



Notes on the Royal Commercial Travellers' School

The 'Royal Commercial Travellers' Schools at Pinner derived from a small school for the orphans of commercial travellers founded on the initiative of John Robert Cuffley in 1845 at Wanstead (Essex). In 1855 the foundation stone of a larger school with accommodation for 140 was laid by the Prince Consort on a site in Hatch End. (fn. 54) The building, in red brick with stone dressings in the Gothic style, was enlarged in 1868, 1876-7, 1878, 1905, and 1907. There were 365 boys and girls, all of them boarders, in 1937. (fn. 55) The school, which provided a grammar school education, was renamed the 'Royal' Pinner School, Hatch End, in 1965. By this date it was in financial difficulties (fn. 56) and it was closed in 1967, although a 'Royal' Pinner School Foundation was set up to help pupils who had been receiving a free education. The buildings were divided between Harrow College of Further Education and a Roman Catholic primary school.

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