

SANDALL ROAD

From 1890 to present day



1890

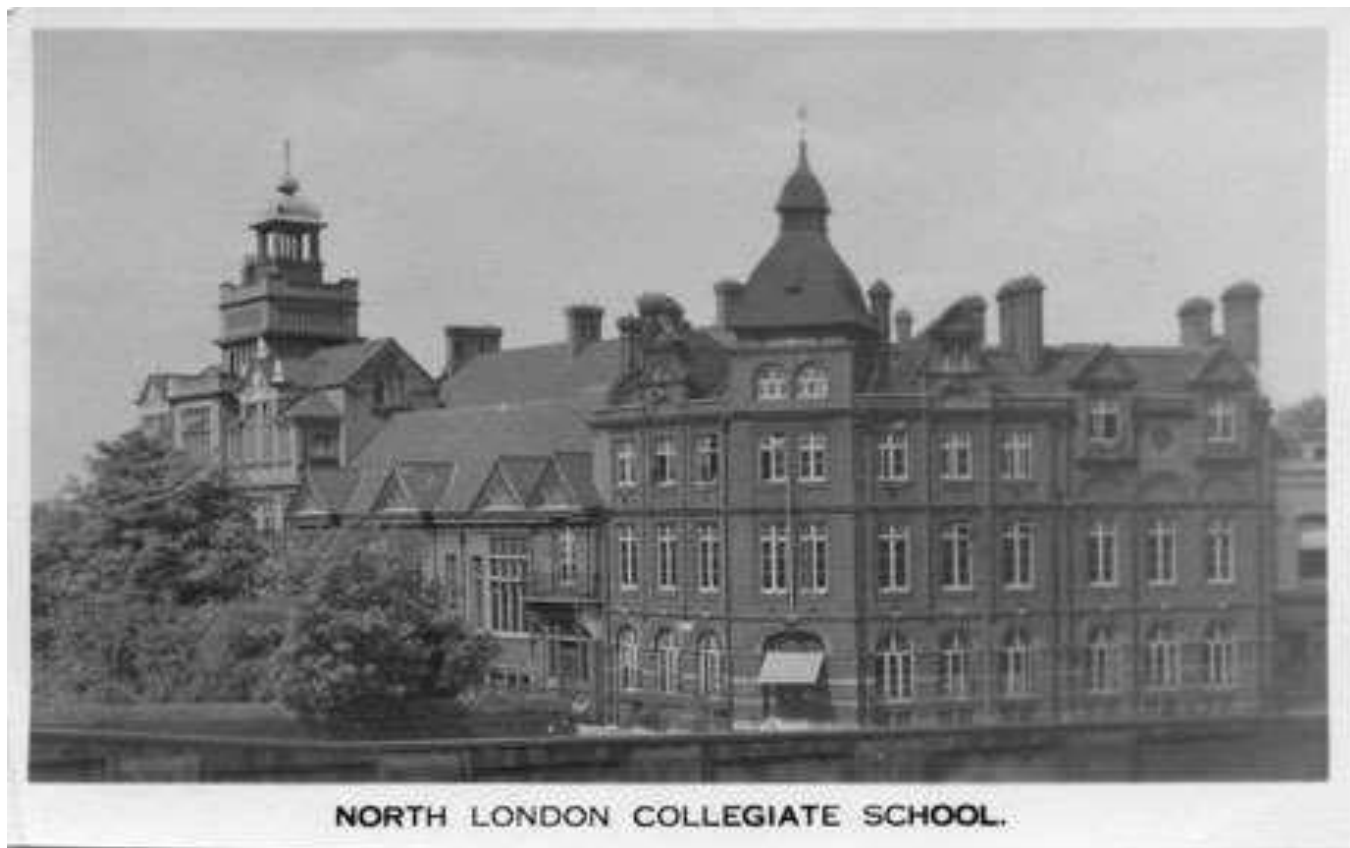


The Sandall Road building that we know today was originally a furniture store known as the **Emporium**.

Frances Mary Buss chose this building for the first school she had founded in 1850, **The North London Collegiate School**, which needed more space due to increasing numbers.

In 1871 Frances Mary Buss opened a second school, **The Camden School for Girls**, at 46 Camden Street. Miss Buss set out to create a school for the daughters of lower middle class parents – clerks, shopworkers, civil servants, clergymen. The fees were four guineas a year, far lower than the fees for the North London. This was a radical venture at the time.

