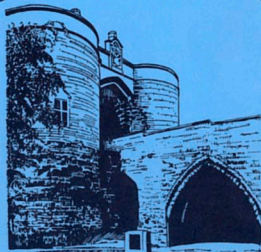


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Civic
Society**

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Editor of Newsletter: Ken Brand Tel: 263997

This Society exists to develop a worthwhile environment in Nottingham. To achieve this it encourages good architecture in all its forms, planning, and the preservation of the desirable aspects of the heritage of the city. The Society likewise will discourage, criticise and even fight bad planning, destruction of amenities and vulgarity in design.

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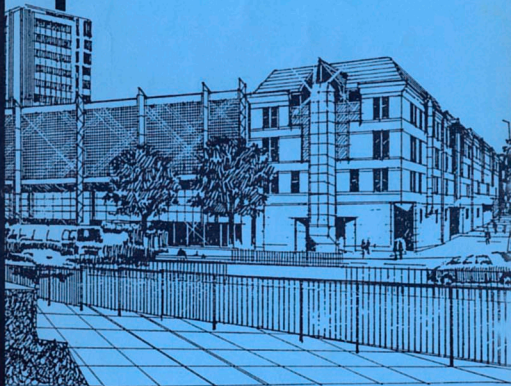
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LETTER

Nottingham
Civic Society

April 1988

76



Mount Street-Park Row redevelopment
St. Nicholas House and Butt Dyke House
Crampin and Pring Architects

50p

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There are times when I feel the Civic Society gives far too much attention to the centre of the city at the expense of what is now widely known as the 'inner city'. Many of us in our daily routine have but fleeting glances of that buffer zone between the city centre and the outer margins. We should all be concerned about the quality of life, in environmental terms, outside of conservation areas and quiet suburbs. A request for the 'greening' of Forest Fields might be more enthusiastically received if the streets were thoroughly and regularly cleaned. Maintenance is a word used here before, but it is just not sufficient to carry out some environmental improvement and then forget it. Somebody has to go back, as a matter of routine, and check it for wearing, weathering, waste and weeds.

The fact that the Victoria Centre has been and the Broad Marsh Centre is being up-graded, makes one wonder why they both opened as such gloomy places. The exterior of the Victoria Centre is still brutal, but its interior is soft peppermint and peach. The Food Court remains a very commendable innovation. The entry of daylight has transformed the Broad Marsh Centre, as yet, one cannot pass judgement on other 'cosmetic' alterations. Humanizing its bus station could be more challenging than all the labours of Hercules.

The Lace Hall is now open and a visit is very worth while. The same guiding hands of Andrew James are behind the proposed Robin Hood Centre on Maid Marian Way. I am sure all members will wish him well in this venture. Nevertheless, I wish the city made a greater fuss of its live heroes. If Robin Hood is matched by William Tell there's always Brian Clough known throughout Europe.

Ken Brand

THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

Although it is possible that the School of Architecture's roots go back to about 1740 when a School of Architectural Draughtsmanship was opened in Nottingham, it is recorded that the Nottingham Government School of Design was opened in 1843. Its earliest pupils included "architects' clerks", and the subjects taught included draughtsmanship and architectural ornament. In 1865 a separate Department of Architecture was formed, as well as Departments of Painting, Sculpture and Design. It prepared candidates for national examinations in architecture. After the First World War, the department grew steadily and in 1928 became the School of Architecture within the Nottingham College of Art. Shortly afterwards its course was recognised as giving exemption from the examinations of the Royal Institute of British Architects. In 1964 the School was transferred from the College of Art to the University.

The present Department of Architecture and Planning consists of about 150 under-graduate students, 40 students taking higher degree courses and a number of post-graduates working for higher degrees by research. There are 22 members of the academic staff; three full-time research staff, and eight technical and secretarial staff members. Four special professors, eminent architects and planners, hold part-time appointments, (including the president of the Royal Institute of British Architects) and many other visiting practitioners and academic staff contribute to teaching and research. About 30 men and women enter the School of Architecture every year as under-graduates, selected from over 1,000 applicants. This creates a compact, friendly, student group and close ties between staff and students. Thriving architectural and planning student societies organise special lectures, social gatherings and amenities for students.

At Christmas 1986, the School moved into new premises alongside The Institute of Planning Studies, in which are housed all studios, staff, computers, library, coffee bar and central support facilities and, some distance away at ground level, a series of buildings which accommodate the School's laboratories, model shop, mechanical workshop, joiner's shop and photographic and audio visual studios, together with the electronic workshop and the wind tunnel.

The Characteristics of the Nottingham School

The School of Architecture also contains Building Science. Building Science is not, therefore, a separate department as in some establishments - it is an integral part of the School. Indeed, the first degree at Nottingham, gained on completion of the first three years of the course, is a B.A. Honours Degree in Architectural and Environmental Design.

In common with all Schools, Nottingham is committed to education and training by means of project design work informed and supported by lectures and seminars. In Nottingham's case, considerable attention is given to the technological as well as to the philosophical justification of design. Tutoring of project work in architecture is on a one-to-one basis,

resulting in contact hours much greater than those in many other subjects.

The Particular Characteristics of the Nottingham School

The School enjoys excellent support from the University, for example, in order to provide for the future the University has invested a considerable sum in converting the existing premises for the School.

The School ranks fifth in overall numbers of applications for single subject courses in the University and has had an average of 30 applications per place in each of the last three years.

Of all 36 Schools in the United Kingdom, Nottingham receives the greatest number of applications for entry to the first year of the course. (1,000+).

The School usually receives some 40 serious enquiries for entry to the B.Arch. Course (Years 5 and 6) from students of other Schools - these, in addition to its own returning students.

Members of staff, both in the School and the Institute, have experience of teaching and practice in many countries. The School and the Institute attract students from many parts of the world and graduates go on to work overseas.

The School educates and trains its students to operate on an international basis. Principles, as well as practice, are taught and projects on overseas sites are a part of the programming.

In support of paragraphs 5 and 6 above, academic staff exchanges are in being with Schools in Nanjing, Singapore, Auckland, Canberra and Sydney, and invitations have been received from Schools in Concepcion, Chile, and Cali in Colombia, South America. The Planning Institute has strong links with India and Central Africa.

The presence of overseas visitors and members of staff is considered essential to the students' future and the opportunities to visit other cultures are vital to Nottingham staff, for whom there is little or no opportunity for Sabbatical leave. The links mean that architects and planners from other countries are actively engaged in projects here in Nottingham and similarly Nottingham staff take part in work overseas, bringing often, a completely different viewpoint to the project under consideration.

