THE METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE KING

IN LIVERPOOL

by

RADOVLAV ZUK

B. Arch., McGill University (1956)

M. R. A. I. C.

SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE

OF MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE

at the

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

August 1960

Signature of Author.............................................
Department of Architecture,
August 22, 1960

Certified by ..................................................
Thesis Supervisor

Accepted by ..................................................
Chairman, Departmental Committee
on Graduate Students
ABSTRACT

"The Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King in Liverpool"

by

Radoslav Zuk

Submitted to the Department of Architecture and Planning on August 22, 1960, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Architecture.

This thesis represents the design of a Roman Catholic cathedral in England. A competition for the design of a new Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King in Liverpool is currently being promoted. The conditions and instructions to competing architects have been used as the program of the thesis.

Permission was granted by the thesis committee to participate in the competition. The design was submitted on August 3 for the competition and is now being presented with additional refinements for the thesis.

The thesis subject presented two major problems:

a) the need to create in the Cathedral a significant religious symbol, expressive of spiritual strength and divine mystery.

b) the restricting nature of the site which imposed severe limitations on the total composition as well as on the design of the cathedral building itself.

The final design represents an attempt to solve these basic problems in terms of a meaningful and appropriate architectural statement.

Thesis Supervisor: Professor Imre Halasz
Dedicated to the Glory of God
August 22, 1960

Pietro Belluschi, Dean
School of Architecture and Planning
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dean Belluschi,

In partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Architecture, I herewith respectfully submit my thesis entitled "The Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King in Liverpool".

Yours sincerely,

Radoslav Zuk
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to express most sincerely my gratitude for their encouragement and helpful criticism to Dean Pietro Belluschi, Professor Lawrence B. Anderson, Professor Imre Halasz, Professor Herbert L. Beckwith, Professor William H. Brown, Dr. Eli Traum, Professor R. J. Hansen, Professor F. J. Heger, Jr. and Rev. J. Edward Nugent.
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INTRODUCTION

The design of the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King in Liverpool was chosen as the subject of my thesis for two main reasons:

a) special interest and previous work in church architecture.

b) the challenge the design of a cathedral and in particular this one provides.

The announcement of a competition for this Cathedral furnished a realistic set of conditions (although rather restricting) and my eligibility to participate added an additional stimulus.

At the thesis committee meeting held on April 28, 1960, at which Professor H.L. Beckwith and Professor W.H. Brown were present the thesis subject was approved and permission was granted to participate in the competition. The latter was subject to the stipulation that no criticism was to be received from members of the staff until the drawings were submitted for the competition.

The design and drawings were carried out under these terms and were submitted for competition on August 3, 1960. After this date additional work was done in order to further refine the design, this time under the guidance of the staff.
The final presentation material includes the original competition drawings as well as additional drawings explaining the revised version.
THE PROBLEM

The major problem was found to exist mainly in two aspects of the design:

a) the concept of the cathedral building itself.

b) the site layout.

Due to the nature of the site the two aspects of the problem were very closely related. One basic concept of the building would dictate a very limited location on the site and vice versa, a certain position of the church on the site would result in a specific concept of the building. Consequently the two had to be considered simultaneously and the final design of the Cathedral itself was conditioned to a great extent by this limitation.
THE CATHEDRAL BUILDING

The design of a modern church in general appears to be a very difficult task as witnessed by the majority of recent religious buildings which fail to express the fundamental nature of a house of worship and to create the atmosphere conducive to spiritual elevation. Only some contemporary architects, among them Dean Pietro Belluschi, Rudolf Schwarz, the late Domenicus Boehm, Hermann Baur and a few others have created outstanding modern church architecture. Their works testify to their profound understanding of the spiritual in the human nature and are distinguished by a simplicity of statement, architectural strength and a transcendental vitality.

The less successful contemporary churches seem to rely on unusual structural systems, fantastic forms, superficial iconographic symbolism or modernistic gimmicks for effect, but fail to create a truly religious symbol or an atmosphere in which worship becomes a profound spiritual experience.

This failure of usually highly competent architects to design successful church buildings, or the ability of a certain age in human
history to create better religious architecture than another age
would indicate that the key to a truly good church architecture lies
beyond the usual architectural rationalization based on functional
planning, structural efficiency, pleasant proportions, etc. It seems
that once these basic requirements have been satisfied (and there
is no attempt to deny their importance) the building must transcend
the purely rational into the realm of higher spiritual experience.
While this may apply to any great work of art it is absolutely
essential to church architecture. Especially in a Roman Catholic
church where God Himself is present in the mystery of the
Transubstantiation on the altar the expression of this basic fact is
of paramount importance. It calls for nobility, strength, mystery--
for a space where the presence of God is felt and experienced.

A building of this nature becomes an expression of the
religious experience and evokes a similar experience in others. In
the Middle Ages or in the Baroque period when almost every aspect
of life was closely tied in with religion the church building became
the expression of the everyday philosophy of life. The religious
experience was all pervading, obvious, and understood. The church
builders were drawing from the riches of a slowly changing and
growing tradition, and their buildings were natural to the spirit of the times.

Today in a world of everchanging and confusing philosophical systems it is the individual designer who has to understand and to interpret the nature of religious experience. It is his sensitivity and depth of understanding as well as his ability to re-evoking the religious experience in his building which will determine the success or failure of his work.

In addition to all the problems inherent in the design of churches the design of a cathedral offers some new ones. The different liturgical requirements can be easily satisfied with a sufficient amount of study; however, it is the question of expression which is again of importance.

A cathedral is the official church of a bishop, in the case of Liverpool that of an archbishop. It is the most important Roman Catholic church in the city, thus there is a need to emphasize its hierarchical position among other churches. By tradition a cathedral occupies also a significant position among all other buildings, in many instances it is the focal point of the city. As such it assumes
civic importance and its relation to streets, plazas and other buildings has to be taken into account. The required large seating capacity calls for large physical size, the presence of the archbishop and the elaborate ceremonies call for inherent grandeur in the total structure. A monumental scale is required in order to express the importance of the cathedral building in all its aspects.

The above problems appeared to be basic to the design of this particular project. They led to the realization that the accepted normal design procedure would not necessarily result in a completely satisfactory solution and thus it was with fear and humility that the work was approached.
THE SITE

The problem of the site was found to be of a different nature as it deals with tangible factors, rather than with abstract conceptual ideas. However, within its own realm it proved to be a highly limiting factor on the overall design.

The site is of irregular shape. It is partly covered with existing buildings, the most important of which is the Crypt. The Crypt formed part of the abandoned design for the Cathedral by the late Sir Edwin Lutyens. The Crypt as well as two other buildings in the northern part of the site are to be retained. Other buildings will be eventually removed but any new building must keep clear of them. The major portion of the site is well raised over the street, especially in the southern portion, on a rock base. All these factors limit greatly the extent of the site on which it is possible to build and has been thus designated by the promoters.

The entire site is surrounded by streets. On its southern boundary exists an important street intersection from which Hope Street running along a north-south axis leads to the near-by Anglican cathedral. Buildings surrounding the site vary in size and character.
The need to relate the new Cathedral to the existing buildings on the site, the disposition of the streets, the requirement to keep the existing approaches to the Crypt and the desire of the promoters to have the main approach from the south have imposed additional limitations on the site layout which in turn influenced other aspects of the total design concept.
BASIC DESIGN APPROACH

The foregoing description of the major problems involved explains the way that the total project was understood and the attitude which governed its solution.

How the overall design was arrived at is difficult to describe as it was the result of a complex creative process. In its initial stage it consisted of a detailed analysis of the requirements and of the limiting conditions. An understanding of these allowed certain decisions to be taken which led to a general concept of the building and the site. Thereupon this concept was tested and refined by studying in detail major architectural aspects such as mass, space, proportions, scale, the structure, light quality, accommodation, services, circulation, etc., until the final design has been arrived at.

The decisions which led to the final concept are described in the accompanying competition report. They were shaped by inherent architectural convictions as well as by a subconscious belief in what the character of a cathedral should be.
The nature of the final design can be understood best from the drawings. It represents an attempted solution to the major problems stated earlier: a building expressive of majesty and power, of other-worldliness and spiritual vitality, a space conducive to worship and to the experience of God, a composition unifying all its elements and brought into best possible relation to its surroundings.
METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE KING IN LIVERPOOL

Report
DESIGN CRITERIA

General:

The design of the site and the building may be seen best from the drawings. However, a few general remarks will follow in order to explain the major design decisions.

Site Layout:

The Cathedral stands separately from all other structures due to their divergence in style and construction.

It is located in the most prominent position on the site: on the axis of Hope Street, at the intersection of Mount Pleasant and Oxford Streets. It is raised on a platform and its highest point towers over the main approach plaza.

The axial relation of the Cathedral to the Crypt and the position of the Priests' House and the Convent create an external focal point of the total composition - the Cathedral Court, which relates the important buildings to each other.
The main approach from the South consists of a rich sequence of architectural experiences: view of the highest point of the church, open entrance plaza, broad ascent to a higher level, the Cathedral Court, the crypt wall reflecting back to the open porch of the Cathedral, revelation of the High Altar under the always remembered highest point of the building.

Vehicular access to the Cathedral Court occurs from Mount Pleasant and Duckinfield Streets.

Main parking is located outside the main composition, concealed behind a wall, which also helps to define the eastern approach to the Crypt.

Trees are used to reinforce the strong axial composition as well as to screen it from conflicting architectural elements.
Cathedral Building:

The design of the Cathedral is the outcome of a desire to create a powerful, dignified and inspiring edifice to the Glory of God.

The building is planned around the High Altar. The overall mass, the geometry of the walls, the roof, and the seating focuses the attention on the Sanctuary and the Mystery of Transubstantiation.

This important aspect as well as the discipline of the siting results in a very strict, unified architectural statement. The clarity of the strong architectural form and its relation to other buildings demands the elimination of all elements which would detract from its unity. Thus all secondary spaces are subordinated symmetrically to one major space. All secondary activities are accommodated in orderly arranged side chapels which become part of the overall architectural mass. To avoid confusing connections passage to the Crypt occurs underground on the
Crypt floor level, while the passage to the
Priests' House occurs along the wall of the
Cathedral platform (shown in dotted line on
the block plan).
CONSTRUCTION - MATERIALS - EQUIPMENT

Structure:

Columns and walls consist entirely of precast units of high quality concrete. These units are assembled by means of post-tensioning by steel reinforcing cables: vertically in the columns and horizontally in the walls and through the columns. As a result the walls and columns form a continuous reinforced concrete structure with following advantages:

a) standardization of elements

b) uniformity of erection in horizontal layer

(similar to bearing masonry erection)

c) thinness of walls throughout

d) unity of material

The roof is suspended from this assembly on steel cables and consists of high quality precast concrete panels topped with a thin layer of poured concrete and copper finish.
Fenestration:

Thick coloured glass set in random pattern in the concrete wall panels. It reduces in intensity toward the Sanctuary. The area around the High Altar is illuminated from above through a plastic oculus in the ceiling.

Flooring:

Terrazzo with marble trim in the Sanctuary and around other altars. Terrazzo in all other areas.
Concrete base.

Fittings:

High Altar, all other altars and altar steps are marble. Communion rails are marble.
Canons' stalls, Archbishop's throne, altar canopy, screens, pulpit, holy water stoups are of high quality precast concrete.
Confessionals, seating, doors, sacristy fittings are oak wood.
Non structural partitions in sacristies and in sanitary rooms are grey facing brick with tile dados and flooring where applicable.
Mechanical Equipment:

Heating - radiant heating in the floor slab.
Ventilation - fans in the round columns.
Drainage - on the periphery of the roof and through round columns.
Lighting - incandescent electrical fittings suspended from each intersection of the main roof cables, and concealed fixtures in the oculus over the altar.

