. The whole journey would take me about 45 minutes to reach about 30-35 in the middle of the day. The walk is uphill on the way home. I did need to get the bus up the road on the way back.

Wine is a very important part of the day. This would usually take about 35-40 minutes each hour or 10 mins in the middle of the day.

It takes a lot longer to travel on the tube but again no changes so really not a difficult journey. I know 45 minutes sounds like a while but when you think of your friends at SSA, putting across the road, but I really came to appreciate my travelling time as a bit of time to myself (all my friends from both were at other courses so I usually travelled by myself) and some winding down time to read or listen to music. You won't have the luxury of living right next to campus in future years so why get used to it. And it is convenient. Hampstead is about £100 cheaper per year than SDS or SSA, yet once you have your student Oyster Card you'll spend £60 a month on a residential and you'll have for about 8 months, you shouldn't spend more than £360.

This is probably a second generalisation, but I felt that those of us in Hampstead because we had travel cards and had to travel every day, ended up seeing a lot more of London in general. We used to go around to all different areas on nights out but I was visiting friends, while most of my friends in SSA didn't bother going. On weekends and we're limited to where they can go with - across the bridge and back.

The life around Hampstead is fantastic. Outside of only a few minutes bus journey away, or you can get the underground train. Hampstead Village is a lovely walk where you can find a couple of good bars and pubs, some nice restaurants and designer shops (and the old celebrity). You can walk through the village to get to Hampstead Heath, or take the underground train from Finsbury Road where we went for skating in the winter, and spent many a day in the winter sun sitting on having a dip in the outdoor pool. West Hampstead is 15 minutes in the other direction which has a whole lot of bars, pubs, shops and my personal favourite, Courtyard Burger Kitchen, the most fantastic place you will find in London. Finsbury Road has plenty of 24-hour shops and restaurants for those late-night needs, and there's a row of takeaways too which are happy to deliver to the campus (I recommended Passage to Sals).

The next worry most people seem to have is the lack of ensuite. I was disappointed at the thought of sharing my bedrooms with people I don't know. Now I'll be honest, the bedrooms do vary from building to building. Duden Brooke has the ensembles and recent they have a whole collection of single bedrooms with a toilet, shower and sink. I was at Margaret which wasn't as all right. We had a male and a female bathroom which contained three showers and two toilets plus another communal toilet room. Three showers, doesn't sound like a lot, but there were only about fourteen girls in my floor, and I can honestly say that a) I NEVER had to wait for a shower, and b) I can count on one hand the number of times I didn't have the whole bathroom to myself. No, we weren't a bunch of dirty niggers, but it was a bit of a struggle. The bedrooms were shared for us every day, and were rarely in a state where I felt uncomfortable about using them. While an ensuite would have been nice, the bathroom situation is not something you should worry about, and I think I ended up preferring what I had to the patience because they get a lot of use in the apartment (a double toilet type experience where every shower results in the whole room smelling a bit).

As for jobs and jobs, it varies from building to building. **Lady Chapman** has the biggest (but my room in Lady's was actually twice the size of the room in the apartment). Having had a small room at home, I really appreciated the space.

The social life at Hampstead is excellent. You have a room with a bar, a pool table, which is very cheap, it's quite quiet, normally, but hosts pretty good themed parties every now and then, and also shows films once a week and any big football matches etc. Make friends with the people who work there (on their day off) as you will then enjoy discounts ("How much is this vodka and coke?" "£2.50." "Will you accept £1.87 in exchange?" "Certainly!") There's also a TV room which becomes "The Noise Room" after 11, and while there are music rooms in your house, the summer months the best thing about Hampstead was the massive lawn outside, many a revision day was spent sunbathing and it was a good place to meet new people, even at the end of the year.

To summarise a university year at Hampstead, and in summary, I'm not concerned about RFL, but in about the social life, not whether you have an ensuite or how far you have to travel. I went to Hampstead with the plan that I would give it a go for a month or so and if I hated it, I'd come home and examine (although we say you're a student at least an hour and a half each way for me, it wasn't an attractive option either) but I can honestly say that once I was there, it never crossed my mind. I would urge you all to take your place at Hampstead and do your best.

reply

15

Description of Hampstead Residence (Lady Chapman) from 2006

Source – [www.thesstudentroom.co.uk/Screengrab from 13 March 2015](http://www.thesstudentroom.co.uk/Screengrab%20from%2013%20March%202015)

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11-09-2008 02:21 35

(Original post by peck)

Are those rooms both extremes and most rooms are in the middle?

