

HERITAGE REVIEW

No.6

Spring 2003



TILLIE & HENDERSON'S
Taking the shirt off Derry's back



A CRAFT REBORN

For anyone involved in the conservation or repair of traditional buildings, an understanding of the properties and the use of lime mortars is becoming increasingly important. It was with this in mind that I decided to set up Lime Workshops at the Narrow Water Lime Service to introduce people to lime putty production and its use in conservation.

Narrow Water provides an education and consultancy service in the use of lime in mortars, plaster, render, harling and lime wash.

One day courses are available for builders, architects, and property owners.

Dan McPolin

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EDITORIAL

Historic buildings continue to attract increasing media coverage in the province. This reflects a growing public interest in the subject, but is also thanks in no small part to the enthusiastic championing it receives from our Research Officer, Rita Harkin. Hardly a week goes by without some story being picked up by the media, and incidents like the demolition of Seamus Heaney's house and the Tillie & Henderson factory dominated the press for days on end. Sadly it remains difficult to get sustained coverage for buildings that are unglamorously still at risk, let alone for most stories of actual demolitions - making us appear always to be crying over spilt milk. In both the above cases, the Society had been lobbying for many months before the final dénouements. When a story breaks, the press know that we can provide them at once with much of the background they need to know, and the Society's advice is constantly sought.

However much of what we do is out of the public eye. The work of our Heritage Project Officer, Andrew McClelland, involves much patient creating and updating of records of derelict buildings all over the province, and during the coming year much of that research should become visible in publications. Angela Fitzpatrick, our Education Officer, likewise works in the background, meeting teachers and talking to schools in very diverse locations, but by the end of this year she will have published her handbook for teachers.

Our Committee for 2002-03 was augmented by the addition of Sinead O'Hara (who sadly had to resign shortly afterwards, having been offered a job in the Republic), Bill Morrison (until his recent retirement Divisional Planning Manager for Belfast) and John Anderson, formerly a councillor for Larne District. Mrs Jane McClure, a veteran of planning campaigns in Hollywood, joined the Committee during 2002. We lost the services of Stephen Douglas, a partner in Hall Black Douglas architects, whose advice on new buildings in particular had been valuable to the Committee over many years. Caroline Maguire has also had to leave the Committee, having taken up a post with Environment & Heritage Service, where we hope she will continue to champion vernacular buildings in particular.

Our President continues to amaze us with his energy and prolific

production of books. Sir Charles Brett's *Buildings of North Co Down* appeared to the usual plaudits last spring, and had an instantly positive effect on our bank balance as well as allowing us as publishers to bask in some reflected glory. Sadly he has said this will be his last book in this series, although a new main author has now been identified who will no doubt seek to emulate Sir Charles' wit and wisdom as he continues the work. It was good to see Country Life feature Sir Charles recently in its series about great conservationists. He continues to keep a supportive and very close eye on our work.

Our finances remain fully stretched, and we need the help and involvement of all our members to put our message across and ensure that we can meet our commitments. Do persuade your friends to join; and do remember that gifts and bequests make it feasible for us to tackle more expensive or long term activities than would otherwise be possible. And if you want to keep up to date with our activities, do look at our website (www.uahs.co.uk) - it may not be updated monthly as it should be, but it will always be more up to date than this annual summary.

ORDER IN THE COURTS

Political correctness continues to damage architecture. The insistence on putting ramps alongside the front steps of every public building must surely grate with some disabled visitors as much as it does with their able-bodied counterparts. In addition, Northern Ireland has its own form of political correctness in the enthusiasm for removing emblems from buildings.

This led to a plan to take down the royal coat of arms from our historic courthouses, which would have removed significant elements from their interiors. The Society's President, Sir Charles Brett, brilliantly came up with a formula to allow them to be retained, pointing out that many courthouses in the Republic have kept their arms.

We weren't going to repair the buildings because we were always going to develop them and bought them on that understanding. The council is being devious by trying to prop up the facades. (Neil Westbrook, owner of three listed Georgian buildings which Manchester City Council was having to save from collapse, September 2002).

TILLIE & HENDERSON

Throughout 2002 there were ugly rumours that the planners would approve the demolition of the B+ listed former shirt factory of Tillie & Henderson. Built in red brick on the city side of the Craigavon Bridge, it was the biggest factory of its kind in the world when it was built, and one of the earliest of the massive shirt factories which made Londonderry wealthy. Opened in 1857, it had housed a thousand workers by the time it was mentioned in Karl Marx's *Das Kapital*, and more than four thousand in its heyday around 1940. Its main elevation was built in 1865 by J G Ferguson and was one of the landmarks of Derry.

Several former factories in the city have already been restored and converted to new uses as offices or housing, and it was reasonable that the 120-bedroom hotel proposed by Diljit Rana of Andras House Ltd could be fitted inside the shell of the old factory. Andras House maintained that the property was in poor condition, and there was some use of the derelict building by drinkers, but the case for retaining the building looked good, and the UAHS and Foyle Civic Trust were lobbying consistently through the year for its restoration and the serving of repairs notices to keep vandals out of the property.

Suddenly, at the time of the firemen's strike when the Army's Yellow Goddesses were struggling to deal with fires in buildings of any height, a spate of over thirty fires were set in the empty factory on successive nights. Most barely damaged it, but on the night of 3 December (three nights before a similarly traumatic fire gutted part of Edinburgh's Old Town) several fires were lit at different locations and these succeeded in destroying the roof of the factory. The water pumped into the building by six fire appliances to douse the fire left a risk of potential dry rot, but inspection of the factory afterwards showed how local the actual fire damage had been. Paint on most of the cast iron columns supporting the massive timber beams had not even been blistered by the heat, while traces of earlier fires which had petered out after charring the surface of the heavy timber floors could still be seen. Although parts of the building were up to six stories, much of it was no more than three stories in height and the compartmented structure meant that instability was localised.

Contradictory engineers' reports were circulated, but it was obvious that even such a massive fire had not left the building in much worse structural condition than it had been before, and the UAHS and Hearth were involved in discussions with the Foyle Civic Trust and local politicians immediately after the fire to set up a local building preservation trust that could tackle the restoration in the event of the owners refusing to carry out restoration.

When the planners eventually came to Derry City Council shortly before Christmas with a recommendation to permit demolition, the debate ended with the Council unanimously calling for restoration of the factory. The Historic Buildings Council was of the same view and Environment & Heritage Service even took out an interim injunction to prevent demolition. It looked as if a major disaster could be turned into a conservation victory, however Pyrrhic .

