

Irish Georgian Society

Annual Report

for the year ended 31 December 2020



The vision of the Irish Georgian Society is to conserve, protect and foster interest in Ireland's architectural heritage and decorative arts.

The Society will pursue its vision, either working on its own or in partnership with others, through the provision of education and information, including publications, lectures, conferences, tours and other learning programmes, as well as campaigning for protection and conservation, and undertaking and supporting initiatives for the decorative arts and historic structures and places, including gardens and landscapes.

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1. DIRECTORS, IRISH GEORGIAN FOUNDATION

Apied, Mary - Founding Director and President of Trinity Foundation, the fund raising and alumni relations arm of Trinity College, retired in 2015. Member of the Board of The Irish Museum of Modern Art (IMMA), the Irish Landmark Trust, Druid Theatre, Dance Theatre of Ireland and is on the Development Committees of The Lir Academy for Dramatic Art and Kylemore Abbey. Mary has over thirty years experience of fundraising and strategic change in universities and non-profit organisations.

Barber, John DL MRICS - Chair of IGS London, Chair of House Mill Trust, Deputy Lieutenant for Greater London for HM The Queen, founder and liveryman of the Arts and Scholars Livery Company and trustee of charitable trust for Arts and Scholars.

Cooney, Thomas (US) - Exec VP, CIO MedPoint Digital Inc.; Chairman IGS Inc (US); MBA (Marketing) Miami University.

Lucey, Dr Conor - Architectural and design historian; Assistant Professor in the School of Art History and Cultural Policy, University College Dublin; President of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland.

McCarthy, Dr Tom - Managing Director, McCarthy Developments (Cork) Ltd., and co-owner of the McCarthy Group; former board member of Irish Heritage Trust; gained a Doctorate in Business Administration (2015), a Masters in Business Administration (1996) and B.A Economics (1987) from University College Cork. Past President of the MBA Association of Ireland, a former director of the Irish Heritage Trust and director of the Blackwater Valley Opera Festival.

Moorhead, Sara SC - Barrister, Member of the Council of the Bar of Ireland from 2013 to 2017 as a Senior Counsel, and previously a member of the Counsel of the Bar of Ireland as a Junior Counsel from 1995 to 1999. Former member of the Education Committee of the King's Inns between 1995 and 2017, and of the Standing Committee of the Council of the King's Inns from 2014 to 2017. Elected as a Bencher of the Honorable Society of King's Inns in 2015. Sits on the Boards of Irish National Opera, The Dublin Dispute Resolution Centre and the Denham Fellowship.

Murray, Dr Peter - B.A., M.Litt, Ph.D. (hc) Artist and art historian, former director, Crawford Art Gallery, Cork (retired 2017); co-editor Vol V, Art and Architecture of Ireland (RIA 2014); honorary doctorate UCC 2019; longtime contributor to Irish Arts Review and other publications, member IGS City Assembly House Exhibition Committee 2018 to present.

O'Kane-Crimmins, Prof. Finola - MRAI Professor in Architecture at University College Dublin. Editor of Irish Architectural and Decorative Studies.

Symes, Glascott - Retired Deputy Headmaster of The King's Hospital, Dublin, graduate of Trinity College Dublin in science and of the Centre for the Study of

Historic Irish Houses and Estates at Maynooth University in Historic House Studies. Member of the IGS Membership & Events Committee.

Scott, Dermot - Retired Head of the European Parliament Office in London and former official of the Institute of Public Administration; member of the Royal Dublin Society's Standing Committee of Arts

Sweeney, Charlie - Chartered Accountant, and retired Director with EY Financial Services Group; Fellow of the Institute of the Chartered Accountants in England and Wales; Deputy Treasurer of the Irish Georgian Foundation; member of the IGF Finance and Governance Committees, and the City Assembly House Committee.

Wall, Michael - Chairman of the Irish Georgian Foundation. Barrister, qualified architect and planner. Former board member An Bord Pleanála (1999-2006), board member of National Asset Management Agency and Chair of NAMA Planning Advisory Committee. Trustee of Simpson's Hospital, board member Abbey Theatre, board member Irish National Opera and council member Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland. Former board member Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (2015-2021).

Sir David Davies, President Irish Georgian Society

A banker by profession, Sir David started his business career in 1963 with Chase Manhattan Bank in New York, and then with Hill Samuel, the leading English merchant bank in New York and then London. In 1973 he became Finance Director of MEPC. He moved to Hong Kong in 1983, becoming a director of Jardine Matheson and managing director of Hong Kong Land and returned to London in the late 1980s where he became chief executive of Hill Samuel. In the 1990s he served both as Chairman and Chief Executive of Johnson Matthey and was subsequently appointed as Chairman of EFG Private Bank Ltd in London from 1999 to 2006. He was awarded the Knights Bachelor in the 1999 New Year's Honours List. Sir David lives in Abbey Leix, Co. Laois, which he has carefully and judiciously conserved and restored. He also restored his family home at Killoughter in Co. Wicklow.

Camilla McAleese, Vice-President Irish Georgian Society

Former Under Treasurer of the Honorable Society of King's Inns; Trustee of the Follies Trust and the Revelstoke Trust; Membership Committee of the RDS; former chairman of the Irish Landmark Trust and former director of the Irish Heritage Trust.

Elizabeth Dater, IGS Inc board representative

Managing Director of Angelo, Gordon & Co. and Managing Member of Gamecock Island Associates LLC. In addition to being Chair of Irish Georgian Society Inc., member of the Board of The New-York Historical Society, NYU Langone Medical Center, The New York Community Trust, Prep For Prep, and ShareGift USA.