1910



The **Princess of Wales** – later to become Queen Alexandra – requested that both the North London and Camden School be placed under her patronage with a gift of 50 guineas.

Royal patronage led to donations from others including the **Worshipful Companies of Brewers and Clothworkers** whose origins stretch back to the fifteenth century.

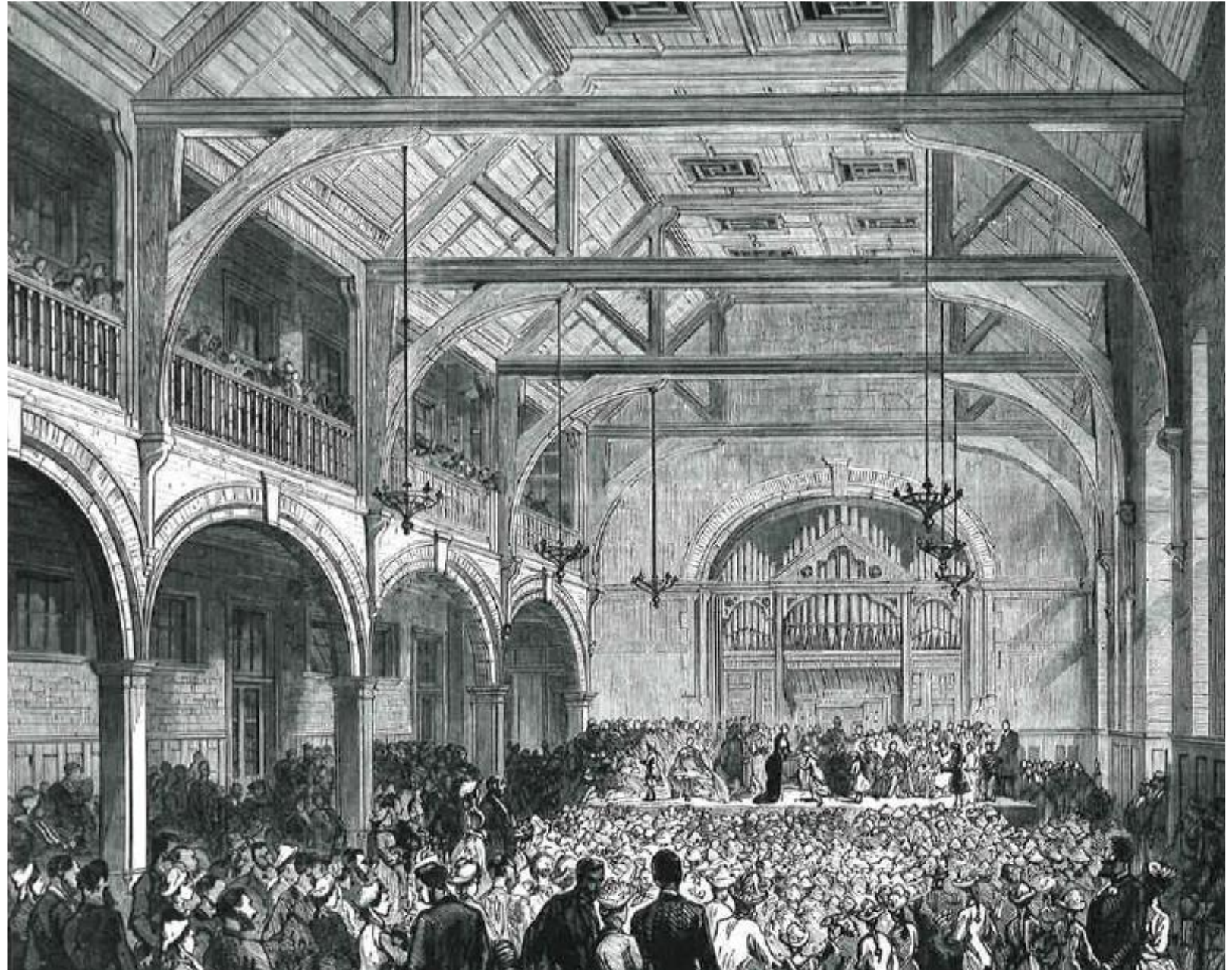
On 23 July 1878, two granite foundation stones were laid at Sandall Road.

On 18 July 1879, the **Prince and Princess of Wales** visited the new North London Collegiate School . Two marble plaques commemorating this occasion survived bombing.

