Form RB1

Rea

Registered Building No. 213

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

To: Mr. & Mrs D.R. Quayle, Raven's Cliff, Fort Anne Road, Douglas.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at a meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> December 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

#### Raven's Cliff, Fort Anne Road, 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 day of, 27th

By Order of the Committee

J Callow

Secretary, Planning Committee.

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

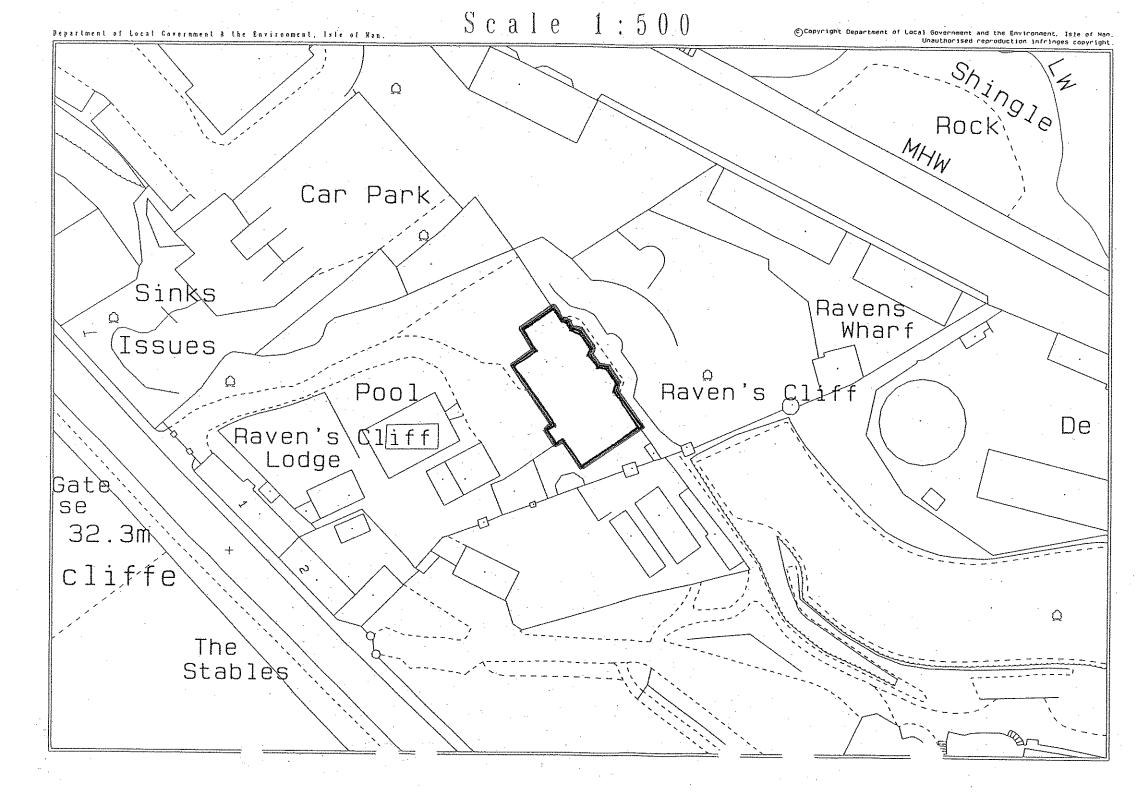
#### NOTE:

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.

- Town Clerk, Douglas Corporation, town Hall, Douglas.
- Director of Manx Museum and National Trust, Kingswood Grove, Douglas, Isle of Man;
- Advisory Council for Planning and the Environment, 52, Alberta Drive, Onchan, Isle of Man.



# Raven's Cliff, Head Road, Douglas

#### Introduction

Overlooking Douglas Bay and the harbour Raven's Cliff commands a prominent site worthy of its claim to be one of the most prestigious Mansion Houses on the Island; and an 'Ideal Home'.

## **Architectural Interest**

Designed by John Robinson the house is a very important Victorian Mansion House and has survived, along with Harold Towers, where other properties in the area have disappeared or been converted.

The building is well maintained and the interiors although having been adapted by successive owners still retain significant original features, making the house and gardens a must for any person on the island wishing to see examples of its Victorian Heritage.

Descriptions of the house are well documented and copies of these are included in the research folder.

Although it is believed that some alterations to the original building have taken place, between 1850 and 1950, there appears to be no records or plans held in the Douglas Building Control Archives to confirm this belief. The only 'historic' application discovered, despite extensive enquiries, relate to an application made by Dr. Fenton, in 1922, to alter the 'outbuildings' (formerly the stables and lodges) adjacent to the road.

However, an estate plan, prepared for an executor's sale, was discovered in the Town Hall Library archives and is believed to depict a plan of the house and grounds prior to the 1890's.

# **Historic Interest**

There are no known historic events associated with Raven's Cliff.

## Close Historic Association

The architect, John Robinson, is considered to be one of the Island's leading and accomplished architects and has designed a wide range of famous Manx buildings. Raven's Cliff was the home for many years of Rev. Fred Cubbon, a well-known and respected philanthropist. More recently it was owned by John Morley, who died in 1999, a hugely popular former Douglas Town Councillor and Mayor.

# Group Value

Raven's Cliff is alleged to be one of the five original mansion houses built in Douglas.

# Age and Rarity

Built in 1850 it is a good example of the fashionable, and ostentatious, houses built during that period of Douglas's growth in popularity and wealth.

#### **Conclusions**

Raven's Cliff is without doubt considered a notable house in Manx History and an important landmark. The reputation of its architect, its links to prominent Islanders and the quality of its impressive structure and internal arrangements makes the house worthy of registration.

## List of Attachments

Records Research & List of Sources
Correspondence File
OS 1:500 (modern) Extract
OS 1:2500 (1869) Extract
Executor's Plan of Harold Towers & Ravens Cliffe c1882
Extract from Kitto J, Historic Homes of the 1.o.M.
Extract from I.O.M. Daily Times, Tuesday, Nov 22nd 1960.
Extract from Manx Life, March 1972
Extract from Victorian Society Newsletter, No. 10, 1993.

Research and Report prepared by Ashley Pettit Architects, Douglas.

# Ravenscliff

Built in 1850.

Claimed as one of the 'original' five mansion houses in Douglas, it was designed by the prominent local architect John Robinson, whose portfolio includes: Greeba Castle, Falcon Cliff, the Peveril Hotel, The Court House and Gov. Offices.

Possibly built in the grounds of Fort Anne. Lodge added to stables at later date, as was the conservatory/sun lounge (c1920). At some point the third storey on the staff quarters was reduced to two floors.

Listed in 1892 valuation list as being in the ownership of John Parkes.

Later owners included a Mr Rainari, who added a swimming pool which has since disappeared, and a Dr Fenton.

The home from 1947 of the Rev. Fred Cubbon, philantrophist. The Eagle over the front door came from 4 Finch Road, where Fred was born 1902.

Bought in 1992 by John Morley.

#### Sources:

Kitto J Historic Homes of the 1.o.M. Executive Publications, Braddan, 1990.

I.O.M. Daily Times, Tuesday, Nov 22nd 1960.

Manx Life, March 1972.

Victorian Society Newsletter, No. 10, 1993.

Manx Star, 20th August 1982.

Browns Directory, 1894

Legal Records	Wills	Estate Papers	Public Undertakings	Maps & Plans	Rates	Newspapers	Photographs	Other
No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes