

The Titanic Legacy by Shorts Camera Club (also known as East Belfast Photo club).

The panel by Shorts is structured to reflect the 'tiers' of the top decks of a ship.

Narrative by Julian Maitland

Image 1 (top)

The Titanic was built in Belfast, but now sleeps in a watery grave under 13000 feet of the North Atlantic seas.

But the ship left a legacy in Belfast that continues to this day.

Image 2 (2nd row left)

SS Nomadic, built in Belfast in 1910, and launched in 1911 was designed to ferry passengers to liners such as the RMS Olympia and RMS Titanic in Cherbourg harbour, as the liners were too big to dock there. She was operated by a French crew and consequently had both imperial and metric draught markings on opposite sides of the hull. Possibly "entente cordiale"!

Image 3 (2nd row right)

With the success of the Harland and Wolff Shipyard, came the need for an ever larger workforce and, in 1898, new homes were designed by John Frazer and sons for John McMaster to accommodate the worker. McMaster Street consists of "parlour houses"; a parlour at the front, kitchen in the back with a scullery in a return and two bedrooms upstairs and generally had no gardens. The houses were rented to well to do artisans such as carpenters, shipwrights, and riveters etc. With no garden this meant the street was the playground for the workers children and the current day can be juxtaposed with scenes of the street when it just opened. McMaster Street is now protected as Belfast's only artisan dwellings street identified for preservation as both listed buildings and a conservation area.

Image 4 (3rd row left)

The story of shipbuilding in Belfast, and more especially the Titanic, has inspired many memorials, not just to the ship but also the workmen who, from 1859, built over 1750 large ships. This sculpture depicts just three of the "yardsmen", wearing the traditional dunce or flat cap on their leaving work. The men worked 49 hours a week, 6 days a week, from 0600 in the morning and a Harland and Wolff construction worker earned £2 a week. Only 20% of the workers were involved in the construction of the Titanic, but sadly 8 construction workers were killed during its construction.

Image 5 (3rd row centre)

Belfast is famous for murals, with many designs showing remarkable talent and skill. There are believed to have been over 2000 recorded since the 1970's, with 300 in Belfast alone. Here the designers have produced a stunning artwork that captures some of the major players in the last voyage of the Titanic.

Image 6 (3rd row right)

Coming more up to date, many of the current artefacts of the era are now available for the tourist and are interesting to visit. They are often upgraded to meet the needs of the 21st century tourist like this mood lighting on HMS Caroline.

Image 7 (4th row far left)

Belfast's long maritime history continues to evolve and the iconic Samson and Goliath cranes are the epitome of shipbuilding in Belfast. However, many tourists are surprised when they learn the cranes were only built in 1969 [Goliath] and 1974 [Samson] – they are disappointed they didn't build the Titanic.

Image 8 (4th row 2nd from left)

The history of ship building in Belfast has been immortalised by the opening of the Titanic Exhibition Centre with its iconic design and unique facing. A new public artwork at its front was unveiled in 2012 called Titanica by Rowan Gillespie. This takes the form of a diving female figure similar to that of typical ships figureheads and represents hope and positivity. She is cast in bronze and weighs $\frac{3}{4}$ ton. Here it can be imagined her on the bow of a ship heading into the stormy weather.

Image 9 (4th row 2nd from right)

This slide shows the modern exhibition centre, Northern Ireland's most visited attraction, the Worlds Leading Tourist Attraction 2016 at the World Travel Awards, juxtaposed against the brick wall of the original Titanic drawing offices – now a hotel. The new and the old.

Image 10 (4th row far right)

This image sums up the Titanic Legacy in Belfast. The drawing office from an age when Harland and Wolff was the biggest shipyard in the world and created wealth and social change for the people living in Belfast and beyond. Samson and Goliath from an age when such large industries were on the wane to the Titanic Exhibition Centre which presents history as well as the future for visitors and locals alike.

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Alternative Narrative by AI

Once upon a time, in the city of Belfast, there existed a legacy that captured the hearts and minds of its inhabitants. It was the legendary tale of the Titanic, a grand ship that had left an indelible mark on the city's history. The story begins with an image of the Titanic sign, standing proudly at the entrance of the shipyard, its reflection shimmering in the tranquil waters below. This sign marked the beginning of a remarkable journey.

As the narrative unfolded, the scene shifted to the Titanic Quarter, where the remnants of the past whispered their secrets. Among them was the Nomadic ship, a vessel that had faithfully served as the Titanic's tender. It stood tall, a witness to the grandeur of the bygone era. In the backdrop, the social housing built for the families who toiled in the famous Harland and Wolff shipyard spoke of the community's resilience and the shared heritage they held dear.

In the heart of the city, a statue stood proudly on Newtownards Road, paying homage to the yard's men who had dedicated their lives to the construction of these magnificent ships. Their faces etched with determination, it was a testament to their unwavering spirit and craftsmanship.

Moving through the vibrant streets, the tale continued with a mural adorning a gable wall, showcasing the majestic Titanic in all her glory. This artwork served as a constant reminder of the city's connection to the sea and its enduring legacy.

Night fell upon Belfast, casting an enchanting light over the Harland and Wolff cranes, standing tall and proud against the darkened sky. The three funnels of the Nomadic ship pierced the night, a beacon of history, while the blue hour photo lent an ethereal quality to the scene, as if time itself had slowed to honor the past.

Approaching the climax of the story, the Titanica statue took center stage at the front of the Titanic Museum, a symbol of remembrance and reverence. It stood as a guardian, welcoming visitors to delve deeper into the captivating tale of the Titanic.

Finally, the narrative reached its crescendo with the grandeur of the Titanic Museum itself. A wide shot captured the awe-inspiring structure, housing the treasures and stories of the past. The sign proudly proclaimed "Titanic," a beacon drawing countless visitors from around the world to learn about the tragedy, the triumphs, and the countless lives forever intertwined with the ship.

As the story came to a close, the image encompassed the Titanic Museum's drawing office, where dreams were once sketched and turned into reality. The Harland and Wolff cranes, steadfast and timeless, stood as guardians of the city's maritime heritage.

The legacy of the Titanic, forever etched into the fabric of Belfast, served as a reminder of the human spirit, the pursuit of dreams, and the fragility of life. Through the images and their accompanying narrative, the story of the Titanic would continue to captivate and inspire generations to come, ensuring that its legacy would endure through the passage of time.