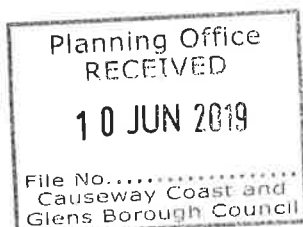




Department for
Communities
www.communities-ni.gov.uk

ADVANCE NOTICE OF LISTING

Head of Planning
Local Planning Office
Cloonavin
66 Portstewart Road
Coleraine
BT52 1EY



**Historic Environment Division
Heritage Buildings Designation
Branch
Ground Floor
9 Lanyon Place
Town Parks
Belfast
BT1 3LP**

Direct Tel No: 02890819336

Our Ref: HB05/10/018C

Date: 07/06/2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

LISTING OF BUILDINGS OF SPECIAL ARCHITECTURAL OR HISTORIC INTEREST

RE: LIME KILNS AT THE HARBOUR, HARBOUR ROAD, BALLINTOY, BALLYCASTLE, CO ANTRIM, BT54

At present, the listing of the above-mentioned property is being considered under section 80(1) of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.

I would welcome receipt of your offices views on the proposed Listing within 6 weeks of the date of this Letter. *Comments received outside this period will not normally be considered.*

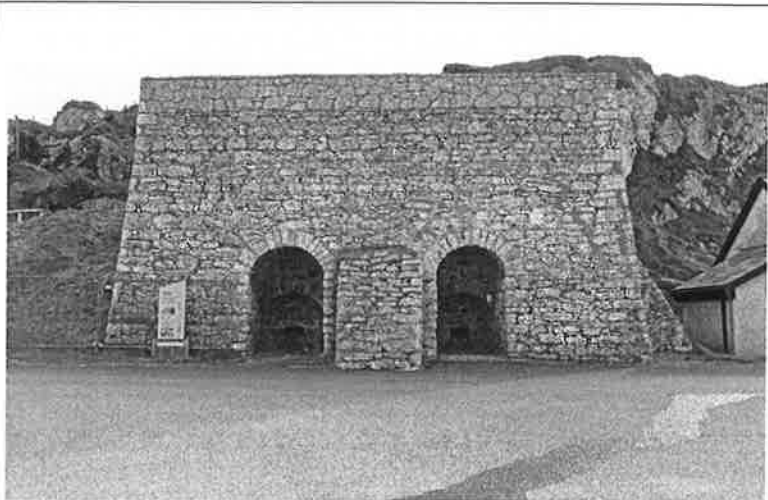
Please find enclosed a copy of the location map together with a copy of our Second Survey Report of the building for your information. Where this letter refers to building(s), this term includes all types of structures.

Grid ref: D03784530

Yours faithfully

GERALDINE BROWN

Enc: Second Survey HBC Report
Location Map

<p>Address Lime kilns at The Harbour Harbour Road Ballintoy Ballycastle Co Antrim BT54</p>	<p>HB Ref No HB05/10/018 C</p> 
<p>Extent of Listing Lime kilns</p>	
<p>Date of Construction 1860 - 1879</p>	
<p>Townland Ballintoy Demesne</p>	
<p>Current Building Use Rural Industry</p>	
<p>Principal Former Use Rural Industry</p>	

Conservation Area	No	Survey 1	Not_Listed	OS Map No	002-13
Industrial Archaeology	Yes	HED Evaluation	B1	IG Ref	D0378 4530
Vernacular	No	Date of Listing		IHR No	07501:002:00
Thatched	No	Date of Delisting		HGI Ref	
Monument	No			SMR No	
Area of Townscape Character	No				
Local Landscape Policy Area	No				
Historic Gardens Inventory	No				
Vacant	N/A				
Derelict	No				

Owner Category Local Govt

Building Information

Exterior Description and Setting

A substantial pair of rubble masonry kilns erected in 1860 for the industrial burning of limestone extracted from an adjacent quarry at Ballintoy Harbour. They are situated at the end of a winding road leading down to the harbour and are cut into the limestone cliff with their frontage facing NW.

