

ULSTER ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE SOCIETY  
LIST OF  
HISTORIC BUILDINGS  
GROUPS OF BUILDINGS  
AREAS OF ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE  
IN THE TOWN OF  
DOWNPATRICK



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*Urn from gate-pier, Presbyterian Church, Stream Street*

Prepared June 1969 - January 1970 for the  
ULSTER ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE SOCIETY

by

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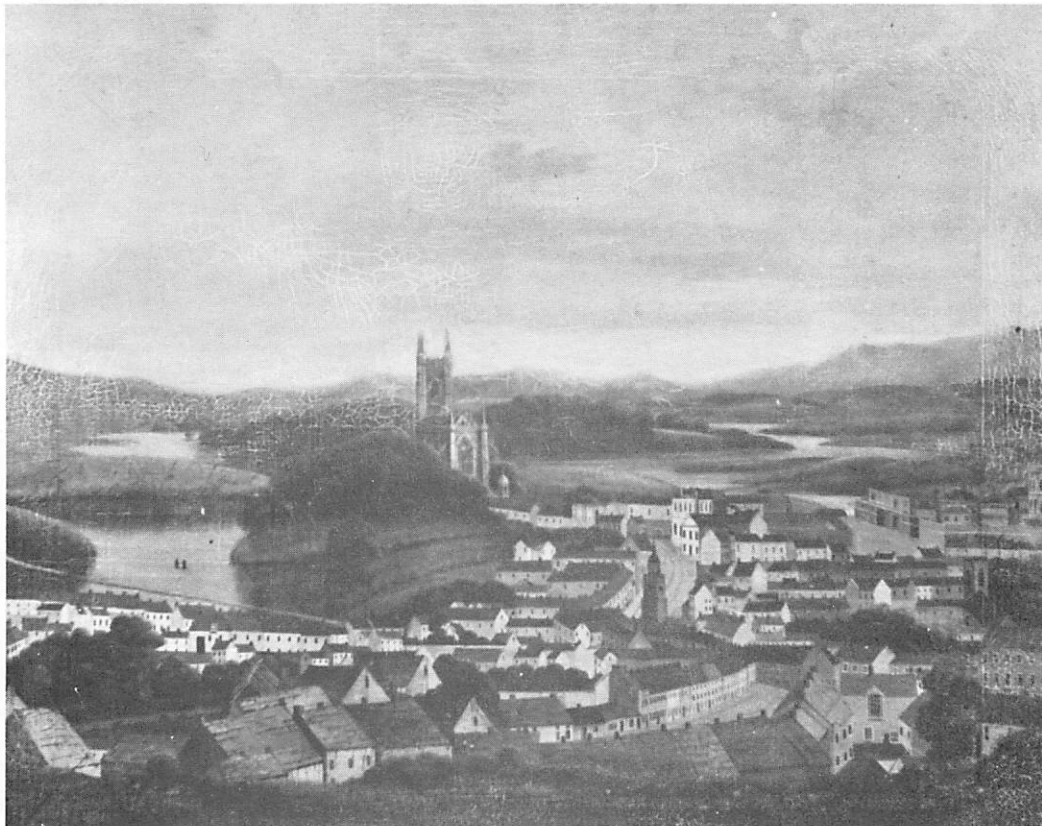
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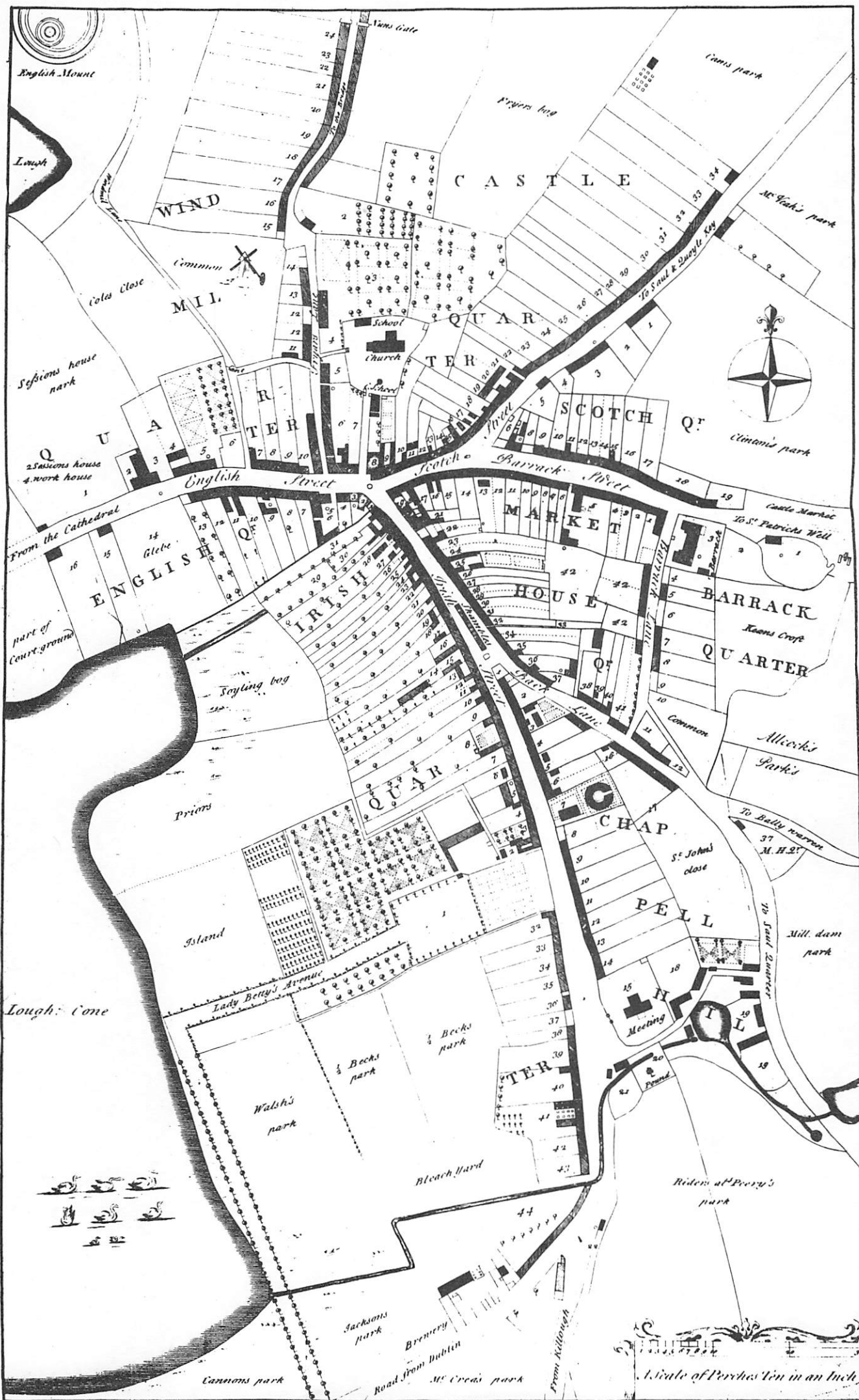
This List has been prepared at the invitation of the Downpatrick Urban District Council, which has also supported its publication. The Society greatly appreciates both the invitation and the help received, and greatly hopes that this List will contribute to the future of the town.

The compilers gratefully acknowledge much information and assistance generously made available to them by Mr. R.C. Davidson; by Mother Brendan, daughter of John O'Neill, Architect of the Roman Catholic Chapel of the Sacred Heart, in relation to the Chapel; and by Mr. Maurice Hayes in relation to the stained glass windows in the Chapel. They are also most grateful both to the Misses Wallace of Myra Castle, Downpatrick for permission to reproduce the painting of Downpatrick, c. 1840, belonging to them, and to the Ulster Museum for making available photographs of the painting for reproduction. The print of Down Cathedral in 1843 is from "Ireland, its Scenery, Character, etc." by Mr. & Mrs. S.C. Hall; the engraving of a doorcase is from William Pain's "Practical House Carpenter or the Youths Instructor" c. 1780, 3rd edition, 1790; the map of the town in 1729 is reproduced by permission of the Ulster Museum; the photograph of the doorcase of the police station was taken by P. J. Rankin; all the other photographs are by Dr. A.J. Rowan.



It is not suggested that all the buildings listed must be retained as and when Downpatrick is redeveloped. Individual buildings, groups and areas marked A are considered essential; those marked B are important and should be retained wherever feasible. The rest are of sufficient quality to merit integration in a new scheme. Every building listed deserves photographic recording should its preservation prove impracticable.

A PLAN OF THE TOWN OF DOWNPATRICK 1729.



# Preliminary Note

Downpatrick is an historic town that has already lost too many of its monuments. In the Middle Ages it was noted for a concentration of six religious houses, as well as for its cathedral, but only a part of the cathedral, and that rebuilt, remains to-day. The 16th and 17th centuries added a quota of fortified tower-houses to the town, but these too have disappeared, and what remains is in effect an 18th century and early Victorian town. It is still an attractive place and with sensitive re-development and proper conservation could become one of the best towns for architecture in Ulster.

The most striking quality of Downpatrick is its sense of enclosure. It is not large, but it achieves a very complete feeling of township that is often lacking in larger places in Ireland. This quality of 'town' scale is due in a large measure to the splendid site, set between two hills, with steep streets emphasising the feeling of enclosure as they step up and out of the town. But an equally important factor is the layout of the streets themselves. Downpatrick evolved in a haphazard comfortable way. The line of its streets reflects this and their pattern should be respected in any future improvement plans. They curve and twist, now up, now down and round the hills, shutting off views of the country beyond and building up a rewarding 'county town' atmosphere at and around their centre.

The form of the town is dictated by its five main streets. The three that meet in the centre and traverse the hillsides - English Street, Saul Street (originally Scotch Street) and Irish Street - probably preserve the lines of medieval routes though their present width and appearance is of the 18th century. The other two streets, on low ground that was liable to flooding, date from a period of early Victorian expansion: Church Street of 1838 leading North to the Quoile Bridge, and Market Street, dating from 1846.

The best buildings tend to be concentrated in the three oldest streets: public buildings at the top of cathedral hill on The Mall of English Street, a notable group of large and stately town houses in Irish Street and some more in Saul Street. Their appearance is predominantly Georgian, but the linch-pin of the whole town is a more recent intruder, the swaggering Victorian Assembly Rooms, brilliantly placed at the junction of all the main streets and providing a confident brick version of Mr. Ruskin's fashionable Venetian Gothic that can be enjoyed from all over the town. It is a good building whose rich vigorous facade must attract increasing approval as Irish Victorian architecture becomes better known.

