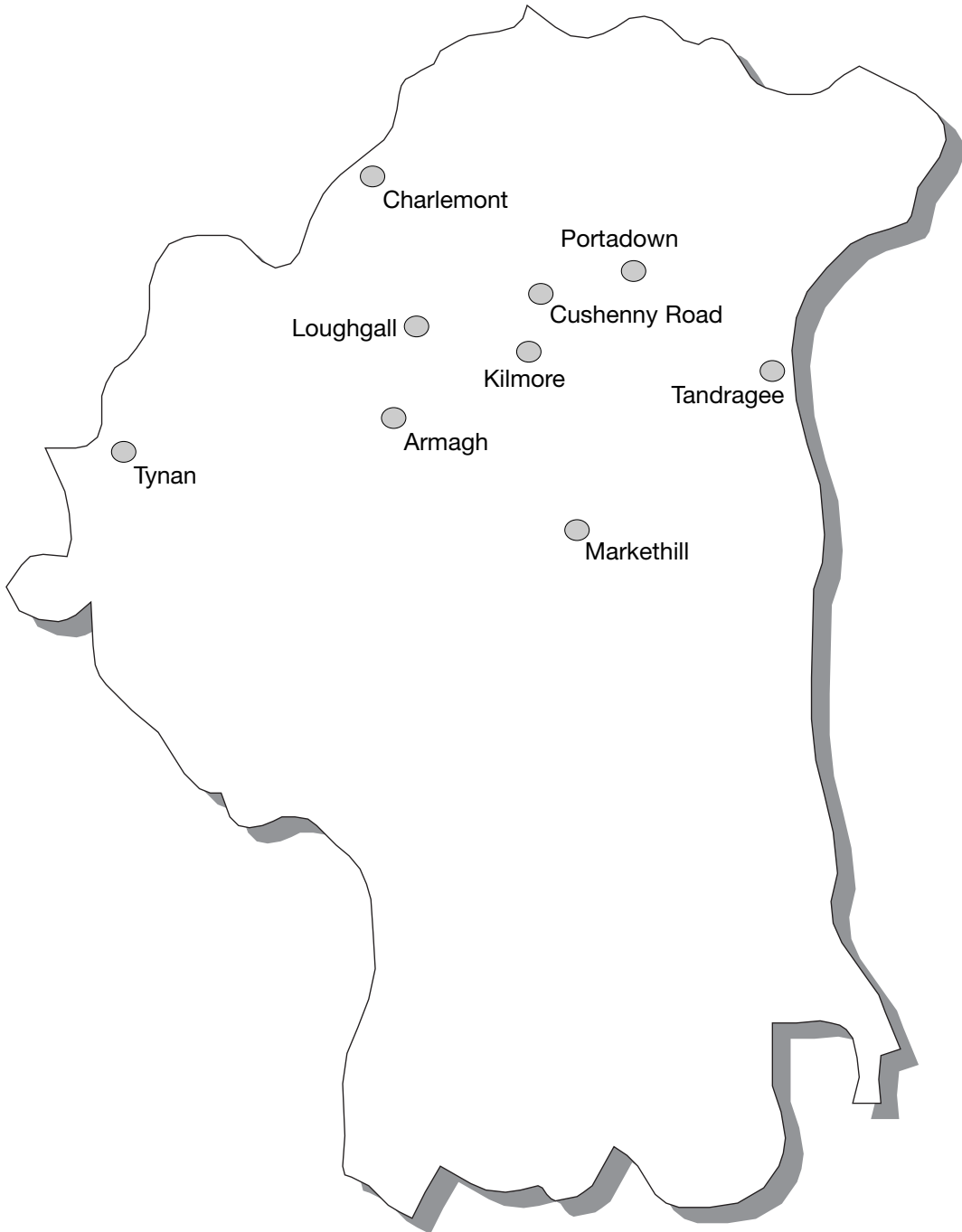


Buildings at Risk
Armagh



County
ARMAGH





ARMAGH GAOL, GAOL SQUARE, ARMAGH

Featured in the popular BBC2 *Restoration* series, it is not through want of trying that this extremely important listed building, which helps to frame the historic Mall, has not yet been sensitively converted. Described in the Buildings of Armagh as “a handsome three-storey fourteen-bay building of coursed conglomerate with rusticated limestone quoins”, the Gaol was built on the site of the old barracks to the designs of Thomas Cooley, who was responsible for several other prominent buildings in the area. It has been added to over the years, most notably by William Murray in 1846, and it ceased to function as a prison in 1988. It has been vacant ever since. Holding repairs have been carried out in anticipation of an appropriate scheme for its reuse. As much as possible of the original fabric of the building should be retained, as it is an imposing and atmospheric structure.

