University Buildings Come Of Age?

After months of speculation, the Department of National Heritage has confirmed that the oldest of the buildings at Sussex around Fulton Court have been given listed building status. The buildings, which make up the core of Sir Basil Spence’s original 1959 design for the campus, are part of a listing of 95 post-war educational buildings which was compiled following a nationwide tour by professional advisers from English Heritage. Falmer House was one of only two (along with St Catherine’s College, Oxford) to be given Grade 1 status (“of exceptional interest”), putting it on a par with Canterbury Cathedral and Brighton Pavilion. The Library, Arts A & B, ENGG 1, MOLS 1, MAPS 1, the Meeting House, and the Gardner Centre were all listed Grade 2 with a special starring (“of more than special interest”). Only about 6% of all listed buildings achieve either of these ratings.

Welcoming the move, Sue Yates, the University’s Information Officer, commented, “We see this as recognition of the quality of the architecture which the University is proud of and has looked after for 30 years. The listing should not have any serious effects on any future expansion as the buildings by no means cover the whole campus and there is still other space to build and develop.”

The effect of listing means that for any future alterations to the buildings, listed building consent must be obtained from the local authority in addition to planning permission. Estates Manager Roger Bailey said, “This is a compliment to the University, but it is going to make redevelopment work planned for several of the buildings more difficult and the plans for Falmer House will have to be redrawn.” Alterations and repairs to Falmer House were originally scheduled for this year but had already been postponed due to lack of funds before the announcement was made. Being listed, however, does make the University eligible for VAT benefits and government grants to repair the buildings.

Sir Basil Spence described his brief of designing a university on a 200-acre site in a beautiful tree-lined valley as, “the dream of every architect”, and he always considered Sussex one of his best achievements. A spokesperson for the Department of National Heritage said in the Evening Argus, “Sussex is Spence’s greatest secular work. Here we have buildings of an almost heroic character. There is something monumental about them. They are of an extremely high quality.”

Local reaction to this architectural accolade has been mixed. Former Brighton mayor and member of University Council Joe Townsend said of Falmer House, “There are bits sticking out all over the place. The whole thing has been cobbled together - I’m absolutely flabbergasted.” Deputy Secretary Geoff Ivey said, however, “Personally I like the buildings. His work has a human scale and suits the contours of the site.” The Department of National Heritage does point out that buildings are listed primarily for their architectural or historical interest, and that, “not all are what might naturally be thought of as beautiful.”

En route to Zagreb: the University of Sussex Convoy to Croatia with aid for victims of the Balkan War. See page 2 for full story. (Photo: Myles Jenkins)
CONVOY REACHES ITS GOAL

On Easter Tuesday, the group of Sussex students who had spent two months fundraising finally left Britain with essential aid for victims of the war in what was Yugoslavia. After a 1300-mile drive across Europe, the University’s Aid Convoy to Croatia arrived safely in Zagreb two days later.

The convoy, organised through the Meeting House, took some £2800 worth of aid bought by the money raised, as well as items donated by Infinity foods, ECHO Pharmaceuticals, a hospital in Chertsey, and members of the public. “Our trip was well timed,” says Richard Fox, one of the organisers, “as much of the food was for the Help the Children in Croatia organisation who, at the time we arrived, had run out of food to distribute to the hundreds of refugee families who depend on them.”

The group stayed in Zagreb for a day to help share out the food parcels before visiting the nearby villages of Sisak and Lipik which have suffered large amounts of damage. Medical supplies were delivered to the hospital in Sisak where civilians of all ethnic groups were being treated — many people had apparently promised aid to the hospital but the Sussex convoy was the first to actually arrive. Many of the buildings had been flattened with people too frightened to begin the task of rebuilding them. In the villages, the effects of the war were all too visible.

The situation in the Balkans still remains desperate for thousands of people, and a further trip is planned for July. If you would like to help with further efforts, contact Richard Fox on ext. 3876.

Photographs of the trip will be on show in the Meeting House from 4 - 7 May, and several of the participants will talk about their experiences on Wednesday 5 May from 7 - 9pm.

