

CARRICKFERGUS AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY



CHAPEL OF THE RESURRECTION, BELFAST

This building is situated in the grounds of Belfast Castle on the right of Innisfayle Park off the Antrim Road in North Belfast (BT 15). It is currently fenced, gated and inaccessible and the view is as illustrated. It was built by the third Marquis of Donegal in Decorated Gothic style and consecrated in 1869, the architects were Lanyon and Lynn, and was the Church for the Donegall family when resident in the Castle. It was used as a mortuary chapel for Frederick, Earl of Belfast, the only son of the Marquis who tragically died in Naples in 1853 whilst on the Grand Tour aged only 25 and other family members.

The Church was transferred, without endowment, to the Church of Ireland in 1938 and became part of the Parish of St. Peter's but has stood empty in the latter years and has been subjected to vandalism and is now in a derelict state. Many of the Church's artifacts were removed and taken to St. Peter's Church. The remains of the bodies of members of the Donegall families were cremated and transferred to St. Nicholas' Church, Carrickfergus.

Efforts are being made by the Cavehill Conservation Campaign with sympathetic commercial interests to find a use for this fine building.

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