



## NEST SITE REPORT - 2019

Date : July 2019

Location Name : Trinity College Dublin

Name of Building : Museum Buildings

Address : New Square, Trinity College, Dublin

Protected Structure : Yes – see Dublin City Council list of protected structure

Year build : 1853-57

Spatial Reference : 53.34390268,-6.25561988

Natural Nest Sites or Nest Boxes : Natural

Total Number of Occupied Nests : 3 (entrance holes No. 1, 2 and 3 looking left to right on the West facing wall)

Aspects of Nests : West

Number of Birds Flying : 8

Notes :

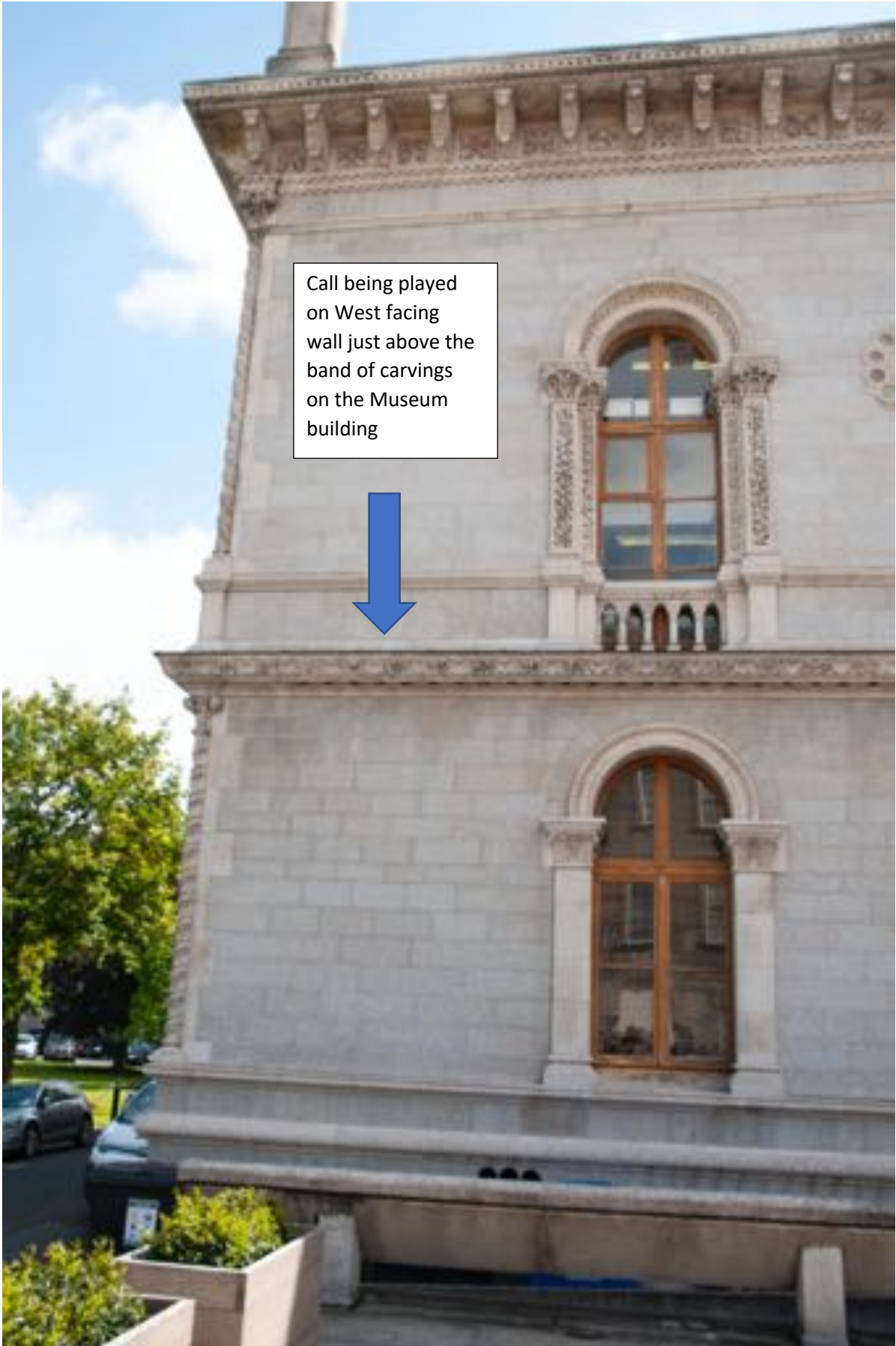
Since May 2019, Swift attraction calls have been played above a band of carved stonework half-way up the exterior of the Museum Building on both the West and East sides (see photos below). This project was immediately successful and Swifts were observed entering 3 entrances throughout July.

'Returning Swifts to Campus' is a project aimed at attracting Swifts back to nest at TCD and was instigated in early 2019 by Jamie Rohu. Funded by TCD Environment Society and supported by Green Campus Committee, School of Natural Sciences, Estates & Facilities and Swift Conservation Ireland.

The arched entrances in the band of stone carvings were historically used by Swifts as nest site entrances prior to exterior restoration work on the building in the 2010s. During the restoration work the exterior of the building was surrounded by scaffolding which prevented Swifts from using the 'traditional' nest sites and which ultimately led to the sites being abandoned and Swifts numbers declining dramatically at TCD.

Swifts had nested in the Museum at city centre Trinity College campus for decades. The first edition of the Birds of Trinity published in 1993 notes that Swifts were a mainstay of the summer campus life and the colony's nesting site being the Museum Building off New Square.

The 'Returning Swifts to Campus' project set up attraction calls on the West and East walls of the Museum Building just above the arched entrances in the band of stone carvings half-way up the building. The calls are being played under NPWS licence as a Swift Conservation Ireland associated project.

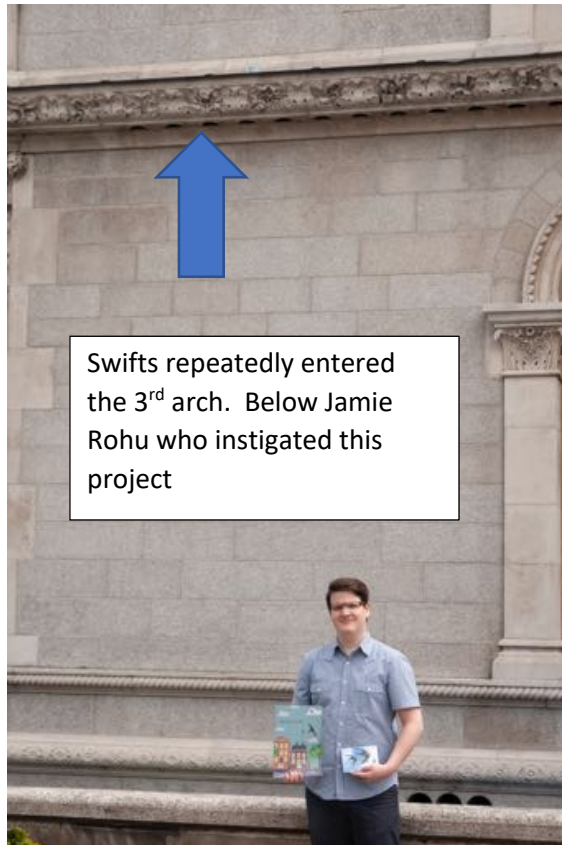




Call box on ledge just above the band of carvings and the small arches.



Close up of the arches which Swifts use to enter nest sites.



Swifts repeatedly entered the 3<sup>rd</sup> arch. Below Jamie Rohu who instigated this project