

Gloster Arch – Conservation works

Heritage Seminar - 17 November 2018

Rachel Mc Kenna



FLIGHTS OF FANCY

FOLLIES, FAMILIES AND DEMESNES IN OFFALY

BY RACHEL MC KENNA



Gloster Demesne

- 1639 Trevor Lloyd m Margaret Rose Medhop (dau Francis Medhop landowner)
- Trevor's son, Medhop m Hannah Lovett (aunt of Sir Edward Lovett Pearce)
- Their son Trevor remodelled Gloster House prior to 1733











Barbara Jones who wrote the book *Follies and Grottoes* in 1989, describes the Gloster example as:

'a very nice folly indeed, a friendly and charming object with careful square mouldings, about twenty feet high.

It was designed by Sir Edward Lovett Pearce as a vista closer at the end of a clair-voyé from the house'

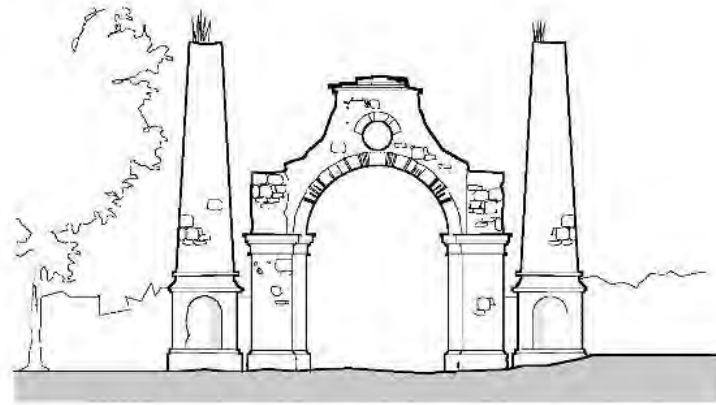
Survey

The Arch formed part of a survey of

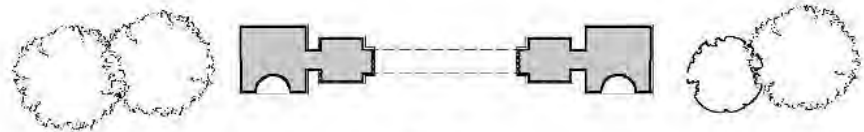
Eleven Follies in Offaly

- commissioned by Offaly County Council,
- carried out by Howley Hayes architects 2013 and
- funded by the Heritage Council

GLOSTER GATEWAY



WEST ELEVATION



PLAN



SCALE 1:100 @ A4



'The Gloster folly with its sophisticated classical detailing, early use of the obelisk form ... which frames the countryside ... make this a most impressive eye-catcher and a garden building of the first order.

The structure is of national importance for its architectural quality and association with Ireland's greatest architect of the e18c'. Howley Hayes



Condition of Folly prior to works





2018 Conservation Project

Funding Sources

- BHIS
- Follies Trust
- Apollo Foundation
- Creative Ireland
- Owner Funding

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An Roinn
Cultúir, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta
Department of
Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht



THE
FOLLIES TRUST

THE APOLLO FOUNDATION
*Established by the late Sir Alfred and Lady Beit to further
the fine arts in Ireland.*

Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme
2017–2022



GLOSTER HOUSE
& GARDENS

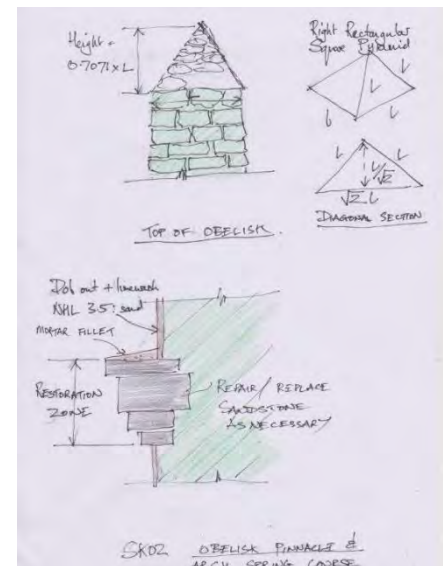
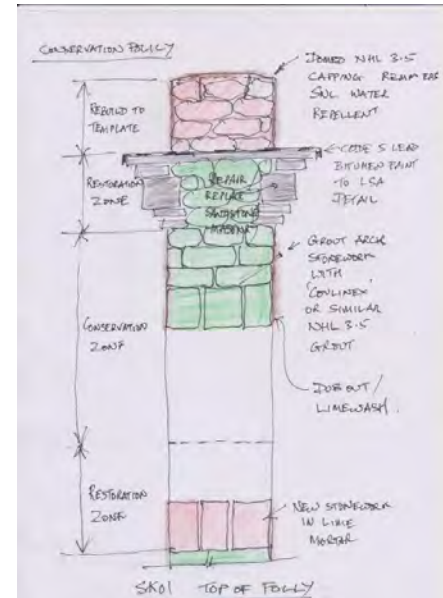
Heritage Week Tour



Chris Southgate – Conservation Engineer

Method Statement

- Preworks to vegetation
- Trimming Ivy
- Root treatment (not remove deep roots – inject root treatment system)
- Record photographs post vegetation removal
- Lime mortar repairs - repointing
- Restoration areas based on existing evidence
- Contractor: Mid West Lime



Before
During
After



Wings Walls









Arch and Oculus













Obelisks



Plinths













Gloster Arch 2018



Thank you!