



Architecture Comes to Life for Pupils in Lanark

Pupils from Robert Owen Memorial Primary School got a chance to flex their creative muscles this week in an interactive model-building workshop designed to explore the cultural diversity of their local community.

Organised by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) as part of their keystone centenary project 'Treasured Places', the four-day workshop explored places of worship, particularly focussing on the different architectural forms and colours.

Local artist Lesley Hepburn and specialists from RCAHMS led the group through a creative exploration of local places of worship, including Glasgow Cathedral and Glasgow Central Mosque. Drawing on material from RCAHMS fascinating archive as a starting point for discussion and inspiration, the children were encouraged to undertake various drawing and design activities, leading up to the construction of their own large-scale cardboard models of a Cathedral, Mosque and Synagogue. This was then followed by printmaking activities, which looked at the interiors of these buildings.

The workshops were organised by RCAHMS as part of their 'Treasured Places' project to celebrate 100 years of recording Scotland's built environment. RCAHMS holds some 4.5 million photographs, drawings and manuscripts in their National Collection and seeks to open up this inspiring archive for everyone to enjoy.

Jane Gilchrist, Treasured Places education officer said, 'Creatively encouraging children to interact and examine their local heritage is key to the Treasured Places project. A deeper understanding of our built environment helps us to develop a strong sense of identity and deepens our connection with our communities and the wider world'

The models and print works will be incorporated into the 'Treasured Places' touring exhibition, which will visit ten venues throughout Scotland between August 2008 and May 2009.

Several further Treasured Places workshops are taking place across Scotland over the next four months, each being lead by an artist or specialist who will lead participants through creative responses to their local built heritage. Other aspects of the Treasured Places project included a public vote for 'Scotland's favourite archive image' and a major 'Treasured Places' exhibition at the City Arts Centre in Edinburgh from October 2008.

Ends

Notes to Editors

1. **Treasured Places** was set up by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) to help celebrate its centenary in 2008. The project asked the public to vote for their favourite image of a treasured place from a longlist of one hundred, all drawn from RCAHMS' national collection. The images represent places and spaces that are 'treasured' for many reasons, both on a personal and national level. They are also interesting images in their own right as they show different perspectives and views of well-known places and of Scottish life throughout history. Voting was conducted on a specially created website, www.treasuredplaces.org.uk, and by post to RCAHMS. All Top Ten images will be included in a major Treasured Places exhibition at the City Art Centre, Edinburgh 25 October 2008 – 17 January 2009 and a touring exhibition.
2. **Treasured Places** is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, and run by RCAHMS.
3. RCAHMS is the national record of Scotland's built environment, whose mission is to identify, survey and interpret the archaeological, architectural and historical environment of Scotland, to preserve and add to the collection, and to promote public understanding and enjoyment of items in the collection