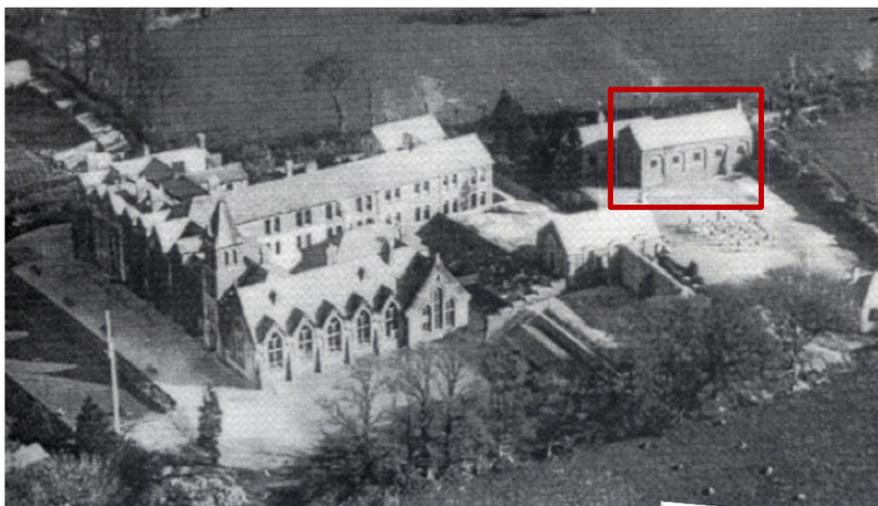


## School Sports Hall

*No expenditure in labour or money has been grudged to make the equipment complete, and, to all appearance, a highly successful result has been attained. An invaluable addition has been made to the school premises, and ... will result, not in broken limbs, but in broken records.*

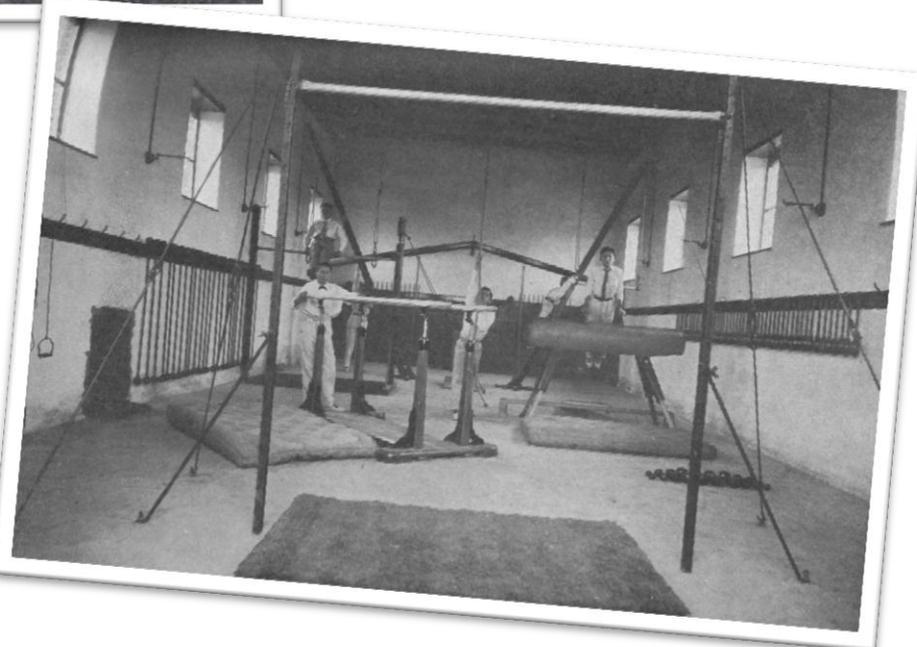
*Truro College Magazine, December 1898*

During the School's time at Trennick Lane the sports hall has been reinvented on several occasions.



The School's first sports hall was opened on 5 December 1898. The catalyst for the building work to begin came from excess money raised to commemorate Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee in 1897. The plans were produced by F.W. McCoskrie, a former pupil and the school's first head prefect. It was to be built on the upper play-ground 'without delay' using 'the ample good stone' that could be 'quarried on the spot'. The dimensions of the floor

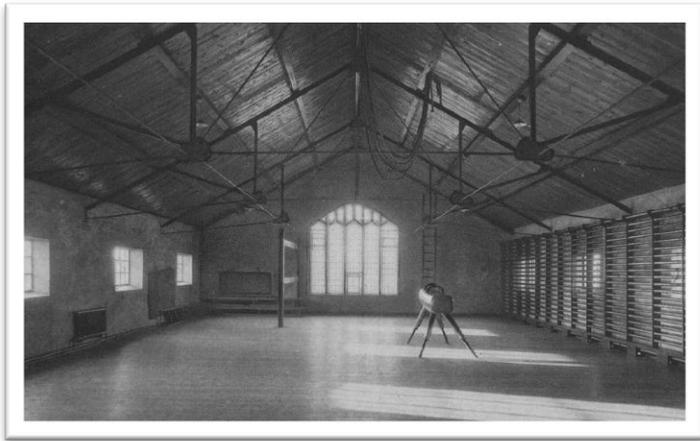
were to be 50 feet by 21 feet. The proposed cost was £160. Building began early in 1898 but initial progress was slow because more money needed to be raised; the planned opening date in June 1898 was postponed until the following term. The final building costs were nearly £200 and the furnishings and equipment cost a further £50-£60, which was raised by the school's first bazaar held in the dining hall in October.