Then the temporary injunction granted to EHS was lifted by a judge on 20 December because they were unwilling to indemnify Andras against possible claims arising from the building's condition, and with several roads around the factory closed and local people in the shadow of the



Part of the main elevation after the fire showing lettering, window opens and even much of the cornice, intact.

darkened ruin feeling cut off as a result, the arguments became muddier. Finally, immediately after the Christmas holiday (and technically just outside the remit of this 2002 newsletter) Andras moved the bulldozers in and smoothly (and completely without authorisation) removed Tillie's brick by brick to leave a cleared site in readiness for its new building. Even as we go to press some months later no Listed Building Consent for the demolition has been forthcoming, and the operation is technically illegal.

The loss of this building was seen by many locals as a severe body blow. It was not the finest of buildings architecturally speaking, but it was a well-loved local landmark and it held much of the 19th century history of the city in its walls. It could surely have been converted to the proposed new use as a hotel, or lent itself to many other uses. The apparent paralysis of the DoE in dealing with a major crisis like this was frustrating. If they were going to oppose the demolition it needed to be done promptly, and they are now faced with a *fait accompli* - not even the bricks remain on the site for a reconstruction of the facades. If they refuse it now, it will be a meaningless exercise, but if they grant approval it will be seen as caving in to force majeure. Developers all over the province must have followed the first few days after the fire with bated breath; their hearts may even have stopped for a moment when they heard about the injunction; but they will be breathing quite easily again now - and looking complacently at any listed buildings in the way of plans they may have for other sites.



Although the roof was lost in the fire, much of the interior was hardly touched by the fire - these cast iron pillars were not even scorched.

THE POET'S HOUSE AND THE NEW MINISTER

No.16 Ashley Avenue, off Belfast's Lisburn Road, was at one time a decent but not unusual double-fronted semi-detached red brick house dating from the 1880s. Then from 1967 till 1972 Seamus Heaney, then a lecturer in English at Queen's University, lived there with his young family and it became a centre for the group of writers and poets who were to put Northern Ireland on the literary map. In 1969 Heaney worked on his second book, *Door into the Dark*, in the house. Over the years since then the house had been passed from developer to developer, declining into disrepair and becoming seen only as an obstacle to the development of a landlocked site behind it.

Last spring the Society and Belfast City Council were supporting the calls of local residents for it to be listed, as it appeared to be under real threat of demolition. It had apparently already been considered and rejected for listing as it had "no architectural merit". However it would have been possible for it to be listed on purely historical grounds, and despite its



The Heaney house in process of demolition.

disrepair a considerable proportion of its original fabric remained.

The new Minister for the Environment, Dermot Nesbitt, made strong noises about using the stick of enforcement to improve the planning process. As builders moved in and started dismantling the house, the Minister said he had asked his officials to look again urgently at listing, but added "I have no evidence to suggest that he is going to demolish the building and no reason for thinking that he will." The next day the builders were out in the open with their bulldozers and the house was razed to the ground.

The developers, Convis, were acting within the law, but obviously decided to move in before the building could be listed. The City Council, bidding to become European Capital of Culture, was furious that a potential tourism attraction had been destroyed, and the Minister was highly embarrassed. Why could the building not have been placed under a preservation order while its merits were considered again? Why had it not been listed the first time when its pedigree was well known and it was capable of restoration as at the very least a "typical" example of Victorian Belfast suburbia, with an important historical association?

I made sure the developer knew what we were doing in reconsidering the listing issue. I say shame on him. (Dermot Nesbitt, Minister for the Environment, following the demolition, May 2002).

Poor Dermot must be wishing he had never heard of 16 Ashley Avenue, the Belfast home of Nobel laureate Seamus Heaney. Just hours before it was turned into rubble, the Minister was assuring the public that the house was in 'no imminent danger'... Unbelievably, more properties are currently being delisted than are being added to the register. The current resurvey is grinding on at a snail's pace and Heaven knows how many more gems will be lost before it is completed... Armagh residents will remember that the destruction of Ogle Street led to the developer being fined less than the price of a secondhand Ford Fiesta. The culture is one of demolish first, negotiate later. (Steven King, Belfast Telegraph May 2000).

While it would be madness to bring all development to a halt... the flattening of a potentially historic house is an unedifying spectacle, especially in a city that is bidding to become European City of Culture. (Belfast Telegraph editorial, 25 May 2002, following the demolition of the Heaney house).

THEOLOGY FOR BEGINNERS

The Society is on the lookout for a building at risk which it can restore as its offices, probably in association with Hearth with whom it shares the present office. It is looking for a building of character which requires major expenditure to bring it back into use, and ideally in a central Belfast location. It was with some excitement that we looked over a building known as the Principal's House, at the back of Lanyon's Union Theological College, when it came on the market last summer. It was well preserved internally, with most of its original panel doors, fireplaces and cornices, along with most of its fine staircase, while the original sash windows were generally in excellent condition, but its stonework was in very poor condition and required major repairs. Exactly what we wanted, and what was more it was in a conservation area and surrounded by listed buildings in College Green and Clough Williams-Ellis' Christian Science church, as well as the College, a Grade A-listed complex.

Then we noticed a sign up advertising a site which appeared to refer to the small patch of land at the end of the other wing of the College, and it became apparent that building work was under way on the College itself. On making further enquiries, we realised that we had missed a planning application that had been in the papers on Christmas Eve 2001 for "alterations to 108 Botanic Avenue". Examining the application, which had been processed by the planners with commendable speed, leading to its approval less than two months after it was lodged, we found that it comprised a new lift shaft that would rise above the front elevation, dormer windows that were crudely detailed along one wing, a new apartment block to be erected alongside newly-blocked windows at the end of one wing, conversion of the Principal's house into five flats with loss of fireplaces and most of the interior, new car parking all round the building, and worst of all a glass coffee shop to be built in the courtyard behind the college with glass links into the chapel and the main Victorian staircase of the College.

We were appalled by the proposals. They would have been bad for any listed building, but were incredibly crass alterations to be proposing to a Grade A building. We talked to the architects (who shall remain

nameless) and they said yes they were surprised that the alterations had got permission so easily too. We talked to the planners, who wrung their hands and said that permission had been granted and could not be undone. We spoke to the College, who said that they had to attract students and had no alternative, and anyway they had permission. We debated at length whether we should proceed with the bid for the Principal's House to try to restore it, or whether to withdraw on the basis that any bid we made for the house would be used to fund the damaging works to the rest of the College. In the end, with great sadness, we decided to withdraw from the bidding for the Principal's House and to continue lobbying for modifications to the proposals.