Links with the Profession

The School has, in addition to regular sessional part-time tutors in all years, extremely strong links with its local Society, The Nottingham and Derby Society of Architects, and with The East Midlands Region of The Royal Institute of British Architects. Each year a member of staff and two senior students are on the council of the Nottingham and Derby Society of Architects and a senior student is on the steering committee of the council of the East Midlands Region of The Royal

Institute of British Architects. The Nottingham and Derby Society of Architects and region meetings are held in the School, or on the Campus, and there is regular and extremely supportive contact between the School and the local and regional Societies. The head has been president of the Nottingham and Derby Society of Architects and chairman of the East Midlands region joint consultative committee of Builders, Architects and Surveyors upon which he is currently a council member.

From the above, it can be seen that the School places a very high priority upon its professional links, regarding them as essential to the development of professional stature and judgement.

Prof. Christopher Riley
The Nottingham School of Architecture
Department of Architecture and Planning

BOOK REVIEW

Country Houses of Nottinghamshire Mike Higginbottom
with illustrations by John Severn
The Cromwell Press, 64pp A5 format, £3.50

This is a delightful book, well and crisply written. For each of the nineteen houses described, there is enough text to interest and inform. A reading list at the back of the book points the whetted appetite in the direction for further fare.

For each house listed there is a little insight on the fluctuating fortunes of the present or former owners, and some details of the evolution of the building. John Severn's sketches are better than a pack of cards and help to fix the houses in the mind's eye. Some houses are in good repair, some are undergoing a long and costly restoration. Two, Nuthall Temple and Clumber House are no more.

This is a book to own, not to borrow nor lend. It is easy to carry around, but it could also provide a quick light read at bed-time. A Gazetteer, compiled with the co-operation of the owners and occupiers of the buildings described, provides full details of accessibility and 'phone numbers to check opening times.

Ken Brand



TIME FOR DESIGN: THE LORD MAYOR'S AWARD 1988

This award is for "A notable contribution to the quality of design in the environment of the City of Nottingham".

Following the nominations period between September and December 1987, the Time for Design Local Forum professional judges have short-listed five finalists for the public to judge.

Henry Court Housing: Launder Street, The Meadows
(Architects: Cullen, Carter, Hill)

This Housing Association scheme is built on a difficult, narrow site. The housing is on a good human scale; the integrated landscaping combines with the pleasant architecture to make a positive contribution to the area.

Gascoines: Angel Row
(Architects: William Saunders and Partners)

This was chosen for its sympathetic restoration of the corner site which makes a major contribution to the city scene and The Square.

Green's Mill: Belvoir Hill, Sneinton
(Nottingham City Council: D.E. Clegg)

Here there is excellent blending together of the old and the new in a prominent position. It makes a great contribution to Nottingham, not least of which is the open space and landscaping for the residents of Sneinton.

Boots Laboratory: Poplar Street-Island Street
(Boots Architects)

This was felt to be a good example of a cleanly designed industrial building in the modern idiom.

Barclay House: Park Row
(Architects: William Saunders and Partners)

This is a good example of modern office architecture in a prominent position.

No fewer than 41 eligible and five ineligible schemes were nominated by the public. Bearing in mind the potential 'voting' power even within the Civic Society, the overall number of nominations was a disappointing 82 (ie. 82 people in the greater Nottingham area responded). Barclay House, Park row, received 19 nominations, 34 eligible schemes each received just one nomination.

How does one stimulate interest? Is there always a far greater lobby waiting to protest about a demolition than there is to praise a building recently erected or an environmental scheme just completed? John Maslem of the City Planning Department, who has spent a great deal of time publicising the award, would certainly like to know the answers.

Ken Brand

NB. The last competition organised by the Society in conjunction with Environment Week, brought in just 15 entries even with the bait of money as prizes.

MOUNT STREET/PARK ROW REDEVELOPMENT

This month sees the completion of the first phase of the Park Row/Mount Street Redevelopment by local developers Linkmel, in conjunction with architects Crampin and Pring. The first phase has been the construction of two five-storey office blocks at the Maid Marian Way end of Park Row. The third block, which will continue the office building up to Cumberland Place, is well under way and is due for completion at the end of this year.

The office building stands on the site of the old Mount Street bus station which had been little used for several years, and in a state of disrepair, had become an unsightly waste of space in an area often considered to be one of the worst streetscapes in the country. The adjacent Mount Street car park and shopping arcade had become similarly run down; the shopping mall suffering from the fact that it is too far removed from the retail centre of the city.

From the offset, Linkmel Developments agreed to consider the refurbishment of the car park along with the office development. Hence the final phase of the present development will be to provide a completely new facade to the lifeless looking concrete clad car park. Crampin and Pring have come up with a hi-tech combination of mill finished aluminium panels and bright red steel latticed frame columns or 'pylons' as the structural support. There will also be a new glazed canopy to the shop frontage on Maid Marian Way and Mount Street. The refurbishment of the shopping mall will be carried out by the owners NCP, who are currently looking at the long term plans for the arcade.

The office building itself is an effective combination of traditional and modern styles, reflecting the surrounding Victorian and Edwardian buildings, whilst incorporating large areas of glazing which intermittently puncture the building, providing dramatic contrasts. This combination of materials and styles has become a trademark of many Crampin and Pring buildings, who have very successfully developed their own brand of modern vernacular architecture.

The new offices have drawn three very prestigious tenants. Lloyds Bank PLC have taken the centre of the three blocks, appropriately named Butt Dyke House. Butt Dyke ran in front of the original town wall, the line of which is directly below the office buildings.

St Nicholas House fronts on to Maid Marian Way and has been let to accountants Peat Marwick, McLintock. One of the main features of this building is the glass panoramic lift located inside the glazed oriel bay extending the full height of the Maid Marian Way elevation. From the street the glass box lift car in operation is a unique sight within Nottingham, and with views over the city is a stimulating experience for the passenger.

The final enhancement of the development will be the City Council's own landscaping works which are due to start this

summer. The second phase of the Maid Marian Way face-lift will take in the complete landscaping of the open space in front of the new office development. The works will include complete re-paving, new tree planting, seating and hopefully a centre piece in the form of a sculpture or statue.

