

# Custom House Residence

Albert Square, Belfast

For many years Custom House Square was the site of Belfast's "Speakers' Corner", where large crowds regularly gathered at the foot of Custom House steps to hear and heckle the orators of the day. The history is reflected today by the presence on the steps of "The Speaker", a lifesize bronze statue by Belfast born sculptor Gareth Knowles and the large copper-based lights along the edge of the square are aptly named the "Hecklers". The Calder Fountain, Britain's first and oldest drinking fountain for horses, has been expertly restored and now sits close to its original location beside the Customs House. The square is further enhanced with attractive lighting, a water feature that traces the course of the River Farset and a children's play area.

This new development of apartments is situated on the edge of Belfast City Centre, at Custom House Square. The building incorporates 85 high specification, luxury 1 bed, 2 bed and penthouse apartments, 4 retail units and a two-storey underground basement.

The building is a reinforced concrete frame on a CFI pile foundation, overlaid with natural stone. The Custom House Square in Belfast's premier outdoor event space, being transformed in 2005 to incorporate the history of the area as well as exciting new features animating the space.

The Boat Apartments boast secure underground car parking, accessed from street level car lift, double height entrance foyer on Custom House Square, served by 2 high-speed lifts, one of which is dedicated exclusively to apartment use at peak times.



Client:	Abbey Developments
Value:	€13,300,000
Size:	85 Luxury Apartments, 4 Retail units & 2 Storey Underground Carpark
Duration:	14 Months
Architect:	Povall Worthington Architects
Services Consultant:	Integrated Services Design
C&S Engineering:	Taylor & Boyd