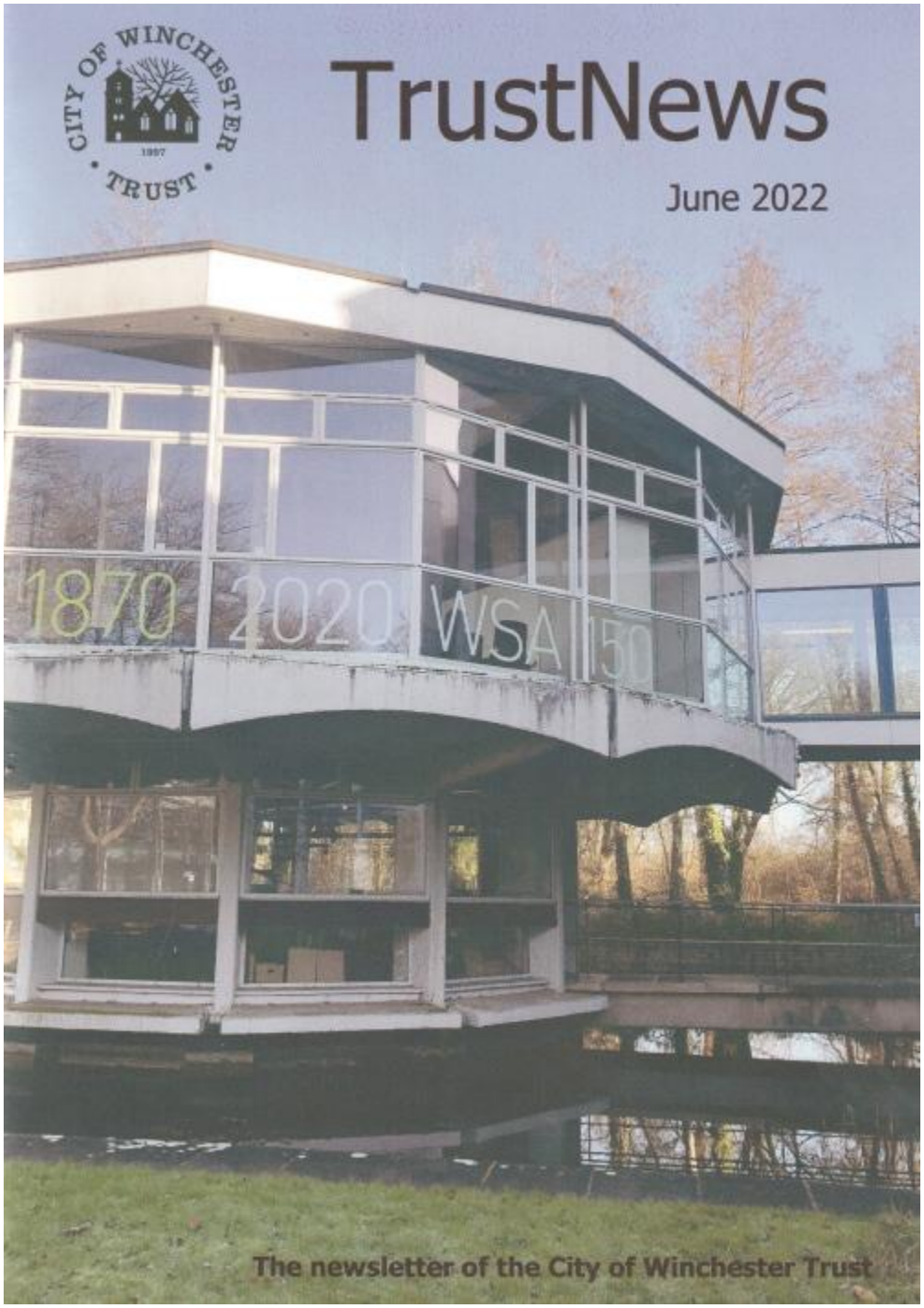
School of Art Rotunda - TrustNews Jun 22



The Rotunda, Winchester School of Art. (Photo J Martin)

Chairman's Jottings - TrustNews Jun 22


Winchester High Street, early 19th century (Photo City of Winchester Trust)

I expect many of you will have seen the article on Jack Thompson in the Hampshire Chronicle a few weeks ago. I thought it would be interesting to consider how Winchester and District's planning issues were addressed at the time that Jack was Director of Planning, that is from 1974-1990, and compare them to planning procedures today. Much of the article (which you can find on page 10) is based on my memory as an architect who started an office at roughly the same time as Jack arrived to take up the Winchester City planning directorship, so the memory cells may be found wanting from time to time! If so, I invite others to write in and correct me, or add their consideration on the subject.

Apart from two headline proposals that the department inherited, I do recall uring Jack's tenure that there were a fair number of housing estate planning applications arriving on Winchester's planning desks, most of which, if not all, the planning department wrestled with in order to try and improve the layouts, materials etc. A struggle then with volume developers, which is replicated today, so this leads on to my next subject: has volume housing improved?

Despite the government and local authorities making efforts to improve the way housing estates are delivered, they, in my opinion, still generally fail to deliver a place that is a pleasure to visit, a place that provides a community spirit which can be enjoyed by the inhabitants.

Volume builders are not particularly interested in context, place-making or community health; they are only interested in delivering an estate using a standard formula which obeys all the basic rules set out by the various authorities. They therefore end up churning out similar estates all over the country, and we are left with developments where the vehicle is the most important requirement and everything else, including people, comes second. In fact, land use take up for vehicle requirements is roughly 50%, with the other 50% for houses and gardens. Builders also consider that potential purchasers prefer detached houses set a metre or so apart, which does not result in a sense of place but does tend to project an unfriendly, regimented ribbon development.

In a recent White Paper on estate planning, the Government uses the word 'well designed' many times, but there is no explanation as to what good design means. I am certain that if you asked ten people to describe the phrase, you would receive ten very different answers to the problem of what constitutes good design.

Keith Leaman

Planning Appraisal Group - TrustNews Jun 22

We report on the group's work over the last quarter.

The last few months of planning applications reviewed by our four PAG panels haven't included anything too controversial, with the possible exception of the plans for a large McDonalds in the car park of the Tesco at Winnall. PAG panel members recently met with representatives of McDonalds and their PR company to hear more about the proposed development, and passed on concerns about increased and possibly superfluous signage and traffic and congestion.

The implications for the City of the rise in applications for student housing are also of concern to the Trust, whether for the conversion of houses into ‘Houses of Multiple Occupation’ (HMOs) or purpose built.

One thing that is always extremely frustrating for the panels is when planning applications are posted on the City Council's website without the documentation we need to assess them properly. Sometimes the most basic information is not available to view, including plans and elevations, floorplans and even the application form itself. It is not clear whether this is because they have not been provided by the applicant, or have simply not been uploaded to the website.

In March, PAG panel members met with Julie Pinnock, WCC's service lead for the built environment, who is responsible for development control. We were able to raise a number of issues, most importantly how PAG can ensure its comments on applications are as useful and relevant as possible. We look forward to continuing our discussions at these regular meetings with Julie.

The Trust welcomes informative comments from local people, but must avoid being in?uenced by vested interests or personal matters. Individuals who believe their interests are being affected by proposed schemes are advised to contact their Ward Councillors, who have more in?uence over such matters. If you would like to see details of Trust objections to planning applications and their fate, please go to the monthly PAG reports on our website.

Once again we thank the PAG panel members, who are all volunteers, for carrying out their important work. We have a number of vacancies on our panels at present, so if you have an interest in planning and development in Winchester and would like to become a member of a panel, please contact Tessa {secretary@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk} it's not a big commitment - just

an hour or two per month - and no experience is necessary - training will be provided.

The Trust welcomes informative comments from local people, but must avoid being influenced by vested interests or personal matters. Individuals who believe their interests are being affected by proposed schemes are advised to contact their Ward Councillors, who have more influence over such matters. If you would like to see details of Trust objections to planning applications and their fate, please go to the monthly PAG reports on our website.

Winchesters around the world - TrustNews Jun 22

There are 34 places in the world called Winchester

From the USA and Canada, to Jamaica, Brazil and New Zealand, there are a total of 34 towns in the world named Winchester, including our own historic city.

Twenty-six of these towns are spread across the USA, in such varied locations as Massachusetts, Missouri, Kansas, Idaho and California. Jamaica has three Winchesters, while Canada, New Zealand, Brazil and Australia each have one.



Methodist Church, Winchester Ontario



War Memorial, Winchester, New Zealand


Winchester, California, USA

Most of the other Winchesters are smaller than our own Winchester:

Winchester, Ontario, for example, has a population of under 2,500, while Winchester in Western Australia appears to be even smaller, with the 2006 census not even mentioning it, and listing only the nearby village of Carnamah, with just under 500 residents.

From Ancient to Modern: 95 years of Winchester School of Art - TrustNews Jun 22

Judith Martin looks at the origins of the Schoool of Art as it plans to expand

Art schools are anarchic, bohemian places, in the public mind at least. Artists are disreputable and generally regarded with suspicion, not just in the early 20th century. There may be some justification in this as artists frequently like to shock. For every starchy figure like Munnings, with his horses, or Holman Hunt, pained by the sacrilegious behaviour of his fellow Pre-Raphaelites, there were several others bolstering the public's prejudice, such as Augustus John with his two wives (at least) and his gipsy caravan, and the Bloomsberries, living, as they say, in squares and loving in triangles.

And yet in the 1860s it was a number of Winchester College dons who conceived and promoted an art school for Winchester, which began life in the highly respectable Bishop's Palace. By 1876 it was housed in a fine extension to the Guildhall, where you can still see the carved name of the School of Art. As it grew, it added temporary new premises across the city, including what was the Reference Library on North Walls. Then when the Guildhall premises were requisitioned for the war effort in the second world war, the temporary premises became permanent, until the 1960s.

It's unclear how the independent School of Art came to be under the aegis of local government, but post-war, the search for permanent new premises was led by the (unnamed) County Land Officer. His colleague, County Architect H Benson Ansell, was appointed in 1960. When the site on Park Avenue was chosen, it took some time to develop plans, not least because of the challenging ground conditions. A write-up on the eventual plans in the journal The Surveyor, in February 1963, notes

that ‘test drillings showed a wide variety of results, with, in one case, over 74’ of soft chalk



’.
The original model of the Rotunda (From
Official Architecture and Planning, September 1963)

Ansell would be responsible for a large proportion of the largely unloved rectilinear public buildings in Winchester, many of them demolished (Hampshire Police Headquarters on Romsey Road, Winchester Police HQ on North Walls) or considerably reconfigured (Hampshire County Council's own of?ces at Ashburton Court on Sussex Street), but there is no doubt that the Rotunda at the School of Art is designed to lift the heart.

