



CITY OF IPSWICH

Soldiers'
Memorial Hall

Ipswich.



Foundation Stone laid by
General Sir William Birdwood,

4th May, 1920

Officially Opened by
His Excellency the Governor,
Sir Matthew Nathan, G.C.M.G.

26th November, 1921.



1921



THE first movement towards the erection of a Memorial Hall was made in 1918.

With the permission and assistance of the then Minister

for Lands, it was decided to erect the Hall on a portion of what is known as the Central Gardens, and the land is vested in the "Council of the City of Ipswich upon trust as a Reserve for a Memorial Library, and for no other purpose whatsoever."

The Foundation Stone was laid by General Sir William Birdwood on 4th May, 1920, the inscription on the stone reads :

Soldiers' Memorial Hall.

This stone was laid by General Sir
William Birdwood, Lt., G.C.M.G.,
4th May, 1920

The Marble Tablet inserted in the front portion of the building has the following inscription :

In Remembrance

This Building was erected by the Citizens of Ipswich in honor of the men who gave their lives for King and Country in the Great War, 1914-1918
Their Name Liveth for Evermore.

The "In Memoriam" Monument is placed at the western end of the main Hall facing the main entrance, conspicuous to all who enter the building. It is of simple

*With the compliments of P. C. Stephenson,
Mayor of Ipswich.*

design, bold in treatment, but quiet and restful.

Upon a heavy pedestal and base, two ornamental pilasters are carried, supporting the entablature and pediment, all finished in Keen's cement.

The large panel is of Sicilian White Marble, beautifully polished, bearing the names of 159 of the honoured dead. Similar marble panels are set in tympanum of pediment in friese of entablature and in pedestal inscribed as follows :

1914 The Great War, 1918

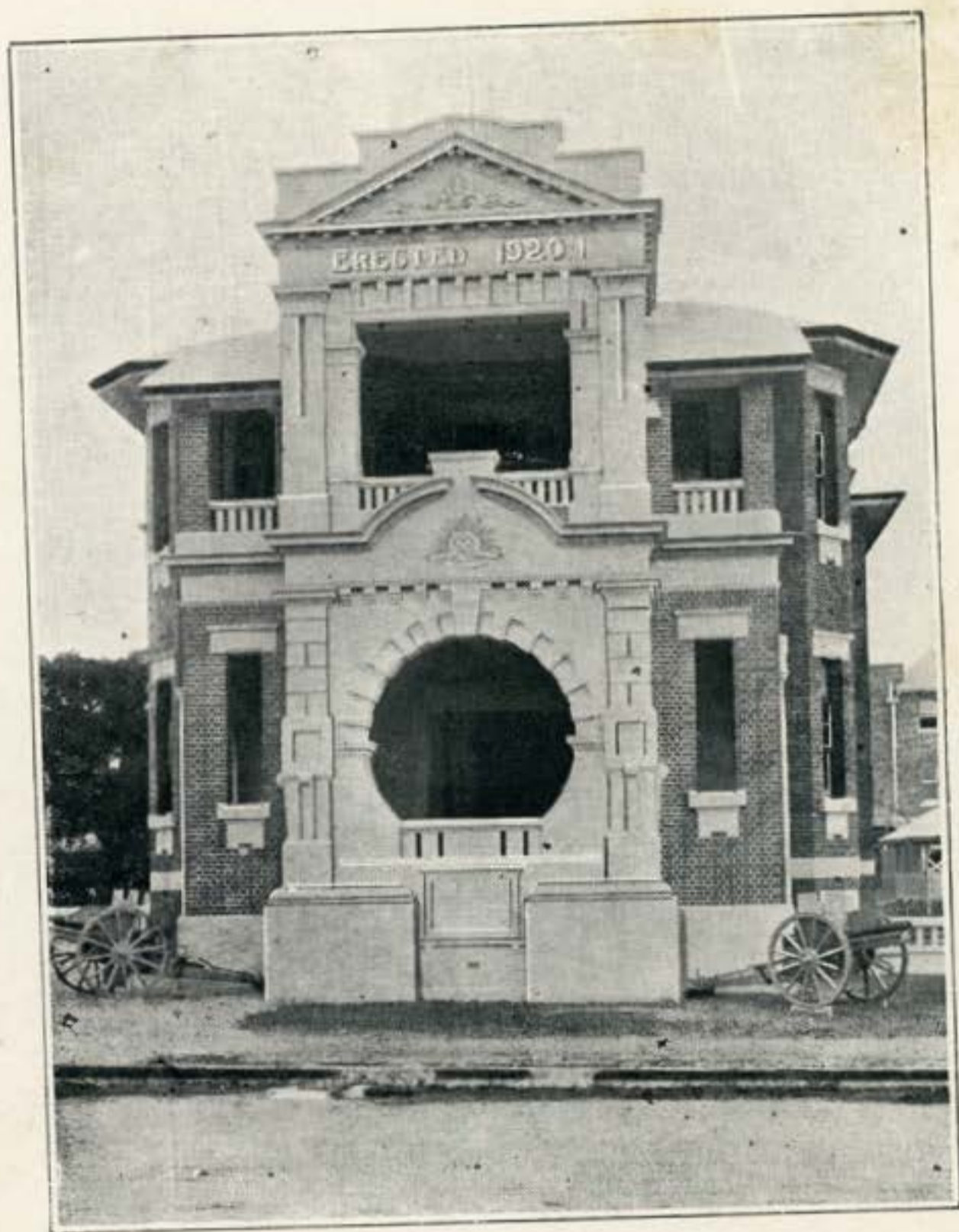
In Honor of our Glorious
Dead.

