

The Brewhouse St.Francis' Abbey Brewery Kilkenny



**A Photographic Record
and
The Analysis of the Phasing of the Brewhouse
Of St.Francis' Abbey Brewery,
Horse Barrack Lane, Kilkenny.**





View of Saint Francis' Abbey Brewery from Green's Bridge.

St Francis' Abbey can be clearly seen across the river.
The rice/malt silo with the distinctive pitched roof can be seen.
The maturation vessels can be seen behind.



Phase 1



Phase 1: the original 'Bauhaus' influenced Brewhouse
Phase 2: extension to phase 1 constructed up against room with yellow stairs.

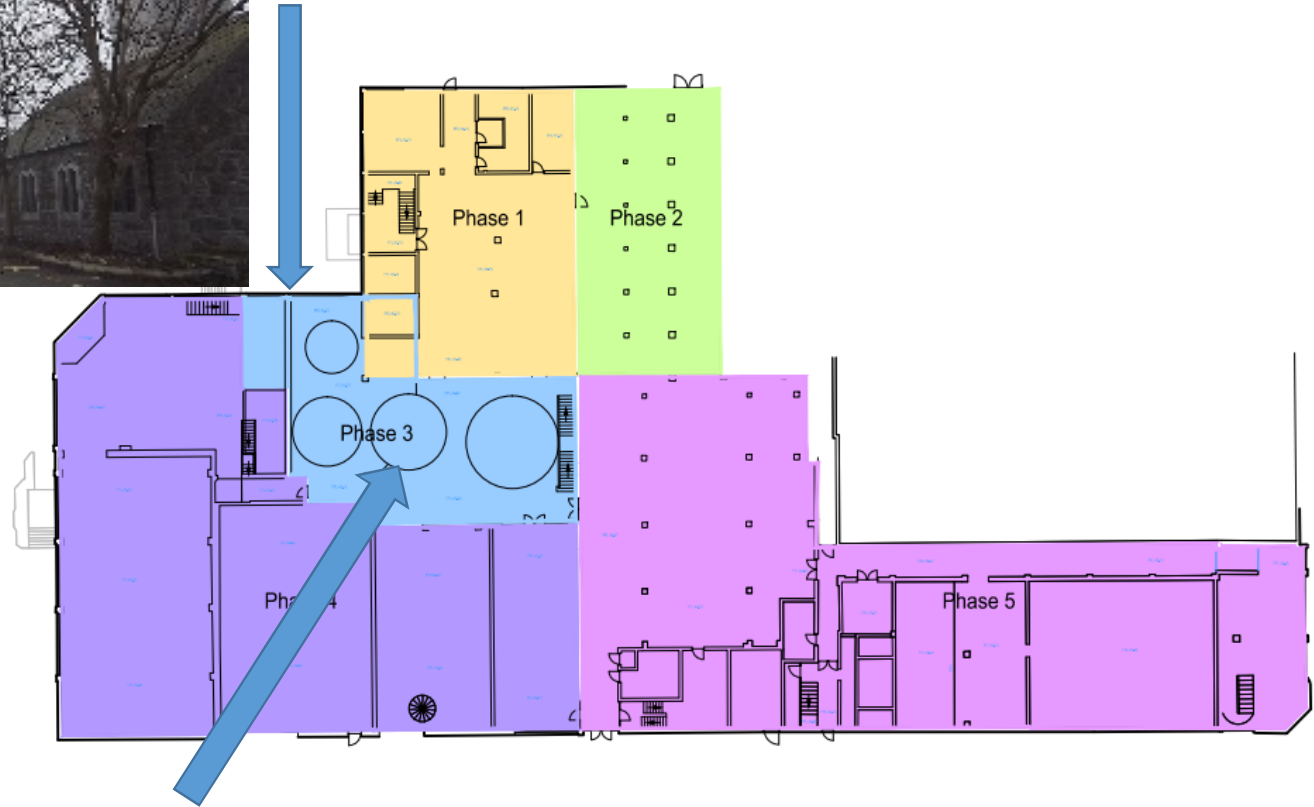
The original 'Bauhaus' influenced building (to the left of the blue line)



Phase 3 and 4



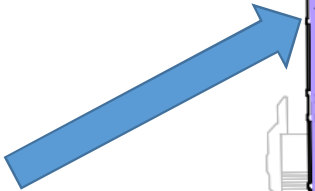
Phase 3 - Central vats and raised square rooflight



