



A Word from the Chair

It is officially the start of spring as I pen these few words – and a glorious spring day it has been in Christchurch too – the daffodils are out in full force.



All too quickly the AGM weekend is upon us – 18th – 20th October in fact. So please make sure that this is in your diary as this will be a superb weekend set in Nelson with accommodation and proceedings at Whakatu Marae. (<http://www.whakatumarae.co.nz/home.html>)

The theme for the weekend is *Cultural Landscapes: He Whenua He Taonga* and a variety of papers will be presented over the weekend on that theme. There will be organised tours on the Saturday – a walking tour around Nelson's heritage areas, a visit to Boulder Bank and visits to some of Nelson's super Heritage houses such as Isel, Melrose, Fairfield and Broadgreen.

The keynote address at the Saturday night dinner will be a treat in store as it will take a look at *the ICOMOS Landscape over 25 years with an illustrated talk* recognising our past 25 years. An outline programme to whet your appetite has been sent through to you all and I do hope that you will be able to attend.

Unfortunately the AGM weekend clashes with the Christchurch City Council heritage weekend *Reconnect* so we may be a little light on Christchurch ICOMITES in Nelson. This weekend is being co-ordinated by the Council in conjunction with the New Zealand Historic Places Trust and will be held over three days offering the community an opportunity to reconnect with the city and peninsula's heritage following the earthquakes – a much needed positive step after the loss Canterbury

heritage has suffered over the past two years.

For those interested in star gazing, the The Aoraki Mackenzie Starlight Festival will celebrate the creation of the southern hemisphere's first International Dark Sky Reserve, in the Mackenzie Basin and at Aoraki/Mt Cook National Park from Friday 11 October 2013 to Sunday 13 October 2013. See

<http://www.phys.canterbury.ac.nz/starlightfestival/> for a programme of the papers and keynote speakers. An earlier bid to by the Starlight Reserve Committee to have the Mackenzie skies gazetted as a world heritage site was unsuccessful but it has now been given gold reserve status by the

global astronomical body International Dark-Sky Association.

Recently I attended the launch of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust's Christchurch High Street Stories Web site which also has an augmented reality APP which is fantastic – if you have an android!

This is an amazing project and focuses on an audio collection of over 90 stories, histories and anecdotes of life in the precinct from architectural heritage through to stories of the red light district days. Have a look at the site - it is well worth it: <http://www.highstreetstories.co.nz/>

Look forward to seeing you in Nelson.
- Jenny

ICOMOS NZ
2013 Conference
Whakatu - Nelson



Join us at the
**ICOMOS New Zealand
2013 Annual General Meeting**

Whakatū Marae, Nelson
18 – 20 October 2013

Theme: Cultural Landscapes He Whenua He Taonga
Deadline for bookings: This Friday, 4 October





Christchurch Town Hall to be conserved

Christchurch City Council has unanimously agreed the Town Hall should be fully restored, with construction expected to begin in 2014.

The Council also confirmed the Council-led Performing Arts Precinct will include the fully restored Town Hall, a new Court Theatre and homes for the Music Centre of Christchurch and the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra (CSO).

The Council will now engage with Town Hall users to gain greater understanding of their requirements for each of the performance spaces and begin detailed design work. The tender for the construction work is expected to go out early next year. Consultation with the Music Centre, CSO and the Court Theatre and other community groups to understand their needs for the Performing Arts Precinct will also continue.

Councillors were presented with four options to fully or partially retain the Town Hall and approved the first option. Councillors agreed to retain the auditorium, entrance foyer, James Hay Theatre and the Limes Room. The Boaters and the Cambridge Room will be rebuilt. New lighting, audio-visual and sound systems will be installed, the

size of the entrance foyer increased, and the acoustics upgraded in the James Hay Theatre. The outside of the building will remain largely unchanged, apart from some angle bracing, which will be installed around Boaters Restaurant.

The Council has budgeted a total of \$158 million for the Performing Arts Precinct, including the restoration of the Town Hall. The restoration of the Town Hall is expected to cost \$127.5 million, with the remainder allocated to new facilities for the Court Theatre, Music Centre and CSO.

The Council also agreed to separate the budgets for the Town Hall restoration and the other Performing Arts facilities, ring-fencing \$30 million for the Music Centre, Court Theatre and CSO buildings.

