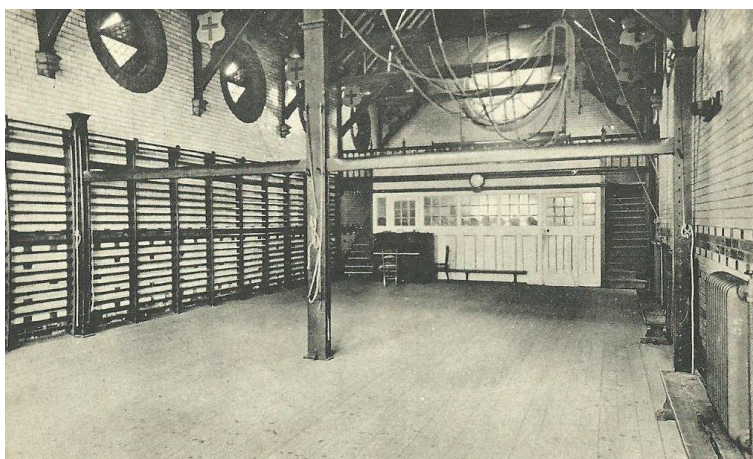




The above photograph was scanned from a postcard kindly loaned by local historian Maurice Hodson, who was introduced to me by Old Lincolnian Richard Lucas. It is an early photograph of the gymnasium at Lincoln Christ's Hospital Girls' High School, which was added to the School during the extensions in 1911. Also included in the plans were further classrooms, laboratories and an art studio. The Headmistress, Miss C E Ashburner, was instrumental in the creation of the plans for the new buildings (now known as 'build' for some strange reason!), but sadly did not live long enough to see their completion. Please notice the wall bars and the beams, which were features of school gymnasiums during the first 60 years or so of the 20th century. It was also fitted with a spring floor, making it suitable for both dance and gymnastics.

The picture below shows what is now known at LCHS as the Old School Hall, which was also an addition in 1936 to the original Lincoln School buildings on the Wragby Road site. The building was used as a hall and theatre, as well as a gymnasium. The photo was taken by a Lincolnshire Echo photographer at an Old Lincolnians Football Club training session in the early 1960s. If you visit the Old Hall now, you will notice that the wall bars have long since been removed, but their 'ghostly' outlines remain clearly visible.

Pictured left to right are: Donald 'Al' Smellie, Chris Leamy, Steve 'Charlie' Mundin, Stuart Christie, Bob Lawley, Steve Holman, Rick Houghton, Steve Chapman, Alan Pilsworth, Tony Holland and Tim Bett. Bill Golding, the trainer, is seen coaching Peter Harrod (centre of attention!) in the geometry of the 'press-up'! The incumbent looks suitably strained by the effort! Note the complete absence of designer clothes and shoes!



Peter Harrod
February 2013

