



Our Belfast

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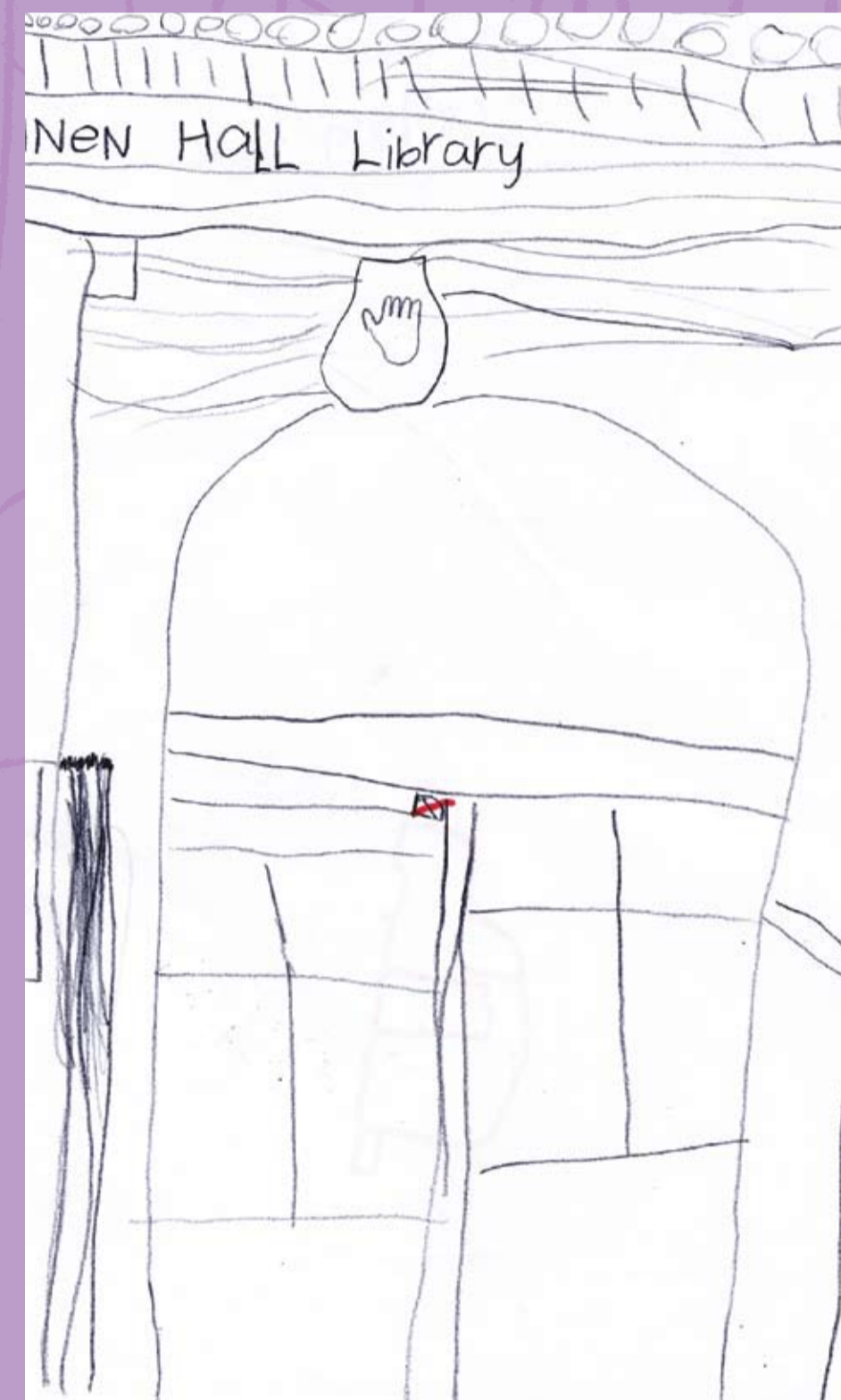
LINEN HALL LIBRARY

The Tour

The tour of the Linen Hall Library began outside the building on Donegall Square where Hugh explained that the Library used to be located on the site of the City Hall before moving to its current location.

Following this, the tour moved to the new entrance of the library. The narrow space where this new entrance sits between two existing buildings was pointed out.

The tour then proceeded into the main building and up the new staircase to the different spaces in the extension. The stair landings, from which there are views over Callandar Street, were of particular interest to the children, giving them a birds eye view of the people in the street below.



Caolan, age 7



Emma, age 11

As with the Grand Opera House, the children were asked to share about which parts of the library they most enjoyed and liked the best, to which the overriding answer was the original building. Although they did not dislike the new extension, it appears that the detail within the original building is something that they really enjoyed...

Perhaps since children experience their environment by means of all of their senses, the tactile quality of the original building stimulates their sense of touch and thus it becomes their preferred space.



“I like the old part best. I like the books and the room we went into with all of the old books.”

Gaby, age 11

The tour progressed through the main library space used by the public daily and into one of the adjoining rooms which houses some of the artefacts and books charting the history of the troubles.



Maeve, age 9



Gaby, age 11

- A** Hugh shows us old street plans of Belfast City Centre
- B** Best behaviour in the Governor's Room
- C** The staircase and original doorway leading onto Donegall Square
- D** The well organised bookshelves and filing