In November 2012 the Council voted unanimously to repair the existing facility to 100 per cent of New Building Standard (NBS). As part of the cost-sharing agreement with the Crown, it was agreed the Council would oversee the development of a new performing arts precinct, including the Town Hall, adjacent to the Theatre Royal. The Council committed to considering several options for the Precinct,

including the Town Hall, by 31 August this year.

Dr Ian Lochhead, associate professor of art history at the University of Canterbury and chairman of the heritage advocacy group Iconic backed the council's decision.



"We are all delighted with the outcome after almost 12 months of concentrated effort to achieve it, and in the face of consistently negative press commentary in Christchurch, not to mention the opposition of the Minister of Earthquake Recovery. The unanimous decision by Council last November to save the entire Town Hall complex, when the proposal brought forward by officers was to only retain the auditorium, proved to be critical, as the reports submitted this time round showed conclusively the benefits of retaining the entire complex. The outcome also vindicates the wisdom of listing key 20th century buildings in district plans, as this, I think, was an important part of the decision making process. It also indicates that the NZHPT needs to be doing more listing of buildings from the second half of the 20th century," he said

Media matters

ICOMOS New Zealand tends not to become involved in campaigns for individual buildings - to do so would occupy most of its time and divert attention away from development and promotion of professional standards in heritage conservation.

Following the Canterbury earthquakes of 2011 and 2012, ICOMOS New Zealand made its position known, advocating through a number of media releases a process of careful assessment and treatment of damaged heritage buildings, following the principles of the ICOMOS New Zealand Charter (2010).

Our 2011 submission to the Canterbury Earthquakes Royal Commission further developed that argument and in that forum we found we were very much lone voices in an environment where the public and media advocated 'safety first' demolition.

There are two exceptions, both of which involved matters of principle. Firstly we engaged in a protracted correspondence with the Prime Minister on the neglect of the Canterbury Provincial buildings collapsed Stone Chamber when it seemed emergency cover for the was way off anyone's agenda. Action followed, albeit two snowfalls later.

Secondly, when it appeared in May last year that the Anglican Church Property Trustees had a fine new cathedral in mind we wrote to Bishop Victoria Matthews, urging the Anglican Diocese of Christchurch to pause in its (then make-safe) demolition programme and take time to share and discuss its engineering assessment both with the profession and the wider public so that all might be able to evaluate that advice, and understand how the Diocese had come to make its decision. ICOMOS NZ's letter was consigned to 'the appropriate project groups.'

Following the September 10 announcement of the Church Property Trustees intention to demolish the cathedral and rebuild we issued this media release.

- Editor



Photo: David Reynolds

Cathedral rebuild ignores opportunity

New Zealand's principal organisation for heritage professionals says the decision of the Christchurch Anglican Church Property Trustees to replace Christ Church Cathedral with a contemporary rebuild is a backward step for heritage conservation in New Zealand and ignores the building's significant heritage value and ongoing offers of support and engagement from the heritage profession.

ICOMOS New Zealand spokesperson David Reynolds said "Embarking on a contemporary rebuild without considering all the conservation and engineering options offered by the heritage and seismic engineering community rejects the goodwill that has been offered by the profession. It also fails to address the central part the Cathedral has played in the history, development, identity and memory of Christchurch City and its symbolic importance to the recovery of Christchurch."

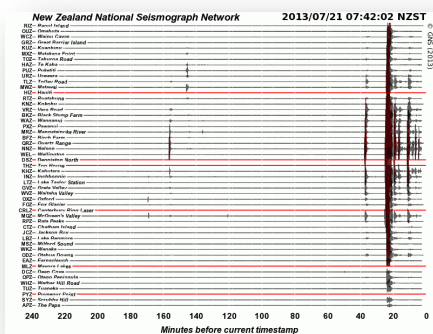
The Cathedral is widely acknowledged as a treasured part of New Zealand's cultural heritage, reflected in its registration as a Category 1 Historic Place under the Historic Places Act, and its Group 1 Scheduling as a Protected Building in the Christchurch City Plan. Proceeding with a rebuild ignores its heritage values and potentially distances the church from the wider community and, more significantly, from the support of private funders who value the present cathedral.

Three years on, the fact that the government is still operating under emergency powers in Christchurch makes demolition of the cathedral possible, but not obligatory. While the cathedral still stands, ICOMOS believes the Church Property Trustees should further stabilise the standing remains of the building, buying time for the process of fund raising and endowment for conservation to be accomplished.

