



**NEWPORT AUXILIARY  
HOSPITAL  
38 QUAY STREET**

# NEWPORT AUXILIARY HOSPITAL

## 38 QUAY STREET

***Date Built and Current Status:***

*c. Early 19th Century – Still Standing*

***History:***

*Private Homes*

*Offices*

*Red Cross Auxiliary Hospital*

*Local Government Offices*

*Currently Empty*

***Dates as Hospital:***

*Unknown*

***Address:***

*38 Quay Street, Newport, Isle of Wight*



38 Quay Street. K Goodchild

This property has had a number of residents over the years. From around 1841 it was the home of Frederick Blake; solicitor, perpetual commissioner, registrar of the County Court, Clerk to the Borough Magistrates, Coroner for the Isle of Wight and Clerk to the Carisbrooke Burial Board. He lived here with his wife Elizabeth and their servants. Elizabeth died in 1883 and their son Edward; also a solicitor, returned to live with Frederick around 1891. Frederick moved to Shanklin in 1896 and died 14 January 1898.

In 1901 Frank King; accountant, Secretary of Newport Gas Co., assistant overseer St. Nicholas district, rate accountant to Isle of Wight commissioners of sewers and secretary to Isle of Wight Assurance Society was using Nos. 37 and 38 as offices.

By 1903 Joseph Percy Shepard his wife Fanny Kate and their four children; Constance Mary, Albert Henry, Marjory Kate and Percy Victor who had been living across the road at No. 11 moved to No. 38. Percy ran Shepard Brothers Carriers; the offices for which were based in Sea Street.

By 1913 the house was back on the market to let; described as having five bedrooms, a bathroom (with hot and cold water) , three reception rooms, a kitchen and “every modern convenience”, a large garden and a greenhouse.

Although it is unknown why and when it was decided to use the building as an auxiliary hospital it was not on the scale of other Island hospitals like Northwood

and Hazelwood House. There is no information on the number of casualties and there appears to have only been four staff working there (see separate list).

It seems that the building ceased to be a hospital shortly after the end of the war as on 21 November 1918 Harry Shepard who must have still held the lease for the property, had an agreement with the Mayor of Newport for the tenancy of 38 Quay Street. Harry took on the lease on 25 March 1920 for 21 years with the rent being 40 shillings per year (£1100). Parallel to this it is reported in the Isle of Wight County Press that in 1918 the Town Council took over 38 Quay Street as their offices with rooms being set aside for Newport Food Control Committee with a rent of 20 shillings per year (£550).

Mr T Ross Pratt Solicitor, Newport's Town Clerk and Honorary Secretary of the Isle of Wight Chamber of Commerce were based in the offices during this time.

During WW2 it was designated as one of four locations in Newport and Carisbrooke where casualty notices from air raids would be posted.

The County Surveyor's office was based in the building and as well as the council having offices in the building it appears to have continued as a residence for some. There is no one resident there according to the 1939 register but in 1946 Elizabeth Parkinson is, having had a ring stolen by Reginald John Williams on 2 April as reported in the Isle of Wight County Press.

On 1 October 1953 the premises were given Grade 2 listed status: meaning that it was of special architectural or historic interest, warranting every effort to preserve it. However during the years when No. 39 was occupied by the Council problems started to arise from when dry rot began to spread through the wall into No. 38 (No. 36 also appears to have been at fault with problems arising from there also; No. 36 is The Methodist Church). The Solicitor John Gurney-Champion now owned the building.

Isle of Wight County Press 30 November 1990

**SITE VISIT TO LISTED BUILDING**

A DECISION on whether to buy a listed building in Quay Street Newport using compulsory purchase powers has been deferred by Medina councillors.

Instead, members of the borough's policy and resources committee are to visit number 38 Quay Street to see at what stage renovation work is at.

Earlier this month, Medina planning committee decided to go for a compulsory purchase order, because members were unhappy at what they thought was slow progress being made to bring the building up to scratch.

But policy and resources committee members have taken up an offer by building owner Mr John Gurney-Champion to see for themselves what work has been done.

A progress report will then be discussed at their next meeting.

# Appeal to owners of buildings at risk

HERITAGE at risk has been identified in a new report, which lists buildings, structures, parks and gardens considered to be 'at risk' or 'vulnerable' in the Medina Valley.

By Martin Neville

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The document has been published by the IW Council and will be followed by similar reports for Ryde and The Bay area.

It mirrors English Heritage's national Heritage at Risk register but also identified Grade II listed buildings and locally listed assets.

It is hoped publishing the list will raise awareness and help secure the buildings' future.

The council said all 441 listed assets were subject to a visual assessment from public land, looking at condition and occupancy.

Owners were given the chance to comment but the authority stressed inclusion was not intended to criticise or blame.

Priority cases included the remnants of a 19th century lime kiln in Stag Lane and the Frank James Memorial Hospital in East Cowes.

Deputy cabinet member with special responsibility for heritage Cllr Roger Whitby-Smith said: "Many of the assets listed are privately owned.

"The council asks that owners seek the valuable knowledge and expertise of the council's conservation officers, planners and others who know the individual buildings and places; the styles, techniques and materials that are characteristic of a place and how to conserve and preserve them."

The report can be

accessed on [iwight.com](http://iwight.com) by clicking the Medina HAAR tab on the Conservation and Design section.

Other heritage at risk or vulnerable includes:

● A 17th century wall at the rear of Nos 78, 79 and 80, High Street, Newport.

Designation: Grade II

Condition: Poor

Comments: "The wall is in poor condition with appalling masonry and damaging vegetation growth."

● 38 Quay Street, Newport.

Designation: Grade II

Condition: Fair

Comments: "The building is structurally sound but suffers from a lack of maintenance and has been vacant for a number of years."

● St Cross Mill, St Cross Lane, Newport.

Designation: Grade II

Condition: Poor

Comments: "A significant building in the history of Newport, this mill is an almost complete original structure from the early 19th century, with some late 19th century."

● Former AB Cooke warehouse, Little London, Newport.

Designation: Locally listed

Condition: Poor

Comments: "Built in 1901, the building provided the first permanent electricity supply for Newport and later Cowes. The building is a visually important local landmark, due to its distinctive and recognisable form."

● Part of Parkhurst Prison, 1 Nicholson Street, Newport.

Designation: Grade II



The building at 38 Quay Street, Newport, and inset, Medina View, East Cowes.

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Condition: Fair

Comments: "Designed by Sir Joshua Jebb and constructed in 1842-44, was originally the deputy governor's house but later used as offices."

● Medina View, Trinity Road, East Cowes.

Designation: Locally listed.

Condition: Poor.

Comments: "With an engraving dating the building to 1745, this is thought to be one of the oldest houses in



the town and is a tiny remnant of old East Cowes."

Isle of Wight County Press 14 February 2014

By 2019 the building had had work carried out on it. However, its future is unknown.

## **List of Volunteers at Newport Auxiliary Hospital**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Duties</b>
Attwell, Margaret	Probationer Nurse
Robyns-Owen, Elizabeth	Sister
Welby Pryer, Kate	Ward Maid & Probationer Nurse
White, Louisa	Probationer Nurse