Donough Cahill, Executive Director IGS

Oversees the strategic and day-to-day operations of the IGS and works with the Irish Georgian Foundation's Committee of Management, its standing committees and working groups and with the Society's North America and UK based membership in this regard.

2. COMMITTEES, WORKING GROUPS AND STAFF (2020)

2.1 COMMITTEES

Architectural conservation and planning committee

Purpose: The committee shall review, consider, implement where appropriate and promote the IGF's architectural conservation and planning policies.

Members: David Armstrong (Chair), Donough Cahill (ex officio), Sunni Goodson, John Olley, Susan Roundtree, Michael Wall, Primrose Wilson, Donough Cahill (ex officio), Emmeline Henderson (ex officio)

Irish Architectural and Decorative Studies / Journal Editorial Board

Purpose: The Editorial Board shall advise the editor on the quality, standards and publication of IADS.

Members: Christine Casey, Nicola Figgis, Alison FitzGerald, David Griffin, David Fleming (Editor), Livia Hurley, Ruth Kenny, William Laffan, Conor Lucey, Edward McParland, Anna Moran, Kevin V. Mulligan, Finola O'Kane, Brendan Rooney, Ellen Rowley

Finance Committee

Purpose: The committee shall assist and oversee the work of the Treasurer in administering the financial affairs of the IGF and IGS.

Members: Brian Redmond, Charlie Sweeney, Donall Curtin (Chair), Eugene McCarthy, Rose Mary Craig, Michael Wall, Brendan Twomey, Nicholas Michael, Donough Cahill (ex officio), Olivia Brosnan (ex officio)

Governance Committee

Purpose: The Committee shall review, consider and propose changes to the governing instruments, structure, regulations and operation of the IGF and IGS.

Members: Brian Redmond, Charlie Sweeney, David Fleming, Donough Cahill, Ruth Casey, Michael Wall, Donough Cahill (ex officio), Olivia Brosnan (ex officio)

Membership & Events Committee

Purpose: The committee shall develop and implement the IGF membership events programme and membership activities, promote membership and membership retention.

Membership: Rose Mary Craig (chair), Pat Murray, Glascott Symes, Johnnie McCoy, Victoria Browne, James Paul McDonnell, Mary McGaver-Dixon, Róisín Lambe (ex officio)

Education Committee

Purpose: The committee shall review, develop and implement the IGF's education programme or policy.

Membership: currently dormant

City Assembly House & Exhibitions Committee

Purpose: to oversee the management, furnishing and decorating of the City Assembly House.

Membership: James Paul McDonnell (Chair), Pat Murray, Michael Wall, Jerry Healy, William Laffan, Victoria Browne, Zoe Coleman, Donough Cahill (ex officio), Trebecca Henderson (ex officio)

2.2 WORKING GROUPS

Membership Development WG

Camilla McAleese (Chair), Nicholas Michael, Ruth Casey, Roisin Lambe (ex officio)

Conservation Grants WG

Primrose Wilson (Chair), Stuart Blakely (IGS London rep), Susan Roundtree, Robin Mandal, Michael Wall, Donough Cahill (ex officio), Roisin Lambe (ex officio)

IGS Review WG

Letitia Pollard (Editor), Rose Mary Craig, Donough Cahill (ex officio), Trebecca Henderson (ex officio)

Architectural Conservation & Drawing Awards Panel

Livia Hurley (Chair), Frank McDonald, Karen Latimer, Simon Lincoln, Kevin Mulligan

Desmond Guinness Scholarship Panel

Edward McParland, Primrose Wilson, Christine Casey, Kathleen James Chakraborty, David Fleming, Alison FitzGerald, Penny Guinness, Conor Lucey, Anna Moran

2.3 STAFF 2020

Executive Director: Donough Cahill

Conservation Manager and Deputy Director: Emmeline Henderson

Membership and Events Coordinator: Róisín Lambe

Programmes and Communications Coordinator: Zoë Coleman

Accounts Administrator: Olivia Brosnan

CAH Bookshop Administrator: Alannah Pollard

CAH Bookshop & Events Assistant: Leanne Bellouny

Intern: Rae Wnuk

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2020 was an extraordinary year that brought massive disruption to all on a personal and professional level and the Irish Georgian Society was certainly not immune to this. Membership tours and fundraising initiatives in Ireland, the US and in London were first postponed and then by necessity cancelled, while the doors of the City Assembly House were closed in compliance with government requirements and staff in Dublin and in Chicago worked from home for much of the year. However, through the generous support of members, assistance from government grants schemes for both the Irish and American offices, and continued delivery of activities the Society was able to weather the storm financially and it is hoped that now, some eighteen-months later, we are emerging out the far side.



While 2020 presented great challenges for the Society there were also new opportunities. Our lectures and conferences moved online and reached unprecedented numbers of participants in Ireland and abroad. The Zoom revolution, though not one I am altogether fond of, has also presented a means for staff, committee and board members to engage throughout the lockdowns and will undoubtedly continue in some form into the future. For a geographically dispersed organisation like ours this will be of great benefit in keeping people involved and hopefully help in attracting new members.

The year was not without activity in the City Assembly House as we held the greatly successful exhibition *'Dublin Fragments - the Pearson Collection'* which was launched in the Knight of Glin Room in February 2020 for a planned six-week period though inevitably remained in place until spring 2021. The CAH also played host to *"Saving Graces"- Conserving Ireland's Architecture (2000-2020)*, an exhibition of paintings by IGF board member Peter Murray which raised much needed funds for the Society. On that occasion I was delighted to welcome Malcolm Noonan TD, Minister for Heritage, who launched the exhibition and whose Department also supported many of the projects featured.