Exterior Materials:

Paving on Main Approach Plaza, Cathedral Court, Crypt Courts, and over Crypt is coloured concrete and limestone trim.
Parking paving and driveways are asphalt.
All steps are limestone.
Priests' House, Convent, enclosing walls and new facing on Crypt at Cathedral Court are of high quality grey facing brick.
COST ESTIMATE

The estimate has been obtained by the determining the cost of the main structure and then allotting proportionate prices for site layout, fittings, etc. according to established precedents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main structure</td>
<td>812,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site layout</td>
<td>81,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interior fittings</td>
<td>56,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical equipment</td>
<td>73,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous equipment</td>
<td>16,250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Priests' House and Convent</td>
<td>40,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total cost</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,079,050</strong> pounds sterling</td>
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CUBIC CONTENTS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main space</td>
<td>3,570,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subsidiary spaces</td>
<td>692,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,262,000 cu. ft.</strong></td>
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SUPPLEMENT

The refinements in design undertaken after the submission of the scheme to the competition can be easily observed in the drawings. They comprise minor changes.

The major change occurs in the structural system. It was found that the precast concrete assembly might prove weak in resisting horizontal forces resulting from the hung roof. Thus it was decided to pour the columns and the walls in monolithic concrete, and to increase the depth of walls in the sanctuary area where the stresses become critical.

The shape of the roof has been changed from a doubly curved surface to a singly curved one. Also the small tension ring over the sanctuary has been changed to a larger half-ring. Both these adjustments contribute to a better distribution of forces as well as to a clearer, more consistent definition of space.
CONCLUSION

The subject of this thesis proved both difficult and stimulating. It presented a challenge in more than one respect.

The difficult site constituted a problem which could have been a major study in itself. The limitations imposed by this condition on the design of the building created additional problems. However, the nature of the Cathedral itself, the need to express its religious purpose presented the major challenge. It was realized that intuition was required in order to arrive at a significant concept of the building and this depended on many intangible factors which could not be controlled.

The search for this important basic concept and its subsequent architectural refinement became the essence of the thesis work.
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ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION

for the
Metropolitan Cathedral
of Christ the King
Liverpool

CONDITIONS & INSTRUCTIONS
TO COMPETING ARCHITECTS

October 1959
ARCHITECTURAL
COMPETITION

Conditions and Instructions to
Competing Architects

OCTOBER, 1959

Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral Committee

Supervisor and Organiser—
THE Rt. REV. MONSIGNOR CANON T. A. TURNER

Secretary—
THE VERY REV. CANON A. G. MAGUIRE

Assessors—
THE MOST REV. JOHN CARMEL HEENAN, D.D.,
Archbishop of Liverpool

BASIL SPENCE, ESQ., O.B.E., A.R.A., P.R.I.B.A.

DAVID STOKES, ESQ., F.R.I.B.A.
LETTER FROM THE ARCHBISHOP OF LIVERPOOL

MY DEAR ARCHITECT,

The Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King will present a unique problem in design. The plans of Sir Edwin Lutyens were abandoned because the cost, after the second world war, had become prohibitively high. But his building, begun before the war, was resumed ten years later and the crypt is now almost completed. Not only by reason of its majestic beauty but because it has already cost over half-a-million pounds the crypt must not be abandoned. In some way it will have to be incorporated in the new cathedral.

That is your task. While free to design a building in any style, you must allow easy access between the crypt and the main building. If the crypt were virtually a half-built cathedral you might well be disheartened. But the crypt is mainly underground. It does not preclude an entirely new and distinctive design. Regard the crypt, therefore, not as an obstacle but as a challenge. The future use of the crypt need not pre-occupy you. The conditions make it clear that the siting of the high altar is for you to decide. The crypt, therefore, may be beneath it, as in existing cathedrals, or at the opposite end.

The high altar is the central feature of every Catholic church. It must be the focus of the new building. The trend of the liturgy is to associate the congregation ever more closely with the celebrant of the Mass. The ministers at the altar should not be remote figures. They must be in sight of the people with whom they offer the sacrifice.

Holy Mass is the great mystery of faith. The high altar is not an ornament to embellish the cathedral building. The cathedral, on the contrary, is built to enshrine the altar of sacrifice. The attention of all who enter should be arrested and held by the altar.

It may help you to know that the Holy Eucharist is not only a sacrifice but a sacrament. The bread consecrated at Holy Mass is given to the faithful in Holy Communion. But, in addition, the Blessed Sacrament is reserved both for the sick and for those wishing to receive Holy Communion when Mass is not being celebrated. During the day many come to visit Our Lord in the tabernacle. The Blessed Sacrament Chapel, therefore, should be the object of special thought and care. It is next in importance to the high altar itself.

The Assessors will not judge this competition in the light of any preconceived but undisclosed ideas. The conditions here set down will guide them as they must guide you. The figure of £1,000,000 obviously restricts the choice of materials. But this should not dismay you. New cathedrals need not be inferior to the old. You can use techniques which were not available to those who built the splendid cathedrals in the Middle Ages.

During the next twelve months the priests and people of the Archdiocese of Liverpool will beg God to enlighten you. Also you will have the powerful prayers of our children. It is for them and their children's children that you will build. May Christ the King inspire you to create a cathedral church worthy of His Holy Name.

* JOHN C. HEENAN,
Archbishop of Liverpool.

This letter does not form part of the conditions.
I. GENERAL CONDITIONS

(1) The Promoters, the Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral Committee, invite Architects who are British subjects, Commonwealth citizens or citizens of Eire wherever resident who are corporate members of the Royal Institute of British Architects or corporate members of the overseas societies allied to the Royal Institute of British Architects or the Royal Institute of Architects in Ireland or those in the United Kingdom whose names are on the Statutory Register of the Architects Registration Council of the United Kingdom, to submit designs in Competition for the new Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, proposed to be erected on a site on Brownlow Hill, Liverpool, in accordance with the following conditions and instructions.

In the event of an unregistered person being placed first he will be required to register in the United Kingdom or to associate himself for the carrying out of the work with an Architect registered under the Architects (Registration) Acts.

(2) The Promoters have appointed:

The Most Reverend J. C. Heenan, D.D.
Basil Spence, Esq., O.B.E., A.R.A., P.R.I.B.A.
David Stokes, Esq., F.R.I.B.A.

...to advise them on the conduct of the Competition, to act as their Assessors and to adjudicate on the whole of the designs submitted and make the award. In the event of the death of one of the Assessors before the completion of the Competition, or of his being unable to continue to act through illness or some other cause, the Promoters will appoint another person to act in his place and to carry out the duties of the Assessor as set forth in these Conditions and Instructions.

In the event of it being necessary to replace one of the Architect Assessors under this clause, the Promoters will, in consultation with the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, appoint another Architect to act in his place and to carry out the duties of Assessor as set forth in these Conditions and Instructions.

(3) No member of the Promoting Body, nor the Assessors, nor any partner, associate or employee of either shall compete or assist a Competitor or act as Architect or Joint Architect for the work.

(4) The award of the Assessors will be accepted by the Promoters, and within two months of the date thereof the following premiums shall be paid in accordance therewith, viz:

- To the author of the design placed 1st by the Assessors £5,000
- To the author of the design placed 2nd by the Assessors £3,000
- To the author of the design placed 3rd by the Assessors £2,000

(5) It is the intention of the Promoters to proceed with the work.

(6) The author of the design placed 1st shall be appointed as architect for the work, unless the Assessors shall be satisfied that there is some valid objection to such employment, in which case the author of the design placed 2nd in order of merit shall be appointed subject to a similar condition, and so on: the award of the Assessors shall not be varied for any other reason.

It will be a condition of the appointment of the Architect for the work that he establishes or maintains an office in this country for the purpose of carrying out the work during the building operations.

The author of the selected design will be required to satisfy the assessors of his ability to use or develop an organisation to carry out the work efficiently, and if the assessors are not satisfied in this respect they may—at their discretion, after consultation with the author of the selected design—advise the promoters to consider appointing a consultant architect to collaborate in carrying out the work. The Promoters will pay the fees and make such appointment in agreement with the appointed architect and in consultation with the assessors; failing such agreement the recommendation of the assessors alone will be final.

(7) The author of the selected design, when appointed as Architect for the work, shall be paid in accordance with the Scale of Professional Charges sanctioned and published by the Royal Institute of British Architects, the premium being deemed to be a payment on account. If, however, within two years of the date of the award, the author of the selected design is not appointed as architect for the work, for reasons other than those contained in Clause 6, he shall be paid, including the premium, the following fees:

- $1\%$ on his estimate of cost up to £100,000,
- $\frac{1}{2}\%$ on the next £300,000,
- $\frac{1}{2}\%$ on the next £600,000,
- $\frac{1}{2}\%$ on the next £1,000,000.

Such fees shall merge into the Architect’s total fee when the work is subsequently executed.
(8) The promoters will enter into an agreement under seal with the appointed architect, setting forth the terms of his engagement based on these conditions and instructions, and in the event of any dispute between the parties as to the agreement, the Assessors shall be the arbitrators.

(9) The appointed architect will be required without the payment of extra fee, to modify his design to meet any reasonable requirements of the promoters. If, when the contractors' tenders are received, it is found that the works to which the tenders relate cannot be erected for an amount within a 10% margin in excess of the competition estimate of the architect, after it has been adjusted to suit any modification that may be made by the promoters or to meet any fluctuations in the price of labour or materials, the architect, without the payment of extra fee, shall have the opportunity of submitting proposals for the reduction of the tender in order to bring it within the 10% limit of cost, provided such reduction does not, in the opinion of the assessors, materially affect the general design selected in the competition; provided always that in the event of the architect not being able to effect the reduction in the manner aforesaid, then the promoters shall not be bound in any way to carry out such design, nor shall the architect be entitled to any remuneration or compensation whatever, beyond the premium. The architect's estimate shall be based on the costs of labour and materials ruling as at the date of issue of these conditions.

(10) A design shall be excluded from the competition for any of the following reasons:—

(a) If sent in after the period named (accidents in transit excepted).
(b) If it does not give substantially the accommodation asked for.
(c) If it exceeds the limits of site as shown on the plan issued by the promoters, the figured dimensions on which shall be adhered to.
(d) If the assessors shall determine that its probable cost will exceed 10% the outlay stated in the instructions.
(e) If any of the conditions or instructions other than those of a suggestive character are disregarded. The word "must" is mandatory, the word "should" is not.
(f) If a competitor shall disclose his identity or attempt to influence the decision.

(11) Each design and the report accompanying it must be sent in without name, motto or distinguishing mark of any kind and accompanied by a letter signed by the competitor or joint competitors and contained in the official envelope issued with these conditions, properly sealed, stating that the design is his or her or their own personal work, and that the drawings have been prepared in his or their own offices, and under his or their own supervision. A successful competitor must be prepared to satisfy the assessors that he is the bona fide author of the design he has submitted.

A number will be placed on each drawing and on the report and envelope contained in each package, and the envelopes will not be opened until after the award has been made.

(12) The design of each competitor is to be contained in one package and to be sent in (carriage paid) and addressed to The Secretary, Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral Committee, c/o The Rev. Mother Prioress, Ursuline Convent, 15 The Downs, Wimbledon, S.W. 20, and endorsed "Design for new Cathedral," not later than 4 p.m. on 3rd August, 1960, after which no design will be received.

(13) Any questions which the competitors desire to ask must be addressed to The Competition Secretary, Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral Committee, 152 Brownlow Hill, Liverpool 3, on or before 15th December, 1959, and all such questions and answers thereto, as the assessors consider necessary, will be sent to each competitor and will form part of the conditions and instructions to competing architects.

(14) The deposit of £2 2s. 0d. paid by the applicant for these conditions will be returned to him on receipt of a bona fide design and after the award has been published, or, in the event of the applicant declining to compete, on the return of the competition documents at least four weeks before the date for submitting designs.

(15) The promoters will communicate the award of the assessors to each of the competitors, and the time and place of the exhibition of the designs. Thereafter the whole of the designs with the names of the authors attached will be exhibited in Liverpool, together with the award of the assessors, for a period of not less than six days, after which all the designs submitted, excepting that selected for execution, will be returned to the competitors carriage paid. The promoters will exercise every reasonable care with the several drawings, but will not be responsible for any loss or damage which may occur.

The promoters reserve the right to hold a second exhibition in London of any or all of the designs before returning them to the competitors.

(16) The promoters will appoint and pay a quantity surveyor to prepare the bills of quantities and to measure up the work. They will also appoint and pay a clerk of works on the recommendation of the architect.
Aerial view of site, looking north. The crypt roof is seen centre background with Brownlow Hill behind it and Mount Pleasant on the right hand side.

Looking north-east across the site showing south wall of crypt, east entrance to crypt, and temporary altar (in scaffold).
Looking west across the site, with University buildings which will ultimately be removed shown on the left.

