

A world of enchantment

Geoff and Rosie Wilson met about 25 years ago. Their parents were competitors in the Metal Recycling Industry. Initially not everyone was ecstatic about their relationship, but there was no stopping them. After marrying, they set up their own business, continuing both family traditions in scrap metal.

How did we get into Architectural and Antique Salvage.

The UK property boom in the 80's created a new wave of house orientated customers. English Glossy magazines appeared on the shelves highlighting the "must have" restored fireplace, stripped pine floors, etc. Although Northern Ireland was still in the depths of the troubles, and the Celtic Tiger was still in its infancy, people throughout Ireland wanted to avail of the same products that were being shown in the magazines. We then began to get a trickle of customers enquiring about Reclaimed Belfast bricks, Bangor Blue slates, etc, which we were able to source through our contacts in the Demolition business.

Today we are probably the largest Salvage Yard in Ireland with exports all over the world. We sell items as small as a Bronze Door Escutcheon (£7) to as

large as a 19th Century Palladian Sandstone Entrance (£27,000). And as popular as Reclaimed Belfast Brick (£0.40), or as bizarre as a Tombstone (£350).

Why would I want to put Reclaimed Materials in my new house?

People put Architectural Salvage in their homes for a variety of reasons. They do it because they: are environmentally friendly, appreciate the craftsmanship from a bygone era or want to create a unique feature or appearance, but mostly its because they want to enjoy the natural aged look that is inherent in Architectural Salvage.

Which Materials and Products are most popular?

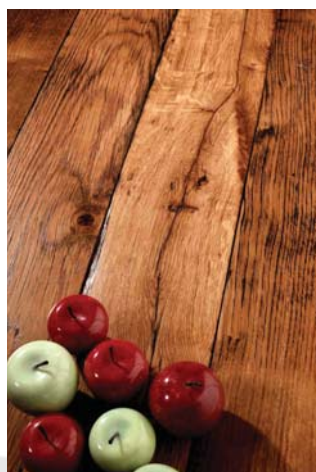
Reclaimed Flooring is particularly popular because of its character and look. We have a range of Plank and Parquet flooring up to 150 years old. The flooring is carefully salvaged, cleaned, re-laid and finished, to reveal an unrivalled natural looking floor.



Remember the old School Radiators that you used to warm yourself with on cold winter mornings. We supply a lot of these for new houses as modern radiators simple don't have the same character. The old radiators are completely restored, pressure tested, new modern valves added and work as well in the new setting as they did when they were first made.

Do Reclaimed Floors work with under floor Heating?

We are often asked this question as people assume that because the flooring is reclaimed and often old, it can't work with modern heating systems. On the contrary, the age of the flooring is irrelevant with under floor heating. It's the size of the individual boards that's the key to successful use, and how it's laid.



What about the Garden?

Our range of Gates and Railings can add a touch of classical elegance to a modern property. And for those that really want to set their homes apart we have a fantastic range of Garden Features and Follies, such as Fountains, Plinths, Statues and of course great little gargoyles.



What about using Reclaimed Materials Outside?

There is a great range of Architectural Salvage that is used on and around the exterior of your house. Original reclaimed Slates are ever popular as they offer that natural aged look and feel. Reclaimed York stone Paving Slabs will give your patio a richness that modern paving cant. The ever popular Railway Sleeper can be used in Garden and Recreation Area design.

We hope we have given you a small feel for the world of Reclaimed Architectural Salvage. We have an extensive range of items at our Dromore site and would be happy to talk to you about any projects you are considering.

www.wilsonsyard.com