

Rushwick C of E Primary School

The existing building is located in the heart of a village on the outskirts of Worcester. The original plan was for phased construction with classrooms surrounding a central hall space. This process began with a small hall and three classrooms in 1962. The following forty years saw a succession of smaller scale extensions alterations and temporary buildings. The effects of this were a steady loss of coherence and the balanced development of the building as first envisioned.

New Housing on the western fringes of Worcester offered the prospect of higher and more stable pupil numbers and the decision was made to raise the intake of the school to one full form.

Early feasibility studies had proposed a single standalone block providing the balance of additional teaching space required. This would have entailed the loss of all the remaining south facing external teaching resource. In addition, the single block would be unable to address any of the existing building's significant shortcomings.

The most prominent of these was the main entrance which was small poorly positioned and required visitors to cross the main playground to reach the front door to the building. The original entrance courtyard had long since been infilled with a fully glazed conservatory structure which had initially been designated a library. Leaks and poor environmental conditions had forced the library to be re-located within one end of the hall.

The scheme as realised consists of two separate extensions at either end of the existing buildings together with considerable alterations including the removal and raising of existing flat roofs.

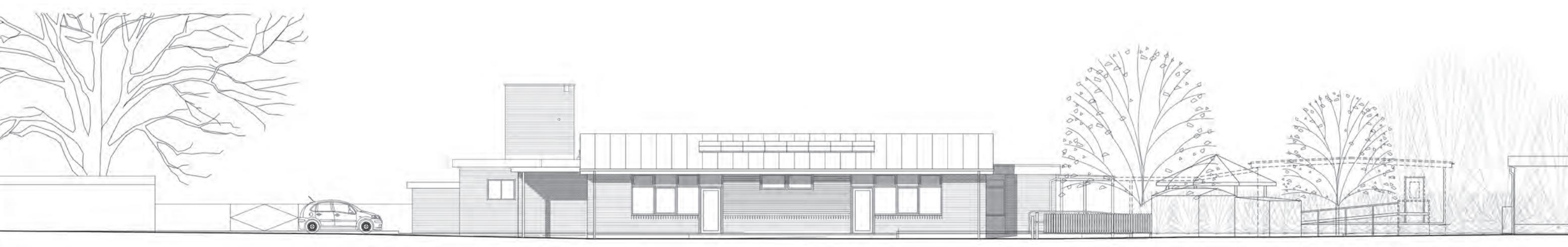
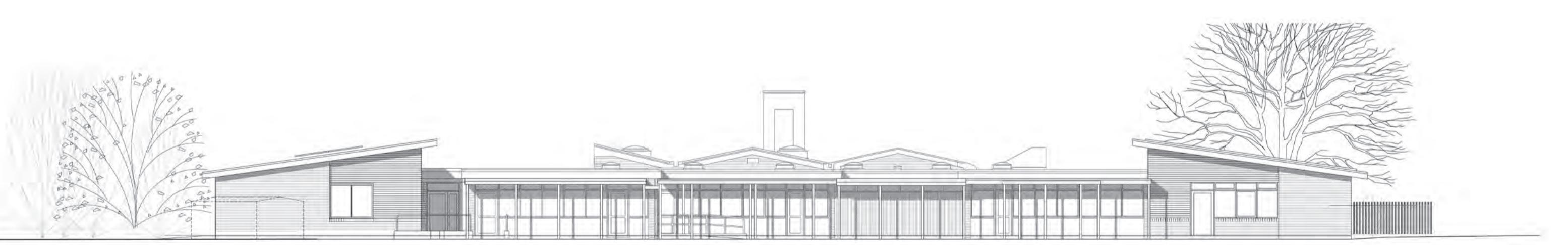
The southernmost extension provided a pair of classrooms catering for reception and year one having access to ensuite toilets. Further alterations in this area provided an enlarged staffroom and re-purposed toilets which had been in anticipation of a previously unrealised two classroom extension.

The northernmost extension added one classroom a head's office and a new public entrance accessed directly off the carpark. The former conservatory was infilled to recreate the library.

The detailed focus was on the creative introduction of natural lighting from above. In the case of the classrooms the section was exploited to provide height, backlighting and cross-ventilation. Elsewhere a mixture of rooflights and sunpipes combine to light and ventilate the inner rooms.

The palette of materials consists of beige brickwork with smooth brown brick details to match the existing building, white trims, bargeboards and windows and grey green fibre cement shiplap cladding.

The structure is 150mm timber wall framing manufactured off site as open panels with 240mm fully insulated roof cassettes. Roof coverings are grey single ply.



KEY PROJECT FACTS

Client: Worcestershire County Council

Architect: Jacobs (Worcester) Project Architect: Duncan Bicknell

Other Consultants: Jacobs - M&E, Structural Engineers, Quantity Surveyors and Clerk of Works

Completed: October 2017

Contract Value: £1,085,000.00

Contract Type: JCT Intermediate

Contractor: Interclass Plc