"In any normal situation, once a damaged building is secured and stabilised, its conservation would follow, guided by New Zealand's long-established ICOMOS New Zealand Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Heritage Value. This would typically involve a range of conservation processes such as repair, restoration, reassembly, and reinstatement of disturbed fabric and inevitably a measure of reconstruction. We believe this is the only responsible option to follow with a building of such great cultural heritage significance," Mr Reynolds said.

With the guidance of architectural conservators under the NZ Charter and the involvement of New Zealand's experienced community of earthquake engineers, Christ Church cathedral could become a leading example of meticulous conservation, demonstrating that seismic strengthening can work hand in hand with the preservation of heritage value and authenticity.

Wellington Quake notes



Mary O’Keeffe

Magnitude 6.5, Sunday July 21st
Magnitude 6.6, Friday 16th August

Heritage buildings damaged or affected:

Old Government Buildings



The Government Building complex was built on reclaimed land in 1876. It is managed on behalf of the Crown by the Department of Conservation and leased to the Victoria University of Wellington's Law School.

Wooden buildings have long been identified as being able to withstand seismic activity reasonably well due to the ability of wooden fabric being able to flex and move.

The majority of the rooms within the Government Buildings are coated in a plaster finish. In some locations a traditional lath and plaster finish is used. It was the inflexibility of the plaster combined with the building’s movement that has caused the greatest amount of earthquake related damage at the Government Buildings.



The cracked plaster is at its worst where the wooden walls connect to solid and immovable objects. Examples include the numerous chimney breasts, cast iron columns and the two large vaults located at the north and south wings of the building extending from the basement right through to the attic.

Damage was also evident in the central part of the building. Both the pattern and nature of the damage was not unexpected in an event of this nature.

Old Government Building photos (above) courtesy Richard Nester, Dept. of Conservation, Wellington

St Marys of the Angels

Seismic upgrade work was planned, but has been brought forward.

Old Public Trust

Building had already been yellow stickered but there were cracks in the walls, exposing brickwork, and a lot of plaster had fallen. The building houses a number of tenants including Creative New Zealand, a majority owner.



Old Public Trust - yellow stickered

Other damage:

Cracks in interior walls of Old Bank (heritage BNZ on Willis St/Lambton Quay corner)

Non heritage buildings - ceilings collapsed, broken windows, internal fittings wrecked, cracks in buildings external walls, broken windows, plasterwork on streets, cracks in pavements, harbour edge slumped into sea, railway station, hotels & office buildings evacuated.

ICOMOS NZ 2013 Election Results

A postal ballot will not be necessary for the positions of Chairperson and eighteen members of the Executive Board as all positions were filled by nominations received by the 22 September deadline. We welcome four new faces to the board: David Bade, Laura Kellaway, Robin Miller and Amanda Ohs.

Those elected were:

Chairperson

Jenny May Christchurch

Executive Board

David Bade	Auckland
Ian Bowman	Wellington/Nelson
Robyn Burgess	Christchurch
Robin Byron	Auckland
Rebecca Harfield	Auckland
Phillip Hartley	Auckland
Alan Jolliffe	Christchurch
Martin Jones	Auckland
Laura Kellaway	Hamilton
Heike Lutz	Auckland
Robert McGregor	Napier
Robin Miller	Queenstown
Mary O’Keeffe	Wellington
Amanda Ohs	Christchurch
Sherry Reynolds	Auckland
David Reynolds	Auckland
Greg Vossler	Palmerston North
Kevin Jones	Wellington

What's up at NZ World Heritage Tentative List sites?

Kevin Jones

In 2006 a Department of Conservation (DOC) convened cultural heritage advisory group comprising John Acland (Chair), Chris Cochran, Professor Charlotte Macdonald, Emeritus Professor Erik Olssen, Dr Charles Royal, Dame Cheryl Sotheran and Lynda Walter made recommendations on cultural sites to be nominated for World Heritage following public consultation starting in 2004.

