



Lesson 10: Conservation, Preservation and Innovation

Students investigate the appropriateness of conserving or preserving certain buildings.

Support material: Worksheet C7, Information Sheet 25 “Shapes in Buildings”, Information Sheet 30 “Architectural Heritage”.



Spotlight

Castletown House



Key Concepts

Architectural heritage

Discussion

Distribute Information Sheet 30, “Architectural Heritage”. Use the checklist to inform the discussion.

- What do you consider to be the most outstanding feature(s) of the building we studied?
- How is it different from other buildings you know of?
- Is it still being used as originally intended?
- Why are some old buildings no longer used today?
- Why are some buildings carefully preserved by society?
- What do “conservation” and “preservation” mean? Is there a difference? If so, what is it?
- Should we preserve or conserve our study building for future generations?
- What range of problems present themselves in the up-keep and maintenance of older buildings, compared to more modern buildings?
- Should all old buildings be conserved or preserved for the future?



Activity 1 — Worksheet C7

Castletown House in Celbridge, Co. Kildare, is an excellent example of a conservation project. The house was at risk of falling into ruin until it was rescued by Desmond Guinness in 1967. Conservation work is still in progress. It is open to the public throughout the year. Information and leaflets are available from Castletown House, Celbridge, Co. Kildare. Telephone (01) 628-8252. Fax (01) 627-1881.

Distribute Worksheet C7. Discuss and complete the worksheet with the class. Then review it with the students.