Refs:

UAHS, *The Buildings of Armagh*, 1992, p. 141

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Ulster Architectural Heritage Society, tel: 028 9055 0213
 Environment and Heritage Service, tel: 028 9054 3145
 Craigavon Divisional Planning Office, tel: 028 3834 1144

LOCATION

*At the S. end of the Mall, in
 the centre of the city*

O.S. MAP NUMBER

19

GRID REFERENCE

879 451

STATUS

Listed

*In the Armagh Conservation
 Area*

BARNI Ref. No. *15/17/001*



**28 CUSHENNY ROAD, GRANGE,
PORTADOWN**

LOCATION
*4 mls. W. of Portadown, off the
B131*

O.S. MAP NUMBER
19

GRID REFERENCE
955 541

STATUS
Listed

BARNI Ref. No. *15/02/002*

This rare single-storey, three-bay mud walled dwelling, retains many original elements and is in a relatively good state of repair (the main building at least). Its recent listing record hints at the survival of thatch under corrugated iron, which extends over the roof of the small range of outbuildings. Now empty, the dwelling is boarded up, and the mud walled outbuildings are in an ever worsening state of repair. The immediate surroundings of the cottage, with a small hedge to the front and grass covered yard to the rear, are well kept.

Refs:
MBR

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Craigavon Divisional Planning Office, tel: 028 3834 1144



66 KILMORE ROAD, KILMORE

Buildings at Risk Catalogue Vol. 2 included two very attractive, single-storey thatched cottages from rural County Armagh, both of which were in need of sympathetic re-use; this building, no. 66 Kilmore Road (p. 26); and, no. 180 Mullalelish Road, Derryhale (p. 27). The former appeared again in *Buildings at Risk*, Vol. 4, p. 32, as a direct result of the level of interest generated from potential restoring purchasers. It is described rather dryly in its listing record as a “three-bay, single-storey vernacular house. Previously thatched. Small panel double-hung windows and a fully encased door, having a fanlight and sidelight”. Its condition has deteriorated somewhat and the front elevation is now obscured by an overgrown hedge, while vegetation droops over the coping of the walled garden to the rear. It remains a wonderful example of a traditional, though gentrified, dwelling and is far from being beyond sympathetic restoration.

Refs:
MBR

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Environment and Heritage Service, tel: 028 9054 3145
Craigavon Divisional Planning Office, tel: 028 3834 1144

LOCATION

Kilmore is 2 1/2 mls. N. of Richhill, off the A3 Armagh - Portadown road

O.S. MAP NUMBER

19

GRID REFERENCE

943 511

STATUS

Listed

BARNI Ref. No. 15/03/001



GATEWAY TO CHARLEMONT FORT, CHARLEMONT

LOCATION

*S. of the River Blackwater in
Charlemont village, 1 ml. S. of
Moy*

O.S. MAP NUMBER

19

GRID REFERENCE

852 558

STATUS

*Listed and a Scheduled
Monument*

BARNI Ref. No. *15/01/001*

The last remaining fragment of Charlemont Fort, the late-17th century gateway, was thankfully left untouched during the civil unrest of the early 1920s, which led to the destruction of the impressive three-storey mansion house. Time and neglect have, however, taken their toll on the structure, considered to be an “important and rare surviving element of military architecture in the province”. The gateway is attributed to Sir William Robinson and is thought to date from 1673, although Dean suggests that it was probably “refaced in sandstone ashlar upon its assuming a more decorative rather than a defensive role”. It featured in *Buildings at Risk*, Vol. 3, p. 24, and continues to fall at an alarming rate into a state of utter disrepair.