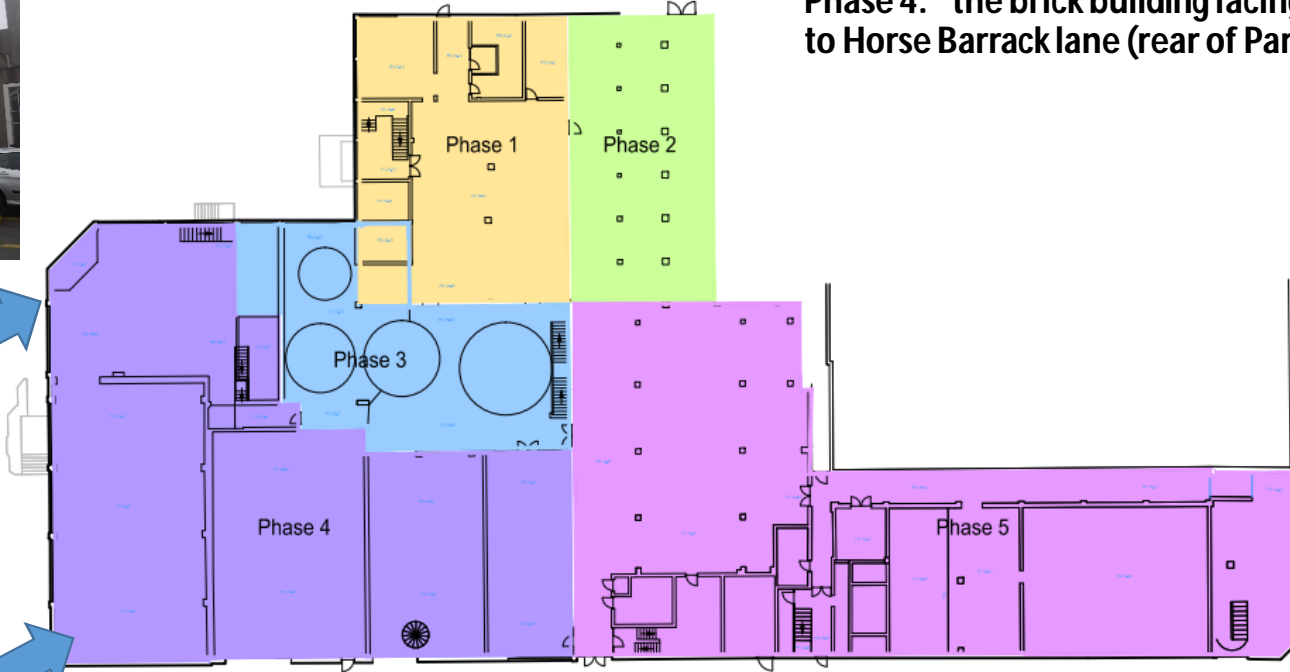
Phase 3 - Rooflight and vats



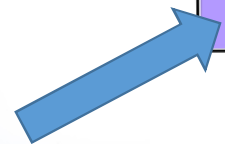
The Abbey



Phase 4 . Facing the Abbey



Phase 4: the brick building facing North to Abbey and West to Horse Barrack lane (rear of Parliament Street)





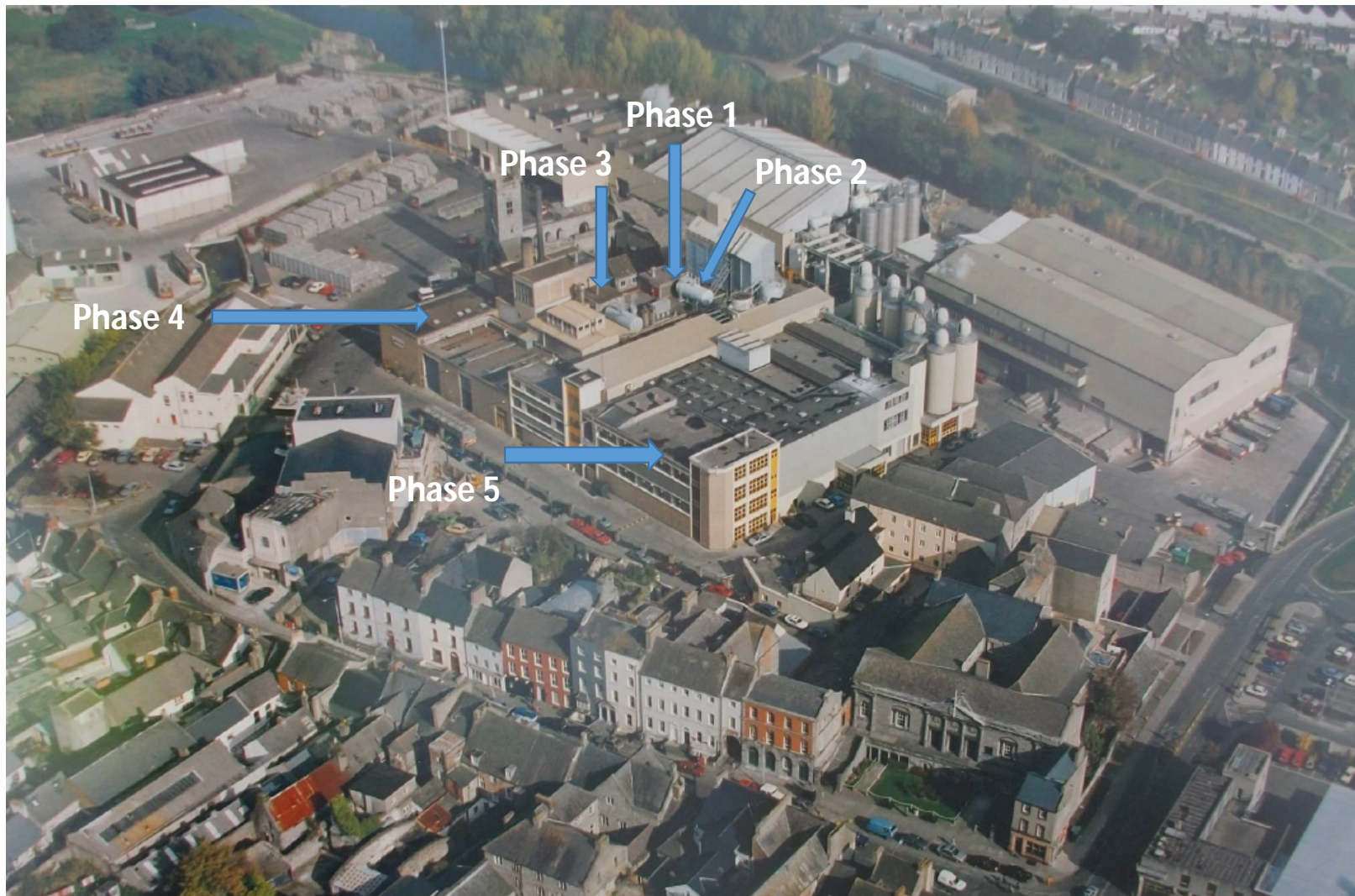
Phase 5: West elevation to Horse Barrack Lane.
 This section of the building is following the Bauhaus Concepts. However, when executed in a poor material such as P.V.C., it has lost the elegance and importance of phase 1 where the materials of concrete have been pushed to their aesthetic limit.