The kilns are of rectangular plan and have slightly battered rubble limestone walls with roughly-dressed quoins. There are small buttresses at the N end of their SW side and also between the draw holes along the frontage.

Modern flagged stone steps at NE lead up to two circular pots, both of which have been infilled on safety grounds; their linings are no longer visible. The top of the kilns is covered with roughly-dressed limestone flags (probably not an original feature). The parapet around the top is probably a 1970s' addition, again for safety reasons; an old photo shows no such feature. This wall continues out the back of the structure to enclose a viewing platform with four stone picnic tables and benches mounted on concrete bases.

The two drawholes from which the burnt lime was extracted are at ground level on the NE façade. Both are identical and have large semicircular-headed openings with rubble limestone soffits, all trimmed with dressed limestone blocks, and flagged floors. At the back of each opening is a small square drawhole at the base of a basalt-faced recess. Both holes are now infilled and no grating or draught holes (to control the rate of burning) are now evident. Affixed to the head of the right-hand drawhole recess is a small metal plaque commemorating William Yeaman, an artist who painted extensively hereabout and who died in 2008. Just left of the left-hand drawhole is a modern free-standing interpretative plaque.

Setting:

The kilns front a tarmaced car park at the SW end of Ballintoy Harbour (HB05/10/018). To their immediate SW is a modern single-storey toilet block at one end of the former quarry, the floor of which is now tarmaced to provide additional car parking. To their NE is a quarried area now with a small tarmaced parking area accessed by a narrow track up from Harbour Road. Some of the quarried rock may well have been brought up to the top of the kilns by this route, as well as along a narrow path down the slope from behind. An old photograph shows mineral railways leading to the nearby quay, but no traces of them survive.

Interior Description

N/A

Architects

Not Known

Historical Information

This locality was developed for industrial purposes in the mid-19th century by James Francis McKennan (also spelt McKennon). His lime kilns are first cited in a newspaper article of February 1860 as "the new and busy lime works commenced at the little port of Ballintoy". The limestone was quarried beside to the kilns and the fuel to fire them may well have been locally mined lignite or coal from Ballycastle.

Mr McKennan seems to have gone into partnership with Mr John Herdman and they allegedly spend £6000-£7000 on the construction of the adjoining harbour from which they exported quarried limestone and burnt lime. Matters were further improved when, in June 1860, the County Antrim Grand Jury sought tenders for the construction of the present switchback road from Ballintoy Church to the new lime works.

By March 1861, the lime works was ready to commence operations and was advertised in the Glasgow Herald as being available to let for three years: "BALLINTOY-LIME WORKS - at which place a harbour has been erected and two lime kilns built. The person taking them may have the use of all the wagons, rails, plants etc connected with the works".

It is doubtful whether they were in fact let as Herdman, McKennan & Co were advertising "good lime" for sale at 9d per barrel in 1870. They also exported limestone as well and most of Ballintoy's output probably went to Ayrshire and Glasgow, much of for use in iron smelters for drawing off slag.

In 1878, William Herdman, the works' owner at that time, was killed when he fell off a cliff in the quarry: "He was much respected by his employees and all who knew him, and his untimely end has caused very deep sorrow amongst his many friends and acquaintances".

The following year, the Eglinton Chemical Co Ltd leased the site from the Herdman estate. This Glasgow-based firm also had a similar operation in Glenarm and its three streamers plied between the Antrim Coast and Scotland. It also owned a basalt quarry at nearby Brockagh, where they produced basalt setts for export via Ballintoy Harbour. These setts are shown piled up around the kiln on a late 1800s photograph.

