

# THE DUNDEE CONSERVATION LECTURES 2012-2013

*A series of lectures covering a number of conservation issues, offering an opportunity to learn more about, and debate, philosophical, practical, legislative and technical matters*

## ARRANGED BY



**Dundee University**  
*Postgraduate Programmes*  
*Urban Conservation*



**The Architectural Heritage**  
**Society of Scotland**  
**Tayside and East Fife**



**Dundee Historic**  
**Environment Trust**

16th October

### **UNDERSTANDING YOUR BUILDING**

*Traditional building construction - energy efficient repair and improvements*

Paul Higginson, Arc Architects

*Historic buildings – common defects and solutions*

Stephen Newsom, architect

30th October

### **MOVING FORWARD: LISTING & TRANSPORT BUILDINGS**

*Listing – myths, truths and the future*

*Movers and shakers - a look at Scotland's listed transport heritage*

Elizabeth McCrone, Head of Listing and Designed Landscapes, Historic Scotland

13th November

### **REPAIR OF TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS 1: WALLS & WINDOWS**

*Sandstone decay and repair; using lime mortars*

Craig Frew, Craig Frew Building Conservation

*The sash and case window*

Paul Beaton, District Architect, Historic Scotland

27th November

### **THE ARCHITECTURAL FILMS OF MURRAY GRIGOR OBE**

*Space & Light Revisited*

*Sir John Soane: an English architect, an American legacy*

Professor Charles McKean will introduce Murray Grigor and lead the discussion

5th February

### **POST WAR ARCHITECTURE**

*Grand designs: post-war architects' houses*

Dr Elain Harwood, English Heritage

*Post-war theatres – and The Theatres Trust*

Mark Price, The Theatres Trust

19th February

### **REPAIR OF TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS 2: ROOFS & RAINWATER**

*Scottish roofs and their detail*

*Lead and iron roofs and gutters*

Neil Grieve

5th March

### **SICILY**

*Architecture, Archaeology and Museums in Sicily*

*Persephone's Island - ancient and beautiful places such as Agrigento, Erice, Mozia, Trapani*

Professor Peter Burman

19th March

### **HOUSES AND GARDENS OF ARGYLL**

*The Victorian fernery at Benmore*

Professor Mary Gibby OBE

*The Cowal shore: country house interconnections*

Michael C Davis, architectural historian and lecturer

**No entry charge to lecture, everyone welcome. Lectures commence at 6pm**

**VENUE: Matthew Building 5013, University of Dundee, DD1 4HN**

This series of lectures is sponsored by:



**Internet - <http://www.dundee.ac.uk/planning/events/conserv>**

16th October

### **UNDERSTANDING YOUR BUILDING**

Co-organiser DHET is one of seven city heritage trusts providing historic building grants in conservation areas. Understanding your building is the key to specifying an appropriate repair and tonight's talks from two conservation architects, responsible for a number of DHET funded projects, is intended to help building owners look after their building better.

Paul Higginson is from Auchtermuchty-based Arc Architects, with considerable experience in ecological construction, conservation and reusing old buildings, and he has a keen interest in sustainable design. Stephen Newson is a sole-practitioner based in Aberdour, specialising in new building and conservation work, with experience working on a wide range of buildings, structures and standing archaeology.

30th October

### **MOVING FORWARD: LISTING & TRANSPORT BUILDINGS**

The Scottish Government's responsibility to maintain lists of buildings of architectural or historic interest is carried out by Historic Scotland. Elizabeth McCrone will advise on current strategies and detail listed transport heritage. This is particularly apposite to the new Dundee Museum of Transport Trust's plans for reusing the former Maryfield Tram Depot.

Elizabeth has worked for Historic Scotland in a variety of roles for over 10 years. She is responsible for overseeing the listing of buildings, the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes, the online Dictionary of Scottish Architects and the team's publication programme.

