

Historic Buildings
Council for
WALES

44th

ANNUAL REPORT
1999 – 2000





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Published by the
National Assembly for Wales
in pursuance of
Section 2(8) of the
Historic Buildings and
Ancient Monuments Act 1953,
as applied by
section 3 of the same Act,
and as amended by
section 45 of the
Government of Wales Act 1998

Forty-Fourth Annual Report 1999–2000



To
Ms Sue Essex
National Assembly for Wales

Crown Building,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff CF10 3NQ

I am pleased to present to you the annual report of the Historic Buildings Council for Wales for the year ending 31 March 2000. This is our forty-fourth report but it relates to the first year we have provided advice to the National Assembly for Wales.

Council members have been pleased to provide independent and impartial advice not only on individual applications for historic building repair but also on matters of current concern and general policy on matters affecting Wales's built heritage. We have taken pride in our work and have gained a great deal of pleasure in helping to safeguard some of the most architecturally and historically important buildings of Wales for present and future generations.

With the advent of the National Assembly and, indeed, of the new millennium, we are conscious that we live in fast moving and exciting times. With so much change in recent years, there is increasing appreciation of our historic environment — our link with the past. The Council's view is that it is vitally important to seek to promote greater awareness of the importance of conservation, both for its own sake and the added value it can bring to society as a whole. For instance, the repair of historic buildings for continued or reuse is an inherently sustainable use of resources and can contribute to economic and social development, as well as giving pleasure to owners and visitors.

The Council is anxious to move with the times and to respond to changing demands and priorities. It has been working closely with Cadw in the preparation of a revised grants scheme which focuses on the buildings in greatest need of assistance and also those that are distinctly Welsh; for example, vernacular buildings and those of particular relevance to Wales's industrial heritage.

The Council also wants to ensure that its role and the criteria against which it assesses applications for grant are understood and available for public information. During the year it set out formally the legislative framework governing the Council, its terms of reference, aims, assessment criteria and objectives for 2000 and beyond. A copy of the position paper for 1999–2000 is appended to this report; it will be revised annually.

The following report reviews the year's business and gives details of the properties for which we recommended assistance. The Council looks forward to advising you further in 2000–01.

Thomas Lloyd
Chairman



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Forty-Fourth Annual Report 1999–2000

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(until June 1999)
Mrs J M Booker
(from July 1999)
(Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments)

Assistant

Secretary: K Jones Esq
(until June 1999)
K J Alexander Esq
(from July 1999)
(Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments)

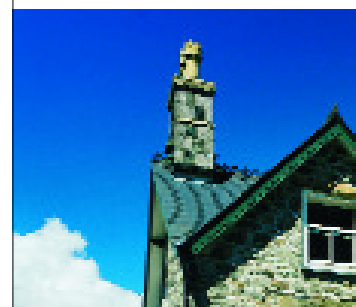
REVIEW OF THE YEAR'S BUSINESS

Visits

The Council met on five occasions during the year at venues in the Colwyn Bay, Crickhowell, Dolgellau, Bridgend and Cardiff areas.

Associated with these meetings, we visited a number of candidates for assistance. We also saw properties that had received grant so that we could inspect the completed work — the eventual outcome of our deliberations.

We were particularly delighted to see the work commencing on the repair and restoration of Sker House, Bridgend. The Council had considered this derelict property to be outstanding some years ago but difficulties with the purchase of and access to the site from the main road had meant that a start on the project was delayed until this year. The Buildings at Risk Trust carried out the scheme with assistance from Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments for works associated with the purchase of the property, and from the Heritage Lottery Fund for repairs and restoration and the consolidation of the ruined end to become a walled garden. We hope that the Trust will identify a buyer for the property and that the building, which was very nearly lost, can once again have a useful life.



Sker House, Bridgend. Above: Before restoration (Copyright: Buildings at Risk Trust [John Chapman Photographic]). Left: Work in progress.



Above and right:
The Historic Town Scheme at Dolgellau assists owners with sympathetic repairs to buildings in the conservation area.

We hope too that the difficulties that have prevented the repair of the Gilbert Scott designed Hafodunos Hall in Conwy will soon be resolved. We visited the property in April 1999 and were concerned at the deterioration of the building and the loss, through theft and vandalism, of important historic features. The Council considers that the property is of outstanding architectural and historic interest and Cadw has offered to consider grant assistance. We trust that, if a new owner is not found, the local authority will take action to secure repairs so that this important Grade I listed Victorian house is not lost.

The Council was also pleased to note progress in the Dolgellau Historic Town Scheme run by the Snowdonia National Park Authority where there has been significant interest from local owners in undertaking sympathetic repairs in keeping with the nature of the conservation area. The National Park Authority and Cadw have contributed some £0.5 million to projects in the historic townscape, which together with owners' contributions has meant that some £1 million has been directed to historic building repairs in Dolgellau. The Council was also encouraged by the plans of Conwy County Council to safeguard and restore the historic fabric of the Colwyn Bay town centre under the Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI), assisted by Cadw, the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Welsh Development Agency and others. This initiative will assist not only built heritage conservation but also the economic and social regeneration of rundown areas by the reuse of vacant properties. The Council looks forward to seeing progress on THI schemes in other Welsh towns.

We noted with some disappointment that St David's Church, Llangeview was no longer in use for worship, having been declared redundant. We were pleased though that the Friends of Friendless Churches and the Church in Wales considered that it was of such merit that it ought to be adopted into the Redundant Churches Mechanism. The Council had no problem in agreeing that this charming church was outstanding and we look forward to seeing the completion of repairs.

Applications considered in year

As in previous years, a large part of the Council's work was to consider individual grant applications and to provide advice to Cadw on the merits of the properties concerned. The Council advised which properties were of outstanding architectural or historic interest, the legislative requirement for grant under the



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Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953. It also made recommendations on which projects might make a significant contribution to the enhancement and preservation of a conservation area for the purpose of conservation area grant under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

The funds available for the payment of general grants to historic buildings in 1999–2000 amounted to £3.314 million, of which £0.225 million was set aside for grant aid to cathedrals. This was an increase of 3% over funding in the previous year.

In total, 189 applications were considered by the Council. The highest offer of grant went to Allt-y-Bela, Llangwm, Monmouthshire, which was recommended for support of £263,000. Grant was offered for the cost of works to restore the structure and external envelope of the cruck-framed medieval house and Renaissance tower, as well towards the cost of repair and replacement of internal features. One of the smallest grant offers was £1,200 for repairs to the front facade roof and chimneyhead at 14 Victoria Terrace, Beaumaris, Anglesey. Eighty-six ‘in principle’ offers of grant were made during the year. For one reason or another, not all these schemes will progress and the grant offer will vary in the light of tenders received. But the grant offers set out below reflect the recommendations of the Council.

