

Design review

St Nicholas Chapel, Kings Lynn: The largest chapel in England with the largest photovoltaic array

The successful completion of the HLF funded project at the 15th century St Nicholas Chapel puts the chapel back at the cultural heart of Kings Lynn. Owned by the Churches Conservation Trust, it will be used by the local community and visitors for a wide variety of activities, including major choral concerts in the Kings Lynn Festival. A kitchen, toilets, lighting and heating have all been introduced, the latter by means of new chandeliers adapted to provide both light and instantaneous electric radiant heat, powered by a large array of photovoltaic panels on the south-facing roof.



St Alfege, Greenwich: Cleaning and repair of Hawksmoor's east elevation

Hawksmoor's remarkable east elevation, with its ancient Roman grandeur, has been cleaned and repaired as the second phase of the project to repair the exterior, following the completion of the tower repairs. Despite the vast original expenditure on the church, the interior of the portico was lime rendered, and this has been repaired and limewashed to match the Portland stone. We are now preparing with the church an HLF bid for repairs to the churchyard and access, welcome and interpretation to the church and crypt.



Greville St, Clerkenwell: New design in a conservation area

We have been advising Workspace on the design of a new building in the Hatton Garden Conservation Area, incorporating a late 19th century pub front. This had been mutilated, and will be restored to form part of the elevation of a new building providing shops, offices and workshops, thereby extending the range of jewellery and craft uses characteristic of the area.



St Albans Abbey: Conservation of the west porches

The Early English west porches are one of the chief glories of the Abbey, though their lights had long been hidden under a bushel of grime. Thanks to the WW1 fund, the porches have been cleaned, conserved and relit, and the roof made water-tight. The 19th century oak doors have been cleaned and painted in a Pugin Red colour, using linseed oil paint that allows the grain to read through. The remainder of the west front, controversially rebuilt by Lord Grimthorpe in the 1880's, has also been cleaned and floodlit.



Manchester Cathedral: Competition for a new building

We have taken part in a competition for a new building at Manchester Cathedral to provide new and improved facilities for visitors, staff and volunteers. We propose that some of the new facilities should be provided in the existing buildings by Basil Champneys, and that the new facilities should be entered next to the main entrance or from a new lower level entrance from the river to the west of the Cathedral.



Christ Church, Hampstead: External repairs and internal reordering to the highest church in Hampstead

We are about to start work on the complete external repair of the roofs and stone elevations of the church, built of ragstone with Bath stone dressings. We are also reordering the interior to extend the range of possible uses of the church and to counteract the effects of a poor reordering of the 1980's. Internal redecoration will restore some of the original richness of the internal decoration, which had walls of a Pompeian (or rather Puginian) red.



Brighton College: A new symbolic focus

Our new tower at Brighton College, completing TG Jackson's incomplete entrance building after 130 years, has rapidly taken its place as the focal landmark of the College, featuring in the background of their Prospectus and in articles about the College and its students in Tatler and the Evening Standard.

