

BLUETT & O'DONOGHUE ARCHITECTS

ARCHITECTURE PROJECT MANAGEMENT PLANNING CONSERVATION (GRADE 1) FIRE ENGINEERING

17th. July 2015

To Whom It May Concern

Re: Edwards Brothers Limited, Building & Conservation Contractors

I confirm that Edwards Brothers, under the direction of Mr. Gerard Edwards, undertook the following works on projects where I acted as Grade 1 Conservation Architect :

1. St. Kevins Church, Harrington Street, Dublin 8 – Repair of stone tracery and restoration of historic decoration in Sanctuary (2012-2013)

The work carried out at St. Kevins Church included the consolidation and repair of fractured and damaged carved stone tracery, the removal of cementitious mortar and its replacement with traditional lime mortar, the repair and conservation of decorative plaster details, the careful removal of oil-based paint coatings to reveal the underlying nineteenth century stencilled decoration and general building works. These works were focused on the sanctuary of St. Kevins Church, Dublin 8 – a significant late-nineteenth century church, which was designed by George C. Ashlin and E.W. Pugin.

Gerard Edwards acted as site foreman throughout the works. I was very impressed by the quality of the work carried out by his firm and by Gerard's ability to manage the complex conservation issues involved. During the course of this project, as site foreman, he had responsibility for the co-ordination of a number of specialist trades including stained glass conservation, decorative painting (restoration of historic decoration) and electrical sub-contractors. The works were finished to a high standard. This project was short-listed in the Irish Georgian Society Conservation Awards 2014.

2. 21 Great Denmark Street, Dublin 1 (2014)

Edwards Brothers carried out a programme of brick replacement and brick conservation on this mid-eighteenth century townhouse, prominently located on the corner of Great Denmark Street and North Great George Street. The existing brickwork was in very poor condition and required extensive work – including the removal of cement mortar pointing, the cutting-out and replacement of individual bricks, consolidation of damaged bricks using a brick repair mortar, reinstatement of the mid-eighteenth century wiggling (North Great Georges Street façade) and the use of traditional "penny struck" lime mortar pointing (on the Great Denmark Street façade). Mr. Edwards and his team showed great attention to detail on the job. The work was subject of a conservation grant from Dublin City Council with regular visits from the Council's Conservation Architect. The works were finished to a very high standard within a tight timeframe in order to draw down grant funding, which had a deadline of October 2014.

I would be very happy to work with Edwards Brothers on similar work in the future and can recommend them for comparable projects. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned if you require further information in relation to

Yours sincerely,



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