Applications for grants 1999–2000	Number	Value
Total applications	189	—
Offers in principle	86	£1,947,790
Outstanding buildings — secular	37	£1,169,268
Outstanding buildings — ecclesiastical	16	£402,412
Conservation area grant	33	£376,110

Annexes B and C give brief details of the properties that were offered ‘in principle’ grants during the year.

Applications were submitted for buildings of all sorts and from private individuals, charitable and other organizations and local authorities. The Council welcomed particularly an increasing trend for repairs to vernacular buildings and very much hopes that more opportunities arise for restoration of buildings of particular significance to Welsh heritage. Interesting applications during the year are noted in the following case studies.

APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED IN YEAR: CASE STUDIES

Bron-y-Foel-Isaf, Duffryn Ardudwy, Gwynedd

Bron-y-Foel-Isaf stands within a grove beside a stream in particularly wild and desolate countryside a mile or so inland from Duffryn Ardudwy in the foothills of the Rhinogs. Its external form has changed remarkably little in four hundred years, a testament to the quality of its original construction.

Built around 1580, it is a fine example of a sub-medieval local gentry house and a remarkable survival. The house contains a number of notable features. In particular, the latrine projection on the north gable is an unusual affair. The adjacent stream has a divert channel running underneath to act as a flushing system. This end of the house, under the kitchen, has a cellar with a cobbled floor (and another flushing channel linked to the stream) accessed from a stone stair below the present eighteenth-century dogleg stair to the rear of the cross-passage. The chimneys are tall, slender and elegantly corniced.

The Council decided that Bron-y-Foel-Isaf was outstanding, and recommended grant for the preparation of a detailed survey of the property and a specification and schedule of prioritized repairs necessary to consolidate and restore its fabric.



*Bron-y-Foel-Isaf,
Dyffryn Ardudwy.*



Sea Wall at Plas Newydd, Anglesey

The National Trust property, Plas Newydd, set dramatically on the edge of the Menai Strait, is a significant local landmark, visible from many points on the mainland. The site is defended by the fort-like structure of the sea wall, a massive retaining wall with bastions at the centre and either end of the structure. A simple lawned bank sweeps down from the mansion to a gravelled, rampart-like walkway on top of the sea wall, protected by a castellated parapet. Ships' cannons point out over the Strait towards an imaginary enemy, as though from the decks of a galleon.

Stone steps in a projecting section of the sea wall lead down from the walk to a couple of small underground rooms with views out to sea through Gothic arches. Fireplaces offered comfort to those waiting to board a boat from the jetty or perhaps merely to watch the spectacle of yachts racing. Further south along the sea wall, a boat could be moored in the underground dock, tides permitting. Steps wind down to a large brick-vaulted chamber open to the sea. Further brick-vaulted rooms on either side of the dock, with similar Gothic openings over the Strait, were originally linked to the dock with circular openings, like pitching holes.

The exact date of construction is uncertain. A sea wall can be seen in Moses Griffiths's drawing of the house in 1776 and, accordingly, may be attributed to Sir Nicholas Bayley who enlarged the house in the 1750s. However, the house was remodelled towards the end of the eighteenth century by James Wyatt and Joseph Potter. Their brief extended to the grounds, including new outbuildings and the redesign of the parks and gardens. The work continued well into the nineteenth century and records refer to work being carried out to the sea wall. It seems likely that some alterations in the late nineteenth century are attributable to the fourth marquis who revelled in the title 'Vice Admiral of North Wales' and moored his yacht in the Strait in front of Plas Newydd.

The National Trust had planned a three-year programme of repairs to the sea wall, including the removal of vegetation from the top section of the wall and seaweed from the lower section, the replacement of eroded or lost stones from the base of the wall and repointing with an hydraulic lime mortar.

The Council was pleased to recommend support for Phase 2 of the repairs scheme.

Left: *The sea wall at Plas Newydd, Anglesey (By courtesy of the National Trust Photographic Library: Nick Meers).*

Great House, Laugharne

Great House, Laugharne, is one of the finest early Georgian houses in west Wales. Grant assistance was given in the mid-1980s for repairs to the building but the work was never completed and the house has been unoccupied for the past ten years. Its deteriorating condition has long been a matter of concern to the Council.

In 1998 Great House was sold to a purchaser who wanted to repair and restore the building and sought grant assistance. When considered by the Council the condition of the building was extremely poor and it was at severe risk of being lost. Failure of the central valley of the roof had allowed extensive water penetration into the heart of the house, causing damage to the handsome panelled rooms. The Council recommended immediate action to prevent irretrievable damage to some of the historic internal detailing, together with a concurrent survey to record some items that were on the point of collapse or disintegration. The Council recommended assistance for the re-roofing of the house, repair of all the windows plus the principal door-case and the renewal of the collapsed lintel over the main staircase rear window. The full project will cover three years with an anticipated completion in December 2000. The Council is pleased to note that works have started and looks forward to their final completion. It is glad to have had a part in helping to save this significant building in the history of Laugharne and of Wales as a whole.

The Peach House, Voelas, Conwy

The Peach House is located within the walled garden of Voelas House, reconstructed in 1957–61 by Clough Williams Ellis and situated within an outstanding landscape. The Peach House, still with its peach trees, dates from the 1890s and consists of a low timber and glass wall on a brick base from which iron hoops spring to a timber batten fixed near the top of the brick-faced backing wall. Iron rods thread through these hoops to support a curve of glass panes held by clips. Vents near the top and in the vertical timber wall provide the controlled environment for peach growing.

When considered by the Council it was noted that after one hundred years the unusual construction was failing badly and needed urgent attention if it were to be saved. Given the rarity value of this simple, but unusual, structure and the stunning landscape in which it was situated, the Council recommended grant assistance. It agreed that the building should be meticulously recorded, carefully taken down and exactly reconstructed reusing existing metal elements, reproducing timber elements, reconstructing brick work and repairing the retaining wall. The peach trees themselves would be temporarily protected during the works.

Projects Completed in Year

There is, of course, often a significant time lapse between consideration of an application for grant and the completion of a project. During the year a number of projects were completed — or taken to near completion — that had been discussed in Council meetings in previous years. The Council was delighted to note progress on the restoration of the Aberglasney mansion and gardens, Llangathen, Carmarthenshire, to the stage that the gardens were opened to the public by the former First Secretary in July 1999.

PROJECTS COMPLETED IN YEAR: CASE STUDIES

The Post Office, Caldey Island



The Caldey Island post office.

