



Historic Cathedral Office restored for modern use

Project in brief

Saint Patrick's Cathedral Office is a well known historic landmark, located at 35a Upper Kevin Street, dating from the nineteenth century. The distinctive façade was partially stabilised in the 1970s, but recent refurbishment of the roof revealed significant cracking and instability. Our brief included the Inspection of this protected structure, and the design of appropriate remedial works. The inspection and formulation of remedial work was undertaken in a very short timeframe in order to facilitate the Client's successful application for grant assistance.

Key features

- Contour survey of the façade to pinpoint areas of structural instability and deficiency. This allowed us to minimise structural intervention by restricting essential repairs to locations of prime structural importance
- Stabilisation of the façade at first and second floor levels using slim profile straps fixed within the floor thickness and tied by stainless steel anchors carefully grouted into the masonry. This "invisible" repair rendered the 1970s plates redundant, but the plates were strategically left in place to avoid planning issues
- Stabilisation of the gable feature using a lightweight structural steel frame fixed within the roof space
- Repair of external cracks using stainless steel *heliforce* bars carefully grouted into masonry joints and made good with lime mortar



LeeMcCullough
Consulting Engineers

Project 3857: Conservation Engineering

Cathedral Office

Client: St. Patrick's Cathedral

Architects: Benjamin + Beauchamp

Value: €3.3k (2008)

Project scope:

- *Restoration of historic structure*
- *Repair and renovation for modern use (present and future)*

Inspections & Surveys

At LeeMcCullough we have extensive experience of inspecting both modern and historic buildings. We frequently inspect existing buildings to establish the ease to which they may be put to alternative use, or the most efficient means of providing additional space by extending vertically and/or laterally. We are also brought onboard as trouble-shooters when civil or structural problems arise.

Over many projects we have investigated and reported on a wide range of issues, including:

- Condition surveys of protected structures and recorded monuments
- Assessment of structures for modification and/or extension
- Flood risk assessments and investigation of defective drainage
- Due diligence and pre-purchase reports