Because I rang up and the guy said there are a small number of smaller rooms, but I haven't got one of those - is that what the first pic is? And he said that there are a few really large rooms from years ago when they used to be double rooms, but aren't anymore. But other than that he said they're pretty much the same size - is that right? What sort of size are they generally - a lot bigger than the first pic? A lot smaller than the second?

In fact there is a link to a virtual tour on the accommodation section of the KCL site - <http://www.kcl.ac.uk/virtualtour/accmm>, but that's a room in Wolfson - would you say they're roughly about this size? Or not?

the first picture is a non-standard small room so yours will be alot bigger. all of the standard rooms are at least as big as that room on the virtual tour, most are bigger. average size is probably slightly smaller than the room in my second picture.

like the guy said there are some rooms (especially in **Lady Chapman** and Lord Cameron buildings) which are huge and could easily fit another two beds in, so consider yourself lucky if you end up there.

12-09-2008 20:30 36

(Original post by Surprise)

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like the guy said there are some rooms (especially in **Lady Chapman** and Lord Cameron buildings) which are huge and could easily fit another two beds in, so consider yourself lucky if you end up there.

Ah right, sounds good

Quick question - is internet wireless? And if so, is this in every room?

13-09-2008 16:53 37

Ohh, I'm in Cameron House (as is everyone who is moving in on the 24th). I guess everyone else is busy moving in right now, but I'll see you all tonight at the welcome party :)

Description of Hampstead Residence (Lady Chapman) from 2008

Source – www.thesudentroom.co.uk; Screenshot from 13 March 2015

http://www.thesudentroom.co.uk/showthread.php?p=609144&page=3&ip=14447999&highlight=maynard%20hampstead&post=4447999

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16-09-2008 18:51 42
(Original post by MiniDee)
pcok have u moved in already then? =)
Yeah =)
Moved into the Maynard building, at Hampstead, on Sat. What about yourself?

16-09-2008 20:07 43
(Original post by pcok)
Yeah =)
Moved into the Maynard building, at Hampstead, on Sat. What about yourself?
Wahhey, I was in Maynard! (A while ago now.) Do you have a larger room or smaller room? I was lucky enough to have the larger one, lots of space for all my stuff.

16-09-2008 20:42 44
(Original post by emmings)
Wahhey, I was in Maynard! (A while ago now.) Do you have a larger room or smaller room? I was lucky enough to have the larger one, lots of space for all my stuff.
Which floor were you on? I don't know whether I have a larger or smaller room, I thought they were all the same size in this building, except for the shared rooms? At least, nobody on this floor that has moved in so far seems to have a bigger/smaller room.
They were renovated last year, so they're really nice, and a good size. I don't know how much it has changed since you were here, but we have a massive wardrobe now, it's a walk in wardrobe, goes really far back!

17-09-2008 00:15 45
(Original post by pcok)
Yeah =)

Description of Hampstead Residence (Lady Chapman) from 2008

Source – www.thesudentroom.co.uk; Screenshot from 13 March 2015

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reply

30-08-2009 12:38 11

(Original post by pock)
Hamstead North is much nicer! It's a great residence either way, but the north side are nicer buildings, although IIRC they should be refurbishing the south side this summer. I was at Maynard in Hamstead this year and loved it.

There weren't any ensuite rooms last year, and all rooms at Hamstead are the same price, unless that has changed this year. The only differences that we had in price were for people who shared a room, had a double to themselves, had an extra small room.

The way most people get to uni is getting a bus - any of the three going down that road (bus stop is a 2 min walk from North side and 1 min walk from South side residence) - to Finchley Road Station (Jubilee line and Metropolitan line), then it's about 15 mins on the tube to Waterloo, 10 to London Bridge (Guy's Campus), and about 13 to Westminster then change to the District/Circle line for two more stops to get to Strand.

For the oyster card, in freshers' week make sure you apply for a student oyster card on the TfL website, or you can get the form from the SU but that takes a bit longer too do. It should come within a week. This way you can get tubes in zone 1 & 2 and any bus in London & Greater London for £69.20 a month.