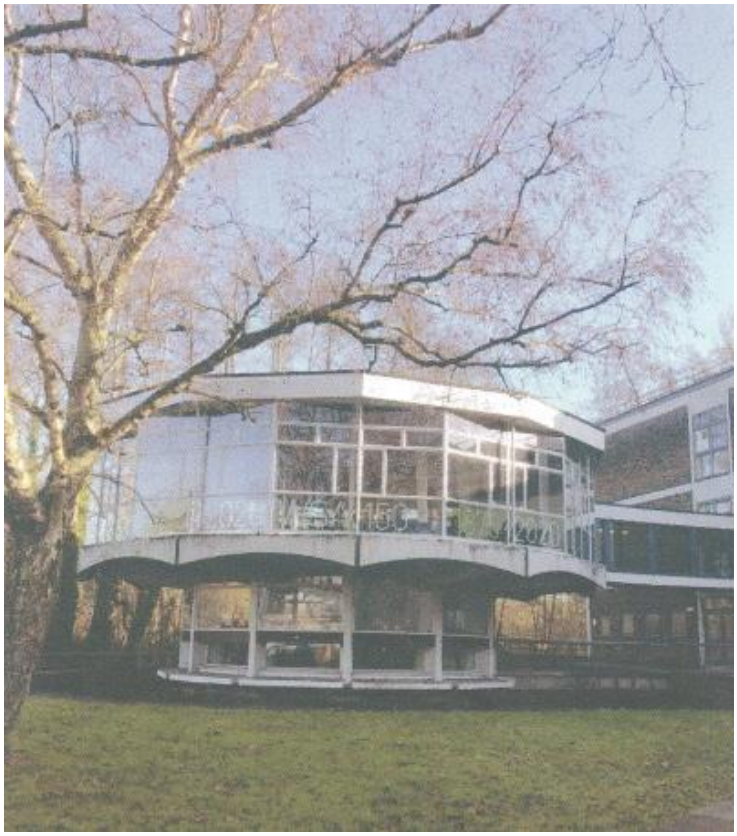


The Hampshire Team round the drawing board. L to R:
H Tandle, R Kennard, F W Dunford, G J D Reynolds, H Benson Ansell, F C M Morris, P Hughes (From Education 29 March 1963)

There is very little in the public domain about Ansell as a man, and the only published photo of him, in the journal Education, where in 1963 he writes about schools in Hampshire, suggests a serious figure, not given to frivolity. But the twelve-sided jewel-box of a library, designed to reflect in the water from which it rises, is like a folly, more in keeping with the playfulness of at least one of its alumni: John Buckley, who fought a long battle with Oxford City Council to be allowed to show the shark he made plunging into the roof of his friend's house.

Winchester School of Art was dissolved by Act of Parliament in 1996, and its property, rights and responsibilities were transferred to the University of Southampton. The university was keen to expand, and in 1998 it took on the Textile Conservation Centre which had been based at Hampton Court. However, the Toblerone blocks – the triangular buildings designed to house the Centre by the next County Architect, Colin Stansfield Smith, next door to Ansell's buildings - were demolished when the TCC was closed in 2009.

There are now a number of more recent buildings on the site, by reputable architects, and several academic functions other than art, but it's noticeable how it is the Rotunda that is generally used in promotional material.


The Rotunda today (P Martin)

The write-up in The Surveyor, mentioned above, explained how ‘the twelve-sided library rises out of an ornamental pool...and is entered by a bridge at first floor level and by a stepping stone path to the small exhibition room at ground level’, and described the whole proposal as ’an attractive layout retaining the maximum number of existing trees….’ The pool is now (in May) full of duckweed, and the concrete is

stained, but with care and attention it could again be the pinnacle of the Art School ensemble.

The best account of the Headington shark is here:http://www.newyorker.com/news/letter-from-the-uk/in-memory-of-the-englishman-who-kept-a-shark-on-his-roof

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Appealing Design - TrustNews Jun 22

A new report by the Place Alliance urges local authorities to refuse poorly designed developments.

Local authority planners have often been reluctant to refuse poorly designed developments, despite the guidance in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) that states: “Development that is not well designed should be refused" (para 134).

This reluctance appears to have been underpinned by six perceptions:

- Design is too subjective
- Quantity not quality is prioritised
- Housebuilders are too formidable
- Good design takes too long
- Design is an afterthought
- Costs will be awarded against the local authority

The report, which is supported by Civic Voice, the Royal Town Planning institute, the Urban Design Group and Urban Design Learning, analysed data from planning appeals and other evidence which demonstrate that these do not bear out planners’ concerns. A number of case studies are included in the report, which concludes that local planning authorities should do as government policy asks and reject poor and mediocre housing design.

The report, Appealing Design: the evidence of planning appeals and the need to reject poor and mediocre housing design, can be downloaded at placealliance.org.uk/research/appealing-design/.

The good the bad and the ugly? - TrustNews Jun 22

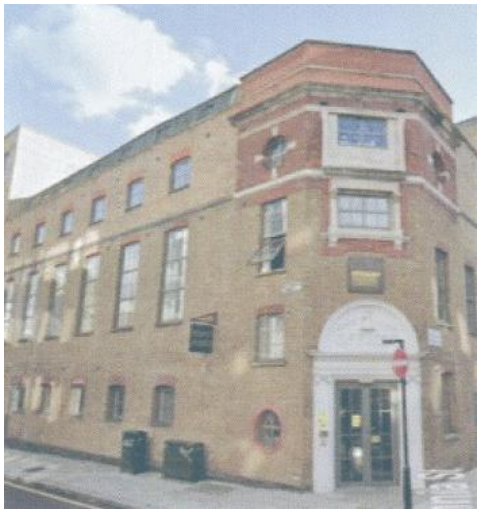
Some examples of good and bad design recently discovered by the Trust.