Site from southernmost point looking north, showing south wall of crypt and temporary altar (in scaffold).
Looking south-west across the site with the Anglican Cathedral in left background and Brownlow Hill in the right foreground. The crypt is seen still under construction.

Looking south over roof of crypt (still under construction), with temporary altar beyond. Brownlow Hill runs across the picture in the foreground.
East entrance to crypt.

Interior of crypt. East end of long gallery.
(17) The promoters, in consultation with the Architect, will appoint and pay Consultant Structural, Heating and Electrical Engineers as may be necessary. The Architect’s fees for the work carried out under the supervision of these Consultants will be at the rate of 4% on the cost of such works, provided the Architect’s fee on the cost of the whole scheme is not reduced by more than 1%.

(18) Copyright of all his drawings and in the work executed from them will remain the property of the appointed architect. The appointed architect shall, if requested to do so, at the completion of the work, supply free of charge to the client drawings sufficient to show the main lines of drainage and other essential services.

II. GENERAL INFORMATION

(19) A plan and photographs of the site are supplied with these Conditions and Instructions. The plan shows the levels of the ground and the position and depth of sewers. Drawings of the crypt are also supplied. For list of plans enclosed see appendix.

III. INSTRUCTIONS

PARTICULARS OF DRAWINGS REQUIRED

(20) All drawings to be in black ink or pencil on white paper (or black and white prints) with walls in plan and section filled in solid black or grey. Windows in elevations to be tinted light grey. Grey shades or shadows are allowed in any of the drawings.

All drawings to be of double elephant size (40 in. x 27 in.) and mounted on stiff boards without excess margins.

The following drawings are required:

- Block plan to scale of 1 : 500.
- Plans of the Cathedral to a scale of 16 ft. to 1 inch.
- Sufficient elevations and sections of the Cathedral adequately to illustrate the scheme, also to a scale of 16 ft. to 1 inch.
- One sheet of ½ in. scale details of sufficient scope to illustrate the character of the design, including details of the sanctuary and the high altar.
- No perspective drawings allowed. The successful competitor will be required to produce a perspective after the award has been made.

(21) The drawings must be accompanied by a concise typewritten description of the buildings, explaining their construction, finish and the materials proposed to be used, and giving such information as cannot be clearly shown on the drawings. This report should be on plain white paper and should not contain sketches or diagrams.

(22) An estimate of the cost is required, also on plain white paper, showing the details of how the estimate has been arrived at.

The cubic contents of the building, excluding the presbytery, and convent, must also be given.

Measurements should be taken net from the finish on floor level of the lowest floor to the external surfaces of the roofs and external walls.

This estimate and cube may include diagrams if desired.

The sum of £1,000,000 estimated at costs obtaining on 1st October, 1959, will be available to cover the cost of the work set out in these conditions, including the Cathedral and the layout of the surrounding grounds and including the sum of £40,000 for the presbytery and convent and also including any work proposed by the competitor to the crypt, but excluding the completion of the crypt, which is now being carried out as shown on the drawings enclosed.

The cost is to be inclusive of all finishes and fixed fittings such as altars, pulpit, communion rails, canons’ stalls and Archbishop’s throne, and also inclusive of sacristy cupboards and vesting tables. Seating for the congregation is not to be included in the estimate, neither is the organ nor the bells. Also to be excluded from the estimate are works which will be carried out by artists such as stained glass, frescoes, statues and crucifixes.
IV. SCHEDULE OF REQUIREMENTS AND ACCOMMODATION

(23) The New Cathedral may be placed by competitors anywhere within the building lines on the site plan. The crypt which is being completed to the designs of the late Sir Edwin Lutyens and which will be finished by 1961, occupies a part of the site as can be seen from the plans and photographs. It is mostly underground and is roofed with a paved terrace. This crypt formed part of the design for a vast cathedral which is not to be built owing to the enormous cost and this competition is being held for an alternative design to provide a cathedral to supply the needs of this generation and which can be completed within a decade.

It is desired to leave competitors as free as possible as to the style and materials to be used and also as to the siting of the new Cathedral and therefore it is left to competitors to decide the best relationship between the Cathedral and the Crypt and whether the Crypt be wholly or partly covered by the Cathedral or be entirely independent. The only condition in this connection is that there must be at least one internal access for the public from the Cathedral to the Crypt of good dimensions so that it can be used with dignity by processions (this in no way precludes steps) and it will be an advantage if access is such that the magnificent Crypt can be used easily by people from the Cathedral. None of the accommodation asked for is to be placed in the Crypt which will provide additional chapels to those asked for.

The use of any paved terrace left by competitors over the Crypt is left entirely to them and should be indicated on the lay-out plan. An outside altar may be provided if desired. The completion of the top part of the two circular staircases which give access to the paved roof over the Crypt will be left to be carried out when the Cathedral is built and the treatment of these should be indicated on the 1/16th scale drawings.

(24) The main approach will be from the south. The temporary university buildings at the south west corner of the site will be cleared away and may be ignored for purposes of the lay-out. All new buildings must be kept well clear of them as they will be there for some years.

Two buildings at the west end will be retained for use by the Diocese. Part of one will be demolished as shown.

The Cathedral may face in any direction; orientation is of no consequence.

The lay-out around the Cathedral, including the approaches and a car park for about 100 cars, should be shown on the site plan.

(25) A block plan of a Priests' House is to be shown on the site plan. About 6,000 sq. ft. floor area should be allowed for this on two or three floors, or over the sacristies. It must be connected internally with the sacristies.

A block plan of a Convent of about 6,000 sq. ft. floor area on two or three floors should also be shown on the site plan. It is not required to be connected with any other building and should preferably have a small garden.

ALTARS

(26) The High Altar is the focal point of the Cathedral. It should be raised on three steps and covered with a canopy (suspended or on columns). It should be free standing and well away from any obstructions at the back. The Altar should be so designed that it will be possible for the Celebrant to offer Mass with his back to the people (the common practice) or facing the people (Roman Basilica style). There will be no tabernacle or throne for Benediction. Gradines are not essential.

The Sanctuary, including the High Altar and Canons' stalls, should be at least 2,500 sq. feet and should be clearly visible to the congregation either by being well raised or by some other means.

The Archbishop's Throne should be on the Gospel (left hand) side of the Sanctuary and stalls should be provided for twenty canons on the Sanctuary and not behind the High Altar. The Canons' stalls should be placed so as not to obscure the view by the people of the High Altar and the Sanctuary.

A Communion Rail must be provided in connection with the High Altar, separating the Sanctuary from the remainder of the church, and there should be a step for communicants to kneel on. The plan shape of the communion rail is optional. About 75 ft. is needed for six priests to give communion simultaneously.

(27) The Blessed Sacrament Altar must be in a separate chapel to seat about 200 people. From this chapel priests will pass to the High Altar carrying the Blessed Sacrament. There will be a tabernacle on this altar which should be covered by a canopy. About 25 ft. of communion rail must be provided.

(28) The Lady Altar should be in a separate chapel for about 100 people. It should occupy a prominent position in the Cathedral.
(29) A further eight (about) side altars are required and they should be in small chapels of their own. As a minimum an altar 8 ft. x 21 ins. with five feet on either side and in front of the predella with seating for about twelve people would suffice provided the altar can be seen from some other seating in the Cathedral. Large chapels are not required for these altars but they may vary in size.

(30) Altars may face in any direction. None should be designed for the priest to face the people. All altar tables should be rectangular. All altars to be of stone or marble.

BAPTISTRY
(31) The font must be placed in a Baptistry of about 500 sq. ft. floor area. It should be near the entrance.

BELLS
(32) At least one large bell to be provided, at high or low level. There is no objection to more than one.

CHOIR
(33) The choir will be a male choir who will go to their places in procession. They should be situated not too far from the High Altar, and not between it and the people. They should be able to see the High Altar but if they are placed behind it a pierced screen should intervene to minimise distracting the priest. Provision should be made for thirty choristers. They may be placed in a gallery provided the above requirements are satisfied.

CONFESIONALS
(34) Six confessionals should be provided. They are to be for one penitent only and should be completely enclosed with doors for priest and penitent. The penitent’s compartment should be at least 16 sq. feet and the priest’s side at least 20 sq. feet.

ENTRANCES
(35) The main entrance should be related to the main approach. It must be wide enough and high enough for processions to pass through. A large entrance porch is desirable. Sufficient subsidiary entrances must be provided for escape, and some of these will be used as entrances by people approaching from various directions. These should have enclosed porches for draught exclusion.

FLOOR
(36) The floor of the Cathedral may be level or sloping. Steps inside the church should be kept to a minimum consistent with good design. All steps should be easy going.

GALLERIES
(37) The provision of galleries is optional. They should not interfere with processions and communicants should have an easy route.

HOLY WATER STOUPS
(38) Needed at all entrances. May be free standing.

ORGAN
(39) An organ is to be provided for. The console should be with the choir and the organ pipes should not be too far away from them.

PROCESSIONAL WAY
(40) Routes at least 12 ft. in the clear must be provided as follows:—
Sacristry to Sanctuary—Short route.
Sacristry to Sanctuary—Long route via centre aisle.
Sanctuary through main entrance via centre aisle.
Sanctuary to Sanctuary around inside the Cathedral.

PASSAGE WAYS
(41) In addition to the processional route, 4 ft. 6 ins. wide (minimum), passage ways should be provided between the seating so that there are not more than twelve seats in a row. Rows should normally be accessible from either end. Sufficient cross aisles should be provided. The movement of very large numbers of communicants should be envisaged; they will need reasonably direct routes from their seats to the communion rail at the High Altar.

PULPIT
(42) One pulpit of reasonably large dimensions should be provided on the Epistle (right hand) side. It should not be on the Sanctuary nor interfere with the communicants.
SACRISTIES
(43) The sacristies should be on a level with the approach to the Sanctuary and should provide space for a procession to form. A 10 ft. x 30 ft. corridor would suffice, leading from the priests' sacristy to the Cathedral.

The following is required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stores</th>
<th>Stores</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priests' sacristy</td>
<td>1000 sq. ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archbishop's sacristy</td>
<td>250 sq. ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choir sacristy</td>
<td>500 sq. ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altar boys' sacristy</td>
<td>250 sq. ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working sacristy</td>
<td>500 sq. ft.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION
(44) Adequate sanitary accommodation for men and women should be provided for the public and also in the sacristy.

SEATING
(45) The Cathedral is required to seat about 3,000 people with a view of the altar. (Including seating in galleries, if provided, to a maximum of 500). If desired, the seating may nearly encircle the High Altar and Sanctuary, to bring the people as near as possible. This is not a condition.

The seating must be shown on the plans allowing 3 ft. from front to back and 1 ft. 6 ins. wide per person for seating and kneeler.

SERVICES, Etc.
(46) Daylighting should be adequate for reading prayer books. Electric lighting is left to the competitor. It should be adequate.

The heating to be by oil-fired boilers installed alongside the existing boilers in the existing crypt boiler house. Otherwise the details of the heating are left to the competitor.

Adequate ventilation only is required.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
(47) Positions for the fourteen Stations of the Cross should be indicated.

STATUES, CRUCIFIXES, STAINED GLASS, Etc.
(48) To be provided for and shown or indicated as required. One main crucifix should be envisaged on or behind the High Altar. All altars should have crucifixes but they may be part of the furnishings. No external crucifix is required but may be provided. Decorative crosses, finials, etc., are left to the competitor.

STORES
(49) Some storage distributed about the Cathedral would be useful in addition to the sacristy stores. The large storage spaces on mezzanine level in the crypt may be made use of, but if this is not convenient, they may be ignored.

STYLE AND MATERIALS
(50) The architectural style is left to the competitors. Materials to be used in the construction and finishes are left to the competitors. They must be clearly described. The appearance of the Cathedral over the years should be taken into account. Maintenance costs both for interior and exterior therefore should be kept to a reasonable minimum.