Apart from the welcome variety in style that they offer, the Assembly Rooms are important for the focus that they give to the centre of the town. The churches are all withdrawn and are not immediately apparent, making little contribution to the articulation of the scene. The new road from Saintfield, now one of the main approaches, has been skilfully sited to give a long view of the cathedral tower, set on its hill and rising above the trees. Yet though the cathedral is the focal point of the neighbouring countryside, it is out of sight of much of the town, standing aloof, almost as it were on an island. The town shunned the cathedral and, apart from the coming of the railway below and to the south, has developed always away from it. The climb up English Street ends in the quiet idyllically rural setting of this church, surrounded by trees, fields and the Quoile marshes, with the Mourne reflected in the reeds



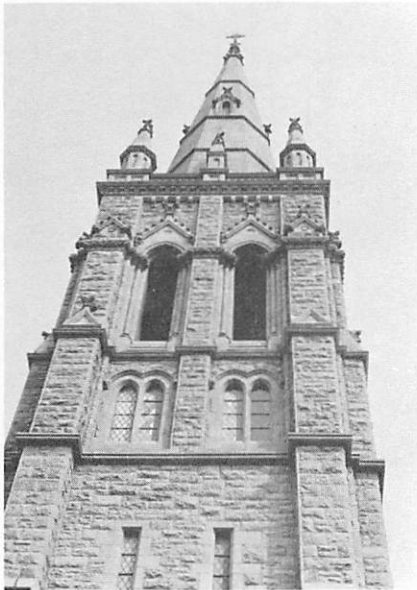


before it. This isolation must be respected. It is one of the chief attractions of the town and would be totally destroyed if any new roads came into English Street, at the middle or at its upper end.

Re-development in Downpatrick has already been extensive. New schemes are replacing derelict and sub-standard houses, in places with an attractive layout that re-creates the stepped architecture that is so much a characteristic of the town. Some of the new housing developments are disappointing and demonstrate an overall lack of planning. New individual buildings in the town tend to be superimposed rather than integrated. The new Down County Planning Office is itself a discreet stone-fronted building that respects the old street line, and does not substantially diminish the quality of the environment. It must, however, be greatly regretted that the original Georgian frontage listed in the Archaeological Survey was not preserved in the re-building as this was unquestionably handsome and most appropriate in the setting. But all the new work has not been so good. The Telephone Exchange in Church Street is out of scale with its surroundings, a high unlovely grey lump and meaninglessly designed as a tall symmetrical facade when the nature of its site exposes both its sides as well. The petrol service station in Market Street has gone up without any consideration being given to the fine facade of the old Gas Works behind it. And the long new block above Fountain Street, known as Fountain Court, itself rather a bold challenging statement, has been weakened by an odd assortment of planner's junk in the foreground - concrete pots, railings, a cantilevered pergola shelter, and a piece of broken corrugated perspex roofing. Why?

New planning began by nibbling at decayed parts of the town. Now there is a danger that re-development will make a meal of the whole historic environment. Large sections of Irish Street have been demolished and the claims of the motor car threaten to complete the disintegration of the sense of an urban space. New development set back some eighty feet from the original building line to allow for parking at the foot of English Street has widened this space into a square. This has become an attractive feature in itself; but the street lines should not be further broken up, and unless the sense of enclosure is re-instated, by planting trees and careful treatment of the foreground, the enticing curved character of the street that drew the eye up the hill will be entirely lost.

Finally it must be admitted that Downpatrick at the moment does not make the best of many fine features. The decision to attach street lamps to the fronts of buildings is a good one. It has significantly reduced the number of standards and has given the streets a clear uncluttered look. But their architecture is still disfigured by cables and telephone wires criss-crossing the road, by lines of flex snaking along facades and by innumerable large telegraph poles. If electricity and telephone cables were run underground or re-sited behind the main streets this would greatly improve the whole environment. Throughout the town there is a variety of good 18th century domestic facades, some of a quite early date, but mostly now in poor repair. There are many attractive doorcases with decorative fanlights above; and a particularly pleasant kind of wide segment headed front door, with side glazed panels, that crops up all over the town. There are too, a considerable number of Victorian shop fronts - some excellent and all deserving careful consideration, instead of being swept away by re-development or crudely 'modernised'. These door cases and shop fronts give Downpatrick much of its character and ought to be retained, or re-used wherever possible.



a



b

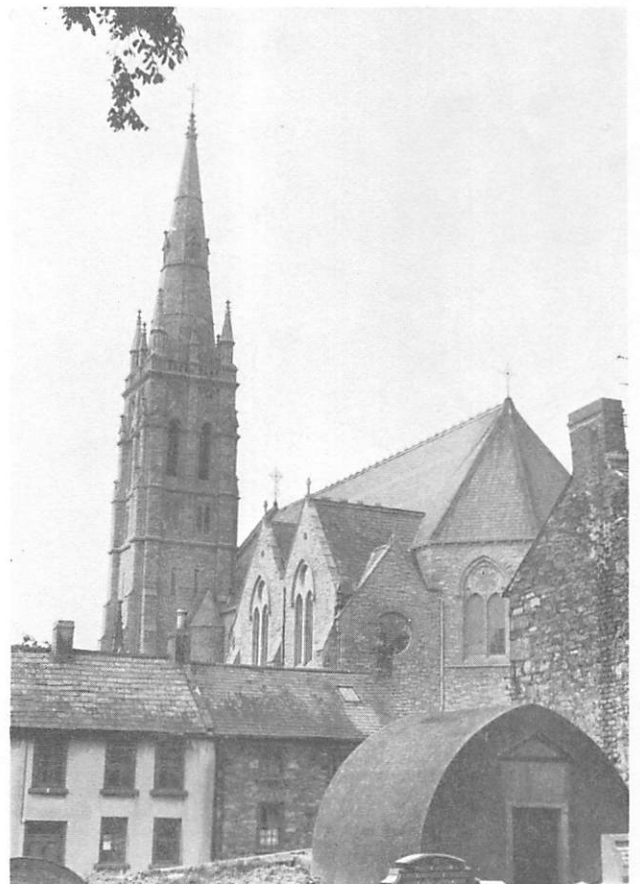
**Churches**

- a *St. Patrick's R.C. Church (1870).*
- b *The sylvan setting of the Presbyterian Church; note the concave-pyramid tombs.*
- c *Parish Church of the Holy Trinity (1735)*
- d *Spire of St. Patrick's R.C. Church.*
- e *Cathedral from the north-west — the square tower completed in 1826.*



c

d



e





No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
	ENGLISH STREET		<p>Architecturally this is the most varied and perhaps the best street in the town. At present it is marred by a welter of electricity cables, telephone wires and various unsightly poles. Its character would be much improved if these cables were run underground. The Street preserves some very attractive pebble cobbling on its south side between the Hotel and No. 32, and good railings on the north side. Demolition of three buildings at the bottom of the North side has opened up a new 'square' with the Down Recorder Offices as its east side and the Victorian red brick house No. 7 as the west end. It is important that this area should not be given over exclusively to car parking. Chestnuts or similar trees carefully planted could pull the group of old and new together into a satisfying planned unity. The advantage of gaining an open space at this point has been lost by a utilitarian block of shops built in dressed concrete and grey brick. Considerations of scale and character in the context of its surroundings seem to have been ignored and a splendid opportunity to improve Downpatrick has been thrown away. One can only hope that the planting of trees suggested above will do something to redeem the situation.</p>	Wallace Archaeological Survey
1	ENGLISH STREET South side Group of 6 shops: 'Cusack, Savages, Neill Bros., C.O. O'Hare, Campbells & M. & J. Moore'	A	<p>1725 - 50. An important group of early 18th century houses with mid-Victorian shop fronts. Low, small-scale buildings with excellent proportions, stepping up the hill in pairs, 3-storey, 5-bay, with small Georgian sashed windows and high pitched roofs. Neill Bros. retains a fine mid-18th century oak stair with columnette banisters, Tuscan column newel posts and a heavy moulded handrail. To the back, down a stone arched entry, outbuildings and a high, slate hung gable. M. &amp; J. Moore is spoilt by metal windows in the upper floors, but preserves a charming projecting shop front with bowed corners, mid-19th century.</p> <p>Both for its siting and high quality this whole group must be recommended for careful conservation. Its present state is cause for considerable concern.</p>	
2	THOMPSON BROS.		<p>1910's. An elaborate green and white glazed-tiled Classical facade with Ionic half columns, volutes and pronounced key stones. This design is freely adapted from a Roman Triumphal arch model with a high attic, popular in the Baroque age for tomb monuments in churches; here it is a butcher's shop with a brightly tiled interior to match!</p>	
3	DENVIR'S HOTEL	B	<p>Originally 17th century. A date on the post is inscribed 1641, but the present appearance of the building is of the late 18th century and early 19th century. A 2-storey 4-bay block pleasantly recessed from the street line and flanked by two projecting 3-storey wings - all stuccoed with horizontal glazing bars. The east wing gives arched access to the hotel yards; the west has a gable to the street and, in the corner, a good late Georgian door of tripartite pattern, with grooved columns for the jambs.</p> <p>The interior contains a wide Georgian stair with good hand-rail, a small Victorian public bar, and a large upper hall, 4 windows each side, with dividing doors in the centre and a high coved ceiling.</p>	Wallace
4.	STREET GROUP: The hotel to No. 32	B	<p>An attractive progression of irregularly grouped houses of 2 and 3 storeys, stepping up the hill and curving slowly to the south. Here the townscape that is created is more important than the individual structures.</p>	
5	ENGLISH STREET No. 24	B	<p>A long large house, apparently a 17th century core, but now late 18th century in appearance. 2-storey, 6-bay, stuccoed, with a single storey pedimented porch and good fanlight.</p>	Archaeological Survey
6	No. 26		<p>Originally the Customs House.</p>	

No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
7	ENGLISH STREET Nos. 28-30		Two rather low, 2-storeyed later 18th century houses. No. 28 is a 4-bay front, No. 3 of 3 bays. The doors have stone surrounds with a simple ledge-like cornice supported on wide rudimentary consoles.	
8	No. 32	B	Early 19th century. A tall house giving the street unexpected height at this point on the hill. Three-storey, 3-bay, of stucco with a rusticated ground floor and slim flat entablatures above the first floor windows. The ground floor fenestration is irregular.	Archaeological Survey
9	<u>Group value:</u> Clergy widow's houses. Nos. 34-40	A	A low 2-storey block of four tenements, 12 bays long and symmetrically arranged with doors at either end and in the 4th and 9th bays. The windows are unusually narrow and the interiors have dog leg timber stairs. Their present appearance is of the early 19th century, but the establishment of the houses goes back to 1730 in the case of 2 and to 1750 for the others. The indenture (for the building?) is said to date from 1752.	Lewis, Archaeological Survey
10	MASONIC HALL		1907. Foundation stone laid 21 May, the design by Vincent Craig. A curious not very successful asymmetrical building in cream stucco, with an Italianate Composite entrance arch, rather out of scale, and several elliptical gables very much 'in' in architecture at the time of building.	I.B. p.393
11	SOUTHWELL CHARITY SCHOOLS AND ALMHOUSES	A	<p>Built by Edward Southwell in 1733 to provide almshouses for 6 men and 6 women with schools for 10 poor children and restored in 1826 at the expense of Lord de Clifford. One of the best Early Georgian buildings in Ulster, symmetrically arranged to face the Mall, but now dominated by it since the street level was raised some 15 feet in 1790. The design, built of brick with dressed stone quoins and ashlar cupola, is typical of Irish Palladianism. Two teacher's houses, 3-storey, 3-bay, with a circular-headed Gibbs centre window and modillion eaves cornice, flank the long main block and are attached to it by low quadrant wings. This centre is really a standard 18th century stable block modified to suit the purposes of the charity. Two school rooms, slightly projecting and lit by a pair of high arched windows (like coach houses in a stable), flank the row of almshouses. These are 5-bay, 2-storey, on either side of a central arched feature (once again like stables). The arch is surmounted by a high circular-headed window, a pediment, and a squat quadrangular cupola that rises high above the rest of the group.</p> <p>Features of note in the building are the juxtaposition of different scales, the careful detailing with stone trim to emphasise the windows of the central and end blocks, and - an odd personal mannerism of the designer - a thin nodding ogee arch cut in the brick above alternate windows in the almshouses.</p> <p>The passage through the archway is of cross-vaulted brickwork, the back and sides of harled rubble. To the rear, ranges of six low slated store rooms (without windows) flank a bold brick archway with Gibbs surround and heavy pediment. This too is dated 1733. The school house at the East end was extended in the 19th century with a brick addition at the back.</p>	Archaeological Survey Parkinson, E. Wallace Lewis
	ENGLISH STREET, North side. Group: Red brick house (No. 7) to No. 13	A	An important and attractive piece of late Georgian/early Victorian townscape.	