In 1998 the housing department of Pembrokeshire County Council embarked on a housing group repair scheme covering several buildings on Caldey Island, the home of monks of the Cistercian order. The whole of the island is a conservation area and the County Council wanted to ensure that the housing repairs were sympathetic to its special architectural and historic character, mostly very good Arts-and-Crafts work of the early twentieth century.

Cadw was asked to consider contributing to the repair of the Caldey Island post office (post office on the ground floor and housing on the upper floor), to supplement the local authority's housing grant. This was so that the repairs could accommodate the use of traditional materials, such as clay tiles and cast iron gutters, which would not have been possible on the basis of the funds available from the authority. The Council had no problem in recommending assistance for the cost of repairs to conservation standards under 1990 conservation area grant legislation.

Right: *St
Caradog's Church,
Lawrenny.*

The work has now been completed and represents a considerable enhancement to the conservation area. The Council looks forward to advising on other collaborative schemes with local housing authorities to ensure that, wherever possible, in important historic areas, the character of those areas is retained and not compromised by the use of more modern materials.

The Council was also pleased during the year to recommend support for repairs to Caldey Island monastery, the home of sixteen monks on the island. Together with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, this should ensure that this extraordinary building, in dire need of repair, is restored to its former glory to the benefit of the island, its inhabitants, and generally, through its tourism value, to the local economy.

St Caradog's Church, Lawrenny, Pembrokeshire

Repairs to this outstanding church started in the mid-1980s but were unable to proceed because of inadequate funds in the parish. Although the fine church tower was repointed, the remainder of the building was in poor condition; this included the church interior which was suffering from severe damp penetration that was adversely affecting the monuments which contributed to the church's outstanding qualities.

The Council looked again at the church in 1997 when the possibility of funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund gave a new impetus to the parish to continue with the repair work. The Council had no hesitation in offering grant for a total reslating of the roofs, new rainwater goods and drainage system, re-glazing of windows, new lightning conductor and repairs to the Georgian panelling. In addition, given the extent of the damp penetration caused by the exposed stone rubble of the exterior, the Council recommended that the church be rerendered as part of the overall project. The Council acknowledged that rendering might not always initially be welcomed by the local community but noted that this would help make the building watertight and that there was ample evidence that it had formerly been rendered. The church was therefore returning to its pre-nineteenth century state.

The church repairs were completed during the year and the Council was delighted with the outcome when it visited. The Council looks forward to further projects with the Heritage Lottery Fund which can lead to the completion of projects where those responsible for a building are not able to match the Cadw grant.



Benarth Hall, Conwy

Benarth Hall is a well-crafted, late eighteenth-century neoclassical composition, enhanced by a complementary landscaped terrace overlooking the Conwy river. Documentary evidence indicates that all the constituent parts of the house were built at the time of the original construction in the 1790s. There was a complete 'makeover' of the original Georgian house immediately prior to World War I, probably following the purchase of the building by a Manchester merchant named Tattersall. The original and later detail have been brought together seamlessly and successfully, both externally and in the classical decoration of the interior, with its abundance of imperial Roman motifs.

When the Council considered the building in 1997, although the house was in good structural order, it had lain vacant for a number of years and was generally neglected. Important features such as lead domes had been allowed to decay and collapse and the grounds were badly overgrown, obliterating the river view from the terrace of Benarth Hall.

The Council was pleased to recommend grant for repairs to enable the property to have a beneficial use once again.

Benarth Hall is a good example of how easily and quickly good buildings and their settings can be lost, but a glimpse of what careful and timely reclamation can achieve. Most of the works have now been completed and the Council looks forward to these being finalized.

Current Initiatives/Issues

The Council has been pleased to advise on new initiatives to promote historic building conservation. It has been encouraged to note that the Heritage Lottery Fund has approved funding for Townscape Heritage Initiative projects at Newport, Holywell, Cardigan, Colwyn Bay, Llandovery and Llangadog, Denbigh, Llanrwst and Pembroke Dock, with development funding for a potential scheme at Rhymney, Caerphilly.

The Townscape Heritage Initiative allocates funding to partnerships for projects which will not only contribute to the conservation of historic towns but will also help the regeneration of run-down areas through vacant floor space being brought back into use. The Council has been pleased to advise that Cadw should be one of the funding partners in each of the schemes,

along with agencies such as the Welsh Development Agency and the Wales Tourist Board and planning and housing departments of local authorities. The THI scheme will release significant resources into depressed historic areas and has the potential for making significant improvements to the historic environment.

During the year the Council has been delighted to note the establishment of the Religious Buildings Trust which will take into its care the best of redundant chapels and other former religious buildings not belonging to the Church in Wales. Chapels are particularly important in the history of Wales and the Council has been keen to see the creation of an organization which will ensure that the buildings of most architectural or historical significance are not lost to future generations but are conserved or found a new use. Trustees were appointed during the year and Cadw has undertaken to fund a percentage of running costs and contribute to the costs of repairs. The Council looks forward to advising on the buildings which might be acquired and held in the care of the Trust.

For former Church in Wales buildings, the Council has been pleased with the progress during the year on repairs to four former churches which are now vested in the Redundant Churches Mechanism operated by the Friends of Friendless Churches with funding from Cadw and the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. The Council judged the four churches — St David's, Llangeview; St Mary's, Tal y Llyn; St Beuno's, Penmorfa and St Ellyw's, Llanelieu — to be of outstanding architectural and historic interest. The Council looks forward to advising on the next tranche of redundant churches for the mechanism.

During the year the Council again expressed its concern at the arrangements under which VAT is charged for building repairs but not for improvements or alterations. The Council considers that this regime operates to the entire disadvantage of owners of historic buildings, where careful preservation of the original fabric is of prime importance. Such repairs require more care, skills, and often better and more expensive materials, than are required for modern buildings. The regime also adversely affects smaller schemes and, particularly, repairs for small churches, which are not registered for VAT and therefore cannot reclaim it. The Council supported the recommendation of the Joint Committee of the National Amenity Societies that there should be a unified and lower rate of 5% VAT for both repairs and alterations. Loss of revenue for the Exchequer would be counter-balanced by the conservation benefits; the money released for repairs could be ploughed into new projects, which themselves would attract 5% VAT. This would help reduce the loss to the Exchequer. The Council has made its views known to the National Assembly.

HBC Costs

The Council's Secretariat, which provides support and professional advice, is provided by Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments. The Council's costs during the year were as follows:

Chairman's salary	£ 5,258
Meeting expenses	£10,144
Cadw's estimated costs in supporting the Council	£15,750
Total	£31,152

Acknowledgements

The Council was grateful for the support it received from its Secretariat and Assessors within Cadw, and to those other bodies and individuals who provided specialist comments and advice during the year.

