



Carrigtohill, Cork, 13th March 2020

Dear INTBAU Ireland member

It's been quite a while since I have been in touch but I hope that this summary of the activities of INTBAU Ireland members spanning from August 2018 to March 2020 will show that it has been time well spent.

I also hope that this summary shows that by leading from the front, INTBAU Ireland can effect change that is real and lasting rather than flashy and temporary. As Chair, I can assure you that many INTBAU Ireland members are working on daily basis, in a myriad of little ways to promote the aims of Traditional Architecture through their activities and work.

As a group who work somewhat outside the existing Irish architectural establishment, I have found it necessary that we tread lightly and make as many friends and connections as possible. It has not always been an easy job but by being persistent, honest and fair, I feel like we have now established a solid and respected niche for our unique viewpoint. It will continue to be a niche viewpoint for the foreseeable future, but I hope that we have shown that there are advantages to working beneath the radar as long as we remain positive and patient.

In 2020 I hope to re-establish some form of structure for the organisation, so please get in touch if you are interested in being more actively involved.

Best, Hugh



1. **Membership.**

113 members in total. 8 new in 2019, compared to 10 new in 2018 and 5 new in 2017

2. **Social Media.**

Responsibility for social media is shared by Ronan and Hugh.

There has been a huge amount of activity and engagement on the social media sites that we manage.

We strive always to share stories that are positive and to only engage in a manner which reflects well on

INTBAU Ireland. In this way we have been increasingly successful in making sure that Traditional

Architecture has a voice in Ireland, and to help dispel the wrong impression that we are only interested in shouting from the side-lines.

Facebook stats - 553 followers. Approx. 225 post engagements and 40 posts per month

Twitter stats – 333 followers. Approx. 15,000 impressions and 35 tweets per month

3. **Events.**

August 2018 – Heritage Week Lecture, Lismore, County Waterford

November 2018 – INTBAU Congress London

March 2019 – James Stevens Curl Lecture, Dublin IAA – Sponsored by [Place Lab](#)

October 2019 – Open House Cork, Lecture and Tour

January 2020 – Timber Talk lectures at INTBAU London

January 2020 – Professor Albert Richardson documentary premiere at INTBAU London

- (Part-organised by Hugh. Speech also given by Hugh at the event.)

4. **INTBAU Ireland meetings.**

1 Board meeting at the Dublin Civic Trust Building, 29th August 2018

5. **International College of Chapter Meetings.** (all online unless otherwise noted)

August 2018, October 2018, November 2018 (held at INTBAU London offices)

February 2019, March 2019, August 2019, December 2019



6. **Teaching and Education.**

Autumn 2019 – 10 week course in Classical Architecture SJC Cork taught by Hugh.

One 2019 student has expressed an interest in applying for a place at Engelsberg 2020.

Hugh is assisting her with her application where appropriate.

Hugh is now teaching traditional architectural drafting on the day-time portfolio course also at St. John's in Cork. Further development of this course is likely next term

April 2019 and March 2020 – *Hugh gave guest lectures at the School of Architecture at University College Cork on subject of archaeology, urbanism and traditional architecture.*

7. **Newsletters.**

4 online newsletters published,

December 2018, March 2019, September 2019, December 2019

Newsletters act as a digest of stories and resources shared on our social media pages. They have been widely distributed and welcomed by INTBAU colleagues overseas.

8. **Administrative Structure.**

Currently there exists no administrative structure for INTBAU Ireland.

*As some of you are aware, INTBAU Ireland had been set up originally as a limited liability company with the UK Companies office. This commercial structure proved unsuitable for the activities of an educational charity as set out in the INTBAU Constitution and so with the kind help of David Flinn, INTBAU Ireland Ltd was struck off on the **4th of April 2019.***

Under INTBAU rules all chapters should endeavour to form a board of management and this will be pursued in 2020. However any board or organisational structure must be realistically compatible with the resources that we have at our disposal such as funding and personnel who are willing to actively serve and work on a voluntary basis for the chapter in accordance with our responsibilities under the INTBAU Chapter Agreement.