At the new building's opening, 'to signalise an occasion so important in the annals of the school, the Gymnasium Roll ... was signed by all the Masters and Boys'.

The 1898 gym today – the second storey was a later addition.





When the school chapel was completed in 1928 the sports hall was moved to the room above it. This later became a common room for the Lower Sixth, and is now the Heseltine Gallery.

In the 1970s the school undertook an ambitious DIY project to build their own sports hall and design technology workshop. It was built largely with voluntary labour from pupils, staff, former pupils, parents and friends, under the direction of Dennis Keam, the technology master. It was designed by Messrs. Marshaman, Warren and Taylor, of Truro and was funded by a



school appeal launched in 1974 with financial assistance from the Job Creation Scheme. Work began in August 1975, and the foundation stone was laid by Hawken Rose, a former pupil and the chairman of the County Council, on 18 October.

It was officially opened on 12 September 1977 by Sir Alan Dalton, deputy chairman of English China Clay. The new hall was large enough to provide for many indoor sports, including hockey, football, cricket and tennis. It also had a purpose-built climbing wall, which at the time was only the second in Cornwall. New changing facilities were included to accommodate the increasing number

of girls attending the school. The first major project built in the new technology workshop was the school plane, *Spirit of Truro*.



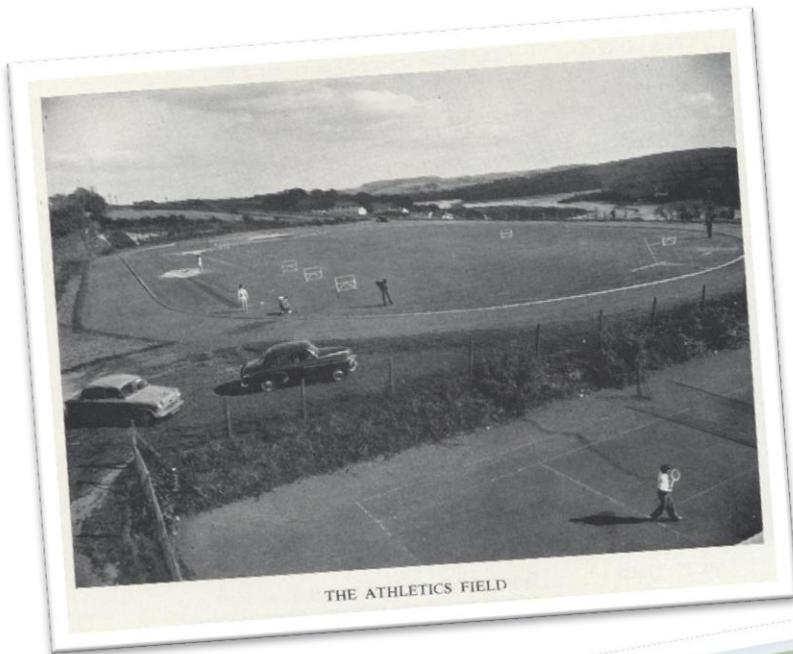


A new purpose-built gym was opened in 1991, in addition to the old sports hall, and can be seen here located in front of the swimming pool. The pool was covered in 1999.

This gym still remains today, the inside of which can be seen from this recent picture.



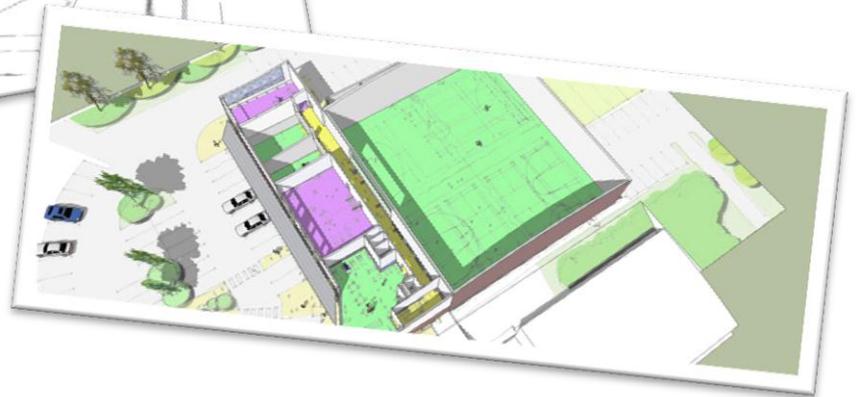
A similar view to the 1990s aerial photo, taken in August 2013.



The athletics field in 1956, later netball courts and car park, now the site of the new sports hall.



Architect's designs of the new Sir Ben Ainslie Sports Hall



Cutting the Turf, July 2012: work begins on the new sports hall, presided over by former headmaster Paul Smith and the school's international sport stars.

The new sports hall was first used in August 2013 and will be officially opened by Olympic sailor and former pupil Sir Ben Ainslie in October 2013.