In 2020 I was delighted to welcome David Griffin as a member of the IGS President's Circle for his great contribution to the Society and his dedication to the study of Ireland's architectural heritage. It was also an honour to posthumously recognise Prof Kevin B Nowlan (1921-2013) for a lifetime campaigning for the protection of Dublin's built heritage and the inestimable service he gave us while serving as IGS Vice President and on its board. It was resolved not to bring forward candidates for the President's Circle in 2021 given the challenges of convening a meeting of the Nominations Committee but I look forward to new members joining next year.

The Chair of the Irish Georgian Foundation reports on the retirement in 2020 of members from that board in 2020. In addition to those I wish to thank Lawrie Weed

for serving on the board of IGS Inc since 2008 and for being so supportive of our work and so welcoming at our events and dinners. And in IGS London I wish to thank Peter Verity for his dedication as a trustee over the previous three years and for providing sterling support for events.

It is with sadness that I must also mention the passing of Fred Krehbiel (1941-2021) who was such a great champion of Ireland's heritage, a generous supporter of the Irish Georgian Society, and a dear friend to many. An obituary will feature in the forthcoming issue of the *IGS Review* that will record and celebrate another of Ireland's conservation heroes. Other supporters of the Society's work who have passed away in the last year include Homan Potterton, the art historian, former Director of the National Gallery of Ireland, and author who left a generous bequest to support the Society's conservation work, and Della Howard who was a long-time supporter of our London Chapter and was a member of the IGS President's Circle. Their dedication to Ireland's heritage is an inspiration to us all.

I am glad to report that the exhibition 'Stepping Through The Gates : Inside Ireland's Walled Gardens' will be launched on 23rd September 2021. This is the first of two exhibitions we are holding to celebrate Irish country house gardens with the second to be launched in May next year. This celebration includes a documentary that has been produced in partnership with the OPW and RTE, a conference that will be held in November 2021, and the publication of a book on Irish country house gardens that will be published in early 2022.

Finally, it is so encouraging that the IGS Events Committee is once again in a position to organise gatherings for members with the first significant such event planned for the Royal Hospital Kilmainham where we will be hosting the somewhat delayed annual Summer Drinks Party in September. I hope to see many of you there!

Sir David Davies

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As I write my Chairman's report looking back on the very difficult and challenging year presented by 2020, I am heartened that we have most recently re-opened the City Assembly House (CAH) to members and the public and are very much looking forward to launching long-anticipated exhibitions at the end of September.

When we gathered for the opening of the wonderful collection of Peter Pearson 'Dublin Fragments' in February 2020, in the Knight of Glin Room, one could never have imagined that the CAH would be closed for the greater part of the year ahead, from 24 March to 29 June and again from 18 September to 1 December. During this time all activity in the building ceased and staff mainly worked from home.



When restrictions lifted we were delighted to welcome the Minister for Heritage, Malcolm Noonan TD, who joined us to launch Peter Murray's captivating exhibition 'Saving Graces' a charming representation of built heritage aided by our conservation grants.

We are particularly indebted to our members and supporters not only at home but through IGS Inc. and IGS London who helped us navigate through the tough times of 2020 and are grateful to IGS London Grants Programme for €39,000 awarded to conservation projects around the country.

Much activity continued through the year by way of zoom meetings of the board and committees. The ACPC continued to make submissions on planning and policy matters and our Conservation Education Programme was ably adapted. Together with the board I very much appreciate the assistance of our Audit and Risk / Finance Committee which has met monthly, guiding us through the challenges presented by the pandemic.

With the onset of restrictions, the Conserving Your Dublin Period House lecture series moved online with great success and set a template for other events including the Irish Country House architecture online lecture series together with, 'Kingdom of Skill' traditional building skills video demonstrations with Kerry County Council and Crinniú na nÓg 2020 free online workshops for children.

During the year we welcomed new Board members Dr Conor Lucey, Peter Murray and John Barber, Chair of IGS London, and IGF adopted the Charities Regulator's 'Charities Governance Code'. I would like to thank Dr Finola O'Kane who completed her final edition as editor of IADS in 2020 and has been succeeded by Dr David Fleming my predecessor as Chair.

I also take this opportunity to acknowledge the generosity of Edmund Corrigan for his donation of a collection of portrait miniatures which has been put on display in the newly furnished Lady Kildare Room in Castletown, Co. Kildare.

I am personally indebted to our President Sir David Davies and Vice-President Camilla McAleese for their support through the year, and hugely appreciative of the support of our members.

Finally, while I always express my thanks to our staff team, committee members, board members and volunteers- on this occasion, along with my sincere thanks I wish to particularly recognise the strength and resilience of all in meeting and overcoming the extraordinary challenges present by the pandemic during 2020.

Michael Wall

5. CONSERVATION GRANTS PROGRAMME 2020

Through the support of IGS London, the Society pledged the following grants to support conservation projects around the country in 2020:

Bessmount Park, Co. Monaghan

High-Victorian Ruskinian Gothic transformation of a modest Georgian house. The house incorporates elaborate additions — such as projecting bays, gargoyles, pyramidal spires, naturalistic carvings, and intricate polychrome brick detailing — and is a rare example of such a high degree of ornamentation in Ireland. Attached to the house is an ecclesiastical-themed music room which required a comprehensive programme of repair. Grant aid was awarded in memory of the architect Jeremy Williams (1943-2015) and his work on Victorian architecture in Ireland.

Project: Restoration of windows, rainwater goods and plaster

Grant pledged: €7,500



Coastguards Cottages, Lambay Island, Co. Dublin

Lambay Island is located just off the north Dublin coast and its centre lies Lambay Castle, an early 16th century fortification that was extensively remodelled by Sir Edwin Lutyens (1869-1944) in the early-20th century. Lutyens was also responsible for remodelling a group of 17th-century coastguard cottages on the island. These are single-storey terraced buildings with pitched roofs, rendered walls, and cut-stone chimney stacks the repair of which was supported through awarding a grant.

