# TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1991 THE REGISTERED BUILDINGS (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1991

To:

Town Clerk, Douglas Corporation, Town Hall, Ridgeway Street, Douglas

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at a meeting held on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2002, the PLANNING COMMITTEE of the Department of Local Government and the Environment, in pursuance of its powers under the above Acts and Regulations REGISTERED

#### Jubilee Clock, Victoria Street, Douglas

as represented by the buildings shown outlined in red on the plan hereto attached, in the PROTECTED BUILDINGS REGISTER by reason of its special 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 20<sup>th</sup> day of September 2002

By Order of the Committee

J Callow Secretary, Planning Committee.

1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Murray House, Mount Havelock, Douglas, IM1 2SF.

#### NOTE:

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

Applications in writing for the de-registration of the building may be made by the owners or occupier of, any other person having an interest in the building, within a period of 28 days of service of this notice. Such application should be sent to the Secretary, Planning Committee, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Murray House, Mount Havelock, Douglas, IM1 2SF.

In the event that de-registration is not requested by any party within the 28 day period described above, then de-registration may not be requested within a period of 3 years.

c.c.:- Director, Manx Museum and National Trust, Kingswood Grove, Douglas Advisory Council on Planning & the Environment, 52 Alberta Drive, Onchan

jurisdiction

code

Douglas Corporation

DU/A/M/A

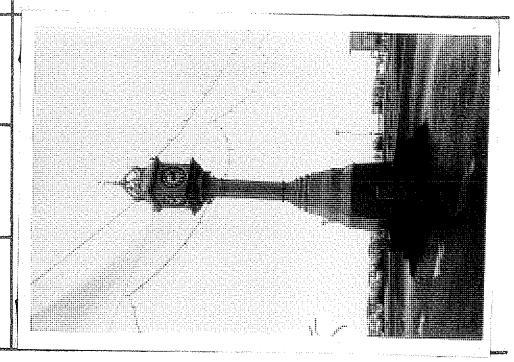
location

38397543

ownership

Douglas Corporation

origin



#### description

Intersection of Victoria Street and Loch Promenade:

The Jubilee Clock is a typical "Victorian" monument comprising a single stone column on a conically elevated tiered basel supporting a cubical housing for a four-faced clock which is "crowned" by a metalic decoration. The clock faces are relatively small for public use and the scale of the monument is appropriate to this limitation. Two traffic directional signs "grace" the protective lower projection of the base to the otherwise vulnerable column.

### recommendation

The Jubilee Clock has obvious historical significance and clearly qualifies for protection. By its nature it is unlikely to be subjected to any alteration but should perhaps be subjected to listing and particular consideration with respect to traffic signage and/or further illumination. It is not inconceivable that at some point in the future the monument could be relocated intact since there does not appear to be any over-riding significance to its present location other than to punctuate Victoria Street.

## Jubilee Clock Victoria Street, Douglas

Situated as it is at the end of Victoria Street at it junction with Loch Promenade, the Jubilee Clock is a landmark in Douglas and is eminently visible to all visitors leaving the Sea Terminal and decanting towards the hotels on the promenade.

The word Jubilee refers to Queen Victoria's golden jubilee and as such the clock dates from 1887. This is well evidenced by the plaque which forms part of the plinth of the clock.

The designer as such is not known but the clock was manufactured by W MacFarlane & Co of Glasgow. Whilst a number of the decorative mouldings/reliefs which form the ornament of the clock appear standard, there is only one other like it at Rotherham, Yorkshire. Referred to as the Hastings Clock some references mistakenly locate this sister clock at Hastings, Sussex.

The Clock is built of cast iron with a paint finish and white enamel dials. It has not been possible to identify the original colour scheme although a redecoration contract in 1892 required "three coats of paint and gilding in a manner similar to when it was first erected". The original design included separate drinking fountains for people, horses and dogs. Two small troughs remain, but only the holes for the fixing bolts for the larger, free standing horse trough are visible. An access panel to the interior may or may not be original. In addition there is a memorial plaque describing works when the clock was refurbished as part of the Douglas Centenary in 1996. It is not known if this replaces an earlier plaque.

The clock has four faces and sits over an octagonal column and plinth. It is surmounted by an open cupola with finial carrying a bell. It is a fine example of high Victorian decorative ironwork which is impressive without being over grand. It has to be said, however, that at present the clock is not well set off and the provision of modern street furniture, in particular lamp posts and traffic signs, are such that they diminish its presence.

The interior of the clock has not been inspected and it is understood that much of if not all of the original mechanisms have now been removed. These internal alterations to not detract from the importance of the clock although it would be nice to think that they could be located and, together with the missing horse trough, be reinstated or exhibited elsewhere. In this respect, it is pertinent to note the original illumination of the clock faces was by gaslight.

The clock was donated by George W Dumbell a well known Douglas merchant and banker. (Hence Dumbell's clock as it is sometimes known). His name lives on in Manx history, for example Dumbell's Terrace in Laxey and he is synonymous with the Laxey Wheel and Dumbell's Bank.

The clock is currently in reasonable condition although some rusting is visible. It was refurbished by Douglas Corporation in 1996.

The clock is a memorial to Queen Victoria and all that her name evokes. It has landmark status and strong links with historic people and events that are an integral part of Manx history. It deserves to be preserved.

## References:

The Dumbell Affair, Connery Chappell
The Isle of Man Victorian Society
Here is the News - An Illustrated Manx History, Terry Cringle & others
Centenary of the Borough of Douglas, G Kniveton & others
Manx Millennium 2000 AD, articles by IOM Newspapers