No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
18	Court House and County Hall (Continued)	A	<p>Inside, the best features are the hall and stairs, and court rooms. The hall is wide and spacious, 32' x 38', with four large Tuscan columns of solid character forming a square in the centre of the room. An archway, opposite the main door, contains the stair rising to a half landing, and then branching to left and right round square walls that end in chunky granite balusters outside the main room of the upper floor. The panelling of the window reveals in this room is typical of the work of Francis Johnston's office, which suggests that the original design was perhaps by his pupil William Murray. The court rooms are both two-storey, on either side of the hall, with box pew seating, mahogany rails and cast iron gallery columns. The hall and stairs have good Victorian bracket lamps and exceptionally decorative iron radiators with cupids and arabesques of fruit and flowers.</p>	
19	OLD PRISON	A	<p>1789-96 by Charles Lilly, perhaps after a design by R. F. Brettingham. Only the curtain wall on the North side of the Mall is of importance to the appearance of the town, but the buildings inside were once of considerable quality. Unfortunately, the wall has already been mutilated by the removal of three quarters of the terminal feature of its east end, to make way for a road widening scheme that was not perhaps entirely necessary. The wall is some 25 feet high, built of rubble slate, with its centre and ends rising higher and projecting slightly. The ends were emphasised with a pediment applied to the attic and set above a slightly recessed arch. The centre is a 2-storey, 3-bay, design, the lower floor of dressed and banded sandstone ashlar, articulated on a triumphal arch model with lower and narrower side arch (now blocked) flanking the central carriage way.</p>	<p>Archaeological Survey Lewis Wallace Parkinson, E.</p>
		A	<p>The Gaol Governor's house faces the wall immediately behind. It is a 2-storey block on a semi-basement, with a 3-bay centre and 3-bay wings on either side. The building is harled, with Gibbs surrounds in sandstone to the windows, steps to the front door, and a projecting canted bay in the centre of the rear elevation.</p>	
		B	<p>The Old Gaol is immediately behind. A symmetrical 3-storey, 5-bay design with projecting ends crowned by shallow pediments. The design is now much filled up with brick additions and alterations, but it was once a piece of well-proportioned strong architecture.</p>	
20	ENGLISH STREET No. 25 & 27 The Judge's Lodging	A	<p>An elegant pair of houses, deceptively Regency in appearance, like a Brighton terrace, but built after 1835 as they do not appear on the ordnance survey plan for that year. Two shallow segmental bows flank a high carriage-way arch with the entrance doors in flat sections on either side. The design is really of 2 storeys with a basement and a high attic above the first floor cornice containing a second floor. The ground floor is built of horizontally channelled ashlar with extraordinary misproportioned Ionic pilasters - the volutes look like ears - on either side of the doors. The upper floors are stuccoed, with round-headed windows to the drawingroom floor.</p>	<p>Archaeological Survey O. S.</p>



No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
12	ENGLISH STREET No. 7	B	A later 19th century brick house of handsome solid proportions and a welcome addition of colour in the street. 4-bay, 2-storey with a circular headed central door, yellow brick enrichments and stone quoins.	
13	No. 9	B	A tall 4-storey, 3-bay, cement-faced house, formerly a Deanery. Georgian glazed throughout with ground floor of Tripartite windows set in segmental relieving arches. A radiating fanlight to the door with a Greek key pattern on the entablature.	Archaeological Survey
14	No. 11	B	c.1840, with a large 3-storey, 4-bay house, Georgian glazed with large windows and built of black whin stone with brick trim to the windows. An ugly modern porch in brick on the ground floor and different fenestration. Formerly a bank.	Archaeological Survey
15	No. 13	A	c.1840. A tall block of two houses: 3-storey with basement, and 6 bays long. Built of sandstone and slate in a bond that is characteristic of Aberdeenshire, with the slates as small stones creating a chequered pattern between the larger stone blocks. The window surrounds are of brick. Both houses have typical Downpatrick-style, half Doric columns flanking the doors and simple but effective railings on granite walls.	Archaeological Survey
16	No. 17		Mid-18th century. A rectangular block of 3 storeys, with a 7-bay front to the street, cement rendered and painted.	Archaeological Survey
17	DOWNE HUNT ROOMS	B	Originally cells for the Court House immediately to the west. Converted c. 1790 ?. A low 2-storey 3-bay, facade crowned by an elementary pediment the whole width of the building. Good features are the slim entablatures above the 1st floor windows, the wrought iron balustrade and Adamesque treatment of the porch that projects into the street. The interior contains two assembly rooms on the first floor - late Georgian in feel, if of a rather gawky sort.  Vaulted cells were on the ground floor, but these have recently been demolished to accommodate a shiny club bar, cheaply panelled and padded and utterly anonymous.	Lewis
18	COURT HOUSE AND COUNTY HALL	A	1834. A large, simple, 2-storey stuccoed block; 9 bays long with the central 3 projecting by several feet. The building is well sited above the street, set behind handsome railings and approached by a wide flight of granite steps. The ground floor windows are contained in shallow relieving arches, and the roof line is masked by a simple cornice and entablature. Statues and a coat of arms emphasise the centre, but the architecture is otherwise plain, with straight-forward side facades.  In 1855 the Crown Court and other rooms were burnt out, and the building was rebuilt and enlarged between 1856 and '58. The extension to the north, and presumably the granite porches on the south and west sides, date from this time.	Parkinson, E. Wallace Lewis Street Directories "Downpatrick"



a



b



c

**Downpatrick Doorways**

Attractive Georgian and Victorian doorcases are amongst the most noticeable and attractive features of the town.

a 117 Irish Street (c. 1760)

b Saul Street

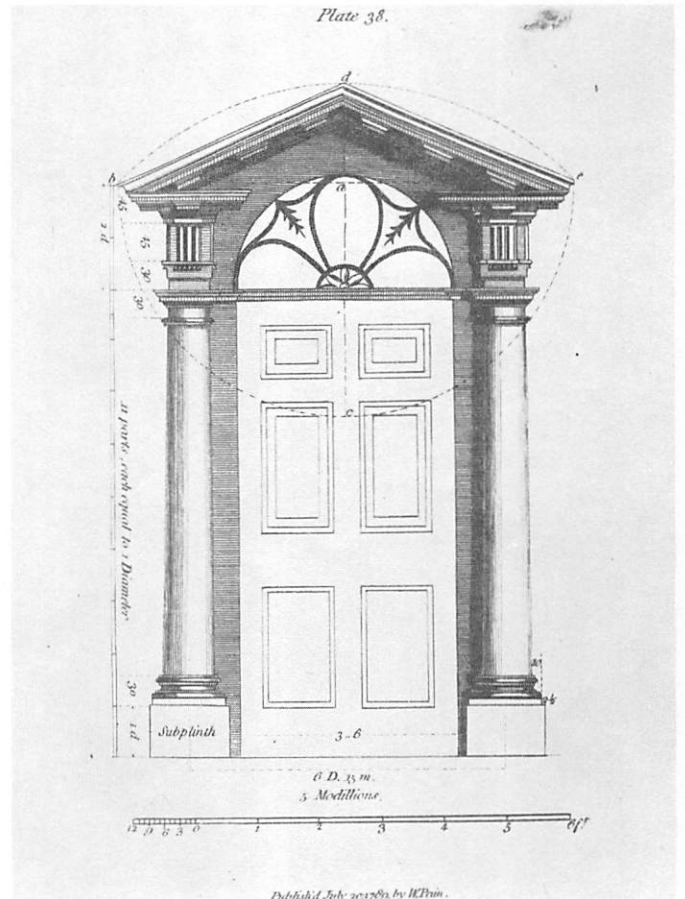
c Police Barracks, Irish Street (doorcase c. 1780)

d Compare William Pain's design of about the same date.

e 13 English Street (c. 1840); Downpatrick-style half-columns.

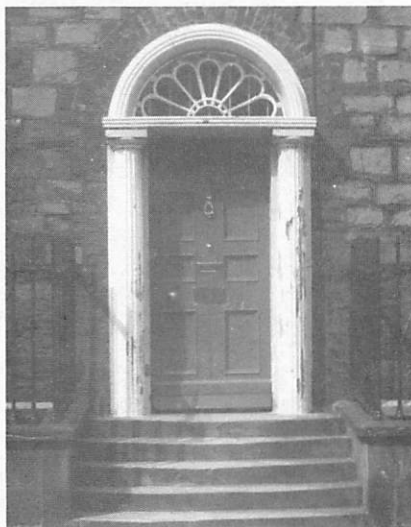
f 27 English Street (after 1835)

g 9 English Street (c. 1820)