This may be caviare to the general. Most people will be unaware of these alterations, and many others will think them minor changes necessary for progress. But if Grade A listing means anything, it means that alterations should be restricted to the bare minimum, and should be of the very highest quality. Our intervention brought into the open the fact that the Historic Buildings Council had not been consulted on the proposals, and that the decision within EHS had involved only one architect. Procedures for dealing with buildings of this importance will now be tightened, but great damage has already been done.



The College, showing the new lift shaft and other roof structures on the right hand side; the original clean lines remain on the left.

VICTORIA SQUARE

An eight day public inquiry into a proposed £250m development at Victoria Square took place in January 2002. The scheme was designed by BDP for Dutch developers MDC, and the Society was represented amongst the third party objectors, most of whom were property owners objecting to possible vesting.

Curiously, the scheme was being sponsored by the Department for Social Development, although it was commercial, and the inquiry was into whether the DSD should be allowed to vest up to seventy parcels of land required to support the scheme, rather than into its planning merits as such, which are to be decided as part of a conventional planning application. Even more unusually, unlike the usual format of developer appealing against a refusal by Planning Service, this involved the DSD defending its proposal to develop Victoria Square comprehensively against an opposing unsuccessful developer, WSD. The fact that DSD had already appointed a chosen developer was ultra vires, and the actual scheme being worked up could not be mentioned, since it was a purely academic inquiry into whether the scheme could proceed in principle.

As a result the planners were not taking part, and EHS expressed no objections to the scheme on the grounds of listed buildings since only two were involved. Its archaeological evidence essentially established that there would be important evidence uncovered in the course of development, but did not make a case for opposing it. Dr Paul Larmour as the objectors' historic buildings expert, provided some valuable comments on historic buildings but much of his case depended on the retention of street pattern, and the Society was a major objector on planning and historic buildings grounds, with its Central Belfast gazetteer providing a building-by-building examination of the area.

Rita Harkin ably led our team and dealt with cross-examination on our evidence defining the history of the area and the merits of significant but surprisingly unlisted buildings like the Kitchen Bar.

After some months the Planning Appeals Commission came out against the proposal, citing the Society's evidence as a large part of its grounds

for deciding that wholesale redevelopment of the area was unnecessary. The Minister for Social Development, Nigel Dodds, promptly announced that he proposed to ignore the PAC decision and was "minded" to give the scheme the go-ahead, but allowed a month for further comments. In the meantime the Assembly was dissolved and the decision went into limbo. However his direct rule successor, Des Browne, announced early in 2003 that he would allow the development to go ahead.

It seems incredible that the outcome of such a detailed and expensive public inquiry, carried out by the PAC, should be ignored by the government, particularly when the question of planning permission has still to be decided. Does this mean that the planning decision has already been made behind the scenes, or is it just allowing the developer to assemble his land so that he has so much muscle that Planning Service will find it virtually impossible to overrule him should they wish to do so? And why are the Kitchen Bar and the adjoining, very early, Telfair's Entry not listed? If they had been, perhaps EHS would have been able to put some of its architects up to join us in defending historic buildings in the area.

We are keeping involved as best we can in other retail schemes which impact on Belfast's conservation area by meeting with developers and feeding into the planning process.

As we go to press, we have learnt that the DoE have granted planning permission for the scheme, including the demolition of the Kitchen Bar. The open file system now available has made it possible for the press to pinpoint the weaknesses in the system that have led to this outcome. Unfortunately, transparent government still doesn't necessarily lead to good decisions.

I was appalled to learn of the extent to which the Presbyterian Church was prepared to defile a heritage which belongs to everyone and I would refer those who took this decision to Deuteronomy 27 v17: "Cursed be he who removes his neighbour's landmark. And all the people shall say Amen". ... How long will it be before Dermot Nesbitt, the responsible Minister, downgrades this fine set-piece by Sir Charles Lanyon, or worse, removes it from the list of historic buildings? (Letter to Belfast Telegraph referring to the Theological College proposals, August 2002).

CARNLOUGH DELISTINGS

The Society was amazed to learn of the delisting of no less than eighteen buildings in Carnlough. Sadly we are becoming used to the roll call of delistings, but to lose so many listings in a conservation area was unprecedented, the more so since there had been an agreement with the last Historic Buildings Council that no buildings would be de-listed in conservation areas until Article 4 Controls were in place to protect the details on which so much townscape character depends.

For whatever reason, the EHS decided last July to implement its Second Survey conclusion that a building like the Waterfall Bar, despite having a virtually unaltered 19c elevation, should be delisted because it had no interior worth recording, and that the extraordinary butcher's shop converted from a former windmill at the end of the High Street had "no historical or architectural interest". Ironically, one of the most altered buildings in the village, Philip Gibbons' house, which was badly damaged by repairs some years ago, remains listed. We are not suggesting that it be delisted, since it is historically one of the earliest houses in Carnlough, but we do feel the delisting of other buildings is unnecessary and very damaging. In particular, the group of two-storey terrace houses facing the harbour, none of which is individually important, have tremendous group value as the setting of the harbour. As for the delisting of the town library, it is a gratuitous snub at the efforts made to restore the building from dereliction following fire damage some twenty years ago. Obviously very little survived of the interior, but the restored building is a vital adjunct to the bridge that spans the street beside it.

Once again, this shows up the problem of the Second Survey's admirable concentration on the detail of individual buildings. Adding to our knowledge of listed buildings is splendid, but removal of protection from important groups of buildings because they are not individually listable is extremely damaging to our townscapes.

GLENOE

It's getting to be an old story, but yet again the consequences of de-listing have come to the fore in the little village of Glenoe on the hills above Larne. Twenty years ago this was a very complete hamlet of small houses climbing up the hillside alongside the National Trust-owned waterfall, but the old mill was demolished and planning permission was granted for several gigantic bungalows that have subsequently been built at the top of the hill.

Hearth managed to acquire and restore most of a vernacular terrace at the top of the village, but several similar buildings below it have recently been delisted and there is a planning application in to replace one with a new development. Sadly, the message being received by the development control planners is that delisted buildings are of even less value than ones which had never been listed in the first place, and they are minded to grant approval to new development.

In a short time this once-charming village is losing almost all the features that led to it being one of the most popular postcard scenes for Edwardian photographers. There is an urgent need for EHS to start looking again at the listing of groups of buildings - regardless of whether the individual components have their interiors intact or not. Listing is not just an academic exercise, but an essential part of the planning process.

