

CASEWORK 1985-86: A SAMPLE

by

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1. **Grovelands House, London Borough of Enfield**

An impressive if small-scale Neo-Classical design by John Nash of 1798, listed Grade I (Fig. 1). Following a long and worrying period of disuse during which a dry rot outbreak crept closer towards the extraordinary painted Birdcage Room inside, the villa has now been purchased for conversion (with appropriate extensions) as a private nursing home.

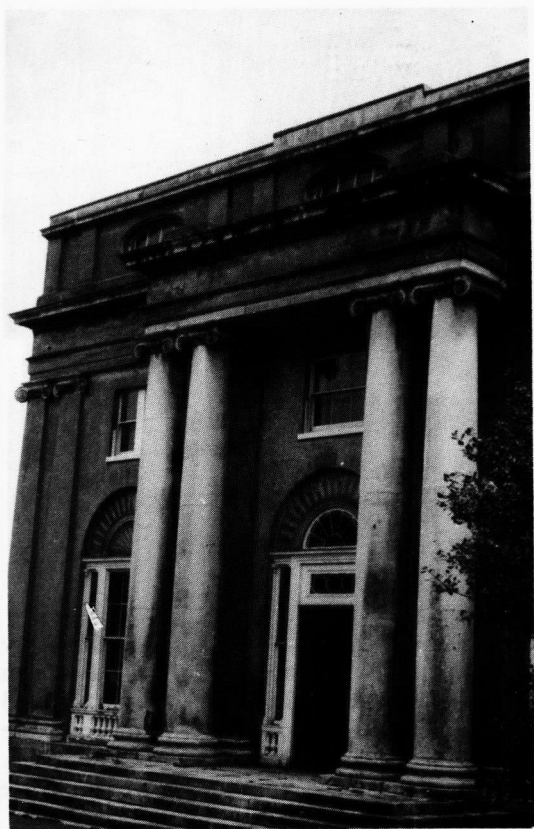


Fig. 1
Grovelands House,
London Borough of
Enfield

2. **Robinwood Mill, Todmorden, West Yorkshire**

This impressive mill of 1842 designed by (Sir) William Fairbairn was the subject of a Public Inquiry to consider an application to demolish in October 1986. Like so many in this building type it dominates its valley setting and is very sturdily constructed (Fig. 2). The problem is largely the embarrassment of space which it offers although the applicant sought demolition primarily on the grounds that it was an eyesore. He considered removal would be to the public benefit.

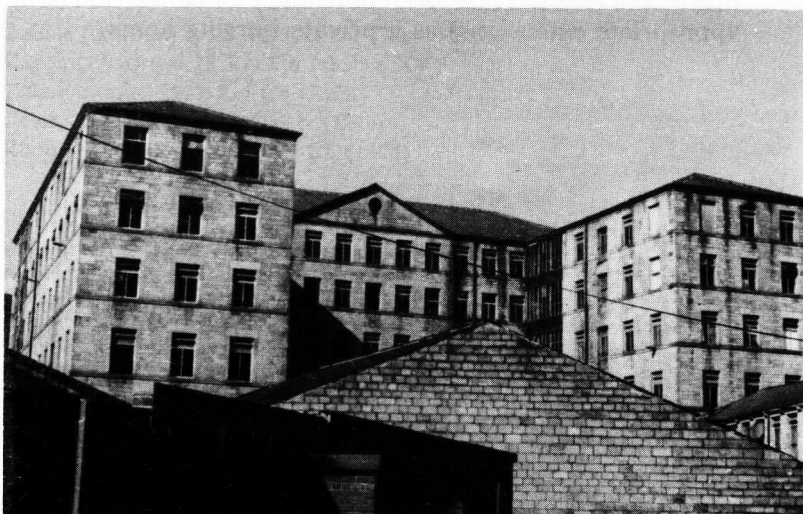


Fig. 2

Robinwood Mill, Todmorden, West Yorkshire

3. **Compton Verney House, Warwickshire**

The great house (with work by Robert Adam), stables (by James Gibbs) and the chapel (by Capability Brown) have been purchased for £515,000 by Mr Christopher Buxton (Figs 3 and 4). Following the abandonment of a scheme for multiple residential occupation, he now intends to convert to an hotel. The chapel is to be used as a function room in the same connection.



Fig. 3
Compton Verney House, Warwickshire

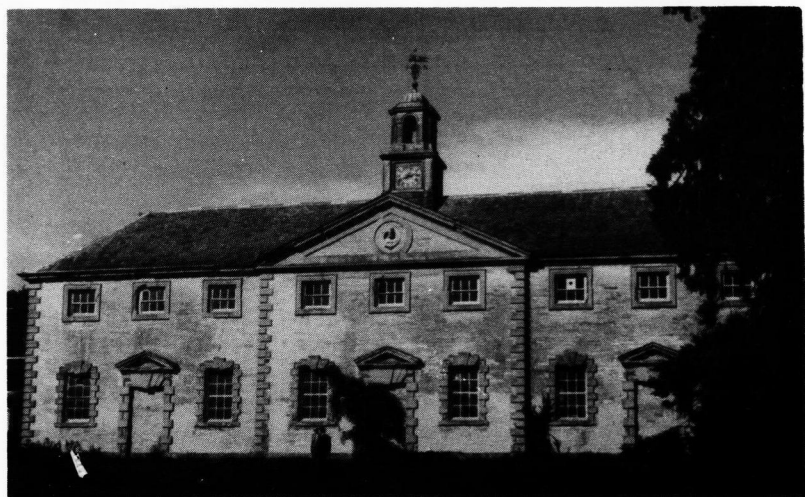


Fig. 4
The stables at Compton Verney, Warwickshire

4. **46 and 48 London Road, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire**

