

Townhalls

<http://www.pomeroyofportsmouth.uk/portsmouth-local-history.html>

Commercial Road

	1883	Site bought for £10,000 from War Dept	89
14 Aug	1886	Foundation stone laid by Mayor A.S.Blake	89
14 Oct	1886	Foundation stone laid by Alfred S Blake, Esq., Mayor of the Borough; Alderman William King, Chairman of the Committee; William Hill FRIBA, Architect, Leeds; Alexander Hellard, Town Clerk.	1
30 May	1889	Jar with scroll placed in ball and finial by Councillor J. Corke	9
30 May	1890	Completed	9
9 Aug	1890	Opened by T.R.H. Prince & Princess of Wales, cost £137,098	89
9 Aug	1890	Opened by H.R.H. Prince of Wales	1
14 Aug	1890	Opened by Prince & Princess of Wales	9
		Architect William Hill of Leeds, builders Armitage & Hodgson of Leeds William Hill died in 1889, son William Hill with Charles Bevis completed required drawings and oversaw the project	110 181
	1902	Memorial Tablet for Portsmouth Volunteers who served in South Africa	95
	1914	Gas engine for organ to be replaced with electric motor	95
	1925	Organ reconstructed by J.J Binns	95
	Jun 1925	Ambrose Porter of Lichfield Cathedral gave the opening recital on the reconstructed organ	95
21 Apr	1926	Became Guildhall	?
	1934	Mansard roof with additional offices to be added, £40,000	95
	1939	Stonework to be reconditioned at cost of £500	95
10 Jan	1941	Burnt out by incendiary bombs	95
	1946	City architects plans for rebuilding approved	95
	1947	Turret clock to be installed and work to bells and frame £3,920	95
	1949	Architects to prepare scheme for reconstruction	95
8 May	1950	Clock and chimes restarted	9
	1951	E Berry Webber appointed architect for reconstruction	95
	Oct 1953	Estimated cost of reconstruction £785,000; £530,000 from War Damage Commission	95
	1954	Discussions on replacement organ, John Compton Organ Co Ltd, £15,750	95
	1955	Tender of Gee, Walker & Slater for £864,531 accepted	95
8 Jun	1959	Reopened by H.M. the Queen	9
	1989	Reports that pins securing bells were rusting	9
	1995	£12,000 maintenance of clock	9
	2003	£75,000 wooden floor to be erected under main bell	
	2008	Bells removed	
23 Jan	2009	5 bells lifted back into tower	
	2011	Planned repairs and maintenance, including windows, toilets, electrical systems, frontage	9
Jan-Apr	2013	Main steps repaired, £120,000	
	Jul 2015	£15m revamp planned. First phase - foyer, bars. Second/Third Phase new seating in concert hall, improved technical facilities, back stage	9
		Organists Philip Dore -1931 J Jackson 1931-1940	

High Street

		Townhall and market in centre of High Street	
	1537	Built, gift of Thomas Carpenter	181
	c1580	Bell placed in townhall by Mr Carpenter	89
	1670	Bell inscribed W.S.	89
	1738	Rebuilt	181
	1795	Extended	181
Sep	1836	Demolished	181

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	Bell rehung in new townhall	89
1837	Bell removed and until 1889 hung in Penny Street Gaol	89
1889	Bell moved to Victoria Park Railway arch	89

High Street

	1836	Market House and Guildhall, architect Benjamin Bramble	89
24 May	1837	Foundation stone laid	89
		Foundation stone laid by the Mayor	30
		Built by Voller, Wells and Chalkley for £4,500	89
28 Jun	1838	Opened, designed by Benjamin Bramble, cost £4,000	181
	1892	Guildhall and Council Chambers	1
1 Jan	1895	Opened by Mayor Thomas King as museum	89
21 Jan	1895	Opened by Mayor Thomas King, later the same day the new Technical Institute in Arundel Street was opened	67
	1912	Ground floor to be used as Museum of Decorative Art	95
	1932	Art Gallery to be provided, cost of £2,500 donated by Mrs A.E Bashford of Droxford, subject to 6 oil portraits of her ancestors being displayed	95
	1932	Tender of Howe & Bishop accepted, £2,911 10s	95
10/11 Mar	1941	Destroyed by bomb	95