

Annual report on the sanitary condition of the District of the Middle Temple for the year 1894.

Contributors

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Waldo, F. J.

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ANNUAL REPORT

ON

THE SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

DISTRICT OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE

BY THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ANNUAL REPORT

The following facts may be placed from a perusal of the
To the Sanitary Authority for the Middle Temple.

ON

Sir,

THE SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

DISTRICT OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE

FOR THE YEAR 1894

BY THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535
JULY 1, 1984

MEDICAL OFFICES OF HEATH

BA THE
MEDICAL OFFICES OF HEATH
JULY 1, 1984

DISTRICT OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE

OF THE

THE CIVILIAN CONDITION

ON

UNION REFORM

MEDICAL OFFICES OF HEATH

BA THE

DISTRICT OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE

THE CIVILIAN CONDITION

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ANNUAL REPORT

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ON

(a) One or more Medical Officers of Health for their several

THE SANITARY CONDITION

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OF THE

(b) An adequate number of fit and proper persons as

DISTRICT OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE

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BY THE

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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The following facts may be gleaned from a perusal of the
To the Sanitary Authority for the Middle Temple.

Sir,

The Middle Temple covers a stretch.

At the Census of 1891 there were 20 inhabited

Herewith I have the honour to submit to you my Annual
Report for 1894 prepared in accordance with the provisions of
"The Public Health (London) Act, 1891."

The Middle Temple, as you are aware, is one of the eight
places mentioned in Schedule (c) of the Metropolis Local
Management Act, 1855, as forming a separate Sanitary District.

The Sanitary Authority for the execution of the provisions of
the Health Act of 1891, within the Middle Temple, is defined
by Section 99 (1) (c) of the Act, as the Overseer of the Poor
for the district. Since the Under-Treasurer becomes, by
virtue of his office, "ex-officio" Overseer of the Poor, it



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ON
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follows that he is also the Sanitary Authority. Sections 106 and 107 of the Public Health (London) Act enjoin that every Sanitary Authority shall appoint:-

(a) One or more Medical Officers of Health for their district; and,

(b) An adequate number of fit and proper persons as Sanitary Inspectors, and every such Inspector shall be a person qualified and competent by his knowledge and experience to perform the duties of his office.

The following facts may be gleaned from a perusal of the table given in the Appendix -

Area. The Middle Temple covers 4 acres.

Houses. At the Census of 1891 there were 30 inhabited and 16 uninhabited houses, containing an average of 3.1 residents to each house. According to the 1881 Census the number of houses inhabited and population was exactly the same as in 1891. The Middle Temple has a population density of 23.7 persons to an acre as against 57.1 per acre for the whole of London.

Population. As in 1881, so in 1891, the number of those occupying residential chambers in the Middle Temple was 95. The diurnal or visiting population, however, is a much larger one than that made up of those who pass both day and night in the Inn. His office, "ex-officio" Overseer of the Poor, is

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in the Inn.

Diseases, Ages, and VITAL STATISTICS

is not concerned with mortality, but with population, births,

By the Act, 20 Vict. c.19. s.3., it is provided that the Middle Temple shall not be added to any Union. In other words it is extra-parochial and for purposes of registration of births, deaths, and marriages is joined to the sub-district of St. Clement Danes, which again forms part of the Strand registration district. There have been no births during the years 1893 and 1894. Neither has any marriage been solemnised in the Temple Church during the same period or indeed for that matter for many years past. Two deaths occurred in 1894,

THE NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

namely -

(1) A male, aged 59, whose death was due to congestion of the lungs followed by perforation of the stomach; and,

(2) A female, aged 68, whose death was caused by heart disease and diabetes.

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No deaths were recorded during 1893.