*St Caradog's
Church,
Lawrenny.*



ANNEX A

Grants Summary

1. Grants for Outstanding Secular Buildings

Applications received	1953–99	1999–2000	Total
New applications	3,339	92	3,431
Applications for increases	466	13	479
Total	3,805	105	3,910
Number of grants approved			
by the National Assembly	1,552	37 ^(a)	1,589
Value of grants recommended			
and approved ^(b)	£29,163,369	£1,280,443 ^(c)	£30,443,812
Expenditure	£23,458,897	£840,119	£24,299,016

- (a) Additionally, 13 applications for increases were approved during the course of the year.
 (b) The value of grants recommended and approved does not take account of the value of grants cancelled, which totalled £335,841 in 1999–2000.
 (c) This figure includes the value of increased grants, which totalled £89,975 in 1999–2000.

2. Grants for Outstanding Buildings in Use for Worship

Applications received	1953–99	1999–2000	Total
New applications	1,119	42	1,161
Applications for increases	238	18	256
Total	1,357	60	1,417
Number of grants approved			
by the National Assembly	636	16 ^(a)	652
Value of grants recommended			
and approved ^(b)	£10,393,277	£506,398 ^(c)	£10,899,675
Expenditure	£7,955,931	£520,943	£8,476,874

- (a) Additionally, 19 applications for increases were approved during the course of the year.
 (b) The value of grants recommended and approved does not take account of the value of grants cancelled, which totalled £71,518 in 1999–2000.
 (c) This figure includes the value of increased grants, which totalled £103,986 in 1999–2000.

ANNEX A

3. Grants for Schemes in Conservation Areas

Applications received	1953–99	1999–2000	Total
New Applications	1,848	55	1,903
Applications for increases	244	13	257
Total	2,092	68	2,160
Number of grants approved			
by the National Assembly	1,191	33 ^(a)	1,224
Value of grants recommended			
and approved ^(b)	£10,407,489	£4449,349 ^(c)	£10,856,838
Expenditure	£10,346,073	£679,371	£11,025,444

(a) Additionally, 13 applications for increases were approved during the course of the year.

(b) The value of grants recommended and approved does not take account of the value of grants cancelled, which totalled £41,860 in 1999–2000.

(c) This figure includes the value of increased grants, which totalled £73,239 in 1999–2000.

(d) This includes expenditure in respect of Historic Town Schemes.

4. Grants for Cathedrals

In addition to the 15 applications received between April 1994 and March 1999, 4 further applications were received in 1999–2000, namely:

	Grant
St Asaph Cathedral	£20,550
St Davids Cathedral (2)	£33,270
Llandaff Cathedral	£59,197

ANNEX B

Grants to Outstanding Buildings

The Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953, Section 4.

The following is a list of buildings in respect of which a recommendation for grant has been made during the period 1 April 1999 to 31 March 2000. Grant need not necessarily have been paid, in part or in full, in all cases.

All grant offers in respect of outstanding buildings are subject to a condition requiring access for the public:

Access Code 1

The building is open to the public for a minimum of thirty days each year.

Access Code 2

The building may be inspected by appointment with the owner.

Access Code 3

The interior of the building, by reason of its use, can be seen by the public.

Access Code 4

The exterior of the building is its most important feature and can be seen from the street.

Access Code 5

Arrangements for visiting the building will be displayed outside the building.

Anglesey

Capel Moreia, Glanhwfa Road

The chapel was erected as a memorial to John Elias, Calvinistic Methodist preacher and minister. It is a fine urban chapel, ambitious in scale and in the detail of its rich neoclassical and Renaissance vocabulary. Grant of £17,500 for roof and window repairs, rerendering and external painting.

Access 3/5

ANNEX B

Plas Newydd (Sea wall/jetty), Llanfairpwll

This is a sea wall alongside the Menai Strait forming an ornamental feature in the foreground of Plas Newydd, with a jetty at the south end. Grant of £20,000 for stabilization and repointing of the sea wall.

Access 4

3 Victoria Terrace, Beaumaris

14 Victoria Terrace, Beaumaris

A large-scale, grandly designed terrace of three-storey houses, built 1830–35 by Hansom and Welch. Grant of £2,400 to No 3 and £1,200 to No 14 Victoria Terrace, both for the refurbishment of the external facade.

Access 4

Caerphilly

St Tudor's Church, Mynyddislwyn

Built in the fourteenth to fifteenth centuries, St Tudor's Church was restored in 1820. Grant is offered for external repairs, including work to the stonework and stone dressings.

Access 2/3

Cardiff

Coedarhydyglyn (Phase 3), St Nicholas

A neoclassical country house, originally constructed in 1820 and set in a fine landscaped park. It may be the work of architect Edward Haycock the elder. Grant of £20,000 for a third phase of work to repair pillared porch, external repairs and redecoration.

Access 2

Carmarthenshire

Eglwys Annibynol Heol Awst, Lamma Street, Carmarthen

The chapel was rebuilt in 1826; the interior has a gallery with Gothic panelling to the balustrade, supported by Ionic columns. Grant of £10,000 for repairs to rendering, windows and timberwork.

Access 3/5

ANNEX B

Great House, King Street, Laugharne

A fine example of an early Georgian house, with a good central late Baroque doorcase. Grant of £34,400 for reroofing, repair of all windows and principal doorcase and renewal of collapsed lintel over the main staircase rear window.

Access 2

The Church of St Teilo, Llanddowror

The church is at the western end of the village in a stone-walled churchyard. Although much rebuilt, it is of great historic importance for the incumbency here of the Revd Griffith Jones, founder of the famous circulating schools. Jones is buried in the chancel. The Council has recommended grant subject to a suitable scheme of repair.

Access 3/5

Ceredigion

St David's University College, Lampeter

This is a simplified Tudor-Gothic building, built 1822–27 by C R Cockerell, the pre-eminent British neoclassical architect. It was the first university college founded in England and Wales since Oxford and Cambridge; it was established by Bishop Burgess of St Davids and J S Harford for the education of future Anglican clergymen unable to afford the English universities. Grant of £7,050 for reroofing parts of the north and east wing of the St David's building.

Access 2

Trawscoed House, Aberystwyth

The house has been developed since the seventeenth century and was the seat of the Vaughan family. It is an historically important country house retaining an unusually finely designed library. Grant of £16,100 for the conservation of the library ceiling and walls; wall and ceiling finishes to the drawing room; and repair of the Ionic scrolls capitals of the entrance portico.

Access 2

ANNEX B

Conwy

Church of St Rhychwyn, Llanrhychwyn

An important and well-preserved medieval church retaining good internal and external character. Situated on an early religious site, the present church began as a single-cell rectangular chapel, probably of the twelfth century. Grant of £27,500 for drainage work, reroofing, repointing, flooring and glazing renewal.