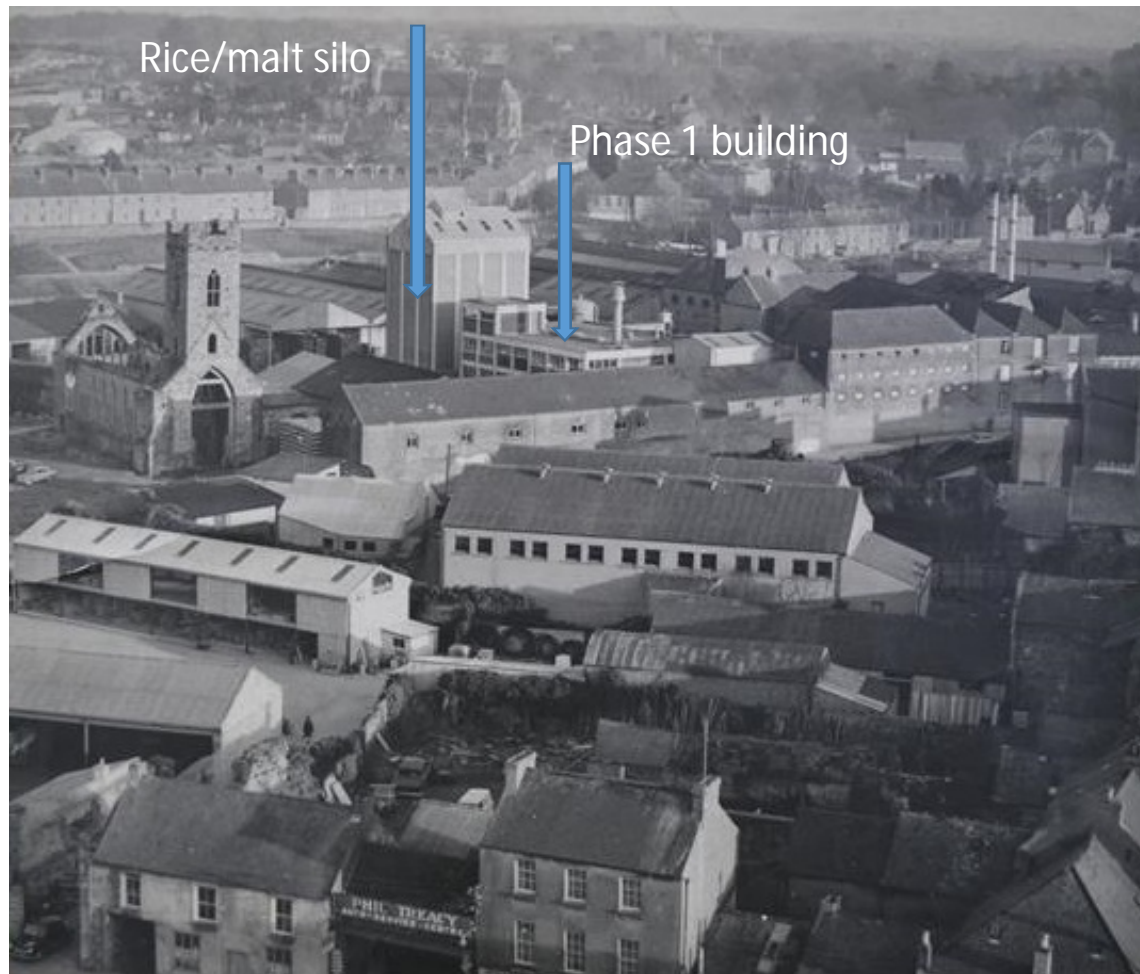


Phase 5 west elevation



Barrack lane rear of Parliament Street ⁶





Rice/malt silo - The original tower has been re clad.
The original phase 1 building (Bauhaus influenced)adjoins the silo. The p.v.c red conservatory is not coeval to the building .

1960s view from the round tower of St.Canices' of the site showing