Refs:

MBR

Brett, C.E.B., *Buildings of County Armagh*, UAHS, pp. 19-20

Dean, J.A.K., *The Gate Lodges of Ulster*, UAHS, 1994, p. 35

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Ulster Architectural Heritage Society, tel: 028 9055 0213

Environment and Heritage Service, tel: 028 9054 3145

Craigavon Divisional Planning Office, tel: 028 3834 1144



OLD METHODIST MANSE, 28 THOMAS STREET, PORTADOWN

“To the left is a three-storey brick dwelling-house for the superintendent minister, with two small rooms on each floor.” This was the entry in the *Portadown Town Trail* for this quirky little building, which forms such an important visual and historical grouping with the neighbouring building, no. 26 (p. 28). It is now isolated, given the demolition of the attractive two-storey terrace to its immediate left. This has created somewhat of an imbalance in the appearance of the street, making it even more vital to find a new use which, together with the sympathetic redevelopment of the adjoining gap site and the restoration of the former Wesleyan chapel, would enliven once again this underused thoroughfare in the centre of the town.

Refs:

Craigavon Historical Society, *Portadown Town Trail*, 1997, p. 11

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Ulster Architectural Heritage Society, tel: 028 9055 0213
 Environment and Heritage Service, tel: 028 9054 3145
 Craigavon Divisional Planning Office, tel: 028 3834 1144

LOCATION

In the town centre

O.S. MAP NUMBER

20

GRID REFERENCE

012 537

STATUS

Listed

BARNI Ref. No. 14/14/002



**26-30 THE SQUARE/2-3 CORNMARKE STREET,
TANDRAGEE**

LOCATION
In the town centre

O.S. MAP NUMBER
20

GRID REFERENCE
033 463

STATUS
Unlisted

BARNI Ref. No. *15/05/003*

FOR SALE

Included in *Buildings at Risk*, Vol. 4, p. 37, this extremely important corner grouping is still vacant and showing increasing signs of neglect. Both three-storey buildings, no. 30 has a double-pile roof and stucco detailing to the shop-front, while no. 28 has an elaborate and imposing doorcase, perhaps one of the best architectural features in the town. The catalogue highlighted how nos. 26-28 had originally been built as a smart town house, and was last used as a doctor's surgery with dispensary to the rear. No. 30 was latterly a shop with kerb-side petrol station. Historically, however, it had been used as a drapers shop, changing use only in World War Two, when it was used by the many American soldiers billeted in the nearby castle. Facing towards what was historically a market square, their reuse as commercial/residential properties would do much to boost the town, and their overall importance to the streetscape and to the ongoing regeneration efforts cannot be underestimated.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Ulster Architectural Heritage Society, tel: 028 9055 0213
 Craigavon Divisional Planning Office, tel: 028 3834 1144
 McKibbin, tel: 028 9050 0100



LAUREL HILL, BALLYNAGERNY, LOUGHGALL

A large two-storey, three-bay mid-19th century farmhouse with a slated hipped roof, Georgian-glazed sliding sashes with decorative hood moulds above, a fine recessed central entrance bay with wrought iron balcony to the upper floor and a particularly fine entrance door. It is another of the buildings to have featured in the first *Buildings at Risk* catalogue (p. 48), and, since that time, the only work that appears to have been done is to the range of outbuildings to the rear, which form a substantial enclosed courtyard. Laurel Hill occupies a beautiful and private setting, with commanding views over the local countryside. Located a few miles from the conservation village of Loughgall, it could once again become an enviable private home and, to this end, the owner has recently submitted a planning application for its repair and reuse.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Ulster Architectural Heritage Society, tel: 028 9055 0213
 Environment and Heritage Service, tel: 028 9054 3145
 Craigavon Divisional Planning Office, tel: 028 3834 1144

