



Historic Buildings
Council for
WALES

45th

ANNUAL REPORT
2000-2001

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Forty-Fifth Annual Report 2000–2001



To
Ms Sue Essex
Minister for Environment

Crown Building,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff CF10 3NQ

I am pleased to present you with this report of the work of the Historic Buildings Council for Wales for the year 2000–2001.

We have had a busy year and it is a great encouragement to us that in this, the first year of the twenty-first century, there continues to be very significant interest in preserving our past. As the Assembly's statutory expert advisers on matters concerning historic buildings, we have provided advice to Cadw on a range of issues but, particularly, have considered 202 applications for grant for repairs to historic buildings, resulting in 116 offers of support. We are pleased that we have helped to maintain the momentum of repairing and conserving some of the most important buildings in Wales. We are confident that we have helped to make a difference — without grant some of these buildings would have been badly compromised or lost to future generations.

We are delighted that the profile of the historic environment continues to improve and that there is an ever-increasing realization that historic buildings play an important part in contributing to a better environment. Not only this, but the repair, restoration and reuse of buildings in some important historic areas of Wales is making a major contribution to local economic and social regeneration, as well as presenting a perfect illustration of a sustainable resource. A better environment and a better economy underlie the Assembly's overall objective of a better Wales and we set great store in being able to play some part in this vital process.

During the year we have made recommendations on a wide range of historic buildings. We have been particularly pleased to consider a good number of smaller vernacular buildings and also those with a particular significance in the history of Wales. We were delighted that in this year the Blaenavon industrial landscape gained recognition as a World Heritage site — and we were pleased to recommend that several important buildings forming part of this landscape should be offered grant for their repair and conservation.

We continue to consider all applications thoroughly against the criteria set out in our general aims and objectives, outlined at Annex D. We look forward to advising the Assembly further during 2001–2002.

Thomas Lloyd
Chairman

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Mrs Irene Allen
(from November 2000)

REVIEW OF THE YEAR'S BUSINESS

Visits

The Council met on five occasions during the year at venues in the Tenby, Beaumaris, Presteigne and Cardiff areas.

Associated with these meetings, we visited a number of candidates for assistance. We also saw the completed work on some buildings that had received historic buildings grant.

One of our first visits for the year was to **Pembroke Dock**. We were delighted that the Heritage Lottery Fund had approved the scheme put forward by Pembrokeshire County Council under the Heritage Lottery Fund's Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI). The scheme focuses particularly on the historic Royal Naval dockyard and its objective is to secure local economic and social regeneration through historic building conservation. There are several funding partners, including Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments, the local authority, the Welsh Development Agency and the Heritage Lottery Fund, the last having allocated the maximum grant possible — £2m — under the THI for this scheme. The dockyard contains many important buildings, such as the Garrison Chapel, the Sunderland hangars and the dockyard gates, and we were glad to support grant assistance from Cadw. We look forward to seeing these dockyard buildings restored, along with improvements generally to the town that will help to build up local confidence and stimulate new development and reuse of currently vacant buildings. This is bound to take some time — the overall life of the THI scheme is five years — but we look forward to returning to Pembroke Dock to see what has been achieved.



Left: *Fleet surgeon's house, Pembroke Dock.*

Right: *The court room in the former Shire Hall, Presteigne (The Judge's Lodgings, Presteigne).*

While in Pembrokeshire we looked at **Hodgeston Church, Lamphey**. This church is listed grade II* as an unusual medieval free chapel, containing an important fourteenth-century chancel with decorated sedilia and piscina. The last service was held in July 1999 and it has not been in use since. The Church in Wales had declared it to be redundant and the Friends of Friendless Churches were considering taking it into their care. The Friends asked for our views on whether this building was of outstanding historic or architectural merit and a worthy candidate for their Redundant Churches Mechanism. Members of the Council confirmed the church to be architecturally important. Subsequently, Hodgeston was formally vested by the Church in Wales to the Friends and initial repair works have been undertaken.

While we recognized the merits of this redundant church, we are always pleased to visit historic churches and chapels still being used for their original purpose of worship. We were delighted to see the completed works to **St Caradog's Church, Lawrenny**, Pembrokeshire, with its render and limewash, and the repair works to **St Andrew's Church, Presteigne**, a fine grade II* listed church. The Council had recommended grant in 1997 to St Andrew's for repairs to the stonework, rainwater system and windows.

While in **Presteigne**, the local authority showed us the improvements that had been made to buildings in the conservation area under its Historic Town Scheme partnership with Cadw. This has been successful in making a significant difference to the appearance of the conservation area. After the current year, the authority plan to put the scheme on hold for a few years and then to relaunch it with a specific conservation plan and delivery strategy as required under Cadw's more focused and targeted approach to grant-giving.

In the Town Scheme area we visited the **former Shire Hall**, a large and imposing Classical grade II* building. Originally built in 1826 for public and civic use, including a Court and Judge's Lodgings, it was made redundant in 1970. An imaginative reuse was proposed by its owners, Powys County Council, as a museum of the court system. The Council judged the building to be outstanding in January 1997 and recommended that grant be offered for a range of works, including renewal of high level rainwater goods and guttering, dry and wet rot works, restoration and replacement of windows, and restoration of the original gasolier.

The museum has proved to be extremely successful, not least with many, much enjoyed, educational school visits. It provides a fascinating insight into the different lives above and below stairs, as well as the judicial system of the time. The contrast in the prisoners' journey from the darkness of the primitive cells to the strong light and grandeur of the court room, a stairway away, was particularly marked.

The building is also a good example of how adaptations can be made to historic buildings to facilitate access for disabled people. The principal areas internally are all on the ground floor, which is level. However, it is two metres



Right: *The restored gasolier in the former Shire Hall, Presteigne (The Judge's Lodgings, Presteigne).*



above pavement level and the architecture of the grand neoclassical facade with columns, steps and railings posed a challenge.

The local disability group would have preferred access via the main entrance, but accepted that this would be impossible to achieve without destroying most of the steps and railings. Such a solution would have seriously compromised the architecture and aesthetic of the building, which itself stands as a major exhibit of the museum which it houses.