Access 3/5

Plas Muriau, Betws-y-Coed

A well-preserved Tudor-Gothic style mid-Victorian small country house set in contemporary grounds. The principal interest of the interior is in its surviving painted decoration by Pietro Romoli in the main drawing room. This type of ceiling painting is more typical of large country houses and is therefore a very unusual find in a house of this size and type. Grant of £1,600 for re-rendering of the top section of the main chimney.

Access 2

St Mary and All Saints Church, Conwy

An ancient church, incorporating portions of a Cistercian abbey founded in 1172, but much altered and restored. The interior retains some fine fifteenth-century fittings including a richly carved and canopied rood screen and many monuments. Grant of £17,500 for repairs to slating, rainwater goods, glazing and replacement of broken stone gargoyle.

Access 3/5

St Trillo's Church, Llandrillo yn Rhos

The original church was built in the thirteenth century and was extended in the sixteenth century to form a double-naved church. The interior has octagonal columns supporting the arched braced roof. Grant of £17,500 for repairs to west, south and east elevations of the nave and the whole of the south porch.

Access 3/5

The Peach House, Voelas, Pentrefoelas

The Peach House at Voelas, built against the east end of the upper wall of the kitchen garden, is a glasshouse of exceptional historical and aesthetic importance. It is one of the most important, unusual and best preserved glasshouses in Wales, dating from the 1890s. Grant is offered in principle subject to a suitable scheme for the recording, dismantling and reconstruction.

Access 2

ANNEX B

Denbighshire

Plas Bennett, Llandyrnog

The house was built in 1749 and has retained much of its original detailing. Grant of £10,000 for repairs to roof and rainwater goods.
Access 2

St Elidan's Church, Llanelidan, near Ruthin

A church of early origin, but subsequently altered and remodelled. There are remnants of late medieval glass and the font dates from the fifteenth century. Grant of £10,000 for removal of damaged paintwork and repairs to plaster work.
Access 3/5

Rose Cottage, 15 Rhos Street, Ruthin

Rose Cottage is a timber-framed cruck hall house of the early sixteenth century and is a relatively complete example of a smaller single-bay hall of lower status. Grant of £23,200 for an internal and external scheme of repair and renovation.
Access 2

Flintshire

Kelsterton Hall, Kelsterton Road

Kelsterton Hall was built between 1800 and 1810 but was substantially remodelled around 1884. There is a pair of oak-panelled rooms behind the south facade, both exhibiting finely carved detailing and chimney pieces from the 1884 remodelling, in an intricate Tudor style incorporating Irish motifs. Grant of £80,000 for repairs to roof and external walls and chimney stack, to repair and replace faulty windows and doors, replacement of rainwater goods and renewal of faulty or rotten fascia-boards and bargeboards.
Access 2

The Barn at Golden Grove, Llanasa

The barn probably originates from the early seventeenth century, the same period as the mansion house. It lies amid trees below the west end of the house and must have been its principal outbuilding before the later farm and yard were developed. It provided coach house and stable accommodation and there are remains of a bellcote on the south gable. Grant of £26,000 for reslating, repairs to roof and bellcote, and repointing stonework.
Access 2

ANNEX B

Trimley Hall, Llanfynydd

Trimley Hall was begun in the late 1630s. It is a square-plan, two-storey Renaissance gentry house with a highly unusual massive central chimney creating the distinctive hipped roof. For long, one of the most important buildings at risk in Wales. Grant of £10,400 for roof repairs.

Access 2

Gwynedd

Bron-y-Foel-Isaf, Duffryn Ardudwy

Built about 1580, the house stands within a grove beside a stream, in particularly wild and desolate countryside a mile or so inland from Duffryn Ardudwy. A substantial sub-medieval gentry house with many of its original features surviving. Grant of £10,400 for repairs to consolidate and restore its fabric.

Access 2

Bryn Bras Castle, Llanrug, Caernarfon

A country house built in the early nineteenth-century Picturesque style of a medieval castle. The amount of grant has yet to be determined but will be for external repairs to the roof and stonework and for internal works to the north gallery, as well as works to the north tower.

Access 2

Main Arts Buildings, University of Wales Bangor, College Road, Bangor

An imposing Grade I listed building by Henry T Hare of London, built 1907–11. It is regarded as one of the most significant public buildings of the period in Britain. Grant of £15,500 towards the repair of features affected as a result of water penetration.

Access 2

Capel Isaf, Llithfaen

The chapel was designed by Owen Morris Roberts of Porthmadog, an experienced and well-known, self-taught north Wales chapel architect. Built in 1905 the chapel is to be found near the centre of the village. Its theatre-like interior is completely unaltered and is in good condition. Grant of £5,000 for the repair/replacement of defective sliding sash window frames, the renewal of rainwater goods and the repair of sections of internal plaster work.

Access 1/3

ANNEX B

Parc House, Croesor, Penrhyndeudraeth

A Grade II* listed Jacobean building, it occupies a striking location on an elevated site above the Afon Maesgwm. Grant of £1,600 towards the rerendering of one gable wall.

Access 2

Penrhyn Castle, Bangor (Phase 14)

Incorporating parts of an earlier mansion, thought to be the fourteenth-century home of the Tudor royal family, Penrhyn is now the creation of Thomas Hopper, who designed this vast neo-Norman castle between 1827 and 1837. Grant of £86,288 for repairs to the Keep Tower.

Access 1

St Engan's Church, Llanengan, Pwllheli

A complete medieval church with fine late medieval screens. It is to be found in the village in a large churchyard just west of Llangain. Grant of £8,250 for external stonework repairs and repointing, plus the reslating of the south porch roof.

Access 1/3

St Mary's Church (churchyard arch/gates), Church Street, Tremadog

The gateway at St Mary's consists of an elaborately designed and decorated structure, with two multisided piers supporting a Gothic arch, constructed of Coade stone. Grant was offered in principle subject to a suitable scheme of external repair.

Access 1

Sygun Copper Mine Buildings, Beddgelert

Located about a mile from the village of Beddgelert, this former dormitory range for copper workers is tucked into the base of a hillside in the mountainous scenery of Snowdonia. Such a building, though humble, is now very rare. Grant was offered in principle subject to a suitable scheme to restore one building as part of the Sygun Copper Mine complex.

Access 2

The Gate House, Cefnamwlch, Tudweiliog, Pwllheli

Built in 1607 the gatehouse once fronted the old house of Cefnamwlch, long since demolished. The gatehouse now gives on to a gravel drive parallel with and to the north of the present house. Grant of £2,800 for the stabilization and partial repointing of the building.