The 1905 OS map shows the kiln for the first time (it is not on the 1855 map). Because of the high

admixture of flint in the limestone, the quarry was seemingly in decline by now. The situation was also exacerbated by the silting up of the harbour. Under pressure from local fishermen, Antrim County Council was willing to purchase the harbour, and Mr Herdman was willing to sell - for a mere £50, one-hundredth of what it cost to build.

By 1913, the quarry was being worked by Messrs McCarter & Matthews and the harbour had been acquired, repaired and dredged by Antrim County Council. The kilns are captioned on the 1922 OS map, but to what extent they were still operating is uncertain. There is no mention of the export of either limestone or lime in subsequent documents, although it may still have been produced for local use as fertilizer, mortar and lime wash.

In the 1970s, Ballintoy Harbour was refurbished for recreational use and it was probably then that the kiln pots were infilled and a viewing platform and picnic site built on top. The associated limestone quarry was also tidied up for use as a public car park, with a toilet block built at one end.

References - Primary sources:

1. PRONI OS/6/1/4/2. Second edition OS 1:10,560 map, Co Antrim sheet 4 (1855).
2. Coleraine Chronicle, 18/02/1860, p.4.
3. Belfast News-Letter, 30/06/1860, p.1.
4. Glasgow Herald, 20/03/1861, p.2.
5. Coleraine Chronicle, 12/02/1870, p.2.
6. Glasgow Herald, 11/06/1870, p.7.
7. Northern Whig, 10/08/1878, p.5.
8. PRONI COM/9/7. Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction files on Ballintoy Harbour, 1880-1907. They include letter of 12/3/1881 citing the quarry's lease to the Eglinton Limestone Co and another of 4/11/1905 regarding the poor state of the limestone.
9. Greenock Advertiser, 29/01/1881, p.3.
10. Greenock Advertiser, 27/05/1881, p.1.
11. Northern Constitution, 19/05/1888, p.6.
12. National Library Ireland: William Lawrence photographic collection, L_CAB_05897 and L_ROY_03692. Late 1800s photographs.
13. PRONI OS/10/1/4/5/1. First edition OS 1:2500 map, Co Antrim sheet 4-05 (1905).
14. Belfast Morning News, 11/12/1907, p.8.
15. Ballymena Weekly Telegraph, 9/8/1913, p.8.
16. PRONI OS/10/1/4/5/2. Second edition OS 1:2500 map, Co Antrim sheet 4-05 (1922).

Criteria for Listing

NB: In March 2011, revised criteria were published as Annex C of Planning Policy Statement 6. These added extra criteria with the aim of improving clarity in regard to the Department's explanation of historic interest. For records evaluated in advance of this, therefore, not all of these criteria would have been considered. The criteria used prior to 2011 are published on the Department's website under 'listing criteria'.

Architectural Interest	Historical Interest
E. Spatial Organisation	R. Age
J. Setting	S. Authenticity
K. Group value	X. Local Interest
	Y. Social, Cultural or Economic Importance

Evaluation

This pair of lime kilns is indicative of the development of Ballintoy Harbour in the mid-1800s not for fishing, but for industrial purposes. Although the kilns been partly adapted for amenity use in the relatively recent past, they still retain much of their original character and spatial relationship to the adjoining harbour from which the burnt lime was exported.

The spatial relationship of the pots and draw holes is typical of such kilns, with the raw material being fed in at the top and the product being extracted from the bottom. Substantial remains of the adjoining quarries from which the limestone was obtained also survive, as does the harbour from which the limestone and lime were exported.

The kilns are also of local historical interest as a modest example of lime burning on an industrial scale. They also contrast with the more usual single-pot kilns found in NE Antrim which produced lime primarily

for agricultural use.

The kilns' original fabric survives complete and in a good state of repair. Although the parapet around their tops and the picnic area are not original, these modifications are unobtrusive when viewed from below and enable the kilns to have a viable reuse for amenity purposes.

Replacements and Alterations

Appropriate

If inappropriate, Why?

General Comments

Monitoring Notes – since Date of Survey

Date of Survey 04/03/2019

