

Adolphus Curry walking guide

The Section is intensifying its research into Adolphus Curry, probably Jersey's most prolific and imaginative architect and civil engineer of the late 19th century. The idea emerged last year of creating a walking guide to Curry's buildings in the centre of St Helier, as this would enable people to become more familiar with these fascinating buildings at a time and pace that suits them. A Working Group was formed within the Architecture Section with the aim of implementing this idea (Members: Paul Harding (Chair), Jeremy Percival, Tim Norman-Prahm, Simon Kelly & Robin Kelly, Stuart Fell).

The aim would be to publish the printed guide and make it publicly available (at no charge) at Société Jersiaise, the Central Library, Jersey Museum, Jersey Archive, St Helier Town Hall, Jersey Tourism and other outlets. As work of this kind fulfils one of the aims of the Government's Heritage Strategy, an application for a heritage grant aid was made to the Department for the Economy to assist with publication and distribution costs. I'm delighted to say that the application was successful, and a grant £1,582 has just been offered. We hope to publish the walking guide by mid-Summer.



Identifying Adolphus Curry buildings



There are a number of buildings that we suspect were designed by Adolphus Curry but we have no evidence in the form of drawings or other documentary material. Curry had a number of design 'signatures' which can be found in his work. One of his favourites, usually seen on houses, is the use of highly decorated timberwork in the form of balconies, or the brackets that



support the rainwater gutters at eaves level. If you live in a building which has features like those illustrated below we would like to hear from you.

Les Lumieres, St Brelade

The most famous 1930s building in the Island is probably Les Lumieres, on La Route Orange. This was designed by architect Arthur Grayson for Tony Huelin in 1932. Jeremy Percival is an expert on Grayson and gave an excellent talk at our February meeting on Grayson's work and career, with a particular focus on Les Lumieres from its inception to its comprehensive refurbishment about 20 years ago.



Stuart Fell Chair – Architecture Section