CRAMPIN AND PRING

Crampin and Pring was started in Nottingham in 1977 by Bill Crampin and Mike Pring. In eleven years the Practice has grown to a staff of over 60, and has recently opened offices in London and Sheffield. Nick Marchini became a partner in 1985 and shortly afterwards Chas Kelsey, David Glazebrook and David Swarbrick were made associates. In view of the continuing steady growth of the Practice, Chas Kelsey, David Glazebrook and David Swarbrick have, this year, been made senior associates and six new associate partners have been appointed.

The Practice won the British Council of Shopping Centres Award in 1986 for White Lion Walk in Guildford, and Crampin and Pring now have several large city centre shopping developments, both on site and on the drawing board. The Practice also works extensively for the Next Retail Group and have recently designed their new office headquarters at Enderby in Leicestershire, which is presently under construction. Another large office development will be constructed in conjunction with Crampin and Pring's Guildford Station development scheme for British Rail.

(Material provided by Clive Brooks of Crampin and Pring).

[When in London look out for the new 'flag-ship' department store of Next Retail in Kensington High Street. This, the largest of Next's stores at 2,900m², has been designed by Rasheed Ali Din with architects Crampin and Pring. The redevelopment here cost approximately £3 million. Editor]

MARK OF THE MONTH

The Society's Mark of the Month has been awarded as follows:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| February: | The Fox, Valley Road
Internal, and particularly external, refurbishment carried out for Home Brewery PLC by Starr, Clifford, Carman and Kemp. |
| March: | A New Surgery for Dr A.W. Parry, 32 Turney Street
by Clarke and Wright, architects. |
| April: | Snappy Tomato Pizza, 135 Mansfield Road
New shop front, etc. by F.W.K., architects (Francis W. Keyworth) of Melton Mowbray. |

The plans for The Fox, Valley Road, came before the planning committee in February and August 1937. It was one of many public houses, inns and hotels either designed or substantially altered by the architectural partnership of William Beedham Starr and E.B.H. Hall. The firm, long under the guidance of Starr (c.1865-1953), has been noted before, particularly in its creation of the northern part of the Mapperley Park Estate. In the inter-war years, whilst its output of work was prolific, it seldom reached, or had the chance to reach, the quality of its Edwardian heyday.

Work on licenced premises was undertaken mainly for the Home Brewery Co. Ltd., James Shipstone and Sons Ltd., and the Nottingham Brewery Co. A few of these projects had special presentation perspective drawings prepared by the noted 'perspectivist' Cyril Farey. The Fox was one, but this illustration is now lost.

The list of 'pubs' is impressive. To take 1935-7 the commissions, large and small, in Nottingham alone included: The Admiral Duncan; The Star Inn (Bulwell); The Victory, Alfred Street South; The White Lion, Carlton Road; The Quorn Hotel; The Lord Roberts; The Sawyers' Arms; The Fox; The Cricket Players; and the Westdale Tavern.

Other work, which passed through a busy office at this time, ranged from new streets: St Leonard's Drive and Simon Drive (Tramby Gardens) in Wollaton; extensions to Lenton Hall Hostel (University College, Nottingham); dwelling houses, shops, through to 'Alterations to Tripe Department' (Bitterlings Ltd., Freeth Street).

Today, the practice operates from 'Beedham House' at the end of Brunel Terrace, Derby Road. Starr and Hall expanded in stages to Starr, Clifford, Carman and Kemp. Of these just Bill Kemp remains tackling with philosophical good humour, a plentiful supply of work. Perhaps he, like the rest of us, worries about the big boots of the national brewery giants. Will our 'local' be trampled into another profit station?

The Mark of the Month was awarded for the external refurbishment of The Fox. The renovation carried out has given some interest and sparkle to what had become another drab 'thirties' pub on the ring road. The exuberance of the initial proposal was restrained by the polite intervention of the Thirties Society (Ian Wells). The end result is visually pleasing. The character of the original building has been retained whilst enough has been done to show somebody cares.

Internally, little had been altered since its construction. As was then fashionable, there was a Public Bar, a Lounge, a Lounge Hall and a Cocktail Bar. The finishes, particularly in the Public Bar, were fairly basic with a cold terrazzo tile floor and painted plaster. It is a reflection on the times that the new finishes in the Public Bar are of a higher quality than the old Lounge area.

The brief for the refurbishment was a general up-grading. The Lounge was to be altered to encourage the sale of good quality food, particularly at lunch time, so adequate food preparation space had to be provided within the existing periphery of the building. The Public Bar was extended to the rear. A large

curved bay window with French doors was carefully removed from the original Cocktail Bar by the general contractors William Woodsend Ltd. The whole unit, complete with its stone head, sill and leaded glass, now forms a feature of the new Public Bar. Among smaller works, mention must be made of toilets for the disabled.

(Based in part on material given by Bill Kemp)

The new surgery for Dr Parry at 32 Turney Street, was designed by the relatively new architectural practice of Clarke and Wright (Brendan J. Clarke and Alan Wright). It has been established just over 4½ years. Like several other practices in Nottingham, this one grew out of the Architects Design Group. As Alan Wright points out the philosophies of these practices are quite different, but they do have a common care for architecture and the quality of design.

A good client is fundamental to any successful piece of architecture. Dr Parry was very enthusiastic. Although the surgery project was very small it does show that with some care and imagination, a transformation can be achieved by relatively simple means. With this the Society whole heartedly agrees.

Clarke and Wright aim to achieve quality of design, irrespective of the size or nature of the assignment. The partners are interested in all aspects of design and welcome every opportunity to provide a 'full' service. In a commission being currently undertaken for a new factory and head office the architects have total design responsibility for the building from analysis of the production to interior design, graphics, furniture and landscape.

(Thanks to Alan Wright who supplied information)

The arrival of the Snappy Tomato Pizza at 135 Mansfield Road has created a bright cheerful spot, in what is all too often a very disappointing approach to the city centre. Over the years a variety of hands have been allowed to disfigure the simple well-proportioned commercial terraces on the western side of the road. Much has been promised here, one hoped for a co-ordinated scheme, for those with long memories, like the Civic Trust's initiative in Norwich many years ago.

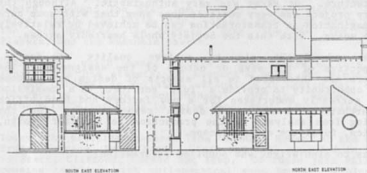
The Pizza Shop was initially in the wrong category for planning. However, the architects, Francis W. Keyworth of Melton Mowbray, were asked to prepare sketch schemes with a suitable shop front to emulate the overall renovated character that the planning department were hoping for the street. The free-hand sketches submitted were received favourably by the planners who then suggested the architects proceed. A site survey was carried out, full working drawings prepared and submitted. These were approved. The architects' involvement continued through professional back-up for the contractor and site supervision. The neat simple solution, with clear lettering should be appreciated by many, whether customer or passer-by.

