

PERTH AND KINROSS HERITAGE TRUST

www.pkht.org.uk



ANNUAL REVIEW
2004 - 2005



About the Trust

Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust (PKHT) was established in 1988, with the aims of conserving, enhancing and promoting the archaeological and architectural heritage of the Perth and Kinross area. The Trust is funded by annual grants from the Gannochy Trust and Perth and Kinross Council, which are supplemented by grant aid from other sources for specific projects, and its objectives are achieved through the carrying out of projects, the administration of grants and the provision of information and advice. PKHT is a company registered under the Companies Acts and is limited by guarantee (Company Reg. No. 111258), and a Scottish Charity in terms of the relevant legislation (Scottish Charity No. SC003139). This annual review covers the period from April 2004 to the end of March 2005. For further information, please visit the Trust's web-site at www.pkht.org.uk

The Trust's Office is at:
The Lodge,
4 York Place,
Perth
PH2 8EP

The Trust's Registered Office is at:
2 High Street,
Perth,
PH1 5PH

The Executive Committee (Board of Directors) of the Trust for 2004-2005 consisted of representatives nominated by Perth and Kinross Council (PKC), the Gannochy Trust (GT) and Perth Civic Trust (PCT). Members for the period were:

Rev. Fergus Harris (PCT) Chairman
Cllr. A. Cowan (PKC) *as of September 2004*
Mrs S. Hendry (PCT)
Cllr. J. Hulbert (PKC)
Cllr. A. Jack (PKC) *until August 2004*
Dr. R. A. Leather (GT)
Mr. M. Webster (GT)

The Trust's officers for the period were:

Secretary:	A. Wilson (PKC)
Treasurer:	S. MacKenzie (PKC) assisted by J. Moy (PKC)
Manager/Archaeologist:	D. Strachan
Architect:	A. Driver
Conservation Officer:	R. F. Tilling <i>until September 2004</i>
Assistant Archaeologist:	S. Winlow
Technical Advisors:	R. A. Bean (PKC) M. Taylor (PKC) J. McCrone (PKC) <i>as of March 2005</i>
Administration:	V. Goldthorp (PKC) <i>as of January 2005</i> A. Easton (PKC) <i>until June 2004</i>

The Auditors are Tenon Audit Limited.

Front Cover: The Old Church Tower Auchterarder, following restoration; the 18th century military bridge at Gleann Beag, to the north of Glensbee; participants in Perthshire Archaeology Week 2004 during a guided tour of Ardoch Roman fort; the A-listed Ballbayock bridge prior to repairs.



It is with pleasure that I introduce the annual review of the Trust. The report illustrates the varied ways in which the Trust interacts with the historic environment; from encouraging good practice through the provision of grants, information and advice to the carrying out practical projects and the production of publications.

The year has once again seen a number of changes in personnel. The most significant change this year has seen Rachel Tilling, Conservation Officer with the Trust for almost ten years, move to pastures new in September 2004. Rachel was involved in many projects carried out by the Trust, but she will be best remembered for her input to the conservation work at Camserney Longhouse, Kinnoull Aisle and the Black Castle, Moulin. The annual Doors Open Day programme in Perth and Kinross was first run by the Trust in 1997 and its continued development and success was largely the work of Rachel. We wish her all the very best for the future.

Two further changes in personnel have seen replacements for both Cllr Alan Jack and Administration Assistant Angus Easton. Cllr Jack represented Perth and Kinross Council on the Executive Committee for four years, and we hereby acknowledge his contribution over that time while welcoming Cllr Ann Cowan in his place. We all look forward to working with her. Angus Easton provided administrative support for three years and his enthusiasm was appreciated by all. We forward our best wishes to Angus, and welcome Val Goldthorp, who will now assist our Secretary in the excellent administrative support supplied to the Trust by Perth and Kinross Council.

We also welcome, for a further year, Sarah Winlow as Assistant Archaeologist working on the enhancement of the Historic Environment Record, as anticipated in last years Looking Ahead section. The benefits of the important work of enhancing the information within the Historic Environment Record are already clear. Better information, more readily at hand makes many aspects of the work of the Trust more efficient.