If there's anything else you wanna know, just ask, but be assured, Hamstead is awesome! You will have a great year 😊

how much was the standard single room last year?

reply

30-08-2009 12:51 12

Prices are the same for almost all rooms, except for Stamford Apartments where the price went up maybe 300 pounds

reply

30-08-2009 12:51 13

Prices are the same for almost all rooms, except for Stamford Apartments where the price went up maybe 300 pounds

Description of Hamstead Residence (Maynard) from 2009

Source – www.thesudentroom.co.uk; Screenshot from 13 March 2015

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10-09-2015 22:08

Reply

Original post by 5abears1
I was also allocated at **Hampstead** so your question and its answers really r/o come in handy! I was wondering which one of the buildings is considered as the best? After calling King's to ask them, they said no one can say which side or room I will be until the 14th of September.

Also are we given any subsidy or should we bring some ourselves? Do the bathrooms get particularly disgusting and do we really get someone to change our sheets?

the buildings are all different apart from south side - chesney and ellison are basically mirror images of each other, or so I was told - I never saw inside chesney, I've stayed in both north and south side and I much preferred south side, a lot of it depends on the people on your floor/building, but when I was in south side, it was much more suitable than north side had been when I was there (in my experience - this is day likely to change every year) and I liked that it was closer to the laundry, bar and bus stop, north side is generally thought of as nicer by everyone, because the buildings are older, **Maynard** has huge kitchens, but I'm not sure about the other north side buildings, north side has the music rooms, tv room, games room and study rooms (but obviously, anyone can use those, and they're just across the road from south side).

basically, aesthetically, north side is nicer to look at - but what I would say ultimately matters is the atmosphere of the building, and that depends on the people within it.

I'd also just say, having read your other posts about being in a twin room - almost everyone I know loved being in a twin room. I know one pair who didn't get on brilliantly, but one of them swapped out (it's possible to swap room types once you're there, through the residence office, if someone else wants to swap with you (and is of the same gender)) even one also I knew loved being in a twin, and had a really strong friendship with their roommate - I was actually quite envious of those in twins myself, because their rooms are huge (I would say they're easily at least twice the size of a single room, at least on south side - or they feel like it anyway), they saved so much money on rent, and they ended up with a really strong friendship with their roommate.

re. stuff like sheets - it totally depends on what type of person you are, when I first came to uni I didn't bring sheets, or anything in the way of room decoration; I ended up buying sheets whilst I was there (and my own duvet & pillows - I'm really fussy with quality of bedding, posters and throws and cushions, several of my friends in halls used to make fun of me for 'needing', but it made my room super comfy, and a bit more bright and colourful. whereas I had friends in halls who used uni sheets, pillows and blankets, and were perfectly happy with that, and didn't feel the need to nest like I did, haha. in short, you don't 'need' to bring that stuff, it's all provided for you, but if you think you would be more comfortable with it, you won't be the only one! and if you want to use the uni stuff, you won't be the only one using that either, the nice side to using the uni sheets is you could get fresh linens free of charge every week (whereas if you have your own, you have to pay to wash them yourself).

bathrooms are generally fine, but it depends on your cleaner - I've lived in 2 blocks in **Hampstead** and one was MUCH better than the other, cleaners come mon-fri, just like for kitchens, so no worries there - they also clean your room once a week btw, if you don't know.

reply +

Exams are coming!
Get organised.

The Student Room

Original post by leobutterfly
If you have someone staying over then as long as it's just one or two people, should be fine. They just have to sign in at reception (for health and safety reasons in case there's a fire or something) they

10-09-2015 22:41

Reply

Description of Hampstead Residence (Maynard) from 2013

Source – www.thesudentroom.co.uk; Screengrab from 13 March 2015

http://thesudentroom.co.uk/showthread.php?p=278850&highlight=hamstead

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- UCL Summer/Challenge ZHS - London in Literature
- Biggest turn off?
- CTAM: Points to a million - 1.5% be a BS (L-1) (Patio)
- Critical Vocation Schema Thread, 23/11

Reply +

OK, this time last year I was in the same boat as you guys feeling devastated about Hampstead but I urge you all to give it a go. I'll address some of the worries people have about Hampstead and give you a bit of information

The biggest worry for most people is the distance from campus. Yes, it is far out. But personally, I felt the opportunity to live in Hampstead compensated for the commute. It's an absolutely beautiful area. If you're at the Strand, the number 13 bus takes you all the way in. It will take about an hour in the mornings so I wouldn't advise a try for those of you. Instead you can get the bus down the road (3 mins) to the tube station in walk (10 mins) and then get the tube in. The whole journey would take me about 45 minutes in each hour, or 30-35 in the middle of the day. The walk is uphill on the way home, so I did tend to get the bus up the road on the way back.