d

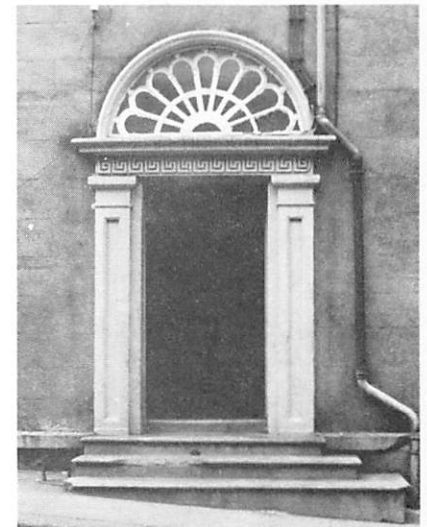
e



f



g



No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
21	CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY	A	<p><u>History:</u> A church has existed here since 520 A. D. when St. Caylan was Bishop in Dun: early in the 12th century it was occupied as a house of Regular Canons of the Order of St. Augustine, superseded after 1177 by Benedictines. The Church was destroyed by an earthquake 1245; pillaged and burnt early in the 14th century by Robert Bruce: rebuilt: destroyed by the English 1538, pillaged and burnt 1539: incorporated with a chapter by Charter 1609. In the 18th century it fell into disrepair. An Act of Parliament was passed 30th April, 1790 for restoration at the instigation of the Dean, the Hon. and Rev. William Annesley, and of Wills Hill, Earl of Hillsborough, and 1st Marquis of Downshire: ready for divine service 1818: vestibule and tower added, the latter completed 1826: totally disendowed by Irish Church Act 1869.</p> <p>In 1790, owing to lack of adequate funds, only the Chancel of the original building was restored. It is this chancel, mainly of early 15th century construction, with the vestibule and tower added at the west end, which constitutes the Cathedral to-day. R. F. Brettingham exhibited design for "new choir in Downpatrick Cathedral" at Royal Academy 1795, but the architect seems more likely to have been Charles Lilly of Dublin who has provided a rather charming Georgian Gothick Church immensely less correct and dull than if restored 50 years later.</p> <p><u>Exterior:</u> Basically the building is of 5 bays, rubble stone, sandstone dressings, a centre choir with aisles and clerestory. The square corner turrets and pinnacles punctuating the battlemented parapet give the building its character, a charming robust unforbidding late 18th century effect. The East end facing the Mall has owing to the slope of the ground a door with a pointed head at basement level, surmounted by the East window of "five trefoiled transomed lights with geometrical tracery". Above, battlemented gable, inset between the turrets, containing 3 graded niches, trefoil pointed heads, each with plain stonework now replacing figures. The aisle windows, both on north and south sides and on either side of East window, all recessed between buttresses surmounted by pinnacles, are 2-light uncusped pointed headed, with similar though smaller clerestory windows above on north and south sides. Battlemented parapets above aisle wall and wall above clerestory windows. Tower at west end is of 4 stages, recessed unmoulded doorway on western side with above it a square-headed window with 2 trefoil-pointed lights, in the next stage a circular lunette and in the topmost stage belfry with tall perpendicular-traceried opening. String course, castellated parapet and corner pinnacles above.</p> <p><u>Interior:</u> Octagonal porch/vestibule inside west door, pretty clusters of 3 columns in corners with capitals and similar plaster ribs rising to octagonal lantern in centre. Plain stone flags. The main body of the interior is of 5 bays, the first forming a further vestibule/baptistry area, the second being occupied by the Screen/gallery/choir loft, and the remaining three forming the body of the Church.</p>	<p>Dubourdieu Parkinson, E. Parkinson Chart Archaeological Survey Wallace</p>

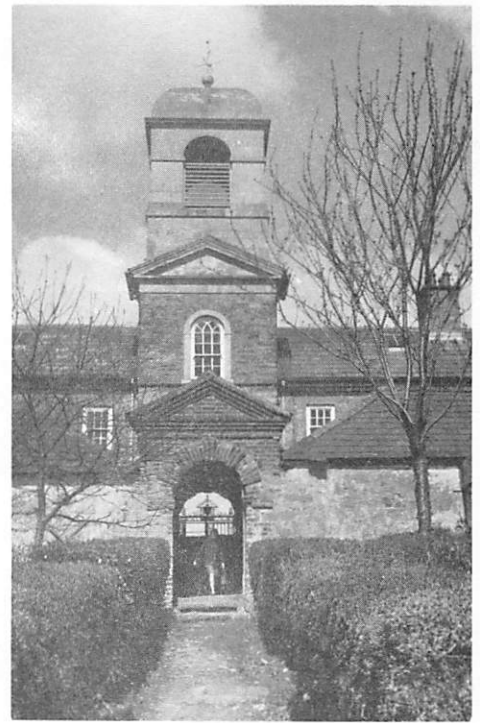
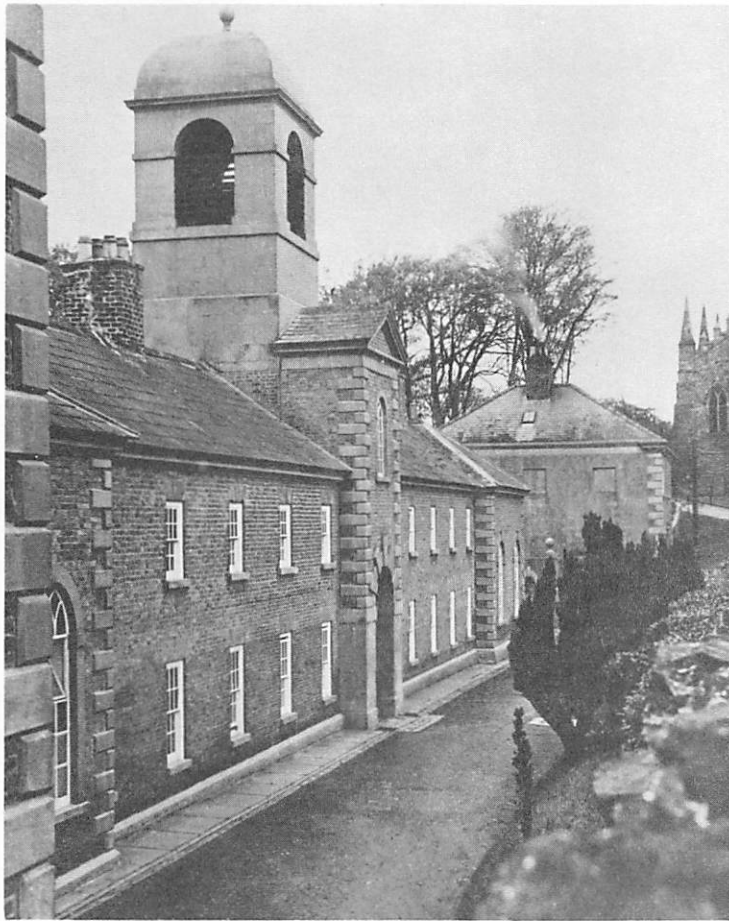


No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
21	Cathedral Church of The Holy Trinity (Continued)	A	<p>Most notable features of the interior are the carved capitals, organ case, Gothick pews and brass candelabra. The organ case stands above the screen on freestanding wooden cluster-columns, four each on east and west sides. Under it on the eastern side is an ogee-arched arcade, the centre two arches constituting the door between vestibule and church and the remaining eight enclosing stalls for Cathedral dignitaries. The organ case itself is tall elegant late Georgian, on top 5 delightful octagonal minarets front and back.</p> <p>The main blocks of Georgian Gothick pews are ranged on each side in a jigsaw pattern around the three piers of the arches, bow and canted fronts and recesses curtseying in a stately churchy sort of way to each other across a black and white marble-flagged floor. Like the Bishop's Throne (canopy later) and two-seater Dean's stall opposite, the wood is warm in colour, and pew and stall fronts have panels with pretty, delicate cusped tracery arcading along their length: egg-shaped brass hinges to the doors.</p> <p>The pews in the centre block and along the outer aisles are later Victorian, also the altar rails and pulpit, in keeping nevertheless. Elegant tall brass candelabra, twisted stems, stand on pew-backs under the arches and in the choir loft; pairs of rather smaller 2-branch candlesticks stand on Bishop's throne and Dean's stall, and a large pair, ugly and electrified, on either side of the altar.</p> <p>The stained glass in the east window is of the 1890's: many of the remaining windows are also Victorian: all are unexceptionable.</p> <p>Perhaps the special flavour of the interior is due to the 20 polychrome coats of arms ranged around the upper parts of the walls - the authentic mediaeval productions of Marcus Ward &amp; Co., Belfast 1864!</p> <p><u>Monuments:</u> A number of pleasing Victorian and later monuments and brass plaques. Also, two fragments of carved stone, one a crucifixion on Celtic cross; granite font in a boulder set on plain short granite columns; and in the octagonal porch, two slabs, one to Sr. Charls devick who dyed in downpatrick the 17th of march 1688, the other to the Rt. Honble. Edward Ld. Cromwell Baron of Okkham who died on 24th September 1667 and his grandson, the Honble. Oliver Cromwell, son of the Earl of Ardglas, who died on 19th October 1668; also some further fragments with Celtic spirals and decoration.</p>	

No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
	IRISH STREET	A	Originally forming the main street of the town, pleasantly unsophisticated though almost entirely well-mannered, with much of the architecture still of the mid-18th century. Many of the ground floors have now been turned into shops, some with good Victorian fronts. While well enclosed and self contained, the steep incline to the south towards Stream Street provides a sense of continuation over the hill and beyond what can be seen. Recent demolition on the east side has opened the street unexpectedly at its upper end. It is imperative that new buildings here are sufficient to fulfil their role in closing the view again. So far as is possible, the old street line should be re-established here.	Wallace
22	East side. ASSEMBLY ROOMS AND ESTATE OFFICE	A	<p>1882. Designed for John Mulholland, Esq., Westminster M. P. for Downpatrick, by William Batt of Belfast and built by Messrs. Dixon. An emphatic red-brick corner block of two storeys, with a tall corner clock tower rising almost twice the height. 'High Victorian' Gothic, taking its form from the large Assembly room and grand staircase on the first floor. The hall is expressed in a widely spaced front of 5 window bays to Irish Street, with 3 bays to Saul Street, the windows sharply pointed with corbelled brick labels and flanking columnettes. Above, a heavy sandstone cornice with a quatrefoil pierced parapet effectively closes the composition. Batt's model for the design is a type of Venetian Gothic brick palace of the 1300's made fashionable by Ruskin and Street. Accordingly the ground floor takes up a haphazard arcaded appearance, with the Assembly rooms door, a shop, John Mulholland's estate office and the office door making an irregular pattern of arches and windows below the more stately first floor: an ingenious solution that works well both visually and functionally.</p> <p>Inside, the main hall is a large rectangular room with 4 Gothic windows down each side, a platform at one end and a gallery at the other; a pine dado and braced pine beams to the ceiling with flat 'coves' at its sides - not perhaps as rewarding as Batt's wrapping leads one to expect.</p>	Wallace 1882 IB 344
23	IRISH STREET No. 8 upwards		About two dozen houses now mostly converted into shops on ground floor. Mainly 3-bay, 3-storey, but the line is pleasantly varied without being spoilt by a few houses of only 2 storeys. All cement faced, most painted.	
24			Next to Estate Office, rather pretty narrow tall house, 2-bay, 1 single window in gable on 3rd floor.	
25	SAVAGE'S FURNITURE SHOWROOMS		Well painted but, coming up Market Street towards it, as the whole ground floor is a new plate glass window, there is not enough visual support for the two floors above.	
26	IRISH STREET Nos. 14-20		Much good Georgian glazing and many broad wood sash boxes, several pretty fanlights: rectangular fanlight, radiating tracery inset(No. 20).	
27	No. 26		Semi-circular radiating fanlight with fluted wooden pilasters.	
28	No. 28		Similar, flat ashlar stone pilasters, plain keystone.	
29	Nos. 30 & 32		Prettily painted; old stonework and stabling at rear.	