the abbey and the rice/malt silo before it was clad. The original 'Bauhaus influenced ' phase 1 building is visible to the right of the silo.



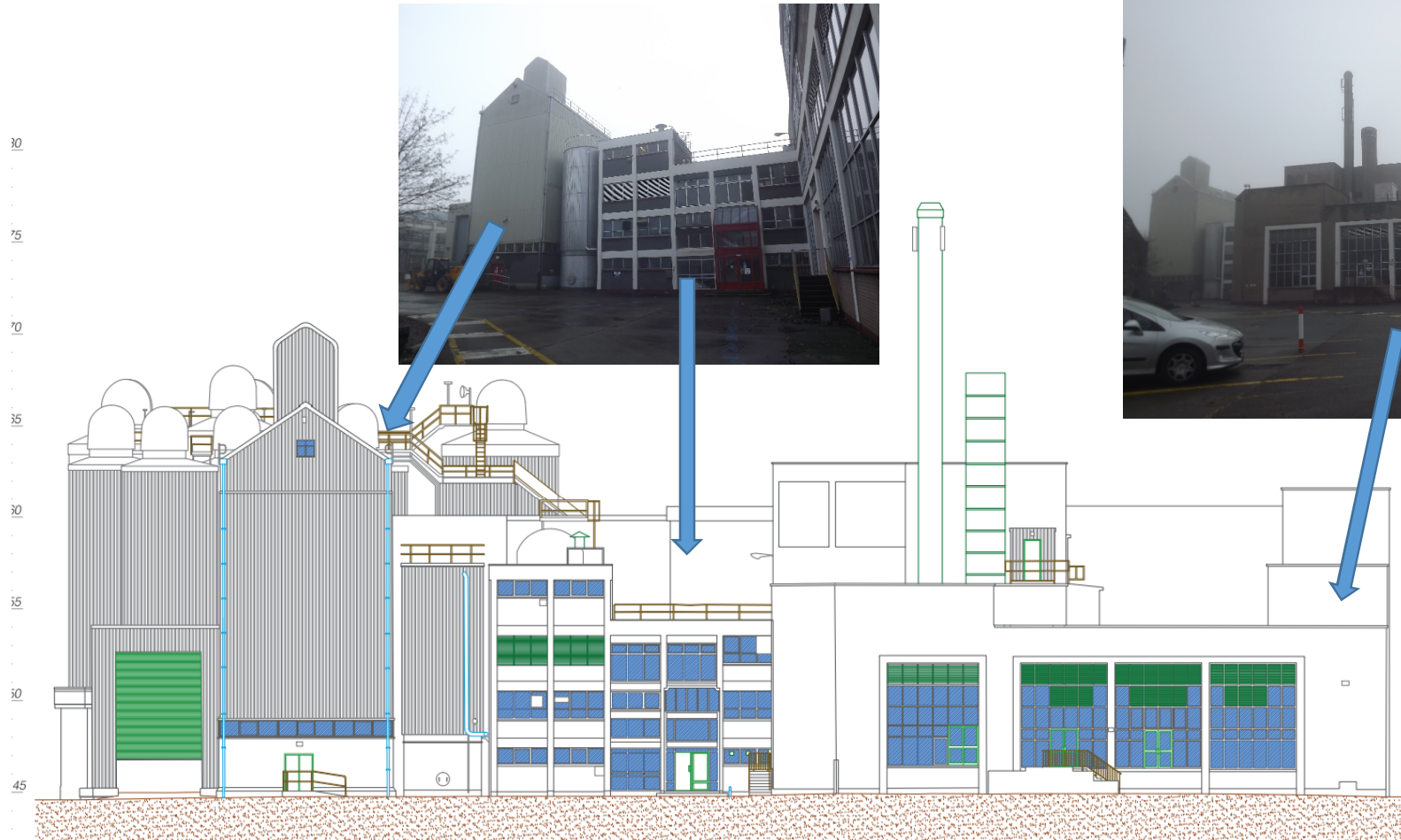


North Elevation of Brewhouse phase 4
This is facing the Abbey. The removal of the steps which are not original would be welcomed to connect the building to a future urban space