Waterloo is even easier as you don't have to change tube. This would usually take about 35-40 mins each hour or 30 mins in the middle of the day.

Medics tend slightly longer to travel on the tube but again no changes so really not a difficult journey. I know 45 minutes sounds like an awful lot when you think of your friends at SSA popping across the road, but I really came to appreciate my travelling time as a bit of time to myself (all my friends from halls were on other courses, and usually travelled by myself) and some winding down time to read or listen to music. You won't have the luxury of living right next to campus in future years, so why get used to it. And it is cost-effective. Hampstead is almost £1000 cheaper per year than GDS or SSA, yet once you have your student Oyster Card you'll spend £20 a month on a travelcard and you're there for about 8 months. You shouldn't spend more than £500.

This is probably a broad generalisation but I felt that most of us at Hampstead, because we had travelcards and had to travel every day, ended up seeing a lot more of London in general. We used to pop around in all different areas on nights out and visiting friends, while most of my friends in SSA didn't bother getting Oyster cards and were limited to where they could walk - across the bridge and back.

The area around Hampstead is fantastic. Camden is only a ten minute bus journey away, or you can get the overground train. Hampstead Village is ten minutes' walk, where you can find a couple of good bars and pubs, some nice restaurants and designer shops (and the odd celebrity). You can walk through the village to get to Hampstead Heath (or take the overground train from Finchley Road) where we went ice skating in the winter, and spent many a day in the summer sunbathing or having a dip in the outdoor ponds. West Hampstead is five minutes in the other direction, which has a whole host of bars, pubs, shops and my personal favourite, Gourmet Burger Kitchen, the most fantastic bakery you will find in London. Finchley Road has plenty of 24-hour shops and off-licenses for those late-night needs, and there's a ton of takeaways too which are happy to deliver to the campus (I recommend Passage to India).

The real worry most people seem to have is the lack of ensuite. I was disgusted at the thought of sharing my bathroom with people I don't know. Now I'll be honest, the bathrooms do vary from building to building. **Dudin Brown** has the newest and best, they have a whole collection of single bathrooms with a toilet, shower and sink. I was in Maynard which wasn't at all bad. We had a male and a female bathroom which contained three showers and two toilets plus another communal toilet room. Three showers doesn't sound like a lot, but there were only about fourteen girls on my floor, and I can honestly say that's I NEVER had to wait for a shower, and by I can count on one hand the number of times I didn't have the whole bathroom to myself. No, we weren't a bunch of dirty tramps, but everyone has lectures at different times and different routines. The bathrooms were cleaned for us every day, and were rarely in a state where I felt uncomfortable about using them. While an ensuite would have been nice, the bathroom situation is not something you should worry about, and I think I ended up preferring what I had to the frankly, excuse me, they give you for an ensuite in the apartments (a claustrophobic, aeroplane-toilet type experience where every shower results in the whole room reeking a mope).

As for room size, again, it varies from building to building. Us at Chapman has the biggest (all my room in Maynard was easily three times the size of the rooms in the apartments. Having had a small room at home, I really appreciated the space.

The social life at Hampstead is excellent. You have your own bar (with pool tables) which is very cheap, it's quite quiet normally but hosts pretty good themed parties every now and then, and also shows films once a week and any big football matches etc. Make friends with the people who work there (or better yet, get a job there) as you will then enjoy discounts ("How much is two vodka and cokes?" "£2.50." "Will you accept a £7 in coppers?" "Certainly.") There's also a TV room which becomes "The House Room" after 11, and table tennis and music rooms as well. Come the summer months the best thing about Hampstead was the massive lawn outside, many a revision day was washed with sunbathing and I was a good place to meet new people, even at the end of the year.