It was noted that there was an area at the rear of the building where dedicated parking for the disabled could be constructed. From there, level access could be gained through an arched rear door to the attractive rear garden. The garden door to the building was via a steep flight of steps but it was agreed that these could be modified by the insertion of a chair lift.

In view of the sensitivity of the building, it was agreed that access from the rear would best preserve it for all visitors, whilst permitting access for those in wheelchairs. Listed building consent was granted and the scheme implemented. In the same spirit, other adaptations are now also being considered which should further improve access for the disabled.

Our visit to **Anglesey** allowed us to view progress on the programme of repairs to, and removal of vegetation from, the sea wall at **Plas Newydd**, for which we had recommended grant and which featured in our last annual report. We were also delighted to see what had been achieved by Cadw in restoring the medieval hall-house at **Hafoty, Llansadwrn**, a fascinating building which will in due course be open to the public.

Applications considered in year

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 buildings were of outstanding architectural or historic merit — the legislative requirement for grant under the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953. We also made recommendations on which projects might make a significant contribution to the enhancement and preservation of conservation areas for the purpose of conservation area grant under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

In total, 202 applications were considered by the Council. The highest offer of grant — £570,000 — went to the Phoenix Trust for historic repairs to the turbine hall at the former Penallta colliery site, Caerphilly. The lowest went to 22 High Street, Haverfordwest, in the sum of £750 for the repair and restoration of Georgian windows to the property. There were 116 'in principle' offers of grant during the year, although for one reason or another, not all these schemes will progress and the actual amount of grant will vary in the light of tenders received. But the grant offers set out below reflect the recommendations of the Council.

Applications for grants 2000–2001	Number	Value
Total applications considered	202	—
Offers 'in principle'	116	£3,686,147
Outstanding buildings — secular	36	£1,506,047
Outstanding buildings — ecclesiastical	33	£1,203,923
Conservation area grant	47	£976,177

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 types and from private individuals, charitable and other organizations and local authorities. Interesting applications during the year are noted in the following case studies.



Case Studies: applications considered in year

Cottage at Tretio, St Davids

This building was abandoned in 1954 after being damaged in a storm but it appears to have started life in the eighteenth century as two attached identical cottages.

The walls of the building are constructed of boulders set in clay. Each half has a wide gable fireplace with a curved oak lintel supporting a substantial square chimney head. The southern chimney stack has a smaller fireplace back to back with the principal one. There is a pig pen attached to the northern gable.

When the cottage came before the Council, it was in the process of restoration — there had been consolidation of the walls and repointing with lime mortar and one of the chimney heads had been rebuilt. The principal point of interest of the house is the roof which was thatched with straw over a timber framework using a technique — straw-rope underthatching — that is known in Britain only from a handful of Pembrokeshire and Cardiganshire buildings and an even smaller number in the Orkney Islands. Surviving examples of this technique are extremely rare.

The applicant wished to reinstate the roof as it was but using water reed rather than straw to give it a longer life. He wanted to provide modern facilities in a small new extension on the site of the pig pen and to rebuild the crogloft in the northern half of the cottage.

The Council was sympathetic to this application for repairs to a vernacular building in an attractive historic village, with the added advantage of perpetuating a very rare construction technique, and accordingly recommended that grant be offered. Work is currently underway with completion planned early in 2001–2002.



Left: Cottage at Tretio, St Davids, before restoration, (Richard Cotton).
Main picture: The same cottage partly renovated.

Penallta Colliery Complex

The Council visited the site of the former Penallta Colliery at Ystrad Mynach, Caerphilly in May 1995 and assessed all the listed structures as being of outstanding merit. The Council recommended that the maximum evidence of previous use be captured in any scheme to reuse the buildings.

After a long period of discussion, the Phoenix Trust and its architects put forward an imaginative scheme for the rehabilitation of all the roofed structures, together with repair of the headframes. The scheme involves the restoration of the Power/Engine Hall to house three floors of flats lining a central street, and this will retain the height, length and width of the building; similarly, it is proposed to restore the workshop building to provide housing units.

The Trust approached Cadw for support, along with the local authority, the Welsh Development Agency and the Architectural Heritage Fund.

The Council very much welcomed the potential here for adaptation and was enthused by the prospect of a viable use that retained the historic character of the buildings. We felt that the initial proposal by the Trust's architects for a scooped out open roof to the main Power Hall might compromise the overall character of the building. Following discussions, the Trust revised its roof design. The Council was pleased to recommend grant 'in principle' for historic building repairs, subject to a full specification of works being prepared and other funding packages being in place. We understand that the scheme is progressing and we look forward to the start of works. This project is an ideal example of how buildings so important to Wales's industrial past can be preserved and reused with potential economic and social benefits.

Right: *Dolforgan Hall cast iron carriage bridge, Kerry, Newtown, prior to restoration.*

Dolforgan Hall Cast Iron Carriage Bridge, Kerry, Newtown

This small bridge over the river Mule is located on the former driveway from Dolforgan Lodges to Dolforgan Hall. It is listed grade II and the list description dates it to 1818. It is a cast iron bridge of four rings of cast iron, each in two sections, bolted at the centre, with open ring spandrels and abutment frames bearing on stone abutments. The deck is of timber boards on iron/steel joists and there are railings of finely detailed cast iron.

When it came before the Council, the bridge was deteriorating — one abutment had been scoured away and the cast iron ribs were supported on scaffolding in the water. The local community council was keen to reconstruct the bridge before it was too late to save it. Though quite small, we had no difficulty in assessing it as an early iron structure of outstanding interest and were glad to recommend that grant be offered.



Old Farmhouse, Waen Farm, St Asaph

Old Farmhouse originated as a timber-framed house in the fifteenth or sixteenth century, and later was a yeoman farmer's house. It is now an agricultural building, only one and a half storeys high, and it sits on a stone plinth. A small section of the original timber-framed external wall survives at the rear but — a rare occurrence — the medieval timber wall plate survives throughout. Two cruck trusses divide the interior into three bays where some of the original wattle and daub panels remain. The floors throughout are of earth. A wide stone fireplace seems to be a seventeenth-century addition.

The condition of Old Farmhouse was parlous when the application came before the Council. It required underpinning to its right hand gable, timber and joinery repairs, reslating with replacement of associated leadwork and rainwater goods, chimney repairs and some replastering. We considered it to be of outstanding interest as a remarkable survival of the sixteenth century, with unusually complete and sophisticated detailing. With grant assistance, the Council hopes that the building will have many more years of life.