Project funded: repairs to chimney stacks, including repointing with lime mortar.

Grant pledged: €1,900



Pyramid Mausolea, Dublin Road, Naas, Co. Kildare

Located in Maudlins burial ground, these two stone-built pyramid mausolea were restored by The Follies Trust with their unusual design making them a rarity in Ireland. One tomb was built by Walter Hussey Burgh for his wife Elizabeth, while the other may also belong to the same family.

Project: repair works that included removal of vegetation, repointing and stone repairs, and repair of iron entrance doors

Grant pledged: €6,000



Seymours Mausoleum, Lawrencetown, Co. Galway

Erected in the late-19th century for the Seymours, a family who acquired Ballymore Castle and its lands around 1700. This freestanding, cut-and-carved limestone structure displays the wealth of the family and comprises a gabled upper chamber surmounting a crypt with a truncated-pyramid roof. The structure suffered from lack of maintenance and the overgrowth of vegetation.

Project funded: preparation of a method a method statement for repair works.

Grant pledged: €650



Ballyarthur House, Co. Wicklow

Constructed c. 1680 as a hunting lodge, Ballyarthur is a rare surviving early house that was remodelled in the 19th century with the addition of a castellated parapet. The IGS supported works to in the past two years that included repairs to a gable wall, followed by the repair and reinstatement of associated internal decorative plasterwork.

Project funded: repairs to the roof of the 19th-century castellated entrance porch

Grant pledged: €4,350



St George's Arts & Heritage Centre, Mitchelstown, Co. Cork

Constructed c. 1801, St George's Church was later enlarged by the Pain brothers c. 1830 and comprises an integral feature of the early-19th-century planned town. It is now in use as an arts and heritage centre and is undergoing a major refurbishment programme to secure its future.

Project funded: restoration of two street-facing windows.

Grant pledged: €5,100



St Carthage Cathedral, Lismore, Co Waterford

St Carthage's Cathedral is a structure of national importance and lies on a site that has in use for religious purposes since the early Christian period. The current building is composed of elements designed by Sir William Robinson, Sir Richard Morrison and the Pain brothers. In 2018, the IGS supported repairs works to early nineteenth century timber windows designed in the Perpendicular style.

Project funded: roof repairs

Grant pledged: €5,000



Kylemore Abbey church, Co Galway

Kylemore Castle was built c. 1870 as a home for the Mitchell Henry MP (1826-1910) and was purchased in 1920 by the Benedictine nuns who continue to care for the house to the present day. The extraordinary church that lies close to the house was erected by Henry as a family mausoleum after the death of his wife in 1874. It is a miniature cathedral in its form and layout and is one of the finest examples of Gothic Revival in Ireland.

Project funded: funding of a Conservation Plan

Grant pledged: €3,500



6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

While 2020 was a greatly challenging year for the IGS, through the work of its board members, committees, volunteers and staff the Society successfully fulfilled its remit to conserve, protect and foster an interest and a respect for Ireland's architectural heritage and decorative arts. The core programmes through which this was achieved focused on education, scholarship, planning advocacy and supporting conservation projects, and for all of these the Society's membership plays a key role.

After five years in the position, 2020 marked the final year in which Dr Finola O'Kane Crimmins served as editor of the Society's journal, *Irish Architectural & Decorative Studies*. This issue focussed on Cork city and, together with the publication last year of the *Buildings of Ireland : Cork* (Yale) has added greatly to published research on the city's built heritage. 2020 also saw the Desmond Guinness Scholarship being awarded to Priscilla Sonnier.



The Society's Conservation Education Programme had a tremendously successful year and thrived through the following series of online initiatives all of which are considered in section 6.2: Irish Country House Architecture lecture series; Conserving your Dublin Period House; Disaster Management Seminar; Cruinniú na nÓg Online Children's Traditional Conservation & Craft Skills Workshops; Celebrating Dublin's Heritage Buildings with Dublin City Council; A Kingdom of Skill Traditional Building Skills Video Demonstrations with Kerry County Council.

Planning and conservation policy issues were addressed throughout the year by the Society's Architectural, Conservation and Planning Committee (ACPC) which is now chaired by town planner David Armstrong who together with other committee members made numerous submissions that are reported on in section 6.3. The Society's grants programme continued its support of conservation projects despite the challenges faced and are reported on in Section 5.

The Membership Events Committee, chaired by Rose Mary Craig, managed to deliver an excellent programme of online talks and walking tours despite the Covid crisis though it regrettably did not prove possible to organise other events such as day trips and overseas tours. Section 6.4 lists membership activities for the year.

We all look forward to activities returning to normal over the course of the coming months and, in writing this in September 2021, I am already anticipating major IGS initiatives in 2022 that will include the exhibition on the History of the Irish Country House Garden in May and the launch of its accompanying book earlier in the year. Updates on these and other events will feature on our website and social media pages and in our regular ezines.

