



NEWSLETTER

November 2007, Issue 3

10 Years Young

Oxley Conservation celebrates its 10th anniversary this month! We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all our clients and organizations that have supported us over the last ten years.

Hall Barn Estate

Repair works to two historic garden structures, a temple and obelisk were completed this summer. The garden structures are of 18th century origins and it is thought that they were designed by Colen Campbell. The works were grant aided by English Heritage.



The finishing touches being applied to the repair of the temple



Detail of the cartouche repair on the obelisk

The Old King George, Speen, Buckinghamshire

Over the summer work was completed at the Old King George in Speen. This Grade II listed former pub retains a timber framed core, with subsequent extensions in brick and flint and plain brick.



The new pavement light and glass block window that have transformed the cellar.

Oxley Conservation were approached by new owners of the building to advise on its repair. The package of works devised for the first phase included.

- Renewal of the timber ground floor above what used to be the beer cellar, including a new window and pavement light (see photo above)
- Removal of cement render from brick and flint walls
- Complete renewal of rainwater goods and collection of rainwater for garden use
- Repair and draught-proofing of sash windows



Energy Performance Assessment

We have recently undertaken an energy assessment of 37 Spital Square, London, the office headquarters of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB).

When the building was converted from a semi-derelict state in 1982 thermal performance of the building was not a significant factor. The SPAB wanted to understand the current energy performance of the building and what measures were available to improve its energy efficiency.

Oxley Conservation carried out an energy performance assessment of the building, this included:

- a survey of the building to assess the thermal performance of the different elements e.g.walls and roof
- a review of the usage patterns of the building
- a review of energy consumption over the past five years
- a fan pressurisation test to measure the air permeability of the building and identify the sources of air infiltration
- an evaluation of the possible measures to improve thermal performance and save carbon, by management changes, low cost small scale measures and investment in the fabric of the building.



Articles

The latest issue of Green Building magazine includes a feature on roofs with an article by Richard Oxley on The Mansion House at Greys Court near Henley on Thames, which is a Grade I listed building owned by the National Trust. The roof of the principal wing of the building dates from the 16th century. Richard describes how the roofing works were undertaken in an environmentally sensitive way in 2006 to improve the thermal performance of the roof and to bring an under used attic space back into use as a staff flat. To read the full article, click on the link. <http://www.buildingforafuture.co.uk>

Courses & Seminars

Richard will be speaking at the CPT conference "Our Built Heritage" to be held on Thursday, 15 November at the Lecture Theatre, SCI, Belgrave Square, London. Richard's subject is, of course, "Surveying Historic Buildings". The event programme can be found by clicking the following link. www.cptevents.co.uk. Meanwhile, Catharine and Richard are speaking at the SPAB half day Technical Event 'Energy Efficiency in Old Buildings' on Wednesday 21st November in London at Toynbee Hall, Commercial Street, E1.

IHBC

Phil Ogley has been elected a full member of the Institute of Historic Building Conservation.

The IHBC is the principal body in the United Kingdom representing professionals and specialists involved in the conservation and preservation of the historic environment.

Making an exhibition of themselves!

On Tuesday, 13 November, Oxley Conservation will be exhibiting at The Historic Buildings, Parks & Gardens Event 2007 held at The Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, Westminster. If you're attending, pop in for a chat?

Sits Vac

Oxley Conservation are on the look out for a qualified architect or surveyor, someone who is experienced, preferably in building conservation, and has an interest in environmental issues. So, if you know of anyone suitable, tell them to send their details to Richard (richard@oxleyconservation.co.uk).