# APP PROJECT

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Buildings included in this document- 78 Derngate, Northampton, New Ways, Northampton, Shipman's Pub, Northampton

## 78 Derngate- Northampton

78 Derngate is a Heritage attraction of a Georgian house, which was redesigned by Rennie Mackintosh in 1916 for his client. Mackintosh never visited Derngate during the remodelling; all his work was done by letter and by arranged meetings with the owner in London. It was brought 100 years after it was built as a wedding present for his son Wenman Joseph Bassett-Lowke. The Lowkes lived in it until 1926. (The Lowkes moved to New Ways from here).

Here, I have found a very useful and extremely interesting article, informing us of the timeline of events from this house. There are also plans, images and documents available on this site. <u>http://www.mackintosh-architecture.gla.ac.uk/catalogue/pdf/M333.pdf</u>

Lowke commissioned two of the greatest European architects of the 20th century to remodel the house. The two who are defining figures of modernism: Charles Rennie Mackintosh and Peter Behrens. 78 Derngate is significantly important because it is Mackintosh's so called last piece of work after leaving Glasgow, and is the only house in England to be redesigned by the famous Charles Rennie Mackintosh. Now open to the public, it is a multi award-winning visitor attraction for days out in Northampton. There is now a boutique restaurant, light-filled art galleries, a stylish design shop and elegant spaces that can be hired for meetings, events and functions.

The house is a brick built terrace, typical for the early 19th century. It has a small courtyard to the rear of the house. The courtyard has a well and an outside toilet. Due to the fall of the land, the kitchen and offices open to the back garden from the basement. There are two rooms on the ground floor, two more floors consisting of two rooms on each, and an attic room. The attic room has a dormer window, which was added later.

The unique entrance door is dark in colour and is decorated with Mackintosh's typically geometric design using stained glass triangles. It has stepped pediment, and a decorative lantern.

The whole interior was redesigned, and Mackintosh's modern and distinctive style of design shows in his initial design of the black room, with yellow wallpaper with inverted triangles stencilled in, and the guest bedroom decorated in ultramarine with black and white stripes.

Between 1916-17, the house was transformed from a pokey house, into a convenient and more modern home. An extension was added to the rear of the house, the dining and kitchen area was enlarged, and two balconies were added to the bedrooms. Enclosed balcony for the master room and an open one for the guest room.







## The restoration from 2002-2003

For it to open to the public, a campaign for its preservation and restoration was set up by local people and the members of the Charles Rennie Mackintosh Society.

A careful examination of the house was undertaken, before any work could be done. An examination of related photographs and documents were also carried out beforehand.

# <u>Awards</u>

- National Civic Trust Awards on Thursday 21st February 2008
- Europa Nostra Diploma on Tuesday 25th October 2005- For the new design and the immaculate re-creation of the interior
- Green Apple Award on Sunday 02nd October 2005- Certificate of Achievement for conservation work

A bid to be put in for Heritage Lottery Funding was enabled, when the Northampton Borough Council bought a 999- year lease on 78 and 80 Derngate. Two years later a trust was formed, with support from The Horne Foundation, the Philips Trust, EB Nationwide, Servite Housing Association, Hobden Associates, Northampton Borough Council and Northamptonshire County Council. A £999,000 grant was approved in autumn 2001. The restoration of both 78 and 80 Derngate cost £1.4m.

An internationally well-known firm, John McAslan & Partners are the architects that have overseen the work on this property. The property has been restored back to the original Mackintosh designed 1916-1919 scheme. A new visitor centre and exhibition space has been created in 80 Derngate.

Exhibitions that relate to both Mackintosh and Bassett-Lowke are held in a 4-storey glass cabinet. A new staircase wraps around it, linking the galleries. There is also a wall mounted exhibition relating to the original design of the house, and to Bassett-Lowke's business. A lot of hard work has been put into the restoration of the building. There has been a historical researcher, fabric expert, wallpaper conservator and many other individuals contributing to the restoration. There have even been replicas of the furniture made.

# 'New Ways'- Northampton

Built by leading German modernist architect Professor Peter Behrens, for the toymaker, Bassett-Lowke, who was also very passionate about architecture. Peter Behrens designed New Ways, which was completed in 1925.

New ways is an excellent example of creative conservation and re-use. It is considered to be the first Modernist house to be built in Britain. It is a grade II\* listed house located in Northampton, and was listed on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 1952. The house was considered modern, because of its innovative use of concrete, and lack of outbuildings. It also had modern technology such as central heating, indoor plumbing, and electrical power.

This was very ambitious of the client, as modernism was thoroughly unfamiliar in Britain at this time, and was given very little attention by architectural press.

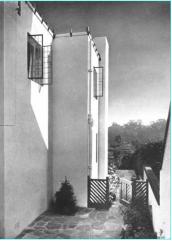


There is a striking contrast between the front and rear elevations. The front elevation is dated, tired and reflects German expressionism, whereas the rear elevation to garden is much more radical and anticipates the mid-20th century, which in Britain was a radical and significant step for modernism. Upon entering the house, there are ultramarine blue painted modern gates. It is accessible via a flagstone path. The door is overshadowed by a concrete hood. A projecting V-shaped window rises to the roof line, providing concentrated interest.