To summarise a mammoth post, I had a fantastic year at Hampstead, and as I said, it keeps referring to people concerned about KCH, it's about the social life, not whether you have an ensuite or how far you have to travel. I went to Hampstead with the plan that I would give it a go for a month or so and if I hated it, I'd come home and commute (although as that would've meant at least an hour and a half each way for me, I wasn't an attractive option either) but I can honestly say that once I was there, I never crossed my mind. I would urge you all to take your place at Hampstead and at least try it.

Reply +

11:59 13/03/2015

Description of Hampstead Residence (Dudin Brown) from 2006

Source – www.thesudentroom.co.uk; Screenshot from 13 March 2015

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The Student Room

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<input type="checkbox"/> King's College London (4)	Re: Madras (and applicants) general chat thread Mks JV to building. Dudin Brown has the newest and nicest, they have a whole collection of single bathrooms	by ADREAM 24-08-2009	In Medicine Community Discussion
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Accommodation (3)	Re: Is there any point in moving into these halls? , the bedrooms do vary from palatial to building. Dudin Brown has the newest and nicest, they have a whole	by ADREAM 23-08-2009	In Student Accommodation
<input type="checkbox"/> Medicine Community Discussion (1)	Re: I GOT HAMSTEAD INSTEAD OF GD&A!!!! @ are in Dudin Brown , where there are several individual bathrooms on each floor, with toilet, sink and shower	by emmings 23-08-2009	In King's College London
Attachments	Re: Hamstead!!!! I'm in Dudin Brown too :) I have such a HUGE room!	by rainhadecopas 23-09-2006	In King's College London
Without attachments (5)	Re: Hamstead!!!! well, I'm in Dudin Brown :	by kashii 21-09-2006	In King's College London
	Re: Hamstead!!!! , the bathrooms do vary from building to building. Dudin Brown has the newest and nicest, they have a whole	by emmings 24-08-2006	In King's College London

Relevant Forums

Got a question about **duddin brown**? Why not ask it in one of these forums:

King's College London
Welcome to the Kings College forum: where prospective and current students can discuss anything about KCL.
Forum Category: Greater London

Student Accommodation
Help and advice on student digs, dealing with landlords and getting on with housemates. But if you're looking to find a place, head to our accommodation classifieds.
Forum Category: University Life

Medicine Community Discussion
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Study Resources (5 of 2013)
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Description of Hampstead Residence (Dudin Brown) from 2006

Source – www.thesudentroom.co.uk; Screenshot from 13 March 2015

London

4

NORTH

BY

BRIDGET CHERRY

AND

NIKOLAUS PEVSNER

THE BUILDINGS OF ENGLAND

PENGUIN BOOKS

PAGE A124

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a sunken games area. The sheltered housing, a tall, somewhat gaunt terrace along Winchester Road, is by *Clive Alexander & Partners*, 1982. The whole area deserves a coherent plan, respecting the Spence buildings and providing the Theatre Club with worthy premises.

CAMDEN ARTS CENTRE, Arkwright Road. Built as Hampstead Central Library in 1897 by *Arnold S. Taylor*. Arts and Crafts Tudor on a substantial scale; extended 1909 and 1926, gutted in the Second World War, and adapted for its present purpose after the main library moved to Swiss Cottage in 1964.

LIBRARIES. COTLEIGH ROAD, Kilburn, 1902 by the Borough Surveyor *Charles H. Lowe*; a modest building with two shaped gables. DENNINGTON PARK ROAD, West Hampstead, 1954; ANTRIM ROAD, Belsize; rebuilt 1934-7 by *H. A. Gould* and *R. de W. Aldridge*. Progressively simple, with apsidal reading room, and pantiled roof. KEATS GROVE, a discreet addition to Keats House (see Perambulation 1b), 1931 by *Sydney Trent*.

Former PUBLIC BATHS, Flask Walk. See Perambulation 1b.

Educational Buildings

Colleges

Former WESTFIELD COLLEGE (now partly King's College), Kidderpore Avenue. Built as Westfield College, which was founded as a women's college in 1882 in Maresfield Gardens, off Finchley Road, and moved to this site in 1889. The core is the villa of 1840-3 (now SPIRO INSTITUTE OF JEWISH HISTORY AND CULTURE), built on the crest of the hill by *T. Howard* for John Teil, a retired merchant who traded in leather from Kidderpore near Calcutta. His house originally stood quite on its own in its gardens. It has a bold Grecian stucco front with slightly projecting colonnade of six Ionic columns, but with pediments on the sides, projecting on bracketed eaves, that is, on the point of changing from pediments into gables. On the garden side to the E, four columns *in antis*, to the N a bow, also with columns. Several original handsome interiors.

