

# Cambridge Boathouses





## Contents

Introduction.....	5
Map 1.....	6
Map 2.....	7
Christ's College.....	8
Lady Margaret .....	9
Queens' College.....	10
Caius College .....	11
Peterhouse .....	12
Fitzwilliam.....	13
Cambridge Rowing Association .....	14
Cambridge '99 Rowing Club .....	15
City of Cambridge Rowing Club .....	16
Trinity First and Third.....	17
St. Catharine's.....	18
Cambridge University Boat Club Goldie Boathouse .....	19
Jesus.....	20
Trinity Hall .....	21
Corpus Christi and Sidney Sussex .....	22
Clare.....	23
Pembroke .....	24
Emmanuel.....	25
Downing.....	26
Selwyn, Churchill and Kings.....	27



## **Introduction**

### **Cambridge Boathouses**

Rowing first started at Cambridge in 1825, before it was introduced at Oxford. The first College boat club established was St. Johns, closely followed by Trinity. By 1830 Jesus, Magdalene, Emmanuel, Christ's, Corpus Christi and Peterhouse Colleges had also founded boat clubs, and by 1835 a total of fifteen Colleges had them. Newnham ladies founded the first women's boat club in 1896.

The Cambridge University Boat Club had their first official meeting in 1828, and on 20<sup>th</sup> February 1829 they sent a challenge to Oxford University for a boat race to take place on the Thames in or near London. The race was held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 1829, and became a regular event.

Originally the College boats were built not only as 'eights', but also as 'sixes' and occasionally 'tens'. They were built and housed by commercial boatyards along the River Cam. The first College boathouse was built for Trinity in 1872, and by the end of the nineteenth century most of the Colleges had built, or started to build, boathouses of their own.





## Christ's College

Built in 1887.

Gable end on to river, with applied decorative timbers and the College crest in the apex of the roof. The roof is corrugated iron. The gable end has three first floor windows. The central projecting oriel window has a hipped clay tiled roof and casement windows. The top panes are fixed and divided into 3x3, and the bottom casements are side hung 2x4x2. The two side casement windows have top panes fixed and divided into 3x3, and bottom casements side hung 2x2.

The first floor is white render with blue decorations and one red brick chimneystack. The ground floor is red brick, with two side hung double doors with concrete lintels above. The guttering is all cast iron. An extension to the side of the building is red brick, with one set of double doors and white boarding above.

The east elevation has two windows similar to those on the front. The first floor has a set of double doors, with fixed panes above, which originally lead to an external staircase. At the rear is a single-storey extension with a clay tiled roof.



## Lady Margaret

Built circa 1905, and belonging to St. John's College. It is also used by St. John's School.

Hipped clay tiled roof with one red brick chimneystack and a recently added dormer window with zinc cheeks. Above the dormer window is a weathervane, and rising from the centre of the roof is a pole with the St. John's College crest on. The top pyramidal section of roof appears to be a later addition.

The first floor has two single doors and one set of double doors, and a balcony. On both sides are flat roofed, timber-clad extensions. All windows are modern casements.

The ground floor is red brick with four sets of side hung double doors.

To the rear of the building are two single-storey additions, one with a flat roof and one with concrete pantiles.



## Queens' College

The original boathouse of Magdalene and Queens' Colleges was built in 1934 by Banhams commercial boatyard. The building was originally used by several Colleges, including Magdalene. Queens' bought it from Banhams in the 1950s.

The existing building was constructed in the late 1980s. Built of bricks with pink tones, it has three bays with three gable ends onto the river. The gable ends are each fully glazed, with tiled oversailing roofs. A full-length balcony runs across the three bays, with two flagpoles set at the centre bay. The two outside bays have College crests on the brick balcony. There is a metal spiral staircase from the ground to the central bay. There are five sets of double sliding doors, some with round windows.



## Caius College

Gonville and Caius boathouse was designed by the architect W.M. Fawcett and built circa 1880. It is built of red brick and has a clay tiled roof with two chimneystacks. The gable end has white render with pargetting of a regular embossed pattern and a small dormer.

The first floor has four partially projecting hipped sections of roof, two of them over windows and two over glazed, narrow sets of double doors. There is a balcony with a metal balustrade and a metal external staircase at the side.

The ground floor has one single door and two sets of double doors. A side extension has an additional two sets of double doors, and a crest and white render on the gable end of the roof. There is a single-storey rear extension.



## Peterhouse

The present boathouse is a Building of Local Interest, and was built in 1928 to replace the previous Victorian structure. The building is angled to make full use of the river frontage. The brick ground floor leads to a rendered first floor and a tiled roof. There is one short chimneystack in the half-hipped roof. The gable end of the building has College symbols on the render, including the crest and crossed keys. Beneath this section is a large small-paned casement window and under this are the dates 1828 and 1928. On the small side extension there is the date 1992.

