

THE DUNDEE CONSERVATION LECTURES 2018

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

Tuesday 13th February

TWENTIETH CENTURY VILLAGE ARCHITECTURE

Turn End: Peter Aldington's three village houses and garden

A film by Murray Grigor

Introduced by and discussed by Murray Grigor OBE, film director, writer

Tuesday 20th February

THE CONSERVATION OF SCOTLAND'S OVERSEAS HERITAGE IN INDIA

Scotland's Legacy in Calcutta: whose Responsibility

The Hooghly Jute Mill

Dr James Simpson OBE, conservation architect and advisor

Tuesday 27th February

SCOTLAND'S BUILDINGS

Scotland's Buildings at Risk Register, results and progress

Scots Baronial, Scotland's national style

Simon Green, architectural historian, Historic Environment Scotland

Tuesday 6th March

ANALYSIS OF A HISTORIC CLACKMANNANSHIRE ESTATE, AN EXEMPLARY APPROACH

The historic landscape: the lands of Shambodie, the estate of Hartshaw and the policies of Brucefield

The historic buildings: the house of Brucefield, the mill of Hartshaw, and the missing tower house

Andrew Wright, conservation architect, historic buildings consultant and architectural historian

Tuesday 13th March

HISTORIC PLASTERWORK

Techniques of historic decorative plasterwork in Scotland

Will Napier, chartered building surveyor and heritage consultant, Adams Napier Partnership

Nineteenth century decorative plasterwork

Steven Blench, independent plasterwork historian, conservator and contemporary practitioner - Chalk

Tuesday 20th March

CHARLES RENNIE MACKINTOSH 1868-1928

Mackintosh and his Glasgow contemporaries

CRM, the Pioneer of Modernism or Arts and Crafts Movement practitioner?

Dr James Macaulay Hon FRIAS, architectural historian, lecturer, author

Tuesday 27th March

GARDENS WITH WATER

The history and restoration of Ella Christie's Japanese Garden at Cowden Castle

Kate White, head gardener

Spirit of place, or intangible aspects of gardens and landscapes

Dr Peter Burman MBE FSA, arts and heritage consultant, conservationist, architectural historian

Tuesday 3rd April

RESTORATION OPPORTUNITY

Humphry Repton and the Valleyfield Red Book: Requiem for a Lost Landscape?

Christopher Dingwall, freelance garden historian

Talk 2, details to be confirmed

No entry charge to lecture, everyone welcome. Lectures commence at 6.00pm

Venue: Room LT2, Dalhousie Building, Old Hawkhill, University of Dundee, DD1 4EN

This series of lectures is sponsored by:



Tuesday 13 February 2018

TWENTIETH CENTURY VILLAGE ARCHITECTURE

Murray Grigor's recent film tells the story of the influential group of three houses and celebrated garden designed and built by the architect Peter Aldington in the 1960s in the traditional village of Haddenham in Buckinghamshire. Murray is a Scottish film director and writer, former Edinburgh Film Festival director and has made over 50 films with a focus on art and architecture. He will introduce the film and talk about the film and its subject after screening it.

Turn End is Peter and Margaret Aldington's own family house; its neighbours are The Turn and Middle Turn. The houses are built of timber, concrete block and glass, and have been regarded as being amongst the best examples of modern housing in a traditional setting. Their continuing relevance was confirmed by English Heritage listings in 2006 and the garden was also listed in English Heritage's Inventory, in November 2017.

Tuesday 20 February 2018

WORLD HERITAGE: INDIA

James Simpson is one of the founding partners of Simpson & Brown Architects, one of the UK's leading specialist consultants in building conservation. James has retired from practise and is now devoting some of his considerable energies to researching the predominantly Scots-developed communities around the Hooghly River in West Bengal, including the modern-day city of Calcutta. Calcutta is one of the great cities of the world and, to a very significant extent, Scottish. After 34 years of communist state government, during which time there was no development, it is largely intact, but, like Havana, in a state of decay. There is a growing heritage movement in the city and Edinburgh is seen as an example. The Asia Scotland Trust is a Scottish charity promoting conservation to exemplary standards and the revival of trade skills. The re-roofing of St Andrew's Kirk in Dalhousie Square (1818) and the restoration of the Roxburgh House in the Botanic Garden (1796) are its first projects. James's talk will include an account of the Hooghly Jute Mill, still employing some 2500 people, with 300 mechanics maintaining machinery made by Urquhart, Lindsay & Co 100 years ago in Dundee, some few 100 yards north of our lecture theatre at the Blackness Foundry in Larch Street.

