



Lancaster landmark preserved intact with the help of Modern Plan Insulation Ltd.

The distinctive Lancaster landmark, the Ashton Memorial Lancaster, described as “The Grandest Monument in England” by the celebrated architectural historian, Sir Nikolaus Pevsner has been restored to its former splendour, thanks in part to the injection of Polyurethane foam by MPI Ltd.

Built in 1908 by local industrialist Lord Aston in Memory of his second wife, the memorial needed fully restoring before it could again be opened to the public. The contract was undertaken by Lancaster council who sort to restore the Grade 1 listed building without sacrificing the architectural features.

A particular problem however was that an ornate plasterwork ceiling was in imminent danger of collapse due to the wooden trusses supporting it having almost completely rotted away.

“Naturally, we were concerned that the beautiful plasterwork should be preserved,” commented Alan Bloomfield, Clerk of Works for the contract. “We had two choices, we could remove and then replace the timber and plasterwork or use injected polyurethane foam to hold up the plaster work which MPI did in just three days”.



The Plasterwork ceiling was first supported using a temporary propping system and then Modern Plan Insulation Ltd, Injected closed cell Polyurethane foam into a 200mm cavity inside the domed roof using a staggered drilling pattern, the material then dried within 3 minutes and formed a solid bond inside the cavity effectively tying the structure together.