Under the half-hipped roof is another large window and an entrance door which leads onto a balcony with a timber balustrade. This in turn leads to timber steps down to the ground floor. There is a flagpole attached to the balcony, and a black timber band between the two floors.

The warm-coloured ground floor bricks have a band of black at the base, painted to the same height across the sloping site. There are two sets of double doors, two single doors and one window. The concrete lintels over the doors and window have been picked out in white paint as a decorative feature.



## Fitzwilliam

Fitzwilliam boathouse is two storeys high with a curved roof. It is a replacement built since 2005 and designed by David Sayer and Associates. The first floor is painted grey, with a goat painted on one side. The gable end has a large glazed section including fixed windows and two sets of glazed double doors. The doors open out onto a balcony with a curved, projecting metal balustrade and a flagpole rising from the midpoint.

The ground floor is red brick and has a large door that opens upwards.



## Cambridge Rowing Association

This replaced the previous Cambridge Rowing Association boathouse, which burned down in 1983. It is a single-storey breezeblock building with a flat roof and three upwards-opening, corrugated iron shutter doors. The single-storey extension was approved in 1990.



## Cambridge '99 Rowing Club

This replaced the previous Cambridge 99 Rowing Club boathouse, named as such because it was founded in 1899, which burned down in 1983. It has a half-hipped concrete tiled roof with a glazed central clock tower. Above the hipped roof of the clock tower is a weathervane. The building is three storeys and is built of reclaimed brick. The second and first floors are fully glazed at the gable end, and there is a projecting second floor balcony. The first floor has a balcony with a decorative metal balustrade. The ground floor has a set of side-hung concertina double doors occupying the full width of the building.



## City of Cambridge Rowing Club

The City of Cambridge Rowing Club boathouse is a flat-roofed, two-storey building of reclaimed brick. The end facing the river is painted white and blue.

The first floor has a row of five windows, and a single half-glazed door. There is a balcony with a timber balustrade and an external stairway at the side of the building. The ground floor has one set of side hung double doors. The building goes down to a single-storey at the rear.



## Trinity First and Third

Trinity's was the first College boathouse. It was first built in 1872, but was rebuilt in 1896. The existing boathouse was built in 1935, using the basic fabric of the 1896 building and is a Building of Local Interest. It has a hipped slate roof with two chimneystacks at the side.

The brick building is painted cream, with grey decoration. The first floor has two metal-framed windows, each with a crest above. A pair of fully glazed double doors open on to a central balcony with a metal balustrade and decorative sweeping supports. On each side of the doors is a fixed metal-framed window. A metal ladder staircase to the left hand side gives access to the first floor.

The ground floor has three upwards-opening doors, and a single-story side extension has one pair of double doors.



## St. Catharine's

St. Catharine's College boathouse was built in 1930, and is a Building of Local Interest. It has a red pantiled pyramidal roof, with a balcony tucked underneath the roof on the first floor. The overhanging roof has timber supports.

The building is rendered and painted cream and maroon. A set of timber-framed double doors open out onto the balcony, and an external spiral staircase leads down from the balcony at the front of the building.

The ground floor has one upwards-opening door, with the College crest above, and a single-storey side extension with one set of double doors.



## Cambridge University Boat Club Goldie Boathouse

The Goldie Boathouse, built in 1882, is the oldest surviving intact boathouse on the river, and is a grade II Listed Building. It was the site of the first meeting of the Cambridge University Boat Club (CUBC) in March 1883, and is named after a famous oarsman, John Goldie who rowed for St. John's and the University in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. He competed in four Boat Races against Oxford from 1869 to 1872

The building is red brick, with a red machine tile roof. The gabled roof has three dormers and a central transverse ridge stack. The outer two dormers are pedimented, and each have two single-light centre-hung casements with glazing bars. The wide pedimented central dormer also has two groups of two single-light casements, separated by a plaster inscription plaque that reads: CUBC Goldie Boathouse. Above this are the coat of arms of the University, and raised plaster decoration in the pediment.

The first floor has four sets of French windows, opening onto a timber balcony with a turned balustrade and square-section supporting posts rising to a flat section of roof.

The ground floor has one pair of timber double doors to the right, and two two-light casement windows with glazing bars and segmental heads to the left.

Alongside the boathouse is a two-storey gymnasium built in 2003. This has a red tiled roof, a painted render first floor and a red brick ground floor. A first floor balcony has the University crest in the frosted glass. There are four centre-pivoting timber doors.



## Jesus

Jesus College boathouse was designed by the architect Morley Horder, and was built in 1932 to replace the Victorian structure destroyed by fire in September of that year. It is a Building of Local Interest.