A final project carried out by Rachel involved the production of *A Cycle of Saints*, an illustrated guide to the medieval chapels of Strathearn. This beautifully illustrated booklet, produced in partnership with the Auchterarder and District Local History Association, is one of a developing series of popular publications by the Trust. Another in this series produced this year, *The Romans in Perthshire*, has already proved to be very popular. Written by David Woolliscroft and Birgitta Hoffman of the Roman Gask Project, this guide is an up-to-date summary of their ongoing research, funded by the Trust for the last eight years. This series of booklets is an important part of the ever developing outreach work of the Trust, and is an excellent example of partnership working to support local research and interest groups. We look forward to seeing many more.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fergus Harris". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a blue line.

Rev. Fergus Harris
Chairman



Historic Building Grants



Replacement railings on Balthayock Bridge.



Methven Church and the Lynedoch mausoleum.

A core way in which the Trust supports historic building conservation is through the offer of grant assistance to eligible work on Listed Buildings or those situated within Conservation Areas. There was increased activity of the Historic Building Grant Scheme over the year, offering varying levels of support for works of a traditional nature which reinstate or enhance a building or its components. Commitments were made to some thirty applicants and the total payable, if all the projects proceed, will be over £64,000. The increase of grants awarded is primarily due to greater awareness of the scheme as a result of the Trust's website, and partnership working with community groups and residents associations, which often lead to larger awards. For example at Kingoodie, by Invergowrie, the stone quay which once served the nearby quarries, and which now provides the sole access for some ten residents, has been strengthened and repaired. At Methven Church, working with the Session, both the bellcote and the extraordinary Lynedoch mausoleum have been reinstated and repaired. One grant of particular interest was towards the replacement of railings on the cast-iron Balthayock Bridge of c.1870 (see front cover and left). With an impressive 30m span over the Hail Pool, the structure was inspired by new railway technology of the time.

Perth Façade Scheme

The **Perth Façade Enhancement Scheme** is funded by Scottish Enterprise Tayside and Perth and Kinross Council and aims to improve commercial town centre premises. Over the year, twenty-one grant applications were processed with around £77,000 in funds committed. As grants are awarded at a 50% support level, this has levered almost £160,000 of improvements. Notable schemes which were completed, or largely undertaken, during the period include: the former Clydesdale Bank in St John's Street which had its windows lowered and most of its lower stonework replaced; and Ormonds Bar and the Manna House in the Old High Street. In Cutlog Vennel, off the High Street, the recessed doors that provide fire-escapes for Laura Ashley have been re-designed and re-set to discourage the vandalism which has been a problem.



Façade improvements at the Clydesdale Bank, St John's Street, Perth.

Blairgowrie Façade Scheme

A Façade Enhancement Scheme, operating along similar lines to that in Perth, has been established in **Blairgowrie**, with funds of £25,000 being made available by Perth and Kinross Council. Fourteen applications are in discussion with the first two grant commitments for improvements to shop fronts having been made.

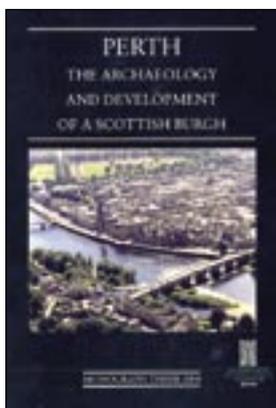


The Trust has part-funded the **Perthshire Crannog Survey**, a research project carried out by the Scottish Trust for Underwater Archaeology (STUA). The Survey will focus on crannogs which appear on Timothy Pont's late 16th century map, and is concerned with the ways in which crannogs were used in medieval and later periods. For example, Clunie Island crannog hosts an L-plan tower house of late-15th to early 16th century date, which was inhabited until the 1950s and may represent the conclusion to continual use of the site for over a millennium.



Underwater survey at Clunie crannog, Loch of Clunie near Blairgowrie.

A grant of £2,000 has been made to the Planning Study of the **Loch Leven Heritage Project** which aims to develop an interpretative trail around Loch Leven exploring both the natural and historic environment.