A Census Breakthrough

The academic community has won a first in British population census history. Samples of anonymised individual records from the 1991 census will now be released for research purposes in June. ESRC and the University Funding Council have purchased the entire datasets to encourage innovative methodological and substantive research across the full range of census topics — household structure, employment and demographic characteristics, and housing types. For further details on gaining access to this valuable dataset contact Liz Middleton, Census Microdata Unit, 061-275-4589, Email:CMU@uk.ac.manchester.

A Passion both Medieval and Modern

A new production of Prof. Jonathan Harvey’s liturgical drama Passion and Resurrection has recently been touring the country on the Arts Council’s Contemporary Music Network. The tour opened in Westminster Abbey with the final performance in Bath.

Andrew Porter, Observer Arts Critic, describes the work as “austere but intensely composed, with Harvey’s command of eloquent interval, telling rhythmic declamation, exactly spaced harmony. It’s an antidote to the saccharine or Simple Simon, instant-ecstasy holy music that stands high on today’s charts.”

BIOLS Grant News

Recent research grants awarded within BIOLS include the following: Ben Adams has been awarded £109,047 from the Leukaemia Research Fund to investigate the role of a specific protein (Pax5) in the development of B-cells, an active part of the human immune system. Julian Burke, together with Andy Smith and Roger Thomley (at the AFRC Nitrogen Fixation Unit), has been awarded £500,000 from the EEC Human Capital and Mobility Programme to study Horseradish Peroxidase. This is an international collaboration coordinated from Sussex, that involves laboratories in Denmark, Ireland, Greece, Italy, and Spain. In addition, Julian Burke and (other) colleagues have been awarded £150,000 as part of a travel grant to promote collaborative research in neurobiology at the Universities of Sussex, Strasbourg, Hamburg, and Amsterdam. Trevor Beebee has received £133,000 from the Agricultural and Food Research Council for a project on the Molecular Ecology of Natterjack Toad Populations.

In Experimental Psychology, Ann Brown has been awarded £364,661 from the Wellcome Trust for a five year project on “The study of distortion in the inner ear: its interpretation and clinical applications”. Martin Yeomans has £114,105 from the Agricultural and Food Research Council for a three year project investigating the physiological mechanisms underlying food acceptability. Finally, Josef Pemer and Ted Ruffman have been awarded a three year grant from ESRC to study the social determinants of children’s beliefs about scientific reasoning.
LETTERS

Dear Editor,

Brighton Borough Council are proposing to make Whitehawk Hill, near to the racecourse, a local Nature Reserve. The Sussex Amphibian and Reptile Group in conjunction with The Sussex Wildlife Trust need records of amphibians and reptiles from this site. If you have seen these animals there at any time, both past and present, the Group would like to speak to you. We would like to survey the site and welcome any help from people who know the area.

Janet Claydon, Estates

Research and Books

Research Opportunities
For information on any of the following call Louise Vincent, Research Office ext. 3761 or Email deeb@admin.

CONTEMPORARY DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE IN WESTERN SOCIETIES. This ESRC programme will likely be launched in mid-June. Register interest with John Farrar (8906).

GENETIC APPROACH TO HUMAN HEALTH. MRC initiative to establish multi-disciplinary centres of excellence. Outline proposals invited by 14 May.

EC ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME. Call for proposals imminent. Draft of work programme available for consultation.

TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE FOR DISABLED & ELDERLY (TIDE). EC call for proposals. Notifications of intent by 1 July.

POLISH RESEARCH COLLABORATION. British Council programme for the sciences in 1993/94. Closing date 14 May.

FRENCH RESEARCH COLLABORATION. British Council programme for sciences and technology in 1993/94. Closing date 27 May.


RESEARCH & SCIENTIFIC STAY IN JAPAN. Two schemes for post-doctoral scientists under 35, funded by EC and Japanese Government, for visits to laboratories. Language tuition included. Closing date 30 June 1993.

Books by Sussex Authors

THE SIXTIES ART SCENE IN LONDON by David Mellor. Phaidon Press. £29.95.