The roof is hipped, with a central clock tower topped by a weathervane. The roof tiles are said to have come from old farm buildings owned by the College.

The first floor has a central balcony with a timber balustrade displaying the College crest. Opening onto this are two windows and a single partially glazed timber door. The exterior of this floor of the building is covered by timber panelling. On either side of the balcony are 10x10 top hung casement windows.

The brown brick ground floor has three upwards-opening doors and one timber door.



## Trinity Hall

Trinity Hall's Latham boathouse was built in 1905. It has three chimneystacks on a red tiled roof. There are two gable ends at each end of the building, facing the river. There is a weathervane on the ridge of the left hand gable. Each gable end has white render with pargetting. The pattern includes a different crest on each gable end. On the first floor, beneath the gables, are large sash windows. Each window is 6x6 grouped in threes. Between the two gables runs a balcony with a timber splat balusters. There is a large window and a door opening onto this balcony, and a timber stairway leading to the ground floor. Many of the timber supports of the balcony and window frames are decoratively carved. The timber beam supporting the flat roof between the two gable ends has carved writing: Latham Boathouse Anno Domini 1905.

The ground floor is red brick with three upward-opening doors. There is a single-storey side extension with a mono-pitch roof.



## Corpus Christi and Sidney Sussex

The combined Corpus Christi and Sidney Sussex boathouse was designed by David Roberts and built in 1958-9, and is a grade II Listed Building. Extensions to the sides were added in the 1980s.

It has a lightweight steel frame on piled concrete foundations infilled with brick. The shallow first floor houses changing facilities, and has a flat felt roof. It has a near-continuous band of glazing along the front, with square panes and doors at either end. This is set behind a steel and timber balcony and reached via spiral concrete stairs to either side, with newel posts and a steel balustrade. The deeper ground floor provides a three bay boat store, with lean-to extensions and a pitched roof. The doors are of concertina style. On the front of the building are the four crests of the Colleges sharing the boathouse, and four flagpoles: Corpus Christi; Girton; Sidney Sussex; and Wolfson.



## Clare

Clare boathouse is a grade II Listed Building. The red brick boathouse was built in 1898-1900, with a side extension added later. It has a hipped pantiled roof, with a deep overhang. The soffit to the front has five registers of triple drop pendants, the outer two doubled in depth. There are chimneystacks on the east and west roof slopes.

The first floor has a full-width timber balcony, supported on square-section timber posts and reached by a straight flight of steps at one end. The balustrade is in the form of repeated open squares within cross bracing, and has the College crest at the mid-point. The first floor fenestration consists of two central two-light casements, and two outer three-light casements.

The ground floor has two pairs of timber boathouse doors, set under basket arches. The single-storey side extension has one pair of timber boathouse doors, with the College crest on the roof gable.



## Pembroke

Pembroke College boathouse was built c.1895, and is a grade II Listed Building.

The first floor has a close-studded applied timber frame and four groups of three-light cross casements, the central upper element arched. All have multiple glazing bars. There are two gables, each with timber framing and a two-light casement with glazing bars.

The ground floor is red brick, with two sets of timber double doors. A single-storey side extension has a sloped roof and one smaller set of timber double doors.



## Emmanuel

Emmanuel College boathouse was built c.1895. There are two chimneystacks at either end of the ridge of the original building. The roof is red clay tiles. There have been two two-storey side extensions. The first floor has a central protruding bay, gable end onto the river. There are decorative barge-boards on the gable, and a central timber finial. The first floor is characterised by the use of decorative timber painted white. There are five small-paned casement windows leading onto a balcony with decorative timber balustrade. There is a timber stairway leading from the ground to the first floor.

The ground floor is red brick with four sets of double doors, two sliding, two side hung. There are three fixed windows by the middle sets of doors with white timber boarding below each of the windows.



## Downing

The first Downing College boathouse was built in 1895, and rebuilt in 1938. The present structure dates from 2000-2001, the architect being Nick Ray.

This three-storey asymmetrical building is gable end onto the river. It has a metal roof which slopes from the ridge to the ground floor on the right hand side. The second floor is rendered, with a round window to the left and a glazed door with a window over. To the right under the sloping roof, the walls are metal clad. Just under the apex of the roof is the College crest and the date 2000. A distinctive pink metal stairway and balcony run across the front of the building, from the ground up to the second floor.

The first floor is brick with full height fully glazed doors and windows. The ground floor is brick, with three sets of side hung, partially glazed double doors.



## Selwyn, Churchill and Kings

The combined boathouse of Selwyn, Churchill and Kings Colleges has a corrugated iron roof with a double gable end onto the river. There is corrugated metal cladding to the gable end and sides. It is a modern, industrial style of building of the late 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The ground floor is built of yellow Gault brick, with five upward-opening doors. Between the doors are the College crests.