(Based on information provided by F.W.K., Melton Mowbray)

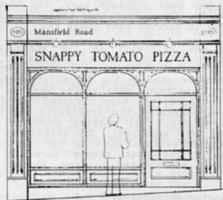
Ken Brand



The Fox, Valley Road: Mark of the Month, February 1988



Doctor's Surgery, 32 Turney Street: Mark of the Month, March 1988.



Snappy Tomato Pizza: Mark of the Month, April 1988

NEWS FROM FAMILY FIRST

Chinese Bell Tower, Arboretum

Despite the fact that much of the labour would be provided free of charge by Family First under the Community Programme, the proposed renovation project could be a very costly one. This is due to the need for contractors to carry out stone repairs/renewals and other specialised work. Ways are being examined, therefore, of reducing the potential cost to the Society and the City Council, both by minimising the work content and by seeking the help of other organisations.

An encouraging first step has been taken by enlisting the help of the 73rd I.A. Regiment of the Royal Engineers. It is hoped that the I.A. will be able to use their own equipment and personnel for the tricky work of lifting off the roof, the many heavy pieces of stone, and the four canons - and replacing them when renovated or renewed. This help would eliminate the very expensive cost of crane hire.

Church (Rock) Cemetery

Work has now begun on what could be a very long-running renovation project. Having already removed the unsightly rubbish from the Robin Hood cave and the St Ann's tunnel, work will concentrate during the first main phase on:

- * re-pointing, as necessary, of the various stone boundary and internal retaining walls
- * cleaning-up the headstones and kerbs of the graves of four particularly well-known personalities associated with Victorian Nottingham, (T.C. Hine, Watson Fothergill, Marriott Ogle Tarbotton and Anthony Mundella)
- * re-setting sunken kerbs and falling headstones in the St Andrew's Section.

Watson Fothergill Greenhouse

This interesting specimen of domestic horticultural architecture and craftsmanship, which has survived from the turn of the century, has been donated to the City Council by the former owner. Family First personnel have produced a detailed drawing of the Grade 2 listed greenhouse, dismantled it (together with the original heating system) and taken it to the Radford Mill workshops where it will be repaired during the coming months. Watson Fothergill's creation will then be re-erected in the.....(bringing us to the next project)....

Wollaton Park Walled Nursery Garden

Preparations are being made for a collaborative project involving several departments of the City Council, the Wollaton Park Advisory Group, the Civic Society and Family First. The intention is to re-build the missing half of the central dividing wall and to repair the other half, along with the massive boundary wall of what was the nursery and kitchen garden serving the needs of the Willoughby family and their guests at Wollaton Hall.

A special feature of these old walls is the clever way in which they were heated by means of in-built fire holes and a network of flues, thus permitting the growth of peaches and other fruits outdoors.

Believe it or not, this proposal was under consideration before the BBC screened last year, its 13 part programme 'The Victorian Kitchen Garden'. Having seen that series, and read Jennifer Davies's handsome book of the same title, a group of people involved in the planning of the Wollaton project went to Chilton Foliat Gardens (Berkshire) to see for themselves what was achieved by the BBC restoration scheme. This experience gave further impetus for the Wollaton plan - even more ambitious in that it deals with a much bigger area and has provision for the re-creation of a series of period garden furniture.

Postscript: Work in the Church (Rock) Cemetery

T.C. Hine's Grave

The stone base has been exposed and cleaned, revealing the following inscriptions:

- Side 1 Thomas Chambers Hine
Born May 31, 1813, Died Feb 6, 1899
- Side 2 Mary the wife of Thomas Chambers Hine
Born March 15, 1813, Died Christmas Eve 1893
- Side 3 Annie youngest daughter of Thomas Chambers Hine
(opposite side 2) Born July 14, 1845, Died Aug 3, 1919

The metal ornamental cross has been cleaned of rust and painted black. The earth around the stone has been cleaned and will be grass-seeded by cemetery staff.

Mundella

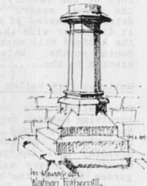
After work had started on this grave some vandals broke the stonework into several pieces, but this has now been repaired by the project team. (A stonemason who was working in the cemetery expressed satisfaction with the workmanship!)



In Memory of
T.C. Hine.



In Memory of
Mary Chambers Hine.



In Memory of
Annie Chambers Hine.

THE STRETTONS OF LENTON

Some time around 1750 Samuel Stretton, born at Longdon about three miles north of Lichfield, Staffordshire, in 1731-2, moved to Lenton. He became a successful bricklayer, and eventually he set up as a builder in Nottingham. In 1754 he married, at Lenton, Elizabeth Wombwell, the daughter of a wealthy local yeoman; in the following year William, the first of his six children (three boys and three girls) was born.

In due course William joined his father's business, and by 1791 the firm was known as S. and W. Stretton. Prior to this Samuel Stretton had certainly established a reputation locally as a builder. In 1765 he leased from the council some waste ground on Carter Gate for building purposes at 2/6d per annum for 40 years. 1769 was a particularly momentous year for him, for not only did he erect the first cotton mill in England at the bottom of Goose Gate in Nottingham, but in partnership with William Roberts (another builder), Michael Kayes and John White (both carpenters), he unsuccessfully tendered for the building of James Gandon's new 'County Hall' on High Pavement, Nottingham. In 1776 he built Colwick Hall to the designs of John Carr of York, for whom he put up the Grandstand on the Nottingham (Forest) Racecourse in the following year. Samuel Stretton undertook various assignments for the town and county authorities. He worked on the Town Hall (Guildhall) at Weekday Cross in 1777. In July 1786 Stapleford Bridge was ordered to be repaired according to the estimates he submitted. In the same year, and again in 1789, he acted as assessor for estimates for the repair and rebuilding of East Bridgford Church and Keyworth Bridge respectively. A 'Mr Stretton' was engaged to prepare plans for the rebuilding of the County Gaol, perhaps related to the visits by John Howard, F.R.S., the penal reformer, in 1782 and 1788. Whether it was father or son is not recorded. Little is known of Samuel's other work at this time; Milford Hall (1781) by William Henderson of Loughborough is one exception.

