

THE FOLLIES TRUST Gift Aid Declaration Form



Name of Charity: THE FOLLIES TRUST

Details of donor: _____

Title: _____

Forenames: _____

Surname: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Gift Aid Declaration for past, present and future donations
 Please treat as Gift Aid donations all qualifying gifts of money made to

- The Follies Trust:**
- Today
 - In the past 4 years
 - In the future

Please tick all boxes you wish to apply

Please return this form to:
 Mr T. Atkinson, Hon. Treasurer
 100 Mullahead Road, Tandragee, Co. Armagh BT62 2LB
 and also notify him if you:

- Want to cancel this declaration
- Change your name or home address
- No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 28p of tax on every £1 that I gave up to 5 April 2008 and will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give up on or after 6 April 2008.

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return or as HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

Signature Date

THE FOLLIES TRUST
 Company limited by guarantee: NI060272 Northern Ireland Charity number: NIC101116



*The Moorish Tower
 Castlewellan*





The Moorish Tower

The Moorish Tower was built in 1884 by Hugh Annesley (1831-1908), fifth Earl Annesley. His brother, William Henry, had inherited the title of fourth Earl Annesley as a young child in 1838. In his time much work was carried out on the demesne, notably

the construction of Castlewellan Castle between 1856 and 1858. When William Henry died childless in 1874, Hugh, the younger brother, inherited the title and the demesne.



Courtesy of the Ogilvie family

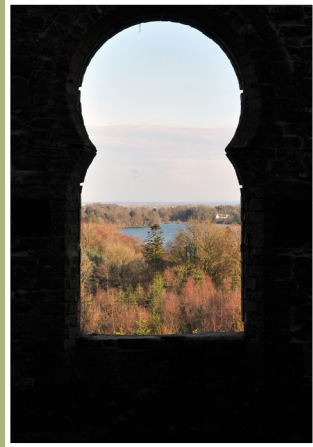
Lt.-Col. Hugh, the new earl, had been a professional soldier. He had fought in the Kaffir War (1851-53) in South Africa, and in the Battle of Alma (1854)

in the Crimean peninsula, where his jaw had been shattered. He was MP for Co. Cavan from 1857 to 1864. In 1877, three years after inheriting the title, Hugh married Mabel Markham and they had two children: Mabel, born in 1881, and Francis, born in 1884.

Hugh was an energetic administrator of the demesne. A keen gardener, he sourced seeds and seedlings from around the world and equipped the demesne with greenhouses and other horticultural facilities. He developed the walled garden into what is now the internationally famous arboretum and published a book about it in 1903. He was also a pioneer photographer and we have a photo of him taken in 1883 sitting under a tree in the demesne with his photographic equipment beside him.

Along with gardening and photography, Hugh was interested in building. In 1884 he undertook the construction of a summer house on a rocky outcrop on the steep slope at the west end of the lake. This was the building which we now know as the Moorish Tower. It was probably designed by Hugh himself who had photographed Moorish style buildings on his travels. The total cost of the building was £222.19.6d and its purpose was evidently to combine the functions of a picnic shelter and a prospect tower. It

has been variously described as a gazebo or belvedere, meaning a garden building commanding a panoramic view and the Moorish Tower certainly commands a magnificent prospect, with Slieve na Slat to the north and a long view eastwards along the lake towards Dundrum Bay.



As well as ordering the building, Hugh also most fortunately used his skills as photographer to record its construction and original appearance. His photograph of the work in progress shows the tower taking shape. It was hexagonal, measuring about 20 feet across or nearly 6 metres.



Courtesy of the Ogilvie family

We can already see the keyhole outline of the window that will frame the view over the lake. The site must have been very difficult to work on and the boulders used to construct the base must have been quite a challenge to put in place.

In the picture, we can see four men at work, wearing bowler hats. While this may give them a strangely formal appearance to modern eyes, this hard headgear gave protection to the builders and was a symbol of authority worn by skilled workers. The granite blocks used for the base give a rusticated style to the ground floor. In contrast, the first floor is built of brick with cut stone quoins.



Courtesy of the Ogilvie family

The photograph of the Tower in winter snow shows the porch which gave access to the building from the rear at first floor level. The porch itself is long gone but some traces of it are still visible around the doorway.

The picture shows that the Tower was roofed with slate and had a weathercock and also a chimney with two pots (one flue serviced the fireplace in the

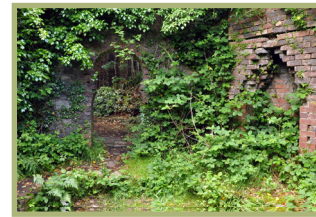
hexagon and the other the fireplace below at the servants' entry). The vertical cladding of rough planks with their bark still on gives the summer house something of the air of a Swiss chalet, accentuated by the ornately modelled and pierced carving on the fascia boards and on the barge board, which is further decorated with a finial. The Moorish keyhole shape of the door makes a surprising contrast of style.



Courtesy of the Ogilvie family

The photograph of the north side of the completed Tower illustrates well the six-sided shape of the building. The window facing us appears to be glazed. Along with the fireplace inside, the design evidently provided for visits in less than clement weather. The picture shows the steep access route up to the arched doorway in the lower floor. Inside, further steps led up the ground floor. This was the servants' entrance, through which the staff would bring appropriate picnic refreshments for the family.

After his wife Mabel died in 1891, Hugh married again and had two more daughters. He himself died in 1908 and his son Francis succeeded as the sixth Earl Annesley. Francis was a pioneer aviator who was shot down over Belgium in the early months of the First World War. He left no heir so the title passed to another branch of the family. He had, however, bequeathed the Castlewellan demesne to his sister Mabel (1881-1959). Her husband Gerald Sowerby



had died in 1913 and after her brother Francis died Mabel resumed her maiden name. She became a well-known artist, specializing in woodcuts and watercolours. Her son, Gerald Sowerby Annesley (1904-1992), sold the demesne to the Forest Service of the Department of

Agriculture in 1967. It was opened to the public as a Forest Park in 1969.

In the 20th century the Tower fell into neglect and by 2014 was in ruins and almost completely choked with ivy and wild ash trees and overshadowed by the conifer plantation. No view survived over the lake through the east-facing Moorish window frame. Then, with a grant from NIEA NGO Challenge Fund, sponsored by Forest Service, the Follies Trust undertook the conservation of the remains of the Tower, a task completed early in 2015.



THE FOLLIES TRUST

Would you like to become a Friend of the Follies Trust?

Friends of the Follies Trust will receive email updates of progress, free admission to lectures or walks organised by the Trust and a copy of *Knockbreda - its monuments & people*. The Follies Trust has no paid staff, Trustees give their time and expertise free, and so all donations go to fund projects.

Cost £20 (€25) made payable to: The Follies Trust and forwarded to: Mr T. W. Atkinson, Hon. Treasurer 100 Mullahead Road, Tandragee, Co Armagh BT62 2LB.

I/we would like to become a Friend/s of the Follies Trust

Name/s: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

I/we would like to receive regular updated from the Follies Trust and am/are aware that communication will only be by email.

My email address _____