

*PRACTICAL STONE MASONRY*, P. R. HILL and J. C. E. DAVID. Donhead Publishing, 28 Southdean Gardens, Wimbledon, SW19 6NU, 1995, xii+276 pp. (hardback £32) ISBN 1 873394 14 4.

A review by Chancellor Rupert Bursell, Q.C.

My first sight of this book left me wondering what it might contain for those without some specialist knowledge. In one sense such a thought is unfair in relation to a book that sets out 'to fill the need for a book covering the detailed traditional practices relating to [stone] repair'. In fact this book is comprehensible to all who have a basic understanding of geometry and left me with an even greater admiration of the ribbed vault, tracery and ogee arch. Yet it goes much further as it gives guidance on the nature and problems of working in stone as well as an explanation of basic techniques and tools.

It was here that my own interests took over. The book commences with a very brief Architectural History of the Trade which acknowledges that the tools and techniques of the Romans 'differ little from those in use today'. Indeed, a brief glance at Jean-Pierre Adam, *Roman Building: Material & Techniques* (Batsford, 1994) will bear out how true this is. Indeed, the geometrical means of setting out still to be seen on the walls of the adytum of the Greek Temple of Apollo at Didyma are remarkably similar to the drawings to be found in this clear and well written book.

Although this book will not appeal to everyone's interests, it is to be recommended to all those who are not content merely to marvel at our stone built buildings but wish to ask the question *How?* as well as *Why?*

*LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS*, CHARLES MYNORS. 2nd Edition, 1995, FT Law and Tax, xlv+447 pp (£51.75) ISBN 0 85121 902 0.

A review by David Harte

The main practical part of modern English Ecclesiastical Law is the system by which the Church of England regulates and protects its own buildings. This core, and particularly the faculty jurisdiction, has been given new recognition through the regular case reports in this journal and in specialist books on ecclesiastical law, notably the two editions of Newsom's *Faculty Jurisdiction of the Church of England* and Hill's recent *Ecclesiastical Law*. In chapter 11 of this new edition of his major text on listed buildings and conservation areas in general, Mynors recognises the importance of Ecclesiastical Law, by providing a substantial twenty-six-page summary of the special law affecting ecclesiastical buildings. He starts with statistics which clearly demonstrate the importance of the church's system for the conservation of the English built heritage. 12,800 churches are listed buildings, and these include around 3000 which make up virtually half of all buildings listed as Grade I by the Department of National Heritage.

Mynors' account gives full recognition to how the ecclesiastical exemption from listed building control and conservation area control applies to other denominations, but he amply demonstrates the prominence of exemption for the Church of England, including the special exemption which allows the demolition of redundant churches under a pastoral scheme. The value of the church system is highlighted by a clear discussion of the major recent case law, particularly from the Court of Arches, which has laid down ground rules for the relationship between the faculty jurisdiction and the secular system. The discussion culminates with *Re*