Right: *Old Farmhouse, Waen Farm, St Asaph, prior to restoration (David Jones).*



Case Studies: completed projects

David Davies Statue, Barry

This bronze statue, listed grade II*, stands in front of the listed former Barry Dock Board offices overlooking the docks. It commemorates David Davies, the self-made engineer, industrialist and entrepreneur who was instrumental in the founding of Barry Docks, enabling Barry to become one of the busiest ports in the world. The statue was modelled by Alfred Gilbert, one of the most important sculptors of his day, and was cast by George Broad of London.

The condition of the statue had deteriorated significantly by the time it came before us for consideration in February 2000 — areas of the bronze had decayed and some of the iron armature was corroding, causing further damage. We had no doubt that it was of outstanding interest, not only on account of its commemoration of a principal figure in the development of South Wales industry but also because of the importance of its sculptor and foundry. The application proposed a complete overhaul by specialist conservators and we were glad to recommend that this be approved.

As shown in our cover photograph, work has now been completed and we are delighted with the restoration. David Davies again stands overlooking the docks he created and provides a focal point in the plans of the local authority and Associated British Ports to revitalize the Barry waterfront.



Left: *the statue of David Davies, Barry, before restoration (Robert Williams).*
Above: *A detail of the statue's plinth before repairs.*



Above: *Part of the walled outbuildings at Benarth Hall, Conwy, prior to restoration (M. Herman). Right: Completed restoration at Benarth Hall.*

Walled Garden and Outbuildings at Benarth Hall, Conwy



Our report last year gave details of the progress of works at Benarth Hall that the Council had recommended for grant in 1997. The Council was asked later that year to consider also a programme of repairs to restore the walled garden and associated outbuildings of the main house.

The landscape around Benarth has been included in the Cadw/ICOMOS Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest as an ‘interesting example of an early twentieth-century layout set in older woods and parkland’ and ‘extensive late eighteenth- or early nineteenth-century walled kitchen garden’. The northern kitchen garden is known to have been constructed shortly after completion of the original house, probably by the second owner, Mr Burroughs, who took possession in 1805. They appear to have been used and developed ever since, culminating in a major period of investment between 1914 and 1931.

When considered by the Council the outbuildings were in a poor condition — the roofs had failed — and the survival of the remaining wall structures was seriously at risk. The Council considered that the walled garden and its associated structures were an integral part of the overall historical and architectural legacy at Benarth and recommended them to be of outstanding interest.

We are delighted that we did so because the structures have now been restored and the kitchen garden is once more in production and is evidence — if any is needed — that grant for conservation does make a difference.

Current Initiatives/Issues

Although a large part of the Council's work is to provide expert advice on the architectural or historic interest of buildings that come before us, our terms of reference (Annex D, Appendix A) are much wider. We have therefore been pleased to advise on a number of new initiatives to promote historic building conservation or to pursue particular concerns.

REVIEW OF THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

Given the specialisms of Council members, we welcomed the Government's invitation to English Heritage to carry out a fundamental review of the historic environment. Although the review was directed at England only, we were glad to consider the issues raised in English Heritage's discussion papers, since many have relevance in Wales. We had a long discussion about the problems and challenges facing those working with historic buildings and we felt that there were measures that could be taken to improve conservation policies and practice. We passed our views to Cadw to be fed into the consultation process. We ask the Assembly, through Cadw, to keep in contact with English Heritage and the Department of Culture, Media and Sport on such policy initiatives and to consider further what might be done in Wales to promote historic building conservation.

VAT AND HISTORIC REPAIRS

One of our major concerns — about which we have made representations to the Assembly — is the 17.5% rate of VAT levied on historic building repairs. This is anomalous alongside a zero rate for alterations to listed buildings. We are disappointed that the UK has to await consideration by the European Community before any changes can be made to the VAT rate but are pleased that the anomaly has been acknowledged, at least to some extent, by the Chancellor of the Exchequer with his budget announcement of a new grant scheme that will effectively reduce the rate of VAT for listed places of worship to 5%. Given the financial pressures on many congregations to keep their buildings in repair, this is very welcome, but a large part of our valuable built heritage remains heavily burdened by this anomaly.

BUILDINGS AT RISK

It is always a great sadness for us to learn of important buildings that have fallen into decline, whether by wilful neglect or owners' inability to maintain them properly. We noted in our discussion on the English Heritage review that there is currently no duty of care of their buildings on owners (current remedies

being available only under criminal law) and we are glad to see that this is a recommendation in English Heritage's response to the Government in its publication *Power of Place*. The Council has long advocated simple preventative works by owners — such as gutter cleaning — which can often be undertaken at modest cost and which can avoid the need for expensive repairs at a later stage.

Local authorities too have particular responsibilities for the listed buildings in their area and the Council has always been at pains to encourage authorities to take action to ensure that buildings of such importance to local communities are not lost. During the year, we expressed concern to the appropriate local authorities about the condition of several listed buildings, some listed grade I, and we are glad that our intervention has prompted action in some instances. We are glad to support Cadw in its exhortations to local authorities to carry out surveys and maintain local registers of buildings at risk. We are pleased too that Cadw has offered to contribute towards costs incurred — and not recovered — by local authorities in serving notices to secure emergency works. Very often, works to make a building weather and vandal proof will extend a building's life quite considerably until some positive solution can be found.

REDUNDANT PLACES OF WORSHIP

It is always a matter of regret when churches and chapels are declared to be redundant and the buildings can no longer be used for the purpose for which they were intended. However, there are now two organizations which will ensure that the most outstanding buildings are repaired and kept safe and, if appropriate, given a new use.

We have been pleased to advise on the merits of several redundant churches and the Friends of Friendless Churches now have a number of Welsh churches in their care, with other potential vestings waiting in the wings. We are encouraged that, at the end of the year, in addition to the repairs to Hodgston Church, Lamphey, work was nearing completion at St David's, Llangeview, Monmouthshire — with a phase 2 to include limewashing of the church — and works are due to start shortly at Manordeifi, Pembrokeshire.