Donough Cahill

6.1 Scholarship Programme

Irish Architectural & Decorative Studies

The Irish Georgian Society's journal reflects the organisation's wide remit and is concerned not just with the Georgian architecture but embraces the entire spectrum of Ireland's post medieval buildings and its special need for protection, interpretation, and understanding. Volume XXII of the journal was edited by Dr Finola O'Kane and saw the publication of the following articles:

- Editor's Foreword: Cork, A Topographical Dictionary
- Mark McCarthy: An historical geography of the Atlantic port city of Cork, 1600-1715
- David Dickson: Cork's new town (1780) and its afterlife
- Vandra Costello: The Georgian Villa Landscape of Cork
- Laura Johnstone: 'An Eel is not more slippery than an Irish Gentleman': managing a jointky held estate in Cork and Dublin 1778-1845
- Peter Murray: Naval storehouses on Haulbowline Island 1816-1822: A study in Georgian military architecture
- Dagmar O'Riain-Raedel: Arthur Hill and the Crawford Art Gallery
- Richard Butler: 'The whole of the approaches ... are full of difficulties': early proposals for railways in Cork city, c. 1835-1850
- Jessie Castle: 'I spent all this day at Dundanion': The Journal of Eliza Deane, 1832
- Denis Linehan: The Lost City: Recovering the Cork City Architect, Eamon O Byrne

Desmond Guinness Scholarship

The Desmond Guinness Scholarship was established in 1996 to mark the departure of Desmond Guinness as President of the Irish Georgian Society. It is awarded annually to applicants engaged in research on the visual arts of Ireland including the work of Irish architects, artists and craftsmen at home and abroad, 1600-1900. Preference is given to work based on original documentary research, and it is intended primarily for applicants who are not yet established at an advanced professional level in research or publication of visual arts.

The 2020 Desmond Guinness Scholarship was awarded to Priscilla Sonnier to support her PhD research on portraits of elite Irishwomen and how they evolved throughout the eighteenth-century to reflect the 'patriotic' sensibilities of the Protestant Ascendancy. Ms Sonnier is a PhD candidate at University College Dublin.

Nele Lüttman's study on 'German Architects in England and Ireland 1700-1750' was also acknowledged, and she was awarded the Desmond Guinness Prize.

6.2 Conservation Education Programme

The Irish Georgian Society promotes traditional building skills and best conservation practice through holding seminars, exhibitions and lecture series which aim to provide more in-depth understanding of conservation issues for historic homeowners, conservation professionals and others with an interest in traditionally-built buildings. Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points are available for members of relevant professional institutions attending the seminars. In 2020 the Conservation Education Programme was supported by Merrion Property Group and John and Heather Picerne.

The 2020 programme of events included:

Conserving your Dublin Period House, spring 2020

The twelve-week lunchtime talk series was presented by the Irish Georgian Society and Dublin City Council at the City Assembly House initially and then, prompted by Covid

restrictions, online. The talks provided information on the history and significance of Dublin's period houses and practical advice on their conservation.

- Dublin's Domestic Architecture: its historic stylistic evolution by Charles Duggan, Heritage Officer, Dublin City Council
- Protected Structure Policy and Legislation by Jacqui Donnelly, Senior Architect, Built Heritage Policy, Department of Culture, Heritage and Gaeltacht
- Energy Performance in Protected Structures; planning implications and grants by Carl Raftery, Conservation Research Officer, Dublin City Council
- Sensitively Extending your Protected Structure, Mary McDonald, Architectural Conservation Officer, Dublin City Council
- Historic Decorative Plasterwork: its history, significance and conservation by Andrew Smith, consultant decorative plasterwork conservator
- Historic Windows: their history, significance and conservation by Dr Nessa Roche, Senior Architectural Advisor, Built Heritage Advisory Unit, Department of Culture, Heritage and Gaeltacht, author of DoCHG's Advice Series: A Guide to the Repair of Historic Windows
- Historic Ironwork: its history, significance and conservation by Ali Davey, Historic Environment Scotland & author of DoCHG's Advice Series: The Repair of Wrought and Cast Ironwork
- Historic Doors & Staircases: their history and conservation by Peter Clarke, retired lecturer, Technological University Dublin
- Taking Care of your Period House's Roof, Chimneys and Parapets by Lisa Edden, Associate Director at Cora Consulting Engineers & co-author of DoCHG's Advice Series: A Guide to the Repair of Historic Roofs
- History and Conservation of Bricks by Susan Roundtree, RIAI conservation architect & co-author of DoCHG's Advice Series: A Guide to the Repair of Historic Bricks
- The Importance of Using Lime & Historic Pointing Techniques in Dublin by Grainne Shaffrey, Principal, Shaffrey Architects, Grade I RIAI Conservation Practice and co-author of the DoCHG's Advice Series: A Guide to the Repair of Historic Brick

Irish Country House Architecture lecture series, autumn 2020

The pre-recorded online talks charted the architectural evolution of Ireland's finest country houses. Drawing on new research and insights, academics and authors provided an overview of the stylistic development of Ireland's country houses: explaining who commissioned, designed and built these houses that arguably form the most impressive building typology of Ireland's architectural heritage.

Partners: Centre for the Study of Historic Irish Houses and Estates, Maynooth University.
Speakers: Professor Christine Casey, Dr Andrew Tierney, Dr Melanie Hayes (Trinity College Dublin), Dr Conor Lucey (UCD), Dr Myles Campbell (OPW); Dr Judith Hill, Frank Keohane, Robert O'Byrne & Dr Jane Fenlon (independent scholars & authors)

Disaster Management Seminar, winter 2020

A live webinar, launched by Minister for Heritage, Malcolm Noonan, it outlined how to help owners and custodians of an historic property, where possible, to prevent or reduce the risk of disaster striking their property by fire, floods, storms, lightning strikes or vandalism, and to lessen the damage caused should disaster occur. Presentations encompassed topics to include the creation of disaster risk management plans; climate vulnerability assessments; and considerations when insuring historic structures.
Partners: Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage & Ecclesiastical Insurance (a not-for-profit company)

Speakers: Margaret Quinlan (RIAI Conservation Architect & Disaster Advice publication author); Helena Bergin (Architectural Conservation Officer Fingal County Council); Alicia

Clements, Birr Castle (Historic Houses of Ireland); Paul Collins, Ecclesiastical Insurance; and Gavan Woods (CEO St. Patrick's Cathedral); Jacqui Donnelly, Chair & Convenor (Senior Architect, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage)

Cruinniú na nÓg Online Children's Traditional Conservation & Craft Skills Workshops, June 2020

Held in partnership with the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, this series of free online children's traditional craft and conservation workshops was delivered live through Zoom and provided children with an opportunity to have a virtual tour of the workshops of four master craftspeople and see the tools, materials and techniques used. Participating craftspeople included: Liam McCorkell of Glasshaus Studio in Co. Meath, Ruth Bothwell of Decowell, Philip Quinn of Stonemad in Co. Tipperary, and Sven Habermann of Conservation Letterfrack.