13th November

### **REPAIR OF TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS 1: WALLS & WINDOWS**

Continuing from week 1, DHET's focus is the external envelope of historic buildings. Dundee sandstone is prone to delaminate and Craig Frew explains why this is, what can be done, and why and how to use lime mortars for pointing and repairs. Paul Beaton then looks at the sash and case window in detail and explains how it can be repaired and upgraded for energy conservation. Craig is a EUC graduate with considerable practical experience in the conservation of masonry and use of lime. Paul is also an EUC graduate, an architect with considerable experience of historic building conservation, advising on projects and grant repair schemes in south west Scotland and Glasgow .

27th November

### **THE ARCHITECTURAL FILMS OF MURRAY GRIGOR OBE**

Murray Grigor is the probably greatest Scottish exponent of architecture through film and his celebrated first film, Mackintosh, 1968, rekindled interest in the then neglected architect and he has gone on to make over 50 films with a focus on arts and architecture. Space and Light Revisited 2011 is a two-screen documentary combining present day footage of the now ruinous St Peter's R.C. Seminary Cardross (1966) by Gillespie Kidd and Coia with his prizewinning 1972 film Space and Light about the then recently completed building. The second film compares the 18th century architect Sir John Soane's break from the classical tradition with the break from the strictures of Modernism of the generation of 20th century American architects he influenced, including Johnson, Venturi, Cobb, Graves, Meier, Stern, with insights from Charles Jencks and Christopher Woodward. Professor Charles McKean will introduce Murray Grigor and lead the discussion.

5th February

### **POST WAR ARCHITECTURE**

Tonight is a celebration of the architecture of post war Britain, a period of austerity and change. Elain Harwood is senior architectural historian with English Heritage and one of the foremost experts on post WWII architects and architecture and author on a number of books on the period. Mark Price was senior local authority conservation officer and is Planning and Heritage Advisor with the Theatres Trust, the UK-wide national advisory body which champions the future theatre buildings. Mark will detail some of most important theatres of the period and the conservation work of the Theatres Trust. Both Elain and Mark are active in the Twentieth Century Society.

19th February

### **REPAIR OF TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS 2: ROOFS & RAINWATER**

For our third evening on building repairs, Neil Grieve will look at traditional roofing materials, typical detailing, and common defects and repair, focussing on pitched slate and flat leaded roofs and associated rainwater goods in cast iron. Neil taught urban conservation and led the EUC programme, and is now a research fellow here at the University of Dundee; he was also responsible for the University's input to Historic Scotland's research project on the Scottish slate industry. Neil is Chief Executive of Tayside Building Preservation Trust.

5th March

### **SICILY**

"Sicily is home to superb Norman architecture, exuberant Roman floor mosaics, Arab-inspired gardens, and probably the finest Greek temples to be found anywhere." Professor Peter Burman and brings us two related and personal talks describing the architecture and places of this unique island. Peter has alternated roles in his professional life between being a university academic and a practical conservator of churches, cathedrals, country houses, collections, countryside, gardens and landscapes. He is currently chairman of Garden History Society Scotland and Archivist of the Hopetoun Papers at Hopetoun House.

19th March

### **HOUSES AND GARDENS OF ARGYLL**

Argyll's Cowal peninsula is just across the Clyde from Renfrewshire but its steep terrain and sea lochs made access by land difficult. In the 19th century the Clyde steamers and mainline rail connections to Glasgow allowed wealthy businessmen to build their villas and mansions on previously inaccessible shores. Benmore, near Dunoon, is one such country house estate. It was lavishly extended from 1870 and in 1930 gifted to the nation with the grounds forming a satellite of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. Its 1870s fernery fell into disrepair but was rescued and restored in 2008-09, in a project led by Professor Mary Gibby. Mary will tell us more about the Victorian fern craze and the restoration. Michael Davis will look more widely at Benmore's neighbouring estates and houses on Cowal. Mary is a leading British botanist and recently retired as Director of Science at RBGE. Michael Davis is an independent architectural historian and a former caseworker for the AHSS. He is currently researching Scottish castle restorations and buildings at risk. But on this occasion, he delves into past researches to reveal the curious interconnections of Cowal's rich crop of 19th and early 20th century country houses.