Four titles in the new Philip's County Guide of particular local interest, are East Sussex, West Sussex, Kent and Hampshire. They contain clear tourist maps and an A-Z of towns and villages, listing places of interest to visit. £8.99 each.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

promised student representatives last term that I would report this term on the action we are taking over issues of safety and security on campus.

First, we have decided to accelerate our programme of improvements in fire precautions in the student residences in close consultation with the Fire Brigade. This will primarily involve the installation of fire doors and the enclosing of stairwells.

Second, we are re-assessing our programme of improvements in street lighting with the aim of bringing all the campus up to the standard prevailing in the car parks and residences at the north end. We have commissioned a survey by Seaboard, but we will start immediately with improvements to the southern pedestrian walkways.

Third, we are planning to increase the number of emergency phones, and to make their location more visible. We aim to install internal phones in all building entrances and in the lifts. Unfortunately we have no spare lines at present, but we anticipate some will become available soon.

The total costs of all of the improvements above will be several million pounds over the next few years, and we will probably spend over £1 million on them in the next year.

In my office the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Mr David Streeter, has oversight of safety, security and the environment, and in future he will report regularly on these issues in the Bulletin. The University Safety Officer is Mr Peter Ballance (ext. 8376), and the head of security is Mr Peter Ansell (ext. 8233).
What's on...

Lectures, Seminars, Colloquia

- **Tuesday 4 May**
  12.30pm Mass Observation Seminar: Joint session with the Research Centre for Women's Studies. Jeannette Haviland ( Rutgers University). Library Seminar Room.
  2.00pm Condensed State Physics Seminar: Challenges in Industrial Vacuum Development. Dr. Alan Troup (Edwards High Vacuum, Crawley), PB1A1, MAPS1.
  3.30pm SEI Research-In-Progress Seminar: Non-governmental organisations and the European Community's development policy. Pantelis Sklias, A70, SEI.
  4.15pm Biochemistry & Genetics & Development Seminar: Regulation of prolactin gene transcription. Dr. Jean Davis (Manchester Royal Infirmary), EP4.9 BIOLS.
  4.30pm COGS Seminar: Multi-media access to graphical user interfaces for visually disabled people. Dr. Helen Petrie (COGS & RNIB), PB1A6, MAPS1.
  6.00pm Public Lecture: Contexts of Nature (the Comparative study of British and Japanese poetry relating to nature). Prof. Nobuyuki Yuasa, (Hiroshima University), A105.
  6.30pm Public Lecture: Issues in Environmental Science. The Extent and Significance of Lead Poisoning. Dr. Erik Millstone (SPRU), MOLS Lecture Theatre.

- **Wednesday 5 May**
  Second Religion & Science Seminar. How Green is your God?
  10.15am Christian Theology & Sustainability. The Rev. Dr. Edward Echlin (Leeds).
  12.00noon The Meeting Point of Morality and Technology. John Mead (Campaign for Sustainable Living, Christian Ecology Link).
  2.15pm The Biological Basis of Morality. Dr. Mike Jones (Biologist, Sussex). All at the Meeting House.
  1.00pm IDS Seminar Series: Types of Capitalism. Professor Ron Dore (Centre for Economic Performance, LSE), Room 221, IDS.
  2.00pm Chemistry Symposium: Half-Day Symposium on Advances in Computational Quantum Chemistry. Chairperson Prof. R. Parsons (President Faraday Division), MSLT.

- **Thursday 6 May**
  12.30pm Gender & Feminist History: Women in Hungary. Maria Durham and Malgorzata Suszcynska (Seized University), Arts D421.
  4.30pm Experimental Psychology Colloquium: Children's judgements about referentially opaque sentences. Peter Mitchell (Swansea), EP3.9, BIOLS.
  5.00pm History Work-In-Progress Seminar: The Northumberland Bondager: Gendered interpretations of independence. Judy Gielgud, A155, Arts A. 5.45pm Sussex Gerontology Network. Accidents, Emergencies and Older People. Mr. G.D.R. Bryant, FRCS (Senior Consultant, Royal Sussex County Hospital). EDB Lecture Theatre. £3 members, £4 non-members, £2 unwaged/retired.