V. APPENDIX

LIST OF PLANS ENCLOSED
1. Site Plan.
2. Crypt plan and mezzanine floor plans.
3. Crypt Elevations and Sections.
4. Town Planning proposals of the vicinity (with Anglican Cathedral indicated). These proposals are still under discussion and are only shown as a general guide, and competitors must not assume that there will be any extension of the Cathedral site which is shown on the site plan.
METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE KING
LIVERPOOL

ARCHITECTURAL
COMPETITION

Official Answers to Questions

JANUARY, 1960

Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral Committee

Supervisor and Organiser—
The Rt. Rev. Monsignor Canon T. A. Turner

Secretary—
The Very Rev. Canon A. G. Maguire

Assessors—
The Most Rev. John Carmel Heenan, D.D.,
Archbishop of Liverpool
Basil Spence Esq., O.B.E., A.R.A., P.R.I.B.A.
David Stokes Esq., F.R.I.B.A.
LETTER FROM THE ARCHBISHOP OF LIVERPOOL

My dear Architect,

In sending the answers to your questions I take the opportunity of thanking you for entering the competition for the building of the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King. We have received 800 applications for the Conditions. The candidates represent no less than 25 countries. The largest group naturally is from the British Isles but considerable numbers are from other lands. These include Canada (67), South Africa (48), Australia (25), U.S.A. (25), Rhodesia (22), Malaya (11) and Uganda (10).

It is most encouraging that this competition has aroused world wide interest. That many architects have already given deep thought to the project is clear from the questions which you will read. The Assessors have done their best to provide the information requested. If the answers are often terse you will understand that we were afraid lest our answers might create too many new conditions.

You have already noticed that the mandatory "must" has been used sparingly in setting out the conditions. We are anxious that no architect should be excluded through neglect of some unimportant feature of the building. We have left you as free as possible to use your imagination. After the winning design has been chosen it will still be possible for the architect to make any number of alterations and adjustments.

For your consolation you should know that the Assessors will look first for a splendid conception. You should not, therefore, worry unduly about the many details suggested in the "should" clauses. We have been deliberately vague about the High Altar and Sanctuary which, as I have already told you, should be the focal point of your design. Liturgical practice is developing continually in the Catholic Church. That is why we have asked you to design the High Altar in such a way that Holy Mass may be celebrated from either side. This is the explanation of the apparent contradiction in the siting of the Archbishop's Throne and the Canons' Stalls. I hope that the answers to your questions will resolve any doubts you may have had.

I think I should tell you that the name of the Relics Chapel in the Crypt is misleading. It is, in fact, the burial place of two former Archbishops of Liverpool. That is why this chapel cannot be moved. But there is no reason why you should not allow for an entrance to this chapel from the main cathedral building.

We have asked only for block plans of the proposed convent and clergy house because we are not yet certain of the part they will play in the life of the Cathedral. I advise you not to concentrate unduly on the ancillary buildings but on the grand design of the Cathedral itself.

The prayers of the priests and people of the Archdiocese will be with you in the coming months as you perfect your plans. I have no doubt that you will receive rich inspiration in your work for the glory of God.

✠ JOHN C. HEENAN
Archbishop of Liverpool

This letter does not form part of the conditions.
OFFICIAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q.1. May more than one design be submitted by the same Architect?

Yes. Each design must be submitted separately.

Q.2. May a competitor submit more than one design?

Yes.

Q.3. Is there any limit to the number of entries submitted by any one firm? (Clause 11, p.7).

No.

Q.4. Should more than one solution be entered, will it be necessary to forward to you a deposit of two guineas in respect of each?

Yes.

Q.5. The deposit is in my own name but as I am registered only as a student member of the Royal Institute of British Architects I am uncertain as to whether or not I may enter the competition. Should I prove to be ineligible then I would ask you to enter the deposit in the name of the firm.

The words “corporate members” in Condition (1) do NOT include student members. A design need not be submitted in the name of the person who sent the deposit for the conditions. Where there is a difference, the deposit will be returned to the applicant under Condition (14) if the name of the applicant is stated at the foot of the letter submitted with the design under Clause (11).

Q.6. If two or more Architects have applied separately for the Conditions will this preclude their entering the Competition as a team?

No.

Q.7. Is a Student member of the R.I.B.A. entitled to enter the competition, either alone or in partnership with a registered Architect?

The competition is only open to those who are eligible under Clause (1) on the 3rd August, 1960, and will be STRICTLY CONFINED to them.

— ditto —

Q.8. May an unregistered person enter for this Competition by himself, provided that, if placed first, he is willing to associate himself for the carrying out of the work with a registered Architect?

Any person or persons of any nationality or calling may collaborate in submitting a design with a person or persons who are eligible to compete. In this event the design must be submitted in the name or names of those eligible and the letter submitted under Clause (11) signed by them. The letter should give the name(s) of the collaborator(s) under the signature(s), thus “In collaboration with”. In the event of publication these names will also be published.

Q.9. We would like to be informed if there is any objection to a British architect submitting a design in association with an architect of Italian nationality. If this were to be permitted the scheme or schemes would be prepared jointly by the two parties.

No. Designs must be despatched so as to arrive at the place stated not later than the time stated in Condition (12).

Q.10. May the time for handing in designs be extended until September or October? The time stated is, for several competitors, unhappily, in the middle of the holiday period and too soon after the academic session and examinations.

No. See Condition (10) (a).

Q.11. For overseas competitors it may be difficult to ensure delivery on time—strikes, accidents in transit, etc. May consideration be given to the acceptance of a certificate of proof of despatch by a reasonably early date, considering the mode of transport used (air mail, air freight, surface vessel). As a suggestion, air mail or air freight to be despatched 6 days before the published closing date, surface vessel to be 14 days before the closing date.

No. See Condition (10) (a).
Q.12. In reference to para. 7 of the General Conditions, for what works can it be assumed that the 10% on the next £1,000,000 refers?

Q.13. Item 6: It is stated that an office must be maintained in "this country." Does that mean England only or does it refer to Great Britain as a whole including Scotland and Wales?

Q.14. Can visits to the site be arranged?

Q.15. I should be pleased to hear what facilities are available for visiting the site if these are not explained in the conditions.

Q.16. The promoters say they will consult the successful architect on the appointment of all specialists—including the Clerk of Works—but no such assurance is given in respect of the Quantity Surveyor. In view of the fact that the Quantity Surveyors will have a most important part to play in the cost planning of the successful scheme and will do more consultative work in preparation of the design than any other specialist, will the promoters give an assurance that the successful architect will be consulted on his appointment also? This would help to ensure a responsibly worked out and detailed cost picture which could be worked to with confidence.

Q.17. Quantity Surveyor: Will the Quantity Surveyor be appointed in consultation with the selected architect? As decisions made by him at the design stage are important it seems vital that in the event of the design being selected the same man should be employed on the work.

Q.18. Is the appointment of a Quantity Surveyor by the promoters to be made on the recommendation of the architect, as is the case with the consultants and clerk of works? (Clause 16, p. 7).

Q.19. Clause 16: May it be assumed that the Quantity Surveyor to be appointed will be on the recommendation of the Architect? (From the wording of the Clause it would appear that the Architect has no say. A Quantity Surveyor might well be prepared to back an Architect in the Competition in the hope that in the event of his being successful he would be appointed to prepare the bills of quantity, etc.).

Q.20. It is the practice of most younger architects to use the services of an independent quantity surveyor. His work on the costs at the sketch stage is done on the understanding that if the project is carried out, he will be asked to prepare a Bill of Quantities. Condition 16 states that the promoters will appoint a Quantity Surveyor inferring from the next sentence that it will not be on the recommendation of the architect. Would the Promoters consider inserting "on the recommendation of the architect" for the Quantity Surveyor as well as the Clerk of Works? The majority of architects competing may then obtain their usual expert cost advice, which is such an important matter in this competition.

The 10% allowed under Clause (10) (d) where applicable.

The office referred to in Condition (6) may be anywhere in the British Isles.

Yes.

The site and Crypt are open all day every day and can be inspected without previous arrangement.

The Quantity Surveyor referred to in Condition (16) will be appointed by the promoters in consultation with the Architect. The promoters cannot bind themselves to accept the Architect's recommendations under this Clause or Clause (17).
Q.21. General Conditions: Clause 20: “all drawings to be of double elephant size (40" x 27") and mounted on stiff boards without excess margins.” Overseas competitors have two difficulties over this—(a) excessive cost of sending stiff board drawings and (b) making sure of delivery of same from air freight depot to Cathedral Offices. Would the following solution overcome both difficulties: “That competitors be notified of a Liverpool firm who would be prepared to receive unmounted drawings. Such firm would mount and deliver same.” Failing this unmounted drawings be accepted to be sent airmail post direct. There is also the question that customs clearance may entail opening at the Customs Depot at airport of entry to England.

Q.22. Clause 20: May the drawings be in ink or pencil on tracing paper mounted on white backing?

Yes.

Q.23. I am considering the use of tracing paper mounted upon stiff white board, which will have the same effect as that of white paper upon board. Do you consider that such a presentation would meet with the requirements of the Competition?

Yes.

Q.24. Is the use of artificial shading media, such as Zippatone, allowed on plans, elevations or sections?

Yes.

Q.25. Since the block plan supplied with the conditions is to a scale of 64 ft. to 1 inch may this scale be used for the block plan to be submitted instead of the scale of 1 : 500 specified?

No.

Q.26. Clause 20: Block Plan. In view of the irregular shape of the site a plan to the scale of 1 : 500 would be of great assistance. Is such a plan to this scale available?

No.

Q.27. Item 20: Drawings: It is stated “grey shades or shadows are allowed in any of the drawings.” Is this correct? Usually in Competitions, shades are not allowed and from the use of the word “any” it would appear that the word “not” has been omitted. Please confirm if grey shades or shadows are allowed or not.

It is confirmed that there is no misprint in Clause (20).

Q.28. Is colour of any sort forbidden on the presentation drawings, other than the grey tones referred to in Item 20?

Yes.

Q.29. May shade and shadow be used on the drawings to show the modelling of curved surfaces?

Yes.

Q.30. Para. 20 states grey shades or shadows are allowed; may both be employed since to differentiate in some parts could produce strange results?

Yes.

Q.31. The same para. calls for one sheet of ¼" scale details. May these be increased only where, because of the nature of the structure and detail envisaged, one double-elephant sheet would not adequately express the intention of the designer?

No.
Q.32. Should the details of the Sanctuary and High Altar be shown on the same sheet as the ¼" details of the building, or may a separate sheet be used?

Q.33. Is it permissible to include with the drawing submitted to show either by panoramic photograph or diagrammatic drawing or section the relationship of the proposed cathedral, the University Tower, the Anglican Cathedral and the River Mersey Pier Head group of buildings?

Q.34. Details at scale of 4 ft. to 1 in.: are the number of sheets limited to one?

Q.35. It would be helpful if competitors could be furnished with a précis of those municipal bye-laws which could affect the design of the Buildings. Climatic conditions: (a) The incidence and severity of the rainfall. (b) Is there much snow? (c) Any other relevant information, such as prevailing winds, etc.

Q.36. If a steel reinforced concrete framework is built over the Crypt, will means for attaching it in a structurally sound manner to the Crypt be possible?

Q.37. Can any indication be given of the crushing strength of the main piers and walls of the Crypt?

Q.38. What superimposed loading has the Crypt been designed to carry? Please state whether distributed or point loads?

Q.39. What bearing values can be expected: (a) over areas filled in solid. (b) centres of larger spans. (c) any other intermediate values?

Q.40. The plan of the Crypt indicates huge masses of masonry! It is assumed that the building is strong enough to support any superimposed structure?

Q.41. Can one assume that all areas indicated as solid black on the Crypt plan are solid brick or masonry without fill and therefore capable of sustaining loads commensurate to their cross sectional area? An indication of the type of brick used or its approximate load bearing capacity would be very welcome if available.

Q.42. Would it be possible to have details of permissible loadings on existing foundations to Crypt?

Q.43. What are the details of the ground formation from the trial holes?

Q.44. What rock is under the site and has it any value as a building material?

Q.45. What is the full nature of the foundations and permissible bearing pressure?

Q.46. What is the nature of the subsoil on the site for the purpose of foundation design?
Q.47. Am I right in assuming that the whole of the site within the building line is formed on an outcrop of solid rock at depths not greater than those detailed on your Competition Conditions Drawing No. 1? Yes.

Q.48. What is the load bearing capacity of
   (a) Rock subsoil? Good.
   (b) Soil overburden? Nil.

