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The grime-encrusted Victorian arch in Beckett Park, En Far Headingley, which is to be restored to its former glory.

Victorian arch is to get a facelift

A STONE-PILLARED arch, built to mark Queen Victoria's visit to Leeds in 1858, is to be given a facelift by architects.

The archway, which has deteriorated over the years and been disfigured by graffiti, stands in Queen's Wood on the fringe of the Beckett Park Campus of Leeds Polytechnic in Far Headingley.

The archway was commissioned by the banker, Mr. William Beckett, whose family lived on the estate, to mark the visit of Queen Victoria to open Leeds Town Hall.

Yesterday, Leeds Council's Divisional Plans Subcommittee approved a listed building application from the Leeds Society of Architects for stone cleaning the arch as one of the society's projects to mark the 150th anniversary of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Members were told that a small commemorative plaque will be mounted on the arch to include the name of the contractors and sponsors of the scheme.

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