As the 1790s progressed so William became the major force in the partnership. His all round ability as a surveyor, architect and builder brought him a steady flow of work from the Town Council. He became, in effect, an unofficial borough surveyor. In 1792-3 for example, at the request of the council, he prepared 31 plans and surveys and attended a number of committee meetings. For this he received £36-0-10d.

By 1799 Samuel had retired and was listed in local directories as a gentleman of Pannier Row. He died on May 11, 1811, and was buried at Lenton. The important work undertaken by S. and W. Stretton in the late 1780s and 1790s is fairly well recorded and forms an impressive list. Their projects were wide ranging, most memorable were: The Navigation Inn (1787); Lord Midleton's Wollaton Park Gateway (1790); the Cavalry Barracks, built in the north west corner of Nottingham Park (1792-3) for the Barrack Master General on land leased from the Duke of Newcastle (they were enlarged in 1797/8/9 bringing the overall cost to over £20,000); the Riding School for the Nottingham Troop of Yeomanry, Castle Road (1798); the rebuilding of the Seven Arch Bridge on the Flood (London) Road (1796-7); several early warehouses/factories, including Green and Killingley's Bleach Yard, Lenton (1797) and the laying out and building of the first houses in Rick's Garden (1791). It is possible that

they carried out the alterations to the Assembly Room(s), Low Pavement, for John Carr in 1790. In 1788-9 Messrs. Stretton prepared plans and specifications for a new town gaol, on the site of the old at Weekday Cross. They erected, or improved, a number of gentlemen's residences in Nottingham and the surrounding area.

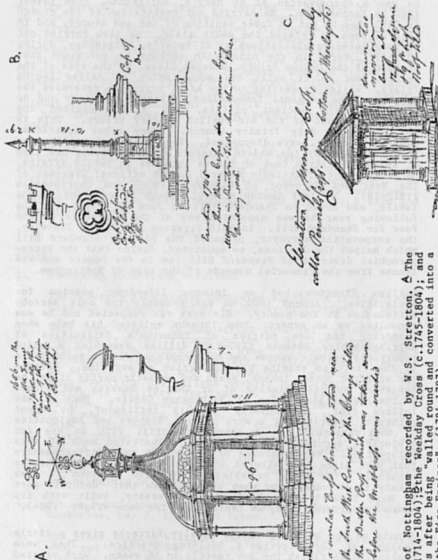
The Strettons were associated with the introduction of new materials into the town. In 1790 William brought to Nottingham the first cargo of slates from the Llandegai Quarry of Lord Penrhyn. He appears to have had close association with the construction of the first boat on the Nottingham Canal. This was the 'Nottingham Castle', 67ft long and capable of carrying 70 tons. When Hollow Stone was widened in 1796-7 as part of the improvements to that entrance to the town, S. and W. Stretton were contracted to lay there the first Mount Sorrel Paving in Nottingham. An earlier paving contract was for Sheep Lane (in 1863-4 improved to form Market Street) in 1790 for £13-3-2d. Perhaps inevitably, rather later, on February 18, 1818, William Stretton was one of a committee of nine appointed to carry into practice the intentions of the newly formed Gas Light Company.

William Stretton acted at times as surveyor for the Newcastle family. In 1800 the Dowager Duchess of Newcastle asked the architect William Wilkins, senior, to make a survey of Nottingham Castle; the Newcastle's local agent, John Deakin, persuaded Wilkins to let Stretton undertake the work - as a local he would be quicker (and cheaper). His plan of the principal floor of the Castle survives.

Later (c.1805) Stretton prepared a manuscript map of Nottingham Park, the Castle and its Grounds and the King's Meadows. He was also involved with the sale and the later controlled development of the Standard Hill area. Naturally, he was one of the signatories of its original lease (1807); he designed and built St James' Standard Hill (1807-8) and three of the first houses erected there (1810-14).

William Stretton's talents as surveyor and cartographer may be admired by examining his 'Original Plan of Nottingham' at a scale of 50in to 1 mile compiled c.1803-4. Although he did not move to Standard Hill until 1814, he did much of his work in Nottingham. He was associated with two inns in the town. In 1781 he allegedly designed, built, and ran the Milton's Head Hotel at the corner of Milton Street and Parliament Street. It is more likely that he renovated it and held its lease. In 1797 he bought the New Inn, Long Row, and rebuilt it soon after.

One of William's most interesting assignments was the modification of the front of the old Exchange Building during 1815. On January 13 and 14 he supervised the removal of the 'Change' clock and the Figure of Justice. The diameter of the clock face was reduced from 9ft 4in to 7ft, the brass and copper numerals were renewed and gilded. The pediment was re-styled and the clock was replaced on August 19. "...the masonry and Carvers Work of the whole being done by W. Stretton". His skill as a monumental mason on a smaller scale can be seen in the churchyard of St Peter's, Oxtou, and inside St Andrew's, Skegby. His stone-yard was in Cow Lane (Clumber Street).



Lost features of Nottingham recorded by W.S. Stretton. [▲] The Malt Cross (c.1714-1800) [□] the Weekday Cross (c.1745-1804); and [⊔] the Monday Cross after being walled round and converted into a repository for the Fire Engines, (1724-1787).

He was a churchwarden at St Mary's, Nottingham, from Easter 1802 to Easter 1806. He carried out restoration of the church in 1812 when he put in tower vaulting of oak and stucco, and in 1818-20 when he refaced the south aisle. He also carried out various interior alterations at St Peter's, Nottingham, during 1812-13. Early in the nineteenth century he purchased that portion of the Lenton Priory, Demesne Close, by the side of the Priory, and on it built his house which he called Lenton Priory. Whilst excavating on the site, trying to determine the layout of the original foundations, Stretton not only dug up seven splendid ancient pillars, but also unearthed the magnificent font of the mid-twelfth century priory. This is now housed in Holy Trinity Church. Many other artefacts, especially tiles, were discovered. The Stretton house has now been enveloped by the modern Nazareth House. During his time at Lenton, Stretton took an active interest in public affairs. He filled most effectively several parish offices: Overseer of the Poor and Surveyor of Highways (1806) and Churchwarden (1810-16). He left Lenton Priory, though it remained in the family, and moved to Standard Hill on June 25, 1814. In the following year he was appointed one of the Overseers of the Poor for Standard Hill. In 1818 Stretton and Edward Staveley, the corporation surveyor, prepared the plan of Standard Hill which helped the Justices, so appointed, decide that the extra-parochial district of Standard Hill lay in the county and was immune from the financial demands of the town of Nottingham.