Q.49. The nature and loadbearing capacity of the site rock; an indication of the loadbearing capacity of the crypt foundation. See above.

Q.50. (1) Will you please give the bearing capacity of the Crypt walling? See above.
      (2) Will you please give the bearing capacity of the Crypt foundations?

Q.51. Loads transmitted to the foundations are not likely to be tremendous. Can it be assumed at this stage that the rock mentioned in connection with the trial holes on Drawing No. 1 will carry the superimposed loading from the kind of structure likely to be provided? See above.

Q.52. Can indications be given of permissible loading on typical points of the Crypt roof? See above.

Q.53. What is the permissible bearing stress in tons per sq. ft. of the rock? Does the rock cover the entire site? See above.

Q.54. To what extent is the existing structure of the Crypt capable of carrying a superimposed structure? If direct loads occur approximately over the large areas of masonry (shown solid black on the ground floor Plan) may competitors assume that any portion of the superimposed Cathedral will require no further support below the Crypt roof level? See above.

Q.55. Might competitors have further information about (a) the nature of the soil and the sub-soil and (b) height restrictions if any? See above.

Q.56.—What is the rock indicated by “rock levels”? Is the rock indicated by the rock levels suitable at these levels for high foundation loading? What is the safe loading over the crypt structure? See above.

Q.57. What are the properties of the rock below the site levels and also does the rock extend over the whole site consistently or is it only in pockets? See above.

Q.58. When was the ground made up on the Southern part of the site? Some 30 years ago.

Q.59. May we assume that soil and surface water sewers are available in adjacent roads? Yes.

Q.60. Is the construction required to be fully encased with regard to fireproofing? Yes.

Q.61. Are any structural calculations to be provided? Confined to Condition (21).
Q.62. For the benefit of those competitors not acquainted with the local conditions and also to ensure some degree of uniformity in the calculations of costs, could some indication be given of reasonable cube rates for this type of building?

Q.63. (Para. 2 (22)). Could the Assessors, having stated that costs should not exceed £1,000,000 enlighten the competitors as to how the figure should be arrived at—by cube or some other means such as superficial floor area. This will largely determine the scope of the design.

Q.64. Clause 22: The method of measuring the cubic contents of the building conflicts with the recognised R.I.B.A. method. Is this correct?

Q.65. Chapter III, Article 22: Does there exist a list of prices of building materials and of wages paid to different crafts, or publications like Construction Cost Index, or Building Guide in England? If so, where and how are they available?

Q.66. Para 22: In order to facilitate an accurate estimate by overseas competitors, would the Promoters be prepared to supply the current English rates for the following items:
(a) excavation in (i) earth (ii) rock.
(b) concrete 6 : 3 : 1, 4 : 2 : 1 and rates for levels above ground level.
(c) Structural steel, rate per ton, rate for levels.
(d) shuttering (i) centering to soffits (ii) casing columns (iii) casing beams.
(e) brickwork. Cube rate for (i) commons, with rates for levels and (ii) extra for high grade facework.
(f) masonry. Rates for (i) natural worked stone and (ii) high grade reconstructed stone.
(g) plaster.
(h) screeds.
(i) timber. Rates per cube for (i) softwood (ii) hardwood.
(j) labour rates.

Q.67. What is the current English rate for estimating heating by oil-fired boilers?

Q.68. What would be a suitable cubic rate to work on?

Q.69. It is assumed that the cost of foundation work is to be included in the estimate of cost.

Q.70. Cost of foundations:
(a) Is the competitor's estimate to exclude the cost of all works below floor level, the level mentioned in Clause 22 for cubing?
(b) If such works are to be included in the estimate could information be given to competitors about:
(i) Nature of subsoil.
(ii) Nature of rock below it.
(iii) Any subsoil water needing drainage.

Cost of lay-out works around the building: Information about subsoil, rock and any subsoil water would help accurate estimating.

Q.62. For the benefit of those competitors not acquainted with the local conditions and also to ensure some degree of uniformity in the calculations of costs, could some indication be given of reasonable cube rates for this type of building?

No.

See Condition (22) para. 1.

The cube should be given as required by Condition (22) para. 3.

Competitors must obtain their own information.

Competitors must obtain their own information.

ditto

Correct.

Competitors must obtain their own information.

ditto

See above. The rock surface may be assumed to be self draining.
Q.71. In relation to para. 22 of the Instructions can any clarification be given, in so far as the work connected with the completion of the Crypt, and the work and cost of the new Cathedral may overlap?

See Condition (22) para. 5.

Q.72. Is the estimate of cost to include for the following:
(a) Internal decorative metalwork (e.g. Chapel screens).
(b) External services to Convent and Presbytery. (Extra to £40,000).
(c) Demolition of buildings to be disposed of.

Yes. Included in £40,000.
No.

See Condition (22) para. 1.

Q.73. Is any form of cost analysis required?

Yes.

Q.74. Mosaics: Might mosaics of an important character be added to the group (stained glass, frescoes, etc.) at the end of Clause 22?

For the site as shown on plan No. 1 only. The appendix states clearly that competitors must not assume any extension of the site as shown on the site plan No. 1. Condition (10) (c) will force the assessors to exclude any design which ignores these conditions.

Yes.

Q.75. Is the layout cost to include for laying out the extra area of the site shown on the map of town planning proposals and the extra area which will be available from later clearance of building, or only for laying out the area immediately available?

Left to competitors.

— ditto —

Yes this conditions is mandatory.

Q.76. Is the figure of £1,000,000 to include heating, lighting and ventilation?

Yes.

Q.77. Para. (25): If as stated Priests’ House may be placed over the sacristies, how can they be shown on block plan and how can the cost be estimated?

— ditto —

Yes this conditions is mandatory.

Q.78. I should be glad of some indication of what sacristy cupboards and vestry table are required, for estimating purposes.

The use of the Crypt should not concern competitors and therefore detailed answers to questions in this connection are not given.

— ditto —

— ditto —

— ditto —

— ditto —

Q.79. Is it a mandatory condition that none of the accommodation asked for is to be placed in the Crypt (Condition 23) or may parts of the Crypt be used for accommodating part of the competition programme, providing that space is allowed for additional chapels, etc., in the new building?

Q.80. Crypt sacristy: Need any sacristy be retained in the Crypt providing the new sacristies have reasonable access?

Q.81. In the existing Crypt, are the two circular chambers vaulted, or to be vaulted; and what is the circular chamber other than “Priests’ Sacristy” used for?

Q.82. What is the intended use for the Priests’ Sacristy already provided in the Crypt, if a new one is to be built? If suitable communications are provided, could not this existing Sacristy be employed?

Q.83. Clause 23: Could more explicit directions be given as to the future use of the Crypt. Is this only for use as Chapels? To what use will the Cathedral Hall and South Hall be put? On the plan of the Crypt there are three other staircases beside the two main stairs, one upwards, one downwards and one other. Could more information please be given of these?
Q.84. Is the Crypt as designed adequately ventilated from bye-law and comfort standards, or is a system of forced ventilation envisaged? — ditto —

Q.85. The Cathedral Hall on the north side is incomplete. Is it permissible to submit a design suggesting that the roof to this part be omitted and the north wall only built forming a cloister? — ditto —

Q.86. On the Crypt Plan No. 2, Mezzanine stores are shown on centre lines C/L C/L C/L C/L C D E F

It would appear, according to windows, positions and Lutyens' original plan, that the mezzanine level also exists above the vaulting east (Ecclesiastical) of the Chapel of Our Lady of Dolours, and east (Ecclesiastical) of the Chapel of the Crucifixion. We believe that the two corner circular staircases have landings at level 167.00 and that access can be gained to these Mezzanine stores via the area allocated for the supply tank to stoops. According to this on Drawing No. 3 the doors indicated on the " north elevation " presumably pass through to the mezzanine level and staircase well. Would you confirm this? — ditto —

Q.87. Are the two turret stairs adjoining circular chapel and sacristy now necessary. — ditto —

Q.88. Will the Archbishops' Chapel, the Brownlow Hill approach, the two Crypt Courts and the monumental outside steps to the Crypt be finished according to Lutyens' design? See Condition (22) para. 5.

Q.89. It is difficult to assess from the existing plans the position of the flue from the oil-fired boiler. Can you guide us as to where the flue discharges? Competitors may ignore the flue and oil deliveries for the purpose of the competition.

Q.90. Is a boiler house chimney existing or required. — ditto —

Q.91. Where is the boiler house stack? — ditto —

Q.92. Boiler House: From the photographs, no flue stack is visible. In view of the heating being oil fired, a flue will be necessary. Where is this planned to go? Access for Oil fuel will be required for the boiler house. Is this to take the form of an access road for lorries or will a service pipe be laid to the street boundary so that lorries do not need to come into the grounds? — ditto —

Q.93. Can information be given on the existing disposal of flue gases from the boilers, the height of the flue and its position? — ditto —

Q.94. What are the details of the boiler house, e.g., the elevational treatment; the type and size of flues and their height? — ditto —

Q.95. Levels please, in the vicinity of the existing boiler house? Can be deduced from information supplied.

Q.96. The position of the Boiler House does not agree as between drawing Nos. 1 and 2, presumably drawing No. 2 is the correct one in this respect? Yes.
Q.97. The boiler house may be too small. If this is found to be so, can it be extended and the extension shown on the competitors' drawings submitted. Is there any plant in the existing boiler house—to serve the Crypt perhaps?

Q.98. Is the cathedral to be fully air-conditioned?

Q.99. What are the principal finishes in the Crypt:
(a) Externally:
   Walls—type of stone.
   Windows—materials of frames.
   Roof.
(b) Internally:
   Floors.
   Special features—altars, etc.
   Stairs and balusters.

Q.100. What are the materials used in the existing crypt both internally and externally, e.g., type of stone and brick and colours of these?

Q.101. Are there any local building materials, e.g., stonework or face bricks, which would be in character with existing structures?

Q.102. What varieties of stone, brick and paving material (crypt and piazza) have been used for the existing structure?

Q.103. Can some details be given of the constructional materials used in the building of the vaulting and walling to the Crypt?

Q.104. Is the Crypt of solid brickwork, faced externally with stone; and what type of stone?

Q.105. What are the thicknesses of the external walls of the Heating Chamber?
Can some details be given of the foundations to the Heating Chamber?

Q.106. Can it be assumed that all solid black areas, shown on the plan of the Crypt, are either solid stone or load-bearing brick?

Q.107. What material is the Crypt paved with (a) on the south front and (b) the other fronts?

Q.108. Is it permissible to suggest that the existing east entrance to the crypt be refaced in brick rather than stone so that the whole may form a continuous brick plinth to the new Cathedral?

Q.109. The photographs indicate that the crypt is finished in face brick and dressed stone. Is it desired that the new buildings be similarly treated?

Q.110. Further Details: Can further details be supplied to show (a) the circular stairs at NE & NW corners and the exact levels of their quarter landings, (b) the existing foundations to the crypt, and (c) ground levels in the vicinity of the E & W Crypt courts?

May be assumed to be adequate.

See Condition (46) para. 3.

Cornish grey granite.
Bronze.
Concrete paving.
Purbeck marble.
Altars granite.
Stairs granite. Balusters to be decided.
— ditto — The brickwork on the south wall is Blue Engineering brick.
— ditto —
— ditto —
Brick.
Yes and cornish grey granite.
See drawing No. 2.
Rock.
Yes.
Areas around the Crypt to be developed by competitors.
No.
The materials are left to the competitors (Condition (50).)
Competitors must deduce these from information supplied.
Q.111. What is ground level to the east of "East Crypt Court" and what is the relation between this and street level as none are indicated on Drawing No. 1?

Q.112. Will the assessors indicate the plan of the staircase towers as they will be completed at Crypt terrace level?

Q.113. Could competitors be provided with a diagrammatic section along the axes C.L.2 and S.2?

Q.114. Can further information be given about upper reaches of existing stairs? That adjoining relics chapel is particularly obscure.

Q.115. Please clarify entrances adjacent Relics Chapel.

Q.116. Which way do the steps (shown on one of the centre openings to the Crypt south side) run? What do they serve?

Q.117. May a mezzanine floor be introduced in the centre portion of the long gallery of the crypt?

Q.118. May the spiral stairs be considered suitable as access from the Crypt to the Cathedral for both the Congregation, as well as for procession?