No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
30	IRISH STREET Nos. 34, 36 & 38	B	1739. Attractive diminutive-scale houses. 2-storey with 7 very narrow windows on the upper floors, surrounded by stucco mouldings. No. 34 has a good 19th-century shop front. A date stone inscribed D. W. L. 17-39 is between Nos. 36 and 38.	
31	Nos. 46 & 48	A	c.1750. A high rectangular block of 2 houses; 3-storey, 4-bay, of excellent early 18th century proportions with small sash windows.	
32	Nos. 50 & 52		c.1800. Two houses united by a rather crude projecting porch clamped across the join. No. 50 originally a pretty 3-storey, 4-bay stone block with Georgian glazing and broad sash boxes.	
33	No. 60  <u>GROUP:</u> <u>Irish Street</u> , crown of the hill east side, and <u>Stream Street</u> , Nos. 2 & 4	B  A	c.1820. An attractive double-fronted, stucco house with large Georgian windows; 3-bay, 2-storey with a semi-circular radiating fanlight over the door.  This is one of the most important groups in Downpatrick; differences in scale, date and siting give it a decided character, with the main houses much enhanced by the wide flights of steps before their front doors.	Archaeological Survey
34	IRISH STREET No. 117	A	Mid-18th century; 4-bay, 3-storey, cement rendered with small windows and a marked predominance of wall over window. A good open-pedimented aedicule and double steps to the door.	
35	No. 119	A	Early 19th century; 4-bay, 3-storey, but higher and larger than No. 117. Coursed rubble basalt with brick surrounds to large Georgian sash windows. A segment-headed fanlight, entrance door and steps.	
36	No. 121	A	Early 19th century; stepped back and now the grandest house on the hill. Of good Palladian proportions, 5-bay, 3-storey, ennobled with flat stucco entablatures to the windows of the first floor and set on a high basement that lifts the house emphatically above its neighbours. Good railings and steps.	
37	No. 123	B	Early 19th century; a 2-storey basalt and brick wing to No. 121 continuing across an arched coach entry.	
38	STREAM STREET No. 2	B	Early 19th century; 4-bay, 2-storey, brick and basalt with granite quoins breaking forward again to the original street line.	
39	No. 4	A	Early 19th century, a diminutive 3-bay, 2-storey house in brick, with a Greek pattern in the lintel over the door and in flat pilaster jambs, a good fanlight. Much lower than No. 2, but important as it carries the eye happily down the hill.	
40	IRISH STREET West side: No. 21 "The Hare & Hounds"	B	Late 18th century; 3-bay, 4-storey, cement-rendered and prettily painted. Georgian glazed with a good Victorian double shop front with slender glazing bars.	
41	No. 15	A	Late 18th century; 3-bay, 3-storey with a fine cut-stone facade: on the ground floor a carriage-way to yard at rear and good wide Victorian shop window, charmingly delicate throughout, the arch-tops to the glazed panels springing up from very slim shafts: consoles and pilaster strips at each end supporting an "entablature"; the upper storeys are Georgian glazed.	





b



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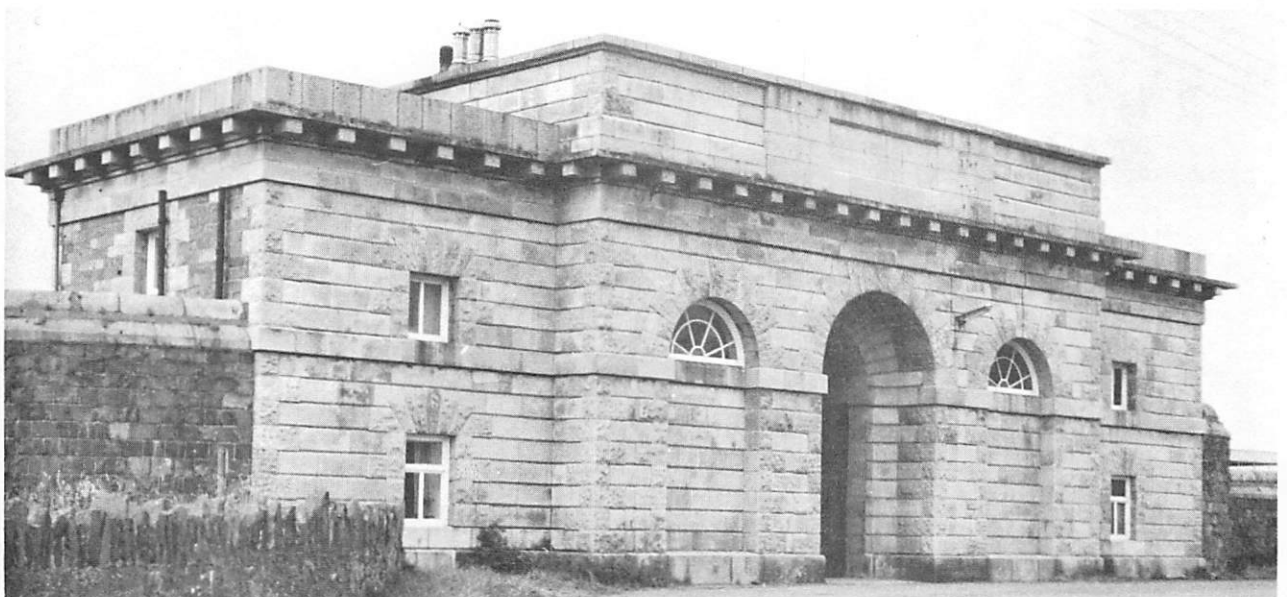
**Downpatrick Classicism**

*a and b The Southwell Charity (1733)*

*c 25 and 27 English Street, 'The Judges' Lodgings'; surprisingly late Regency style, post 1836.*

*d New Gaol, Gatehouse (1826-1830): "unquestionably the finest architectural set-piece in the town".*

d



No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
41	IRISH STREET No. 15 (Cont'd)	A	<p>The rubble stone wing at the rear is, apart from the delicacy of the shop window, the most notable feature of the house; 2-storey, it is more truly Georgian in feel than the front to the street: with a side door set back deeply in an arch-topped recess, a well-panelled door, semi-circular fanlight over, side panels still with their interlocking semi-circular ironwork, Georgian glazed throughout, graded slates on roof; generally poor condition.</p>	
42	H. McAllister, Gents' Hairdresser No. 31		<p>Mini-single bay narrow stuccoed house, 3-storey, little late Georgian shopfront about 4'6" wide.</p>	
43	Nos. 37 & 38	A	<p>Two late 18th century houses and shops with unusual side entrance doors down alleys. These were for family rather than customers. No. 37 is the more simple design. No. 39 forms part of a charming low row of whitewashed houses with wide Georgian glazed windows. The door-case is excellent; a segment headed fanlight with pilaster jambs, radiating cobweb glazing, and interlacing segment glazing to the side windows.</p> <p>The street front of No. 39 is also of high quality; 3-storey, 3-bay, built of squared basalt blocks with wide Georgian glazed windows and a shopfront.</p>	
44	POLICE BARRACKS	A	<p>A tall 3-bay, 3-storey house, originally good Georgian, but now re-modelled as a swashbuckling early Victorian design. Set back from the adjoining houses, behind its own heavy balustrade, fully stuccoed with channelled rustication on the ground floor. The centre open-pedimented doorcase is left over from the original facade, probably c. 1780 and very similar to the designs for doors in several English pattern books, with a lunette fanlight and flanking Doric columns, each with a salient entablature. On either side of the door Victorian weight takes over with prominent vermiculated quoins, voussoirs a la Vignola, emphatic and richly decorated string courses, and bracketed aedicules to the first floor windows.</p> <p>Interior: very ornate but high quality early Victorian decoration, with finely worked Renaissance-style aedicules to all the main doors, and a riot of plaster-work. There are vine leaf, poppy and acanthus cornices, and Thorwaldsen's 'Night' and 'Day' in large plaster medallions on the ceiling of the first floor landing. The staircase itself is, in proportion and scale, late 18th century. The new decor was all for Mr. James Cleland, chairman of the town commissioners, whose arms and motto SI JE POUVOIS are in the glass on the stair.</p> <p>The row of houses beyond the junction with Lynn Doyle Place includes simple radiating fanlights, some Georgian glazing.</p>	<p>cf. William Pain, <u>Practical House Carpenter or the Youths Instructor</u>, c.1780, pl. 38.</p>
45	IRISH STREET Nos. 69 & 71		<p>A pair of 3-bay, 2-storey houses, all Georgian glazed with simple semi-circular radiating fanlights, and fluted pilaster jambs. The group would be improved by repainting.</p>	

No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
46	IRISH STREET No. 93	B	A long, low house of about 1800, at the crown of the hill, 2-storey, 3-bay, cement rendered with tripartite windows to the outer bays, and similar ones on the first floor, all Georgian glazed. The door-case has fluted jambs and lintel, and a good segment-headed fanlight.	
47	No. 95	A	c.1820. Built perhaps by J. Lynn as the entablatures over the upper windows are similar to those on Downe Infirmary. An elongated late Georgian house, stuccoed and quite pretentious. The ground floor has horizontally channelled rustication, and the door, not quite in the centre, has a segment-headed fanlight, plain pilasters and a fluted lintel. This is an important house, not only for itself, but for the long low emphasis it gives to the street, off-setting the taller blocks opposite.	
48	Nos. 97 & 99	B	A pair of 3-bay, 3-storey Georgian glazed houses, built of rough coursed rubble, with eaves parapets, and brick surrounds to the windows. Both have segment-shaped plain fanlights, with inset attached columns supporting the lintel.	
49	STREAM STREET West side: PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	A	<p>An early 18th century, T-plan church. The exterior is in a plain vernacular style with harled walls, slate roofs and Georgian sash windows. Only its sylvan setting is remarkable, with attractive garlanded urns above the gate piers and some weird family burying places, with high concave pyramid roofs in cut stone.</p> <p>The interior of the church is a fine one, mid-to-late 18th century, with copper collecting pans presented by David Caddell in 1754. The pulpit is a splendid 18th century wooden one, an octagon set on a high central pedestal with a flat canopy projecting above it. Originally it stood at the apex of the T between two tall circular headed windows. But a south extension was built on to the church (about 1800?) and one window was removed to make way for a 'squire's pew' that spoils the symmetry of the design. It can still be seen, not far from its original site squashed in above the new door in the south west corner. Each of the ends of the T can be entered by separate doors, and stairs lead up to the galleries. There are nice box pews and good Georgian woodwork inside.</p> <p>Monuments: J. C. Nelson 1835-1891; alabaster and green marble with gold angel's heads, by Hastings. Joseph Nelson 1847, a white marble stele with anthemion, reed-and-fillet, and egg-and-dart mouldings.</p>	Archaeological Survey
50	DOWN HOSPITAL formerly Downe Infirmary	B	1834, designed by John Lynn. Rather a thin design, the north front is its main facade: an 11-bay, 2-storey block with the end 2 bays and the centre slightly projecting. The end bays have high attics lit by Thermae windows, and are pedimented. The centre also has a pediment, with a tripartite window below each floor. The ground floor has horizontal rustication emphasising the length of the facade.	Archaeological Survey Wallace Lewis
51	ST. JOHN'S HOUSE		Recently completed, low-set old peoples' home on two floors. Nicely detailed, roughcast, and sensitively sited with regard to the lie of the land. Architect - Raymond Leith.	