A lesss than subtle dormer treatment



King's Cross 2008 before Refurbishment

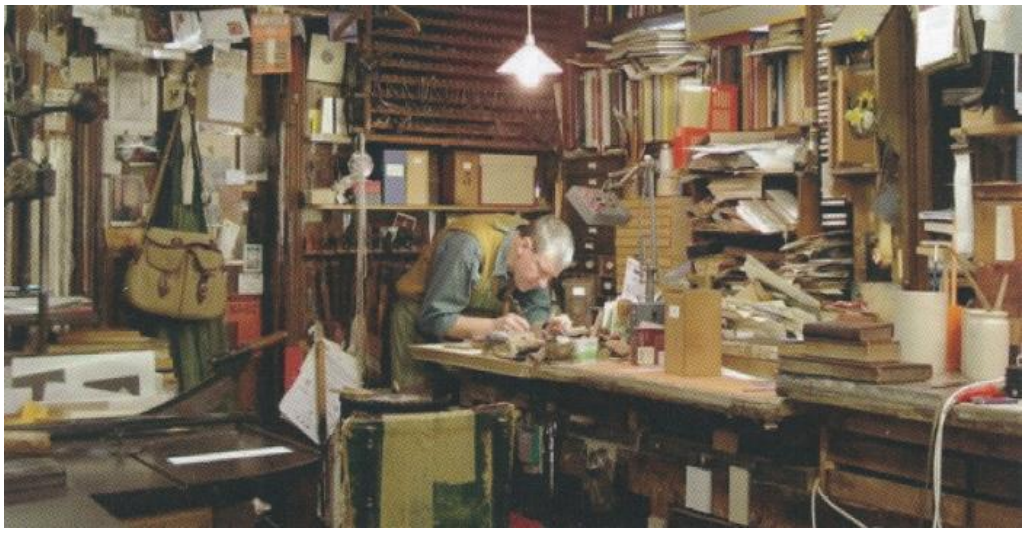


King's Cross 2020 after Refurbishment

King's Cross, 2008 and 2020. A sensitively added upper storey can enhance an old building, and in this case helped pay for its refurbishment.

The Winchester Bindery - TrustNews Jun 22

Sue Chopping, Hampshire Archives Trust, on the recent visit.



Tim Wiltshire in the Winchester Bindery

On 6th April, Tim Wiltshire very kindly hosted a visit to his Bindery, at the rear of P&G Wells the bookshop in College Street, for the Hampshire Archives Trust and its associated organisations in Hampshire, as he is retiring at the end of May. Among those who were lucky enough to be able to attend were members of the City of Winchester Trust.

The workshop has been at these premises since 1729 but at various places within the building. Where it is now, is in an outbuilding which was previously the lawn at the rear of the shop and to get to the workshop one treads the original garden path!

Once inside it contains a wonderfully eclectic mixture of all the tools of his trade, mixed with mementos such as the original book page cutters from the 18th century. These are huge scissor like blades over three feet long, which now hang from the ceiling. There is also a narwhal horn, purchased by Tim's father - absolutely nothing to do with bookbinding but fascinating anyway!

Rolls of beautiful multi-coloured leather and cloth are stacked along one wall, along with reams of paper of all thicknesses and colours. At the rear, an enormous iron book press, again an original, is bolted to the floor, as its weight would easily result in the demise of the operator if it tipped. What a treasure, and who on earth could move it?

Tim talked to three groups of us about his working life, showing beautiful samples of his expertise and craft, including exquisite gilded tooling and how to judge and use

vellum. And who knew there are names for the various areas on the spine of a bound book?

Tim also talked about the lack of apprentices coming into the craft and his hopes that this will not be a skill slowly lost by a lack of recognition of its importance in preserving our bibliographic heritage. Tim's retirement is well deserved but he and his iconic workroom will be very much missed by Winchester's cultural diversity.

Summer Walks - TrustNews Jun 22

Places for our summer walks programme are going fast and many are already full.



King Alfred's Statue on a plinth of Cornish (Penryn) granite

At the time of writing there were spaces available on the following walks:

Winchester in Stone with John Parker (28 July)

Have you ever thought about the construction of the buildings that make up the Winchester we know today? From flint to brick, from Quarr, Caen and Malmstone to Portland Stone and Purbeck marble, the stone that makes up the city is many and varied, and provides a fascinating way of looking at its history from a different perspective. John's walk will start at the Cathedral, and will take in the Guildhall and the High Street.

Hyde Abbey with Anna Withers (4 August)

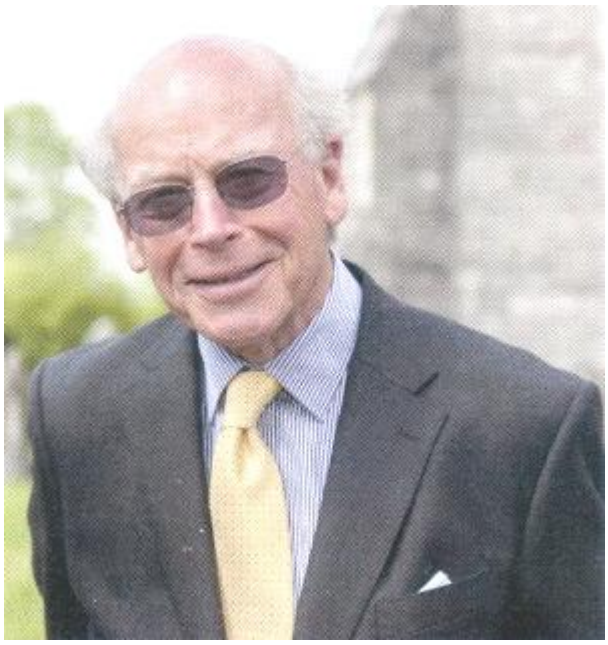
Anna Withers is an experienced and knowledgeable Winchester Cathedral Guide and is the co-author of the booklet Heroes & Villains of Winchester Cathedral . She gives talks on the Cathedral and on Hyde Abbey.

If you would like to join one of these walks, or be added to the waiting list for one of the walks that is currently full, please email Tessa at secretary@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk

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Planning in Winchester - TrustNews Jun 22

Keith Leaman profiles Jack Thompson, Winchester's first Director of Planning, and gives some thoughts on planning in the City today.



