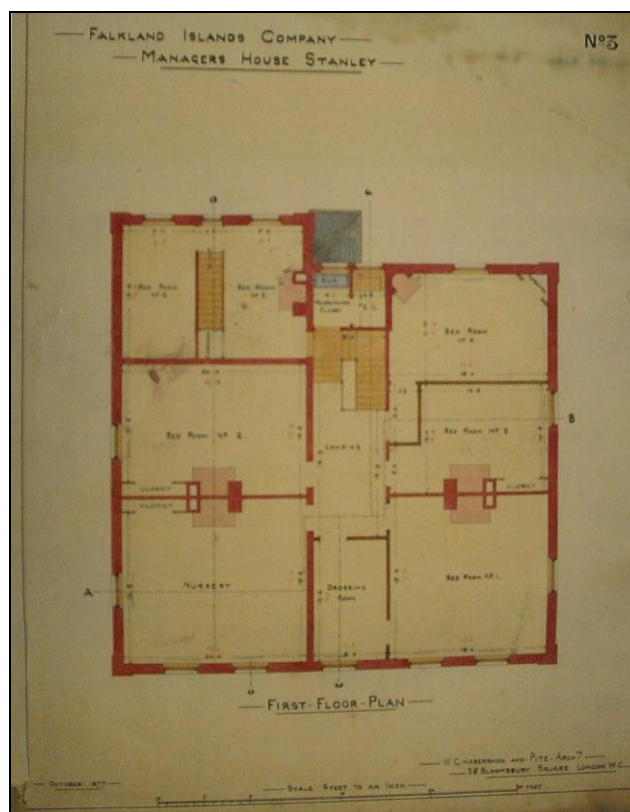
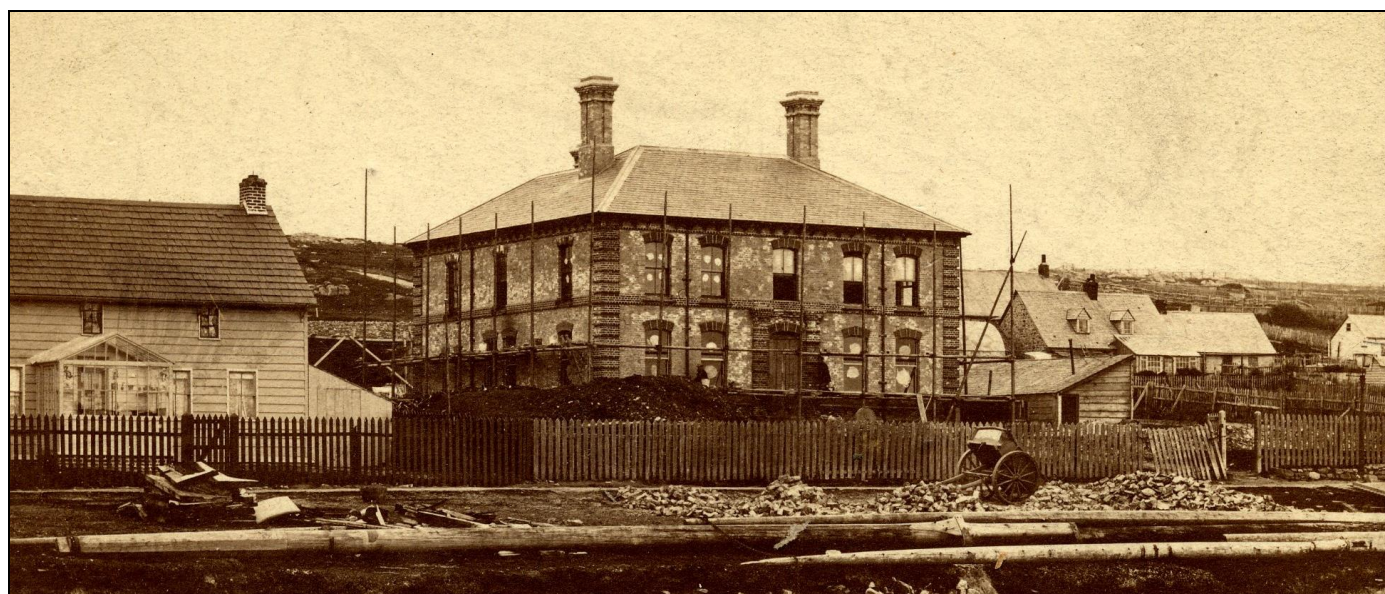


STANLEY HOUSE
(all photographs FIC Collection & JCNA unless stated otherwise)

This Listed Building was designed by Alfred Robert Pite of the London firm of architects Habershon and Pite and built in Stanley in 1878 by the Falkland Islands Company Ltd for their Colonial Managers. At the time of its building it was the only brick house in Stanley.



The first Colonial Manager to live in Stanley House was Frederick Cobb who had come to the Falkland Islands from Britain in 1867 when he was 22 years old. He married in 1873 and after his marriage he complained to the Directors of the Falkland Islands Company in London that the house they had given him, Malvina Cottage, was too small and that the floors were rotten. They agreed to build him a new home and it was built to the rear of Malvina Cottage which was later demolished to make way for the grounds of Stanley House. To date it is the only house in Stanley with a true cellar.