No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
52	ARDGLASS ROAD Collins' Pub	B	At the apex of Ardglass Road and Stream Street - an attractive early Victorian eye-catcher in a vernacular Italianate idiom; basically an L-shape, with canted bays at each end, and a further canted bay fitting into the angle between; all 2-storey with wide, low-pitched gable roofs.	
53	VIANSTOWN ROAD		The dulllest area of development must surely be from Collins' Public House along Lower Stream Street to Vianstown Road. Here is to be seen one uninteresting architectural effort after another, up to the present time. Surely this whole area is an example showing a lack of planned development and integration over the years.	
54	THE DOWNSHIRE HOSPITAL	A	<p>1883 to a design of Henry Smyth, costing £60,000; additional end wings c.1895-1898 costing a further £26,000. Now an immensely long, seemingly endless, succession of red brick buildings. The materials are all the same: slate roofs, red brick walls, with yellow brick zig-zag quoins and corbelled string courses. The east side is of rough coursed basalt with red brick trim, similar but less exuberant. The layout is symmetrical about a centre block, with a fantastical clock turret rising in the middle, above two round towers (like factory chimneys), and finishing in a high mansard roof supporting an open iron-work crown.</p> <p>On either side of the centre block are extensive 31-bay wings, with emphasised pedimented ends, a massive middle block of 9 bays with a central bay window, and at the ends of each wing high battered chimneys on a square plan. All these buildings are 3-storey; beyond them at either end are further fore-standing blocks, originally 9 bays but later extended in a similar style. Altogether an amazing complex almost 1,000 feet from one end to the other!</p> <p>The building is well sited on a high plateau, and gains immeasurably from the mature woodlands it faces.</p>	I. B. 1883 Street Directories "Downpatrick"
55	GATE LODGE Downshire Hospital	B	An attractive Italianate single storey design, with emphasised eaves and big chimneys. Presumably c.1840 and relating to an earlier property on the site.	
56	KNOCKSHIMNA ESTATE		Houses of every shape, size and colour appear to have been flung indiscriminately onto the hillside. A good example of builders' allsorts - another lost opportunity.	
57	FOUNTAIN STREET Nos. 1-9 Old Cavalry Barracks	A	17th century rubble stone building of very great charm, masked by many later ad-hoc alterations, in part now cement rendered and divided into a number of separate dwellings (one having been recently completely roughcast, "contemporary" windows). An elongated U-shaped plan with projecting gable wings at each end. 2-storey with the centre recessed by 2 bays, mostly Georgian glazed. On ground floor are early 18th century flat ashlar sandstone surrounds to the doors with semi-circular fanlights and keystones. Right-hand wing has a tripartite window. Graded small slates on roof. One of the oldest monuments in Downpatrick, temporarily the home of the Downe Infirmary after 1774 when it was bought from the Barrack Board for £150.	Archaeological Survey Wallace Lewis

No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
	SCOTCH STREET		Steps pleasantly up the hill from junction with Saul Street, though No. 62 sticks up too high.	Wallace
58	<u>North side:</u> Nos. 40-48	B	Early 18th century; a remarkably interesting speculative shopping development, all now private houses, Nos. 40 and 42, 2-bay, 3-storey, rubble stone with brick window surrounds on ground floor, doorway and coupled windows under a trade-board on which to paint the proprietor's name. Georgian glazed, broad wood sash boxes to windows above. Nos. 44, 46 and 48, ground floor similar, but only 1-bay and 2-storey. Some now in very poor condition.	
59	No. 62  <u>South side.</u>	B	3-storey, 4-bay house with a 2-storey, 3-bay extension at right-hand side, similarly treated uniformly with horizontal blocks of stone, brick window surrounds and on the ground floor vermiculated rusticated quoins, and voussoirs: standard Downpatrick fluted Doric columns to doorcase; Georgian glazed 1st and 2nd floors.  Some nice early Georgian narrow Georgian-glazed windows with broad wood sash boxes, between the Estate Office and No. 5.	
60	M. STEWART Furniture Showrooms		Five pretty fluted Doric pilasters framing the shop front.	
61	Fatima's Hair Fashions) K. Burns, Tailor            ) McKeatings, Grocer        )		Charmingly painted low-set Georgian glazed houses, with shops below.	
62	No. 21		3-bay, 3-storey stucco, alternating quoins, Georgian glazed, with a Victorian shop front on the ground floor (forming with No. 19 - of 2 bays - a unit, with a stone cornice throughout).	
63	No. 25		3-storey, 4-bay, stucco, rusticated throughout, keystones, all with masks inset, shallow mouldings to windows and pediment over door.	
	SAUL STREET		A long narrow street climbing steadily out of the town. There are some fine Georgian houses near the junction with Scotch Street; the remainder are pleasant though out-dated low terraces of houses changing to detached small Victorian villas on north side, similar terraced houses and new Council houses on north side; an interesting low wall separates the footpath from the roadway at a higher level at one point.	Wallace Archaeological Survey
64	<u>North side:</u> No. 6		At the bottom, an early Georgian house, rubble stone, cement rendered, 3-storey, 3-bay, broad wood sash boxes - old and could be made most attractive.	
65	No. 8		Small 3-storey, 2-bay, Georgian glazed: (another old house which could be made attractive).	
66	Nos. 9, 9A & 10	A	A good group of late 18th century or early 19th century houses - 7 bays, 3-storey, Georgian glazed, set back behind the street line. 3 pedimented doorcases with flat pilaster jambs and tear pattern glazing in lunette fanlights. Two tripartite windows on the ground floor, the front room of the third house has been extended in a cube over the small front garden, plain Georgian window in front and overlooking path to front door. Cement rendered; flat-topped carriage archway to yard at rear.	





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b

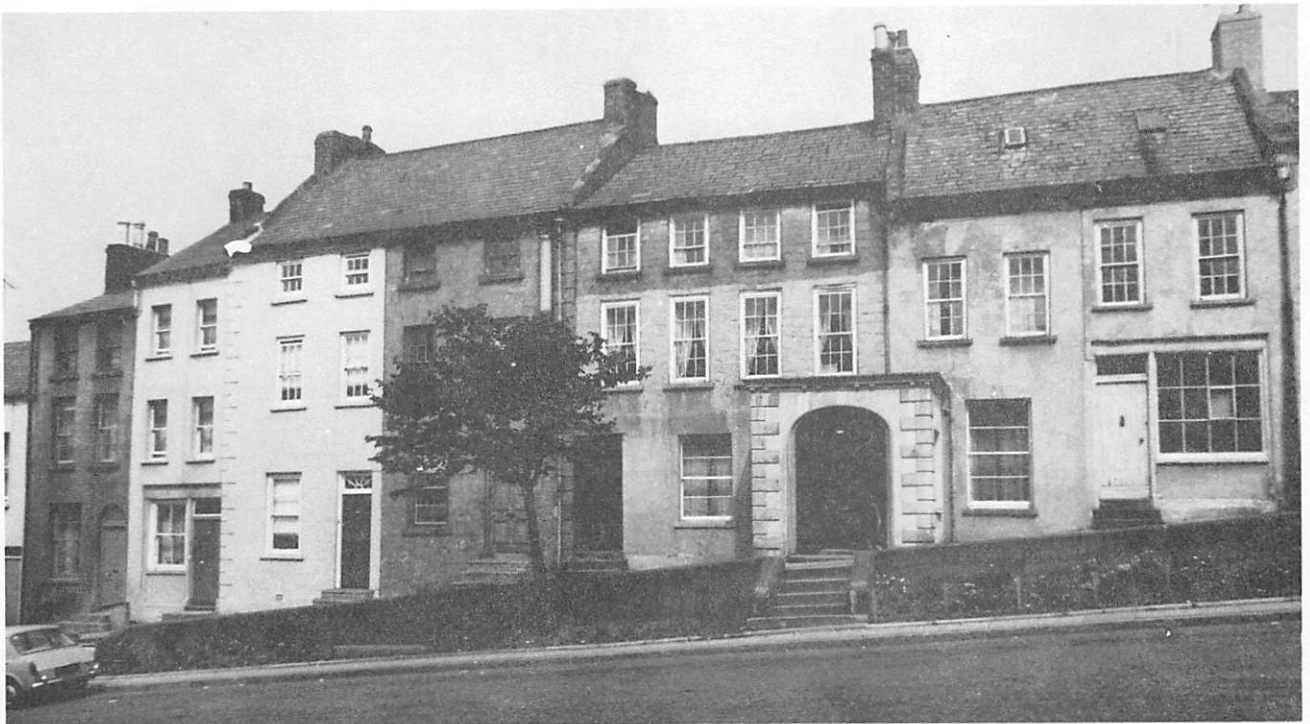


c

### Streetscapes

- a *William Batt's Assembly Rooms (1882)*
- b *117 to 123 Irish Street, and 2 and 4, Stream Street. (early 19th century)*
- c *Another view of 123 Irish Street, and 2 and 4 Stream Street.*
- d *42 to 54 Irish Street. Sympathetic painting and good maintenance can do wonders with buildings like this.*

d



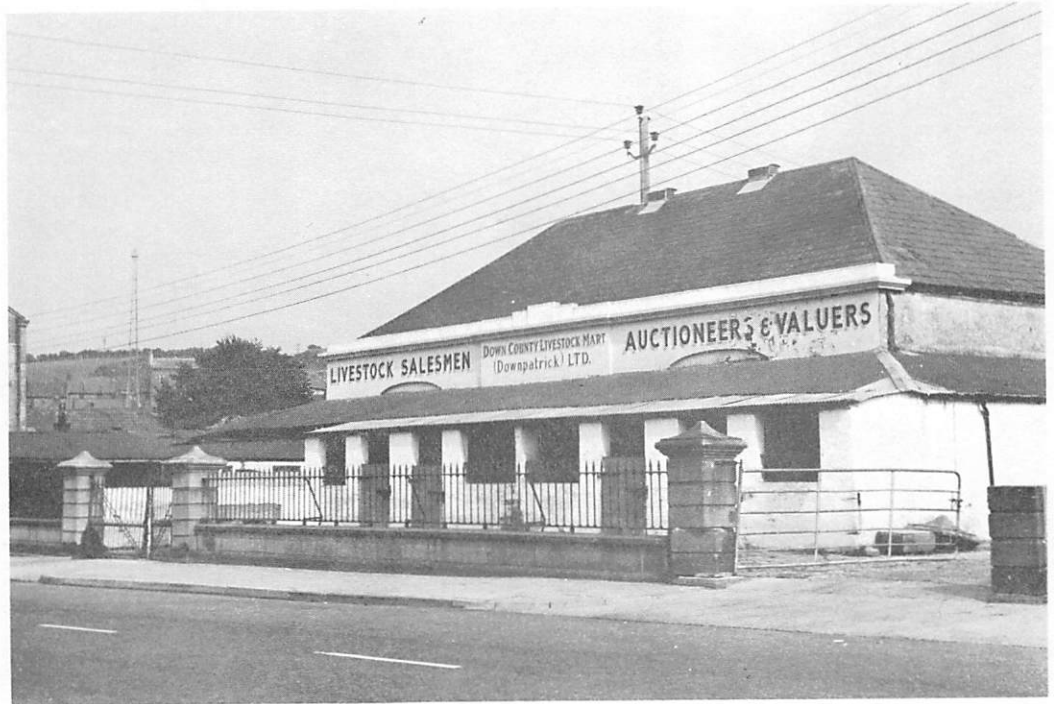
No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
67	SAUL STREET Nos. 22 & 24		Earlier 18th century pair of houses, 3-storey, 7-bays, Georgian glazed, broad wood sash boxes. Centre bay on ground floor an arch-topped cobweb glazed fan-lighted door leading to yard behind.	
68	MARKET STREET East side; Nos. 12-26		Mid-19th century row of painted brick houses, with shopped ground floor. The scale and sense of enclosure is important in this street, especially in the 3-storied houses: The best individual building is 'Jean Stratton', which preserves its 19th century shop front and a simple circular-headed front door to the house above.	Wallace
69	Boutique - No. 18			
70	Nos. 20-26		Three houses and shops of similar character, 2-storey.	
71	NORTHERN BANK LTD. At corner of St. Patrick's Avenue		Circa 1932: somewhat grandiose early 1920's neo-classical, typical of the style of Hobart & Heron; well designed for its obtuse-angled site, boomerang shaped, the centre arm short, with loose Gibbs-type surround to arch-topped doorway: minor doors at left and right ends of the arms: balanced though not strictly symmetrical elevation: manager's house incorporated in the St. Patrick's Avenue arm. Dressings of granite, banded rustication: the main body of unpleasant shiny ripe red brick, similar to that used on Lisburn branch of the same bank.	
72	Nos. 70-74	B	Group of 3 gable-fronted 3-storey houses, 3-bay on first floor, with shops below and two bays of windows in the gables above. The architectural treatment is crudely classical, the windows segment-headed and emphasised by pediments on the first floor, in the centre of each facade. The whole design has an oddly, and not unattractive, 'riverside' quality.	
73	Nos. 76-86	B	A nice low stuccoed terrace of 2 storeys. 13 bays long but not quite symmetrical with deep segmental arches in the ground floor of the 3rd, 6th and 9th bays. At some time after its original construction the group was united by a pronounced cornice and parapet (now partly gone). Its high potential is shown by the sympathetic treatment of Rea's Bar, well painted to emphasise the rhythms of the building; but this has unfortunately not been extended to the rest of the terrace. The group has two excellent mid-Victorian entrance doors, nice decorated ridge tiles and tall faceted chimney pots.	
74	T. ACTON & SONS No. 82	Shop front B	Mid-19th century. A 3-storey, 6-bay cement faced block with a potentially most attractive timber shop front. Two doors with reeded wood surrounds flank a 3-light, semi-circular window, in a rectangular frame of similar treatment. Attractive brick disused maltings at the rear.	
75	No. 92 (next to No. 82)		4-bay, 3-storey of no particular merit in itself, but the height acts as a visual buffer when looking along the street from opposite the Northern Bank.	

