



Threads of Conservation

Social fabric • Fabric and place • Conserving fabric

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Born in Belfast, Ian studied architecture in Scotland. He spent four years working as an architect in London and travelling the world before returning to Scotland to take up long term employment in Glasgow.

Ian has a wide range of architectural experience, but his work over the last 15 years has focused primarily on conservation and adaptive re-use of listed buildings. He headed up a team of experienced conservation architects at the Glasgow offices of Page\Park Architects where he gained his 'Advanced' Conservation Accreditation' from the Royal Incorporation of Architects In Scotland (RIAS) in 2011. Ian is a Past President of the Glasgow Institute of Architects (GIA) and a Fellow of the RIAS.

He and his family moved to Adelaide in March 2012 since when he has worked with the State Heritage Unit, and for the last 2 years with Grieve Gillett Architects (now Grieve Gillett Dimitty Andersen Architects).

To Clean or Not to Clean: Masonry Conservation at Marble Hill

Paper Abstract

Grieve Gillett Dimitty Andersen Architects (GGDAA) have been involved in the conservation and reconstruction of the former State Governor's Residence in the Adelaide Hills since 2010. Only now has work started on site on the first stage of the rebuild.

Painstaking research has been required at this early stage as works completed now may provide a benchmark for everything to follow over the next few years. The fire-ravaged masonry, broken and coloured pink in places by the heat from the bush fire that destroyed the property in early January 1955, was infused with soot and molten lead from the fire and has subsequently been soiled by air-borne dust and pollution, and by organic growths.

The client has been keen to conserve and rebuild the masonry to the high standards expected in the Heritage Agreement signed by the new owners when the property was sold to them by the South Australian Government in 2009.

An integral part of the masonry conservation has been to ensure that damaging contaminants are cleaned off the stone whilst its surface integrity and patina of age are maintained. Much research and analysis of different cleaning techniques trialled on site has taken place to ensure that the case hardening of the stone is not compromised by the chosen cleaning process.

This abstract will look at the range of different exterior masonry surfaces to be found around the ruins and the cleaning techniques trialled with a view to finding a method that will offer the most consistent, and least damaging, results for cleaning these surfaces. The analysis of techniques will be presented as well as the conclusions drawn from the results.