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of Deaths, during the year 1894, classified according to

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VITAL STATISTICS

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of Deaths, during the year 1894, classified according to

Diseases, Ages, and Localities. Table B., on the other hand, is not concerned with Mortality, but with Population, Births, and Infectious sickness. It goes without saying that it would be absurd for me to calculate the death-rates in the manner indicated by the Local Government Board. These printed forms are doubtless valuable to Medical Officers of Health in areas larger and more thickly populated than is the case with your "Township" of the Middle Temple. Any deductions drawn from such a source would merely furnish fallacious and misleading figures.

Tested by the Officers of the Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London, and there was no subsequent

THE NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

spread of the disease.

Learn the fever was in all probability contracted outside the

Certain infectious diseases have been made notifiable in London since the passing of the Infectious Diseases

(Notification) Act, 1889. They comprise: - Small-pox, cholera, diphtheria, membranous croup, erysipelas, the diseases known as scarlatina or scarlet fever, and the fevers known by any of the following names: - typhus, typhoid, enteric, relapsing, continued, or puerperal.

In that report, I pointed out that under Section 59 of the Public Health (London) Act - With the single exception, in 1894, of a case of scarlatina, which ended in recovery, no notifications of any of the above-

(3) Every Sanitary Authority shall provide either within or without their district, proper premises with all necessary apparatus and attendance for the destruction and for the

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With the single exception, in 1894, of a case of scarlatina, which ended in recovery, no notifications of any of the above-mentioned diseases have been received by me during the years 1893 and 1894. Neither have there been any deaths recorded

from the other preventable children's "zymotics" known as measles, whooping cough, and diarrhoea. These latter deadly diseases are - at present - unnotifiable in London and, therefore, outside the knowledge and control of the Medical Officer. However, the Middle Temple is not much concerned with these facts owing to the smallness of its juvenile population. The case of scarlatina (in a male adult) already referred to was moved to a paying ward of the London Fever Hospital, in Liverpool Street. The infected chambers were efficiently cleansed and disinfected by the Officers of the Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London, and there was no subsequent spread of the disease. It may interest your Authority to learn the fever was in all probability contracted outside the precincts of the Temple.

Whilst treating the subject of infection, it may be convenient to remind your Authority of a former report, submitted in compliance with your instructions, on -

- (a) Disinfection; and super-heated by means of a steam
- (b) Mortuary Accommodation, with a vacuum apparatus, by

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disinfection, and carriages or vessels for the removal of articles (whether bedding, clothing, or other) which have become infected by any dangerous infectious disease.

(2) Any Sanitary Authorities may execute their duty under this Section by combining for the purposes thereof, or by contracting for the use by one of the contracting authorities of any premises provided for the purpose of this Section by another of such contracting authorities, and may so combine or contract upon such terms as may be agreed upon. In accordance with these provisions, I advised your Authority to seek to combine or contract with the Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London. This was done with the effect that the Commissioners gave a favourable consideration to the proposal and offered to disinfect free of charge, which offer was accepted by your Authority. The Disinfector in use by the Commissioners is the modern and very excellent one invented by Mr. Lyon. It may be described as a large iron cylinder filled with steam, which is super-heated by means of a steam jacket. It is further supplied with a vacuum apparatus, by means of which the disinfection of such articles as thick River Company, and is derived from the Lea. The water in mattresses is rendered certain and thorough.

It is, therefore, wasteful and cheap. It is also unsuitable for use in steam and kitchen boilers and hot-water pipes, in which it produces incrustations and deposits. The apparatus and attendance for the disinfection and for the

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With regard to Mortuary Accommodation, I called your attention to the following Sections of the Health Act -

apparatus and attendance for the reception and for the

88. Every Sanitary Authority shall provide and fit up a proper place for the reception of dead bodies before interment (in this Act called a Mortuary); and,

91. Any Sanitary Authorities may, with the approval of the County Council, execute their duty under this Act with respect to mortuaries, by combining for the purposes thereof, or by contracting for the use by one of the contracting authorities of any such authority provided by another of such contracting authorities, and may so combine or contract upon such terms as may be agreed upon.