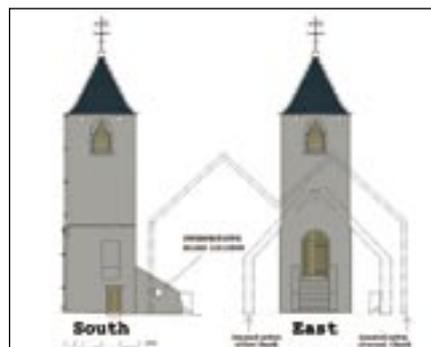
The Perth Development Study.

Funding has also been awarded towards **The First Frontier Project Feasibility Study** which has been developed by The Antonine Guard, a Roman living history society. The study will look at the potential for a visitor attraction within Perth and Kinross based on the Roman military history of the area, and in particular, the Gask Ridge frontier system. The attraction would centre on the reconstruction of Roman military sites, including a watch tower and a stretch of Roman road.

Grant aid was awarded towards the publication costs of the **Perth Development Study**, a Tayside and Fife Archaeological Journal monograph which outlines the origins and development of Perth, while considering the best methods for ensuring that new development can be matched with the preservation of the important archaeology of the burgh.

Projects

A programme of conservation work, with a total cost of almost £30,000, has been carried out on **Auchterarder Old Church Tower**. With other funds being contributed by Perth and Kinross Council, Historic Scotland and the Common Good Fund, the repairs involved removal of the roof slates and sarking, repair of the roof timbers, followed by re-slating and the installation of gutters, a weathervane and lightning protection (see front cover and below). Prior to work proceeding, however, some twelve tonnes of pigeon dung had to be removed from the tower and consequently the new timber louvres high in the Tower have been backed up with stainless steel mesh to prevent re-infestation. Interpretative boards are planned to be installed by the summer of 2005.



Auchterarder Old Church Tower before and during repair work.



The Trust commissioned specialist cleaning of two of Perth's Victorian monuments: the **Prince Albert statue** on the North Inch and the **Sir Walter Scott monument** on the South Inch. Close inspection of the latter revealed that the figure of Scott has been painted at some point in the past, possibly at the time of its relocation from High Street. Further, the failed lettering on the **Blackfriar's commemorative plaque**, overlooking the North Inch, was replaced with a brass plate in partnership with Perth Civic Trust.



The replacement brass plaque commemorating the Blackfriars monastery overlooking the North Inch, Perth.

In June 2003, a traffic accident resulted in serious damage to the decorative drinking fountain, known as **The Lover's Well, Branklyn**, Perth. The Trust arranged restoration of the fountain, however, as only about a quarter of the original material was re-usable many elements, including the carved panel and complicated columns, had to be copied using a local sculptor and mason, at a total cost of just under £10,000.



The Trust chairman Fergus Harris with Cllr. Peter Barrett and stonemason Billy Trail at the restored Lover's Well, Branklyn.

The final phase of an extended programme of works at **The Black Castle of Moulin** has seen the installation of interpretation boards both in the village of Moulin and at the Black Castle itself. At the Black Castle, the boards explaining the history of site plus the recent conservation work are enclosed by a dry stone dyke. The Trust has encouraged a Scheduled Ancient Monument Management Agreement between the landowner and Historic Scotland for the site and it is envisaged that this agreement will ensure that the vegetation at the site will be kept under control.

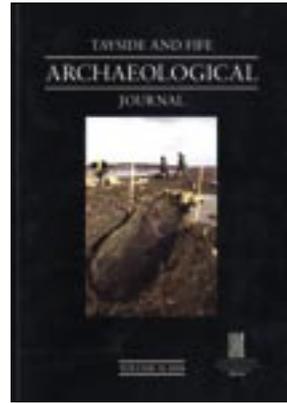
A rapid survey of the condition of 18th century military bridges in Perth and Kinross has been instigated by the Trust following an initial desk-based assessment. While the area contains the "jewel in the crown" of the military system, the Tay Bridge at Aberfeldy, initial results suggest that many of the other bridges are in urgent need of repair. It is envisaged that the results of the survey will be used to prioritise any consolidation work required on the bridges. While many such bridges are attributed to General Wade, the majority were completed under his successor, Cauldfield.

Monitoring of the condition of the **Carpow log boat** has continued over the year and consideration is being given to a project to lift and conserve the vessel. A paper outlining the discovery and the

Trust's exploratory excavations was published in the Tayside and Fife Archaeological Journal, with the excavations featuring on the front cover of the volume.