In 1908 the foundation stone for the Edwardian extension (the Bryant wing named after the school's second headmistress Sophie Bryant) was laid with **Emily Davies**, a friend of Miss Buss, supporter of votes for women and one of the founders of Girton College, Cambridge.

The Clothworkers' Hall

1879 Prize Day
The Princess of Wales
presenting prizes in
the Clothworkers' Hall



“The Clothworkers' Hall ... is the centre of the school's life. Here it meets for prayers every morning. Here, too, the annual prize-givings take place and dramatic performances are given. The School Concerts are also given in it, while three times a year meetings of the Old Pupils' Association are held there. But the great day of the year is Founder's Day, April 4, when the school is en fete. The Hall and schoolrooms are decorated; mistresses and girls alike wear the school flower—the daffodil. In the gymnasium there is a display of needlework, toys, dolls, &c., afterwards sent to children's hospitals. The Upper Forms provide outfits for " Waifs and Strays " and the Women's University Settlement, Southwark. In the afternoon the school is thrown open to visitors, when there is always a great gathering. In the Hall a musical recital is given, and a sale of work takes place in the gymnasium. The proceeds (about £70) are sent to the Children's Country Holiday Fund.”

“A Short History of the North London Collegiate School for Girls”

By Eleanor M. Hill

The Clothworkers' Hall
circa 1900



RUSSELL & SONS, 17, BAKER STREET, W.



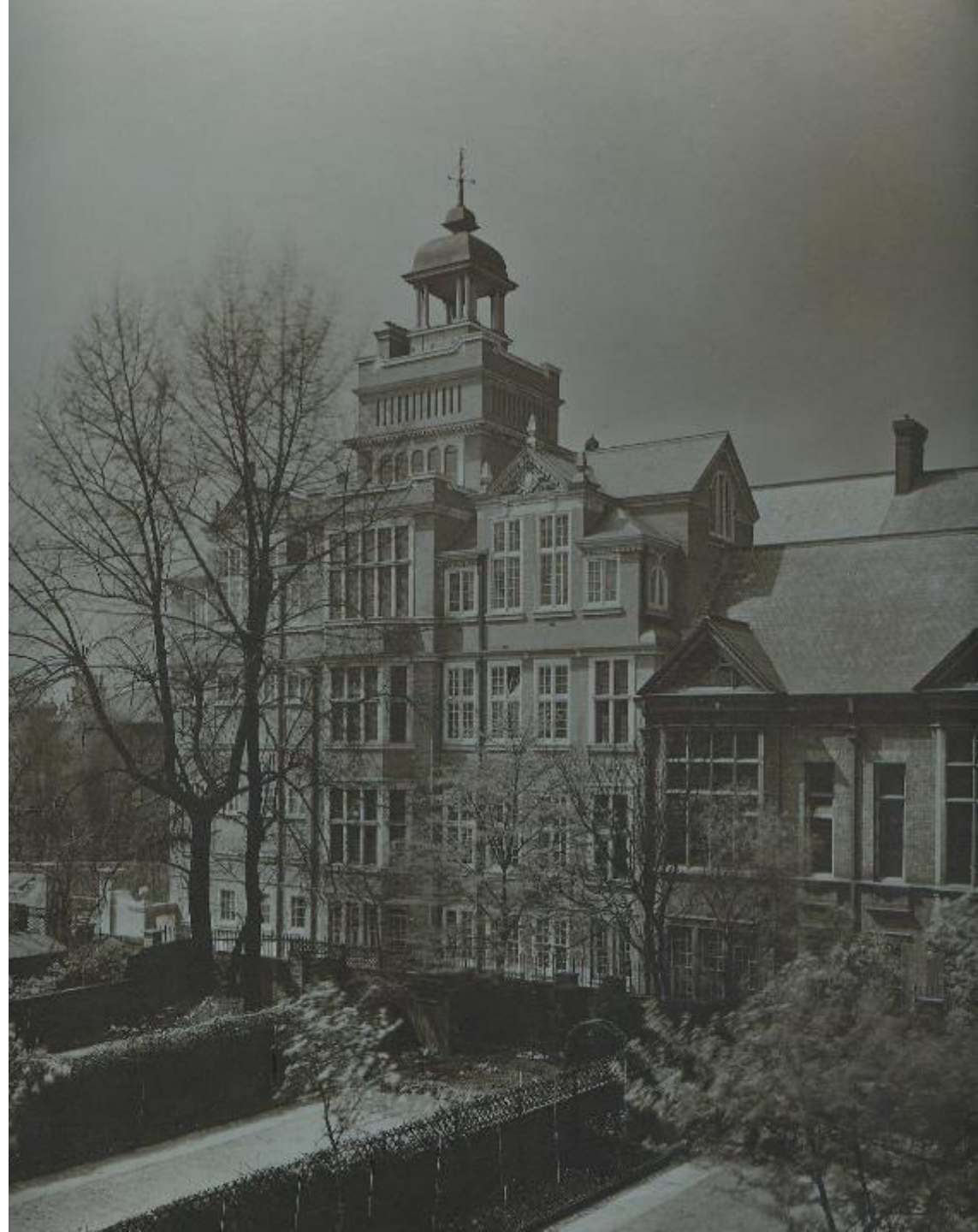
PHOTOGRAPHERS BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT
TO H.M. THE QUEEN.