(See Our World Heritage A Tentative List of New Zealand Cultural and Natural Heritage Sites

<http://www.doc.govt.nz/upload/documents/getting-involved/consultations/consultations-results/our-world-heritage/our-world-heritage.pdf>)

New Zealand's current world heritage tentative list comprises eight sites which, at this stage, are proposed to be developed for nomination in the following order:

- Kahurangi National Park, Farewell Spit, Waikoropupu Springs and the Canaan Karst System
- Waters and Seabed of the Fiords of Fiordland (Te Moana o Atawhenua) – an addition to Te Wāhipounamu – South-West New Zealand World Heritage Area
- Napier Art Deco Historic Precinct (cultural)
- Kerikeri Basin Historic Precinct (cultural)
- Waitangi Treaty Grounds Historic Precinct (cultural)
- Kermadec Islands and Marine Reserve
- Auckland Volcanic Field (mixed natural and cultural)
- Whakarua Moutere, or the North-East Islands (including Poor Knights Islands)

Work that could be done to further nominations includes:

- Outstanding Universal Value to be further researched by comparative studies to determine whether a good case can be made for the properties;
- studies of "authenticity and integrity";
- measures taken to ensure the appropriate long-term conservation of the properties.

In addition work needs to be done on the cultural associations of the natural nominations. Some will have high World Heritage cultural value, particularly Whakarua Moutere North-East Islands which includes Cape Reinga and the

Rotorua Geyser Fields and Geothermal Sites.

Since the tentative list announcement, the agent of the state party (DOC) and other agencies have been investing in some training related to World Heritage. Also DOC appears to have delegated state party responsibilities in the cultural area to the Ministry for Culture and Heritage. ICOMOS New Zealand supports the initiatives that MCH has been taking in this area.

From north to south, these are changes in the tentative-listed sites since 2006.

Whakarua Moutere (Cape Reinga)



Cape Reinga

DOC has recently completed a thorough re-landscaping of the top of the headland including demolition of the lighthouse keepers' houses. Although hardly a natural or culturally 'authentic' environment and institutionalised by concrete paths, car park/toilets, the landscaping was necessary given the number and impacts of visitors. There is also new interpretation which is not too intrusive on the wonderful seascapes.

Kerikeri Basin Historic Precinct



Kerikeri Basin.

In 2005 ICOMOS NZ submitted in support of the management planning for this area. (See http://www.doc.govt.nz/Documents/getting-involved/consultations/closed-consultations/Kororipo-Kerikeri_Basin_2007.pdf)

Since the 2006 tentative listing, this area has had the benefit of:

- a road diversion of coastal traffic over a viaduct (the "Heritage Bypass") further up the valley;
- demolition of the bridge at the basin which has stopped through-vehicle traffic in the immediate environs of the Stone Store;
- a pedestrian bridge over the Kerikeri River just upstream from the mission house, linking the DOC land north of the river with the HPT precinct to the south;
- Crown purchase of the land and buildings of the Kerikeri teahouse (now the Pear Tree Bar and Restaurant), now vested in the District Council.

DOC, Far North District Council, iwi and NZHPT have continued a governance group meeting that discusses overall management issues from time to time.



Removing the bridge, Kerikeri Basin

Long-term strategic management planning is dealt with in the governance group but progress in that area has yet to be reported. The idea of the interpretation centre has not been progressed and may be being re-thought both in terms of the economy, DOC priorities and whether interpretation centres offer real visitor solutions.

Car parks in the area are on the northern (DOC) side but nothing is happening about parks on the south (Stone Store) side. Waitangi claim hearings have recently been held but not settled as yet.

It is understood that Ngati Rehia are keen to have Hongi's Pa historic reserve (Kororipo Historic Reserve) and to be involved in any new development but all is pending settlement of claims.

In regards to Far North District Council the planning regime there is unchanged with the area scheduled - the surrounding residential development is increasingly proving to be a visual impact on the Basin as Eucalypts are removed that previously screened such sights.



Photo: Kevin L. Jones

Maungakiekie, One Tree Hill

Auckland Volcanic Field

The Auckland Council has taken useful steps to forward a nomination for the cones, which were proposed as a mixed cultural/natural serial site. In 2010 a contractor bulldozed new fencelines around vegetation areas on a number of cones. This created a real additional threat to integrity and was viewed seriously by the HPT, and drew attention to the need for careful management planning and works supervision. With the exception of Maungauika/North Head and Rarotonga/Mount Smart, the maunga will be co-governed by the Tāmaki Collective and the Auckland Council through a new body called the Tūpuna Maunga o Tāmaki Makaurau Authority (the Maunga Authority). Auckland Council will continue to have responsibility for the day-to-day management of the maunga (including budget control).