The flat roof on the house falls into two gutters behind a parapet. This leads down into the water tank.

The flat roof has square chimneys, surrounded by 4in. brickwork, with apertures at a level some 30in. below the tops. This ensures the perfect draught throughout. There is small, painted black cresting projecting from the roof. These strongly contrast with the white walls.

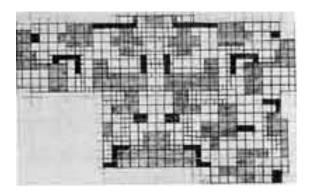




The hall is a spacious area decorated in a primrose yellow. The carpet is blue and the stairs rise to the left. The landing above forms a recess. This is embellished with a piscina having a concealed top light and a small fountain.



There are small and large, white, grey and black tiles lay on the hall floor. This is Dr Peter Behrens actual design for the hall floor.



Leading to the dining room are walnut double doors. The large plate glass windows and French doors open to a recessed balcony with a beautiful view over the gardens and countryside. There is a rainwater tank, made from concrete, underneath.

In the study room, there is a centre pendant light hanging from the ceiling. The walls are decorated in primrose, with a motif pattern. The furniture is black, as is the floor, and there is a radiator panel formed of alternating mirrored rectangles.



On the upper floors, there are four bedrooms, one of which was for the lady of the house. The well-proportioned room has dark oak furniture. There is a veranda, which the two double bedrooms also have access to.

Cerise and blue are the colours for the owners' bedroom. The furniture is painted grey, and there are some purple curtains.

The guests' room is laid with a vivid green carpet. The walls are striped in white and silver, and the curtains are bright orange, red and blue patterned. The furniture is light oak, except some seats, which have the same pattern as the curtains.

The scheme of white and black fills the spare bedroom. With a grey textured wall paper and a grey and blue stripy carpet. There are basins with hot and cold water in both the spare room and the maids' room.

There is a stove in the maids' sitting room, ready to use for emergency cooking. The maids' sitting room is located on the entrance front.

Fitted throughout the house are flush veneered or enamelled doors, composed of ply wood on a skeleton frame work. They are fitted with continental lever handles.

The plan for this house is brilliantly thought out. Some very practical and efficient ideas have been included in the plan for this house, such as the ducts beneath the floors, that give easy access to the water pipes, electric cables etc.

## **References**

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"New Ways." - Taken from the Architectural Review Nov 1926

The House of W.J. Bassett- Lowke, Esq., .Northampton.

By Silhouette.

## The Shipman's Pub



The Shipman's Pub, 12 The Drapery Northampton, is a grade II listed building. It was listed on the 22nd January 1976.

The Shipman's Pub was built by the Shipman Family, in 1790. At this time, it was licenced as the White Hart Inn.

The pub is a very narrow 3 storey building. It has a Welsh slated roof. The front shows sash windows with glazing bars. The windows on the second floor are placed under an open pediment. In the window of the ground floor is engraved 'Wine Vaults'.

In the late Victorian times, the interior of the pub was refitted with some 1938 changes. The three room layout is still noticeable to this day. The walls behind the late Victorian narrow bar counter are fitted with 1930s wood panels. A food bar was integrated into the counter in the mid-1980s, at the Drum Lane end of the bar. Behind the bar counter at this end is modern. There are two sets of spirit cocks on the back of the bar. In the mid- 1980s, the vats were removed.





At the front of the building (The Drapery ends), is a small snug. It is now accessed by a wide opening, although the half doors that were originally there are still there. A wide doorway at the Drum Lane end, leads to a part of the bar that was up until the mid- 1980s a completely separate Barrel Bar. When the local authority insisted the pub have a gents toilet installed, the bar fittings and dumb waiter were removed. The gent's toilets replaced the urinal, which was located opposite the new food bar.



A barrel hangs over the original entrance doors on Drum Lane, to the Barrel Bar. If you enter through this door, you will see the 1930s fireplace, made from brick. The old seating is still there. There are two niches and a small roof over the corner (typical features from the 1930s), where the bar was situated.



This pub, or the interior of this pub, is of historic importance. This is the reason for its grade II listing. There are few pubs that have escaped major alterations since the 1960s, but the Shipman's pub is one of them. The building is a brilliant example of an unspoilt, historic pub, with its traditional interior still intact.

I have included my own hand drawn sketch of the Shipman's Pub below.



http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/en-232033-1-building-with-number-12-the-drapery-no http://www.brakspear.co.uk/our\_pubs/pub\_page/79/shipmans/ http://www.ghostpubs.com/haunted-pubs/95917-shipmans-northampton.html http://www.heritagepubs.org.uk/pubs/national-inventory-entry.asp?PubID=11167