Jack Thompson

In 1974, local government was reorganised so that Winchester became Winchester and District. The reorganisation meant that many of the towns and villages that surround Winchester came under one administration. Prior to 1974, Winchester City was an authority with responsibility just for the City itself, with a City Council and a Town Clerk. The Council had limited control over planning matters, but in 1974 this changed, and the new Planning Department took on responsibility for development control, forward planning, conservation and tree preservation orders, all of which had been managed previously by Hampshire County Council. Jack Thompson was appointed as Director of Planning.

Prior to his appointment, Jack had been responsible for running many of the planning issues concerning the southern areas of the county, during his time as Assistant Director of Planning at the County Council, so he was a natural choice for the new post. Jack was a qualified architect and planner, and as Director of Planning he represented the planning department at the top table of the new Council.

As an architect, Jack had been employed by Eric Lyons, one of the leading architectural practices of the 60s and 70s, so he was well able to judge what constituted good and bad buildings and the planning implications that could affect an area. Two other ingredients Jack had were diplomacy and leadership qualities. Partly because of his abilities, he attracted a very strong team of planners to work in the new department, many who stayed throughout his tenure, giving the department continuity. The department commanded respect from both councillors and the public and also from the professionals who were directly involved with the planning process.

A difficult start - the M3 extension and the ring road



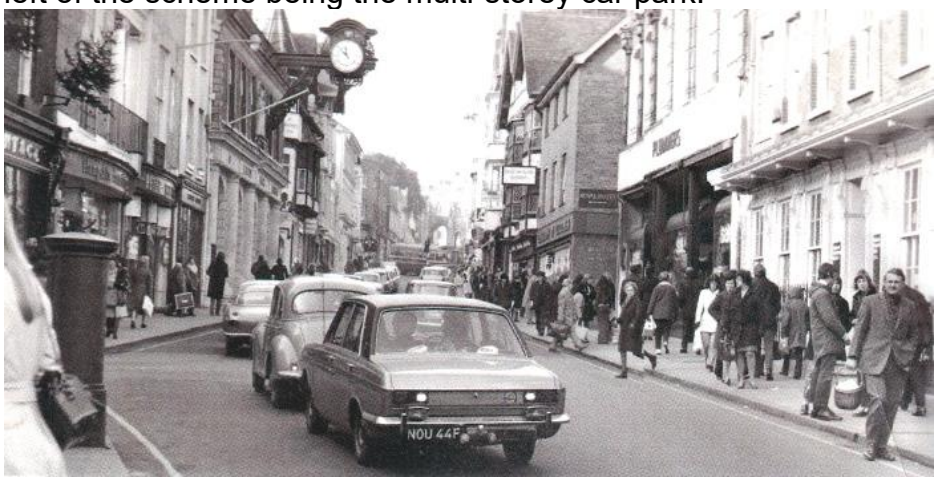
M3 extension construction, 1993 (Photo City of Winchester Trust)

The early days of the new planning department were a baptism of fire, for they inherited both the M3 extension being put forward at that time by the Department of Transport, and a proposal to create a three quarter inner ring road around Winchester, both of which were likely to have a detrimental impact on Winchester's conservation areas.

The route being proposed by the Department of Transport, regardless of the damage to the City, was through the water meadows and then through Otterbourne, this no doubt being considered as the cheapest route. The M3 became a cause celebre nationally, and the new planning department was at the forefront of preparing and then presenting evidence at public enquiries. These were crucial in the decision to move the route south and east to the current position - not ideal, but a good deal better than the previous proposal. Jack and his team would have preferred a tunnel, but the government considered this a financial step too far.

The three quarter ring road proposal was being promoted by Hampshire County Council as well as Winchester City Council. For the City Council it meant a substantial amount of money, as the route opened up large scale development possibilities ranged along the foot of St Giles Hill. It was recognised by the new planning department how damaging such development was going to be to the

conservation area, and to the setting. Jack Thompson managed to convince Councillors and a reluctant Chief Executive of the errors of their proposals, and both the inner ring road and the oversized development were dropped, the only vestige left of the scheme being the multi-storey car park.



Winchester High Street in 1973 before pedestrianisation (Photo City of Winchester Trust)

One visionary scheme that has brought a positive impact on Winchester was the pedestrianisation of the High Street, not a popular choice by all at the time, but the planning department thought it well worth fighting for.

There were of course many other issues that had to be dealt with during Jack Thompson's era, but they were generally dealt with respect, knowledge and imagination, as well as guidance to all concerned when necessary.

Since the mid-90s planning has changed. Planning has been downgraded in its influence within all local planning authorities, shown by the loss of the Director of Planning post among the most senior officers. In Winchester the department does not have the time or money to advise on and debate applications. The strategic planning department has less of a role within the City Council, and development control has taken a goalkeeping position rather than a proactive one. The end result has often been some poor decision-making, resulting in the waste of public money. On top of this is the loss of experienced planning officers, caused by over 10 year's of austerity squeezing local government budgets.

Winchester now appoints outside consultancies to help with decisions on strategic planning matters. This has produced mixed results. So much depends on the quality of the firms appointed, the quality of the briefing they receive and the judgemental ability of the departments involved when analysing results.

Peter Symonds' School - TrustNews Jun 22

In the second instalment marking the 125th anniversary of Peter Symonds' School, Phil Yates reflects on his time at the school during the Second World War

I began my time at Peter Symonds' School in 1937 when Dr PY Freeman (known as 'Doc') was headmaster. Two years later, on 3rd September 1939, the Second World War began, and this disrupted our education in many ways. Air raid shelters were quickly constructed in the playing fields and we, with the teachers, were trained on what to do in the case of an air raid.

In 1940, the pupils from Portsmouth Grammar School for Boys were evacuated to Winchester, resulting in the re-organisation of school lessons. They took over the school for morning lessons, while we attended lessons in the afternoons. Eighteen months later they found alternative accommodation and we went back to normal.