Original Brewhouse building (Bauhaus influenced) with original staircase, and black mosaic details on front of beams

North Facing phase 4 brick elevation



40 Distance in meters

North Elevation .behind abbey showing phase 4 with brick elevation. The original 'Bauhaus' Elevation can be clearly seen with the black mosaic details on the beams and the red railings to roof terrace and entrance door to original 'Bauhaus' staircase . The front door of red p.v.c is not original



Saint Francis' Abbey in context
The area in front of the Abbey overlooks the city walls and the Mayfair Building
The industrial buildings to the rear are to be removed by Diageo.



The phase 1 'Bauhaus' to the left
Phase 3 and 4 to right of blue line



Vaulted Sacristy and sample room to south side of St. Francis' Abbey

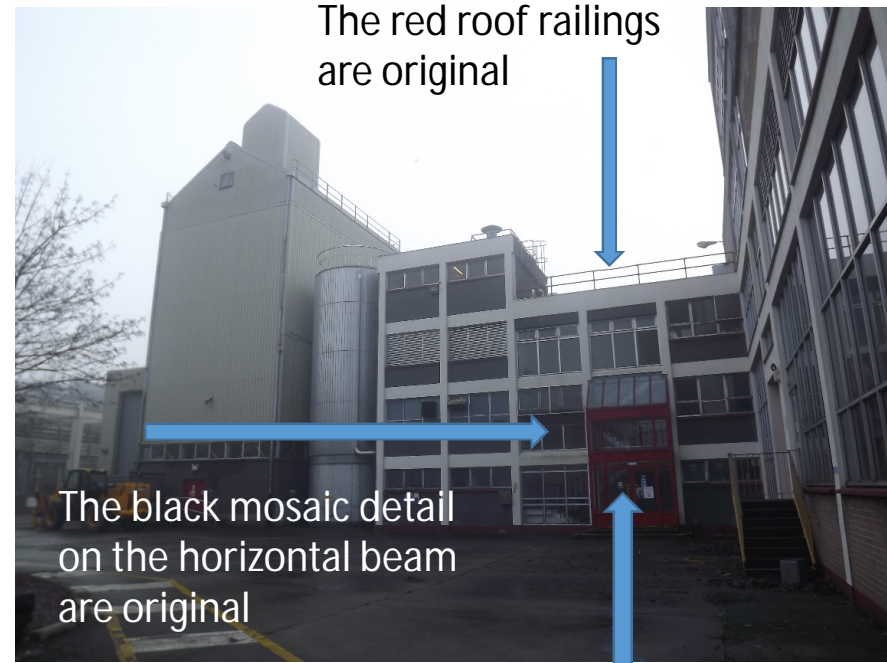


Side elevation of the sample room on right





The entrance door to phase 1 'Bauhaus' is marked. The original door has been removed. There is an opportunity to reinstate an external urban space in front of the building. (subject to archaeological considerations as set out in the archaeological strategy for the Masterplan) This would reconnect the original point of the threshold between the exterior and interior of the building and the experience of entering the original building and ascending the original staircase. The concept of the *Raumplan* (space plan) or Architectural promenade was very influential on the Bauhaus ideas and the entrance Foyer is the beginning of this.



The red roof railings are original

The black mosaic detail on the horizontal beam are original

The original windows have been removed. There are three original windows found inside.



The original early Bauhaus ideas embraced the concept of the 'Raumplan' or architectural promenade. The use of colour was very important in defining the space. The stronger colours were usually used to define a change in either horizontal or vertical space or define a change of experience in the architectural promenade as one is led up through a route. The original door would have led from the exterior space across the threshold and encouraged you to ascend the staircase which was defined by black edges and vertical red handrail up through the vertical space. Eventually you would exit onto the roof terrace and look back to where you had come from thus completing the Architectural parade



The original railings on the roof terrace. They were painted in a bright red which is the most vibrant and intense colour experienced by the eye.

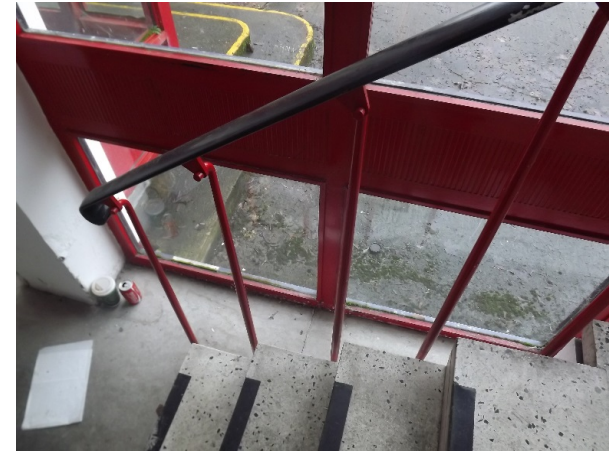
This view looks back over the entrance and completes the full circle of the architectural promenade.

