



HERITAGE *of* LONDON TRUST

Projects offered grants: January 2009

St Leonard's Shoreditch, Shoreditch High Street. Hackney. Grade I

St Leonard's was designed by the City surveyor George Dance the Elder (1736-40). On its western side, the churchyard is surrounded by fine cast iron baluster railings with arrow finials, set into a low brick and stone wall. There are also three wrought and cast-iron gates with decorative scroll work. The northernmost gate and railings date from the late 18th century. These are now in a poor state – scrollwork and finials are damaged or missing, and there are areas of rust. There is also subsidence affecting the walls and railings. The total cost for conservation and repair of the gates and railings is estimated to be £98,700. English Heritage is expected to assist with up to £80,000. The Trustees have agreed a grant of £4,000 to ensure this important restoration is completed. This amount includes an anonymous donation of £750.



St. Bartholomew's, Westwood Hill, Sydenham, Lewisham. 1832. Grade II*

St. Bartholomew's, Sydenham is a substantial church built of London stock brick with some unusual Arts and Crafts decoration in the chancel by Henry Wilson (1901–1910). The church is well cared for and has a lively congregation with good links to local schools. In 2003 the Trust grant-aided the restoration of the tomb of the workman killed when Crystal Palace was re-erected at Sydenham. They now need help to restore the dial works of the clock, which seized up in 2005 due to corrosion. The clock has two faces. Smith of Derby, the clock specialists, have assessed the clock and reported that “it will be necessary to remove the hands from the dial so that the dial works can be removed from within, stripped and all corrosion cleaned off the tubes.” This work will cost £1,822 plus VAT and a further £1,725 plus VAT is needed to cover repairs to the south dial. Lewisham Council are unable to help. The Trust has therefore offered a grant of £2,000 towards the work.



St. George's Church, Little Russell Street, Bloomsbury, Camden. Grade I

St. George's Bloomsbury has recently been magnificently restored with the help of the World Monuments Fund. The Heritage of London Trust contributed towards this work by making a grant of £2,500 towards the carving of a stone plinth for the font – this grant was paid in 2008. The church has discovered that the clock is in need of cleaning and minor repairs – this was not part of the WMF project. Church funds are currently stretched as they have found it difficult to find a new tenant for the undercroft in the financial downturn. The clock is important, having been designed by Benjamin Lewis Vulliamy, clockmaker to the royal family. The work is expected to cost £2,000 plus VAT and the Trust has offered a grant of £2,000.



**The George Tavern, 373 Commercial Road. Tower Hamlets. Grade II
Built 1820-5, remodelled c.1862. Interior remodelled 1891 by RA Lewcock.**

The George Tavern stands on a prominent site at the corner of the Commercial Road in Stepney. The site comprises what was once the Halfway House, a Jacobean coaching Inn (Samuel Pepys mentioned eating here in the 1660s). The Halfway House was partly demolished around 1802-1804 when the Commercial Road was laid out to create an artery between the East and West India Docks and the City. However, parts of the George Tavern may pre-date 1802. The building is used for photo shoots and by many local charities, and the owner undertakes charitable work with local people, including free dinners for the poor at Christmas. The Tavern is currently in need of substantial repairs to the leaking roof, exterior



brickwork/rendering and sash windows. The work is expected to cost in excess of £80,000. An application for a grant will be put forward to Tower Hamlets in 2009, and they are expected



to be supportive. While a pub is not a typical project for the Trust, traditional pubs are under great pressure, and this is also a significant local building. The Trust has therefore offered £2,000 towards restoring decorative woodwork on the exterior.

**October Gallery, 24 Old Gloucester Street. Camden. Grade II
Former St George the Martyr Girls School, 1863-4 by SS Teulon**

This former school houses the October Gallery, a charitable organisation set up in 1978 to promote an appreciation of international arts and culture. The building is of stock brick with stone dressings and a slate roof in a restrained Gothic style with arched windows. These windows have been used to



good effect to provide light and airy exhibition/meeting spaces within, and the building has been thoughtfully converted, retaining historic features. There are exhibition spaces, a theatre, café, and a courtyard garden. The building hosts a range of events and educational programmes for children, school groups and adults, including concerts, art classes, and lectures. They have recently discovered that the floor of the theatre space on the 2nd floor has begun to bow inwards and is



becoming dangerous (*note the curve to floor in picture, right*). Steel beams must be inserted to stabilise and support the structure. This is expected to cost over £200,000. £55,000 has so far been raised towards these costs. The Trust has offered a grant of £2,000 to help with their fundraising efforts.

The Medieval Mikveh, from Milk Street, City of London. To be installed in the Jewish Museum. Camden.

The Jewish Museum is currently undertaking £4.2 million HLF backed- redevelopment project, which will triple its space at its Camden Town site and bring together all its collections and activities, previously divided between sites in Camden Town and Finchley. A major feature in the new museum will be a medieval mikveh (Jewish ritual bath), excavated by the Museum of London in 2001 in Milk Street in the City. Dating from the mid-13th century, it is a very rare physical trace of London's medieval Jewish population, providing evidence of the religious and cultural life led by the community prior to their expulsion from England in 1290. The mikveh is currently held in storage. It will be reassembled and installed in the enlarged Museum on the ground floor, giving all an opportunity to see this rare and important object. The mikveh project does not come under the HLF grant. It is expected to cost £138,000 to complete its installation. The Museum has received a £100,000 grant from the Edmond J. Safra Foundation. An additional £38,000 is still required to meet the installation and display costs. The Trust has offered a grant of £4,000 towards this.



Manor House, Manor Farm, Pinn Way, Ruislip. Hillingdon. Scheduled Ancient Monument. House, Grade II.

Manor Farm along with the Great Barn and Small Barn (now a library) are listed buildings on an ancient site which belongs to the Borough of Hillingdon. The house is used as an education centre, with interactive, interpretative displays on local history. They wish to restore a section of wallpaper which was discovered in 2007 when a section of Georgian panelling in the entrance hall of the Manor House was removed for repair. English Heritage curator Treve Rosoman has assessed the paper and believes it to be the work of Abraham Price of the Blew Wallpaper Warehouse, Aldermanbury. It dates from 1700-1710. As its value is largely derived from its being left *in situ*, Manor House would like to have the wallpaper conserved and consolidated where it is, with protective Perspex panels for its display. This is expected to cost £2,300 – as the wallpaper was found after the HLF grant was agreed, their funding cannot be used for this project. The Trust has therefore agreed a grant of £2,000 to help with this.



The Maze, Crystal Palace Park, Bromley. Laid out by Joseph Paxton, 1857.

This project was brought to us by the London Development Agency. In association with Bromley Council and English Heritage, the LDA are looking to implement a master plan for the restoration of the Park, which was altered in the 1960s. This major scheme which will restore landscaping and buildings within the park is expected to cost £70 million. Before the master plan goes ahead, there is a plan to restore the Maze, which was part of Paxton's original scheme, though it was not completed until 1872. The restoration of the planting and pathways will include a monument to celebrate 100 years of the Girl Guides –this will consist of granite blocks from the original Crystal Palace arranged to create seating. The project is estimated to cost £150,000 and the Trust has offered a grant of £4,000 towards this.