Other items

9. RIAI Lutyens Bridge Competition.

November 2018 – *Hugh provided technical advice and acted as a local point of contact for a number of international architects (Fairfax and Sammon, Nir Buras & Eric Bootsma) in relation to an OPW/RIAI competition to design a footbridge at the War Memorial Gardens in Dublin.*

Hugh also attended the competition announcement at Dublin Castle (May 2019) on behalf of David Pearson of Fairfax and Sammon. See an image David's wonderful entry attached.

10. Reconstructing Belfast's Key Lost Buildings.

February 2019 – *John Smylie and David Flinn have been discussing a plan to promote the reconstruction of some of Belfast's key buildings. Discussions are at an early stage but this has the potential to be a very exciting project. The new Chair of the Belfast Civic Trust Malachi O'Doherty is to be contacted by John Smylie in relation to this.*

11. Irish "Built" Heritage Group.

September 2019. *SPAB Ireland approached a number of heritage groups in Ireland with the view to form a group of liked minded organisation and to pool resources.*

An exploratory meeting was held in January 2020 which Hugh attended in Dublin. Also at the meeting were members of SPAB Ireland, The Dublin Civic Trust, An Taisce and ICOMOS.

An informal network type of group was proposed after some discussion. Hugh has raised concerns about the name of the group which seems to prohibit new traditional buildings. He has proposed that the name should be the Irish "Building" Heritage Group and this has received some support from the Building Limes Forum. It seems unlikely that SPAB or ICOMOS will agree to this, and in this case, it would seem unlikely that INTBAU Ireland could remain part of the group.

Although it appears that it may be a dead-end for INTBAU Ireland, it has been very useful to have these discussions with groups who we should be working with.



12. **National Policy on Architecture.**

January 2020, Hugh prepared and submitted a comprehensive document as part of the public consultation process for a new National Policy on Architecture in Ireland.

Please find this document attached.

13. **Princes Foundation & Oxford Brookes Project**

January 2020, Harriet Wennberg was in touch in regards to a planned Prince's Foundation & Oxford Brookes educational project that is to be based on the town of Menlo in Galway. As a Galway native, Ronan Maguire has graciously volunteered to be a local point of contact and assist where possible.

Hugh made contact with Sarah Robinson from Oxford Brookes at an event at INTBAU London

14. **Create Streets Contacts.**

July 2018, Hugh met Nicholas Boys-Smith at an event in Cork and in subsequent communication between Hugh, Nicholas and Richard Hamilton, the idea of collaboration between Create Streets and INTBAU Ireland was discussed.

March 2019, The idea of an Irish chapter of Create Streets was floated but didn't get off the ground due to other commitments. There still is some potential for this to ahead but it relies on a dedicated team to make it a success.

15. **Professor Albert Richardson Documentary.**

September 2019, Hugh helped organise a showing of a documentary on Professor Albert Richardson as a joint Georgian Group / INTBAU event. The film was shown on January 28th 2020 with both Douglas and Hugh giving speeches at the event. Hugh also attended the INTBAU Timber Talks seminar as part of the same trip



16. **INTBAU Website op-ed**

November 2019. *Harriet Wennberg invited Hugh to write an [op-ed piece](#) for the INTBAU website based on his experiences setting up and teaching the classical architecture course in Cork. The final piece was published online in January 2020.*

17. **Traditional Architecture Map.**

December 2019, *Hugh tasked Ronan Maguire on behalf of INTBAU Ireland to make contact with Michael Diamant of “New Traditional Architecture” to assist with providing Irish input to the Atlas of Traditional Architecture resource. This process is ongoing and promises to be a very interesting piece of work.*

18. **Ronan Maguire IYP membership.**

July 2019 – *John Smylie and Hugh provided references for Ronan Maguire in his IYP (INTBAU Young Practitioner) application, Good luck Ronan!*

19. **Cork Civic Trust.**

August 2019, *Hugh was involved in a number of meetings with other local heritage professionals in relation to the formation of a new Civic Trust for Cork. The existing organisation has proved to be not fit for purpose having morphed into a marketing vehicle for businesses in Cork, thereby leaving Cork’s built heritage without an effective advocate.*