The view originally looked back over the Abbey and across the city walls before phase 3 and phase 4

The building to the left is the brick phase 3 and phase 4.

There is an opportunity to allow a new lightweight structure onto the roof terrace of the phase 4 building with the brick façade facing North as the final stage of the *Raumplan* or Architectural Promenade would be fully experienced and in this case it would afford a full visual reconnection back to Kilkenny City across the city walls completing the full cycle of the route

It is recommended that all the plant and ad hoc services be removed



The original staircase . Each spindle is shaped to a narrow cone at the bottom where the connection to the side of the stairs is expressed and celebrated with a special bolted plate.

The top of each spindle is bent over and connected through a plate that emphasise the joint connection to the handrail

The handrail is gently curved at the edge which allows it to float over the spindles.

The edge of each step is clearly defined at the junction and emphasised by a shadowed recess below the step

The terrazzo floor is perfectly honed and the colour of the chippings are varied in dark grey and black



The side profile of the 'Bauhaus staircase' showing the profile of the spindles and the celebration of the joints and junctions. This is a very fine of example of Bauhaus design where the aesthetics embraces form and function and is executed superbly in affordable materials, and limited factory processes. However the thought and beauty of the stairs is a credit to the original architect and his understanding of the materials he was using . The beauty is in the detail. The staircase has been interfered with as a new wall was added and this can be clearly seen in the central photo where the handrail has been rudely cut off and the junction of the new wall and landing is very clumsy



The 'Bauhaus' staircase has been designed to highlight the experience of movement by opening up views in multiple directions

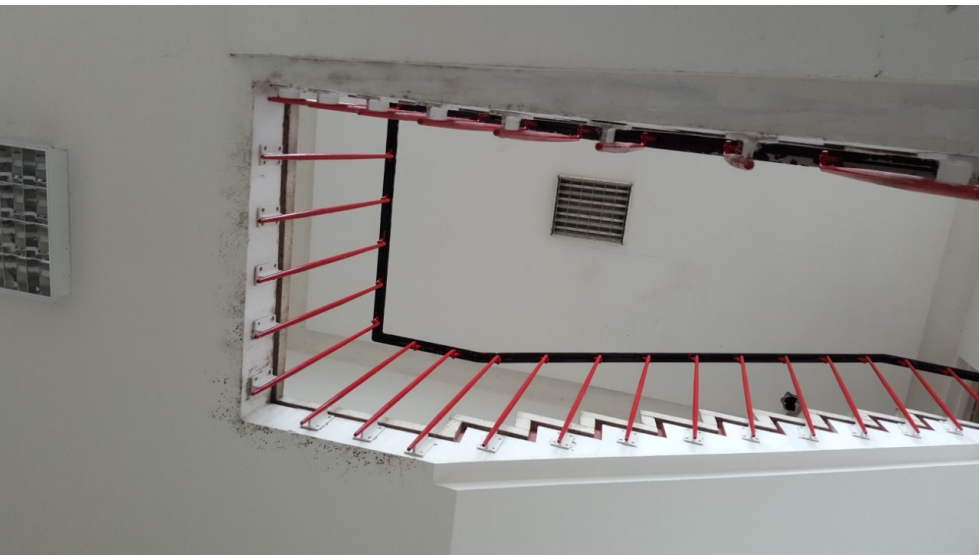
The p.v.c extended porch is not original and is confusing the simplicity of the strong lines.

The stairs was designed as vertical architectural promenade.

The details on the handrail and stairs are clearly evident and experienced in its primary colour of red.

There is a view down to where the ascent began and the view upwards is clearly marked and punctuated by the vertical shards of the red spindles.

It would originally have been possible to experience the view externally towards the abbey as one continued vertically upwards in the vertical architectural promenade towards the final 'balcony' of the roof terrace where you could look back over the Architectural promenade. The roof railings are also in primary red as they are part of the route