In 2013 the Auckland Council decided as follows:

“... that the potential bid for World Heritage status is assessed over the next twelve months and will represent phase one of the process: the Decision Protocol. This work will include the preparation of a heritage assessment and a strategic case that will provide the information for a decision to proceed or not with the preparation and submission of a world heritage nomination.

... The heritage assessment will determine whether the volcanic field demonstrates the heritage values necessary for a successful World Heritage bid. The strategic case will assess the economic, cultural, social and recreational benefits of World Heritage status including the increased



Photo: Kevin L. Jones

Te Kopuke, Mt St John

tourism and associated economic benefits that would derive from World Heritage status. “

ICOMOS New Zealand is following this initiative with interest. It is a great initiative by New Zealand's second biggest governance entity and demonstrates the merit of this great balance to the lack of action by central government on World Heritage.

Waitangi Treaty Grounds Historic Precinct



Waitangi National Trust is still governed under the old 1932 statute (with minor amendments) and there seems to be little Government appetite for change in governance.

In 2008 ICOMOS New Zealand submitted strongly against a proposal to

build a large and intrusive “visitor centre” to the north of the 1940 whare whakairo, Te Whare Runanga.

Recent fencing of the Waitangi National Trust properties to manage access received media coverage. NZHPT worked with the National Trust in regard to the location of one of the proposed fences that was to have been in a very prominent location on the headland just to the north of the Treaty House, and that was satisfactorily resolved.

The National Trust is planning for future development, included a whare kai/centre for meetings adjacent to and south of the Treaty House but set back in the trees and NZHPT approved this location some time ago as a suitable area that had no real impact on the Treaty House providing the design and plant screenings were maintained.

Much work remains to be done in defining thematic context and comparative analysis of the Treaty Grounds.

Napier Art Deco



Photo: Kevin L. Jones

Napier Marine Parade and Sound Shell

ICOMOS NZ remains committed to its support for Art Deco Napier's recognition as a World Heritage Site. In 2012 we wrote to Mayor Barbara Arnott as follows:

“The assessment of Outstanding Heritage Value published by the Department of Conservation in August last year (see Lochhead, <http://www.doc.govt.nz/Documents/science-and-technical/sfc310.pdf>) raises some useful issues which we believe need to be considered in a review of the current application, it also offers significant guidance in strengthening and developing a more robust case for recognition.

The report states that Napier's Art Deco Precinct: “has a strong claim to international significance” and goes on to say later that “Napier's Art Deco heritage is of great importance at both a local and national level” (p.36). However, the reviewer Professor Lochhead is not convinced that Art Deco is an architectural movement or that Napier as a representative urban form, has the “Outstanding Universal Values” necessary within the

international context to successfully achieve World Heritage Status.'

In her response Mayor Barbara Arnott noted that Napier would not be pressing on World Heritage matters until the Government had issued its policy in response to the Royal Commission on the Canterbury Earthquakes. The Government has now done so, requiring a minimum of 34% of New Building Standard (NBS) and allowing up to 20 years for strengthening for Category 1 registered buildings. There are 11 Art Deco reconstruction buildings that are Category 1, including the National Tobacco Co Building which is away from the Art Deco Quarter. There are another 3 buildings in the Quarter which are pre-earthquake.

Recent media comment in Napier appears to be a little negative on the part of smaller private owners, with some saying that even the minimal 34% NBS is unaffordable. The Masonic Hotel, which had a low rating according to an Initial Evaluation Procedure (IEP), has proved to be above the minimum after the Detailed Engineering Evaluation (DEE) was done. Most or all of the Art Deco buildings are reinforced concrete, small, and with lots of internal walls. Although built before the adoption of the code, they were conservatively designed and may have been designed to a standard in excess of that required by the current code.

Although these may be views which are currently held (and the first would be widely open to challenge), World Heritage status is an aspirational goal and needs to be considered in a wider continuum of time. This is an issue that may need to be further explored and addressed as part of any upcoming programme for pursuing World Heritage recognition.

Another issue outlined in the report refers to the Art Deco Napier City being compromised by unsympathetic development and demolitions which have adversely affected its authenticity and integrity from its originally conceived 1930s form. This is a very complex and subjective area and there are some important lessons that can be easily addressed here, which the Napier City Council has already achieved in part with the commissioning of the Napier Central Area Heritage Study.