No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
76	DOWN COUNTY LIVE-STOCK MART (DOWNPATRICK)LTD.; formerly the Corn Market	B	<p>Early 19th century: a pleasant basic structure, plain functional Georgian in style. Cement rendered on the sides and rear, it has a stuccoed front with an ashlar cut cornice and parapet that steps up in the centre. A single storey, 3-bay front with arch-topped open entrances and larger segmental relieving arches in the outer bays. Two arched entrances at the rear. All these have now been built up and doors inserted, while the whole building is spoilt and almost masked under indiscriminate corrugated iron awnings and similar additions.</p> <p>The Mourne granite gate piers and cast iron spear-headed railings are essential to the effect of this group, but one pier top has already been removed.</p>	Wallace O. S.
77	THE GAS WORKS HOUSE  MARKET STREET: <u>West side.</u>	A	<p>A robust classical design probably dating from 1846, when an Act was obtained to light the town by gas. A 3-bay single storey block, built of black basalt with sandstone quoins and trim, flanked by short, single-bay, lower wings, making the whole front 5 bays long. The plan steps forward at each bay and the centre is emphasised by a simple pediment above a classical relieving arch, set on plain pilasters with a keystone that breaks into the entablature above. The back of the centre block is a 2-storey, 3-bay facade, cement rendered. The gasometers stood in a walled garden behind.</p> <p>The effect of this once charming facade is now quite obliterated by the modern petrol station, just stuck in front of it without a thought for the older, and better, architecture behind.</p> <p>Little of importance or merit on this side: much of the southern end was railway property and is now uncared for.</p>	O. S. Street Directories "Downpatrick"
78	Former Railway Goods Store		<p>Large rectangular vernacular coursed rubble-stone building with yellow brick arch-topped entrances on all sides placed at random (now mostly blocked up), large lunette/porthole windows in the gable ends. The roof is timber trussed. Double set of tracks in centre, platforms stone-flagged on one side for cattle, on other wooden-planked for coal. Rest of station which is still standing of no merit.</p>	Green O. S.
79	ST. PATRICK'S AVENUE		<p>A street of no particular interest, but displaying in its length of 300-400 yards, a regulated transition from town to countryside. One or two pleasant fan-lighted doorways in this street: the houses not in themselves remarkable except for the constant height of the rooflines, gradually ascending as the road leaves the town.</p>	
80	H. E. ACTON Public House	B	<p>Later 19th century. 2-storey house with irregular fenestration but preserving on the first floor two attractive Georgian glazed tripartite windows with a simple sash window between and pleasant Victorian door below.</p>	
81	KING & BOYD Solicitors		<p>Attractive Victorian shop front.</p>	

No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
82	ST. PATRICK'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH	A	<p>By John O'Neill of Belfast: opened 1870. Finely situated on a hill site above and between St. Patrick's Avenue and Stream Street. Gothic, of a French flavour, with a slender tapering spire at south west corner, not quite so well related to the high gable of the west end as it might be. The exterior is of sandstone, recently cleaned, and in excellent condition. Above the west door is a large rose window in the gable; altogether quite a fine elevation crowning the wide steps and steep approach. Strongest point of the interior is its richness. As seen during the day, it is strangely fascinating, the light streaming through the wide west door at the top of its grand flight of steps focussing attention on the chancel and altar and yet this light source is so strong and County Down and the Mourne spread out below the door so beautiful that one keeps looking round towards them, seeking relief from the almost overwhelming decoration.</p> <p>Inside, the nave is of 5 bays on the north, 4 on the south, with a wide transept of 2 bays on the south side: the chancel is in a polygonal apse which makes a good feature externally abutting the gables of the transept.</p> <p>The main windows of nave and chancel are all of a similar plate-traceried pattern, a pair of lancets with a free rose in the centre above. Pillared arcading is given to the three canted walls of the chancel behind, rather effective salmon pink in the panels behind the altar; the walls above are covered in rich mosaic work. The chancel windows representing a saint in each panel are by Meyer of Munich. Pulpit of stone, now painted white, square with chamfered corners, most attractive, highly carved with both free decoration and with three main panels, one representing St. Patrick driving the snakes out of Ireland (round tower in the background). Altar is a most sumptuous creation, again carved stone now painted white; panels representing lamentation over the dead Christ and Christ carrying the cross; three very French Gothic highly and intricately carved and decorated spirelets above and behind.</p> <p>Organ of 1883 by Telford of Dublin to celebrate the centenary of the Chapel.</p>	Information from Mother Brendan daughter of the architect
83	CONVENT OF OUR LADY OF MERCY	B	<p>Founded in 1855. The nunnery, to the North of the chapel, is a 3-storey Gothic wing in brick with sandstone surrounds to windows and a high projecting gabled end. The entrance is here in a porch under a canted oriel window, with a high square tower tucked into the angle behind. All this designed by Mortimer Thomson of Belfast and begun in March 1872.</p>	O'Laverty

No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
	CHURCH STREET	A	<p>Constructed in 1838 as a road into the town from the Quoile Bridge: now the main approach to the centre. No buildings of particular note but the street achieves its purpose of drawing the spectator on round the corner at the Assembly Rooms and into Irish Street accidentally, and quite as well as any deliberate modern planning could do. As seen from the Carnegie Library, its line proceeds in a sinuous double curve, punctuated by the turret of the Assembly Rooms on the left and by the campanile of the Down Parish Hall on the right. At the end English Street can be sensed sweeping down on the right and compelling the visitor along Irish Street, so happily set at an inviting oblique angle.</p> <p>The whole effect of this small but complete area of townscape is enhanced by the uniformity of scale and general in-keepingness. Though the facade of the Down Recorder building is higher than those that surround it, the slated roofs of the houses at the corner of English and Irish Streets are tall enough to form a satisfactory visual buffer and the effect of a small town centre is well maintained.</p> <p><u>N.B.</u> Whatever developments are planned for this area, it is important that the frontage and general height level of these houses should be maintained.</p>	Parkinson
84	THE BUS BAR	B	2-bay, 3-storey, stuccoed and Georgian glazed: pleasant Victorian shop front with centrally placed door.	
85	CENTRAL BAR & LOUNGE	B	Similarly pleasant and spacious: 3-bay, 3-storey, stuccoed.	
86	BRITISH LEGION CLUB and adjoining house	B	Nice brick building, 6-bay, 3-storey, semi-circular fanlights over doors.	
87	No. 23	B	Late 18th century in character: pleasant uncramped house: 3-storey, 6-bay, stuccoed, with quoins at corners. Plain mouldings round windows most of which have single vertical glazing bars, fanlight over door, glazed side panels, usual pilaster jambs.	
88	CARNEGIE PUBLIC LIBRARY		1908. By Blackwood & Jury. A 2-storey irregular design, Tudoresque Classical with stone-transomed windows, gables and curved features.	I. B. 1908
89	MEADOWLANDS		Well intentioned local authority houses planned round a large open central space but a depressingly uniform long terrace of houses, 2 storeys, in part redeemed by the account taken of the wooded hillside and Georgian houses rising behind (also an exciting glimpse higher up of the new Ardmore School piled in the trees on the hill above Scotch Street, the concrete beams and grey brick perfectly in order).	
90	Nos. 41-47		<p>Late Victorian; four stuccoed, 2-storey, terrace houses, segment-headed windows. No. 41 of 3 bays, remainder of 2 bays; No. 41 has 3 rather obtrusive dormer windows with decorated barge boards.</p> <p>From this point onwards towards Bridge Street, the general quality deteriorates (except for No. 42) and G. Welshman's Public House, excellently painted.</p>	