The 18th century military bridge at Glenshee is typical of the Cauldfield period.



The Tayside and Fife Archaeological Journal featuring the Carpow log boat.

Archaeology

The Perth and Kinross **Historic Environment Record (HER) Enhancement Project** has been continued for a second year, once again part-funded by Historic Scotland. The ongoing project continues to develop the HER, and to date has concentrated on Listed Building data, the management of “event” data (information on where archaeological work has been carried out), and the addition of 2,183 new records, ensuring that the Trust is aware of new sites discovered through survey and development work. The Scottish Sites and Monuments Record working group met at the Trust Offices in January to discuss the development of the online access to SMR/HER data, and it is planned that the HER data should form part of the pilot for the project.

Planning related archaeology continues to result in a variety of archaeological projects, ranging from small-scale evaluations and watching briefs to full excavations, instigated by the Trust through its archaeology service to Perth and Kinross Council. An unexpected find was made during the construction of a golf course at the western edge of Perth. A Bronze Age cist burial was revealed by the excavations, with a massive capstone of around 2m in diameter, which had several cup-marks incised into it. The stone coffin was found to contain human, and possibly animal, bone in addition to a flint artefact and a large quartz pebble. The Trust negotiated with both Historic Scotland and the developer to ensure adequate recording of the burial.

A number of pre-development archaeological evaluations were carried out in advance of residential developments including those at Coupar Angus, Glencarse, Aberfeldy, Pitlochry and Little Tombane, near Trochry. Additional archaeological work has been carried out at School Wynd, Abernethy, during the landscaping around the new Concert Hall, Perth, and at Perth Racecourse. Standing building recording has taken place prior to the demolition of clay built Newlands Cottage, St Madoes and Stanley House, Stanley. Scottish Prison Service has been granted permission to demolish the A-listed C-wing at Perth Prison as part of an extensive redevelopment and the Trust will oversee archaeological evaluation and monitoring carried out during this process. Permitted Development consultations, or those carried out by statutory undertakers, have included the Errochty to Clunie power-line for Scottish and Southern Energy and the Drum sewage scheme for Scottish Water Solutions.



A Bronze Age cist containing human remains uncovered on the western outskirts of Perth.



The Trust has entered into a Service Level Agreement with **Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park** (LLTNP) with respect to the provision of a planning and archaeology service for the 38.3 square kilometres of the Park which are within the Perth and Kinross area. The area concerned contains six Listed Buildings and twenty or so archaeological sites including the single Scheduled Ancient Monument of Dundurn hill-fort.

The Trust continued to provide an archaeology service for those involved in agri-environment work. The year saw an unprecedented demand for archaeological audits for inclusion of applications for the agri-environment **Rural Stewardship Scheme**, with 145 audits completed. Forestry consultations included input to proposed road-works at Grandtully, and to the Dalnaglar Estate Forest Plan, Pitcarmick Estate Forest Plan and the Hallyburton Estate Forest Plan.

Education and Outreach



PAW participants on learn about earthwork erosion on a field-trip.



The Roman Road at Innerpefferay Library.

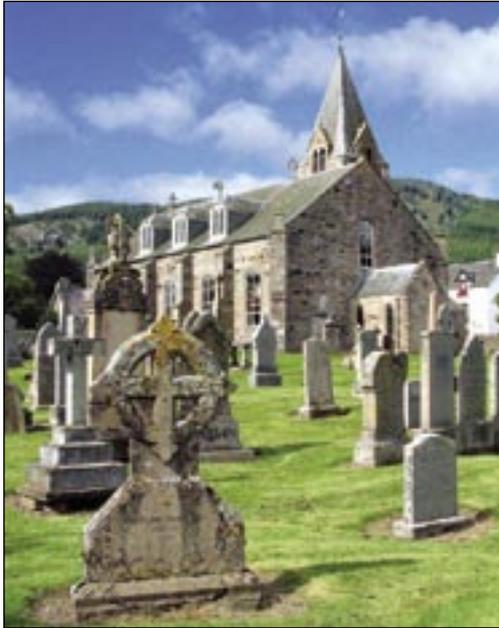


PAW Volunteers recording the outbuildings at Cottown Old Schoolhouse.