12, HIGH STREET, WINDSOR,
& 42, OSBORNE ROAD, SOUTHEASE

“All visitors, especially those connected with boys' schools, are favourably impressed by the general brightness of the building. The classrooms resemble the Hall in general structure and with their pictures and photographs, tiled fireplaces and window gardens, are most attractive. But another feature well known to the school authorities is the freedom from "inkstains." It is an old tradition of the school that to spill ink is a serious offence. In the early days of poverty great care and economy had to be exercised, and one of the results is seen to-day in the spotless floors and desks.”

A Short History of the North London Collegiate School for Girls
By Eleanor M. Hill

Notice in this photo that the school had a road in front of it (Sandall Road) which has since been built on.



Circa 1905 (station closed in 1916)



The original **Camden Road Station** was on a totally different railway line from the station that bears the same name today. Camden Road Station was on the **Midland Line** which went into St Pancras. The station was situated across Sandall Road from Camden School for Girls on what today is the site of Autodeutsche.

The station opened in 1868 and closed in 1916 as a wartime economy.

1933 a lesson being taught outside



1941 WAR DAMAGE



1941 WAR DAMAGE



In January 1941 a bombing raid devastated the Sandall Road building.

The Clothworkers' Hall was completely destroyed. Fortunately the building was empty on the night it was bombed. Students had been evacuated during the war. And the army who had commandeered the building had departed before another contingent arrived.

The building that stood here was to remain a heap of rubble for many years.

After much debate, the school set up a building fund to raise the money required to repair the Sandall Road building. The Building Fund, supported by students and parents, raised £5,000, which would be an impressive £130,000 in today's money. Only through a determination to succeed against the odds and a belief in the possibility of renewing and regenerating the school did the building we sit in come into existence.

Finally, two young architects were employed to design the building that would exist in the middle of the site linking the Victorian part and the Edwardian wing.

The architects **Stillman & Eastwick-Field Partnership** came up with design which is known as **Brutalist**, a name that derives from the use of bare, raw concrete which remains visible which is very much of its time. The firm made notable contributions to Britain's post-war reconstruction, first with schools and, hospitals, later with housing and university accommodation.

On the 18 October 1956, students from Camden School for Girls celebrated their new home at Sandall Road in the presence of **HRH The Duchess of Gloucester** (Alice), one of the present Queen's last surviving aunts. The school had previously occupied sites at 46 Camden Street and on Prince of Wales Road. The famous American sculptor **Sir Jacob Epstein** created a bronze head of a young girl to celebrate the opening of the new school.

1956 – Opening ceremony





New Science Block 1966



A small factory became vacant in 1960 and using the proceeds from the building fund, plans went ahead for the addition of an additional science wing.

On 8 December 1965 Sir John Cockcroft, Master of Churchill College and joint winner of the Nobel Prize for Physics (1951) for his pioneering work on “splitting the atom”, laid the foundation stone.

1960s Summer Fair



1973 Roof of hall collapses



In 1973, a disaster struck the school. On June 13th, lessons took place as usual in the hall. A teacher remarked afterwards that she heard a sound like gravel falling during her drama class. She noticed a crack in the ceiling, and asked a girl to go upstairs and look at the hall from an upstairs window. The girl thought she saw a bulge, but couldn't be sure. There was a meeting with parents in the evening. All went well. This hall, built in 1956, was the pride and joy of the school. But at 10.22pm, there was a rumble like the sound of a train approaching, and then an ear-splitting crash. The entire roof of the hall had plummeted to the floor. Luckily, no-one was hurt.

