

The Paget Memorial Mission Hall

Later, the Paget Memorial Hall, and then the Paget Christian Centre

Mission Hall and ancillary accommodation. Dated 1911 in the pediment over the main entrance, and possibly incorporating part of earlier terraced houses. By Arthur Beresford Pite. Yellow brick with bands of red brick set in Flemish bond, stucco, roof of slate. Three storeys, seven-window range. In Randells Road the buildings have a flat facade continuing the treatment of the rest of the terrace apart from the window-openings of the chapel; the Superintendent's rooms and the missionaries' flats are to the left of, and also above the chapel. Flat-arched entrance to the chapel with moulded stucco architrave and pediment, segmental-arched house entrance to the left; mosaic fascia above with inscription 'PAGET MEMORIAL MISSION HALL'. The chapel front has a stucco panel pierced by two pointed- and shoulder-arched windows, with a lunette window above; all other windows segmental-arched; parapet.



INTERIOR: . The bulk of the decoration in the Hall appears to be of 1911, but it incorporates features of earlier date, some or all of which come from Douglas Support, near Coatbridge, Lanarkshire. This house belonged to the Reverend Sholto Douglas, later Lord Blythwood, who built the Paget Memorial Hall in memory of his wife, Violet Paget, who had held a Bible class on this spot in 1887-9. The hall is panelled throughout up to window-height, and the panelling is for the most part arcaded; the spandrels are decorated with cartouches painted with the monogram VP, and the muntins with carved drops; the cartouches were probably designed by Martin Travers, a pupil of Pite; the cornices throughout are decorated with gilt stencilled violets. The panelling at the east end is surmounted by a broad pediment carrying the arms of Lord Blythwood; inscriptions over the arch of

the east window, and on raised plaster panels above that. Broad balustraded pulpit with square newel posts and balusters, the rail decorated with hearts and rosettes; incorporated in the pulpit are two torchers incorporating Venetian walnut figures representing Vice and Virtue, probably of late C17 or



The Hall ready for a function

C18 date. In the south wall are two ornate chimney-pieces. That to the east has an overmantel decorated with hearts, interlaced ornament and scrolling foliage carved in wood, the whole being framed by columns of Baroque design, bulbous in their lower parts and carved with grotesque and foliage ornament, and of barley-sugar form in the upper parts, supporting a shallow segmental pediment whose tympanum is filled with oak branches and a lion rampant carved in low relief; the pediment surmounted by three statuary figures, the central one of Christ, by Thorwaldsen. The chimneypiece to the west is pedimented and incorporates a portrait of Violet Paget in the overmantel. A fireplace in the north wall is surmounted by a mantelshelf and overmantel, the overmantel flanked by two strips of Jacobean or neo-Jacobean carving, incorporating term figures and foliage. Organ gallery at the west end carried on columns of Baroque design, bulbous in the lower part and of barley-sugar form above; balustrade with square newel posts and balusters and rail decorated with hearts and rosettes. The organ was formerly at Douglas Support. Entrance at the north-west corner under pedimented canopy carried on slim columns whose upper parts are decorated with spiral fluting. The Leader's Room, at the west end of the ancillary accommodation, has a fireplace flanked by elaborate columns decorated with fluting and carrying a canopy. (Architect's drawings by A.B.Pite.; Information from Ruth Guidling).



A Still from the T.V. Detective Series 'Gideons Way' - Showing Police cars passing the Paget Memorial Hall.



Thought to be Violet Mary Paget



OUR LEADER

VIOLET MARY PAGET

Daughter of Lord Alfred Paget

DESIGNED BY JOHN BULLMAN TO THIS PLAGUE

Some Month of 1888 DIED JOHN 13TH 1908

THE MONUMENT WAS DESIGNED BY THE SAME ARTIST WHOSE A WORK

WAS DESIGNED BY HERSELF IN 1887 1888

THIS PLATE WAS DESIGNED BY THE SAME ARTIST WHOSE A WORK

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BLYTHWOOD ROAD, Islington, (1879-1881 period) May well be named after Lord Blythwood who dedicated the Paget Memorial Hall, Randells Road, to his wife Lady Violet M. Paget (1854-1908).

BREWER STREET, Islington, (1829-30) (in 1788 part of the Hermitage Estate (Brewers' Co). Re-named Paget Street 1936. In 1760 Charlotte Charke worked Russell's famous puppets in the Great Room in Brewer Street. In that year she died in 'a wretched hovel in Islington' with only a cat, dog, magpie and monkey for company, yet the daughter of the Poet Laureate Colley Cibber (1661-1757). After the early failure of her marriage to Richard Charke, a dissolute violinplayer, she became the proprietress of an unsuccessful grocer's shop, a valet and a quack doctor (her cure for an old woman's rheumatism was a mixture of boiled snails, brown sugar and mutton fat) and once indignantly denied a charge of robbing her own father of £50 in Epping Forest. A real tomboy, she wrote a most feminine letter to him, begging forgiveness of him for her wayward ways, but he never forgave her!

RANDELLS ROAD, Islington,

First as such in the Islington directory for 1884.

Named after Randell & Evans tile kilns, Randells Road contains the PAGET MEMORIAL HALL, originally the Paget Memorial Mission Hall opened 20th May, 1911 by HRH the Duchess of Albany. The Hall was built by the late Lord Blythwood (created 2nd Baron Blythwood in 1892). He was the Revd Sholto Douglas Campbell, MA and in 1889 married Lord Alfred Paget's daughter, Violet. Violet Paget died in 1908 but from 1887 to 1889, before her marriage held a Bible class in the vicinity and was a Mildmay Deaconess. One of the former pupils in her class wrote a letter of sympathy to the widower. He bought the land on which stood a tin hut in which her classes had been held and erected the Hall to his wife's memory. Its interior is of carved oak and includes a china Minton breakfast set in a carved cabinet, a [??? missing text]

In June 1927 the Hall was bequeathed to the London City Mission.