After searching in vain throughout the Temple for a suitable place for use as a mortuary, I advised your Authority to ask permission of the Commissioners of Sewers to utilise theirs. This request was readily granted, but happily, there has been, so far, no occasion to give practical effect to the offer of the City Commissioners.

THE WATER SUPPLY

THE WATER SUPPLY UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT

The water in use in the Temple is supplied by the New River Company, and is derived from the Lea. The water is "hard." It is, therefore, wasteful of soap. It is also

unsuitable for use in steam and kitchen boilers and hot-water pipes, in which it produces incrustations and deposits. The

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hardness of the water is almost entirely due to the presence of bi-carbonate of lime in solution. This is easily reducible by treatment with lime before delivery, a practice already successfully carried out by the Colne Valley Company. The water is under fair pressure and the supply is a constant one. In those buildings, where such is not already the case, I would strongly urge your Sanitary Authority to supply water for domestic use direct from the rising main. This could

easily be effected, at a trifling cost, by the addition of a screw-down tap connected with the main in each set of chambers. I am pleased to be able to report that as plans of reconstruction proceed the complicated and dangerous form of Where drinking-water cisterns exist they are often badly placed, almost known as the "pan" is gradually disappearing. It is as for instance, directly over or in close proximity to W.Cs; being replaced by the more cleanly and modern "pedestal" with However well situated, there is always more or less liability of their becoming foul and a danger to health, hence the value of their becoming foul and a danger to health, hence the value The chief disadvantages of the "pan" form of cistern are, of an uncontaminated supply from the rising main. With the that there is always a collection of foul water in the D trap; arrangement suggested, the cisterns might continue to supply foul air collects in the iron box or container and escapes the water-waste preventors which flush the W.Cs. into the house when the handle is pulled and the contents of the pan are emptied. As it is now a common practice to have the pan in a container, too, gets rid of the smell from the house.

 This Act provides that every Sanitary Authority in the Metropolis shall make bye-laws under the following Sections:-
 Section 16. For the prevention of particular nuisances.
 Inspector, and given in the Appendix, it will be seen that

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Section 39. Water-Closets to be sufficiently supplied with water; year.

With a view to a lessening of the danger of such water-borne diseases as typhoid fever and cholera, I would suggest that Your Sanitary Authority has made such bye-laws, which have received the approval of the Local Government Board.

Also that such cistern should be separate and distinct from any cistern liable to be used for drinking

DRAINAGE

The great danger of supplying a water-closet direct from a water main instead of through the inter-
construction proceed the complicated and dangerous form of
vention of a cistern has been shown by numerous outbreaks of
closet known as the "pan" is gradually disappearing. It is
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siphon trap in lieu of D trap and "container."

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facilitated and causes the possible escape of foul air and,
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at times, other matter into the main of the sewer-service.
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Hence the provision of service-pipes for water-closets
into the house when the handle is pulled and the contents of
should be insisted on, as well as to insure a complete flush
the pan discharged; and the interior of the container, too,
between the interior of the closet basin and the water-main;
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but even when such a cistern is provided, there still remains
All such closets should, in my opinion, be removed as
a tendency for the escape of foul air from the basin of the
speedily as possible.
closet up the service-pipe and through the body of water in

From a perusal of the list compiled by your Sanitary
Inspector, and given in the Appendix, it will be seen that

Section 39. Water-Closets to be sufficiently supplied

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Section 40. The cleansing of closets.

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20 new Pedestal W.Cs. have replaced those of the "Pan and Container" form during the past year.