Their Name Liveth for Evermore.

The cost of building was £11,047. Towards this sum the Council obtained a loan of £6000, and is paying it off by half-yearly instalments of interest and redemption. The general public subscribed £3809, and the balance (£1238) was taken over and paid for by the Council from revenue. The furnishing of the rooms used by the soldiers was provided by the various Patriotic Committees of the City.

The war trophies outside, and those inside in glass cases, were obtained from the Director, Australian War Museum, Melbourne, and are vested in three Trustees

The handsome Memorial Window was unveiled by the Governor on the 30th



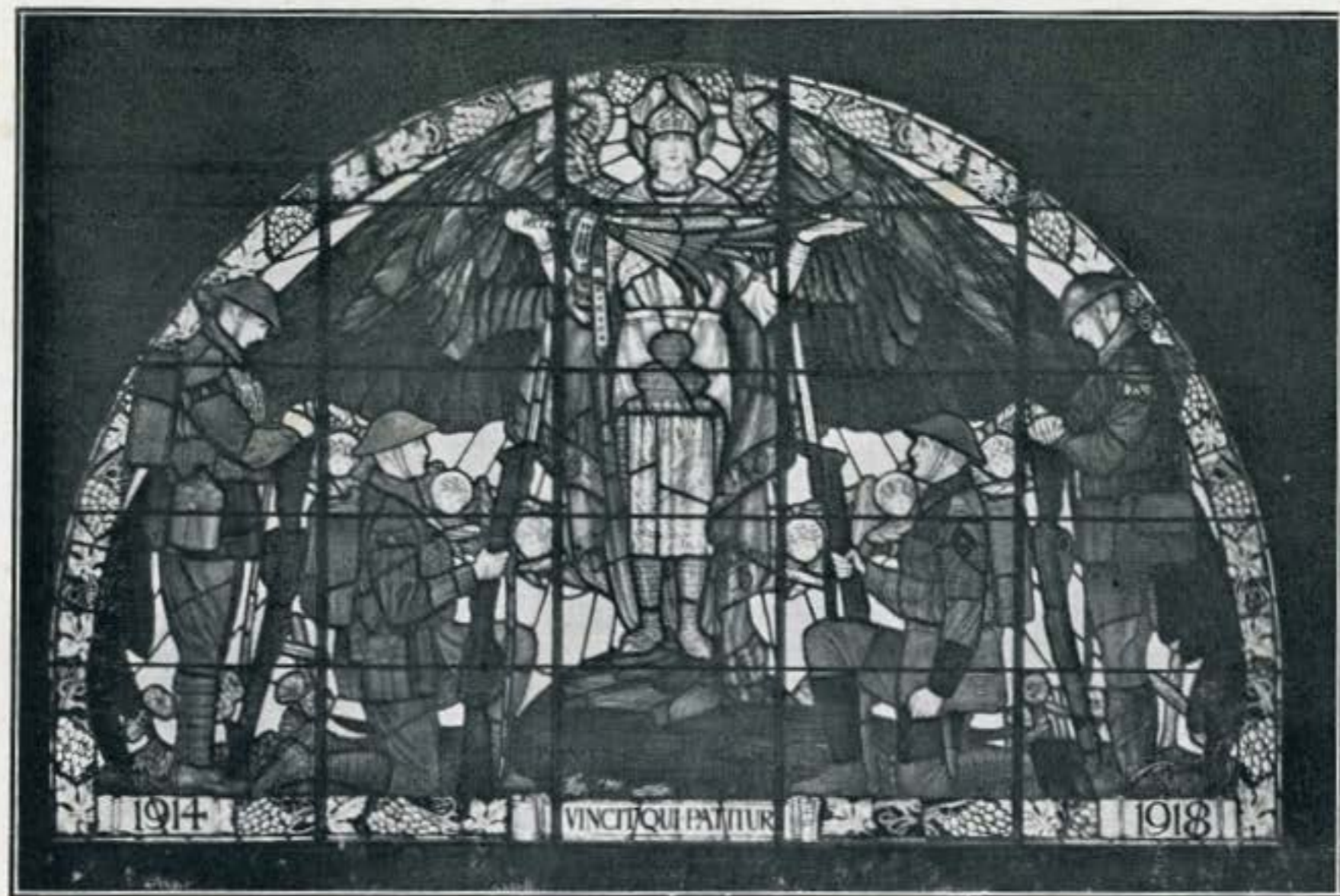
Front View of Hall.



Side View of Hall.



The Vestibule, showing In Memoriam Monument, Honor Boards and Trophies of the War



The Memorial Window (described on opposite page)

November, 1922, and may be described as follows :

The central figure is intended to represent the Angel of Victory, with the sheathed sword, covered by the Palm of Peace. The figure is standing on a sphere representing the World, with the conquered Eagle dead at its feet. The four soldier figures, two standing at the reverse in honour of their departed comrades, and two kneeling in acceptance of the honour of victory, represents the 9th, 15th, and 26th Infantry and the 5th Light Horse. A band of Cherubim is shown in the background, depicting the transition from the earthly to the heavenly, and the red poppies of Flanders are shewn in the foreground.

The vestibule containing the honor rolls, etc., is controlled by the Committee, which consists of four Aldermen of the Council, and four members of the R.S.S. I.L.A., who are appointed annually. The first floor, as a School of Arts and Library, is controlled by the School of Arts Committee, and the remainder of the building as club rooms, by the Ipswich Sub-Branch of the R.S.S.I.L.A.

All ex-soldiers who served abroad during the war, and who are residents of Ipswich, are regarded as honorary members of the reading room and library, and have all the privileges attached thereto.

The Building was dedicated by Chaplain the Reverend A. H. Austin, M.A., and officially opened by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Matthew Nathan, G.C.M.G., on Saturday, 26th November, 1921.

WHOLLY DESIGNED, SET UP AND PRINTED
AT THE QUEENSLAND LEADER OFFICE
IPSWICH