Celebrating Dublin's Heritage Buildings with Dublin City Council

Held to mark National Heritage Week 2020 in partnership with DCC Heritage Officer Charles Duggan, this series of twelve free on-line talks on Dublin's built heritage considered themes including domestic life in the Victorian house, 20th century concrete architecture, Georgian speculative development, industrial archaeology, Masonic philanthropic endeavour, street furniture and Tractarian church architecture. Speakers included David Averill; Dr Susan Galavan; Dr Brendan Grimes; Rebecca Hayes; Niamh Kiernan; Professor Owen Lewis; Mary Liz McCarthy; Dr Eve McCaulay; Seamus O'Maitiu; Shane O'Toole; Peter Pearson; and Dr Alistair Rowan.

A Kingdom of Skill Traditional Building Skills Video Demonstrations with Kerry County Council

As part of National Heritage Week 2020, the Irish Georgian Society partnered with Kerry County Council's Architectural Conservation Officer, Victoria McCarthy on the Kingdom of Skill video project. Five traditional building skills craftspeople: blacksmith (Thoma Allison); sash window conservator (Rafal Warszawski); stained glass conservator (Glynn Palmer); thatcher (Liam Broderick); and lime practitioner (Hugh Dorrian) were invited to make their own short video about their work in conserving Kerry's built heritage, as well highlight how that work is supported by conservation grants from both The Heritage Council and the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

6.3 Planning Policy and Buildings-at-Risk Programme

Through the work of its Architectural, Conservation and Planning Committee (ACPC), the Irish Georgian Society works as a champion for buildings and sites of significant architectural and historical importance. The ACPC meets regularly throughout the year and its members prepare informed, constructive submissions on issues of concern.

6.3.1 Planning submissions

Objection to proposed conversion of agricultural building to a two-storey dwelling that would impact directly on setting of Flesk Castle, Killarney, Co. Kerry

Outcome: application withdrawn

Objection to mixed use development that would have a significant detrimental impact on the setting of Kildrought House, Celbridge, Co. Kildare

Outcome: refused by Kildare County Council; first party appeal to An Bord Pleanála

Objection to proposed windfarm at that would have significantly denuded the scenic qualities of the Blackwater River Valley and encroached on views of historic designed parklands.

Outcome: refused by Waterford County Council; under appeal to An Bord Pleanála

Objection to construction of 6 storey building to the rear of No. 38 North Great Georges Street and to incorporate this into a neighbouring scheme of similar height and scale.

Outcome: granted by Dublin City Council; on appeal to An Bord Pleanála

Objection to proposed mixed use development that would encroach upon the setting and views from Blarney Castle, Blarney, Co. Cork

Outcome: refused by Cork City Council; on appeal to An Bord Pleanála

Objection to the demolition of the greater part of the Revenue Building, a protected structure, and to the construction on its site of a 34-storey hotel.

Outcome: granted by Cork City Council and by An Bord Pleanála

Recommendation to Monaghan County Council not to encroach on the setting of Monalty House, protected structure of c. 1770, in considering route options for the N2 (Ardee to Castleblayney) road.

Outcome: indications are that the preferred route will encroach on the demesne

Objection to development of 5-storey residential block that would diminish setting of St. Mary's Chapel of Ease (also known as 'The Black Church'), a Protected Structure.

Outcome: granted permission by Dublin City Council and, following an appeal, by An Bord Pleanála

Submission to Dublin City Council calling for the reinstatement of statues to the front of the Shelbourne Hotel, St Stephen's Green (protected structure) which had been removed without planning permission.

Submission to Sligo County Council on the role of historic houses as places of social, cultural and economic activity and the significance of such roles in sustaining them today.

Submission to Wicklow County Council on Bayview Hotel, The Mall, Wicklow Town

Submission on proposal to construct a new 2-storey house close to the Richard Castle designed Hazelwood House, Co. Sligo

Outcome: additional information addressed concerns raised by the IGS. Permission granted.

Objection to proposed construction of 298 residential units within the grounds of Dalguise House, Monkstown, Co. Dublin which retains substantial surviving 19th-century gardens that provide it with a unique setting.

Outcome: granted by An Bord Pleanála through a SHD-application

Objection to the demolition of a number of surviving Georgian houses on Kildare Street, Dublin

Outcome: refused by Dublin City Council; 1st party appeal withdrawn

Submission to Westmeath County Council calling for the preparation of a conservation management plan for Tudenham Park, a very fine though roofless early to mid-18th century house with close associations with the nearby 'Jealous Wall' of Belvedere House.

Submission to Roscommon County Council on the route selection for the Proposed N61 Ballymurray to Knockcroghery Road Project expressing concerns about potential impacts on an historic avenue through Mote Park demesne that was developed c. 1839 by 2nd Baron Crofton as a formal approach to the house.