With a view to a lessening of the danger of such water-borne diseases as typhoid fever and cholera, I would suggest that every W.C. within the district should be furnished with a cistern of adequate capacity for the purpose of flushing. Also that such cistern should be separate and distinct from any cistern liable to be used or likely to be used for drinking or domestic purposes. The great danger of supplying a water-closet direct from a water main instead of through the intervention of a cistern has been shown by numerous outbreaks of enteric (typhoid) fever which have resulted from the adoption of the former practice, a method of supply which during intentional or unavoidable intermissions in the water-service facilitates and ensures the forcible suction of foul air and, at times, other matters into the mains of the water-service. Hence the provision of service-cisterns for water-closets should be insisted on, so as to ensure a complete break between the interior of the closet basin and the water-main; but even when such a cistern is provided, there still remains a tendency for the escape of foul air from the basin of the closet up the service-pipe and through the body of water in the cistern itself, thus leading to contamination of the water. It is, therefore, further important that water-closet cisterns

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the cistern itself, thus leading to contamination of the water.

It is, therefore, further important that water-closet cisterns

should supply water-closets only, and that no other supply pipes should be carried from them. The ordinary water waste-preventing cistern answers the purpose efficiently.

Much good work has been carried out during the past 18 months in the shape of alterations whereby buildings have been rendered proof against the entry into them of drain and sewer air.

Your Authority, however, should not rest content until the three following rules have in all cases, whenever possible, been put into practice:-

(1) The provision of soil pipes four inches in diameter, fixed outside the buildings, and carried up full bore to the tops of the houses so as to afford, by means of their open ends, a safe outlet for foul air.

(2) The disconnection of house drains from the sewers, by means of suitable traps with fresh air inlets, at a point as near the sewers as possible.

(3) The provision of anti-siphonage ventilating pipes in all cases where one soil-pipe receives the discharges of two or more W.Cs. placed on different floors; and the carrying up of such anti-siphonage pipes from each W.C. branch-pipe to join the ventilators to the soil pipes.

The scavenging of the Inn, including the removal of house refuse, has been efficiently done daily (Sundays excepted) during the past year.

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during the past year.

In the summer months especially the gullies and sewers were frequently flushed with a plentiful supply of water, and disinfectants were likewise freely used. This precaution is the more needful in view of the small resident population in the Temple and consequent comparative disuse of the drains and sewers.

During 1894 the electric light has taken the place of gas in the Hall, Library, Kitchens, Common Rooms, and many other of the buildings.

In conclusion, I would bear testimony to the value of the Gardens as an open space for the inhabitants of the neighbourhood not less than to those of the Inn itself. All members of the Inn have free entry to the Gardens and others by orders given by the Masters of the Bench.

For some years past the Bench has thrown open the Gardens to the children of the neighbouring slums during the summer months from 6 p.m. to sunset.

It may be of interest to note that wood-pigeons have nested in the plane tree above the fountain in Garden Court.

My report would be incomplete without an acknowledgment of the uniform kindness and courteous assistance received at the hands of all those I have been brought into contact with

The management of the Inn, including the removal of refuse, has been efficiently done daily (except on Sundays) during the past year.

In the summer months especially the gutters and sewers were frequently flushed with a plentiful supply of water, and disinfectants were likewise freely used. This precaution is the more needful in view of the small resident population in the Temple and consequent comparative disuse of the drains and sewers. During 1894 the electric light has taken the place of gas in the Hall, Library, Kitchen, Common Rooms, and many other of the buildings. In conclusion, I would bear testimony to the value of the Gardens as an open space for the inhabitants of the neighbourhood not less than to those of the Inn itself. All members of the Inn have free entry to the Gardens and others by orders given by the Masters of the Bench. For some years past the Bench has thrown open the Gardens to the children of the neighbouring slums during the summer months from 6 p.m. to sunset. It may be of interest to note that wood-pigeons have nested in the plane tree above the fountain in Garden Court. My report would be incomplete without an acknowledgment of the uniform kindness and courteous assistance received at the hands of all those I have been brought into contact with. The governing of the Inn, including the removal of house refuse, has been efficiently done daily (Sundays excepted) during the past year.

in the performance of my duties.