William Stretton had an intense life-long passion for antiquities. Around 1800 he was probably the only serious antiquarian in the county. His work was respected and he was consulted as an expert; John Throsby enlisted his help when preparing his new edition of Thoroton's Antiquities of Nottinghamshire between 1790-6. William assembled a quite remarkable private museum and he encouraged fellow enthusiasts of the virtu to examine his collection at any time. Besides the expected coins, tokens, seals and monastic paving tiles, he possessed an oil painting of Dr Charles Deering and Robert Smithson's original plan of Nottingham Castle. Much of his leisure time, particularly in his retirement, he spent gathering material for a work on the 'History and Antiquities of Nottinghamshire'. A competent artist with an eye for historical accuracy and detail, he illustrated much of this information. Many features of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire that have since been altered or destroyed have been faithfully recorded. The taste or spirit of William Stretton is most likely to be understood when one examines that 'Gothick' part of Hugh Stewart Hall, Nottingham University, built with its seven castellated bays, as Lenton Hall for John Wright (1804).

A note on the building of the Cavalry Barracks gives a little insight of the Stretton's building practice. They were contracted to finish the job (part?) in 16 weeks. Work started in August 1792 and the Musketry Barracks and Stables, the Riding School, Guard House, Smith's Shops, Hay-barn and Hospital, were inhabitable in about four months. By the following June, a working period in total of eight months, the officers' houses, stone-houses, fence walls and other buildings were completed "...at an expense of £11,500 notwithstanding there was an uncommon scarcity of bricks, and a severe winter to contend with".

William married Susanna Lynam of Eakring at Eakring by licence on June 22, 1778. Susanna was born in August 1757 and she died on December 7, 1815, and is buried at Lenton. They had six children and each was given an uncommon christian name commencing with the letter 'S': Stella (1779-1818); Sempronius (1781-1842), a much-travelled army man who attained the rank of Colonel, a C.B., a Gold Medal (Pyrenees) and the Silver Medal (Waterloo); Severus (1783-1785); Salacia (1784-?); Sabina (1787-?); and Severus William Lynam (1793-1884), another Colonel, severely wounded at Vittoria (1813). He recuperated at his father's house at Lenton before resuming his army career.

Little is known of the last years of William's life. He returned to Lenton Priory where he died March 12, 1828, in his seventy-third year "after a long and painful affliction, sustained with true christian fortitude and resignation". As the Nottingham Journal put it "In his antiquarians have lost a fund of general and useful knowledge, and the poor a warm and benevolent friend".

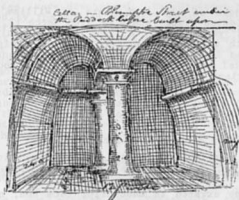
Ken Brand

Notes

1. According to William Stretton!
2. The Stretton partnership estimated £2,737, a little higher than the successful bid of £2,500 by Mr Pickford of Derby.
3. This long existed in manuscript form and, no doubt, was intended as a family contribution to William's book on the history of the county. T.C. Hine (1813-99), Nottingham's pre-eminent Victorian architect, acquired the collection of Stretton papers and is considered to have used them when compiling his curious erratic book 'Nottingham, Its Castle, A Military Fortress, A Royal Palace, A Ducal Mansion, A Blackened Ruin, A Museum and Gallery of Art'. This was published in 1876. An enlarged second edition, with a supplement covering the formal opening of the new Castle Museum by the Prince of Wales on July 3, 1878, came out in 1879. The first edition was influential in Hine being elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries (F.S.A.) in 1876. The Stretton Manuscripts were edited and privately printed in 1910.
4. For a brief note by a client see the Diary of Abigail Gawthorne, May 7, 1792, and later.
5. The elder William Wilkins, father of the more illustrious son, was from c.1780, agent to the 1st Viscount Newark of Thoresby Hall, who became Earl Mansvers in 1806. Locally, Wilkins is noted as the architect of Donington Park (mainly 1793) for the 2nd Earl of Moira. Humphrey Repton, the great English landscape gardener, considered Donington one of the "most correct specimens of true Gothic recently built", a recommendation certain to appeal to William Stretton.
6. N.R.O. No.24L reproduced in the Civic Society's 'The Park Estate, Nottingham'.

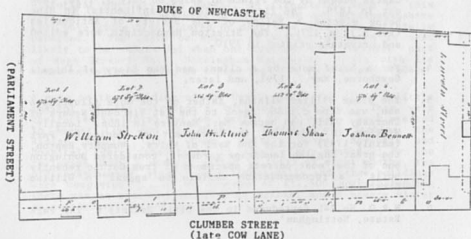
7. This actually exists as a book of small numbered sections (N.R.O. No.MB630). Each section links with the adjoining sections.
8. William Stretton excavated in the vicinity of his Cow Lane (Clumber Street) yard; leased from the Duke of Newcastle. He claimed to have unearthed part of the original Gothic foundations of the nearby Thurland Hall, Newcastle property, (no doubt, with the Duke's approval).

Part of this text has appeared in the 'Lenton Listener'.



Cellar in Plumtre Street under the Paddock before built upon (c.1797)

Mr Stretton's stoneyard at the northern end of Clumber Street (late Cow Lane) c.1811.

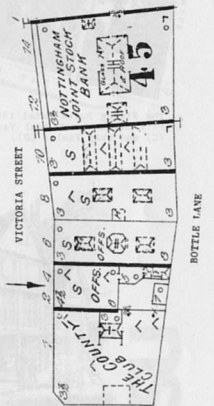
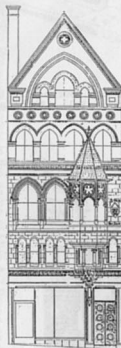


T.C. HINE AND SON, VICTORIA STREET

In October 1871 T.C. Hine submitted a planning application for some offices at the bottom of Victoria Street. The plans were approved, building commenced and some time during 1872 T.C. Hine and Son, architects and surveyors, moved at last into their own offices: 2 [4] Victoria Street, adjoining the County Club (by Hine 1869). What is significant about this event is that for some 25 years an architect as busy and as successful as Hine worked from drawing offices in his own home, 25 Regent Street.

For those who thought Hine's mint mark was a circular air vent containing an eight pointed star, a glance at the drawing of the elevation of his office will confirm their conjecture. High up on the facade is a line of eight such vents. Alas, the office has long gone. In 1920-1 this distinctive building disappeared when, what was then the London Joint City and Midland Bank extended its premises. Only a keen and informed eye can now pick out the location of the practice of T.C. Hine and Son, Victoria Street.