When we reached the age of 14, Doc encouraged us to join the nightly fire-watching team, which consisted of a teacher and two boys patrolling the school and grounds from 10pm to 7am, keeping an eye out for ?res. This meant we had the following morning off school to catch up on lost sleep!

As we approached the age of 16, plans were made for us to leave school. We were expected to sit for leaving exams – the school certificate. Some of us didn't bother and left school without taking the exams, much to the annoyance of Doc. L remember he called three of us into his study to give us a lecture on how we would get nowhere in life without a school certificate. We left anyway. Many years later at a reunion of Old Symondians, I caught up with the other two. One had become a BT engineer and the other a cinema organist of some renown - he even had a TV programme made about him. And me? I became a Fellow of the Institute of Legal Executives working for a local firm of solicitors for 40 years.

In May 1972 the last 11-plus entry for boys took place, and September 1974 saw the first admissions of boys and girls to the renamed Peter Symonds Sixth Form College.

This is Phil's last article for TrustNews. Now in his mid-90s, he has decided to retire. The Trust would like to thank Phil for the many articles he has written for the newsletter over many years.

RIBA South Awards 2022 - TrustNews Jun 22

Three developments in Winchester have received RIBA South awards this year



Barton Farm Primary Academy (Photo Keith Evans)

Thirteen entries across the south were selected by a panel of expert judges for RIBA South awards this year. Three were in Winchester.

Barton Farm Primary Academy was designed by HCC Property Services. The judges said: "Barton Farm is another exemplar from the Hampshire County Council stable, and it continues the tradition of simple, self-effacing school buildings that feel like they really have been designed for children as much as grown-ups.

"There is also an elegant clarity to the building in section - circulation and offices are single-height with timber-framed ceilings and exposed services, whereas exposed lightweight steel trusses in the classrooms create a generous roof space, which encourages cross ventilation and provides additional daylight from the north. Exposed lightweight steel trusses in the classrooms lend a rural vernacular flavour to the building when seen from afar, reflecting the location of the school on the very edge of Winchester."

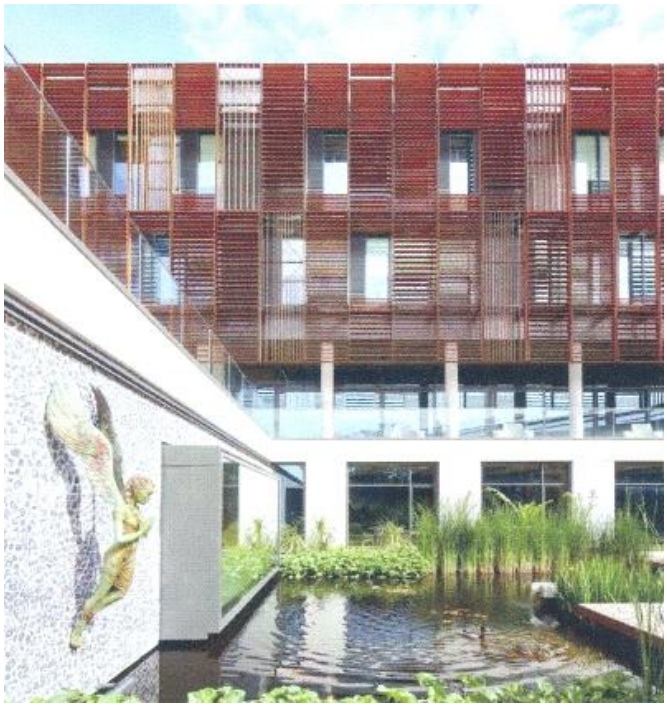


Lovedon Fields (Photo Jim Stephenson)

Lovedon Fields, on the edge of Kings Worthy, was designed by John Pardey Architects. The judges said: “Lovedon Fields was part of the client’s broader objective to achieve a step-change in the design quality that is expected of and delivered by rural housing developments and in the hard-nosed commercial context of mass housing, it is no mean feat to have achieved as much as it has.

‘There are many good basic ingredients in the mix - mixed tenure including 40% affordable dwellings and shared ownership; a mixture of apartments, terraces and detached houses.... timber frame structure; and plenty of green public space.

"The overall layout is structured around a street and a triangular green and, combined with the variation of house types and a gently sloping site, it creates a good balance of order and informality, in contrast to some of the other developments nearby."



University of Winchester West Downs Centre (Photo Hufton-Crow)

University of Winchester West Downs Centre, by Design Engine, has added to its existing clutch of design awards. The judges said: “The West Downs Centre is situated on an arterial road… and provides a new ‘gateway’ building to the rest of the university's less visible campus to its south-east. [its] clear and logical diagram is brought to life externally by the strong material palette, incorporating a knapped flint wall to the street, Corten facade screens to the auditorium and teaching building, and a sculptural saw-tooth zinc roof to the library“.

What do you think of the judges’ choice? Let us know at editor@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk

More information is available at:

architecture.com/awards-and-competitions-landing-page/awards/riba-regional-awards/riba-south—award-winners

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Brendon House - TrustNews Jun 22

We continue our occasional series on Winchester's houses and streets.



Brendon House, Park Road, Winchester (Photo Brendoncare)

Brendon House (named after the Brendon Hills in Somerset) is located in Park Road, a road which has an established character deriving from its original period of development, with large houses in generous gardens. Brendon House is one of the most distinguished, built on a grand scale in red brick with tall chimneys.

The house was built between 1905 and 1907, and the architects were Colson, Farrow and Nisbett. John Colson was Winchester Cathedral's architect for 40 years, until the end of the nineteenth century, and is especially remembered for his work on the building and restoration of some 120 churches. He also designed three notable landmarks in Winchester:

Morley College, the City Museum in the Square (both Grade 2 listed) and the west side extension to the Guildhall.