LOCATION

1 ml. N. of Loughgall

O.S. MAP NUMBER

19

GRID REFERENCE

909 534

STATUS

Listed

BARNI Ref. No. *15/02/001*



GOSFORD CASTLE, GOSFORD DEMESNE, MARKETHILL

LOCATION

*In the Gosford Country Park
estate, 1 ml. N. of Markethill*

O.S. MAP NUMBER

19

GRID REFERENCE

964 413

STATUS

Listed

BARNI Ref. No. *15/07/001*

Thomas Hopper's wonderfully romantic creation of the early-19th century, said to have taken some 31 years to build, was described by Brett as being "remarkably large, remarkably elaborate, and exceptionally well built". He further added that "...it appears not just defensible but practicably indestructible". Secreted amongst the trees of the surrounding forest park, those words may not be so prophetic, as the castle has suffered badly from neglect and its roof structure has collapsed in a number of places. A license was given by the owner, the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, to a consortium of private developers who are seeking to convert the castle into private homes. Concerns persist over the nature and the viability of this scheme and no work has been done to date, nor has planning approval been sought. In the meantime, the structure remains an awe inspiring sight and it is hoped that it will soon find a user that can fund its restoration and an appropriate use that can sustain its conservation.

Refs:

Brett, C.E.B., *Buildings of County Armagh*, UAHS, pp. 91-94

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Ulster Architectural Heritage Society, tel: 028 9055 0213

Environment and Heritage Service, tel: 028 9054 3145

Craigavon Divisional Planning Office, tel: 028 3834 1144



STABLES TO CASTLE DILLON, PORTADOWN ROAD, ARMAGH

The now vacant Castle Dillon House and its equally impressive stable block and unlisted gate lodges, have had a somewhat chequered recent history. First included in *Buildings at Risk*, Vol. 1, p. 50, and then again in Vol. 4, p. 43, the stables continue to deteriorate despite hopes being raised several years ago of a potential restoration scheme. The stables were described by Brett as having “...two storeys to the front but three-storey to the rear, thirteen bays long; the three central bays breaking forward and surmounted by pediment and cupola; each of the bays having a recessed archway framing either doorway or window-opening”. They were designed by Thomas Cooley in 1782 and built of limestone with ashlar dressings. A large number of roof slates are missing and part of the roof structure appears at serious risk of imminent collapse. Urgent action is needed to prevent further loss of original fabric.

Refs:

Brett, C.E.B., *Buildings of County Armagh*, UAHS, pp. 109-110

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Ulster Architectural Heritage Society, tel: 028 9055 0213
 Environment and Heritage Service, tel: 028 9054 3145
 Craigavon Divisional Planning Office, tel: 028 3834 1144

LOCATION

3 mls. N.E. of Armagh, 1 ml. N. of the A3

O.S. MAP NUMBER

19

GRID REFERENCE

905 483

STATUS

Listed

BARNI Ref. No. *15/03/003*



OLD METHODIST CHURCH, 26 THOMAS STREET, PORTADOWN

LOCATION

In the town centre

O.S. MAP NUMBER

20

GRID REFERENCE

012 537

STATUS

Listed

BARNI Ref. No. 14/14/001

The town of Portadown has not featured to any great extent since the buildings at risk campaign first started in 1993. The old Methodist Church, a listed building, together with its perky little neighbour, no. 28 (p. 23), is, however, vacant after many years of use by wholesale merchants. It was described in the O.S. Memoirs of 1837 as “...a neat whinstone building carried with freestone, situated on the west side of Portadown in the townland of Tannagh. It is 60 and a half feet long and forty and a half feet broad, having two minarets in front and a portico projecting 18 inches”. Brett further adds, in more glowing terms, that, “with its date stone, its little pinnacles, its copious quoins, and its Gothick-glazed upper windows, the church is a delightful building”. Its ecclesiastical function ceased in 1860 when a newer, grander building was built some 100 yards away and it now looks rather ill at ease, without a function to perform.