All conservatism is based upon the idea that if you leave things alone, you leave them as they are. But you do not. If you leave a thing alone, you leave it to a torrent of change. If you leave a white post alone, it will soon be a black post. If you particularly want it to be white, you must be always painting it again: that is you must be always having a revolution. Briefly, if you want the old white post, you must have a new white post. But this, which is true even of inanimate things, is in a quite special and terrible sense true of all human things. (GK Chesterton, quoted in RIAI handout 2002)

This is the case where a listed building was given demolition consent on the grounds that the owners did not like it, supported by the fact that players on the Wentworth golf course did not like it either. (Alan Powers in Building Design on the case of "Greenside", a 1937 house at Wentworth by Connell, Ward & Lucas, which the Twentieth Century Society is trying to save against the odds).

ORMISTON HOUSE

Plans to turn Ormiston House, originally the home of Lord Pirrie of Harland & Wolff's and latterly a boarding department of Campbell College, into offices for the Assembly, appear at first sight to be an imaginative use for a building which has been hidden from the public in recent years as Police Authority property. However the plans involve a large area of car parking and a temporary office block in addition, which would destroy the immediate setting of the building. Surely there is scope for a development that would restore the building without ruining its context, but as this is Crown development it does not technically require planning permission.

Assembly member Jim Wells pointed out that over 90% of the site will remain green, and that the alternative would be for it to be sold for housing development at a much greater loss of setting. The recent decision over Cabin Hill [see page 17] suggests that that may no longer be a realistic alternative, and if the Assembly falls the plan may not proceed. The future of Ormiston remains undecided, but in principle the use of the building for legislative purposes would appear to be a sensible one.

HOLYWOOD

Pressure is growing amongst residents of Holywood, Co Down, for the designation of a conservation area in their town, and a very active Holywood Conservation Group has been set up to press its case. They were further motivated by the demolition of nos.1 and 3 Demesne Road as they were about to be listed. Notice had been given to the owners that EHS wanted access to record the interior of the houses, and locals were aware that one house was still occupied. What they did not realise was that furniture was removed from it by dead of night, allowing the bulldozers to move in in June before the EHS survey could be carried out. This was virtually a repetition of the fate of Abingdon further along Demesne Road following a similar notice of intention to list [see Heritage Review no.1, 1998].

Two more houses nearby under threat of demolition for apartment development, at 9-11 Bangor Road were considered for listing but rejected

by EHS as being of insufficient merit despite the existence of complete Victorian interiors and they being very early examples of semi-detached houses in north Down. Ironically, the monuments section of EHS have made stronger case for retention of the building than the buildings side, but the lack of interest from the latter was crucial in that it tends to override the value placed on the buildings by the Planning Service and others. While EHS see their role as only being concerned with listed or scheduled structures everything which is not so protected will be seen as not just less important but actually unimportant.

GOSFORD CASTLE

At the end of 2000, the Department of Agriculture & Rural Development repossessed the neo-Norman Gosford Castle, one of Thomas Hopper's greatest achievements, from a consortium of businessmen who had been given a 99 year lease twenty years ago to run the building as a hotel. In the intervening years, the castle has deteriorated seriously and even its magnificent library is affected by dry rot.

Its restoration was going to be a massive and expensive project, and the Department invited tenders in the spring of 2002 from interested parties. A local group had formed the Gosford Castle Trust in readiness, and another building preservation trust known as the Hopper Trust was set up, but the DARD decided in the end to offer the lease to commercial developers, Lagan Developments and Dado Developments, with Boyd Partnership as architects.

Questions have been raised about the extent of enabling development that the developer will require to help fund the restoration in the absence of the lottery grants that might have been available to charitable trusts, and we can only hope that this will not lead to a repeat of the last lease. Interiors may be compromised in the search to maximise residential units, and it would appear that there is to be no public access. Gosford Castle is a spectacular building of great importance, and it deserves full and proper restoration.

COSY NOOK

The Society and the National Trust were concerned about the scale of alterations at a listed building called the Nook near the Giant's Causeway during 2001, and indeed the Trust initiated High Court proceedings against the listed building approval which had been granted. Seaport Investments effectively gutted the building and added an extension as large again as well as changing the setting with the addition of a large car park. Ironically, the DoE had had a choice of two applications, one quite modest in scale and the other effectively swamping the historic building. They chose to approve both applications.

We are puzzled how the EHS can approve such extensive alterations to a building which they are happy to keep on the list, while they are delisting other buildings with far more original fabric than now remains at The Nook. When the Second Survey comes round to the Causeway, will The Nook be delisted too, on account of alterations approved by the very department responsible for listing?

TO PROSECUTE OR NOT TO PROSECUTE?

Nearly four years after the unauthorised demolition of Clough House in Co Down, the DoE finally decided not to prosecute the owner. Although the Department claims that it attaches great importance to the protection of listed buildings, and that its policy is to pursue illegal demolition "without due delay", this case was dropped for apparently technical reasons. No permission exists for redevelopment of the site, so that the owner has gained nothing from his actions, and a fragment of the building still stands should anyone feel inclined to attempt its reconstruction.

Rock House in Portstewart, demolished in 2001, is still going through the Department's legal mill. Another case, Green's shop in Armagh, was taken, but ignominiously thrown out due to procedural errors.

Listing does not mean that a building is kept in aspic, it simply allows a pause for thought before it is irrevocably damaged or destroyed forever. (English Heritage spokesman, quoted after listing an NCP car park in London's West End, June 2002)

The structure should be preserved because of its "car-parkness", said Piers Gough interviewed on Channel 4 defending the listing of the car park.

GOOD NEWS

Following representations from the Society and the CS Lewis Society, Little Lea, the house where CS Lewis grew up and found inspiration for *The Lion The Witch and the Wardrobe*, has been listed.

Cabin Hill (*see Heritage Review 5*) has now been listed, and a planning appeal found that not only should the house be protected, but also that a proposed development of its walled garden and stables should be refused.

Moneymore Courthouse has been restored as a community building (by Manor Architects, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund). The Caledon Regeneration Partnership has restored the long-derelect stone Mill Terrace (McCarter & McGaw architects) with its diamond-latticed windows.

Clonard House in north Belfast, built in 1842 and later converted to a convent, has been restored as part of a sheltered housing scheme by Oaklee Housing Association. The UAHS had objected to original plans for the site which called for complete demolition of the listed building because its levels did not suit proposed new buildings.

When the gasworks in Carrickfergus closed in 1964 it lay derelict until a local group was formed to restore it, and the Carrickfergus Gasworks Trust opened the building, restored by Consarc Conservation, as a museum in September 2002.