Access 2

ANNEX B

Monmouthshire

Allt-y-Bela, Llangwm

A Grade II* cruck-framed medieval farmhouse which was occupied by Roger Edwards, founder of Usk Grammar School, who built the tall Renaissance block on the west flank of the building in 1599. Grant of £263,000 for works to restore the structure and external envelope building and the Renaissance tower, as well as towards the cost of repair and replacement of internal features.

Access 2

Our Lady and St Michael's Roman Catholic Church, Abergavenny

Built in the mid-nineteenth century to the design of J B Bucknell, the church contains one of the best collections of pre-Reformation vestments in Britain. Grant of £14,762 for the reroofing of the south aisle and for repairs to and reglazing of the west and south windows.

Access 1/3

St Bartholomew's Church, Llanover

A small parish church set close to a bend on the river Usk about a mile from Llanover village. It has a fine ashlar west tower. Grant of £6,000 for the reconstruction of a length of churchyard wall adjacent to the east gable.

Access 1/3

St Mary's Priory Church, Abergavenny

A Grade B parish church, mostly Decorated and Perpendicular. It contains fine tombs dating from the thirteenth to the seventeenth centuries in the Herbert Chapel. Grant of £37,500 for the reinstatement of the Lewis Chapel floor after archaeological investigation, the repair of windows and the renovation of the chapel.

Access 1/3

Tŷ Hwnt y Bwlch, Cwmyoy

The building is of late sixteenth-century origin. A substantial stone-built farmhouse, it is impressively sited on steeply sloping ground uphill from Cwmyoy church on the eastern slopes of the Ewyas valley. Grant of £80,724 for works to underpin the building, reroofing and rebuilding the chimneys.

Access 2

ANNEX B

Neath Port Talbot

Mansel Monuments, Margam Abbey Church, Margam

A collection of four good tomb chests with effigies and five mural monuments in this Grade A listed church. Grant of £5,706 towards the conservation and repair of the tombs and murals.

Access 2

Pembrokeshire

Caldey Monastery, Caldey Island

There has been a monastic presence on the island from at least the sixth century. The present abbey, a remarkable work by John Coates Carter, was built between 1910 and 1913. Grant of £172,000 for a major phase of works to repair the roofs, rainwater goods, chimney heads and some windows.

Access 3/5

Cresselly House, Kilgetty

Built about 1770 for John Bartlett Allen, with wings added later. It is situated in its own grounds. It is regarded as a well-preserved country house with an interesting family history. Grant of £66,800 for work to the roofs of the main part of the house together with those of the north and south wings, as well as work to the bay windows.

Access 2

Llys Ddu College, Felindre Farchog

A rare manorial courthouse of about 1600. There is the high and steeply pitched courtroom with its tall gable over the remodelled Tudor-style windows, and a later lower cottage range which has two hefty end stacks. Grant of £21,200 for major works to the roof.

Access 2

Porth y Tŵr, The Pebbles, St Davids

This ancient double tower gateway to the cathedral close at the foot of the Pebbles at St Davids was a ruin until 1929, when it was decided to reroof the large octagonal northern tower as a bell tower for the cathedral below. Grant of £87,000 for the restoration of the parapet walls, repair of other stonework and reroofing.

Access 2

ANNEX B

Powys

Abercamlais House, Brecon

The original house was originally built around 1600 but was largely rebuilt in the early eighteenth century with fine panelling, stairs and plaster. Grant of £18,000 for external works to the north and west elevations.

Access 2

1 Buckingham Place, Brecon

This building formed part of the great late medieval mansion of the Awbreys. No 1 was the solar block and retains a sixteenth-century window at the rear. The eighteenth century saw the construction of an extension at the side to house a grand staircase. Grant of £48,000 for works to secure the grand staircase plus external works to the roof, walls, windows and doors.

Access 2

Christ College, Brecon

A Grade II* listed building, restored and rebuilt in the nineteenth century, chiefly by John Prichard. Grant of £3,000 for the reslating of the roof of the Prichard hexagonal kitchen and also that over the library stairwell.

Access 2

**Coleg Trefeca, Trefeca, Talgarth,
Brecon (Phase II)**

The original building was the home of Howell Harris and was set up as a model of Christian life and cooperation. The building is noted for its Gothic phase modifications undertaken between 1752 and 1759. The college is the Lay Training Centre for the Presbyterian Church of Wales. A grant of £81,000 towards reroofing and restoration work.

Access 2

Pavilion at Craig-y-Nos Country Park, Pen-y-Cae

The pavilion was constructed for Dame Adelina Patti, probably some time between 1905 and 1919 (a separate building from the Patti Pavilion now at Victoria Park, Swansea). This building is more diminutive and sits on the valley floor close to the steep bank below T H Wyatt's mid-nineteenth-century mock Scottish tower house. Grant of £2,700 for works to the roof.

Access 1

ANNEX B

4 Lion Street, Brecon

A fine example of a red brick three-storey Georgian house of the mid-eighteenth century. Grant of £4,800 towards work to tie the right-hand wing back into the main part of the building.

Access 2

Mellington Hall, Churchstoke

Designed and built by Evan Powell in the latter half of the nineteenth century Mellington Hall is located in a landscape parkland setting and is a country house of remarkably consistent and well preserved Gothic character. The level of grant has yet to be determined but will be for works to the roof and chimneys.

Access 1/3

Powis Castle (Orangery and Aviary), Welshpool (Phase 4)

The original stronghold of the prince of Powys was destroyed in 1275, but was subsequently rebuilt in strikingly red sandstone. A great remodelling from 1667 is associated with William Winde. Grant of £20,000 for repairs to the castle garden terraces.

Access 1

St Nicholas' Parish Church, Church Bank, Montgomery

The church is situated on rising ground to the east of the town's market square. It has a thirteenth-century nave and long chancel. It retains many Early English windows and a surprising number of contemporary doorways. Grant of £8,000 for the repointing of the lower part of the church tower and the west gable of the nave.

Access 2

Vaynor Park Stables, Berriew

The stable block at Vaynor Park is listed Grade II* in its own right and is largely the work of Thomas Penson with later additions by Pountney Smith. It is an excellent largely nineteenth-century stable incorporating earlier buildings, richly detailed in a Renaissance-revival style. Grant of £32,000 to reinstate the timber entrance within the central arch of the block, renew one of the coach house doors, reslate the northern half of the roof and reglaze the conservatory on the north side of the entrance forecourt; plus repairs to the south-eastern half of the building to include reslating of the roof, stonework and glazing to the windows.

Access 2

ANNEX B

Rhondda Cynon Taff

Pontypridd Railway Station, Pontypridd

The Taff Vale Railway began in Pontypridd in 1837. The station was reconstructed in 1907 on account of increased passenger traffic. In its heyday it dealt with 11,000 passengers a day and had seven platforms; the main, island, platform was said to have been the longest in the world when built. Grant has been offered in principle towards the cost of replacing the present cladding with patent glazing and restoration of original metalwork features.