Refs:

O.S. Memoirs of Ireland, *Parishes of County Armagh*, Vol. 1, p. 29
Brett, C.E.B., *Buildings of County Armagh*, UAHS, pp. 56-57

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Ulster Architectural Heritage Society, tel: 028 9055 0213
Environment and Heritage Service, tel: 028 9054 3145
Craigavon Divisional Planning Office, tel: 028 3834 1144



CHURCH OF IRELAND CHURCH, CORR-DUNAVALLY, CHARLEMONT

This quaint former Church of Ireland church was built in the early-19th century using funds provided by the Board of First Fruits and was described in its listing record as a “three-bay hall church with porch and sanctuary extensions”. First highlighted as being at risk in *Buildings at Risk*, Vol. 6, p. 50, it had been suggested that it might be turned into offices or a community venue but neither has happened. Nevertheless, it is hoped that such ideas for sympathetic reuse could be resurrected thus creating an exemplary solution to what is becoming an increasing problem of vacant and redundant churches.

Refs:
MBR

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Ulster Architectural Heritage Society, tel: 028 9055 0213
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Craigavon Divisional Planning Office, tel: 028 3834 1144

LOCATION

Off the A49 at Charlemont

O.S. MAP NUMBER

19

GRID REFERENCE

854 554

STATUS

Listed

BARNI Ref. No. *15/01/003*



FORMER CABRA PRIMARY SCHOOL, TANDRAGEE

LOCATION
*1½ mls. W. of Tandragee, on
the A51 Tandragee - Armagh
road*

O.S. MAP NUMBER
20

GRID REFERENCE
005 457

STATUS
Listed

BARNI Ref. No. *15/04/002*

Built in 1824, and featured in *Buildings at Risk*, Vol. 3, p. 34, this former school building, extended and modified during the course of the 20th century, remains vacant a number of years after it was sold to the present owner. Like many empty properties it has attracted its fair share of unwanted attention and its rural location makes it vulnerable to further vandalism and decay. A substantial property with generous grounds, it would seem entirely suitable for conversion to residential use.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Ulster Architectural Heritage Society, tel: 028 9055 0213
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Craigavon Divisional Planning Office, tel: 028 3834 1144



FORMER DRUMBEE NATIONAL SCHOOL, DRUMBEEBEG ROAD, ARMAGH

A beautiful and unusual single-storey hipped roofed building, the former Drumbee National School is now in a very poor state of repair. Housing classroom accommodation either side of the recessed central bay, which once formed the master's living quarters, the building appears not to have been in use for some time.

Refs:
MBR

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT
Ulster Architectural Heritage Society, tel: 028 9055 0213
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Craigavon Divisional Planning Office, tel: 028 3834 1144

LOCATION
*2 mls. S.W. of Armagh City,
between the A51 and the A28*

O.S. MAP NUMBER
19

GRID REFERENCE
912 439

STATUS
Listed

BARNI Ref. No. *15/15/002*



FORMER TYNAN RAILWAY STATION, COOLKILL ROAD, TYNAN

LOCATION
*1/2 ml. N.W. of Tynan village,
off the B210 Caledon -
Middletown road*

O.S. MAP NUMBER
19

GRID REFERENCE
767 442

STATUS
Listed

BARNI Ref. No. *15/11/002*

“Beyond Armagh the Ulster Railway was extended to Monaghan and Clones between 1848 and 1863 and stations of note were built at Tynan, at Monaghan and at Clones itself... At Tynan, a most interesting station in what might be described as commercial Gothic revival was the alighting or boarding station for travellers using the Clogher Valley Railway to Caledon, Aughnacloy or Ballygawley. The main passenger station building...was (and still is) a fanciful Gothic block with tall steeply-pitched roofs, diamond mullioned windows and (originally) a low spire fully in keeping with its overall ecclesiastical appearance.” Most of McCutcheon’s description was faithfully recorded in *Buildings at Risk*, Vol. 1, p. 53, when the former Tynan Railway station, by then in a dilapidated state, first appeared as at risk. It has deteriorated since 1993, but remains capable of reuse. Original features, including foot-bridge, signal box and platforms, are still in place, with each contributing to the overall sense of a time long forgotten.

Refs:

McCutcheon, W. A., *The Industrial Archaeology of Northern Ireland*, H.M.S.O., 1980, p. 162

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Ulster Architectural Heritage Society, tel: 028 9055 0213
Environment and Heritage Service, tel: 028 9054 3145
Craigavon Divisional Planning Office, tel: 028 3834 1144