Colson, Farrow and Nisbett also designed locally significant houses such as the Manor House in Colden Common, Watley House in Twyford, Elms in Twyford, Twyford Lodge, St Waleric and Lynton in Park Road. Brendon House must have been one of their last commissions, as the firm was dissolved in 1907.



The Salutation, Sandwich, Kent (Photo The Salutation Hotel)

Brendon House was designed in a Queen Anne style practiced by a number of architects at that time including Sir Edwin Lutyens. Colson may have followed Lutyens s designs for this style of house, for there are remarkable similarities with the Lutyens designed Grade 1 listed The Salutation in Sandwich, Kent, as seen in the windows, elegant and ornate brickwork and tall chimneys of Brendon House. Brendon House is one of the few houses of such architectural distinction still in existence in north Winchester.

The house had seven bedrooms, a dining room, a drawing room and a morning room, as well as offices in a separate wing. It was designed for Barrow Simonds, but was sold soon afterwards to a member of his family, a Mr Bowker (Fred Bowker being Barrow Simond's father in law), and then to a Mrs Letheridge, who is listed as the owner in 1912.

From 1947 to 1953, the house was lived in by Air Chief Marshall Sir Douglas Evill and his family. Born in 1892, Sir Douglas was senior air commander during the Second World War, and as part of Fighter Command, had a crucial role in the Battle of Britain. He was played by Michael Redgrave in the 1969 film, The Battle of Britain. He was also Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire and lived in Winchester until his death in 1971.

In the 1970s, the elderly owner of Brendon House, Phoebe Bacon, invited friends to live with her to provide companionship. As time passed and they needed more care, a nursing wing was built in 1984 by Mrs Bacon's niece Sue Everitt and the distinguished Winchester GP Sir Ronald Gibson. Today the company that resulted, Brendoncare, still manages Brendon House as one of its ten care homes across the south of England.

We are grateful to Professor Roland Jung, who provided the document on which this article is based.

Transport planning for Hampshire - TrustNews Jun 22

Richard Baker reports on a new consultation that gives residents a chance to comment on Hampshire's plans for transport for the next ten years.

Hampshire County Council has a statutory requirement to have a Local Transport Plan (LTP), which sets out its vision for future transport and travel infrastructure.

As a result, the County Council has produced a Draft Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP4). It sets out the County Council's proposed policies and proposals for transport within Hampshire, looking ahead to 2050, and is out for public consultation until 26 June 2022. A final version is expected to be adopted by early 2023.

LTP3 was produced in 2011; LTP4 states that this Transport Plan is no longer relevant to today's challenges and opportunities. Part A of LTP3 contained a Long Term Strategy (2011-2031). For Winchester, the Strategy stated that a traffic management plan was under development with the potential for radical revisions to traffic routeing, including the possibility of the removal of the existing one-way system and in the longer term an aspiration to minimise traffic in the core of the city area. A Movement Strategy is being developed for Winchester, but almost nothing has been realised so far. Little is said about the Movement Strategy in LTP4, but its principles and policies are in line with the main objective of the Strategy of reducing the amount of traffic in the city centre, which the Trust supports.

LTP4 sets out priorities for transport that are within the responsibilities of the County Council. It does not set out policies for motorways, trunk roads and railways, which are the responsibility of national bodies.

The vision of LTP4 is a carbon neutral, resilient and inclusive transport system, designed around people, which supports health, wellbeing and quality of life for all, supports a prosperous economy and protects the environment.



To achieve this vision, LTP4 aims to decrease the use of the private car by integrated land use and transport planning that will reduce the need to travel, encourage walking and cycling and make public transport attractive and affordable.

The County recognises that land use planning is not integrated as well as it could be. Transport is the responsibility of the County Council, while planning decisions are

made by District and Borough Councils. The location of housing, employment and retail has led to increased travel, mainly by car.

LTP4 is long on policy but short on detailed measures of how implementation will achieve the desired results.

For Winchester city, Policy DM1 (to integrate transport and strategic land-use planning to reduce the need for travel) and policy DM2 (to support proactive master planning of new development sites for high quality neighbourhoods) are policies the Trust has long advocated.

The Trust will publish its response on the Trust website in June, so that members can use it to help make your own responses by 26th June.

The link to the relevant page on the HCC website is hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations/local-transport-plan

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Thirty Years Ago in TrustNews - TrustNews Jun 22

In a new series, we look back at topical Issues from 30 years ago

Back in summer 1992, the Trust's office, the Heritage Centre, was still also an exhibition centre. A special Eurotunnel exhibition, plus revolving displays on William Walker, Magdalen Hill Butterfly Reserve and Roger Brown‘s part model of Winchester in 1871 were on display in June.

The newsletter included a report on the 1992 urban planning lecture series entitled ‘Visions of Winchester‘, organised by the Trust's (now defunct) Urban Studies Committee. This "bridged the gap that so often separates planners, architects and citizens, and a sense of common purpose and responsibility for the future of an urban environment was evident throughout.”

Sara Dick-Reid wrote about Winchester's two ancient libraries: the Cathedral Library and the Fellows‘ Library of Winchester College. A new report by the English Historic Towns Forum, Townscape in Trouble, highlighted concerns about conservation areas in England, and there were articles on the Trust's comments on planning applications and the summer walks programme, still important parts of the Trust's activities.

