# PERTH AND KINROSS HERITAGE TRUST

www.pkht.org.uk









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 report covers the period from April 2005 to the end of March 2006. For further information, please visit the Trust's web-site at www.pkht.org.uk

The Trust's Office is at:

The Trust's Registered Office is at:

The Lodge, 2 High Street,

4 York Place, Perth,
Perth PH1 5PH

PH2 8EP

The Executive Committee (Board of Directors) of the Trust for 2005-2006 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) Mrs S. Hendry (PCT) Cllr. J. Hulbert (PKC) 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

Heritage Officer: S. Winlow *as of July 2005*Urban Archaeology Database Officer: L. Farquharson *as of Sept. 2005* 

Technical Advisers: R. A. Bean (PKC)

M. Taylor (PKC)
J. McCrone (PKC)

Administration: V. Goldthorpe (PKC)

The Auditors are Tenon Audit Limited.

Front Cover: Doors Open Day participants at Castle Huntly; The Wade military bridge at Dalnamein; Ardgilzean prehistoric burial cairn; and Cultybraggan WWII Prisoner of War camp, which also featured in Doors Open Day 2005.



Once again I am delighted to introduce the annual review of Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust. The year has seen further development of the outreach and education remit of the Trust, while practical conservation, through for example historic buildings grants and archaeological advice, continues. It is also good to see an increase in the staff of the Trust which will allow more programmes of work to be carried out.

The Trust has seen two changes in personnel over the year. Firstly Sarah Winlow, who has worked as Assistant Archaeologist with the Trust on a temporary basis over the last two years, has been appointed on a permanent basis as Heritage Officer, to work both on historic buildings and with archaeology. Sarah came to the Trust from the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland with expertise in database management. I am sure she will relish the opportunity this new post offers to develop new skills and experience. Secondly, we welcome Lindsay Farquharson, a recent graduate of Glasgow University, who has been appointed to carry out the Perth Urban Archaeology Database project, which is part-funded by Historic Scotland. With the aim of collating and mapping the archaeology of the medieval burgh within the Trust's Historic Environment Record, the project will ultimately both aid protection of the resource and feed into ongoing plans to promote the burgh through popular publications.

Regretfully the Trust's endeavour to find a solution to the ongoing neglect of St Paul's Church, Perth has currently come to an end as a result of circumstances beyond our control. Unfortunately this is often the way given the nature of the work that we do. It is encouraging, however, to see that a positive consequence may result from our efforts in the form of plans to find a new home for the Royal Scottish Geographical Society elsewhere in Perth, as outlined in the Looking Ahead section.

Finally, it is rewarding to see the success of the Trust's outreach activities reflected in plans to develop Perthshire Archaeology Week into a month-long event, and the exciting prospect of a year-long programme of events, Exploring Perthshire's Past!, which will build both on this and the continuing success of Doors Open Day. We look forward in anticipation to this ambitious project which aims to deliver year round opportunities within the area to engage with the historic environment, the first such programme to be implemented in Scotland.

Rev. Fergus Harris

Chairman

## Historic Building Grants



Replacement railings at Marshall Place, Perth.

The administration of grant aid for appropriate repair and enhancement of Listed Buildings or those situated within Conservation Areas has continued over the year with an increase in demand for grant aid exhausting available funding. This has resulted in a review of the Historic Building Grants policy. Over the year a variety of grants were issued, notably including repairs to Errol Church clock in addition to smaller scale improvements such as replacement railings, the reinstatement of sash and case windows and stone copings at Arthurstone walled garden.

## Perth Façade Scheme

The Trust continues to administer the Perth Facade **Enhancement Scheme**, funded by Scottish Enterprise Tayside and Perth and Kinross Council, with the aim of improving the facades of commercial town centre premises. Over the period of this report nine awards were made to a variety of projects. These included improved signage at, for example, McEwans Department Store and in Methven Street, and the installation of a street door to a tenement close in the Old High Street. In addition, the vicinity of the New Concert Hall saw substantial fascia and frontage improvements, and in September extensive scaffolding was erected alongside the Hall to allow screening to cover the unsightly blank gable of the adjacent former General Accident print-store. The 10 x15 metre banner features John Rutherford's 1776 Plan of Perth and highlights the location of the Concert Hall on the 18th century plan. The overall sum committed was just over £56,000, with level of grant support set at 50%.



Screening beside Perth Concert Hall.