During the days after the collapse the school felt profound shock, but had to start raising money to part-fund the repairs and also to build 'temporary' accommodation to use instead of the hall. That temporary structure is the building we now call the Studio, still in place 45 years after the collapse of the roof.

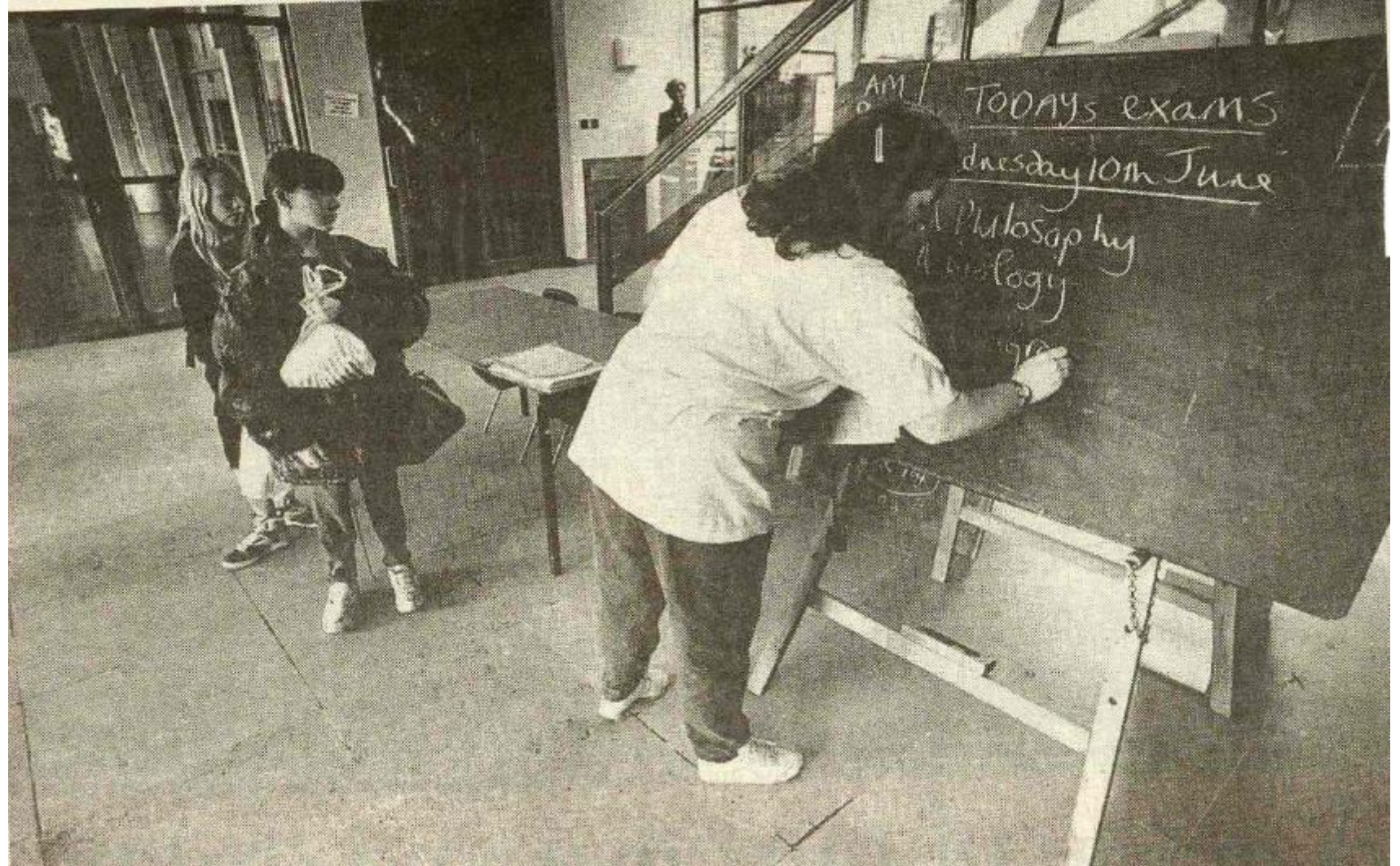
The roof disaster became well-known to architects and engineers, and led to a complete re-design of roofs, which are now exceptionally safe.