Tuesday 27 February 2018

SCOTLAND'S BUILDINGS

Simon Green, architectural historian with the Survey and Recording section of Historic Environment Scotland, is also president of the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland. One of his responsibilities is the Buildings at Risk Register, now an in-house function of HES, and the opportunity has been taken to look at how the effectiveness of the BAR service and the register can be developed and improved. He will discuss different ways that departments of HES contribute to the removal of buildings from the register and thereby to the enhancement of the historic built environment. His second talk will be an enthusiast's examination of the development of the Scots Baronial style. Antiquarianism, Romanticism, Aestheticism: recording and research have all played a part in the creation and longevity of this distinctive architecture.

Tuesday 6 March 2018

ANALYSIS OF A HISTORIC CLACKMANNANSHIRE ESTATE, AN EXEMPLARY APPROACH

Andrew Wright is a conservation architect and for many years ran the Forres office of the Law & Dunbar-Naismith Partnership, involved in a wide portfolio of country house, conservation and rural architectural projects. His consultancy work has recently included a project to manage the analysis of a small secluded estate in Clackmannanshire which is centrally located yet superbly isolated. The estate is ancient and the house is 18th century, with alterations, or is it? And where exactly was (is?) the now missing tower house of Hartshaw? Brucefield House was mothballed by the Victorians and then reclaimed in the 1920s, with style. Now, as a new generation of the family takes on responsibility, this exemplary commission includes new historical and archaeological research, landscape analysis and buildings analysis of both the ancient mill and the main house.

Tuesday 13 March 2018

HISTORIC PLASTERWORK

Will Napier is a Dundee conservation masters graduate and, as a surveyor, he specialises in the care of historic buildings. His interest in decorative plasterwork dates to an early internship at Leonard Grandison & Son's unique plasterwork workshops and archive in Peebles. Will's talk will include an overview of some of Scotland's remarkable early plasterwork, such as the 1617 ceiling at Kellie Castle.

Steven Blench is a plasterwork historian, with a particular interest in nineteenth century decorative plasterwork. He is also a plasterwork practitioner with his Inverkeithing-based firm *Chalk*, with skills in restoration, replication and contemporary design work.

Tuesday 20 March 2018

CHARLES RENNIE MACKINTOSH 1868-1928

James Macaulay was senior lecturer and head of architectural history at the Mackintosh School of Architecture. He has written the authoritative works on the Gothic Revival in Scotland, the Classical Country House in Scotland and monographs on Mackintosh's Glasgow School of Art and Hill House, as well as the scholarly biographical account, Charles Rennie Mackintosh, published by Norton in 2010, which tonight's lectures reference. James is a former office bearer of architectural societies including past chair of the AHSS, and is a Trustee of the Glasgow Art Club and of the Willow Tearooms Trust.

Tuesday 27 March 2018

GARDENS WITH WATER

Kate White is head gardener at Cowden, responsible for the current garden restoration. She will give a brief history of Japanese gardens in the UK, and of how the Japanese Garden at Cowden Castle, near Dollar, was developed in the early 1900s by Ella Christie. It was isolated after the mansion was abandoned, then vandalised and fell into decay in the late 1950s, but long anticipated restoration plans by Ella's twice-great niece received grant assistance. Kate will tell the story of its return to glory and of some of the challenges and opportunities of maintaining a Japanese garden in Scotland. The garden trust intends it to open to the public on 5th May, 63 years after its last opening.

Peter Burman is an architectural historian with a special interest in the Arts and Crafts movement and historic gardens. He has taught at the universities of York, Canterbury (Christchurch, New Zealand) and Cottbus, Germany. He was Director of the Council for the Care of Churches/Cathedrals Fabric Commission at an earlier stage of his career and later Director of Conservation of the National Trust for Scotland. He lives in Falkland where he is Chairman of the Falkland Stewardship Trust.

Tuesday 3 April 2018

RESTORATION OPPORTUNITY

Christopher Dingwall has been a freelance garden historian for nearly thirty years, during which time he has worked on some of Scotland's finest designed landscapes. For twelve years from 1992 to 2004 Christopher served as Conservation Officer with the Garden History in Scotland. He is currently Vice Chairman of, and Honorary Research Adviser to, Scotland's Garden and Landscape Heritage. In tonight's lecture, he will be asking whether it is too late to save what is left of the once grand estate of Valleyfield in Fife, the only Scottish commission of the celebrated English landscape gardener Humphry Repton (1752-1818).

Talk 2, details to be confirmed.