THRONE HOSPITAL

Two years ago this listed polychromatic brick building by Thomas Jackson, perched on an elevated site in the north of the city overlooking the M2, was burnt out, tightly surrounded by new housing, and very much at risk. It had featured in our Buildings at Risk, and been investigated by the Belfast Buildings Preservation Trust.

Since then it has changed hands and an ambitious restoration has been undertaken by Donnelly O'Neill architects, funded in part by the DoE EHS historic buildings grant. They have now moved into the landmark building, and we wish them well in their distinctive premises.

BUILDING REGULATIONS

New building regulations are now coming out which require buildings to meet stringent requirements in respect of sustainability and access. These have obvious implications for listed buildings, which have single glazing, lack cavity walls, and depend on ventilation for proper functioning. Moreover almost all traditional buildings have a step at the front door, and many have a flight of steps.

While there are no exemptions for listed buildings, English Heritage has produced some guidance suggesting ways of improving insulation. Rather than putting in plastic windows (which are not in any case truly sustainable, being very energy intensive in their manufacture), much can be done by draughtproofing (while still ensuring that there is enough ventilation), and the use of shutters or heavy curtains. Secondary glazing is of course another alternative for large windows. Roof insulation is usually achievable, but wall insulation can only be managed internally, and not even then if it affects cornices and architraves.

Means of access for the disabled is another challenge. The legislation does not apply to existing houses, but will require all service providers (churches, shops, public buildings) to make “reasonable” physical alterations by 2004. On the face of it this leads to some of the massively expensive alterations that some building owners have undertaken, but often there can be other ways of providing the “service”. While social contact is very desirable, in a world of increasingly virtual communications it is less important for any of us to be physically present in a shop or office in order to obtain the service we require.

Reasonableness is a flexible concept, and building owners can strike a balance between different ways of offering their service, the cost of modifications, and the damage to a listed building, before deciding how to proceed. No doubt there will be many hasty and ill-thought-out alterations made over the next year, but with imagination it should be possible to meet these new requirements without seriously compromising our historic environment. The Society is in discussion with EHS about how the new legislation will be allowed to affect listed buildings.

LEGISLATION

The Draft PPS 12, *Housing in Settlements*, has now appeared, and we were particularly pleased to see that it acknowledges in its glossary that brownfield sites do not include “private and public gardens, sports and recreation grounds, woodlands and amenity spaces.” This point has been made many times by the Society at planning appeals in opposing developers’ arguments that development in gardens constitutes a sustainable housing solution.

The UAHS has commented on the Issues Papers for many Area Plans during the year - BMAP (the Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan), Ards and Down, Magherafelt, Banbridge/ Newry and Mourne, and the Northern Area plan. We are also continuing our useful presentations to Councils.

PLASTIC WINDOWS

Following a planning appeal during the summer which allowed plastic windows to be used in a building in the Killyleagh conservation area we asked for a meeting with the Planning Appeals Commission to establish the ground rules which they were applying to plastic windows.

In this particular case the building was a new one and the windows were on an internal elevation rather than the public street, so it was not as damaging as might have been the case. The PAC made it clear that it was aware of its responsibilities to retain the character of conservation areas, and how important correct fenestration was. However they pointed out that the prior existence of so many plastic windows in our conservation areas made it difficult to take a hard line on new ones. Planning guidance often emphasises appearance rather than materials, making it possible for developers to argue that plastic does the same job.

Moreover, in the absence of Article 4 Directions, which control such details, it would be perfectly legal for someone to remove the timber windows that had just been put in and to put plastic ones in their place. The Society has been calling on the DoE to implement Article 4 controls for many years, and this makes clear how vital they are if the planners are to expect the PAC to support their efforts to retain Conservation Area character.

ARE YOU WATCHING BIG BROTHER?

You probably weren't watching Big Brother, although you couldn't have avoided reading about it unless you never looked at a newspaper. However it is even less likely that the name of the company responsible for it caught your eye, or that you realised the name of Endemol connected it to a wide-ranging series of television programmes called *Restoration* being transmitted this summer. Endemol is indeed the common link as producer of both programmes, and we have had considerable contact with them during 2002 as they considered numerous projects we drew to their attention. There is to be a whole programme going out nationwide on buildings at risk in Northern Ireland, and one of the projects will be going forward to compete for a substantial grant that will assist in its restoration.

HEARTH

Most restoration projects take around five years from inception to completion, a few rather less and some considerably longer. During 2002, Hearth had no building projects of its own on site, but that does not mean it was doing nothing. With approximately a hundred houses in management there is always maintenance and improvement work going on, and plans for new projects are being processed steadily. A major lottery application, for College Green House in Belfast, was approved in 2002, and the project should be on site in 2003. Another application was being submitted for Portrush Town Hall, and negotiations were afoot to purchase buildings in Lisburn and Ballymena, and to get on site with a project in Templepatrick. All this preparation should make 2003 a busy year.

During 2002, Hearth had three projects on site for other clients. The largest was the restoration of Sentry Hill, a 19th century farmhouse at Carnmoney, for Newtownabbey Borough Council which will be establishing a museum in the building. Sentry Hill became well known about fifteen years ago when Prof Brian Walker published his book on the house and its extraordinary collection of photographs and documents. The Council acquired the house when the last of the McKinney family died some years ago, and subsequent listing of the house and a grant from the



The main house at Sentry Hill with its two-tier porch, and the barn to the left.

Heritage Lottery Fund made the restoration possible. Although building work is now finished, it will be another year before the museum is open to the public.

A second project for the Irish Landmark Trust has involved the restoration of the lighthouse keepers' cottages at Blackhead on the Co Antrim coast. Although very exposed, the buildings had been well maintained and the project has not involved any major structural problems. More difficult in many ways was the restoration of a clachan at Ballydugan outside Downpatrick. Although the buildings were not listed and had been derelict for many years, the owners were keen to retain their character while converting them to holiday cottages, and within the limitations of quite a limited budget this has been attempted. Some buildings had been roofless for many years, with trees growing out of the fieldstone walls; parts were built with clay rather than mortar; some old shutters and doors had survived, although most were missing; and there were cobbled barn floors to retain, stone kitchen floors to lift and re-lay. A similar, but smaller, project has just started at Tobermoney on the other side of Downpatrick.

EDUCATION PROGRAMME

The Education Project, which started in 2000, is all about investing in the future; today's 7-11 year olds are tomorrow's members and we want to encourage awareness and involvement from an early age.

The built heritage is a wonderful, ready-made teaching resource.

Buildings can be used to teach History, Geography and Art/Craft, but as well as this, role plays, debates, discussion and research work give an added dimension to the literacy programme. Children can be involved in mathematical activities such as estimating and measuring, exploring shape and symmetry and data handling, or they can identify different materials and investigate their qualities and uses as part of the science programme. They can learn to design and make models, create a CD of interesting buildings in their locality and share information with other schools via the internet.

