

## NIEA Property Evaluations

### Background

NIEA is currently engaged in the Second Survey of all of Northern Ireland's building stock to update and improve on the first List of buildings of special architectural or historic interest which began in 1974. The second survey is due to be completed by 2016.

In considering whether to include a building as Listed, the Department (NIEA) takes into account the architectural and historic interest of a structure and is also given the power to consider:-

- any respect in which its exterior contributes to the architectural or historic interest of any group of buildings of which it forms part; and
- the desirability of preserving, on the ground of its architectural or historic interest, any feature of the building which consists of a manmade object or structure fixed to the building or which forms a part of the land and which is comprised within the curtilage of the building.

Should the Department (NIEA) decide to list, this places certain responsibility on the owner, for example, a listed building has to be maintained in a way appropriate to its character and cannot be altered or demolished without prior approval.

The summary below is taken from the NIEA property evaluation and details the evaluation in relation to the class of listing proposed.

1. **A Parliamentary Boundary Post beside 109 King's Road, Belfast NB26/11/011** – A cast-iron marker post dated 1918, unaltered and in its original setting. Displaying an ornamental capping and inscribed plaque. Marking the outer extent of the administrative jurisdiction of the former Belfast Corporation and of Mount Pottinger District Electoral Division. It is of historical significance as a remnant of the first election in Britain and Ireland when nearly everyone (bar women under 30) had the right to vote. It also marks a short-lived period in the province's political development up to the formation of Northern Ireland and the Stormont administration in 1922. It is relatively rare as many of these posts have succumbed to road widening and random removal. It has group value with two nearby boundary posts also along the line of the Knock River (HB26/11/009 and /010).

Proposed NIEA listing - **B2**, Extent of proposed Listing – **Boundary Post** (currently not listed).

2. **B Parliamentary Boundary Post, beside 14 Gilnahirk Road, Belfast HB26/11/009** – A cast-iron marker post dated 1918, unaltered and in its original setting. Displaying an ornamental capping and inscribed plaque. Marking the outer extent of the administrative jurisdiction of the former Belfast Corporation and of Mount Pottinger District Electoral Division. It is of historical significance as a remnant of the first election in Britain and Ireland when nearly everyone (bar women under 30) had the right to vote. It also marks a short-lived period in the province's political development up to the formation of Northern Ireland and the Stormont administration in 1922. It is relatively rare as many of these posts have succumbed to road widening and random removal. It has group value with two nearby boundary posts also along the line of the Knock River (HB26/11/010 and /011).

Proposed NIEA listing – **B2**, Extent of proposed Listing – **Boundary Post** (currently not Listed)

3. **C Parliamentary Boundary Post, Garage between 44 and 50 Gilnahirk Road, Belfast HB26/11/010** – A cast-iron marker post dated 1918, unaltered and in its original setting. Displaying an ornamental capping and inscribed plaque. Marking the outer extent of the administrative jurisdiction of the former Belfast Corporation and of Mount Pottinger District

Electoral Division. It is of historical significance as a remnant of the first election in Britain and Ireland when nearly everyone (bar women under 30) had the right to vote. It also marks a short-lived period in the province's political development up to the formation of Northern Ireland and the Stormont administration in 1922. It is relatively rare as many of these posts have succumbed to road widening and random removal. It has group value with two nearby boundary posts also along the line of the Knock River (HB26/11/009 and /011).

Proposed NIEA listing – **B2**, Extent of proposed Listing – **Boundary Post** (currently not Listed)

4. **D Parliamentary Boundary Post, McArt's Fort, Cavehill Country Park, Upper Hightown Road, Belfast HB26/44/071** – A cast-iron boundary post dated 1918, unaltered and in its original setting. Displaying an ornamental capping and inscribed plaque. Marking the outer extent of the administrative jurisdiction of the former Belfast Corporation (as Belfast City Council was then known), and of Duncairn District Electoral Division and Clifton Ward within it. It is of historical significance as a remnant of the first election in Britain and Ireland when nearly everyone (bar women under 30) had the right to vote. It also marks a short-lived period in the province's political development up to the formation of Northern Ireland and the Stormont administration in 1922. It is relatively rare as many of these posts have succumbed to road widening and random removal. It has group value with a nearby boundary post on the south side of McArt's Fort (HB26/44/072) and two others on the Antrim Road which also marked the same electoral division and ward boundaries (HB26/51/026 and /027). These are a number of other such posts marking different wards elsewhere in Belfast; as a group, they form the most complete group of administrative markers anywhere in the Province.

Proposed NIEA listing – **B2**, Extent of proposed listing – **Boundary post** (currently not listed).

5. **E Parliamentary Boundary Post, McArt's Fort, Cavehill Country Park, Upper Hightown Road, Belfast HB26/44/072** - A cast-iron boundary post dated 1918, unaltered apart from its missing plaque, and in its original setting. Displaying an ornamental capping shield of Belfast Corporation's coat of arms. Marking the outer extent of the administrative jurisdiction of the former Belfast Corporation (as Belfast City Council was then known), and of Duncairn District Electoral Division and Clifton Ward within it. It is of historical significance as a remnant of the first election in Britain and Ireland when nearly everyone (bar women under 30) had the right to vote. It also marks a short-lived period in the province's political development up to the formation of Northern Ireland and the Stormont administration in 1922. It is relatively rare as many of these posts have succumbed to road widening and random removal. It has group value with a nearby boundary post on the south side of McArt's Fort (HB26/44/071) and two others on the Antrim Road which also marked the same electoral division and ward boundaries (HB26/51/026 and /027). These are a number of other such posts marking different wards elsewhere in Belfast; as a group, they form the most complete group of administrative markers anywhere in the Province.

