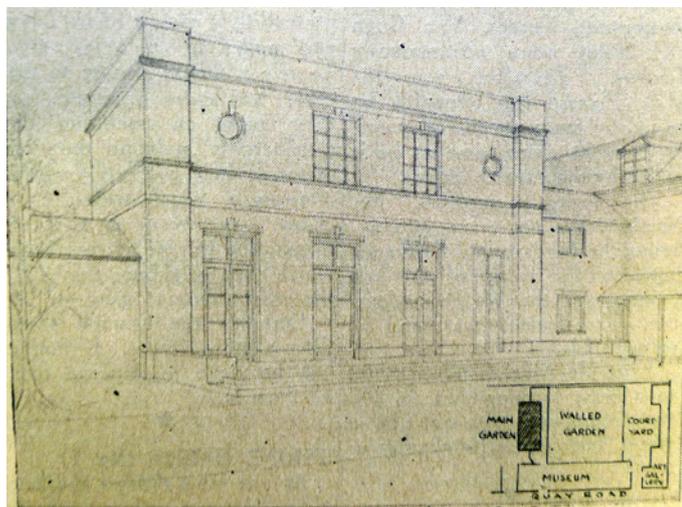


£7,000 WING PLANNED FOR RED HOUSE

C.T. July 22, 1955



An architect's drawing of the proposed new wing for the Red House Museum with (inset, shaded) the position of the extension.

A NEW two-storeyed wing, costing between £6,000 and £7,000 is planned for the Red House Museum, Christchurch.

Primary object of the scheme is to incorporate in a Period Room some of the best features of the High Street Square House, soon to be demolished to give way to a block of modern shops.

A lecture hall and rooms for period furniture and costumes will probably also be included in the building, which will be of Georgian design. Secretary of the Red House Museum and Art Gallery, Mr. Wm. H. Mooring Aldridge, announcing the proposal this week, said that a further £500 may be required for the removal of the parts of the Square House which are to be saved and their storage before the new wing is built.

Features of the Square House which it is particularly hoped to preserve are one or two Adams fireplaces, the Adams doors and windows and, possibly, the fine plaster ceiling from the drawing room.

Curator of the Red House Museum, Mr. J. H. Lavender, said yesterday that the ground floor of the new wing would probably include a much-needed lecture hall.

"We have no room for use as a lecture hall during the day," he added, "the art gallery being available only in the evening. The idea is that the hall would be primarily for museum use but it would probably also be available for other organisations."

PERIOD COSTUMES

Design for the upper floor was for one large room in which would be set the pieces from the Square House, together with period furniture and a display of period costumes, and for two smaller rooms. One of these would be for a display of dress accessories, while the other would be for students wishing to study period costumes, a display of 19th century fashion plates, and for storage.

To meet the cost of the proposal an appeal is being launched by the chairman. Canon R. P. Price, M.A., and the managers of the Red House Museum, and it has been suggested that the Period Room and the New Gallery, or lecture hall, might be named after one or more of the larger benefactors. Donations should be sent to the hon. treasurer of the Museum Appeal Fund.