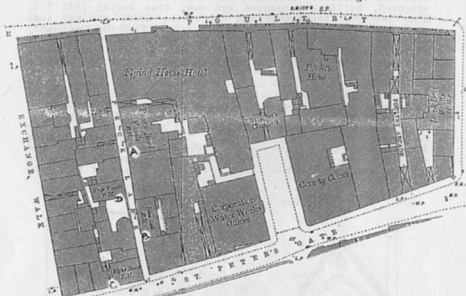
Ken Brand



BRIDLESMITH GATE

The Flying Horse Hotel

As the new shopping arcade is taking shape, it is interesting to recall the recent evolution of the building.



The Flying Horse Hotel 1881. Notice the four public houses on Pack Lane: Punch Bowl Vaults (A), Blue Ball (B), Eight Bells (C) and Ship Vaults (D).



The Flying Horse Hotel c.1870, a contemporary painting.



The old Flying Horse Hotel, viewcard 1920s.



T. Wallis Gordon, Esq.,
City Engineer & Surveyor,
Guildhall,
N O T I N G H A M.

9th November, 1934.

Dear Sir,

RE: FLYING HORSE HOTEL, NOTTINGHAM.

I have had a perspective drawing prepared of the front of the above hotel as it would appear if the alterations we propose are carried out, also of the ...

D. G. Millett

ARCHT. SOC.

The Flying Horse Hotel 1934 as recreated by D.G. Millett, A.R.I.B.A., architect to Trust Houses Limited. The decorative plasterwork was based on the Rose and Crown at Saffron Waldron in Essex.

Dear Editor

The Rebuilding of the Thurland Hall, p.8

I refer to your article entitled the 'Thurland Hall' which appeared in the January 1988 issue of the Newsletter. You mention that attached to Gilbert S. Doughty's plans for the intended rebuilding of the Thurland Hall Hotel, were plans and elevations of the existing premises on the site, and that Doughty had his own offices on the first floor of that building, the upper floors of which were known as Britannia Chambers, 17 Pelham Street.

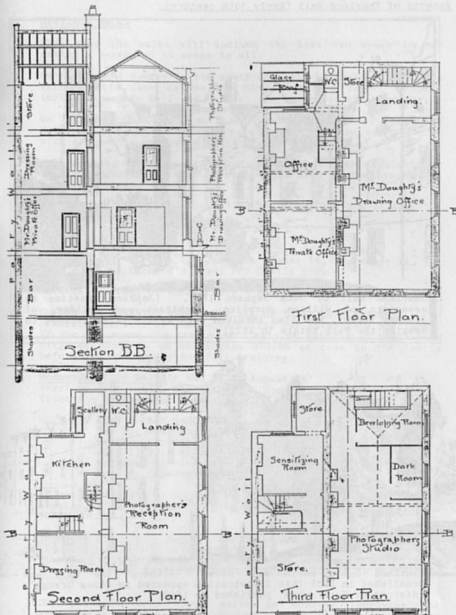
It is also worthwhile to record that the second and third floors of Britannia Chambers were at one time used by a number of Nottingham's photographers. From the viewpoint of a photographic historian, these plans are particularly interesting, for they reveal a comparatively rare glimpse of a late nineteenth century professional photographer's working arrangements. The accompanying illustration shows that on the second floor there was a spacious reception room together with an adjacent dressing room. On the third floor, in addition to the studio, there was a small dark room which was used for loading the glass plates into the plate holder prior to the latter being inserted into the camera. Another room was reserved for developing the plates after they had been exposed in the studio; a separate area being reserved for sensitizing the paper by washing it with silver nitrate. On the roof was a 'glass-house' in which was undertaken the daylight printing of the paper.

The first photographer to use Britannia Chambers may have been Robert Belshaw. One of his extant photographs bears an imprint of that address and it is possible that he was present during the early 1880s, although as yet, no documentary evidence has been discovered to authenticate this dating. It is known, however, that the firm of James Brown (a company which had branches in several provincial towns) was there between 1885 and 1888. Albert E. Walker, who had been the manager at Brown's, then continued the business under his own name for a short period. The final occupant was Ephraim P. Short, and according to a description of his premises in 'Nottingham-Illustrated' (1892), the studio was "large and well equipped, containing cameras, scenery, furniture, and everything necessary to make a good picture as well as an accurate portrait". This review of Short's business was also accompanied by an illustration of his "comfortably appointed and well furnished" reception room.

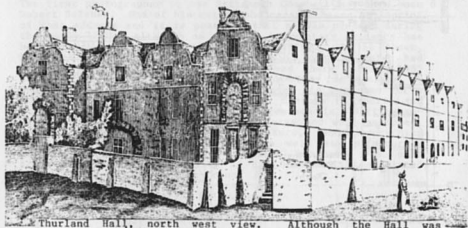
Pauline F. Heathcote

CORRECTION

I have been asked to point out that Carter, Walker Associates were incorrectly credited with being quantity surveyors for the renovation of 21-23 Castle Gate (Newsletter 75). They were, in fact, project co-ordinators. [Editor]



Floor plans of the old Thurland Hall Public House showing that part facing Pelham Street, known as Britannia Chambers. Mr Doughty's Drawing Office was on the first floor, the Photographer's Reception Room was on the second floor and the Photographer's Studio and Work Rooms were on the third floor.



"The Church is well built on an Eminence: a faire house of the L. Clares, another of Pierepoints, an ample Merkeat place..."

The Diary of John Evelyn, August 14-15, 1654

HERITAGE WALKS

REGIONS OF THE FUTURE

This year the walks will include the last two weeks in May making a season of 14 weeks in all.

On the second Sunday in the month we shall be re-introducing an extra Castle tour to include King Richard's Tower, by kind invitation of Mr Bell and Mr Lee, the owners of the property.

No firm decision has been reached on the future of the Shire Hall, but we will be able to take tours until the end of July, with a possible extension up to the end of August.

Full details of these tours and others should be available on leaflets distributed by the City Department of Tourism, but a summary follows.

Sunday Castle Tours - March 27 to September 25, 2pm to 4pm.

- a) Mortimer's Hole
- b) King David's Dungeon

In addition to a) and b) - second Sunday in the month
April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, September 11

- c) King Richard's Tower and Castle grounds

Tickets for each of these tours - Adults 30p, Children 15p

GUIDES ARE URGENTLY NEEDED FOR ALL OF THESE CASTLE TOURS

otherwise we will be unable to fulfil our advertised programme. If you can spare the time please help by getting in touch with Margaret Harrison on Nottingham 652666 or come to the Castle before 2pm any Sunday for full training.