To date our Education Officer, Angela Fitzpatrick, has worked with schools in Fermanagh, Antrim and Down, providing personal help with classroom lessons and site visits and guiding research on local areas. The highlight of the year was an exhibition of children's work held in the Corncrane Centre, Castlewellan, in June. This was a cross community project developed over a six-month period, undertaken by two local schools. We will be at Gracehill with a programme of children's activities for European Heritage Open Days in September.

Our first teaching pack, *Looking Back Moving Forward: Exploring Our Built Heritage*, is shortly to be piloted in a number of primary schools. On the theme of 'homes', it has background information for teachers and worksheets for children that are designed to be appealing, interesting and provocative.

If you have close contact with your local school, please let them know that this service is available. Why not encourage your children or grandchildren to investigate their local town village or townland, adopt a building and watch it carefully? We need your help to spread the word.

BARNI

When the Society appointed Helen Hossack as its first Buildings At Risk Officer nearly ten years ago, we got used to referring to BAR catalogues. The jargon has changed following the conclusion with EHS of a new funding agreement for what has become known as Buildings At Risk Northern Ireland - BARNI for short.

There had been a hiatus of over a year between Harriet Devlin's departure and the new agreement being finalised, and although this is a very similar undertaking, its focus initially has been to create an on-line Register by the digitisation of the previous records, with a view to linking them directly to EHS' website of listed buildings. While this reinforces the emphasis on statutorily listed buildings at risk, a proportion of unprotected buildings of interest will continue to be included.

Our new Heritage Projects Officer, as he is officially designated, is Andrew McClelland, who took up his post in June. A building surveyor by training, he is from Co Armagh but studied in Edinburgh and had recently completed a conservation course in Slovakia where he met his now wife. He brings a sound practical eye to the post, combined with an understanding of the problems faced by rural building owners in particular, and he has made an excellent start in the new post.

The hope is that these initiatives will lead to new lives for old buildings. There are also plans to update and reissue the *Directory of Traditional Building Skills* and *Funding Directory*.

UAHS EVENTS 2002

The Society's events programme began with a flourish this year and more than a hint of the exotic. Our President, Sir Charles Brett, in a double billing with Terence Reeves-Smyth, shared his enthusiasm for the palace at Alupka. On a cruise of the Black Sea in 2000 Sir Charles became fascinated by the Vorontsov palace. The building, which is attributed to Edward Blore, is unique; the north front is in an English or Scottish Baronial style while the south front is a mixture of Moorish and Moghul

styles. Sir Charles went back to the Crimea in April 2001, accompanied by Terence, and they spent a week investigating the palace and its designed landscape. The lecture, which was beautifully illustrated, brought some interesting and hitherto unknown facts before its Belfast audience as the lecturers believe that no one else has collated the drawings in the Victoria and Albert museum with those in Alupka.

In April Sir Charles returned to the podium of the Ulster Museum to give us a preview of his latest magnum opus, *Buildings of North County Down*. His lecture, illustrated, as was the book, with Tony Merrick's photographs, whetted appetites for his book which was as erudite and interesting as previous volumes. At the other end of the year we invited Dr Edward McParland to speak in the Armagh Club about his previously published *Public Architecture in Ireland 1680-1760*. The Club has an antique atmosphere which gave the lecture a special aura. Our wide ranging series of lectures this year also included one on the restoration of the Dublin City Hall by the architect concerned, Paul Arnold, and the Big Houses of the Mourne by Harriet Devlin.

If the lectures were wide ranging so were the outings! A one day visit to Fingal included a tour of the restored windmills, watermill and Victorian kitchen at Skerries Mills followed by a tour of the County Hall. This award winning building, by Bucholz McEvoy Architects, opened in 1998, stands five storeys high and has an impressive glass front. After lunch we went across the road to view work in progress at Swords Castle. Here Fingal County Council have commenced a programme of repairs to the walled enclosure complex of buildings, formerly the manorial estate of the Archbishops of Dublin, which date from 1200.

In April the Society paid a visit to the newly restored Great Hall at Queen's University. David Evans, writing in *Perspective*, stated "The Great Hall at Queen's has been refurbished to a level of sumptuous opulence befitting its location at the heart of Lanyon's masterpiece. The craftsmanship is exemplary and the design reveals a scrupulous respect for period detail and for historic precedent." Members had the opportunity of seeing the refurbishment for themselves and discussing the philosophy with Dawson Stelfox, David Evans and Karen Latimer.

The Society's outing in June included a visit to the restored Ulster Canal stores in Clones where we viewed some interesting examples of Clones lace and then went walkabout in the town. Members saw the historic square and the round tower before visiting the railway terminus. Afterwards we had the opportunity of seeing the lovely gardens at Hilton Park before proceeding to visit the ruins of Tynan Abbey and the high crosses in the demesne. In July a visit to Donegal began with a visit to Liam McCormick's round church, St Aengus, at Burt before proceeding to Letterkenny Cathedral. Later there was an opportunity to see the Glebe Gallery at Church Hill and Glenveagh Castle and the outing concluded with a visit to Dunlewey House.

In August the Society paid a visit to Barons Court, courtesy of the Duke and Duchess of Abercorn. Afterwards members went to Sion Mills where they were guided around the mill by members of the Sion Mills Building Preservation Trust who have exciting plans for its future. In 2001 the Society organised its first ever Historic Building Owners Day in Dyan Mill, Co. Tyrone (see *Heritage Review* no.5). This year the venue for a similar event was Ballywalter Park, by kind permission of Lord Dunleath. Speakers explained planning law and listed building legislation as well as the joys and beauty inherent in all types of historic buildings. Following a tour of Ballywalter there was a practical demonstration on the use of lime by Dan McPolin and the day concluded with a visit to Lord Dunleath's newly restored dovecote. The success of these information days has encouraged the Society to devise a series of such events across Northern Ireland, and we are currently seeking funding for the venture.

On a week-end visit to Rathlin Island in November members were regaled with its history by Bertie Currie as he drove them around by bus. They visited the West, East and Rue Point lighthouses as well as enjoying the bird life and natural heritage of the island. During the visit they stayed in the Manor House, now owned by the National Trust. The year concluded with the Society's Open House at 66 Donegall Pass where there was musical entertainment, mulled wine and delicious traditional Slovakian cookies for all. Our thanks to all who organised or led outings and gave lectures in 2002 and to the members who contributed so much to our events programme.