I have the honour to be,

Your Obedient Servant,

The following table - copied from the Census Returns of
1881 - gives (a) the area in acres; (b) the number of houses;

Medical Officer of Health.

and, (c) the population as ascertained for the years 1881 and
1891 - of the Middle Temple.

1, Plowden Buildings,

Area	Temple, E.C.	Building	Inhabd.	Uninhabd.	Building
in	1881		1891		
Acres					
4	20	10	50	10	

POPULATION

Persons Males Females

1881 1891 1881 1891 1881 1891

1881 1891 1881 1891 1881 1891

1881 1891 1881 1891 1881 1891

1881 1891 1881 1891 1881 1891

in the performance of my duties.

I have the honor to be,

Your Obedient Servant,

F. J. Waldo, M.A., M.D., Cantab., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

1, Plowden Buildings,

Temple, E.C.

APPENDIX

The following table - copied from the Census Returns of 1891 - gives (a) the area in acres; (b) the number of houses; and, (c) the population as enumerated for the years 1881 and 1891 - of the Middle Temple.

HOUSES

Area	Inhabd..	Uninhabd..	Building..	Inhabd..	Uninhabd..	Building..
in	1881	1881	1881	1891	1891	1891
Statute Acres...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	30	10	--	30	16	--

POPULATION

Persons	Males	Females
1881	1881	1881
...	...	...
...	...	...
...	...	...

.. Lamb Buildings .. B. 1 pair South .. New Pedestal W.C.

THE REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR .. New Pedestal W.C.
 ----- in place of old.

September .. 2 Pump Court .. Ground Floor East .. do. do.

List of W.Cs. in the Middle Temple.

.. Goldsmith Buildings .. Ground Floor East .. New Pedestal W.C.
 .. in place of old.

1893

August .. 1 Brick Court .. 2 pair East .. New Pedestal W.C.
 .. 2 Brick Court .. 3 pair South .. New Pedestal W.C.
 .. 5 Pump Court .. 3 pair North .. do. do.
 October .. 6 Pump Court .. 1 pair West .. New Pedestal W.C.
 December .. 32 Essex Street .. W.C. on Ground Floor .. New Pedestal W.C.
 .. in place of old.

1894

February .. 3 Plowden Buildings .. Ground Floor South .. New Pedestal W.C.
 .. 3 Essex Court .. 2 pair North .. New Pedestal W.C.
 .. in place of old.
 ... 2 Plowden Buildings .. 1 pair North .. do. do.
 April .. Goldsmith Buildings .. 1 pair West .. New Pedestal W.C.
 .. in place of old.
 May .. 3 Plowden Buildings .. 2 pair North & 1 pair North. .. 2 New Pedestal W.Cs. & New soil pipe.
 .. Lamb Buildings .. 3 pair South .. New Pedestal W.C.
 August .. 6 Pump Court .. 3 pair East .. New Pedestal W.C.
 May .. 4 Pump Court .. New Pedestal W.C. put on 2nd Floor.
 August .. 2 Brick Court .. 2 pair South .. New Pedestal W.C.
 .. in place of old.