Q.119. Item 23: If necessary, may access to the Crypt be formed through the existing structure in positions other than existing entrances?

Q.120. Access from the Cathedral to Crypt: it is assumed that access will be along one or more of the axial lines running north-south (C.1 1 and 2; C.1 S1 and S2). These cross the existing chapels in the crypt. Will this be in order?

Q.121. Crypt: Building over in whole or in part is allowed. How does this affect the lighting of the Crypt? From the aerial photographs it would seem that certain inner rooms are lit by glazed pavement lights or similar.

Q.122. Is it necessary or advantageous to continue the supply of natural light to the Crypt chapel windows?

Q.123. Is limited modification to the Crypt allowed. For example, could the Relics Chapel be re-positioned in the Crypt?

Q.124. Depression along south side of Crypt: Must this remain an open "ditch" as at present, or may it be built up to the level of the rest of the landscaped area provided that a good connection is made between the cathedral and the main floor of the crypt?

Q.125. Crypt platform: It is stated that if the Crypt is not covered or only partially covered with buildings, the layout should be shown. Can it be taken that whatever construction over the Crypt may be necessary to convert the area into a garden fit for growing plants after the manner of an Italian cloister may be undertaken?
Q.126. With regard to the Schedule of requirements and accommodation, are we correct in assuming that the completion of the two circular staircases has no connection with the access required from Cathedral to Crypt? Are they to be completed simply to avoid leaving unfinished parts in view? Or do the promoters of the scheme visualise public use of the terrace with access therefrom to the Crypt?

Q.127. Courtyard to Crypt adjacent to Boiler House: Are the entrances at this point to be made available to the public with paths and layouts from Mount Pleasant?

Yes.

Q.128. If existing piazza is to be retained what access will be required for the public, and should this be included in the scheme?

See Condition (23) para. 3.

Q.129. Could direct access to the Crypt be provided even if this necessitates alteration to the existing structure?

Yes.

Q.130. Will a processional route be required from the Cathedral to outside altar on Piazza?

Left to competitors.

Q.131. What is the function of the East Entrance to the Crypt, is it only for service?

For the Public.

Q.132. If a link by processional route is provided between Cathedral and outside altar, will public have access?

Presumably.

Q.133. To what extent can the existing crypt be modified to provide a dignified processional entrance to the Crypt? Can the relics Chapel be resited elsewhere in the Crypt?

To the extent necessary for this purpose.

No.

Q.134. Should access to the Crypt be only from the Cathedral?

No.

Q.135. If Piazza is to be used by the Public (a) is any provision to be made for the Balustrade or (b) does this form part of the scheme for the Crypt?

(a) Yes.

(b) No.

Q.136. With reference to the internal access between Crypt and Cathedral does this mean that the entire congregation will move in procession from nave to crypt?

No.

Competitors must make their own enquiries.

Q.137. Unless there is some direction in the conditions in relation to the liturgical requirements of a Roman Catholic Cathedral I shall be most grateful if you can give me some idea of the best source of information in English on the Cathedral liturgy and its theological basis as I feel that this matter is basic to the design.

At the back, and see Q.144.

Q.138. The practice of celebrating Mass facing the people (Basilican Roman Style) is not clearly understood. Is it implied that the Celebrant would in such a case require space at each end of the altar and possibly at the back?

No.

Q.139. Does this affect the height of the altar?
Q.140. Has provision to be made for standing space for the Bishop's attendants, and if so, for how many? May they stand behind the line, but to one side of the altar? Should there be provision for Sedilia? Should there be provision for Credences (space for) and if so, how many? Is there any preference in the matter of the seating for the Canons; may their pews be on both sides of the Chancel or should they be all on the Gospel side?

Q.141. In the carriage of the Blessed Sacrament between the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament Altar and the High Altar, is it desired that the Procession should walk out of the main Sanctuary into the Nave and around into the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament; or is the altar to the last-named to be directly accessible from the side of the Main Sanctuary, and if so is there any preference as to which side; may it be in the Main Sanctuary, with public entrance from the Nave?

Q.142. May the Choir be situated between the High Altar and the people, provided that they do not interrupt the view of the High Altar from any point in the nave?

Q.143. May the Choir be on either or both sides of the Sanctuary?

Q.144. When the Mass begins is it most desirable that the Celebrant and attendant priests appear directly in front of the congregation and ascend directly up steps in front of the High Altar or can they ascend from the sides?

Q.145. Can the Archbishop's Throne be behind the High Altar on the Gospel side but at some distance away?

Q.146. May a figure of Christ the King be envisaged over the High Altar rather than a Crucifix? As this could affect the whole character of the design I am particularly anxious to know this.

Q.147. Plan-form of congregation: it is suggested that seating could almost surround the sanctuary, at the same time reference is made to processions passing by the "central aisle." This suggests that the traditional nave-flanked aisle arrangement is in mind. We should like a further reassurance that we can depart radically from conventional seating arrangements without prejudice to our chances.

Q.148. Para. (40) Sacristy to Sanctuary: Long route via central aisle. Could this be interpreted as Sanctuary via processional route and then up central aisle?

Q.149. Processional ways. The instructions concerning the long and short routes from Sacristy to Sanctuary are not clearly understood.

Q.150. "Sacristy to Sanctuary"—Which sacristy is intended here? Or is the 10 ft. x 30 ft. corridor acceptable as part of the 12 ft. clear processional way?

— ditto — The procession forms in the space provided under Condition (43) and then proceeds by the routes provided under Condition (40).
Q.151. Condition No. 40 refers to a "centre aisle." Does this mean that the Processional Way between the entrance and sanctuary is to have the seating equally disposed on either side?

See Q.147.

Q.152. Is it necessary for the Processional Way (Long route to Sanctuary) to be covered?

Yes.

Q.153. Is the traditional cruciform plan desired, or may this be dispensed with?

Left to competitors.

Q.154. When left hand and right hand are referred to in the conditions is it to be assumed that one is facing the Altar?

Yes.

Q.155. Can the main crucifix at the High Altar be above the Altar or behind and above?

Yes, left to competitors.

Q.156. Can the maximum number of persons likely to be on the Sanctuary at one time be stated?

No.

Q.157. Clause 26: May the seating be placed in two sections of equal size on either side of a central altar (i.e. is a double nave with central sanctuary permissible)?

Yes.

Q.158. Does "behind the High Altar" (paras. 26 and 33) mean: (a) the area away from the congregation determined by the long axis of the Altar or (b) the field of vision of the priest standing at the front of the Altar with his back to the congregation?

"Behind the High Altar" means "directly behind."

Q.159. "... Stalls for twenty Canons... not behind the High Altar." Is it permitted for stalls to be placed in the positions 1, 2, 3, 4 shown in the Sketch? (Note: sketch showed them on each side about the longitudinal axis of the Altar).

— ditto —

Q.160. Can the Canons' stalls be placed beyond the High Altar but at the sides?

— ditto —

Q.161. Canons' stalls: Providing that the stalls are not sited directly behind may they be behind the high altar in the sense of being on that side of the altar remote from the congregation?

— ditto —

Q.162. Item 26: "Stalls should be provided for twenty canons on the Sanctuary and not behind the High Altar." May these stalls be located to the rear of the Altar but flanking it—i.e. not directly behind the Altar?

— ditto —

Q.163. "Canons' stalls should not be placed behind the altar." Does this mean directly behind or behind a line drawn through the altar at right angles to the view by the congregation?

— ditto —

Q.164. Sect. No. 26: Please could you define "The Roman Basilica Style" as this seems to conflict with Sect. No. 30?

Condition (30) refers to altars other than the High Altar.

Q.165. Will it be permitted to plan the Archbishop's Throne and Canons' stalls in a semicircular fashion behind the High Altar?

See Condition (26) para. 3. See also Q.175.

Q.166. Would a layout of the Sanctuary similar to the layout as proposed in Sir Edwin Lutyens's scheme be acceptable, that is, the relative positions of the High Altar, Canons' Stalls and Choir?

The position of the High Altar was never finally decided in Lutyens's cathedral.
Q.167. Sanctuary: Does 2,500 sq. ft. min. area for the sanctuary include steps up inside the Communion rails or is this the area of usable (i.e. flat) floor required?

The 2,500 should be the flat area of the Sanctuary plus the actual altar steps and altar.

Q.168. The Canons' Stalls which are to be on the Sanctuary should not obstruct the view of the High Altar and Sanctuary from the people. Does this mean that the High Altar could be in the Centre of the Sanctuary with the Communion Rails at the front and sides of the Sanctuary and the Canons' Stalls and Archbishop's throne grouped at the sides slightly to the rear of the High Altar?

The conditions referred to are not mandatory. The solution is left to competitors. The Canons' Stalls may be moveable.

Q.169. Condition No. 26 states that the Canons' Stalls should be placed so as not to obscure a view by the people of the High Altar and Sanctuary, but they must not be behind the Altar. It is elsewhere stated that the seating may if wished nearly encircle the High Altar and Sanctuary. These requirements and this suggestion appear to be incompatible. Could this be clarified please?

Left to competitors.

Q.170. Should the choir be centrally placed or could they be placed at one side grouped together, or equally divided at both sides.

Left to competitors.

Q.171. Rule 26 Altars: As the common practice of offering Mass with the Celebrant's back facing the people is diametrically opposed in principle to the Roman Basilica plan with the celebrant facing the people is "the common practice" the more satisfactory method? As this will be a basic principle in the design pattern, could not this rule be more precisely defined rather than the choice being left to the competitor?

NOT left to competitors. See Condition (26) para. 1.

Q.172. Is any particular arrangement required for the Canons' Stalls (e.g. two rows of 10, four rows of 5, 10 Canons each side of altar, etc.)? Are stalls required to accommodate other clergy in addition to Canons?

Left to competitors, and see Condition (26).

Q.173. Is the Archbishop's Throne to have a canopy?

Yes.

Q.174. Does the altar have to be used in the basilican manner for Low Mass as well as High Mass?

Yes.

Q.175. If it is to be used in the basilican manner for High Mass should the Archbishop's throne be placed in the apse?

The position of the Archbishop's throne is not mandatory. See Condition (26) para. 3. The throne may be moveable.

Q.176. "The word 'must' is mandatory. The word 'should' is not." Can it be confirmed that in all cases in the Schedule of Requirements and Accommodation these words are correctly used, for example: "The High Altar should be raised on three steps and covered with a canopy." Is it not a fact that these are liturgically essential? "The Archbishop's throne should be on the Gospel (left hand) side of the Sanctuary, etc." Can this be optional? Also, can the Throne be moveable? Supposing the Archbishop pontificates facing the people, his Throne would have to be on the Gospel side of the Sanctuary. Conversely, if the Archbishop pontificates with his back to the people, the Throne would have to be on the Gospel side of the Sanctuary and, therefore, in a diametrically opposite position.

For the purposes of the competition it is confirmed that "MUST" and "SHOULD" are correctly used in all cases. Also see Q.175.
Q.177. Should the word "should" be read as "must" in conditions 26, 37, 42, 46, 47, 48.

Q.178. What headroom is necessary for cathedral processions?

Q.179. Sec. No. 43: Is there a minimum height required in the Sacristies and processional ways to permit the passage of banners and effigies?

Q.180. What would be the minimum height of the main Entrance Doors to allow for the banners, etc., used in processions?

Q.181. May I have some guidance on the minimum width and height of doors which are on any of the processional routes? In particular, what would be regarded as the minimum width and height for main entrance door?

Q.182. I should be glad of some guidance on the relationship of the different sacristies to each other, and to the rest of the church.

Q.183. Can the Archbishop proceed through the Priests' sacristy, as the most direct entrance to the Cathedral?

Q.184. Are all Sacristies to have direct access from the/a corridor, or would for instance access to the choir sacristy via the altar boys' sacristy be allowed?

Q.185. Can the Choir Sacristy be separated from the other sacristies?

Q.186. The long route between Sacristy and Sanctuary is not clearly understood; does this requirement mean that the Clergy would proceed from the Sacristy into, and down the length of, a side aisle and across into and up the Centre Nave to the Sanctuary? Other than this what is required?

Q.187. Steps: Would the condition requiring these to be kept to a minimum preclude a raised ambulatory all round the church at say 8' 0" above the floor of the nave?