The second **Perthshire Archaeology Week** (PAW), held in early June 2004, proved to be a great success, building on the previous year both in terms of the number and quality of events. Over 1,500 people attended the 32 events involving guided walks, talks, exhibitions over the nine-day event. Two key events, at Innerpefferay Library and Cottown Old Schoolhouse, saw volunteers working with professional archaeologists to carry out research projects including excavation and historic building survey. At Innerpefferay Library, the course of the Roman road running down to the crossing of the River Earn leading to Strageath fort was exposed, revealing surface wheel-ruts. The Old Schoolhouse at Cottown saw historic building recording of a range of out-buildings, as well as excavation, which revealed much about their development over time. The Trust also carried out guided tours of Dunsinnan hill fort, the Cleaven Dyke, Roman sites on the Gask Ridge and the ongoing restoration work at Auchterarder Old Church Tower, in addition to evening lectures.

Evaluation of the event by the Perthshire Tourist Board has demonstrated that around 22% of participants lived outside Perth and Kinross and were on a day out, while a further 23% were on holiday from further a field. Once again all events were fully booked over a week before the event began and it was estimated that PAW 2004 injected just over £38,000 of additional expenditure into the local economy. Further analysis was carried out on the demographic make-up of participants, the influence of marketing and promotional channels, and the expectation of the quality of event, in which showed just under half of participants described events as being “much better than expected”. A prize draw was held with the winner enjoying a flight over notable archaeological sites around Perth. The flight was filmed using digital video, and the footage recovered has been added to the Trust’s web-site.



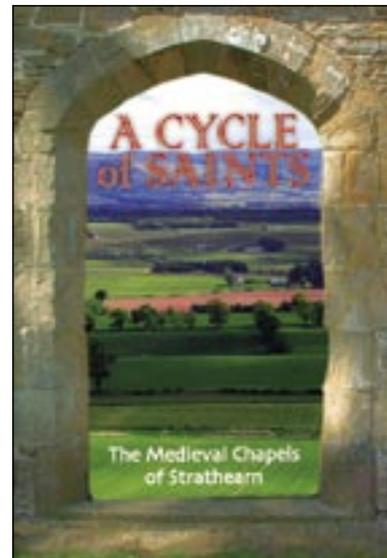
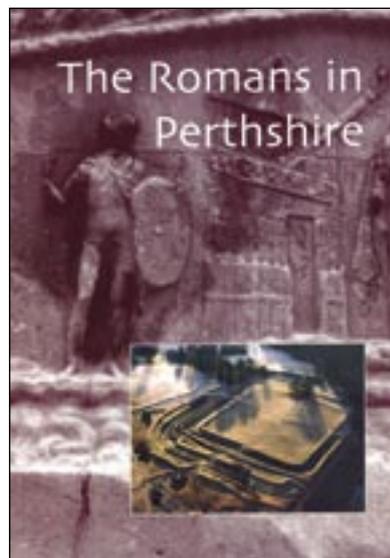


Moulin Kirk: one of the highlights of DOD 2004.

In recognition of the Jubilee of the European Cultural Convention the programme for **Doors Open Day 2004** had a European focus. Several buildings included exhibitions, and in partnership with Perth and Kinross Education Services and the Twin Town associations, support was given to a project which saw three students of Crieff High School focus their trip to Cognac on research for a presentation and exhibition about the new Marrett Museum as part of their Advanced Higher curriculum. In addition, The Perthshire Advertiser published features on the architecture of Perth's Twin Towns of Cognac, Aschaffenburg and Bydgoszcz throughout the month of September, and a quiz on European Architecture entitled 'European Gemstones' was available at each venue with five winners receiving book tokens. A range of buildings were made accessible through the event and these were all well attended.

The year saw the production of two additions to the Trusts popular publication series. **A Cycle of Saints**, produced in partnership with the Auchterarder and District Local History Association, is both a history of, and an illustrated guide to, the medieval chapels of Strathearn.

The production of **The Romans in Perthshire** was carried out in partnership with Drs Woolliscroft and Hoffman of the Roman Gask Project. The booklet is both an up-to-date account of Roman activity in the area, and a field guide to many of the important remains. The booklets, which are A5 full colour and are richly illustrated with photographs and maps, are available through a number of local outlets.