THE REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

1893		1894	
August	1 Brick Court	February	3 Plowden Buildings
..	2 Brick Court	..	3 Essex Court
..	3 pair South	..	2 pair North
..	3 pair North	..	1 pair North
..	5 Pump Court	..	2 Plowden Buildings
..	6 Pump Court	..	1 pair West
October	..	December	32 Essex Street
..	1 pair West	..	W.G. on Ground Floor New Pedestal
..	3 pair North	..	in place of old.
..	3 pair South	..	1891
..	2 pair East	..	1892
..	2 pair West	..	1893
..	2 pair North	..	1894
..	2 pair South	..	1895
..	2 pair East	..	1896
..	2 pair West	..	1897
..	2 pair North	..	1898
..	2 pair South	..	1899
..	2 pair East	..	1900
..	2 pair West	..	1901
..	2 pair North	..	1902
..	2 pair South	..	1903
..	2 pair East	..	1904
..	2 pair West	..	1905
..	2 pair North	..	1906
..	2 pair South	..	1907
..	2 pair East	..	1908
..	2 pair West	..	1909
..	2 pair North	..	1910
..	2 pair South	..	1911
..	2 pair East	..	1912
..	2 pair West	..	1913
..	2 pair North	..	1914
..	2 pair South	..	1915
..	2 pair East	..	1916
..	2 pair West	..	1917
..	2 pair North	..	1918
..	2 pair South	..	1919
..	2 pair East	..	1920
..	2 pair West	..	1921
..	2 pair North	..	1922
..	2 pair South	..	1923
..	2 pair East	..	1924
..	2 pair West	..	1925
..	2 pair North	..	1926
..	2 pair South	..	1927
..	2 pair East	..	1928
..	2 pair West	..	1929
..	2 pair North	..	1930
..	2 pair South	..	1931
..	2 pair East	..	1932
..	2 pair West	..	1933
..	2 pair North	..	1934
..	2 pair South	..	1935
..	2 pair East	..	1936
..	2 pair West	..	1937
..	2 pair North	..	1938
..	2 pair South	..	1939
..	2 pair East	..	1940
..	2 pair West	..	1941
..	2 pair North	..	1942
..	2 pair South	..	1943
..	2 pair East	..	1944
..	2 pair West	..	1945
..	2 pair North	..	1946
..	2 pair South	..	1947
..	2 pair East	..	1948
..	2 pair West	..	1949
..	2 pair North	..	1950
..	2 pair South	..	1951
..	2 pair East	..	1952
..	2 pair West	..	1953
..	2 pair North	..	1954
..	2 pair South	..	1955
..	2 pair East	..	1956
..	2 pair West	..	1957
..	2 pair North	..	1958
..	2 pair South	..	1959
..	2 pair East	..	1960
..	2 pair West	..	1961
..	2 pair North	..	1962
..	2 pair South	..	1963
..	2 pair East	..	1964
..	2 pair West	..	1965
..	2 pair North	..	1966
..	2 pair South	..	1967
..	2 pair East	..	1968
..	2 pair West	..	1969
..	2 pair North	..	1970
..	2 pair South	..	1971
..	2 pair East	..	1972
..	2 pair West	..	1973
..	2 pair North	..	1974
..	2 pair South	..	1975
..	2 pair East	..	1976
..	2 pair West	..	1977
..	2 pair North	..	1978
..	2 pair South	..	1979
..	2 pair East	..	1980
..	2 pair West	..	1981
..	2 pair North	..	1982
..	2 pair South	..	1983
..	2 pair East	..	1984
..	2 pair West	..	1985
..	2 pair North	..	1986
..	2 pair South	..	1987
..	2 pair East	..	1988
..	2 pair West	..	1989
..	2 pair North	..	1990
..	2 pair South	..	1991
..	2 pair East	..	1992
..	2 pair West	..	1993
..	2 pair North	..	1994
..	2 pair South	..	1995
..	2 pair East	..	1996
..	2 pair West	..	1997
..	2 pair North	..	1998
..	2 pair South	..	1999
..	2 pair East	..	2000

	..	Lamb Building	..2 pair South	..New Pedestal W.C.
	..	Goldsmith Buildings	..Ground Floor West	..New Pedestal W.C. in place of old.
September	..	6 Pump Court	..Ground Floor East	.. do. do.
	..	Goldsmith Buildings	..Basement East	..New Pedestal W.C. in place of old.
	..	3 Essex Court	..3 pair South	.. do. do.
October	..	Goldsmith Buildings	..Ground Floor East	..New Pedestal W.C. in place of old.
	..	Goldsmith Buildings	..1 pair East	.. do. do.
November	..	2 Brick Court	..3 pair North	.. do. do.
December	..	2 Brick Court	..1 pair North	..New Pedestal W.C.