These small lodge-like structures are made the more unusual for the survival in the grounds of octagons apparently constructed as game larders (Figs 5 and 6). An application to demolish all four in 1985 was refused but a further one was submitted in the late summer of 1986.

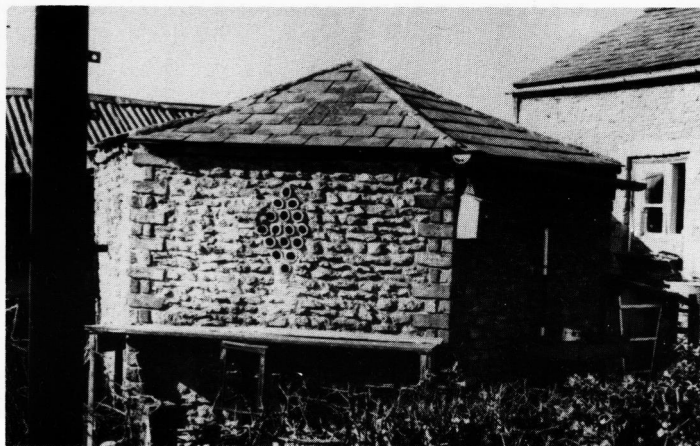


Fig. 5

Top: 46 and 48 London Road, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire

Fig. 6

Bottom: Game larders at Chatteris, Cambridgeshire

5. **39 Welsh Row, Nantwich, Cheshire**

This very interesting purpose-built Savings Bank of 1846 remains empty despite the refusal of an application to demolish submitted in 1984. As a quid pro quo for its reprieve, consent was granted for the demolition of its late eighteenth-century neighbour (37 Welsh Row). Demolition was carried out in 1986.

6. **1-7 Crowtree Terrace, Sunderland**

No building is beyond saving until the demolition men have actually moved in. Permission to demolish this eighteenth-century terrace was granted in 1978 but lapsed under the rule introduced in 1980 which gives a life of five years to listed building consents. As the terrace was still standing at the time when the consent lapsed it has been reconfirmed on the statutory lists.

7. **Tabernacle, Adare Street, Bridgend, Glamorgan**

Permission to demolish this austere but pleasing Tabernacle of 1850 as part of a shopping redevelopment was granted in 1986.

8. **The Mount Street Chapel, Stafford**

A modest and rather muddled exterior tended to bely the survival in the centre of the picture of an exceptionally early conventicle of late seventeenth-century date. The timbers of the roof were roughly hewn in the manner of vernacular architecture. Consent was granted and the building speedily demolished in 1986.



Fig. 7
Mount Street
Chapel, Stafford

9. **Welbeck Abbey, Nottinghamshire**

An application in 1986 to demolish this mid nineteenth-century camellia house was refused consent.

10. **Town Hall, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent**

The Town Hall at Longton of 1863 is perhaps more expressive of civic pride than first-rate architecture. However there is great animation in the carving and it provides a much needed focal point in the town. After intense lobbying the building was included on the statutory lists a matter of days after demolition men had begun their work. It seems unlikely that any of the interior will be saved but the City of Stoke will not be pressing ahead with the destruction of the façade.

11. **Castle Tor, Torquay, Devon**

A proposal to build a house on a magical secret garden of the late nineteenth century at Castle Tor has been refused consent and an expected appeal has not been lodged.



Fig. 8

A secret garden at Castle Tor, Torquay, Devon

12. **Farmer Station, Southampton, Hampshire**
Sir William Tite's Terminus Station of 1840 has now been handsomely converted to offices.

 13. **Highcliffe Castle, Christchurch, Dorset**
This romantic design of 1830-34, now a ruin, has the misfortune to lie in a borough which claims to have the lowest rateable base of any in England. Following twenty years of neglect the property has finally been placed on the open market.

 14. **Pateley Bridge, Yorkshire**
The continuing resurvey of the country to update the statutory lists is uncovering unsuspected delights. The central building in the photo shows a very modest cottage with a giant bow. And yet inside there survives an extraordinary ceiling with a centrepiece composed of three tree men with identical coats of arms.

 15. **Burnley Wood Primary School, Burnley, Lancashire**
The otherwise conventional Burnley Wood Primary School of 1892 conceals in its central hall a remarkable double pair of intersecting segmental arches with particularly elaborate openwork spandrels. A Public Inquiry into an application to demolish was held in October 1986.

 16. **The Bell, Stilton, Huntingdonshire**
The long-derelict Bell Inn, now renamed The Stilton, has been well repaired as a hostelry.
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