OBITUARY

Park Lane Hillsborough is a small lane leading up behind the former Council offices in Hillsborough - but it is not to be a lane for much longer. The intimate route is to be widened, which the Planning Appeals Commission argued would enhance views of Roden House. No.2 Park Lane is the sole remnant of a former row of 19th century houses and the agricultural outbuildings were once ancillary to the Inn. Despite their historic value, and the potential they have to offer, the PAC found that the proposals would not result in any harm to the character and appearance of the conservation area. The new buildings are to be sensitively designed using traditional materials, but with greater vision the existing buildings of interest could have been incorporated into this residential scheme.

1-2 Corry Square, Newry have been delisted and are to be replaced with a large and brutal block of one-bedroom apartments. Nos 3, 4, 5 and 6 Corry Square have also been de-listed. Do they await a similar fate?

The demolition of two Arts and Crafts houses in New Road, Donaghadee, opposed by the Society and local residents who wanted to see their Conservation Area extended, was allowed by the PAC in February and has been followed by a new apartment development on the site.

Most of the famous wards at the Royal Victoria Hospital which contained the first air conditioning have been demolished. (In addition to this technological interest, they were also very dramatic architecturally). The only consolation (and it is a slight one) is that at least they were granted the dignity of listed building consent rather than mere de-listing. The actual plant is being retained.

In February a chunk of North Street just outside the Belfast city centre conservation area was demolished, including Gresham Arcade and part of the Elephant Buildings which housed the former Elephant Bar. Almost immediately the elephant itself was removed from the remaining part of the building. While mostly in poor condition, these were all buildings of character that should have been kept as part of the city centre conservation area.

The five foot high elephant, which had been salvaged from a much earlier building when North Street was widened in the 1890s and erected on the Elephant Buildings, has given rise to some mystification since its disappearance. Not only are there questions as to where it has gone, but there was also a rumour that it was no longer the original elephant, but a fibreglass replica installed there some ten years ago. Either way, its loss, and that of the neighbouring buildings, have sadly lessened the attractiveness of North Street.

UPDATE

Very few planning issues arise and are resolved within a calendar year to suit these newsletters, so here are a few headlines relating to recent or current concerns:

Proposals to demolish buildings at 18-20 Wellington Park Belfast have been refused (in the wake of the refusal of 32-34 covered in our last issue); and similar applications to demolish 72 North Road and Cathedral Buildings in Donegall Street have been withdrawn. Another application for demolition of 2-4 Holyrood is still not determined.

Less satisfactorily, the application to build some three hundred houses around the listed Gocean Lodge at Killyleagh, which is being opposed by the National Trust and RSPB as well as the Society, is still ongoing. Still worse, the appeal to build an apartment block at 33 Massey Avenue was upheld (that is, found in favour of the applicant), and an application has now been made for office use there. Another appeal was upheld for the demolition of a 1920s bungalow in Malone Park.

Another ongoing case is Lower Garfield Street in Belfast, for which the latest of a series of applications has now been made by William Ewart. This still proposes only facade retention, with demolitions on Donegall Street in contrast with several excellent schemes in the area. Meetings with the developers are ongoing, and some significant improvements have been achieved.

NATIONAL GUTTERS DAY

The Society joined with the Mourne Heritage Trust and Belfast Buildings Preservation Trust to co-ordinate National Gutters Day, a UK-wide initiative sparked off by the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. An Awards for All grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund enabled us to run a campaign which resulted in all but two Councils participating in gutter cleaning. The event received much media attention and the associated schools competition resulted in a rich variety of submissions on the theme of “A Stitch in Time” featuring historic buildings.

In case any of you were wondering where SPAB dug up the quote “It never occurred to her that if the drainpipes of a house are clogged, the rain may collect in pools on the roof, and she suspected no danger until she discovered a crack in the walls” - it is from Flaubert’s *Madame Bovary*.

BOOK REVIEW

C. E. B. Brett, *Buildings of North County Down*, with photographs by Anthony C. W. Merrick (Belfast: UAHS, 2002). ISBN 0 900457 57 0. £28.00.

This is the third in a series which has already covered the buildings of County Antrim (1996) and County Armagh (1999) and the format and approach adopted is the same: a handsome A4 volume gives descriptive notes on each of the chosen buildings, liberally illustrated with photographs and on occasion reproductions of watercolours, drawings and plans. The photographer in the earlier volumes was Michael O’Connell but in this instance the camera was in the capable hands of Anthony Merrick and his beautifully composed photographs add much to the usefulness and attractiveness of the book. In addition to the black and white photographs accompanying each entry there are 42 handsome full colour illustrations which in part duplicate the black and white photos and in part supplement them.

The author has defined North County Down to include all of “the District Council areas of North Down, Ards and Castlereagh, and those

parts of the District Council areas of Lisburn and Craigavon which lie within the old boundaries of the county” (p.x). The map reproduced as end papers makes this clear to anyone whose knowledge of local government boundaries is hazy. This is an area which includes a wide variety of buildings, some of national importance, and 183 have been chosen for inclusion in the volume. As in the earlier volumes these are grouped in eight sections: Antiquities, Fortifications and Ruins (13), Churches and Chapels (32), Grand Houses (24), Clergy Houses (10), Middling-Sized Houses (46), Small Houses and Cottages (19), Public Buildings (28), and lastly, Follies, Monuments and Memorials (11).

The buildings one would expect to find are of course here, Hillsborough Castle (no 51), Mount Stewart (no 53), Hillsborough Parish Church (no 20), Ballywalter Park (no 59) Scrabo Tower (no 176), and the author refers the reader to the existing publications about them (many by his own hand) and does not weary with needless repetition of what has been written elsewhere, giving instead concise summaries and his own observations of the situation at the time of writing. But there are also many surprises, not least in the section of middling-sized houses where the author confesses that he was delighted to find so many of charm and quality. Readers will have their own favourites, but Seamount, Cultra (no 124), a rare example of example of domestic architecture by T. F. O. Rippingham, caught the eye of this reviewer. The public buildings also include some that might be unfamiliar to all but the expert; Liddell’s Mill in Donaghcloney (no 156) with its magnificent octagonal brick chimney rising to 145 feet is included as a rare survivor of an Ulster linen mill.