Public presentations and lectures continue to be an important part of the Trust's outreach programme. Fourteen presentations were given throughout the year, including those to Perth Civic Trust, Killin Heritage Society, St Andrew's Week Festival, Perth Burns Club, Alyth Literary Society and the Conservation Lecture Series organised by the University of Dundee. Other talks included St Johns Rotary, Perth Rotary, Carse Association for Continuing Education and Kinross PROBUS.



Looking Ahead

The Trust's A5 booklets on the archaeology and architectural heritage of the area are proving to be very popular, and a number of future publications are planned. In the short-term, two booklets are planned which involve the Trust working in partnership with local interest groups. **The Cup marks of Strathtay** will focus on the prehistoric rock-art of upper Strathtay and is to be produced in conjunction with Breadalbane Heritage Society and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. Work is also ongoing along with Dunning Parish History Society on a guide to the historic environment of Dunning entitled **Historic Dunning**.

The annual key outreach events of **Doors Open Day** (DOD) and **Perthshire Archaeology Week** (PAW) are already being planned. Doors Open Day will run from the 23rd to the 25th of September 2005 and will concentrate on the introduction of new buildings. The Trust's excavation of a homestead at the Black Spout wood, Pitlochry, is set to be the key event of Perthshire Archaeology Week 2005. The Trust is also involved in plans for Perth to host the biannual **Scottish Archaeology Fair**, organised by the Council for Scottish Archaeology.

Following the departure of the Trust's Conservation Officer, the Trust has decided to create a new post of **Heritage Officer** which will work equally on archaeology and historic buildings, balancing the resources directed by the Trust to these two areas of work. In addition, a bid is currently being prepared to request Historic Scotland funding for a one year project to create an **Urban Archaeology Database** for Perth, which would involve the creation of a temporary post within the Trust.

Plans are also underway for the upgrading of the Trust's **Historic Environment Record** (HER) software, involving the purchase of additional Exegesis and Geographical Information System (GIS) software. The HER is a vital tool in the work of the Trust; providing information for the planning archaeology service, Listed Building and Conservation Area data, and feeding into interpretation and outreach work. The upgrading and roll-out of the HER software will allow increased access to the database resulting in more efficient working for the Trust's staff.



For a considerable time the Trust has been very concerned about the increasingly perilous state of **St Paul's Church** at the top of the High Street in Perth. This is an unusual octagonal, baronial, gothic Church with an 18m span dome and a 36.5m steeple that was planned in the 1790s and completed by 1807. Through grants the Trust has supported several re-use proposals over the last 10 years, none of which have resulted in a solution. The Trust is now considering the challenge of repairing and finding a new use for St Paul's as it considers that it is now one of the most important and certainly the most visible Buildings at Risk in Perthshire.



Historic Building Grants

The Trust may award grants to assist owners or guardians of Listed Buildings, or historic buildings within Conservation Areas, who wish to maintain or restore the traditional character of their properties. Listed Building or Conservation Area status does not automatically qualify a building for grant, the award of which is entirely at the discretion of the Trust. Eligible works are those carried out specifically to maintain or restore historic or architectural character using traditional materials and techniques. Routine maintenance work or that which is not directly a consequence of maintaining the historic character of the building is not eligible, e.g. paint work, replacing missing slates, dry rot treatment. Work which would be required on a building to maintain its structural integrity, but which is coincidentally contributing to the character of a building, is not eligible for grant.

Other Grants

The Trust may award grant towards projects that do not fall within the remit of the above categories. For example, archaeological or historic research, interpretation material, publications or other projects relating to the archaeological or architectural heritage of the area. The level of grant, and any condition attached, will be calculated at the Trust's discretion.

Façade Enhancement Scheme

The Trust acts in a consultancy role for Scottish Enterprise Tayside and Perth and Kinross Council and awards grants for eligible works to the frontages of commercial premises. Schemes are currently operating in central Perth and Blairgowrie and up to 50% of eligible project costs can be supported.

Applicants should contact the Trust to discuss proposals or grant application before the outset of a project.

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