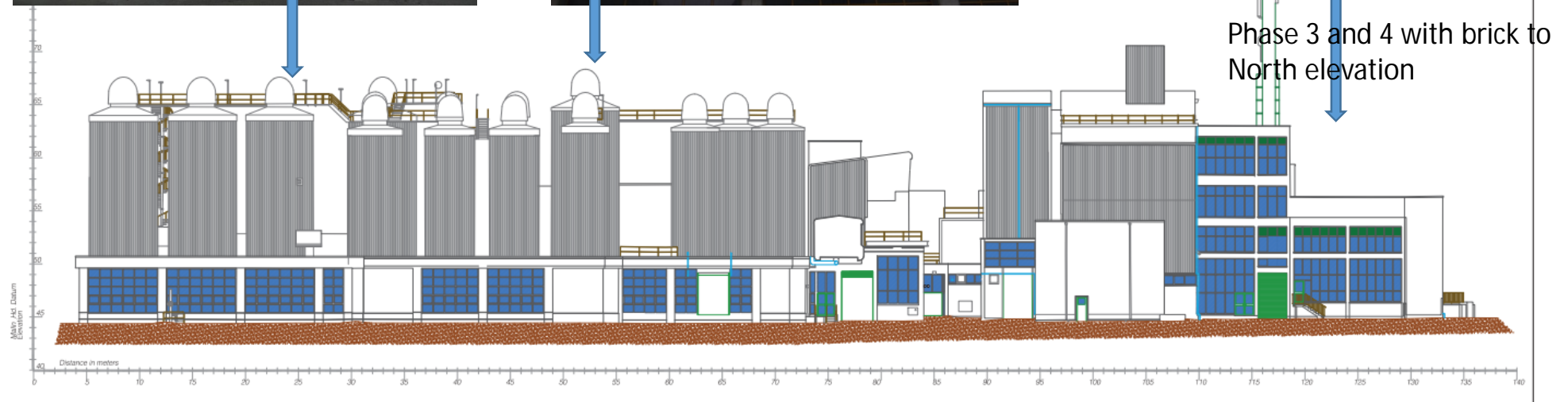
The original window frame: Note the celebration of the joint and the exaggerated shadow gap

Details of the original staircase viewed through the original window opening which was removed and would have been below the black mosaic beam which picks up the black at the edge of the horizontal steps.

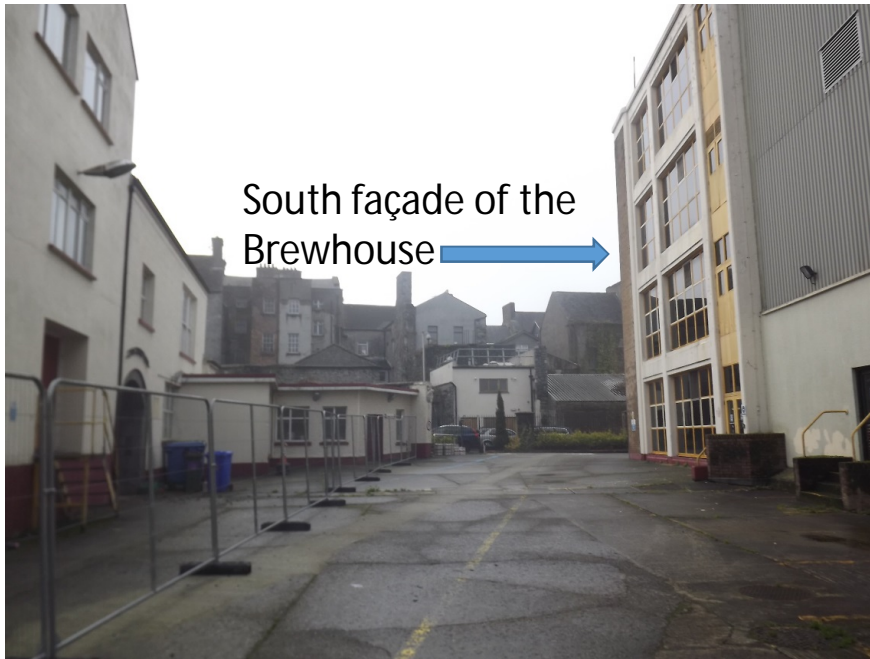


The original rear wall at junction of phase 2

Original handrail and staircase in the rear room of the phase 1 'Bauhaus' building. Each junction and joint has become a large knuckle .
The rivets are clearly expressed at the side of the stairs.
The perforated steel threads have been expressed in an aesthetic pattern of semi circles



The east Elevation walking between the maturation vessels and the storage warehouses. The maturation building and the vessels are being removed by Diageo per planning permission granted. This building is outside the site area of the proposed Brewhouse Development. It is bounding the brewhouse site.



View towards rear of buildings on Parliament Street. There is an opportunity to form a pedestrian link back to Horse Barrack lane. In accordance with the Abbey Quarter Creative master plan there is a link proposed from Parliament Street to Horse barrack lane. See masterplan



Rear Elevation of houses on Parliament Street backing onto Barrack Lane. There is an opportunity to make a new street along the West elevation of the Brewery to reconnect to Horse Barrack lane.

Water gate Theatre is located at the end of Horse Barrack Lane to side of existing entrance to the Brewery



West Elevation of the Brewhouse Building. There is an opportunity to create a new pedestrian link along the west elevation of the Brewhouse to reconnect to Horse Barrack Lane. Water gate Theatre is located at the end of Horse Barrack Lane to side of the existing entrance to the Brewhouse and the rear of the theatre can be seen to the left.