Q.188. Condition 43. Is the word "level" here applicable to floor levels or to the relative position on plan of the Sacristy in relation to the Main Sanctuary, and if this last then is the competitor correct in assuming that the 10 ft. x 30 ft. corridor connecting link (suggested in the Conditions) should open into one side of the Sanctuary; and then which side is preferred?

Q.189. Is any direct communication required between the sacristies and the crypt?

Q.190. Will priests pass to the High Altar from the Sacristy via the Blessed Sacrament Chapel?

Q.191. Will priests proceed from the High Altar to Blessed Sacrament Altar during Mass?


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12 feet minimum.

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ditto

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ditto — ditto — ditto

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Width left to competitors.

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See Condition (43).

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Left to competitors. See Q.184.

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Passage rooms should be avoided. See Q.183.

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Left to competitors.

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This or any other arrangement to provide a long route terminating along a centre (principal) aisle. See Q.148.

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No.

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To floor levels. Quite unnecessary for sacristy corridor to give directly on to Sanctuary. (See Condition (40).)

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No.

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No.

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Yes. See Condition (27).

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No.
Q.193. Must all the Sacristies be adjacent to one another, and to the assembly corridor?  

They should be, but see Q.185.

Q.194. Sect. No. 27: What is the route that the priests will take when they move the Blessed Sacrament from its chapel to the High Altar?

The shortest.

Q.195. Sect. No. 33: Should the choir’s procession be visible to the congregation.

Yes.

Q.196. Sect. No. 35: Where do the processions not originating in the Cathedral assemble?

Competitors need not concern themselves with this.

Q.197. What is the function of the Working Sacristy?

Flowers and cleaners.

Q.198. Is only male sanitary accommodation required for the sacristies?

See Q.192.

Q.199. What is it intended to house in the storage accommodation suggested in Condition 49?

e.g. Additional seating.

Q.200. It is presumed that a strong room will be required; can an indication of the size be given?

Not required.

Q.201. Can an approximate occupation programme be given, for a typical week, for High Mass and the subsidiary chapels, by days and hours?

No.

Q.202. No provision for a “Schola Cantorum” has been asked for. Does this mean that the office and services will be sung only by clergy and that no distinction in the choir seating need be made for seniority? If a Schola is to be used may they be placed in a Gallery? If a Schola is to be used, of the 30 choristers how many will be clergy?

Left to competitors.

Q.203. Has the Font in the Baptistry to be partially sunken?

Left to competitors.

Q.204. Is it liturgically permissible to have the Baptistry as part of the Main Entrance providing it is separated with a barrier?

Yes.

Q.205. Would there be any objection to the Baptistry being placed in the main entrance porch?

See Q.204.

Q.206. What constitutes a Baptistry? Can it be a railed off area or is it to be a separate apartment?

Left to competitors.

Q.207. Font: Can the font be in the nave or narthex, with the “Baptistry” space defined by a canopy, floor treatment or other device, or is it essential that the Baptistry is planned as a distinct and separate room?

Must be distinct and separate. See Q.205 and Q.206.

Q.208. Item 35: Are two entrances referred to here, i.e. one open portico and one enclosed porch?

No. Left to competitors.

Q.209. Would it be in order to provide a treasury in lieu of a strong room where plate and sacred vessels of particular interest could be seen by the laity on occasions?

No. See Q.200.

Q.210. If the Blessed Sacrament and Lady Chapels are situated at the sides of the High Altar is there any preference according to the ritual and liturgy as to which side is to be? Is there any objection to either of these chapels being part of the general plan of the Cathedral with the division being one of location and not a physical dividing? Is there any liturgical objection?

No. See conditions (27) and (28).
Q.21. Separate chapels: (a) Do the conditions imply that the two principal chapels must be entirely separate from the main body of the cathedral (i.e. separated by a wall, etc.) or (b) could they be partially separated by some form of screen or aisle? Please clarify this point.

(a) No.  
(b) Yes.

Q.22. Is it permissible to plan accommodation over the Blessed Sacrament, Lady and side altars? Yes, but not living accommodation.

Q.23. Would it be all right to position any of the small chapels under a gallery or under the choir? Yes.

Q.24. Can the Lady Chapel be at a distance of say approx. 300 feet from the High Altar? Left to competitors.

Q.25. If the side altars cannot be seen from other seating how many seats are required in each small chapel? Left to competitors.


Q.27. Are piscina required at the side altars? No.


Q.29. Is a mortuary chapel required. No.

Q.30. Does a Mortuary Chapel have to be provided. No.

Q.31. Mortuary chapel: It is presumed one is not wanted. Correct.

Q.32. Are suitably planned spaces of the main building, adequately defined, acceptable as chapels under the term “Separate”? See Q.210 and Q.211.

Q.33. Will Mass be said at any or all of these Altars at the same time as at the High Altar? Yes.

Q.34. Are tabernacles required on any of the Altars other than the Blessed Sacrament Altar? No.

Q.35. Are all Altars to be consecrated and will they all require sepulchres or reliquaries? Are the eight side altars to be regarded as “standard” units or is any dedication to the titulars intended which would render an order or priority? Is there any scheme in mind for the dedication of the side altars to titulars and if not are competitors free to suggest one? Not relevant for the purpose of the competition.

Q.36. Should the position of the Blessed Sacrament Altar be immediately apparent on entering the Cathedral, or could it for example be behind and back to back with the High Altar Sanctuary? Left to competitors.

Q.37. Are communion rails required in the small chapels? Or is the front bench kneeler acceptable as such? Communion rails only required where called for by the conditions.

Q.38. Does the figure of 3,000 include the accommodation already asked for in 27, 28 and 29. No.

Q.39. Would it be a disadvantage to have the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament on a different level from the Sanctuary? No.
Q.230. When Mass is offered at the High Altar, does transubstantiation occur at the High Altar or at the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament? If the latter is the case, should that part of the service be visible and audible from the main body of the nave?

At the High Altar.

Q.231. In order to expose the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament to the congregation, is it permissible to raise the Chapel above the level of:
(a) The High Altar, or
(b) The Sanctuary?

Not called for by Condition (27). See Q.229.

Q.232. May the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament be on the opposite side of the Sanctuary from the Sacristies?

Yes.

Q.233. In Para. 28, the use of the word “prominent” is not clear to us. Is the emphasis on visibility from the interior of the cathedral or on proximity of access? The traditional position for a Lady Chapel behind the Sanctuary would presumably not be “prominent” in this context, although actually be “prominent” on elevation.

Prominent means “prominent inside the Cathedral” not proximate.

Q.234. Will High Mass be celebrated in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel or the Lady Chapel?

No.

Q.235. Is public sanitary accommodation to be restricted to members of the congregation?

Yes.

Q.236. Could some guidance be given as to what is considered “adequate” sanitary accommodation for 3,000 members of the public.

Six fittings in all.

Q.237. On what standard of sanitary accommodation would be considered “adequate”?

— ditto —

Q.238. Are there any special regulations regarding the situation of sanitary accommodation for the public (e.g. may it be situated adjacent to but not within a main or subsidiary entrance)?

Yes.

Q.239. What scale of cloakroom accommodation, if required, and would supervision of it be provided?

None.

Q.240. Should the height of the interior of the Cathedral be of a minimum or maximum height?

Left to competitors.

Q.241. Is a tower optional?

Yes.

Q.242. Is provision required in, or adjacent to, the Entrance Porch for the sale of books, Objects of Piety, etc?

No.

Q.243. If there are Holy Relics, at what distance must the High Altar be from them?

Not relevant to the competition.

Q.244. No mention is made in the conditions of acoustics. These are, in existing cathedrals, often very bad. Should competitors direct their attention to this aspect?

Yes.

Q.245. Would there be any objection to entering the Cathedral by way of the Crypt, given the necessary staircase or ramps?

Yes.
Q.246. How far is a symmetrical layout to be desired?

Q.247. Over what radius is it desired to hear the "large bell" referred to? This would affect its location.

Q.248. Can the part of the Cathedral adjoining Brownlow Hill be regarded as the Entrance next in importance to the Main Entrance to the South?

Q.249. Can the number of tourists visiting the completed cathedral be predicted and is any provision for their reception and circulation to be made?

Q.250. May the Confessionals be in any part of the building, or should they have easy access from any of the following:—Main entrance, Presbytery, Sacristies, Lady Chapel, Side Altars?

Q.251. Is there a preference for the siting of the Confessionals?

Q.252. Relationship between confessionals and nave.

Q.253. Confessionals: Is "one Confessional" one priest's compartment plus one penitent's box or can it be regarded as one priest's compartment with a penitent's box at each side, i.e., one priest's compartment and two penitents' boxes, each penitent's box to be for one penitent only?

Q.254. Are the fourteen stations of the cross obligatorily in the interior of the Cathedral?

Q.255. Stations of the Cross: Would it meet the promoters' wishes to have a special side chapel for private Stations, having also for ceremonial use fourteen Stations Crosses in the Nave. *c.f.* Ramsgate.

Q.256. Is there any preference of side for the First Station?

Q.257. Are all consecration crosses required to be, or affixed to, stone?

Q.258. Would the Organisers please define what is meant by the requirement that the pulpit should be of reasonably large dimensions?

Q.259. Should provision be made for the Lectern?

Q.260. In addition to the pulpit are "Ambones" required?

Q.261. Does provision need to be made for a private chapel or choir for nuns or distinguished persons overlooking the Sanctuary?

Q.262. Is there any significance, relevant to this competition, in the fact that the existing axis of the Crypt coincides, not with the present centre line of Hope Street, but with this street's present western building line? Was a doubling of this street (not indicated on the town planning proposals of the vicinity as supplied to competitors), envisaged at the time of the Lutyens's Metropolitan Cathedral design?
Q.263. With reference to the town planning proposals:
(1) Is there any height restriction on the site?
(2) is there any plot ratio governing the site?
(3) The Plan No. 1 indicates a building on the N.E. side as a workshop. Plan No. 4 gives it as a chapel. Is it in fact being used as a chapel?

No.
No.
All buildings on the site not shown on Plan No. 1 to be retained will be demolished.

Q.264. Conditions do not make it clear which University Buildings are to be demolished and when. Would you please clarify.

All buildings on the site not shown on Plan No. 1 to be retained will be demolished.

Q.265. Is the site affected by any height restriction—air corridors, etc.?

No.

Q.266. The conditions state that two buildings at the "west end" will be retained for use by the diocese. Does this refer to the two buildings shown in black on the site plan adjacent to Brownlow Hill and marked "Cathedral Buildings" and "University Annexe"?

Yes. (For "west" read "north").

Q.267. Condition 24 mentions that two buildings to the west are to be retained for cathedral use. Does this in fact refer to those to the north east?

— ditto —

Q.268. May it be assumed that "west" (para. 2, Clause 24) is a misprint for "north."

— ditto —

Q.269. Para. 3 (24). Two buildings at the west end, etc. Should this read north?

— ditto —

Q.270. Clause 24 refers to two buildings at the west end of the site. I presume that the buildings referred to are the Cathedral Buildings in the north-east corner of the site and the University Annexe in the north-west corner?

— ditto —

Q.271. "The layout . . . on the site plan.” Does this imply that the car park need not be sited within the building line?

Yes, it must be on the site as shown on Plan No. 1.

Q.272. Is the car park required for immediate use on completion of the Cathedral?

No.

Q.273. "The temporary University buildings at the S.W. corner of the site will be cleared away . . . .” Could this area be allocated for the car park?

Yes, left to competitors.

Q.274. In view of predicted increase of cars per head of population is the provision for parking 100 cars enough?

Yes.

Q.275. Should any provision be made for the parking of cars?

Yes.

Q.276. Would there be any objection to the Car Park being sited in the position now occupied by the University buildings, with a temporary car park on some other part of the site for use until the buildings are demolished?

No.

Q.277. In the site layout, may the car park for 100 cars be shown to occupy the area of the present temporary university buildings referred to in Clause 24 of the Conditions?

Yes.

Q.278. Can buildings which are not to be retained and which are between proposed site boundary and existing boundary, be regarded as sites for future car parks?

Yes.
Q.279. Can the car park be outside the building line and if so could it be placed where the temporary University Buildings now stand, in anticipation of their demolition?

Yes.

Q.280. Can a portion of the required car parking area be planned within the area covered by existing buildings to be removed in the future?

