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**COTAC Newsletter 8 - Winter 2026**

1 message

**COTAC** <info@cotac.global>  
Reply-To: COTAC <info@cotac.global>  
To: michael.netter@gmail.com

Tue, Jan 6, 2026 at 12:10 PM

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## *Newsletter*

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COTAC has published Insight 4: Understanding and Appreciating the Region of East Anglia; progress on new online Assessment in heritage conservation; and more...



David McDonald, COTAC trustee, has been awarded an [OBE](#).

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## COTAC Insight 4 Published

The learning material, authored by Barry J Bridgwood and Ingval Maxwell and titled "Understanding and Appreciating the Region of East Anglia", is available on the cotac.global website [here](#). It is available over 7 parts with the intention to offer an awareness, appreciation and understanding that will assist a broad spectrum of readers enhance their comprehension of the East Anglia Region's interlinked issues. The various Parts deliberate on different aspects that have, over time, combined to establish its unique character and distinctiveness.

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## COTAC online course "Appreciating Conservation of Built Heritage" enters pilot phase

The interactive and engaging course, intended as an introduction to historic environment conservation, is being delivered in partnership with NOCN and hosted in an online virtual learning environment. Nearing development

completion, COTAC invites interested and willing parties to pilot the course. Contact [info@cotac.global](mailto:info@cotac.global) if interested.

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## Edinburgh Group Update - Oct 2025

Along with related events, and in addition to the provision of substantial free on-line educational conservation orientated learning material at [cotac.global](https://cotac.global), COTAC enables the Edinburgh Group.

Originally formed in 2002 as a pan-professional forum of professional bodies involved in developing their conservation accreditation schemes, the Group held its first meetings in Edinburgh, hence the name. Also attended by client bodies and UK Home Country heritage organisations, its aim was to ensure commonality in approach and consistency across the emerging schemes. Initially ratified by an agreed suite of documents in 2003, it continues to develop that work and principles. Since 2008 COTAC has facilitated the Edinburgh Group's 6-monthly meeting cycle which, since the pandemic, has been arranged remotely on-line.

As indicated in its 2016 Terms of Reference the Group continued to encourage a common approach towards the development, monitoring, and promotion of historic environment conservation accreditation and related certification schemes, this for individual practitioners on a pan-professional basis. Its Terms of Reference were further updated and agreed on 7 May 2025 and can be viewed on the COTAC website [here](#).

In support of Group intentions and to help individual practitioners seeking accredited status, COTAC promotes its supportive on-line 5-Unit Understanding Conservation self-learning website [here](#).

COTAC also offers a high-level of on-line structured architectural conservation CPD provision to assist in the further personal development of practitioners and to help them gain accredited status. [cotac.global](https://cotac.global)

The co-ordinating success of the Edinburgh Group can be measured through over 6500 conservation accredited architects, technologists, surveyors,

engineers and others now currently available to ensure appropriate decision-making in the conservation of our precious built heritage.

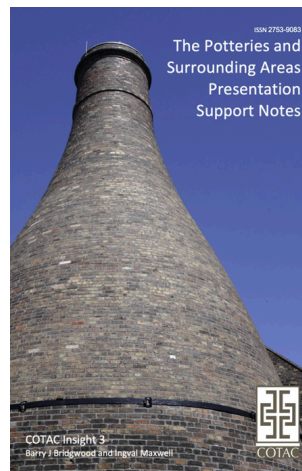
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## **CARE Issues guidance for engineers on heritage assets proposed for demolition**

The Conservation Accreditation Register of Engineers (CARE), part of the Institute of Civil Engineers (ICE), has issued [guidance for engineers](#) when assessing heritage assets that are proposed to be demolished or partially demolished in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

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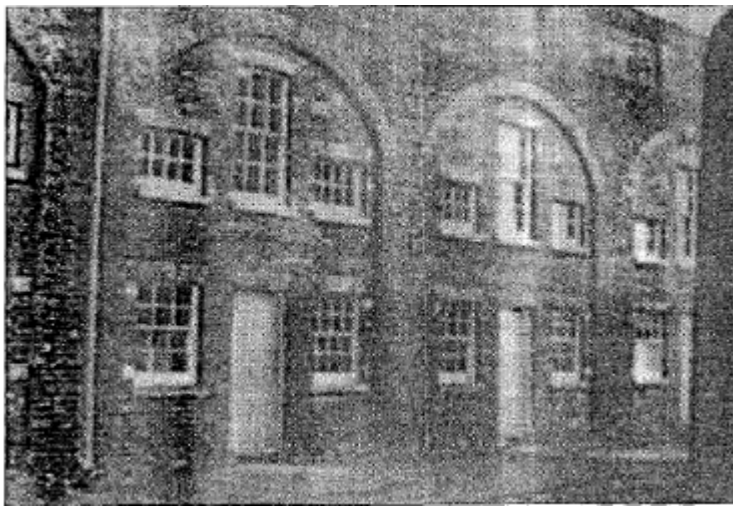


## **As Stoke-on-Trent celebrates its Centenary...**

### **COTAC celebrates its Insight 3 - The Potteries and Surrounding Areas**

Authored by Barry J Bridgwood and Ingval Maxwell and with a focus on The Potteries and Surrounding Areas, this well-illustrated two-part Insight, and its illustrated introductory Support Presentation with Presentation Support Notes is supported on the [cotac.global](#) website [here](#).

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### *Blast from the Past!*

From the COTAC Archives - Issue 4, April 1994

Founded in Kent in 1991, the Building Crafts and Conservation Trust noted in 1994 that "half the industry's activity comes from repair/maintenance and inevitably a significant proportion of the work is on traditional buildings that still comprise the major part of this country's building stock". The image shows the Trust Workshops.



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COTAC  
The Building Crafts College  
Kennard Road, Stratford  
London, Newham E15 1AH  
United Kingdom

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