Wednesday City Walks - May 25 to August 24

Starting from inside the Gatehouse Shop at 7.30pm.

Tickets - Adults 60p, Children, OAPs and Students 40p

- 1) Lace Market and Georgian Nottingham
May 25, June 15, July 6, 27, August 17
- 2) Regency Nottingham and the Park
June 1, 22, July 13, August 3, 24
- 3) Medieval Nottingham
June 8, 29, July 20, August 10

If you would like to be a guide, and have not already received details, please get in touch with David Newham on Nottingham 607819.

Thursday Shire Hall Tours - May 26 to August 25

Starting and ending in the Shire Hall.

Tickets - Adults 60p, Children, OAPs and Students 40p

For further details please contact Stan Saunders on Nottingham 231335.

The proceeds from these walks go towards improving the environment and **NOT** to the Society funds. Your assistance is vitally important, so please help when you can. We do need your full support.

Cliff Deane, Walks Department

MEMBERS AND NUMBERS

For some unknown reason the world is fascinated by the figure 100. Napoleon had 100 days between his two periods of exile, and presidents and prime ministers are granted the same period to settle in office. One hundred wickets, runs, goals, or mph are celebrated and a centenarian receives Royal congratulations.

Now the Society has achieved the magical figure with only 100 subscriptions outstanding at the end of March. A great improvement on previous years, **BUT REALLY 100 TOO MANY.**

We have now opened a GIROBANK account No. 40 426 1803. This is in addition to, and in no way affects our long-standing banking facilities with the National Westminster.

There is no cost to the Society and it has been invaluable in simplifying, and hence cutting, the work involved in dealing with subscriptions. It will also be of benefit to GIROBANK members and could help those without bank accounts. (Further details in the January Newsletter).

The reduction of the standard rate of income tax in the Budget has meant that the Society now receives less refund on covenants than before, in fact, since the rate was 30% we have lost 14p on every £1 of covenanted subscriptions. (Other charities, eg. the National Trust, have also pointed this out to their members).

This loss of income could be counteracted by more members taking out a covenant.

THE REPAYMENT comes directly from the INLAND REVENUE at NO COST WHATSOEVER TO THE MEMBER.

So, please ask me for a covenant form NOW whilst it is still in your mind (DON'T WAIT TILL THE YEAR END). Your commitment only lasts as long as your membership. Call me also if you want any further information on Nottingham 473359.

Cliff Deane
Membership Secretary

Local buildings of importance listed recently by the Department of the Environment include the Shire Hall, the Council House, Pearsons and the Norris Alms Houses.

The saga of Lambert's Factory continues. Not long after details were released of your chairman's feasibility study for its possible re-use as an exhibition centre, came the dramatic news of the fire. The extent of the fire damage was not as bad as at first thought. ("Thanks to Victorian standards of construction", observed the chairman). The news that "Lambert's can be saved" was quickly and surprisingly followed by the report of the sale of Lambert's Factory to Pickering Investments for an unconfirmed figure below, apparently, a realistic market price. The next moves must be carefully watched and monitored.

TOURS AND VISITS 1988

Once again we have put together a very interesting and varied programme for your enjoyment. Several of the visits involve quite long journeys, for which an early and prompt start is essential.

Woodthorpe Grange Nursery

It is many years since our last visit to this, the main City Council nursery. Here is an opportunity to see a working nursery in action and I am sure many of our gardening members will be able to pick up a few tips. We are indebted to Thoresby Bradley for inviting us to his home, 42 Wensley Road, which is nearby, for coffee and biscuits. Those of you with buses to catch may not all be able to stay, but we hope as many as possible will do so. The number on each evening is limited to 25. Tickets will be issued and early application is advisable. **Tuesday, June 7 and Thursday, June 9.**

Gloucester

An important centre dating back to Roman times when it was a fortified port built for the invasion of Wales in the first century A.D. The glory of the city is the cathedral, one of the most beautiful buildings in Britain, the history of which goes back to the time of the Norman Conquest. It was an important port in former times and the docks area and the warehouses are being extensively refurbished and put to new uses. A new National Waterways Museum has opened this year in one of those warehouses. We shall be shown round by members of the Gloucester Civic Trust. **Saturday, June 18.**

Derby

Our near neighbour has been much changed in recent years - not entirely for the better! It is still a very interesting city with much historic evidence of its past as an important market town, and later as a thriving industrial centre. It is some years since we last paid it a visit. We shall be conducted by members of the Derby Civic Society. **Tuesday, June 28.**

Norwich

East Anglia's flourishing capital, a city shaped by 1,000 years of history. At one time a major centre for the lucrative wool trade. It is a beautiful and ancient cathedral city, full of old world charm and a long and historic tradition surviving alongside a busy commercial and shopping centre. Our guides will be members of the Norwich Society, who will join us for tea at Wensum Lodge. Note that the cost of **£6.90** includes tea. **Saturday, July 9.**

Tour of Family First Projects

The Family First Projects Agency has undertaken a number of projects for the Society, starting with the Boathouse at Wollaton Park, with which was associated the impressive Dovecote in the Stable Block, and going on to the Icehouses and

the historic Dovecote in Wollaton Village. We shall visit these but, in addition, the Agency has been concerned with many schemes of refurbishment in the city and members will be able to see a comprehensive cross-section of these. We shall be shown round by Eddie Woolrich, who is a member of our executive committee and is the Group Development Manager of the parent body, Family First Training Services Ltd. **Tuesday, August 9.**

Leamington Spa and Warwick

Two very different towns, but complementing each other and conveniently placed for a day's visit. The first, a famous spa with many fine Georgian, Regency and early Victorian Buildings, the second, a mediaeval walled town boasting many historic buildings from that period, together with later Georgian houses. We shall not have time to visit Warwick Castle, which requires a day in itself - perhaps another time! We shall be shown round by members of the Warwick and Leamington Societies. Please note that there may be an additional charge for tea. **Saturday, September 17.**

Application forms enclosed with this Newsletter

The first lecture of the winter season takes place on **Tuesday, September 13, 7.30pm** at the Cathedral Hall, College Street. Tony Aspbury (Town Planning and Development Consultant, Secretary of Newark Civic Trust), will speak on 'The Millgate Revival: the Renaissance of a Rundown Urban Area'.

Ray Banks



RECORD YEAR FOR CITY TOURISM (Headline Nottingham Arrow, March 1988).