Yes.

Q.281. Along part of the south-east boundary a fence is indicated about 12 ft. inside the boundary. Is this of any significance or could this area be used for parking of cars, etc.?

No significance.

Q.282. Are any future developments planned or envisaged for replacing the houses between Duckinfield St. and Gt. Orford Street?

Not known.

Q.283. Are the new buildings restricted to an area within the line marked proposed building line?

Yes. See Condition (23).

Q.284. Are the Building Lines to be regarded as fixed or merely suggested? Will it be permitted to plan for a future extension of the Cathedral over the Nuclear Laboratories site?

Fixed and mandatory.

Q.285. Will steps be permitted which are outside the building line to gain access to the Cathedral, provided the Cathedral itself is within the building lines?

Yes.

Q.286. Building line: No building is to come outside the building line. Does this apply to buildings proper only or does it include any paths, steps and retaining walls leading up to the Cathedral? Or can paths, steps and retaining walls pertaining to landscaping be shown outside the building line, i.e. that the landscaping can go right up to the street boundaries? It is understood of course that entrances, drives and footpaths will require to occupy some of the ground between the building line and the street boundaries.

Buildings—not paths, steps, walls or landscaping.

Q.287. Can covered approach staircases or ramps be built outside the building line?

Yes.

Q.288. Is the building line indicated that of the Cathedral only, or must the convent and presbytery also be within the area indicated?

All buildings.

Q.289. Schedule of Requirements and Accommodation: Is the “building line” to apply to the new Cathedral only or is it to contain: (a) the presbytery and/or the convent: (b) the car park: (c) any external steps or stairs, landings or platforms giving direct access to the new cathedral.

— ditto —

See Q.286.

Q.290. The conditions state that the block plans for a priests’ house and a convent are to be shown on the site plan. Do these have to be kept within the building line indicated or does the building line apply to the main Cathedral Building only?

— ditto —

Q.291. Does the building line on the site plan apply also to the convent, or could it be sited in the N.E. corner marked on plan builders’ yard?

— ditto —
Q.292. Must the Priests’ house and convent be placed within the building lines on the site plan or may these be situated anywhere on the site?

Q.293. May the Priests’ house and convent be anywhere within the layout plan or must they be within the building line shown?

Q.294. Is it essential for the Priests’ house and the Convent to be built within the building line, or can they be placed on other parts of the site where existing buildings are to be demolished in the future?

Q.295. Chapter IV Rule 24: It is noted that temporary University buildings at the south west “may be ignored for the purposes of the layout.” The rule continues that “all new buildings must be kept well clear of them.” As Rule 25 only requires a block plan for the position of the priests’ house and convent, can these proposed buildings if necessary be sited on that part occupied by the University buildings, as presumably the priests’ house and convent will be part of the long-term building programme and may be built after the University buildings have been demolished?

Q.296. Para. 23 implies that the Cathedral only is limited to the building line shown on site plan. Are competition entrants to presume that the presbytery and convent may be sited outside the line, i.e. builders’ yard area and/or ultimately vacant areas on Brownsow Hill and Duckinfield Street where in the best interest of design they may be appropriate? If this is so may competitors have some levels in these places?

Q.297. Are we allowed to place the Priests’ house and convent outside the building lines as shown on Plan No. 1 as long as they are kept clear of the temporary University buildings?

Q.298. The Site plan does not give sufficient levels, particularly in the N.W. and N.E. corners. The following information is required on the site plan:
(1) Heights of buildings surrounding the site, with particular reference to the buildings to be retained.
(2) More information on levels round the perimeter of the site and on the roadways adjoining.
(3) Levels of the curtilages of the adjoining buildings.
(4) Type and bearing strength of the rock underlying the site.

Q.299. Are there any restrictions on the positioning of vehicular entry or exit points to the site in relation to the bounding roads?

Q.300. Main Approach: This is to be from the south. The actual south point is masked by the University Buildings which have to remain for some time. Does this mean that the entrance is to be as near the south point as possible and will in and out roads be permissible? Any entrance along this portion of the side will be adjacent to certain street junctions. Will this affect the entrance and/or exits in any way?

Q.301. Must the condition of approach to the Cathedral from the south be regarded as via the approximate centre line of the site, or will an approach from Mount Pleasant between Chestnut and Walnut Streets be deemed to fulfil this condition.
Q.302. Which of the roads surrounding the site carries the major volume of traffic and which is the main approach to the site?

Mount Pleasant and Brownlow Hill. See Condition (24) Sentence 1.

Q.303. In Para. 24 does “The main approach will be from the South” restrict vehicle access as being from one point only at the south or may vehicles enter the site at any point around the perimeter?

Left to competitors.

A direction in the sense that the main approach will NOT be from Brownlow Hill.

--- ditto ---

Q.304. Clause 24: “The main approach will be from the south.” Is this a direction or recommendation?

See Town Planning plan.

Q.305. From which direction would be the principal pedestrian approach?

Not yet, but probable.

Q.306. What is the height above ordnance datum of the University Tower?

It is a prominent site. See levels on Plan No. 4.

Q.307. Does the site form part of a smokeless zone?

105 feet.

Q.308. What is the relative elevation and position of the site to the remainder of the city, i.e. will the proposed Cathedral be visible for “miles around” or hardly seen at all except from the immediate vicinity?

56 feet.

Q.309. It would be most useful in arriving at scale, if you could give us the heights of the following which are indicated on the photographs labelled “site from southernmost point looking north, showing south wall of the crypt and temporary altar (in scaffold)”:

(a) the height from the ground level to the topmost point of the temporary altar.

(b) the approximate height of the 4 ceremonial flagmasts.

105 feet.

Q.310. Can further levels be given for area at present marked “Builders’ Yard,” and levels of pavement and site boundary along Mount Pleasant.

56 feet.

Q.311. Can vehicular access be made from the main roads?

No.

Q.312. Does the North wall of the Crypt form the building line or does the building line extend to the back of the pavement?

Yes.

Q.313. Building Line: May overhanging roof eaves project beyond the building line?

North wall.

Yes.

Q.314. Is it required that the priests’ house should be connected to or linked with the Cathedral Buildings?

No.

Q.315. Should the retained cathedral building and university annexe be directly related to any of the new work included in the competition? If so, what is the relationship?

No, none.

Q.316. Is a chapter house envisaged in the foreseeable future?

No.

Q.317. Future Development: As a very large area of the site might remain vacant if the cathedral were sited on the crypt can any indication be given of possible archdiocesan buildings proposed which might be allowed for at this stage and incorporated in block form on the layout plan?

None.
Q.318. What is the intended use of the remaining buildings on the site?

Q.319. Town Planning proposals show the closing of Mount Pleasant and the inclusion of adjacent housing in the Precinct. Should the layout recognise these long term proposals?

Q.320. What is the nature of the organisations which will occupy the Cathedral buildings and university annexe in the future, and will there be much contact with the Cathedral?

Q.321. On Plan No. 4 some residential property to the North West and South West appears to be included within the planning proposals for the Metropolitan Cathedral Precinct. Can it be assumed that this space will eventually become part of the Cathedral site?

Q.322. In Para. 24 does "layout around the Cathedral" refer to the area enclosed by the chain line referred to on Drawing No. 1 as Existing site boundary or the area enclosed by the solid line on Drawing No. 4?

Q.323. In any future Town Planning alterations will the Mount Pleasant Road be retained?

Q.324. Are any aspects considered desirable or otherwise from the point of view of ideal orientation?

Q.325. In view of the fact that it is not known when the existing buildings will be demolished, how can the site layout be planned in relation to the new Cathedral?

Q.326. Area East of Crypt and South of Diocesan Buildings: Can this be landscaped within and without the building line presuming the existing buildings are to be removed?

Q.327. Is it in order to suggest planning modifications outside the Cathedral precinct, which are important to the enhancement of the proposals?

Q.328. Will the assessors be prejudiced against any scheme which, while meeting the requirements of the competition, requires considerable further structural work for its ultimate completion?

Q.329. If the answer to the foregoing question is yes, may the entire scheme be shown in the Competition drawings with suitable differentiation between the first and second stages?

Q.330. Are there any public transport services in any of the streets adjacent to the cathedral site?

Q.331. It is noted that parts of the University Annexe and Cathedral buildings are shown to be retained. Is this a permanent arrangement so far as the competition is concerned?

Q.332. Is vehicular access to the main entrance necessary?

Q.333. Can it be assumed that eventually only buildings used by the Cathedral will be in the Cathedral Precinct as shown on the Town Planning proposals?
Q.334. Is it required that the site should be completely enclosable or may some of the areas be treated as open space for public use at all times?

Left to competitors.

Q.335. The east Crypt Court is defined on Plan No. 1. Is it intended that the west Crypt Court will be completed in a similar way? Alternatively, can the completion and level of the west Crypt Court be left to the competitors?

Left to competitors.

Q.336. Would your Committee be good enough to advise me where to direct an enquiry relative to the general features of Liverpool which would aid in developing a competition entry. I am thinking of an English counterpart of the local Chambers of Commerce which publish data and photographs of various cities and communities in this country.

Competitors must make their own enquiries.

Q.337. The town planning map indicates what appear to be tram lines along Brownlow Hill. It is assumed in any case that a large number of worshippers will approach from this side (i.e. north). Is there any objection to these being given access to the Cathedral through the crypt, along one or more of the above mentioned axes.

There is an objection as the Crypt may not always be open to the public when the Cathedral is open.

Q.338. Diocesan Buildings, presbytery and convent: Have Service courts to be allowed for adjacent to these buildings?

No.

Q.339. In order that the Block Plans of Priests' House and Convent can be related to reality would the Organisers please provide a schedule with areas of accommodation required in these buildings?

No.

Q.340. Could the areas of the various components of the new building be made more specific?

No.

Q.341. Has the Priests' House to be "planned," i.e. does "Block Plan" mean a plan showing the accommodation or merely an outline showing the area? Also does this apply to the convent?

Outline.

Q.342. Para. 25: Is three floors a maximum height for the priests' house and the convent?

Yes.

Q.343. Is a design required for the presbytery and convent mentioned in Instruction 22 and if not should provision be made for them in any way?

See Instruction (25).

Q.344. I should be glad of some guidance on the accommodation to be contained in the Presbytery and Convent, so that they can be reasonably placed on site.

See Q.341.

Q.345. How many priests is it expected will be accommodated in the Priests' House?

— ditto —

No special provision.

Q.346. Is any part of the Priests' House to be available to members of the public who may want personal advice?

No.

Q.347. May a more detailed programme for the Priests' House and Convent be supplied as they may be designed as part of the mass and circulation of the main building?

No.
Q.348. Convent: For the purpose of outlining the Convent on the site plan, might one know whether it will have its own chapel?

Q.349. Will the Convent and presbytery be built at the same time as the Cathedral?

Q.350. Is there any objection to the convent forming a part of the main architectural group?

Q.351. "It must be connected internally with the sacristies." Does this exclude either of the following:
(a) enclosed "under cover" access from a separate priests' house at some distance from the new Cathedral;
(b) access from the Priests' House to any other part of the Cathedral in order to proceed to the sacristies?

Q.352. What size of organ is envisaged? Would the use of an electric organ be permitted?

Q.353. What size of organ should be allowed for?

Q.354. Does the reference to Organ Pipes mean that an electric organ is to be precluded from the design, or is this a matter of choice for the competitors?

Q.355. Organ: On Plan No. 2 a space is labelled "Organ Machinery" adjoining the Priests' sacristy. Is this machinery for the organ in the crypt or is it intended that the Cathedral Organ (Item 39 on page 17) should be related to this space?

Q.356. Is there any objection to using microphones and loud speakers?

Q.357. Will facilities be required for the broadcasting and televising of services?

Q.358. Is seating to be permanently fixed—in the form of pews—or light chairs to be cleared away as in Italian churches?

Q.359. What type of seating is visualised:
(a) Banked in Pews;
(b) Individual seats capable of being arranged flexibly?

Q.360. Are the seats in the cathedral to be removable?

Q.361. Could the exhibition of designs be held in London?

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CRYPT ELEVATIONS AND SECTIONS.

- SOUTHWEST ELEVATION
- EAST ELEVATION
- CROSS SECTION A-A
- LONGITUDINAL SECTION B-B
- NORTH ELEVATION