

Greater
Manchester
Building
Preservation
Trust

Caring for **Middleton's Heritage**

Middleton's surviving buildings by Edgar Wood.



A Programme of Lectures, Tours and Demonstrations to celebrate the restoration of buildings in Middleton designed by the international renowned architect Edgar Wood who was born in Middleton in 1860. The restoration work has been funded by the Middleton and Edgar Wood Townscape and Heritage Initiative.

WHAT IS A THI?

A Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) is a scheme supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and Rochdale Council that gives grants to help refurbish buildings in Conservation Areas where they have suffered significant deterioration as a result of economic decline.

They are partnership-led schemes funding projects to help improve the area for local people by:

- Carrying out restoration and repairs
- Bringing historic buildings back into use
- Improving open spaces within parts of the Conservation Area
- Helping people to learn about their own and other people's heritage
- Increasing training opportunities in heritage skills
- Increasing community partnership
- Improving approaches to conservation management and maintenance

The Programme has been put together by the Greater Manchester Building Preservation Trust, in collaboration with the Middleton and Edgar Wood THI.

The THI vision for Middleton

Rochdale Borough Council and the Middleton Township Committee with the local community want to see Middleton put on the heritage and visitor map of the North West through the promotion of key historic buildings including Middleton's Golden Cluster (The Parish Church, Ye Olde Boar's Head, the Old Grammar School and the Edgar Wood Centre - Long Street Methodist Church and Schools) and attract attention further afield of the outstanding collection of Edgar Wood buildings in Middleton.

Edgar Wood (1860-1935)

Edgar Wood was born in Middleton in 1860, and as well as becoming an architect was also known for his art and design. He was passionate about his home town of Middleton, where he left a legacy of over thirty buildings, of which ten have since been lost. He was also known for his art and design, but is principally remembered today for his influence upon the contemporary architectural scene; the development of his unique vernacular style into proto-modernism; and the rarity, beauty and genius of some of his most important buildings.

PROGRAMME

June
2018

Saturday 9 June
10.00am-4.30pm

The Art and Craft of Edgar Wood

Learn about Edgar Wood's architecture, furniture, metalwork and garden suburb design in a day of Arts & Crafts exploration. Course conducted by **David Morris**, Volunteer Conservation Officer, Greater Manchester Building Preservation Trust.

Wednesday 13 June
7.30pm

Middleton's Historic Film Evening at the Boar's Head, Middleton

"Medieval Middleton" and following a break "Renaissance Middleton", introduced and led by local historian **Geoff Wellens**.

Tuesday 19 June
10.30am-4.30pm

Hard Hat Day

An opportunity to see restoration work in progress, including demonstrations of traditional building craft skills. Tours last for 2 hours and are arranged at hourly intervals. The Tours will be led by **Austin Grady**, Building Manager, Conservation Services NW, a subsidiary of Heritage Trust for the North West and **Stuart Furnival**, Site Manager and Stone Mason for Stone Edge, Contractors for the Restoration work at the Edgar Wood Sunday Schools.

Wednesday 20 June
7.30pm

Middleton's Historic Film Evening at the Boar's Head, Middleton

"Enlightenment Middleton", introduced and led by local historian **Rob Trueblood**.

Saturday 23 June
10.30am-4.30pm

The Restoration of the former Long Street Methodist Church Sunday School Rooms

by **Lisa McFarlane** of Seven Architecture, Architects for the Restoration of the Edgar Wood Sunday Schools.

Saturday 30 June
10.00am-12.30pm or
1.30pm-4.00pm

Maintaining Heritage Buildings

Two interactive half day sessions for home and business owners, volunteer and built heritage professionals and contractors who look after historic buildings listed or unlisted to help them understand how the buildings work, how to solve problems caused by leaky gutters and ten top tips on preventing problems and blocked drains. Course conducted by **James Innerdale** of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (The SPAB).

Advance Notice The Official Opening of the restored Sunday Schools will take place on **Wednesday 5 September 2018**. If you would like to attend, please notify Claire Borg as soon as possible so that we can draw up an invitation list.

ADVANCE BOOKING FOR ALL COURSES AND EVENTS IS ESSENTIAL

Contact Claire Borg at email claire.borg@htnw.co.uk or telephone 01282 877686 between 9.00am-4.30pm week days.

The costs of the activities are being met by the Middleton and Edgar Wood THI. There are no charges for any of these events.

All events at Long Street Methodist Church, Middleton, unless otherwise stated.

RESTORATION

Since August 2017, Long Street Methodist Church and Schools have been owned by the Greater Manchester Building Preservation Trust.

The Restoration of the former Sunday School is one of the key projects in the Middleton and Edgar Wood Townscape Heritage Initiative. For further details visit www.artsandcraftschurch.org

View of the gardens and former Sunday Schools



The Church nave looking towards the chancel

The magnificent hall looking towards the Gallery



Photographs by Geoff Grime, Andy Marshall and David Morris



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