You can read the complete articles from the Summer 1992 TrustNews by going to our online archive, where past issues of TrustNews dating back to 1985 are available. The online archive is at cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk/archives

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Six new listings by Historic England - TrustNews Jun 22

Historic England has marked the Platinum Jubilee by listing six buildings, including the Hampshire Record Office, writes Judith Martin



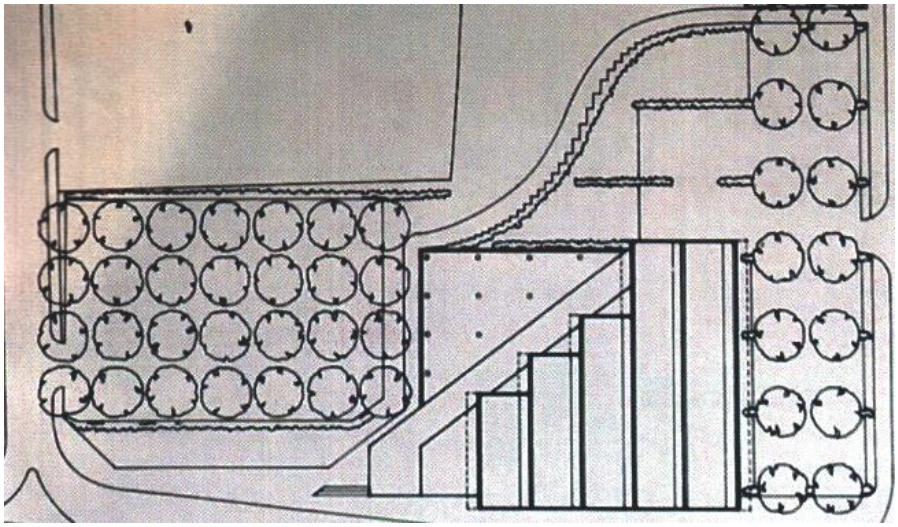
Hampshire Archives, aka Record Office (Photo J Martin)

Historic England has released a list of six new buildings they have designated, to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. (Why not seven?, one might ask, but no clues are given.)

All have a slight association with Her Majesty: the oldest, the imperial Hotel in Stroud, was refurbished in 1950, the same year, HE points out, that Princess Elizabeth, now the Queen, visited the hotel as part of a tour of the town. The Queen's Theatre in Hornchurch was built in coronation year, hence the name, and the two M62 motorway markers (yes, really) with their Yorkshire/Lancashire white and red roses, were installed where the road crosses the border between the historic counties, to mark the opening of the motorway by HRH in 1971.

The delightful 1933 Sun Pavilion and Colonnade in Harrogate was officially re-opened by the Queen in 1998. It was built by the borough surveyor as part of the inter-war movement for health and the outdoors.

Which brings us to the Winchester listing. HE call it Hampshire Archives but most of us know it as the Hampshire Record Office. It was built by another civil servant, the renowned county architect Colin Stansfield Smith, and opened by the Queen in 1993. Prince Philip, accompanying her, remarked on how it resembled a cruise liner. That might not be a compliment these days, as Venice has banned the huge vessels for the damage they cause, and when their most recent headlines have concerned the horrific rates of COVID-19 on board in early 2020. But it was a high compliment then, as its saw-tooth roof sails elegantly above the trees.



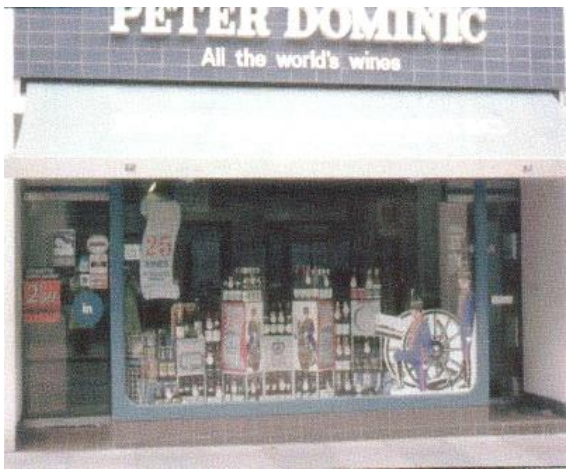
Drawing taken from Shools of Thought: Hampshire Architecture 1971-1991 by Richard Weston

The listing description notes that the foundation stone was laid on 17th March 1992, making it only just eligible for the 30-year listing rule. It also notes the three-fold brief for the design: to respect the adjacent Conservation Area; to meet the needs of the archive service and its users; and to use as little as possible of the earth's depleting natural resources . This is a remarkably modern approach, one that many builders have yet to address.

Stansfield Smith, who died in 2013, won the RIBA gold medal in 1991, to mark which event the RIBA held an exhibition complete with model and with a book about his work, titled Schools of Thought, reflecting the major part of his output. The drawing above comes from that book, and shows the way the diagonal design motif runs through the whole site.

Stansfield Smith became Sir Colin in 1993, for services to architecture - a title bestowed, of course, by the Queen. His building was not unrecognised before, but it is very good for Winchester to have it acknowledged by Historic England.

1977's Queen's Silver Jubilee in Winchester - TrustNews Jun 22



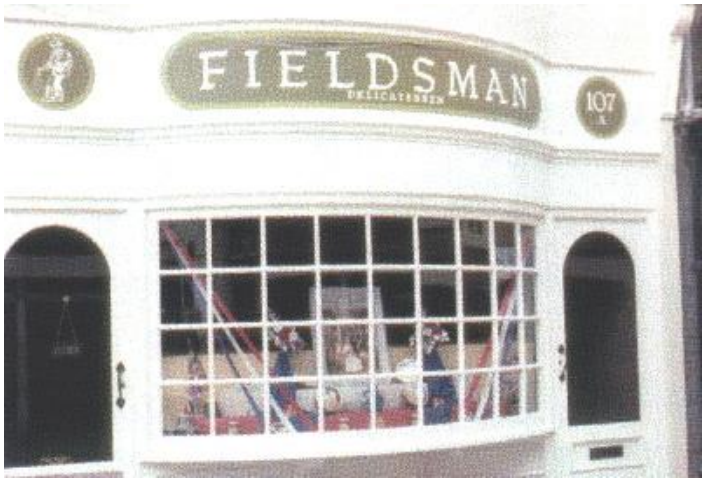

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