6.3.2 Policy submissions

Submission on *National Policy on Architecture* (March 2020)

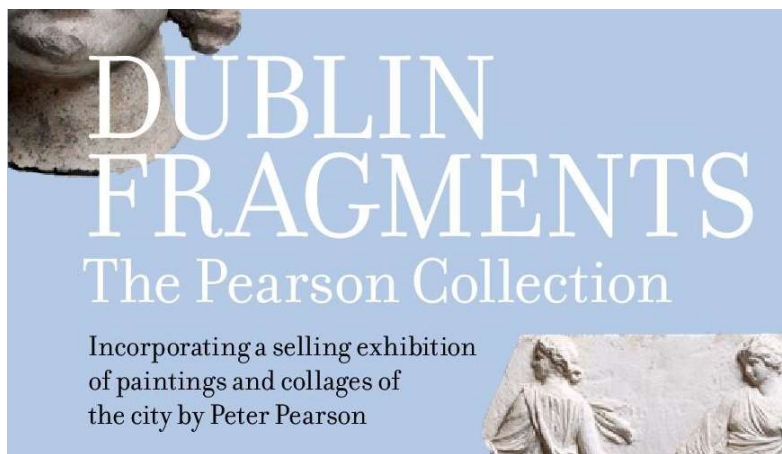
Submission to *Cork City Council Heritage Plan 2021-2025* (April 2020)

IGS response to *Programme for Government - our shared future* (July 2020)

6.4 City Assembly House Events Programme

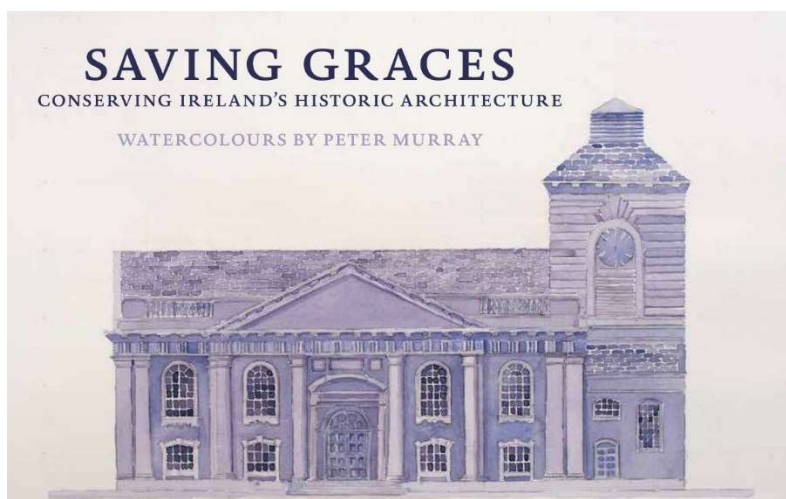
Exhibition: Dublin Fragments : the Pearson Collection

Installation of architectural fragments collected since the 1970s by the artist and historian Peter Pearson which presented a dazzling display of Dublin craftsmanship and was accompanied by an exhibition of his artworks.



Exhibition: Exhibition: “Saving Graces”- Conserving Ireland’s Architecture (2000-2020)

An exhibition of drawings and watercolour paintings by Peter Murray, former Director of the Crawford Art Gallery and IGF board member, that provided a visual record of restoration projects supported by the Irish Georgian Society over the past twenty years through its Chapters in the United States and in London.



6.5 Members' Events Programme

January

- *'Some Old Ulster Houses and their Chatelaines'* Lecture with Daniel Calley
- *'Landed Estates of County Roscommon'* Lecture with Paul Connolly
- February
- *'Contrasting counties: a view of the architecture of Central Leinster'* Lecture with Andrew Tierney

March

- *'Capard: Writing the history of an Irish country house and estate'* Lecture with Ciaran Reilly
- Member's Preview of Dublin Fragments exhibition with Peter Pearson
- July
- Grangegorman Walking Tour with Dublin Decoded

August

- Blackpitts Walking Tour with Dublin Decoded
- September
- Docklands Walking Tour with Joseph Lynch
- *'Monksgrange: A trefoil of house, landscape and garden'* Virtual Lecture with Jeremy Hill
- *'The Fortunes & Possessions of the Great Houses of Co. Louth'* Virtual Lecture with George Williams
- *'Magnificence amidst the misery: Queen Victoria visits Ireland'* Virtual Lecture with Paula Lalor

October

- Rathmines Walking Tour with Dublin Decoded
- Around the Liffey Walking Tour with Dublin Decoded

November

- Portobello Walking Tour with Dublin Decoded
- Ballsbridge Walking Tour with Dublin Decoded

December

- Virtual Christmas Celebration and Raffle

6.6 Chapter, IGS London & IGS Inc Events

It was possible for our Chapters to deliver only a very limited number of events during 2020 due to the Covid crisis. These included the following events held by IGS London:

February:

- Visit to Charterhouse and St Johns Gate with Esme Fay, a member of the IGS London Events Committee
- Lecture on Glenarm Castle Estate by Viscount Dunluce

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

On the following pages, you will find details of the financial results of the Irish Georgian Foundation for 2020 in a format which has been presented to the Society for many years.

Copies of the full audited financial statements for 2020 are available at our Annual Meeting for inspection by members. These audited statements will be filed with the Companies Registration Office and the Charities Regulatory Authority during October and be available on our website.

The income and expenditure account shows that the Society earned an operating surplus of €54,978. Operations for 2020 were impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic and the government restrictions applied to protect public health. Events and other activities were cancelled or curtailed which reduced income, however, due to government wage supports and grants, generous donations and a reduction in overheads, the net result for 2020 was favourable. Adding this surplus to our general reserves brings it to €106,099 at the financial year end.

Having, after some delay found a tenant for the basement area, we were looking forward to another good year in 2020 until the global pandemic shut down all activity for a few months and continues to affect our operations. Fortunately, the Society has the benefit of cash reserves augmented by a 2019 successful fundraising campaign which we hope will sustain operations until we see more normal times in the future. Fundraising efforts have recommenced, and the Society is positive about its prospects for a better economic environment.