Proposed NIEA listing – **B12**, Extent of proposed Listing – **Boundary post** (currently not Listed)

6. **F Pillar box in front of 82 North Road, Belfast HB26/14/011**- A free-standing late 19th century Queen Victoria cast-iron pillar box, erected in the late-Victorian period between 1887 and 1901, carrying its maker's name 'Handyside & Co/Derby & London'. This pillar box is in the distinctive style peculiar to the Post Office, painted in 'pillar box red' throughout except for the base which is black and with a dentilated cap and scripting of the Royal Cipher on the door.

Historically the box is of interest as it carries the cipher of the first monarch to have purpose-built pillar boxes. Although the precise number of Victorian pillar boxes surviving in Belfast is unknown, this is likely a rare example compared with ones associated with later monarchs. Pillar boxes of this era were also of great social importance as the principle conduit by which people communicated with one another. Still in everyday use, and entirely authentic it has group value with the early 20th century George V cast-iron pillar box on Wandsworth Road, HB26/09/11), nearby.

Proposed NIEA listing – **B1**, Extent of proposed Listing – **Pillar box** (currently not Listed)

7. **G Pillar box in front of 63 Wandsworth Road, Belfast HB26/13/046** - A free-standing pillar box on the Wandsworth Road was erected in the interwar period between the years 1931 and 1936, carrying its maker's name 'Carron Company/Stirlingshire'. This pillar box is in the distinctive style peculiar to the Post Office, painted in 'pillar box red' throughout except for the base which is black and with a dentilated cap and scripting of the Royal Cipher and crown on the door. Historically the box is of interest as it carries the cipher of King George V. Pillar boxes of this era were also of great social importance as the principle conduit by which people communicated with one another. Still in everyday use, and entirely authentic it has group value with the 19th century Queen Victoria pillar box on North Road (HB26/14/011) and mid-20<sup>th</sup> century George VI pillar box at Connsbrook Avenue, (HB26/09/011), nearby. Historically the box is of interest as it carries the cipher of King George VI and was made by one of the first firms contracted to produce the distinctive K8 telephone box. Pillar boxes of this era were of great social importance as the principle conduit by which people communicated with one another. Still in everyday use, and entirely authentic it has group value with the 19<sup>th</sup> century Queen Victoria pillar box on North Road (HB26/14/011) and early 20th century George V cast-iron pillar box on Wandsworth Road, HB26/13/046), nearby.

Proposed NIEA listing – **B2**, Extent of proposed Listing – Pillar box (currently not Listed)

8. **H Pillar box, in front of 159 Connsbrook Avenue, Belfast HB26/09/011** – A free-standing pillar box on Connsbrook Avenue erected between 1936 and 1938, carrying its maker's name 'Lion Foundry Co Ltd/Kirkintilloch'. This pillar box is in the distinctive style peculiar to the Post Office, painted in 'pillar box red' throughout except for the base which is black and with a dentilated cap and scripting of the Royal Cipher and crown on the door. Historically the box is of interest as it carries the cipher of King George VI and was made by one of the first firms contracted to produce the distinctive K8 telephone box. Pillar boxes of this era were of great social importance as the principle conduit by which people communicated with one another. Still in everyday use, and entirely authentic it has group value with the 19<sup>th</sup> century Queen Victoria pillar box on North Road (HB26/14/011) and early 20th century George V cast-iron pillar box on Wandsworth Road, HB26/13/046), nearby.

Proposed NIEA listing – **B2** Extent of proposed Listing – **Pillar box** (currently not Listed)

9. **I 587 Antrim Road, Belfast HB26/46/017A** Semi-detached asymmetrical gabled three-bay two-storey with attic red-brick house, built c. 1865 to the designs of Robert Young. An impressive, well-portioned house demonstrating a variety of external detailing, including polychromatic brick, elaborate pierced timber bargeboards and foliate carvings, typifying the eclectic style of the High Victorian period. Retaining most of its original external fabric and set in a mature landscaped site, this house and its neighbour (HB26/46/017B) are noteworthy examples of their type and highlight the wealth and aspirations of suburban Belfast during the mid to late nineteenth-century.

Proposed NIEA listing – B2 Extent of proposed listing House (currently not Listed)

10. **J 585 Antrim Road, Belfast HB26/46/017B** Semi-detached asymmetrical gabled three-bay two-storey with attic red-brick house, built c. 1865 to the designs of Robert Young. An impressive, well-portioned house demonstrating a variety of external detailing, including polychromatic brick, elaborate pierced timber bargeboards and foliate carvings, typifying the eclectic style of the High Victorian period. Despite the replacement of its original windows the building retains its external appearance and most of its original interior. The house was the residence of its designer, architect Robert Young, until 1870s and is set in its original mature landscaped site. This house and its neighbour (HB26/46/017A) are noteworthy examples of their type and highlight the wealth and aspirations of suburban Belfast during the mid to late nineteenth-century.

Proposed NIEA listing – **B2**, Extent of proposed Listing – **House** (currently not listed)

**Note:**

Listed buildings in Northern Ireland are divided into four categories:

**Grade A**

Special buildings of national importance including both outstanding grand buildings and the fine, little altered examples of some important style or date.

**Grade B+**

Special buildings that might have merited A status but for relatively minor detracting features such as impurities of design, or lower quality additions or alterations. Also buildings that stand out above the general mass of grade B1 buildings because of exceptional interiors or some other features.

**Grade B1 and B2**

Special buildings of more local importance or good examples of some period of style. Some degree of alteration or imperfection may be acceptable.