
Date: ?mid 1930s

Architect: unknown

Sculptor: unknown

**Sculptures:** 1. *Lighthouse* (with flashing light) on rocks, with schematic lightning and clouds, the former emanating from the mouths of heads in a geometric style the two upper corners, with the word SECURITY in relief lettering underneath [C]. Deeply recessed relief in Portland stone, set above the centrally-placed main entrance.

2. On second floor level - a naked female figure with wings and abstract flowing robe [C]. High relief in Portland stone, clearly carved to be viewed at an angle from below.

These sculptures are set on a 9-storey modernist block, surmounted with an arched clock tower [A-B]. The building shows minimal architectural decoration and has plain window openings.

The sculpture of the lighthouse, signifying 'security', has an obvious symbolic meaning for the function of the building as the headquarters of the Abbey National Building Society, and is easily read as as an emblem of its corporate identity or image. The figure above has less obvious references, but her presence provides a humanising contrast with the stern Modernist design of the building, although this is also enlivened by the rather fine Deco clock on the clock tower.

**Sources:**

None available.