



STEVENSONS  
OF NORWICH

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## STEVENSONS *of* NORWICH

*Stevensons of Norwich represent the best of English craftsmanship. A privately owned and managed business, we have striven ceaselessly to create superb architectural plasterwork since our formation in 1982.*

All of our products, whether bespoke or from one of our standard ranges, are made by hand in our factories in Norwich. We are known for our attention to detail, and our ability to work on projects of every scale and style.

Stevensons work on private houses, commercial interiors, exterior work, new build and historic restorations. We offer a complete resource for your project in-house, including surveying, reports and advice, design, modelling, mouldwork, manufacture and installation.

We have a significant collection of standard architectural mouldings, carefully and authentically designed, including our National Trust Range of cornices. We are equally renowned for our bespoke manufacturing services, and use of lime plaster for restoration work. Our own Jesmonite products are designed for interior and exterior use, able to simulate stones, metals and other finishes with accuracy.

Despite our powerful local roots, and our philosophy rooted in the best English craftsmanship, Stevensons is a company with a modern outlook and an increasing international focus; today our work extends not only throughout the UK but also to some 35 countries overseas.

# Made by Hand

*All products supplied are handmade by craftsmen  
in our two Norwich based factories.*

Stevensons employ a highly skilled workforce at our two factories based in Norwich, many of whom have been with the firm for decades since joining as apprentices aged sixteen.

The skills required to create fine plasterwork and mouldings are special, and over the years our techniques for hand-modelling and mould making have developed to be second-to-none.

Every single product that leaves our factory—be it an off-the-shelf moulding or highly ornate bespoke design—is made by hand. There is no other way. Cornices are formed, as they have always been, on a bench, using wet plaster and scrim. Hand moulded bespoke detail is created by our highly skilled modelling studio.

Over the years we have taken advantage of the best technological innovations in mould-making and other systems, which now allow a superb quality of moulded detail to be produced at relatively affordable cost. But our commitment to making things by hand, in the traditional way, does not change, and is perhaps the principal reason why Stevensons is known for consistently excellent plasterwork.

*Opposite: A flower enriched patera, cast by hand,  
which will form part of a larger decorative moulding.*

*Below: While most of our drawings are produced  
using AutoCAD, traditional hand drawings are still  
appropriate for illustrating fine detail.*







# Details you can Trust

*Stevenson's are renowned for our attention to detail,  
in both our bespoke and standard ranges.*

For many years now Stevenson's has had a relationship with the National Trust and is the exclusively licenced manufacturer of National Trust plasterwork. Our award-winning range of National Trust cornices draws inspiration from some fifteen historic houses owned by the Trust. The range was developed by Ben Pentreath, the leading London-based architectural and interior designer. Ben has subsequently advised us on the rest of our collection of architectural mouldings and profiles.



*Left: A plaster cove is modelled by hand, with details carefully reproduced from an original cornice. From this model a mould is made and the cornice manufactured in its entirety.*

*Above: Latex moulds are made from a hand crafted original. The mould is carefully filled with plaster to produce repetitive cast details.*

*Right: Architectural details are finished by hand to ensure a clean and crisp appearance.*



The existing ranges include beautifully detailed Tuscan cornices and careful copies of the 'London' mouldings found on the historic Cadogan Estate, in addition to our own extensive archive. To these we are adding new collections inspired by historical pattern books by architects such as James Gibbs, Stuart & Revett, William Pain, and Robert & James Adam, as well as a series of more contemporary and Art Deco mouldings.

Today Stevenson's offer a range of unequalled breadth and authenticity.

# Standard Products

*Stevensons produce a wide variety of carefully designed architectural mouldings and products, for interior and exterior use.*

## *Cornices*

Our National Trust Range of cornices, inspired by historical cornices from 15 National Trust houses, is now established as a market leader. This is complemented by our London, Tuscan, Cadogan and Adam Ranges as well as the Stevensons Archive collection.

## *Ceiling Centrepieces*

Across the range Stevensons offer some fifty patterns to suit every period of house. Ceiling Centrepieces are an easy way to add a degree of enrichment to a room. Stevensons offer a ceiling centre for every type of room.

## *Niches & Arches*

We create custom made plaster niches and arches, which can be simply built into plain openings and walls to create rich architectural detail.

## *Corbels & Brackets*

A wide range of corbels and brackets can be combined with our arches and other architectural products or used as a single feature on the wall.

## *Columns & Pilasters*

We produce a range of columns and pilasters. The five orders, Tuscan, Doric, Ionic, Corinthian & Composite form the core of the collection, and we are introducing a range of Greek revival columns to provide even greater design choice.

## *Fire Surrounds*

Plaster fire surrounds provide an affordable solution to adding architectural detail as the focus of a room. We are expanding our range of mantelpieces with a new range of carefully designed fire surrounds to complement our other architectural mouldings.

## *Exterior Products*

Stevensons manufacture a range of door pediments, porticos and exterior cornices. These are produced in a series of standard sizes, and can be customised to suit your own requirements. Exterior mouldings can be produced in GRP or Jesmonite.

## *Special Edition Ranges*

Over decades, Stevensons has built up a large archive of architectural pieces and special elements. We are pleased to introduce a selection for the Special Edition Range.

Stevensons offer an installation service on all bespoke and standard products.

*Berrington Hall, in Herefordshire, is an elegant house designed by Henry Holland in 1778. This Entrance Hall cornice, with its fine foliate detail is one of our 48 National Trust cornices*



# Restoration & Bespoke

*Stevenson's deliver complex bespoke work, at any scale, both for new-build and restoration projects.*

Our highly skilled modellers are able to work either from detailed architects' drawings, from existing plaster mouldings in-situ that need to be copied, or from historic photographs if physical examples no longer exist.