- **Friday 7 May**
  2.15pm SPRU Seminar: NGO's Sustainable Technology and Links with Public Sector Agricultural Research and Extensions. Dr. John Farrington (ODI), 2A3, Mantell Building.
  4.00pm Astronomy Centre Seminar: X-ray absorption in clusters of galaxies. Dr. David White (Cambridge), PB1A7, MAPS1.

Centre for Continuing Education

- **Day Schools at the University**
  **Saturday 15 May**
  Neolithic Sussex. An examination of the surviving remains of the earliest farms in Sussex led by Peter Drewett.
  Spring Bird Migration. A study of the migratory habits of spring birds led by David Harper.
  Women. Psychoanalysis and Literature. Jan Campbell examines the role of key women such as Karen Homey in the development of psychoanalysis.
  Fees for the above courses £15/ reduced £10/ minimum £4.
  TV Workshop. Ken Whittington introduces the techniques of TV producers and camera operators. Weekend long course. Fees £47/reduced £30.50.
  For further details of all the above courses and enrolment contact Yvonne Barnes, CCE, ext. 8527.

Sports Centre

- **Intra-Mural Competitions**
  Entries are invited for the Summer Term Intra Mural team competitions:
  5-a-side Soccer League (Thurs 2-4pm)
  5-a-side Soccer Tournament (Tues 12-2pm)
  6-a-side Cricket Tournament (Mons 12-2pm)
  9-a-side Rounders League (Mons 1-2pm)
  9-a-side Stoolball League (Tues 1-2pm)
  3-a-side Skittles League (Frirs 12-2pm)

- **Test a Racket**
  Try out a range of Prince Tennis Rackets with no obligation to buy on Thursday 6 May at 12.30pm at the University Tennis Courts, Ridge Rd.

Gardner Centre

- **Limon Dance**
  The artistry and technique of Jose Limon, one of the true innovators of American dance, is performed by the Limon Dance Company.
  Thurs - Sat, 6 - 8 May, 7.45pm (Sat mat 2.30pm).
  Tickets £7.50/£5.50 (conc £1 off).
  NB An infra red transmission system has just been installed in the auditorium of the Gardner Centre to assist patrons with impaired hearing. Inquire at the Box Office if you require this service.

Charleston Festival

Paul Levy on Virginia Woolf's taste in food and Beryl Bainbridge on what makes a writer tick are amongst a variety of speakers at this years 4th Charleston Festival, Charleston Farmhouse, from May 27th to May 31st.

For further information ring 0323 811626.
Advance tickets from Dome Box Office, 29 New Road, Brighton - ring B'ton 674357.

Croatia Convoy

Find out what happened to your donations and come and see the photos and slides from the recent trek to Croatia.

Tuesday 4 - Friday 7 May (all day).
Slide Show, Wed 5 May, 7.30pm
All at the Meeting House.

Scottish Ceilidh

International students and their friends are warmly invited to an evening of traditional Scottish music and dancing on Thursday 20 May, 8pm till midnight.
Tickets £3-50, inclusive of Buffet, are available from the International Office, Sussex House.

Miscellaneous

Hot food is once again available in the Playing Fields Pavilion from 12.30 to 2pm, Mondays to Fridays.

1991 Census Data Seminar.
A talk by Virginia Knight form the Census Dissemination Unit on the use of the 1991 Census Data.
Wed 5 May, 2.30 - 5.30pm, Computing Centre Teaching Room.

Lunchtime Recital.
Marjory Ashenden plays the cello.
Tuesday May 4, at 1.15pm in the Meeting House.

Bulletin

Copy deadline for the new weekly Bulletin is every Friday lunchtime. We welcome any suggestions for news, details of events, letters, and non-commercial advertisements. Please contact the Information Office, Sussex House, ext. 8209 or E-mail: Info.Office@uk.ac.sussex.admin.

Do remember that communication is a two-way affair: we cannot inform you if no-one informs us.

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