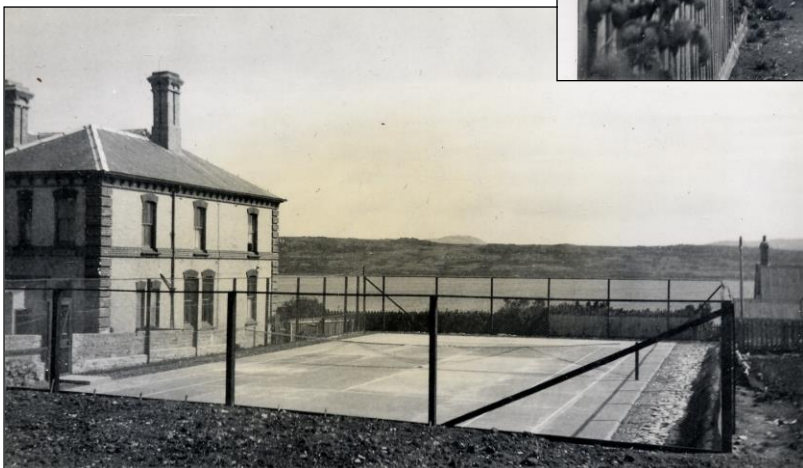
Stanley House, October 1878



Drawing room & Frederick Cobb – photographs Blake Album, JCNA



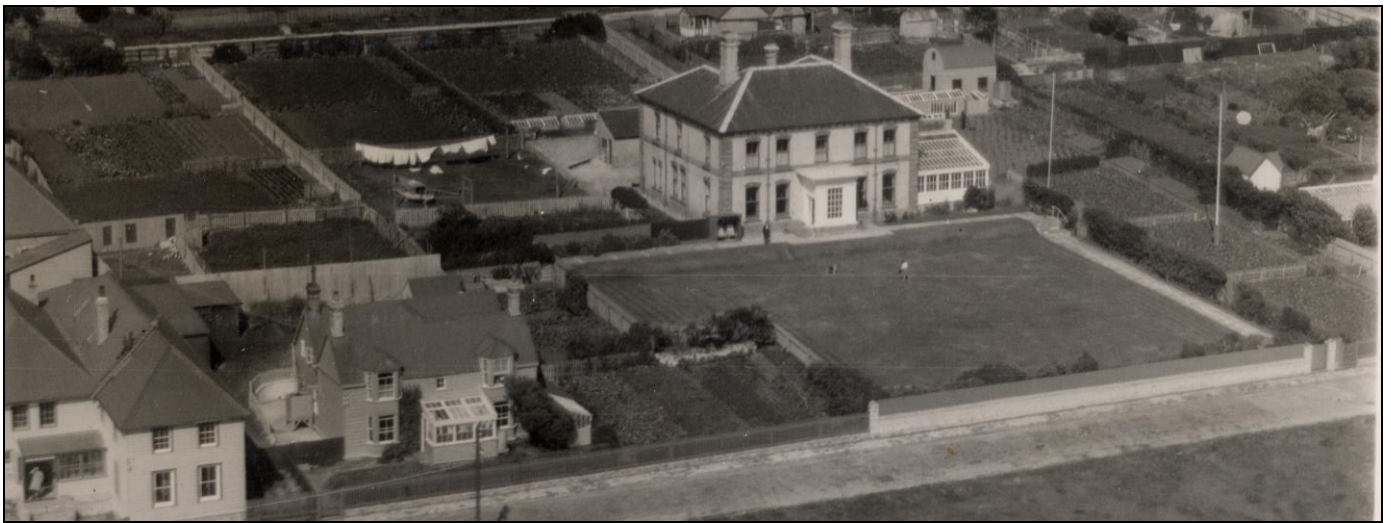
Frederick Cobb and his family left the Falklands in 1891. His successor, Andrew E Baillon, wrote on 6 October 1896 to Fred Cobb in London advising him that his wife, Louisa's health had been for some time in a very unsatisfactory state and she had to recline on a couch as much as she possibly could. As she was passionately fond of flowers he had erected at his own expense a small rose house at the east side of the house so that she could look out the dining room window and it would afford her both pleasure and distraction during her long hours of confinement to the house. [FIC/D9; 513] After Andrew Baillon another nine Colonial Managers and their families lived in Stanley House until 1974 when the Falkland Islands Company abolished the post of Colonial Manager and closed the house. After 1974 it was rented out and from 1975 until 1977 was used to house Johnson Construction personnel whilst Stanley Airport was being built.



South view of Stanley House 1938



The present front porch was not a part of the original building. This was added between the First and Second World Wars and was designed by William Pite, a son of the original architect.



In 1981, when Darwin Boarding School was closed, Stanley House was bought by the Falkland Islands Government to use as a boarding house for Camp children coming to school in Stanley. Although all the children had their meals in the house, due to lack of space, only the boys slept in the house along with live-in house parents. The girls slept in a house on Racecourse Road.

During the Argentine invasion of 1982 the building was used as the Argentine Command Post and anti-aircraft guns were sent up on the front lawn and several dugouts were built in the grounds. After Liberation on 14th June 1982 the Queen's Own Highlanders and others used the house as their headquarters until the children moved back in at the beginning of 1983.