To the S are the first additions for Westfield, by *R. Falconer Macdonald*, a pupil of J.J. Stevenson and Ernest George. The Maynard Wing with students' rooms, 1889-91, with its main front facing S across a terrace, is in an economical but agreeable Queen Anne style, continued by later additions around the informal courtyard: red brick, steep pedimental gables, curly brick aprons to the windows. The library of 1903-4 has a bolder Baroque front to Kidderpore Avenue, sporting a stone first-floor bay with Ionic columns as its main features. Only the meanly detailed S range of the 1960s breaks the mood. The CHAPEL is hidden away in the garden NE of the villa. An impressive, spare design of 1928-9 by *Horder & Rees*. Rendered, with deep eaves, and small rectangular windows high up lighting an austere but well-proportioned interior. The interior comes as a surprise, for the Doric porch leads into a foyer at gallery level from which two flights of stairs descend. The later buildings by *Verner Rees* are of less interest: dining hall interior (1935), Orchard Wing (1936).

Post-war college buildings are on the W side of Kidderpore Avenue. First comes the QUEEN'S BUILDING, *Verner Rees's* awkward science block of 1957–62, a red brick monster with an unhappy double-height classical entrance, later extended W in brutalist purple brick. Further N, the indifferent REFECTORY of 1962–3. From the mid 1960s *Casson & Conder* were in charge (as at so many universities). Their main contributions date from 1968 to 1972: the large and forceful SKEEL LIBRARY, and KIDDERPORE HALL, bleakly detailed linked students' residences in red brick, opening onto a paved terrace walk parallel to Kidderpore Avenue. The reaction against the blocky gigantism of 1960s university buildings is demonstrated by the QUEEN MOTHER'S HALL, also by *Casson & Conder* (1981–2), with its friendlier pitched roofs and oriel windows. SUMMERHOUSE in the grounds, probably coeval with the C19 villa. SCULPTURE, on Kidderpore Avenue. Crouching Arab woman by *Enrico Astori*, 1900, erected here 1971.

PARSIFAL COLLEGE (London Regional Centre, Open University, since 1977), Finchley Road and Parsifal Road. 1887 by *M. P. Manning*. A long asymmetrical brick building with buff terracotta dressings. Tudor windows of several lights in irregular surrounds. Built for Hackney College, a training college for Nonconformist ministers; later amalgamated with New College, College Crescent, Finchley Road, when the rear parts, of 1934, were added by *G. E. T. Laurence & Partners*. To the N, THE OCTAGON is the former West Hampstead Congregational Chapel, founded by the college, of 1894 by *Spalding & Cross*, tall, centrally planned, with a terracotta gable on each side flanked by little turrets. Converted to flats in 1991.

Secondary schools

HAMPSTEAD SCHOOL, Westbere Road. Along the road, buildings originally for Haberdashers Aske's Boys' School (which moved to Aldenham, Herts, in 1961). Main block of 1902–3, brick with stone dressings, a turret at one end, by *Henry Stock* of *Stock, Page & Stock*; technical block to the N, 1910, with bold upper lunettes, science block to the S, by *Noel D. Sheffield*, in the dry institutional classical of 1930. Behind, in a very different spirit, a square block by *Stillman & Eastwick-Field*, 1966, for the newly formed ILEA comprehensive (1,135 pupils). A tough, compact concrete building of two and three storeys, with widely spaced uprights, plain but well proportioned, the varying fenestration reflecting a mixture of functions (classrooms, houserooms with dining areas, staff rooms). Ranged around a central courtyard, which is on several levels, with a tree.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SCHOOL, Frognal. A boys' day school founded in 1830 in Gower Street as part of University College; moved to Hampstead in 1907. Handsome buildings of 1905–7 by *Arnold Mitchell*, one of his major works. Planned for 500 pupils. In an early C18 manner, of brick with floridly decorated stone frontispiece and cupola. Splendid great hall, panelled, with curvaceous barrel-vaulted ceiling pierced by large lunette windows, well restored by *Michael Foster* after a fire in 1978. Additions of c. 1957 onwards (laboratory, music room, library); sixth form centre, 1974, by *Michael Foster* of *TFP Architects*.