The issues of authenticity and on-going management of Art Deco Napier are critical and this is commonly achieved through planning and design guidelines that are thoughtfully applied to an agreed area. Much of this work has been completed and it would be a very manageable exercise for the Council to implement constructive guidelines to ensure sustainable heritage



Photos: Napier Art Deco Trust

Napier's 1931 Marine Parade and Sound Shell management of Napier and an Art Deco World Heritage Site.

ICOMOS strongly recommends that Napier City commissions a report that addresses the concerns raised by the DOC report while strengthening its case for further consideration as a World Heritage Place in the areas we have outlined above.

Quotes ...

"The 22-year-old was asleep when the magnitude 6.6 quake struck, after working the late shift as a chef."

Herald writer Amelia Wade finds work for idle quakes. - NZ Herald 17 August.

There is great fun derivable from an earthquake in New Zealand. Auckland thanks God it is not as other settlements are, and Wellington crows with ecstasy that the earthquakes are moving nearer to Auckland.

Napier's 'violent convulsion' of 23 February 1863. -The Press 17 March 1863



Sorry

We're a bit late this month following the editor's unscheduled run-in with a digger bucket.

ICOMOS

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Inside the Canterbury Provincial Buildings

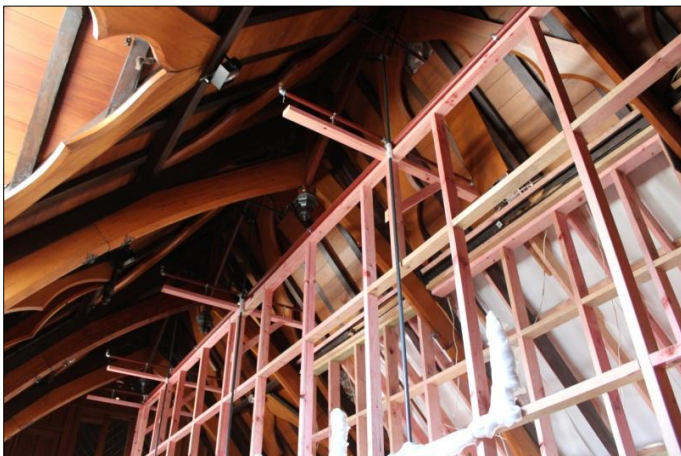


The Christchurch Board meeting earlier this year provided the opportunity to inspect the interior of the Canterbury Provincial Buildings

Above: The interior of Mountfort's 1865 stone chamber bathed in orange light from the temporary plastic roofing membrane. The walls have been reduced to the height of the stone panels. A surprising amount of the flooring is relatively undamaged though small areas are visible where masonry or timber has penetrated. This temporary roof has since been replaced by a smart grey coloursteel number.

Left: the east wall of the stone chamber showing the remaining buttresses and the Timber Chamber (right).

Below left and right: Interior of the timber chamber with its temporary supports. This space received some damage from falling masonry from the adjacent tower, but is largely intact.





Above: Removal of later wall cladding reveals brick nogging in one of the upstairs office.

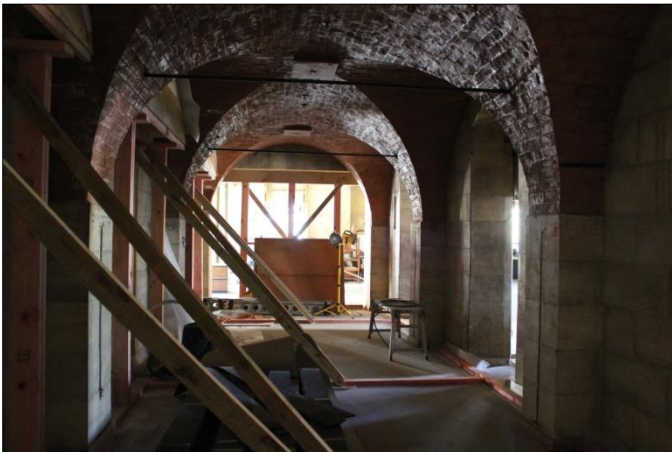
Above & below right: Damage to the breastwork of chimneys is widespread throughout the building and a programme to stabilise these elements has been undertaken. Again, removal of the 20th century wallboards has revealed both a variety of styles of fireplaces and many early colour schemes.



Above & Below: Temporary bracing in the former Belgian Beer Cafe tenancy.



Photos: David Reynolds



Right: Most of the tiled decorative panels around the lower walls of the Stone Chamber have survived well.