Access 1/3

Llanharan House (Phase 3), Llanharan

A mid- to late eighteenth-century country house with grounds. Grant of £4,400 for stripping out old render and the re-rendering of the curved outer wall of the principal staircase hall to the rear of the house and associated roof and rainwater goods repairs.

Access 2

St Elvan's Church, Aberdare

Located in a prominent position in the centre of the town, the church was built in 1851 to designs by Andrew Mosely and extensively repaired in 1869 and 1884. The south aisle was added in 1910. Grant of £39,500 towards the complete reslating of the aisles and north porch; replacement of the south valley gutter work; window repairs; and other external works to reduce water penetration.

Access 3/5

Torfaen

Big Pit Mining Museum, Blaenavon

The Big Pit site is of outstanding interest because of its rarity as the only surviving historic Welsh coal mine offering deep access to the public. Grant of £56,000 for the repair and restoration of the fan house, pithead building and sawmill.

Access 1/2/3

St Michael's Church, Llantarnam

The church is of Norman origin but is mostly of fifteenth- to sixteenth-century date, with some nineteenth-century restoration. Grant of £5,000 for masonry works to the exterior and interior.

Access 1/3

ANNEX B

Vale of Glamorgan

David Davies Statue, Barry Docks

This is an imposing statue, finely modelled by Alfred Gilbert and meticulously cast by George Broad of London. David Davies was a self-made industrialist whose endeavours enabled Barry Docks to become one of the busiest ports in the world. Grant of £3,000 to repair and restore the statue.

Access 4

Galilee Chapel (ruin), St Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major

Lying at the west end of the great church, the Galilee chapel has long been a shell. Probably of the thirteenth century, it was later probably a chantry chapel. Grant of £6,400 for work to consolidate the ruined walls.

Access 1/3

Wrexham

Mereside Lodge Gates, Gredington, Hanmer

Positioned at an abandoned entrance to the park at Gredington, these early eighteenth-century gates are to be found just along the road from St Chad's Church at Hanmer. Grant of £3,000 for the repair of the gates.

Access 2

ANNEX C

Conservation Area Grants

The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, Section 77

Grants Offered 1 April 1999–31 March 2000

Grants were offered towards the cost of schemes which made a significant contribution to the preservation or enhancement of conservation areas.

The exteriors of these buildings are their most important feature and may be viewed from the street.

<i>Conservation Area</i>	<i>Building</i>	<i>Grant £</i>
ANGLESEY		
Aberffraw	Ty Capel, Chapel Street	7,050
Beumaris	16 Victoria Terrace	1,220
Holyhead	Tabernacle Chapel, Thomas Street	1,600
Llanfechell	St Mechell Church	12,400
CARDIFF		
Pierhead	1 Windsor Esplanade, The Docks	*
CARMARTHENSHIRE		
Laugharne	Sea View, Victoria Street	*
CEREDIGION		
Aberystwyth	St Michael's and All Angels Church, Laura Place	26,000
Aberystwyth	Holy Trinity Parish Church, Trinity Place	24,800
Tregaron	Talbot Hotel, The Square	13,000

ANNEX C

DENBIGHSHIRE

Rhyl	Christ Church United Reformed Church, Water Street	52,000
Corwen	St Mary Magdalen Church, Cerrigydrudion	12,000

FLINTSHIRE

Caerwys	Henllys ('Old Court'), High Street	10,500
Hawarden	Flintshire County Records Office, The Old Rectory, Rectory Lane	22,500
Hawarden	Gladstone Memorial Fountain	6,000

GWYNEDD

Barmouth	1 Rock Terrace	6,800
Dolgellau	Golden Lion Hotel (Stable Bar)	690
Tremadog	St Mary's Church, Church Street	*
Upper Bangor	Church of Our Lady and St James	13,400

NEWPORT

Caerleon	St Cadoc's Church, High Street	18,800
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MONMOUTHSHIRE

Chepstow	Chepstow Baptist Church, Church Street	2,000
Chepstow	The Old Vicarage, 48 Bridge Street	1,500
Usk	23 New Market Street	7,500

PEMBROKESHIRE

Goodwick	Fern Villa, Plas-y-Gamil	9,000
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ANNEX C

POWYS

Brecon	The New Deanery and Minor Tower	12,000
Hay on Wye	1 Bridge Street	7,500
Hay on Wye	Inglenook (No 8), Church Street	7,500
Llandyssil	St Tyssil's Church	22,000
Llanfair Caereinion	Public Hall and Institute	1,500
Montgomery	The Dragon Hotel, Market Square	4,500

RHONDDA CYNON TAFF

Aberdare	St John the Baptist Parish Church, High Street	3,600
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TORFAEN

Blaenavon	19 Broad Street	7,500
Blaenavon	St Peter's School, Church Road (Ramfield Study Centre)	12,500
Blaenavon	Town Hall, Lion Street	15,000
Pontypool	Park Buildings	1,250
Pontypool	Park Cottages	12,500

VALE OF GLAMORGAN

Colwinston	Church of St Michael and All Angels	20,000
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* Schemes in respect of which the Council has recommended grant be given but subject to conditions, such as the agreement of a suitable scheme of repair, before the level of grant is determined.

ANNEX D

Role and Future Direction of the Historic Buildings Council for Wales

Background

The Historic Buildings Council for Wales is an Assembly-sponsored public body established under primary legislation — the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953; its role is to give independent advice to the National Assembly for Wales on matters concerning the built heritage in Wales and, particularly, on applications for grant from Cadw for the repair and maintenance of buildings of outstanding historical or architectural interest and significant buildings in conservation areas.

Membership

The Council is comprised of experts in the conservation of buildings of historic and architectural importance. Its Chairman receives a small salary but the other six members are unpaid; following the Transfer of Functions Order appointments are made by the Assembly. The Chairman also serves on the Cadw Advisory Committee, which meets quarterly to review Cadw's general performance.

Annual Report

The legislation requires the Council to publish an annual report, formerly laid by the Secretary of State before Parliament but now presented to and published by the Assembly.

Role of the HBC

The terms of reference of the Council are at Appendix A. The Council meets formally five times a year, holding business meetings and carrying out visits to properties throughout Wales, for which grant has been requested. The Council has held over two hundred meetings. In addition, members are consulted on matters of controversy or concern on an ad hoc basis and members often make ad hoc inspections of buildings and offer advice where it may be impractical, or there is no need, for the whole Council to visit. A review of the Council in 1997 concluded that it provided an efficient and cost-effective source of independent expert advice to the then Secretary of State and that it should be retained.

