



RIAI

The Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland

Standard of knowledge, skill and competence for RIAI conservation accreditation

January 2019

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance for RIAI Members applying for RIAI Conservation Accreditation. It is the standard against which applications for RIAI Conservation Accreditation will be assessed.

Clients and public bodies seeking to procure the services of RIAI Members with Conservation Accreditation should consult the RIAI Skills Matrix for Conservation Projects.

It should be noted that the standard indicated is the minimum competency that a practitioner accredited at a particular grade might be expected to have. There will be architects at Grade 3 and Grade 2 that exceed these minimum standards in one or more areas. This is particularly likely in the case of Registered Architects who are actively progressing through the grades. Some RIAI Members with demonstrated expertise in conservation work have not yet sought RIAI Conservation Accreditation, and therefore the RIAI Conservation Accreditation system does not claim to be the sole means of identifying conservation expertise within the architectural profession.

Architects' Code of Conduct

All Registered Architects must comply with the *Architects' Code of Conduct* in accordance with Section 56 of the Building Control Act, 2007. The *Architects' Code of Conduct* reflects the responsibilities of architects to the public, clients, employers and colleagues. Architects are expected to be guided in their conduct by the spirit of the code as well as by its express terms.

The ***Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for RIAI Conservation Accreditation*** uses the same descriptors used in the ***RIAI Standards of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Practice as an Architect***, defined as follows:

Awareness: a person should be aware that specific regulations, issues, concepts, procedures, etc. exist and where they are relevant or might apply. A thorough knowledge is not required. This is about knowing that something exists and may have an impact.

Knowledge: a person, in addition to being aware that a concept, regulation, issue, procedure, etc. exists must also have some degree of knowledge of how it applies, and be able to apply it independently at a basic level. Knowledge means knowing enough about something to be able to work with it without necessarily having to bring in someone with more expertise.

Understanding: means that the person has a comprehensive knowledge of a concept, regulation, issue, procedure, etc., including how it applies, and is able to apply it at a complex level. The Applicant should be capable of guiding and advising others in this area and of applying this knowledge in new and unforeseen circumstances.

Ability: means that the person can bring all of his/her knowledge and skills to bear in the successful delivery of that particular element of a professional architectural conservation service.

Area of Competence	Registered Architect	Architect Accredited in Conservation at Grade 3	Grade 2 Conservation Architect	Grade 1 Conservation Architect
Philosophy and principles of conservation	In accordance with the <i>RIAI Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Practice as an Architect</i> , a Registered Architect will demonstrate:	In addition to the <i>RIAI Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Practice as an Architect</i> , an Architect Accredited in Conservation at Grade 3 will demonstrate:	In addition to the <i>RIAI Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Practice as an Architect</i> , a Grade 2 Conservation Architect will demonstrate:	In addition to the <i>RIAI Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Practice as an Architect</i> , a Grade 1 Conservation Architect will demonstrate:
A1.1 Philosophy and principles of conservation as noted in Charters, Declarations, and Guidelines.	B1.1 Awareness that the field of conservation is governed by specific international Charters, Declarations and Guidelines.	C1.1 Knowledge of the philosophies and principles of conservation as described in Charters, Declarations and Guidelines.	D1.1 Understanding and ability in the interpretation and application of the philosophies and principles of conservation as noted in Charters, Declarations and Guidelines.	E1.1 Understanding and ability in the interpretation and application of the philosophies and principles of conservation as noted in Charters, Declarations and Guidelines. Ability to contribute to the development of national conservation standards arising from those Charters, Declarations and Guidelines.
A1.2 National guidelines and regulations.	B1.2 Awareness of national guidelines and regulations on conservation.	C1.2 Knowledge of national guidelines and regulations on conservation.	D1.2 Understanding and ability in the interpretation and application of national guidelines and regulations on conservation on all categories of protected structures. Ability to contribute to the development of practice, principles and philosophy of conservation.	E1.2 Understanding and ability in the interpretation and application of national guidelines on regulations on conservation and to advise on specific detail of the legislation. Ability to contribute to the development of national standards and best practice in conservation.

Evaluation of Significance

In accordance with the *RIAI Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Practice as an Architect*, a Registered Architect will demonstrate:

In addition to the *RIAI Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Practice as an Architect*, an Architect Accredited in Conservation at Grade 3 will demonstrate:

In addition to the *RIAI Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Practice as an Architect*, a Grade 2 Conservation Architect will demonstrate:

In addition to the *RIAI Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Practice as an Architect*, a Grade 1 Conservation Architect will demonstrate:

A2.1

Identification of significance in buildings and sites.

B2.1

Awareness of need to consult an architect with suitable level of conservation accreditation when working on buildings and sites of significance.