We are used to working closely with architects and interior designers, as well as directly with private clients. We can produce unique details, plain or ornamented, of any scale or size. We are able to offer architectural design services and assistance; our in-house drafting office produces fully detailed architectural drawings prior to manufacture, and we are able to provide full-size samples as part of the design process.



*Above: Work in progress on the model for a decorative panel.*

*Top Right: The Library ceiling at Stoke Rochford Hall restored by Stevenson's when the original was destroyed by fire.*

*Right: A view of one of our factories in Norwich*

*Opposite: Ornamental plasterwork at Stoke Rochford Hall perfectly reproducing the Victorian original destroyed by fire.*



In certain instances, the only evidence of an original ceiling remains in photographs. We are used to reconstructing ceilings and other detail from such evidence, as shown in the detail of Stoke Rochford Hall, opposite, which was completely destroyed by fire. Our work here won the Plasterers Trophy Top Award in 2008.





# Jesmonite

*Stevenson's bring to Jesmonite the skills and knowledge gained through their experience with decorative plaster*

Jesmonite is Stevenson's unique material suitable for interior and exterior use. Lightweight and extremely durable, it can be produced to match stone of any colour, and a variety of metals including zinc, lead, copper and bronze.

Matching the original materials, Jesmonite offers significant structural advantages to architects and engineers seeking to achieve traditional projecting profiles for cornices and other mouldings; while the fact that it is a cast material offers substantial cost advantages in areas where large areas of repetitive ornamental work is required.



*Images: Sections of decorative frieze and ornamental brackets in Sandstone Jesmonite.*



A light, strong, durable and versatile material capable of replicating any textured or metallic surface including stone. Lighter than alternative materials Jesmonite offers overall construction cost savings. Suitable for both interior and exterior use.

Jesmonite has a Class Zero fire rating with reduced smoke density and toxicity characteristics. It has superior water and stain resistance and is acoustically dead.

Projects where Jesmonite products have been manufactured and installed by Stevenson's of Norwich include the Bullring Birmingham, Buckingham Palace London, The Hotel Puerta America Madrid, Chadacre Hall Suffolk, The Belvedere Housing Development Jersey and a Dining Pavilion in Sardinia.

# Who We Work With

*We at Stevensons of Norwich are used to working with private clients, architects, large contractors, interior designers, builders and all who are involved in building and construction who have an interest in interior and exterior decorative work.*

## *Private Clients*

Every year we execute hundreds of orders directly with Private Clients. These orders range from small transactions to large decorative schemes or restoration projects. Our friendly sales and design staff are always pleased to hear from Private Clients who would like advice or need to discuss their scheme.

## *Interior Designers*

Stevensons are used to working with Interior Designers who regularly specify our products and services. Our in-house design resource is frequently called upon by Interior Designers to assist in the realisation of their visions for spaces large and small.

## *Architects*

Stevensons' products and services are regularly specified by Architects and we are here to offer any technical or practical advice that may be needed to help develop a scheme. We are used to working with architectural practices providing specifications, preparing technical drawings and samples and generally coordinating to help ensure that our element of the project is developed successfully.

Stevensons have worked on a large number of restoration projects and are able to offer a full-range of design and reconstruction services where original plasterwork or architectural drawings no longer exist.

## *Builders*

The range of products and services on offer to large contractors is available to building companies of all sizes and all those companies and individuals involved in construction.

Design services, the supply of standard and bespoke products and our installation service can be called upon.

Our standard products are generally regarded as being competitively priced and architecturally reliable and authentic.

## *Large Contractors*

Over the last 30 years Stevensons have worked with most of the major contractors in the UK as well as with a significant number overseas. We understand the expectations of Contractors and Construction Managers concerning programming, quality management, coordination, design and health and safety. We have established a reputation for reliability in the execution of our role in multi million pound contracts.

## *Estate & Property Managers*

Our restoration and repair services for interior plasterwork and Jesmonite for exteriors are available for Estate & Property Managers in both urban and rural environments and we are here to offer advice and assistance on maintenance issues as they arise.

# Awards

## Plasterers Trophy

### Top Award 2008

Stoke Rochford Hall, Lincolnshire

**Judges Comments:** 'Superb workmanship is evident from both the workshop and the site installation. Flawless quality castings were produced from remnants after the fire.

The project demonstrates outstanding works both off and on site. The sheer size of the rooms and thousands of individual components required was very impressive. The visual impact when entering the rooms is amazing.

It would be a disservice to all the craftsmen and apprentices involved not to honour this project with an award.'

**Scope:** Replacement of four large, highly ornate fibrous plaster ceilings, cornices and friezes. Lime plaster on timber lathes to principal walls. Fibrous plaster and Jesmonite mirror frame, window shutter and door enrichments. In situ repairs and renewals throughout.

**Contract:** £800,000

Credits: Project Manager: Austin Newport Ltd.  
Architect: Rodney Melville & Partners.

## Plasterers Trophy

### Top Award 2003

Bullring Shopping Mall, Birmingham

**Judges Comments:** 'Stevenson's have risen to every challenge and have delivered their contribution to a new benchmark for shopping centre development.'

**Scope:** GRG (Glass Reinforced Gypsum) profiles to main malls. Jesmonite pilasters, fascias and cornices to shop fronts in the main malls. Jesmonite columns to west mall.

**Contract:** £3.25 million, 50 men on site and a temporary factory in Birmingham.

Credits: Main Contractor: Sir Robert McAlpine Ltd.  
Architects: Benoy and Chapman Taylor.

Other projects for which awards have been given include The Royal Exchange Theatre Manchester, Gonville & Caius College Cambridge, Bedford Square London, Queen's Gallery Buckingham Palace and Business Centre St James's Square London.

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