

GARRISON HOUSE

Winner of Roses Design Awards 2008 for Best Re-use of a Listed Building, Glasgow Institute of Architects Awards 2008 for Conservation and Repair and Restoration Category in Natural Stone Awards 2008. Commendation in Civic Trust Awards 2009, Commended in the Scottish Design Awards 2009 - Re-use of a Listed Building Category, Shortlisted in the Public Building Category, Commended in BURA Awards for Community Inspired Regeneration, Highly Commended in the Community Benefit category of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors Awards

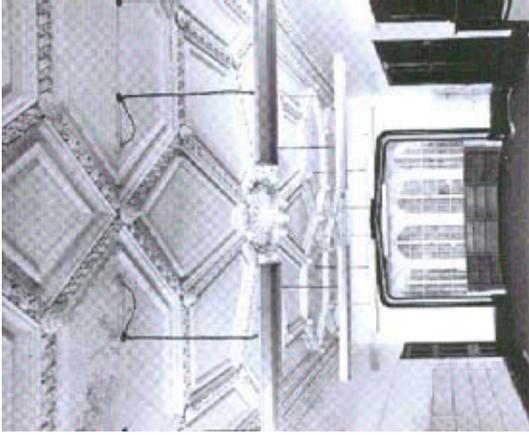
This project is the complete restoration and rejuvenation of a Grade B Listed historic building, very much at the heart of the small community of Millport on the island of Cumbrae. The building was almost destroyed by fire in 2001, but despite this setback, the community maintained their passionate support for the project and were awarded considerable public funding of £4m. The resultant project is a combination of conservation and contemporary intervention to provide a mixed use public facility including museum, library, surgery and cafe. The key challenge was to address the issue of how our built heritage can be allowed to adapt and change to accommodate contemporary expectations without eroding the essential period character.

The design concept was to completely reconstruct the exterior as it had been prior to the fire and as much of the complex roof layout as possible so that from the grounds the form and profile remain unchanged. In addition, the formal rooms around the perimeter of the building have been reconstructed, replicating any architectural interior detailing. However the boldest move was to liberate the centre of the building from the strictures of a Victorian cellular plan and the team fought hard to open up the heart of the building to create fluid, evolving space that linked the entrance to the courtyard at the rear. A new glazed atrium over two storeys, almost completely hidden from the outside, controls this new open planning and gives a central focus to the layout of all the different functions. The museum occupies this space and the café opens out into the courtyard.

The most rewarding aspects of the completed project are the extraordinary transformation that has been realised from a building that in 2001, after the fire, was almost fit for demolition and the positive reaction of the community to their new Garrison House.



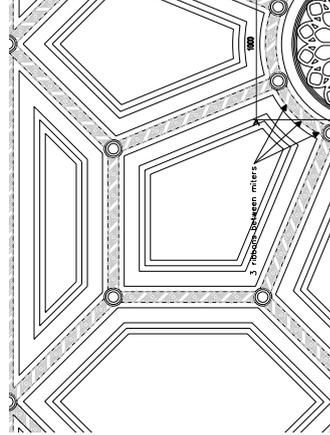
Building prior to site start



Ornate ceiling destroyed in fire



Plasterwork fragments



Exert from new ceiling plan

Client : CCDC

Value : £4.3 million

Completion : February 2008