C2.1

Knowledge of the categories of special interest and how they apply to buildings and sites of moderate significance.

D2.1

Understanding of the categories of special interest and how they apply to buildings and sites and the ability to identify important fabric and features in most buildings of significance. Understanding of the history of architectural styles and how these might inform the evaluation of significance in complex buildings and sites.

E2.1

Thorough understanding of the categories of special interest and the ability to evaluate significance in complex sites, where fabric and features from different periods overlap, including pre-1700 structures.

A2.2

Carry out research, analysis, evaluation and recording of buildings and sites intangible and tangible heritage for preparation of Historic Building Reports.

B2.2

Awareness of need to consult an architect with suitable level of conservation accreditation when working on buildings and sites of significance.

C2.2

Knowledge of research methodologies, including analysis and evaluation for the preparation of Historic Building Reports.

D2.2

Ability to carry out research, analysis and evaluation of buildings, ensembles and sites of significance and prepare Historic Building Reports.

E2.2

Ability to carry out research, analysis and evaluation of buildings, ensembles and sites of significance and prepare Historic Building Reports in complex sites, where fabric and features from different periods overlap, including pre-1700 structures.

A2.3

History of the construction, technology and materials of buildings and sites.

B2.3

Awareness of the more common historic construction technologies.

C2.3

Knowledge of the more common historic construction materials and techniques and how these may assist in identifying the date or significance of building components.

D2.3

Understanding of the evolution of construction materials and techniques through different periods and the ability to evaluate significance or specify repairs on foot of this understanding. Understanding of non-destructive exploratory techniques used to investigate the construction technology in buildings and sites of significance.

E2.3

Thorough understanding of the materials and construction techniques used during different periods and the ability to evaluate significance or specify repairs on foot of this understanding. Understanding and ability to specify and monitor the carrying out of non-destructive exploratory techniques in buildings and sites of the highest significance.

A2.4

Assessment of the impact of works on historic buildings and sites including, where necessary, the preparation of Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment reports.

B2.4

Awareness of the importance of identifying and minimising impact on significant fabric, features and settings and of the need to consult an architect with suitable level of conservation accreditation where the potential for impact exists.

C2.4

Knowledge of how works might impact on significant fabric, features and settings and how to identify less impactful solutions. Ability to prepare an Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment on projects where the works are unlikely to have more than a minor impact on the character of the protected structure.

D2.4

Understanding of how works might impact on significant fabric, features and settings and of the processes to be followed in minimising or eliminating these impacts. Ability to prepare an Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment on projects where significant impact on architectural heritage is likely to be involved.

E2.4

Understanding of how works might impact on significant fabric, features and settings and the ability to identify appropriate measures to minimise or eliminate the impact for large or complex projects. Ability to prepare an Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment on projects on buildings of the highest quality or rarity value and/or where very significant impact on architectural heritage is likely to be involved.

Conservation Technology

In accordance with the RIAI Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Practice as an Architect, a Registered Architect will demonstrate:

In addition to the RIAI Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Practice as an Architect, an Accredited in Conservation at Grade 3 will demonstrate:

In addition to the RIAI Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Practice as an Architect, a Grade 2 Conservation Architect will demonstrate:

In addition to the RIAI Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Practice as an Architect, a Grade 1 Conservation Architect will demonstrate:

A3.1

Record the condition of historic buildings and sites of significance and prepare structural and material condition reports.

B3.1

Awareness of and ability to identify typical problems that may arise with buildings and sites of significance.

C3.1

Knowledge and ability in relation to the processes required to record the condition of and prepare structural and material condition reports on buildings and sites of moderate significance and the capacity to seek expert advice as necessary.

D3.1

Understanding and ability in recording the condition of and in preparing structural and material condition reports on buildings, ensembles and sites of high significance and to make recommendations on the prioritisation and phasing of repairs.

E3.1

Understanding and specialist ability in recording the condition of and in preparing structural and material condition reports on buildings, ensembles and sites of the highest quality or rarity value. Ability to lead and co-ordinate the preparation of multi-disciplinary Conservation Plans that assess conflicting demands and threats to different categories of heritage at important buildings, ensembles and sites.

A3.2

Preparation of strategies for interventions to buildings and sites of significance to address Building Regulations and other technical standards.

B3.2

Awareness of need to consult an architect with suitable level of conservation accreditation.

C3.2

Knowledge of necessity to prepare such strategies and seek the appropriate advice.

D3.2

Knowledge and ability to prepare such strategies for buildings and sites of moderate to high significance.

E3.2

Understanding and ability to prepare such strategies on buildings, ensembles and sites of the highest quality or rarity value.

