

Siobhan Osgood

Building the Great Northern Railway: Design, Communication and Construction

This research investigates the architecture designed for the Great Northern Railway of Ireland by its first engineer in chief, William Hemingway Mills. Using polychromatic brickwork, stylised forms and choice materials, Mills employed a team of highly-trained draughtsmen to realise his architectural designs on the page. The result was a huge catalogue of beautifully created architectural drawings which demonstrate the precision of the pen and the quality of the buildings firmly placing Irish railway architecture at the forefront of industrial design. In 2019 I was awarded the Society of Industrial Archaeology (USA) studentship prize, and was awarded UK's Industrial Archaeology Association's Dissertation Prize in 2017 for my master's thesis. I have given lots of guest lectures including the Irish Georgian Society, Ulster Architectural Heritage, Engineers Ireland, and Irish Railway Record Society, alongside published articles and presenting heritage videos with Irish Rail. Follow my research at Irish Railway Architecture: www.irishrailwayarchitecture.blogspot.ie and on Twitter: @IrishRailArch

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