We were glad to invite representatives of the new Welsh Religious Buildings Trust to make a presentation to us of their work and were pleased to note the progress that has been made after considerable groundwork. The Trust was established as a parallel body to the Friends of Friendless Churches to look after the most important redundant chapels. The Trust has canvassed local authorities and chapel bodies to identify suitable buildings for its care and we were particularly pleased that Trustees were able to bring to us the first of their candidates for acquisition and repair. We judged that two chapels were of outstanding interest. Hen Dy Cwrdd, Trecynon, is important historically as one of the oldest sites of nonconformity in the south Wales

valleys. Beili Du, Sennybridge, is attractive in its simplicity and represents the deep strength of rural Welsh nonconformity. The Trust is continuing to seek candidates for its care and we look forward to advising further on the merits of these buildings so that they are preserved and, if appropriate, a sympathetic new use is found for them. Given that chapels are one of the most distinctive and widely threatened of all Welsh building types, we wish the Trust every success.

TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE INITIATIVE

As evidenced in our visit to Pembroke Dock, we continue to maintain a strong interest in the progress of the Heritage Lottery Fund's Townscape Heritage Initiative in Wales. We have been pleased to support grant assistance by Cadw for twelve projects in Wales and are delighted with the way that grant for conservation is being used to trigger funding from other organizations which will help economic and social regeneration.

RENDER AND LIMEWASH

The work of the Council is not always without controversy. We see a large number of medieval churches, most of which are constructed of rubble stone. We have often recommended that grant be offered, subject to the reapplication of traditional protective external renders. However, our recommendations are sometimes met with opposition, primarily because of the belief — still widely held, but mistaken — that bare stone is the natural and proper character for old buildings. Although Victorian architects routinely stripped the render off churches during restoration, there is overwhelming evidence that medieval buildings were often rendered and that limewashing was a feature of rural life throughout Wales until well into the twentieth century.

There was good reason for this. Rubble stone is prone to deterioration on several counts. The joints between the stones are weak points and need regular refilling with mortar, which becomes eroded by wind and rain. The stones themselves are eroded by the action of frost and wind and it is sometimes impossible to keep a rubble stone wall dry because the materials themselves are porous. This applies particularly to tall vertical walls, such as church towers, facing the prevailing weather.

The process of decay can often be halted simply and effectively. It is important that the mortar filling the joint is weaker than the surrounding stones, and traditional lime mixes are precisely this. Any damp in the wall tends to migrate outwards through the softer filling rather than through the harder stones. If the filling is stronger than the stones, the opposite happens — the damp migrates out through the stone, which causes it to decay, or is drawn inward by the warmer interior and causes internal damage.



It was standard medieval practice to protect rubble stone walls from the weather with a coat of lime-based render over the outside of the stonework. This was matched by a thick coat of lime plaster on the inside. The render and the plaster helped to soak up and retain moisture. With dry weather, the moisture evaporates out of the wall to the open air. The render covers and protects the weak joints between the stones, and limits the amount of water penetrating through the wall to the core.

Applying several coats of a thin limewash can enhance the waterproofing quality of lime render. In medieval times, this often incorporated tallow to increase the water-resisting property of the material. The limewash usually varied from off-white to deep cream in colour, but natural materials such as clay and blood were often added to produce pinks or ochres. With natural weathering, a highly attractive surface results.

The Council believes that there is good reason to recommend lime render to prevent decay of such important medieval buildings, especially if there is evidence that the building was originally rendered. In churches where this has been done, such as at Lawrenny, Mamhilad and Llanedeyrn, local congregations are generally enthused at the difference that render has made to their building, effectively preventing water penetration. The Council is conscious though that the building's appearance can be radically changed and considerable persuasion is needed to reinforce the message that the building is returning to its original appearance and a safer future.

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	£5,573
Meeting expenses	£8,226
Cadw's estimated costs in supporting the Council	£15,000
Total	£28,799

Acknowledgements

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



Above: St Illtyd's Church, Mamhilad, before render and limewash were applied to the exterior of the building.

Left: St Illtyd's Church, Mamhilad, after rendering and limewashing.



ANNEX A

Grants Summary

1. Grants for Outstanding Secular Buildings

Applications considered	2000–2001
New applications	78
Applications for increases	24
Total	112
Number of grants approved by the National Assembly	36 ^(a)
Value of grants recommended and approved ^(b)	£1,506,047 ^(c)
Expenditure	£571,729

(a) Additionally, 24 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 £575,251 in 2000–2001.

(c) This figure does not include the value of increased grants, which totalled £244,070 in 2000–2001.

2. Grants for Outstanding Buildings in Use for Worship

Applications considered	2000–2001
New applications	52
Applications for increases	24
Total	76
Number of grants approved by the National Assembly	33 ^(a)
Value of grants recommended and approved ^(b)	£1,203,923 ^(c)
Expenditure	£1,022,737

(a) Additionally, 24 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 £140,612 in 2000–2001.

(c) This figure does not include the value of increased grants, which totalled £118,085 in 2000–2001.

Left: *Hafoty medieval hall-house, Llansadwrn, Anglesey.*

ANNEX A

3. Grants for Schemes in Conservation Areas

Applications considered	2000–2001
New applications	72
Applications for increases	16
Total	88
Number of grants approved by the National Assembly	47 ^(a)
Value of grants recommended and approved ^(b)	£976,177 ^(c)
Expenditure	£799,156

(a) Additionally, 16 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 £234,104 in 2000–2001.

(c) This figure does not include the value of increased grants, which totalled £173,076 in 2000–2001, but it includes expenditure in respect of Historic Town Schemes.

4. Grants for Cathedrals

Two applications were received in 2000–2001, namely:

	Grant
St Asaph Cathedral	£17,370
Brecon Cathedral	£28,169

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 2000 to 31 March 2001. Grant need not necessarily have been paid, in part or in full, in all cases.

All grant offers for outstanding buildings which are formally accepted are subject to a condition requiring access for the public. Details of access arrangements can be found on Cadw's website: <http://www.cadw.wales.gov.uk>

Bridgend

St James's Church, Pyle

A grade I listed building, St James's Church is a small but well preserved Glamorgan parish church which is still largely of medieval form and fabric, with a very fine dated medieval roof. Grant of £11,750 for roof and internal plaster repairs.

