On 5 September 1951 the head of Applied Chemistry, Professor Alexander, presented a report to the Personnel Committee of the Professorial Board, in which he outlined a proposed arrangement of his school into five departments – including the Department of Organic Chemistry. Although this was not formally approved by the Professorial Board, this arrangement seems to have been adopted by the school shortly afterwards and the first head of department appears to have been Dr G. W. K. Cavill (CN956/5). Sometime in late 1957, the School of Applied Chemistry had its name changed to the School of Chemistry. On 14 April 1998 it was noted at the Executive Committee of the Faculty of Science & Technology that the Dean had indicated to the Vice-Chancellor that the School of Chemistry intended to disestablish its departments. This appears to have occurred shortly afterwards and thus the department ceased to exist.