

Meanwood Hall (former Meanwood Park Hospital)



Parkside Road, Meanwood, LS6

Why is it important?

Meanwood Hall is a Grade II listed building that was formerly a large house c1762 built for Thomas Denison. The North wing was added in 1814 for Joseph Lees, school master and in c1830 the main square block was refaced, bay windows, coping, by John Clark for Christopher Beckett, banker. Robert Denison sold the house to the banker Christopher Beckett in 1824 and it was occupied by the family until the death of Christopher's sister, Elizabeth Beckett in 1864. It was occupied by tenants, unoccupied from 1872-75, until in 1919 the house was leased by Leeds Corporation as a mental hospital; in 1921 the estate was purchased from Sir Hickman Beckett Bacon of Thonock, Gainsborough.

Building Description

The building is constructed in ashlar stone with a slate roof and coursed squared grit stone to rear wing. It is Italianate style with 2 storey's and 2:1:2 windows with centre projects. The central porch with fluted Ionic columns supports the entablature with balustrade forming balcony to 1st floor centre tripartite window which has pediment on console brackets. Internally the outer entrance hall with plaster coffered ceiling, doorways left and right with acanthus mouldings and entablature. The inner hall has cantilevered divided stair, acanthus design in cast iron balustrade and a ramped mahogany handrail.

Current State

The main part of the building is empty and the site is accessible on all sides. The rear part of the building has been developed and there are residential properties in close proximity which probably accounts for some constraint to vandalism. Many windows have been shuttered; several are broken leaving rooms open to the elements. There is evidence of damp and greenery growing out of the building in places.

Current Owner

The building is currently owned by Landown.

<http://www.flickr.com/groups/1444801@N25/pool/tags/meanwoodhall/>