Caerphilly

Penallta Colliery, Ystrad Mynach

A former colliery complex which is prominent in the local landscape and already a rare survival. Grant of £570,000 offered towards the imaginative rehabilitation of the many listed structures at the site by the Phoenix Trust.

Cardiff

St German's Church, Metal Street

Amongst the finest late nineteenth-century religious buildings in Wales, St German's is an extremely refined and elegant urban church by the architect G. F. Bodley. Grant of £65,000 offered for the complete restoration of the exterior and various internal repairs and improvements.

ANNEX B

St John the Baptist, St John's Square

The historic parish church of Cardiff, St John's has an especially fine medieval tower, many important monuments and good nineteenth- and early twentieth-century fittings and glass. Grant of £135,000 offered for extensive external repairs.

Carmarthenshire

Cyffig Church, near Whitland

An early sixteenth-century church set in the hills south of Whitland, with prominent original bellcote and tower. Grant of £60,000 offered towards major repairs to the church tower.

St Peter's Church, Carmarthen

A grade I listed medieval church with many internal monuments of interest dating from the sixteenth century. In addition there are many eighteenth- and nineteenth-century headstones and tombs of interest in the churchyard. Grants of £86,370 offered for internal repairs; £105,000 for rerendering of the tower with lime; £177,500 for the conservation of the monuments and wall paintings within the church.

Henllys, Cilycwm, Llandovery

Henllys is a well preserved example of an early nineteenth-century gentry house, with good interior detail remaining. The fabric of the house constitutes a remodelling of an earlier house, possibly of late seventeenth- or early eighteenth-century origins. Grant of £6,400 offered for external repairs.

Ceredigion

Llanerchaeron, Ciliau Aeron, Aberaeron

A neoclassical villa-type country house of about 1794 designed by John Nash, Llanerchaeron has been extensively restored with grant assistance over the past five years. Grant of £176,000 offered to the National Trust for internal repairs following dry rot eradication.

ANNEX B

Ffynnon Oer, Temple Bar

A fascinating building, Ffynnon Oer is a fine example of how modern living can be accommodated within a vernacular house, and architecturally it provides a remarkable survival of local building traditions. The earliest part of the building dates from the mid-eighteenth century. Grant of £21,200 offered for rethatching and rendering works.

Ty'n Cwm, Llanon, Aberaeron

Ty'n Cwm is a small croglift cottage in the Cardiganshire pattern. The original house, in the middle of the range, dates from the eighteenth century. Grant of £3,200 offered for works to restore the existing building.

Ynys Felin, Dihewyd

Ynys Felin is an extremely unusual large vernacular farmhouse of regional character with possibly medieval origins. The building's principal construction material is clom earth which is rare in a building of this scale and antiquity, and its detached kitchen range in the medieval pattern is also a rare survival. Grant of £40,000 offered for extensive restoration works.

Conwy

Benar, Penmachno, Betws-y-coed

Benar is a fine sixteenth-century farmhouse constructed of dark local stone set in the open countryside outside Betws-y-coed. Although vandalized many years ago, the present owners have gradually restored the building. Grant of £3,200 offered for the stabilization of the gable end wall.

All Saints Church, All Saints Avenue, Deganwy

Built in 1899 to the design of the fine Chester architect John Douglas, All Saints has an authentically Gothic appearance with its squat, heavily buttressed tower and complex steeply roofed spire adjoining the plain nave. Grant of £12,500 offered for roof repairs.

St Cynbryd's Church, Llanddulas, Abergele

Set in a hollow below the road in the village of Llanddulas, St Cynbryd's was the first of several examples of the work of G. E. Street of north Wales under the patronage of Robert Hesketh of Gwrych Castle, and remains unaltered. Grant of £12,500 offered for repairs to the roof and rainwater goods, repointing and replacement of windows.

ANNEX B

St Grwst's Church, Llanrwst

St Grwst's Church is a grade I listed building of exceptional interest, comprising medieval fabric including a fine rood screen, plus the Gwydir Chapel which was added by Sir John Wynn in 1633–34. Grant of £50,000 offered towards re-leading of the tower roof and associated repointing, plus various internal repairs including the restoration of the screen.

St Hilary's Parish Church, Llanrhos, Llandudno

St Hilary's is a cruciform building with its medieval origins evident in the nave, with the remainder of the church dating from the seventeenth century. The south chapel houses many elaborate mural monuments, and there are fine memorials and bronzes in the churchyard. Grant of £2,000 offered towards the restoration of the lychgate.

Gwydir Castle, Llanrwst

Gwydir Castle is a highly important Tudor mansion house incorporating earlier medieval elements. It was the seat of the notable Wynn family from about 1500 until about 1674. Grant of £32,000 offered for the continuing restoration of the solar tower.

Plas Isaf, Bryn Rhyd Yr Arian, Llansannan

A late sixteenth-century farmhouse of strong vernacular character, the house retains original interior features and much of the fenestration of a late eighteenth-century refurbishment. The main entrance, utilizing a medieval tomb slab as a lintel and an elaborately carved, highly polished door in Italian Renaissance style, is of particular historical interest. Grant of £13,800 offered for general roof and stonework repairs.

Denbighshire

Old Farmhouse, Waen, St Asaph

Originating from the fifteenth or sixteenth century, Old Farmhouse is situated at Waen, between St Asaph and Tremeirchion. Remarkably, this yeoman farmer's house has survived untouched by any hint of the twentieth century and has unusually complete and sophisticated detailing. Grant offered, subject to a suitable scheme of works, towards the repair of historic timbers and joinery, repointing and limewashing of external walls and repairs to the roof structure.

ANNEX B

Plas Bennett, Llandyrnog

Built in 1749 in a quiet rural setting, Plas Bennett has a formal, symmetrical five bay front elevation with two rows of sash windows. The interior of the house has survived with little alteration, retaining much original detailing such as the oak dog-leg staircase. Grant of £26,000 offered for the second phase of repairs, which includes repointing works and repairs to the stonework and windows.

St Marcella's Church, Denbigh

St Marcella's is a Gothic church, with later restoration work carried out in 1915, which has many important monuments to the interior. Grant of £10,000 offered for repointing of the tower, limewashing of the church, and repairs to the lychgate.