1980s Fun Run for Cystic Fibrosis

Notice the Camden Building did not yet exist



Exams Summer 1992



2000 Unveiling of Blue Plaque

Page 16 **NEWS** Camden New Journal 30 March 2000

1929 PREFECT RETURNS TO UNVEIL TRIBUTE TO CAMDEN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS' FOUNDER.

Education pioneer is honoured

A BLUE plaque was unveiled at Camden School for Girls on Friday in honour of the school's founder and pioneer of women's education, Frances Mary Buss.

A gathering of school pupils, teachers and English Heritage staff paid homage outside the school's Sandall Road entrance to the forward thinking Camden Town woman who established the first modern girls' high school and fought to have women admitted to university.

Born in 1827, Miss Buss began teaching at 14 and in 1835 set up her first school with her mother at their Camden Street home. Then in 1950 she set up the North London Collegiate from the same house.

She aimed to provide an academic edu-

where Camden School for Girls is today.

That year she also opened her second school, Camden School for Girls in her home, in Camden Street, which later moved to Prince of Wales Road in 1879 and to its current Sandall Road position in 1956.

The North London Collegiate School moved to Finsbury in 1938.

Miss Buss - who was the first woman to describe herself as a 'Headmistress' - campaigned for girls to sit public examinations.

"Why are women so little thought of?" she said. "I want them educated to match their brothers."

Some of her pupils were finally allowed to take the exams on an experimental basis, and did so well, that in 1867,

they were permanently opened to girls.

Miss Buss also fought for women's access to Cambridge university and later launched a training college in Cambridge to draw female graduates into teaching.

■ Pionered: Corinne Harran, 89, a senior prefect at the North London Collegiate School in 1929 and Harriet Bennett, Camden School for Girls' unveil the plaque



by AMANDA MCGREGOR

education to girls of what she called the "middling classes" and her school was to become the prototype for later girls' high schools.

"She was born into an age when girls were only taught to be good wives," said Bernice McCabe, the current head of the North London Collegiate, now in Finsbury.

"She was way ahead of her time," she added.

In 1880 Miss Buss shifted the Camden Street school to a new building in Sandall Road,



On 1st January 2000, a blue plaque was unveiled by **Connie Hurran**, a senior prefect of North London Collegiate aged 89 and **Harriet Bennett** who was the youngest girl at Camden School for Girls at that time.

2013 6Girls no Buoys swim for science labs raising £18,000



On Sunday 1st September 2013, a team of 6, 4 of whom were from Year 8 at CSG set out from Shakespeare Beach, near Dover, at 5.30am and swam a distance of 21 miles.

They swam in in one hour shifts and reached France in just over 13 hours.

A magnificent £18,000 was raised which was put towards refurbishing the science labs.

Dame Athene Donald, Professor of Experimental physics at the University of Cambridge, Master of Churchill College, Cambridge and former pupil at Camden School for Girls officially opened the laboratory.

2015



2017/18 CASCA's 60 for 60 campaign



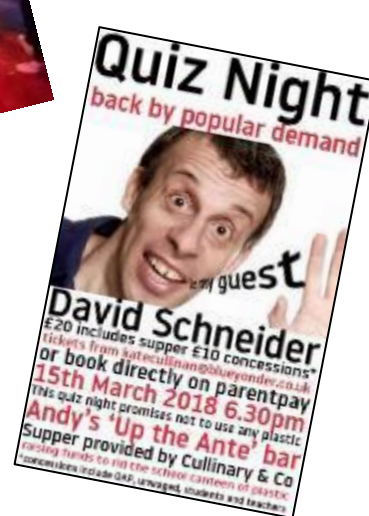
Dance-A-Thon



More at Moro



Jumble sale



The school is extremely fortunate to have support from Camden School's Community Association (CASCA). On Founder's Day 2017 they kicked off a 60for60 campaign to mark 60 years at Sandall Road with a target of £60,000 to help modernise classrooms, common areas and the dining hall.

A variety of fabulous events have taken place throughout the year including **Dramstock!**, the **Dance-a-Thon**, **SummerFest**, the **Quiz Night**, **Jumble sale**, **Book Fair** and **More @ Moro** to name but a few.

2018



New Entrance



Sixth Form



New Foyer



Baroness Rebuck



CASCA cheque presentation





*Architecture is not
about space but about
time.*

– Vito Acconci