The new entrance is proposed on this side of the building and will reconnect the building back to Parliament Street. The railings and fence will be removed and a new public area is formed and the refurbished west façade of the Brewhouse will overlook this space.

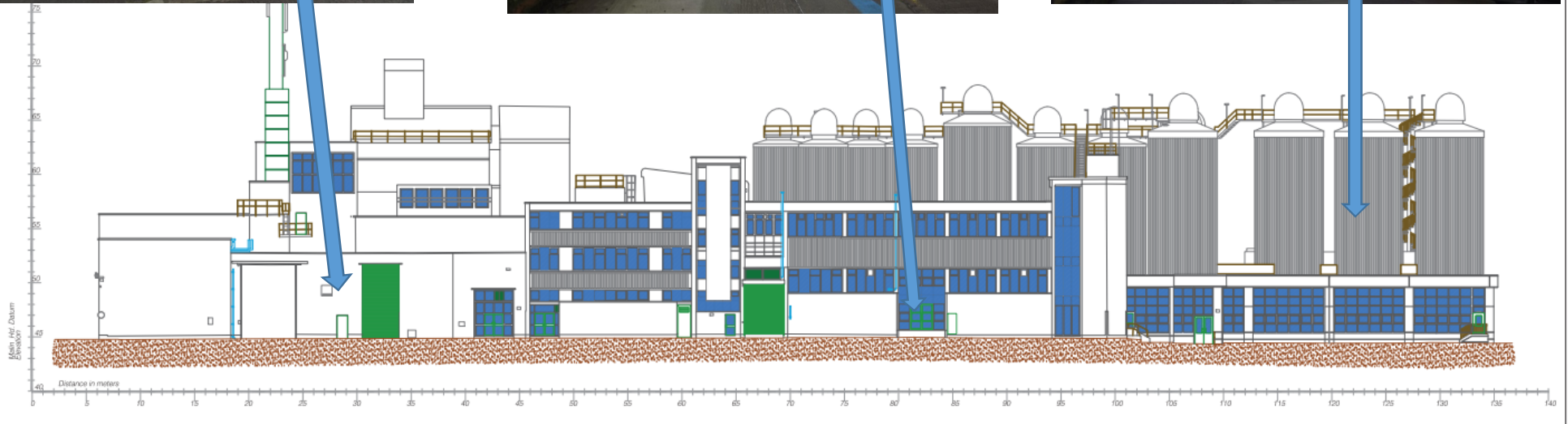
Door on West Elevation of St Francis' Brewery in phase 5 of the Brewery.

This phase of the building follows some of the Bauhaus concepts that were visible in Phase 1. However without any of the skill and understanding of the original architect. The architectural concepts are lost in the reality of the poor materials and loss of aesthetics .





Location of proposed new entrance



West elevation. The proposed new Entrance is behind Block 3 where the brown brick elevation is to be retained



North West Corner of Brewhouse showing the brick elevation of phase 4. The four large windows are the boiler house Facing North in front of the Abbey. The brick elevation should be conserved.

The open area in front of the Abbey will be retained and supported as an urban space as set out in the Abbey Creative Quarter masterplan. There is an opportunity to create an interactive innovative space between the North elevation of the building and the urban space in front of the Abbey (this will be considered in the context of the archaeological strategy and the proposed development of an urban garden/park in this area)

A glass or light structure on the roof of the building would allow a new Architectural promenade that would connect the building visually back to the Abbey and across the river





Interior View of the boilerhouse of phase 4 with the brick exterior to the North Elevation . The North elevation is to the right of the picture defining the threshold between interior and exterior. There is a huge opportunity to create an interactive innovative space allowing interaction between interior activities and the exterior public space reconnecting the building back to the city and allowing an urban space to develop in front of the Abbey. It is proposed to lower the floor to ensure the connection between inside and out.



The phase 4 north block with the brown brick is the existing boiler house. There has been a subtle use of colour in the use of a soft calming blue used on the walls and structure . The pale blue tiles have been painted over but the paint should be removed and the colour scheme retained.



Interior view of the phase 3 of the Brewhouse
The roof light is designed as an 'extended plane of the flat roof' pushed upward
The light comes in from the side. This should be reinstated



Fermentation Vat in Brewhouse

The voids left by the vats should be retained or marked. It is suggested that two of them are left open with the original guard rails used as new guard rails where possible. The other vats openings to be closed in the offices should be floored with a different and one hour transparent material or demarcation

Note: not all of these vats have handrails



Interior view of the phase 3 of the Brewhouse
Showing the vats and the colour coding of the green beams



Clerestory windows of the rooflight in the central block
phase 3 over the central vats. The rooflight is designed as an 'extended
plane of the flat roof' pushed upward. The light comes in from the side.
The exterior lines of this rooflight have been distorted as it has been
reclad in bulky cladding.



Fermentation vats in the Brewhouse