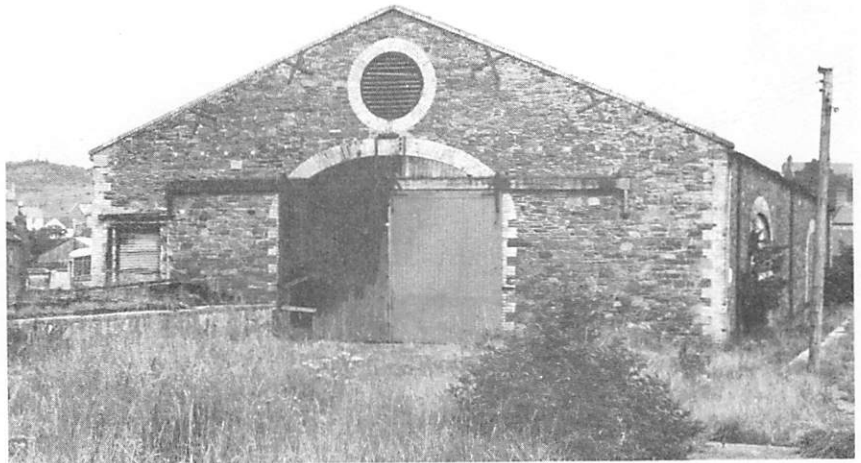


a

b

**Lost Opportunities in Market Street**

- a *The early 19th century Corn Market, lost behind unsightly additions.*
- b *Stone railway store, lost in weeds and dereliction.*
- c *The Gas Works House of 1846, a charming building now masked by an incongruous petrol station.*



c



No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
91	CHURCH STREET West Side: Down Recorder Office	B	<p>c.1860. Now, because of its isolated site, a very important building: a pleasant robustly classical facade to Church Street, 3-storey, 5-bay, with a central door and flat aedicules on consoles to the first floor windows. A new shop window has rather spoilt the balance of the ground floor, but the group still makes a stately contribution to the street. An elegant 2-bay bow forms the short end of the block facing down Irish Street.</p> <p>Beyond the main building is an entrance way flanked by two 2-storey, 2-bay blocks of vigorous character; stuccoed like the rest and important to the group as a whole.</p>	
92	DOWN PARISH HALL	B	<p>Dated 1863. Red brick with yellow brick window surrounds and other dressings, and a high square campanile beside the street.</p>	
93	PARISH CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY	A	<p>A fine solid exterior. First parish church built about 1560, rebuilt, apart from the tower, in 1735 in a contemporary classical style. Re-roofed 1760, the present ceiling inserted in 1834, and three new windows opened on north side. New entrance gate to churchyard from Church Avenue with cut-stone piers erected 1848.</p> <p><u>Exterior:</u> a long hall-type church with a square battlemented tower at its west end and a splendid early Georgian Venetian window in the east gable. The tower is of rubble, three floors stepped back slightly at each floor, with a projecting battlemented parapet. On west side of tower is a large 2-arched window, formerly the doorway and now Georgian Gothick glazed. Stone stairs to tower on north side rise in thickness of wall between main body of church and tower. The main body of the church is of slightly coursed rubble stonework with ashlar sandstone, Gibbs surrounds to windows and chamfered quoins at the corners.</p> <p>The east end has finely detailed Doric Venetian window, ashlar sandstone, triple keystone, a blind arch of voussoirs in the rubble stonework above; below the window, ashlar panels. Parkinson, reproduced in Archaeological Survey, suggests this window was inserted in 1834, but this is stylistically quite unacceptable.</p> <p><u>Interior:</u> Vestibule a low barrel-vaulted room with deep recesses in walls for the door and windows. Inside the church is simply an open box, dull and rather disappointing after its exterior. Three windows on the north side, four on the south, those on the north side Georgian glazed, the rest of Victorian diamond shaped panes. The flat ceiling inserted in 1834 is uncomfortably low and cuts across the top of the Venetian window.</p> <p>Perhaps the best feature is the simple early 18th century monument to Reverend D. D. Johannes McNeal, one time Dean of Down, who died 21st January, 1709 aged 67: aedicule shaped with an open pediment and scallop shell within: single Tuscan attached columns: the whole of stone, now painted grey.</p> <p>Font: Gothic Revival with quatrefoil panels of c.1840.</p>	<p>Parkinson Archaeological Survey Wallace Lewis</p>

No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
	<p>CHURCH STREET Parish Church of The Holy Trinity (Cont'd)</p>		<p>Pulpit: By W. J. Fennell, alabaster and Caen stone in a Victorian Renaissance style (the architect's drawing is in the vestibule).</p> <p>Organ case: Rather pretty oak and pine, Gothic with rather a Gothick appearance. Console regrettably detached in mid-1960's.</p> <p>Drawing on display in the vestibule signed, "W. J. Fennell, Architect, 2 Wellington Place, Belfast March 1902", and inscribed "Church of the Holy Trinity, Down. Proposed rearrangement of Chancel".</p> <p>The church was redecorated internally within the last few years and is in good repair inside and out (some crumbling quoins round the small windows in the west tower excepted). The churchyard would however be greatly improved by the removal of the collection of rubbish and old ironmongery that blocks the flight of stone steps descending into it between the little houses in Friar's Lane.</p>	
94	4 Houses including Dougherty's Bar		3-storey, two of 3 bays, two of 2 bays, 2 flat-topped, carriage ways to yard at rear. One cobweb segment-shaped fanlight still in place, original glazing bars.	
95	RATHQUOILE HOUSE		Mid-Victorian, 2-storey, 6-bay, stuccoed, pleasant: segment fanlight over door and side panels (Victorian coloured glass), two carved stone lions couchant, now painted, are set on the piers of the front wall: a third nearby. Victorian jagged ridge-tiles, all in good order.	
96	TELEPHONE EXCHANGE		Early 1960's: a terrible 3-storey, 5-bay grey brick fortress, 3-storey bow on southern elevation: grossly out of scale with its surroundings: (cf. Newry, where a very similar exchange is more in keeping with the surrounding scale).	
97	No. 42		Good 3-bay, 2-storey house with cobweb fanlight.	
98	GATE LODGE Rathdune House		<p>Typical high Victorian gate lodge, in yellow brick, the usual early Victorian layout, L-shaped, with one room at right angles to the other, and a door in between: canted bay window at end of each arm, only here the arm towards the road ends in a gable wall onto which has been built a singularly attractive segment-shaped bow which goes far towards redeeming the design. This has five panels of glass, separated by pretty elongated fluted Doric columns, with dentils above and rings at two points (Roman fasces): all of wood, now in very poor condition. The whole lodge is almost pretty, and yet hideous in its combination of too many styles and scales.</p> <p>Gateway to Rathdune House, double curved screen walls, Greek key pattern on pier heads (early Railway period), all almost derelict.</p>	O. S.
	NEW BRIDGE STREET COTTAGES GROUP	A		
99	Nos. 1 & 2	A	19th century, 2-storey, 6-bay, stuccoed with arch to yard behind.	
100	Nos. 3-5	A	18th century, smaller 2-storeyed double fronted houses.	
101	Nos. 17-23	A	Single storey, double fronted cottages with steps to each door.	

No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
102	NEW BRIDGE STREET Nos. 25 & 27	A	Two-storeyed cottages with date stone "Erected by Joseph Leaver 1793".	
103	Nos. 29-33	A	Early 19th century, all 2-storey of various sizes.	
104	Nos. 35-43	A	Early 19th century, 2-storey, on a small scale, each house of 2 bays only.	
105	Nos. 45-51	A	Four diminutive late Georgian two-storey cottages, each double fronted with narrow central doors and a small square window on either side. Most delightfully scaled, and could be charming.	
106	Nos. 53-59	A	Single-storey, double-fronted cottages, possibly of the 18th century.	
107	Nos. 61-67	A	19th century houses, 2 storeys.	
108	BRIDGE STREET Ollard, Westcombe & Co. Ltd. ,(formerly the stables of Rathdune House).	B	A three-sided courtyard, grassed and some shrubs, the fourth side being the street. Buildings on the three sides of rubble stone, 2-storey, painted white, the whole treated most sympathetically.	
109	RATHDUNE HOUSE formerly Mount Villa	A	<p>Very early 19th century: a most pleasant house surprisingly sophisticated in parts. It has two fronts, the entrance facing east, the garden south. The entrance front is 2-storey, 5-bay, stuccoed and Georgian glazed; very gracious in scale with a large semi-circular fanlight.</p> <p>Its details are partly of a modern restoration - the keystone has incised in it the letters, "F. I. C. 1930". The ground floor has banded rustication and the corners and windows are emphasised by quoins. The elevation is top-light and needs a parapet rather than a mere gutter. A sandstone-paved platform about 10 feet deep and 4 steps up extends the length of this front and some distance beyond at the southern end.</p> <p>The garden front is composed of two parts, on the right the side of the main entrance block, and to the left of it an addition of about 1800-1820, probably not long after the house was built. The side of the main block is of 2 bays.</p> <p>The addition on the left is a stroke of <i>folie de grandeur</i>, a tall bow-fronted facade, highly sophisticated in itself, but out of scale and character with the rest of the house. Still, it is a fine thing, with a high upper storey that dominates its ground floor and provides one big pleasant room, with three tall windows coming right down to the floor and overlooking the garden to the south. The bow breaks forward from two short flat sections on either side, and the whole addition is crowned by a high parapet (above the eaves of the rest of the house), decorated with five recessed panels, circular on the flat, and rectangular above the windows of the bow.</p> <p>These slim Regency sophistications continue round the corner where a wide flight of curving steps leads up to a square balcony and a tripartite French window. The balcony is supported on a projecting cube of channelled ashlar masonry with an arched niche at its base: in all a very satisfying design.</p> <p>The remainder of this elevation is quite irregular and probably of two or three different dates.</p>	O. S.

No.	BUILDING	Category	DATE, TYPE, ARCHITECT, ETC.	REFERENCES
	BRIDGE STREET Rathdune House (Continued)		Pleasant old garden on the south and west sides, with, behind the house, a neat little garden building, early Georgian in appearance, roughcast, 2-storey, 3-bay on the 1st floor, a door in centre on ground floor, hipped and slated roof. The windows are Georgian glazed and have the early Georgian broad wood sash boxes. The whole is set in a little overgrown wilderness, very pretty and excitingly half-hidden.	
110	BRIDGE STREET		Above Rathdune House, at the top of the hill, two nice simple bungalows, recently completed, and sensitively handled, no multiplicity of materials.	
111	FRIAR'S LANE Nos. 87-35 & 54-30		Probably mid-18th century, narrow street with pleasant long low progression of small 2-storey, 2-bay houses up the slight incline: many Georgian glazed: at present being demolished, and ripe for sensitive redevelopment.	
112	NEW GAOL: Gatehouse	A	<p>1824-30. Unquestionably the finest architectural set-piece in the town - an austere Neo-Classical gateway, architecturally most expressive and a brooding symbol of confinement. Built by John Lynn, but far too strong a design to be his own. There is a French quality in the architecture like the work of Ledoux or the mature designs of James Gandon. Mass pre-dominates and is enhanced by a sculpturesque use of what details there are: the bold dentil cornice, the projection of the centre block, the deep recession of the concave arched entrance, and the all-over horizontal rustication of the granite blocks of which the gatehouse is built.</p> <p>The front is 5 bays long and 1 bay deep, with the centre 3 bays projecting and rising to a high attic above the main cornice. The end bays have small square windows on 2 storeys, but the centre is treated as a single storey with three high arches rising almost to cornice height. The outer arches are blank recessions with semi-circular windows at their tops; the centre arch is wider and higher and gave access to the prison.</p> <p>The inner north front is of coursed basalt blocks with granite used merely for dressings; 7-bay, 2-storey in all except for the central archway. The detailing as that of the south front.</p>	Archaeological Survey Wallace Lewis



# Ulster Architectural Heritage Society

The Society, formed in November, 1967, is non-profit-making, non-political, non-sectarian, and is recognised as a charity for tax purposes.

Its objects are:

1. To promote the appreciation and enjoyment of good architecture of all periods.
2. To encourage the preservation of buildings and groups of buildings of artistic merit or historic importance.
3. To encourage public awareness and appreciation of the beauty, history and character of local neighbourhoods in Northern Ireland and their surroundings.

The Society is engaged in the preparation and publication of lists of buildings and groups of importance in many parts of the province. The following lists have already been published:

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
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| 2. Lurgan/Portadown.                   | 7. Craigavon Urban District.  |
| 3. Moira R.D.C.                        | 8. Antrim and Ballymena.      |
| 4. Lisburn.                            | 9. Downpatrick.               |
| 5. Banbridge.                          | 10. Londonderry.              |

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