<p>A3.3 Preparation of drawings and specifications for repairs and alterations to buildings and sites of significance.</p>	<p>B3.3 Awareness of specifications used in the repair of buildings and sites of significance. Ability to prepare drawings and specifications for minor repairs to buildings and sites of significance.</p>	<p>C3.3 Knowledge and ability to prepare drawings and specifications for repairs and alterations to buildings and sites of moderate significance and a low level of complexity.</p>	<p>D3.3 Understanding and ability to prepare drawings and specifications for complex works to buildings, ensembles and sites of high significance.</p>	<p>E3.3 Specialised understanding and ability to prepare drawings and specifications for repairs and alterations to buildings, ensembles and sites of the highest quality or rarity value and at all levels of complexity.</p>
<p>A3.4 Temporary works, demolition and shoring of works to buildings and sites of significance.</p>	<p>B3.4 Awareness of need to consult an architect with suitable level of conservation accreditation.</p>	<p>C3.4 Knowledge of the potential for temporary works, demolition and shoring of works to buildings and sites of significance to impact on significant fabric.</p>	<p>D3.4 Understanding of the potential for temporary works, demolition and shoring of works to impact on buildings and sites of significance and the ability to identify measures to mitigate such impacts.</p>	<p>E3.4 Understanding of temporary works, demolition and shoring of works to buildings and sites of the highest significance and ability to lead a multi-disciplinary review on the impact of and alternatives to such works.</p>
<p>A3.5 Special techniques of repair, restoration and consolidation to buildings and sites of significance.</p>	<p>B3.5 Awareness of need to consult an architect with suitable level of conservation accreditation.</p>	<p>C3.5 Knowledge of special techniques of repair, restoration and consolidation.</p>	<p>D3.5 Knowledge of special techniques of repair, restoration and consolidation taking into account long term effect on the structure demonstrating knowledge of current best practice.</p>	<p>E3.5 Understanding of special techniques of repair, restoration and consolidation taking into account long-term effect on the structure demonstrating knowledge of current best practice.</p>
<p>A3.6 Integration of building services and sustainable technologies into buildings and sites of significance.</p>	<p>B3.6 Awareness of need to consult an architect with suitable level of conservation accreditation.</p>	<p>C3.6 Knowledge of issues arising from integration of modern technology and services into buildings and sites of significance.</p>	<p>D3.6 Knowledge and ability to integrate modern technology and services into buildings and sites of moderate to high significance.</p>	<p>E3.6 Specialised understanding and ability to integrate modern technology and services into buildings and sites of the highest quality or rarity value. Ability to lead a multi-disciplinary review on the impact of and alternatives to complex interventions in buildings and sites of significance.</p>
<p>A3.7 Maintenance strategies, management policies and the policy framework for environmental protection and preservation of buildings and sites of significance.</p>	<p>B3.7 Awareness of maintenance strategies, management policies and the policy framework for environmental protection and preservation of buildings, ensembles and sites of significance.</p>	<p>C3.7 Knowledge of maintenance strategies, management policies and the policy framework for environmental protection and preservation of buildings, ensembles and sites of significance.</p>	<p>D3.7 Understanding of maintenance strategies, management policies and the policy framework for environmental protection and preservation of buildings, ensembles and sites of significance.</p>	<p>E3.7 Understanding and ability in the interpretation and application of maintenance strategies, management policies and the policy framework for environmental protection and preservation of important buildings, ensembles and sites. Ability to develop and implement specific maintenance strategies, management policies and policy frameworks for the environmental protection of complex buildings, ensembles and sites.</p>

Procurement of a Conservation Project

In accordance with the *RIAI Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Practice as an Architect*, a Registered Architect will demonstrate:

In addition to the *RIAI Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Practice as an Architect*, an Architect Accredited in Conservation at Grade 3 will demonstrate:

In addition to the *RIAI Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Practice as an Architect*, a Grade 2 Conservation Architect will demonstrate:

In addition to the *RIAI Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Practice as an Architect*, a Grade 1 Conservation Architect will demonstrate:

A4.1

Management of works to buildings and sites of significance in accordance with best conservation practice.

B4.1

Awareness of management procedures applied to works to buildings and sites of significance in accordance with best conservation practice. Ability to co-ordinate other disciplines for works to buildings and sites of significance in consultation with an architect with a suitable level of conservation accreditation.

C4.1

Knowledge of management procedures applied to works to buildings and sites of significance in accordance with best conservation practice. Ability to co-ordinate other disciplines for works to buildings and sites of significance including, if necessary, an architect with a higher level of conservation accreditation.

D4.1

Knowledge of management procedures applied to works to buildings and sites of high significance in accordance with best conservation practice. Ability to co-ordinate other disciplines for works to buildings and sites of high significance.

