Form RB1

Registered Building No. 158

# TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1991

## THE REGISTERED BUILDINGS (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1991

To:
Mr and Mrs D Stott
Ivydene
Little Switzerland
DOUGLAS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at a meeting held on the 12th January 1996, the PLANNING COMMITTEE OF the Department of Local Government and the Environment, in pursuance of its powers under the above Acts and Regulations REGISTERED various buildings including and associated with "Ivydene", Little Switzerland, Douglas as defined in red on the enclosed plan, in the PROTECTED BUILDINGS REGISTER by reason of architectural and historic interest.

THE EFFECT OF THIS REGISTRATION IS IMMEDIATE and prohibits the alteration or demolition of the structure or appearance of any part of the building except in compliance with an obligation imposed by or under any statutory provision or with the prior written consent of the Planning Committee.

Dated this 26th January

By Order of the Committee

p R M Quine

Secretary, Planning Committee

3rd Floor, Murray House Mount Havelock Douglas Isle of Man

Note: Rights to request de-registration of the building are provided under the Regulations and in summary are that:

Application in writing for de-registration may be made by the owner or occupier of, and any other person having an interest in the buildings within a period of 28 days of service of this notice. Such application should be sent to the Secretary, Planning Committee, 3rd Floor, Murray House, Mount Havelock, Douglas.

In the event that de-registration is not requested by any party within the 28 period described above, then de-registration may not be requested within a period of three years.

CC

- R B File 1)
- Douglas Corporation, Town Hall, Ridgeway Street, 2) Douglas
- Manx National Heritage, Kingswood Grove, Douglas 3)
- ADCO, Rose Cottage, Mount Rule, Braddan 4)

# jurisdiction code Douglas Corporation DU/A/H/A location 39037734 ownership Private

# origin

Built 1893-4 Architect; M.H.Baillie Scott



# description

# Ivydene,

The two storey detached residence has an articulated rectangular plan form of masonry construction with red tiled interacting pitched roofs which form a series of gables at the front of the house. The ground floor is expressed by exposed cut stone while the second level is half timbered and rendered in tudor style. The barge boards of the various roof gables are heavily carved and the entire facade treatment is of a well proportioned artistically contrived and pleasing "rural town house".

Although no interior inspection has been made the residence is well documented as an accepted work of art and in addition to such features as the skylit gallery and copper hooded fireplace the interior is described by James D.Kornwolf in his book on the architect and the Arts & Craft Movement as being ... finely designed and wrought stained glass, hand-cut and hammered wrought iron hardware, repousse metalwork and woodcarving.

The building is well sited in its own grounds and appears in good repair

# recommendation

The house constitutes one of the better examples of the work of the distinguished architect and demonstrates his fluency with the arts and crafts style which he used for so much of his work on the island.

It is recommended for listing in total for both internal and external features and the setting in it's grounds. Particular care should be exercised in the control of any changes proposed for interior decor and exterior windows or additions.

# "Ivydene" - Little Switzerland, Douglas - 1893-94 Architect - Mackay Hugh Baillie Scott

This building is considered worthy of entry in the Protected Buildings Register being one of the earliest recorded works of the internationally renowned Architect Mackay Hugh Baillie Scott.

Following a period of some three years spent in articles with Maj Charles E Davis, City Architects of Bath, Baillie Scott accompanied by his recent Bride, came to the Isle of Man on Honeymoon and during an interview some years later with John Betjeman, Editor of the Architectural Review, Scott recalled, "I went to the Isle of Man for a holiday. I was so seasick I couldn't face the journey back, so I set up practice there".

In the fullness of time Baillie Scott came to know Archibald Knox the local born artist whose fame also spread beyond these shores. The two were later to collaborate in the design and fabrication of architectural features—such as stained glass, copper repoussé fireplace hoods, iron gates and such like, incorporated into some of Baillie Scotts houses in the Isle of Man.

Baillie Scott was destined to become an Architect of international repute designing properties throughout England and as far afield as Switzerland and Russia.

His works in the Isle of Man form a record of his early development: his sensitive and creative use of craftsmanship and materials together with a quite revolutionary approach to internal planning and inter-relationship of spaces not seen before in English circles.

Whilst on the Island Baillie Scott began submitting illustrated articles to building magazines, which was to prove fortunate, as his office

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records were later destroyed in two office fires.

Baillie Scott has long been recognised as an Architect of good quality Arts and Crafts buildings, however with the gradual discovery of more of his works and of the recognition of their standing alongside other acknowledged masters of the period such as Voysey, Webb, Lethaby, Ashbee, Mackintosh and Lutyens, his reputation is increasing in stature in major terms.

Accordingly, it is of vital importance that those buildings which Baillie Scott designed in the Isle of Man and which remain substantially in their original form should be entered in the Protected Buildings Register.

Built for R M Broadbent during 1893-94, Ivydene was, after the Mansion, (Majestic Hotel) Baillie Scott's largest commission on the Island and, was also one of the most successfully planned and executed houses.

The lower walls were built of Red Peel Sandstone and the upper walls were half-timbered with ornately covered gables which echo the farmhouses of Cheshire, so admired by Scott. This external horizontal division is characteristic of Scott's early houses and also reflects into the elevations the different functions of the upper and lower levels.

The semi-detached porch gives a sample of the materials used in the house and also the craftsmanship which awaits inside in the form of finely designed and wrought stained glass, hand-cut and hammered wrought iron hardware, response metalwork and Jacobean influenced wood carvings (Scott himself was not a craftsman and it would seem that the wood carving was probably executed by Messrs Skinner and Clarke). Apparently this area of Little Switzerland was owned at one time by the Kneen family and Deemster Kneen in his conveyances of the property in the area insisted on the buyer having his written approval of the elevations and construction of the house to be built.

The low-ceilinged Hallway has folding timber panels enabling the Hall and Dining Room to be combined for additional space where "the musical evening" could be held. Drawing Room and Study have direct access, but from a quiet zone. There is a fine staircase where the half landing extends to form a room-like enclosure with a gallery overlooking the Hall below.

The drawing room contains a copper hooded fireplace with response ornament and this is probably the earliest occurance of this feature which was to become another Baillie Scott trademark: this is set in a surround of blue and white Dutch tiling.

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On the upper-level, the bedrooms open onto a wide sky lighted gallery and the principal bedrooms take advantage of the attic space above having polygonally vaulted ceilings laced with timberwork and embossed with tiny roundels at the junctures.

The internal planning makes excellent use of the site which overlooks Douglas Bay. The principal Bedrooms, Dining Room, Hall and Verandah are all arranged on the seaward side of the site to take advantage of the unobstructed view.

- Sources 1) Kornwolf "M H Baillie Scott and the Arts and Craft

  Movement"
  - 2) Diane Haigh "Baillie Scott The Artistic House"