Wishing you remain well and stay safe.

Charlie Sweeney



7.1 Income & Expenditure Account

for the year ended 31 December 2020

		2020 €	2019 €
INCOME	Note		
Irish Georgian Society Members' subscriptions	1	115,495	120,696
Donations, bequests and other funds raised	2	85,982	159,194
Income tax recovered on certain donations		4,000	5,986
Net income from operations		143,909	208,988
Deposit interest and investment income		550	600
Grant amortisation		86,357	86,357
Government VAT compensation scheme		3,257	5,134
Net surplus on art exhibitions		3,722	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total income		443,272	586,955
		<hr/>	<hr/>
EXPENDITURE			
Salaries and pension costs		(255,002)	(287,958)
Government wage supports		61,528	-
Operational expenses and information technology		(74,190)	(103,966)
Office rent and storage		(1,000)	(1,000)
Publications, postage and stationery		(18,501)	(28,992)
Bank and loan interest and charges		(9,587)	(11,674)
Professional fees		(9,904)	(17,559)
Motor, travelling and fund-raising expenses		(1,050)	(11,355)
Insurance		(6,166)	(4,326)
Depreciation of fixed assets		(74,422)	(93,324)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total expenditure		(388,294)	(560,154)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Surplus for year (general funds)		54,978	26,801
		=====	=====

7.2 Notes to the income & Expenditure Account

31 December 2020

Presentation

The Irish Georgian Foundation, a charitable organisation operating as the 'Irish Georgian Society', receives subscriptions from the Society's members. The Foundation maintains membership and financial records and produces financial statements in accordance with relevant companies and charities legislation which are audited and filed with the Companies Registration Office and the Charities Regulatory Authority annually.

This report summarises income and expenditure from the audited financial statements of the Foundation and includes information about its activities for the financial year with the aim of keeping members informed of how the objects of promoting and furthering the advancement of education in the fine arts in Ireland and maintaining and preserving buildings of special architectural merit are achieved.

(I) IGS MEMBERS' SUBSCRIPTIONS

	2020	2019
	€	€
Ireland	89,690	88,012
United Kingdom	17,526	14,680
United States of America	8,279	18,004
	<u>115,495</u>	<u>120,696</u>

	2020	2019
Paid active membership figures at 31 December are	1,551	1,679

(II) DONATIONS, BEQUESTS, AND OTHER FUNDS RAISED

	2020	2019
	€	€
2019 fund-raising drive	4,000	50,050
Donation of deposits on cancelled events	3,330	-
Private donations	11,978	16,861
US donor	20,503	-
Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage	10,000	-
American Ireland Fund	-	8,712
Patrons and other members' donations	29,450	18,700
US Auctions	6,721	64,871
	<u>85,982</u>	<u>159,194</u>

7.2 Notes to the income & Expenditure Account

continued 31 December 2020

A number of other donations were received in 2020 which were for garden exhibitions originally planned for 2020 but due to Covid-19 were postponed. These funds are carried forward until such time as the exhibitions take place.

In 2012 the Foundation received a bequest of €500,000 from the late Mrs Elizabeth Burke, a deceased member of the Irish Georgian Society, which has been transferred to a special fund. In 2018 and prior years €250,000 from this fund was used for fundraising and development which had been approved by the Board, leaving a balance of €250,000 on this fund at 31 December 2020.

(III) GRANTS PAID

Since 2014 the Foundation has operated a small grants programme with funding from IGS London and IGS Inc in the USA. The following grants were made from restricted funds:

Programme year	2020 €	2019 €
Fund designated for programme year plus unspent from prior years	22,000	22,000
Grant payments for approved projects in prior years	-	-
Grant payments for approved projects in current year	(22,000)	(22,000)
Balance unspent at 31 December	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Details of the projects funded are given in another section of this report.

(IV) CITY ASSEMBLY HOUSE

In 2011, the Foundation entered into a thirty-year lease of 58 South William Street, Dublin, which is referred to as the City Assembly House. Between October 2012 and June 2013, phase one of conservation works were carried out with funds raised by the Society and a grant from Dublin City Council. In July 2013, The Foundation moved into the building. Restoration works on the exhibition room and universal access were completed in May 2018, in time for the “Society of Artists” major art exhibition in June 2018. The basement space was sub-let in October 2019 and generated €11,638 (2019: €8,363) income in that year.

The restoration work received an award from the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland (RIAI) for the best re-use of a building in 2018.

The Foundation acknowledges the support of members in the USA, UK and Ireland, of other bodies including The Ireland Funds, Dublin City Council and the Department of Art, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs in enabling and funding this major restoration project.

(V) HERITAGE ASSETS

The Foundation owns a collection of furniture and artefacts, most of which are on display in Castletown House. The items owned by the Foundation in Castletown House and in other houses had a valuation of €1,291,400 as at 31 December 2020 (2019: €1,359,790) which includes a collection of miniature portraits, 18th century book-bindings and a collection of John Nankivell drawings.

SUMMARY OF IGS INC TRANSFERS 2020

Country House Garden initiatives	€
Gardens exhibitions	44,788
Gardens documentary	12,640
Sub-total	<u>57,428</u>
Scholarship & education	
Irish Architectural & Decorative Studies	8,291
Conservation Education Programme	17,093
Desmond Guinness Scholarship	18,313
	<u>43,697</u>
General funds	
Conservation/education/programmatic	30,840
Great Irish Houses getaway auction (NY 2019)	12,522
Sub-total	<u>43,362</u>
Membership subscriptions	
Jan-Dec 2019	8,279
Sub-total	<u>8,279</u>
TOTAL	€152,766