ANNEX D

The main focus of the Council has been in considering individual applications for grants and it has been successful in ensuring that large numbers of important historic buildings have not been lost to future generations through decay, dereliction or even demolition. The Council has published criteria against which it considers whether a building is of outstanding architectural or historic interest; these criteria are at Appendix B.

The role of the Council and Cadw's current historic buildings grant scheme have worked well for many years. As a matter of policy, grants have been directed almost exclusively to the repair of historic fabric, rather than alterations or replacement. Grant has also been given to local authorities towards the repair of buildings in agreed local authority Historic Town Scheme areas, for the acquisition of buildings at risk and towards the cost of work under repairs notice procedures, where unrecovered.

Future Direction

Cadw and the Council have been aware that there is a need for regular review of the grant arrangements to ensure that they continue to reflect the current and future needs of the built heritage in Wales and that resources are targeted where they are most needed. The trend in buildings being aided has tended to shift from large houses to include a wide range of other historic buildings and structures, such as churches and chapels in use, cathedrals, vernacular buildings, built features in historic gardens and, particularly, assistance for emergency works to buildings at risk of being destroyed. There has also been a growing appreciation of heritage and a realization that the repair and reuse of buildings is an inherently sustainable use of resources.

Given changing circumstances, the Council has worked with Cadw to consider new systems for historic buildings grants, moving away from the current all-embracing approach to a more structured scheme with clear priorities and more transparency for and accountability to applicants. Cadw has consulted on options for a new scheme and the Council is working with the Agency on presenting recommendations for revised arrangements to Assembly members.

In considering its overall role and objectives, the Council is increasingly aware of the added value of heritage conservation, in terms of promoting sustainable development and contributing to local social and economic regeneration. In so doing, the Council is conscious that it should not view its work in a vacuum but should encourage Cadw and other agencies to work together.

ANNEX D

The Council proposes to establish a dialogue with the Heritage Lottery Fund and with church authorities with a view to more cohesion in assistance to historic buildings. It also recognizes the potential of Cadw grant aid being used as part of local authority housing repair schemes in conservation areas to ensure that the historic fabric of those houses is not compromised; and will explore with Cadw ways of engaging other agencies, such as the Wales Tourist Board and the Welsh Development Agency, to plan improvement schemes which are mutually beneficial.

In making recommendations involving the use of public funds, the Council, with Cadw, will look for ways of encouraging wider awareness of and access to historic buildings to the public, including, wherever possible, access for disabled people.

As an independent body, the Council will also continue to draw to Cadw's attention matters of importance to the built heritage of Wales; it will continue to adopt an independent view and be proactive in addressing key issues.

Policy Objectives for 2000 and beyond

The HBC will

- advise the National Assembly for Wales on individual applications for grant within its terms of reference and published criteria;
- contribute to the wider strategy of encouraging the conservation of all buildings which it considers to be of outstanding architectural and/or historic interest and the enhancement of conservation areas;
- develop and maintain a broad strategic view of the built heritage of Wales, which allots a place to buildings of all types and takes account of geographical and social diversity;
- within the context of Cadw's arrangements for historic buildings grants, ensure that recommendations are made in a fair and open manner and have full regard to the principles of transparency and accountability, and that priority is given to the buildings of greatest need;
- ensure that its recommendations represent 'best value'; and set standards of quality in built heritage conservation;
- promote and work in partnership with a range of other agencies to ensure consistency of approach and cohesion in the built heritage;
- promote the positive contribution that conservation of the built heritage can bring to wider regeneration and sustainability agendas strategies;
- promote awareness of and encourage greater public access to Cadw-aided properties.

ANNEX D Appendix A

Terms of Reference

1. To advise the National Assembly for Wales on the exercise of its powers under Part 1 of the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953 as amended, the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 and on other general matters, namely:
 - i. the making of grants and loans towards the repair or maintenance of buildings of outstanding historic or architectural interest or their contents or adjoining land and of gardens or other land of outstanding historic interest;
 - ii. the acquisition by purchase, lease or otherwise, or the acceptance as a gift, of buildings of outstanding historic or architectural interest; or their contents or adjoining lands or of the contents of the buildings of which the National Assembly is guardian under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, or of the contents of buildings vested in the National Trust, and on the disposal of any property so acquired or accepted;
 - iii. the making of grants towards the acquisition of buildings under Section 47 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 by local authorities, and of buildings of outstanding historic or architectural interest by the National Trust;
 - iv. the listing of buildings of special architectural or historic interest and the exercise of the Assembly's other functions relating to such buildings under the Town and Country Planning Acts.

2. To advise the National Assembly for Wales on the exercise of its powers under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended to make grants or loans towards schemes which make a significant contribution towards the preservation, or enhancement of the character or appearance of conservation areas and to make grants towards the repair of buildings included in an Historic Town Scheme which are of architectural or historic interest.

3. To provide advice for the Capital Taxes Office and the Treasury on the exemption from Capital Transfer Tax of buildings of outstanding architectural or historic interest, their adjoining land, and land of outstanding historic interest.



ANNEX D Appendix A

4. To make representations to the National Assembly for Wales if it appears to the Council that there is a need for immediate action under Part 1 of the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953.

5. To keep under review, and to report to the National Assembly from time to time on the general state of preservation of buildings of outstanding historic or architectural interest throughout Wales, and on ways of finding new uses for historic buildings and to make suggestions about possible uses for particular buildings when requested by the Assembly.

ANNEX D Appendix B

Definition of Buildings of Outstanding Historic or Architectural Interest

The Historic Buildings Council considers the merits of all kinds of buildings in Wales. The Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953 provides that only examples judged to be of ‘outstanding historic or architectural interest’ are eligible for grant assistance. Assessment of buildings is always a matter of judgement; different building types — religious buildings, houses, industrial buildings, etc. — may be judged in different ways. There can be no firm rules by which eligibility for grant is judged, but in addition to the condition of the building, generally the following criteria (not in order of importance) are taken into account:

Historic Interest

- a. strong association with a significant historical event;
- b. strong association with an important figure in history;
- c. strong association with an important movement (e.g. religious, political, social, cultural);
- d. strong association with an important cultural or industrial achievement.

Architectural Interest

- a. architectural quality (this may derive as much from the simple form of a vernacular building as from the rich architectural details of a religious building, or the grand proportions of a country house);
- b. importance within a setting of significant quality (landscape, townscape, etc.);
- c. importance as a distinctive example of the work of a significant architect, or significant contribution to the history of architecture;
- d. importance as a classic example of a particular style, movement or building type;
- e. importance as a rare example or survival of a particular building type, structural form, or historical method of construction including local, formerly typical, structures now under threat of disappearance;
- f. importance as an example of an innovative contribution to the technology of building construction.