St Tysilio's Church, Bryneglwys

St Tysilio's is a small church built from local stone, with the earliest details dating from the fifteenth century. Grant of £8,500 offered for the first phase of repairs, including repointing the west gable; reslating the vestry; and repairs to the bellcote and internal plaster.

Foxhall, Henllan, Denbighshire

An early Tudor gentry house with an exceptional medieval cross wing, Foxhall retains good original features to its interior and exterior. It also has historic interest as the birthplace and home of Humphrey Llwyd, the noted Tudor physician and antiquary. Grant offered, subject to a suitable scheme of works, for a programme of external renovation.

Holy Trinity Church (Lychgate), Trefnant, Denbighshire

Holy Trinity was a memorial church erected to the memory of Colonel John Lloyd Salusbury of Galltfaenan Hall by his daughters. The church was designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott and was constructed in the 1850s. It was conceived in his characteristic 'middle pointed' style of the late thirteenth/early fourteenth century. The lychgate was in place by 1856. Grant of £2,750 offered to repair the timbers of the lychgate.

Flintshire

St Deiniol's Church, Hawarden

A mid-fourteenth-century church with earlier origins, gutted by fire but then subject to excellent quality restoration and additions by Gilbert Scott and John Douglas in the nineteenth century. William Gladstone is buried here under a fine monument. Grant of £10,000 for repairs to the roof structure.

ANNEX B

Gwynedd

Gorllwyn Uchaf, Prenteg, Tremadog

A small medieval lofted vernacular stone building in the cruck tradition, set in moorland near Tremadog, Gorllwyn Uchaf has remained virtually unaltered through the centuries. Grant of £12,000 offered towards repairs to the roof structure and crucks, treatment and preservation of surviving timber and repointing.

Stable Courtyard, Glynllifon Estate, Ffordd Glynnog, Caernarfon

The large stable courtyard at the Glynllifon estate south of Caernarfon is an exceptionally fine example of its type in an historic setting. It retains much of its Regency Classical detail such as original stone slabs and cobbled gutters. Grant of £20,000 offered for reslating works to the east wing of the courtyard.

Vanner Farm, Llanelltyd, Dolgellau

Vanner House is an important late medieval hall associated with, and situated opposite, Cymer Abbey at Llanelltyd. Grant of £2,400 offered for works to remedy subsidence in the north-west corner.

Capel Jerusalem, Bethesda, Gwynedd

A grade I listed building, Capel Jerusalem is an early nineteenth-century Calvinistic Methodist chapel with a richly detailed interior to a semicircular plan of exceptional interest. Grant of £11,650 offered towards the reinstatement of cast iron rainwater goods.

St Peblig's Church, Llanbeblig, Caernarfon

An ancient parish church built on the outskirts of Caernarfon, the present building dates mainly from the fourteenth through to the sixteenth centuries. Grant of £11,500 offered for repairs to stonework and repointing to the nave chapel, transepts and organ chamber.

Bodwrdda, Aberdaron, Pwllheli

Dating from 1621, Bodwrdda has an extravagant brick exterior in a style not otherwise found in this part of Wales; its survival is remarkable. Grant of £16,000 for extensive external repairs.

Towered gatehouse at Broom Hall, Chwilog, Pwllheli

Broom Hall, a sophisticated gentry house of the late eighteenth century, lies in its own parkland east of Pwllheli. Its towered gatehouse is an unusual and interesting one that contributes to the important setting of the hall. Grant of £16,000 offered for works to the gatehouse including the renovation of its clock tower.

ANNEX B

The Garden House, Cefnamwlch, Tudweiliog, Pwllheli

A rare and substantial Georgian summer house, the Garden House is situated within the walled garden at Cefnamwlch. Grant of £1,600 for repairs to roof and windows.

Monmouthshire

Barn Range at Tŷ Mawr, Forest Coal Pit, Abergavenny

An uncommonly large barn, with diamond-mullioned windows, which dates from the late seventeenth century, with additions in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Grant of £19,827 for repairs to the roof structure and general door and window repairs.

St Tegfedd's Church, Llandegfedd

A church substantially of the twelfth century, though with some remodelling in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. There is a splendid array of mural monuments throughout the church which are mainly of the eighteenth century. Grant of £9,000 for repair and reslating of the nave and chancel roofs, and repair and reglazing of windows.

Barn at Great Pool Hall, Llanvetherine, Abergavenny

A handsome early seventeenth-century barn of impressive proportions, containing several features of interest, which remains in agricultural use. Grant offered, subject to a suitable scheme of works being agreed, for repairs including renewal of exterior doors, reinstatement of timber board cladding and repair and repointing of masonry.

Treowen, Wonastow, Monmouth

A grade I listed, early seventeenth-century house with oak panelling and Jacobean fireplace. Grant of £4,800 offered towards the purchase and reinstatement of an ornate Jacobean timber screen, which had been removed from the hall in the early twentieth century.

Former Congregational Church, Glendower Street, Monmouth

A grand Classical early Victorian chapel with a three bay facade flanked by two full height pilasters. Grant of £124,000 offered towards the complete restoration of the building.

ANNEX B

St Mabli's Church, Llanvapley, Abergavenny

St Mabli's is a well preserved medieval church situated on an ancient site at the highest point of Llanvapley village. It has a fine tower, original tracery and good interior detail including roofs, piscina and later pulpit and communion rails. Grant of £33,500 offered for repairs to stonework, roof, windows and internal plaster repairs.

Llanfihangel Court, Llanfihangel Crucorney, Abergavenny

A grade I listed, architecturally and historically important country house of late medieval origins, Llanfihangel Court has developed over the centuries and has well preserved features from several periods. Grant of £40,000 offered for various internal and external works.

Court Farmhouse, Llanover, Abergavenny

The oldest building at Llanover Park, Court Farmhouse dates from the sixteenth century and retains good details from all periods of its development. Grant of £45,000 offered for various internal and external works.

St Mary's Church, Portskewett

St Mary's is a grade I listed medieval church, little changed, in the centre of Portskewett village. Grant of £72,500 for stonework and roofing repairs.

Neath Port Talbot

St Illtyd's Church, Neath

Of thirteenth-century origin, the church is attributed to St Illtyd himself who is understood to have had a cell on the banks of the nearby Afon Nedd. Nineteenth-century restoration added interesting monuments to the interior of the church. Grant for restoration subject to a suitable scheme of works.