While Sir Charles celebrates much that is good in Ulster’s architectural heritage he does not exempt from criticism those who have helped despoil it. Numbered among these are the minister and people of Castlereagh Presbyterian Church (no 34), who unwisely persisted in their determination to add an inappropriate extension to the fine neo-classical building of 1834, and the Planning Service who allowed the building of “a very ill-placed, ugly and intrusive modern bungalow” across the road from Ballycopeland Windmill, Millisle (no 155), the only surviving working windmill in all of Ireland

The pages of the work are enlivened with Sir Charles's personal reminiscences of his association with many of the buildings. He was born in County Down and spent much of his childhood there. He recalls visiting Grey Point Fort, Helen's Bay (no 13) as a boy of seven or eight and his humiliation when he was reprimanded for declining the offer of a cup of tea, asking instead for milk. At his uncle's house Glenganagh, Groomsport (no 55) he ate his first post-war banana, and about the same time he tried unsuccessfully to persuade his father to buy him the field surrounding the Windmill Stump, Greyabbey (no 87) so that he might plant an oak wood and restore the stump to a dwelling where he could spend his weekends. He recalls his and his aunt and cousins' embarrassment on discovering a soldier and his lass *in flagrante delicto* in the grounds of Islet Hill Farm, Groomsport (no 109) where the army at the time had a battery of anti-aircraft guns. Early in his career as a solicitor it fell to him to draft the lease of Hillsborough Fort (no 12) from the Marquis of Downshire to the Ministry of Finance. We learn too that Sir Charles intends that his final resting place will be in the graveyard of the Priory at Holywood (no 6).

I spotted only one error in this admirable publication and that on the very last page of the text. Entry no 183 is perhaps the most unusual in the entire work. Travellers by road from Bangor to Belfast will be familiar with the barn at Ballygilbert (no 183) where the Biblical text "For God so loved the world . . ." is painted in three foot high letters on its corrugated iron side. The barn was erected in about 1930 and the text painted for the first time. It was several times renewed until the barn was flattened by a gale in 1994. After rebuilding the text was repainted using old photographs as a guide. The author has fittingly named it the 'Pious Barn', but has got his biblical reference wrong. The text comes from the third chapter of Saint John's Gospel, not the fourth.

Sometimes even excellent Homer nods, and we can surely forgive this one slip as we look forward eagerly to the next volume in the series.

Wesley McCann

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

The Society depends on an active membership for its effectiveness. Members can help in its work in many ways - by monitoring planning applications, for example, or drawing attention to undesirable developments. The Society organises regular outings, expeditions, lectures and social events. Members also enjoy the privilege of buying all the Society's publications at a 25% discount (*see overleaf for a full list*).

Full Name(s)

Address

.....

..... Postcode

Telephone (home) (work)

E-mail address

Types of Membership

Please indicate type of membership being applied for:

Annual Membership	£14
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UAHS PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS, MONOGRAPHS AND ESSAYS

An Introduction to Modern Architecture	Ulster	Architectural Schizophrenia	£4.00
Fishmongers' Company in Ulster	£4.00	Malone House	£4.00
Moneymore and Draperstown	£8.00	The Workhouses of Ulster	£4.00
Irish Church Monuments	£8.00	Ballywalter Park	£4.00
J J McCarthy and the Gothic Revival in Ireland	£8.00	Hillsborough Castle	£4.50
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Mausolea in Ulster	£4.00	Buildings of Co Antrim	£24.00
Classical Churches in Ulster	£4.00	Gate Lodges of Ulster	£13.95
Roger Mulholland	£4.00	Stormont	£8.00
		Buildings of Co Armagh	£28.00
		Buildings of North Co Down	£28.00

LISTS AND GAZETTEERS

Queen's area of Belfast	£4.00	Towns and Villages of Mid Down	£4.00
Banbridge	£4.00	Donaghadee and Portpatrick	£4.00
Town of Monaghan	£4.00	Rathfriland and Hilltown	£4.00
West Antrim	£4.00	Malone and Stranmillis	£7.50
Craigavon (Omnibus)	£4.00	Buildings of Armagh	£6.50
Joy Street area of Belfast	£4.00	Central Belfast	£9.50
St Helier, Jersey	£4.00	Bangor (new edition)	£9.00

Orders for all the foregoing publications, and standing orders for future publications, may be sent to the Society at 66 Donegall Pass, Belfast BT7 1BU, and will be fulfilled subject to availability, and at the charges for postage and packing ruling at the date of order.

Many of the Society's early Lists are now out-of-print, and while we hope to bring out new editions of some them, the Secretary is happy to assist enquirers by making photocopies on request at cost from the copies held in the Society's office. The following items are now out of print:

Lisburn	Island of Rathlin
Portaferry and Strangford	Mourne
Antrim and Ballymena	North Derry
Downpatrick	Carrickfergus
City of Derry	Town of Cavan
Dungannon and Cookstown	An Introduction to Ulster Architecture
Glens of Antrim	Palm House and Botanic Gardens, Belfast
North Antrim	Court Houses and Market Houses
Coleraine and Portstewart	Clandeboyne
Enniskillen	Buildings at Risk catalogues 1-6
Towns and Villages of East Down	Directory of Traditional Building Skills

The Ulster Architectural Heritage Society exists to promote the appreciation and enjoyment of good architecture of all periods - from the prehistoric to the contemporary - in the nine counties of Ulster, to encourage the preservation and restoration of buildings of merit or importance; and to increase public awareness of the beauty, history and character of local neighbourhoods.



This newsletter outlines some of the major activities of the Society during 2002.

President:

Sir Charles Brett

Vice-Presidents:

Dr Maurice Craig

John Cornforth

UAHS Committee for 2002-03:

Peter O Marlow (Chairman)

Sean Hagan (Hon Secretary)

Keith McCleane (Hon Treasurer)

Lady Carswell

Jane McClure

Nicholas Hanna

Marcus Patton

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Dawson Stelfox

Brian McKee

Sally Visick

Ian McQuiston

Annesley Malley

Secretary: Joan Kinch

Research Officer: Rita Harkin

Education Officer: Angela Fitzpatrick

Heritage Projects Officer: Andrew McClelland

The Society is always looking for members interested in taking an active part in its activities. In particular, monitoring of planning applications in different areas, preparation of new lists, and assistance in organising outings are always appreciated. If you would like to help in any of these ways, please contact the Secretary, Miss Joan Kinch, at Belfast 028-9066 0809. Our e-mail number is info@uahs.co.uk, and our website is www.uahs.co.uk

Our **front cover** shows Tillie & Henderson's factory, Londonderry, shortly before its demolition at the end of 2002. The **back cover** shows part of a clachan at Ballydugan near Downpatrick being restored by Hearth.

Contributors to this issue: Rita Harkin, Karen Latimer, Ian McQuiston, Peter Marlow, Wesley McCann, Marcus Patton, Sally Visick and Primrose Wilson.