E4.1

Understanding of management procedures applied to buildings and sites of high significance and complexity in accordance with best conservation practice. Ability to co-ordinate other disciplines for works to buildings and sites of high significance and complexity.

A4.2

Communication skills in relation to conservation principles, including consultation with stakeholders, in respect of buildings and sites of significance.

B4.2

Ability to communicate the principles of a conservation project and to conduct stakeholder consultations in respect of buildings and sites of significance in consultation with an architect with a suitable level of conservation accreditation.

C4.2

Ability to communicate the principles of a conservation project and to conduct stakeholder consultations in respect of buildings and sites of significance including, if necessary an architect with a higher level of conservation accreditation. Ability to develop a conservation plan methodology for works to building or sites of moderate significance.

D4.2

Understanding and ability to communicate the principles of a conservation project and to conduct stakeholder consultations in respect of buildings and sites of significance. Ability to develop a conservation plan methodology for works to building or sites of significance.

E4.2

Understanding and ability to communicate the principles of a conservation project and to conduct stakeholder consultations in respect of buildings and sites of high significance and complexity. Ability to develop a conservation plan methodology for works to building or sites of high significance and complexity.

A4.3

Statutory obligations (including for example planning and building regulations, declarations, notifications and consents, etc.) for National Monuments, Protected Structures and buildings and sites of significance.

B4.3

Awareness of the various statutory obligations (including declarations, notifications and consents, etc.) that apply. Ability to address statutory obligations in buildings and sites of significance in consultation with an architect with a suitable level of conservation accreditation.

C4.3

Knowledge of the various statutory obligations (including declarations, notifications and consents, etc.) that apply. Ability to address statutory obligations in buildings and sites of significance in consultation with an architect with a higher level of conservation accreditation if necessary.

D4.3

Understanding of the various statutory obligations (including declarations, notifications and consents, etc.) that apply. Ability to address statutory obligations in buildings and sites of significance.

E4.3

Understanding of the various statutory obligations (including declarations, notifications and consents, etc.) that apply. Ability to address statutory obligations in buildings and sites of high significance and complexity.

<p>A4.4 Financial Supports for works to buildings and sites of significance.</p>	<p>B4.4 Awareness of sources of grants and funding for conservation works to buildings and sites of significance. Ability to advise clients on financial supports in consultation with an architect with a suitable level of conservation accreditation.</p>	<p>C4.4 Knowledge of sources of grants and funding for conservation works to buildings and sites of significance and ability to advise clients on financial supports.</p>	<p>D4.4 Understanding of sources of grants and funding for conservation works to buildings and sites of significance. Ability to advise clients and funding authorities on financial supports.</p>	<p>E4.4 Understanding of sources of grants and funding for conservation works to buildings and sites of high significance and complexity. Ability to advise clients and funding authorities on financial supports.</p>
<p>A4.5 Production of documentation to describe and record conservation works to buildings and sites of significance.</p>	<p>B4.5 Awareness of the need to produce documentation to describe and record conservation works to buildings and sites of significance. Ability to co-ordinate and undertake conservation-led review of drawings prepared by other design team members for works to buildings and sites of significance in consultation with an architect with a suitable level of conservation accreditation.</p>	<p>C4.5 Knowledge and ability to produce documentation to describe and record conservation works to buildings and sites of moderate significance. Ability to co-ordinate and undertake conservation-led review of drawings prepared by other design team members for works to buildings and sites of significance in consultation with an architect with a higher level of conservation accreditation if necessary.</p>	<p>D4.5 Understanding and ability to produce documentation to describe and record conservation works to buildings and sites of significance. Ability to co-ordinate and undertake conservation-led review of drawings prepared by other design team members for works to buildings and sites of significance.</p>	<p>E4.5 Understanding and ability to produce documentation to describe and record conservation works to buildings and sites of high significance and complexity. Ability to co-ordinate and undertake conservation-led review of drawings prepared by other design team members for works to buildings and sites of high significance and complexity.</p>
<p>A4.6 Contractual arrangements and legal agreements for conservation works to buildings and sites of significance.</p>	<p>B4.6 Awareness of specific contractual arrangements and legal agreements for conservation works to buildings and sites of significance.</p>	<p>C4.6 Knowledge of specific contractual arrangements and legal agreements for conservation works to buildings and sites of significance.</p>	<p>D4.6 Understanding of specific contractual arrangements and legal agreements for conservation works to buildings and sites of significance.</p>	<p>E4.6 Understanding of specific contractual arrangements and legal agreements for conservation works to buildings and sites of high significance and complexity.</p>



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