Pembrokeshire

Y Felin, Mill Street, St Dogmaels

An early nineteenth-century flour mill, Y Felin is one of the best surviving water mills in south-west Wales, and remains operational to this day. Grant of £1,170 offered towards repairs to the wheel mill and associated workings.

ANNEX B

Cottage at Tretio, St Davids

An eighteenth-century vernacular building in an attractive historic village, the cottage was a rare surviving example of straw-rope underthatching, a technique known only from a handful of buildings in Pembrokeshire and Ceredigion. Grant of £24,000 offered for the restoration of the roof using the authentic underthatching method.

St Brynach's Church, Nevern, Newport

St Brynach's dates from the sixth century and has a massive Perpendicular tower to the west end. The church was well restored in 1864 by R. J. Withers but is best known for the famous Celtic cross standing beside it. Grant of £25,000 for the reslating of all roof slopes.

St Mary's Church, High Street, Tenby

A large and handsome stone structure of Welsh-Norman foundation, with its origins in the early thirteenth century, the church contains many tombs and memorials of interest. Grant of £17,500 offered for the re-leading of the roof valley between the nave and north aisle, and reslating on the adjacent roof slopes.

Panteg, Llanddewi Velfrey

Panteg is an outstanding example of an early Georgian house with fine interior details. Grant of £900 for the reinstatement of the slate door surround and other external works.

Tabernacle Congregational Church, Haverfordwest

A late eighteenth-century building, boldly transformed in the 1800s, Tabernacle Church is exuberant in style with a stuccoed front and elaborate cornicing. Grant of £30,000 offered for a comprehensive scheme of repairs.

The Shell House, Cilwendig

An early nineteenth-century garden folly, the Shell House at Cilwendig is one of very few such structures in south-west Wales. It has panels inlaid with shell to the interior. Grant of £45,000 for a full restoration of the building.

Powys

Dolforgan Hall cast iron carriage bridge, Kerry, Newtown

A cast iron bridge with deck of timber boards, this structure, which dates from 1818, is an example of pioneering early use of cast iron and is a significant component of the early layout at Dolforgan Hall. Grant of £26,400 for the repair and restoration of the bridge.

ANNEX B

Trewern Hall, Trewern, Welshpool

Trewern Hall is a large timber-framed farmhouse dating from the seventeenth century, situated on the flood plain of the Severn below the Breidden Hills. The house has been owned by the same farming family for several generations and is still part of a working farm. Grant of £12,170 offered for various internal repairs.

Llanbadarn Fawr Church (St Padarn's), Crossgates, Llandrindod Wells

This parish church, predominantly nineteenth-century, has a Norman doorway with a remarkable tympanum. Grant of £9,750 offered for the renewal of the cast iron rainwater system.

Church of St Michael and All Angels, Llanfihangel Cwmdu, Crickhowell

The church of St Michael, with its substantial fifteenth-century tower, is prominently sited on the edge of the village of Cwmdu. Grant of £37,500 for extensive roof repairs.

Llynloedd, Machynlleth

A gentry farmhouse on the outskirts of Machynlleth, Llynloedd was built in the seventeenth century. The house retains particularly fine features, notably the exceptional Jacobean stair and unusual and ornate panelling. Grant of £2,000 for the repair of timber and lead work and repointing works.

Old Market Hall, Llanidloes

The only timber-framed market hall of its type to survive in Wales, the Old Market Hall was built about 1600. Grant of £16,000 for timber work repairs and replastering and limewashing to the south gable.

Powis Castle, Welshpool, Powys

Once a Welsh stronghold, Powis Castle is an outstanding building that charts the progression from medieval fortress to country house. The extensive survival of the medieval external structure of the building forms the framework for a remarkable series of later interiors, some of exceptional importance. Grant of £22,000 offered to the National Trust for the restoration of the steps, balustrading and masonry forming the east front entrance.

Stanage Park, Knighton

Stanage Park is a substantial country house set in extensive parkland, landscaped by Humphrey Repton, one of the most important and influential figures in the history of landscape parks in the early nineteenth century. Grant of £5,400 for the rebuilding and reroofing of the stable courtyard to the south end of the house.

ANNEX B

Rhondda Cynon Taff

St Catherine's Church, Pontypridd

An impressive landmark in the Pontypridd townscape, with its huge tower and elegant spire, St Catherine's also has an unusual brickwork interior. Grant of £64,378 for repairs to the tower and spire and restoration of brickwork to the chancel.

Swansea

The Orangery, Penrice Castle, Reynoldston, Gower

Although to a simple design, the orangery at Penrice is part of an interesting group of garden and estate buildings. It is also of historic interest in its connection with the early days of photography; some of the earliest photographs in existence record its appearance. Grant of £10,702 for renovation of the roof and windows.

Torfaen

Former St Peter's School (Original School), Church Road, Blaenavon

Situated within the Blaenavon Industrial Landscape World Heritage Site, this Gothic school was founded in 1815. It is of national interest as the earliest surviving ironworks school in Wales and probably the first school purpose-built by a Welsh industrialist for the children of his workforce. The school is also unique for having retained its original architectural character. Grant of £82,500 offered for substantial external restoration works.

Vale of Glamorgan

St Peter's Church, Old Cogan, Penarth

A small church which served the deserted medieval village of Cogan, St Peter's had fallen into disuse by the nineteenth century but was restored by the third marquis of Bute who also provided a memorial to his kinsman, James Corbett, who instigated the restoration of the church. Grant of £13,000 towards the replacement of cast iron rainwater goods; new slate roof; and repairs to the timber roof structure.

ANNEX B

St Brynach's Church, Llanfrynach, Cowbridge

Situated in open countryside one mile west of Cowbridge, St Brynach's is of twelfth- or thirteenth-century origin with a large, square, unbuttressed tower. Grant of £29,500 for repairs to the tower roof.

Wrexham

St Chad's Church, Holt

St Chad's is an outstanding example of a medieval parish church, and a member of a fine group of Perpendicular churches in north-east Wales. Grant of £10,275 offered for restoration and repair to bays of the external walling, stone window mullions and repointing.

