There is a twin-stemmed ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and a semi-mature sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* within three metres of the northern end of the building. It was indicated prior to the survey that these trees would need to be felled.



Plate 1. View of the building

3 LEGAL PROTECTION

In England, Scotland and Wales, all species of bats are fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and as amended, including by the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000. They are also protected by European legislation, being included on Schedule 2 of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994. Taken together, this legislation makes it illegal, *inter alia* to:

- intentionally or recklessly kill, injure or capture a bat
- deliberately disturb a bat when it is occupying a roost
- damage, destroy or obstruct access to a bat roost

A bat roost is defined as being any structure or place that is used for shelter or protection, and since it may be in use only occasionally or at specific times of year, a roost retains such designation even after the bats have left.

4 METHODS

Aided where necessary by the use of ladders, a powerful torch and binoculars, a visual search was made internally and externally of all cracks and fissures in the brickwork, and all roof timbers. Where accessible, all undisturbed surfaces were inspected for evidence of past