St Dunwad's Church, Bangor-on-Dee

St Dunwad's is a fine medieval church with an early eighteenth-century tower and many interior features of quality and interest. Grant of £40,000 offered for the reroofing of the parapeted north nave aisle and stonework and window repairs on all elevations of the building.

St John the Baptist, Bettisfield

Built between 1872 and 1874 to the design of G. E. Street for Lord Hanmer, the simple but sophisticated composition of the church revolves around the tower and octagonal spire at the south-east corner. Grant offered subject to a suitable scheme of works encompassing repairs to the entire building.

St Mary's Church, Chirk

St Mary's dates from late medieval times and has many notable internal features, particularly the fine array of monuments to the Myddleton and Trevor families of the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Grant of £40,000 for reroofing and internal repointing.

ANNEX C

Conservation Area Grants

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

Grants Offered 1 April 2000–31 March 2001

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		
Beaumaris	Church Room, Steeple Lane	33,000
BRIDGEND		
Merthyr Mawr	Church Cottage	2,783
	Holly Cottage	1,933
	West Lodge	2,552
CARDIFF		
Cathays Park	University of Wales Registry	13,304
Llandaff	The Old House, 5 Cathedral Green	9,000
CARMARTHENSHIRE		
Carmarthen	Picton Terrace/Penllwyn Park	13,050
Llanboidy	Church of St Brynach	28,000
Llandeilo	St Teilo's Church (churchyard wall)	22,000
CEREDIGION		
Aberaeron	Aberaeron Wirescape Scheme	12,000
CONWY		
Gwytherin	St Winifred's Church	30,000
Llanelian yn Rhos	St Elian's churchyard wall	16,000

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ANNEX C

DENBIGHSHIRE

Denbigh	St Mary's Church, Lenten Pool	16,000
Llandrillo	St Trillo's Church	22,000
Llanfair DC	St Mary's churchyard wall	5,280
Llangollen	Llangollen Group Repair Scheme, phase 3A	95,705
Rhyl	West Rhyl Area Group Repair Scheme	162,000

FLINTSHIRE

Llanasa	St Cyndeyrn's Church	10,400
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GWYNEDD

Betws-y-coed	St Michael's Church, Old Church Road	14,000
Caernarfon	Bron Yr Aur, 41 New Street	7,890
Tremadog	Tremadog Market Hall	*
	2 Church Street/12, 14 & 16 Market Square	9,300
	7 Market Square	4,500
	'Taleifion', 4 Market Square	1,800

MONMOUTHSHIRE

Hendre	Sunnyside	3,000
Llandenny	Rock Farm	*
Llanover	The Manse Barn, Hanover Church	12,000
Monmouth	Victoria Place, 14 Priory Street	3,948

NEWPORT

Caerleon	6 High Street	9,000
St Woolos	Roslyn House, 9 Park Square	15,000

PEMBROKESHIRE

Haverfordwest	22 High Street	750
Tenby	Frogmore House, Lower Frog Street	19,500
	Ashley House	10,500

ANNEX C

POWYS

Llanidloes	30 Great Oak Street	2,500
Machynlleth	Royal House, Heol Penrallt	82,240
	St Peter's Church (east wall)	60,000
Meifod	Vyrnwy House	600
Welshpool	2 Clive Place, Severn Road	1,950
Newtown	St Beuno's Church, Bettws Cedewain	25,600

SWANSEA

Morrison	66 Martin Street	8,125
Pontardawe	St John's Parish Church, Cilybeyll	45,200

TORFAEN

Blaenavon	Former St Peter's Infant School, Church Road	24,437
	15-19 Broad Street	58,000

VALE OF GLAMORGAN

Llantwit Major	To Hesg, Colhough Street	4,200
St Hilary	The Bush Inn	*
	Little Hall Cottage	5,570

WREXHAM

Wrexham	Trinity Church, Grosvenor Road	51,560
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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 historic environment in Wales and, particularly, on applications for grant from Cadw for the repair of buildings of outstanding historic or architectural interest or for works which will make a significant contribution towards the preservation or enhancement of the character or appearance of a conservation area.

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; appointments are made by the Assembly. The Chairman also serves on the Cadw Advisory Committee, which meets to review Cadw's general performance quarterly.

Annual Report

The legislation requires the HBC to present an annual report to the Assembly, which is then published.

Role of the HBC

The terms of reference of the Council are at Appendix A.

The HBC 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 200 meetings. In addition, members are consulted on matters of policy 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. A further review is planned for 2002–2003.

ANNEX D

The main focus of the Council is to consider 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 were reviewed in November 2000 and are at Appendix B.

The role of the Council and Cadw's current historic buildings grant scheme have worked well for many years. Grants have been directed almost exclusively to the repair of historic fabric, rather than alterations or replacement. Some 202 individual applications for grant were considered by the HBC in 2000–2001, resulting in 116 grant offers by Cadw with a value of some £3.7m. The Council also considered allocations to local authorities for historic building repairs in agreed local authority and Cadw historic town schemes and projects under the Heritage Lottery Fund's Townscape Heritage Initiative.

Future Direction

Cadw and the HBC are 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 historic environment 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 HBC 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.

In considering its overall role and objectives, the HBC 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 HBC 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 HBC welcomes the partnership approach of the Townscape Heritage Initiative which brings together agencies such as the Heritage Lottery Fund, local authorities, the Welsh Development Agency, the Wales Tourist Board and Cadw in regeneration schemes through historic building conservation. The Council also endorses Cadw's approach of contributing grant aid to local authority housing group repair schemes in conservation areas to meet the costs of repairs to conservation standards. The Council would encourage similar partnerships as authorities consider the fresh approach being advocated by Cadw for historic town schemes.

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

As an independent body, the HBC will also continue to draw to Cadw's attention matters of importance, including implications for Wales of the review in England of the historic environment; it will continue to adopt an independent view and be proactive in addressing key issues.

Policy Objectives for 2001 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 historic environment 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 building grants, ensure that recommendations are made in a fair and open manner, 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 historic building conservation;
- promote partnership with a range of other agencies to ensure consistency of approach and cohesion in the historic environment;
- promote the positive contribution that conservation of historic buildings can bring to wider regeneration and sustainability strategies;
- promote awareness 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 interest, their adjoining land, and land of outstanding historic interest.

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 (for example, 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.