## Blairgowrie Façade Scheme

The **Blairgowrie Façade Enhancement Scheme**, over the same period, made seven grant awards totalling £11,235 and levering more than double this sum in enhancements. The scheme targets the centre of Town and several of the commitments made relate to buildings directly overlooking the Wellmeadow.



BLAIR HARDWARE STORE
TORNER BENNENGTH

Façade Improvements at Leslie Street, Blairgowrie.



Two grants were awarded towards publications in the Tayside and Fife Archaeological Journal. The papers covered **Perth Charterhouse**, Scotland's only Carthusian monastery, and research into a **16th century timber-panel from Bridgend**, Perth, which included dendrochronological analysis to reveal the date and origins of the panel. A further grant was made to the **Perth Young Archaeologists' Club** to fund materials, stationary and transport for the group, which is part of a UK-wide network promoted by the Council for Scottish Archaeology.



The Bridgend panel (courtesy of Perth Museum and Art Gallery, Perth and Kinross Council).



Geophysical Survey at Cargill Roman Fort

The Trust has continued to support research by the **Roman Gask Project**, whose objectives are to explore and promote Roman archaeology north of the Antonine Wall, and in particular to explore the Gask Ridge watch-tower system. In addition to continued aerial survey conducted by the project, the year has seen an extensive programme of geophysical survey at Cargill Roman fort.

## Projects

For many years the Trust has been supportive of various schemes to renovate and reuse the derelict **St Paul's Church, Perth**. The two hundred year old building has been empty for two decades and in January 2005 a brief structural engineer's report indicated that there might be as little as two years left to rescue the building. In the early part of the year, the Trust developed a proposal to relocate the Royal Scottish Geographical Society (RSGS) headquarters into the church. The combination of this important building and the prestigious use was seen to be positive and likely to succeed in attracting the necessary level of

funding, estimated to be in the region of £2M. Consequently outline plans were prepared, and Perth and Kinross Council (PKC) agreed to fund nearly £50,000 of stabilisation and essential decontamination work. Confident of an imminent agreement to purchase, preliminary steeplejack work was instructed by the Trust to ensure public safety in the vicinity, and tenders for decontamination and emergency structural works were assembled. In June, however, it was learned, indirectly, that an option had been granted to a commercial developer and as a result the Trust's plans were no longer viable.



St Paul's scaffold.



Following this setback, the clear benefits that would stem from the establishment of a headquarters for the RSGS in Perth led to a brief search for an alternative, which concluded that the 500 year old **Fair Maid's House** might be suitable. An adjacent building, also B Listed, was for sale at the time and it was recognised



Fair Maid's House.

by PKC that with the addition of this a suitable floor area could be created. By December a feasibility study had been concluded which proposed a new half buried vault in the rear garden of the Fair Maid's House to accommodate the RSGS's extensive archives. In January the scheme was presented to the RSGS Council who agreed, after a search of 40 locations, to take up the project. In March, following a competitive tendering process, a design team led by PKHT was appointed by the RSGS to take the project forward. Budget cost estimates indicate that the works will total almost \$1.2M.

The condition survey of **18th century military bridges** in Perth and Kinross has been completed following a second winter season of field-work. A total of 57 bridges were visited and details of condition were recorded, mapped and photographed. The survey resulted in the discovery of two previously unrecorded military bridges on the remote stretch of road through Glen Garry, while three other examples were discovered during remedial road works resulting from the land-slide above the A9 just to the north of Dunkeld. The example at Ledpetty, which had been encased in latter modifications



The Wade bridge at Ledpetty prior to demolition.

as is quite common, remarkably survived largely intact following the land-slide, which resulted in most of the latter additions collapsing. While regrettably it was necessary to demolish the remains of the early bridge during the extensive repairs, the Trust was able to fully record the remains prior to this.



Conservation work on the Kettins Stone.

The 2.8m high **Kettins cross-slab** is one of the largest examples of Pictish sculpture which date from the 7th to the 10th century. The cross-slab had become very overgrown with ivy and a partnership project was developed to conserve and interpret the stone by the Trust, Historic Scotland and Perth and Kinross Council. Following specialist conservation by Historic Scotland and landscaping around the stone, a leaflet was produced to inform residents and attract visitors to the site.

The Trust carried out small-scale excavation of the **Moness Cupmarked stone**, Aberfeldy, which revealed that the stone was not in its original location. In addition, removal of the stone from the Moness residential development site to the Upper Birks Woodland was monitored. Plans are being developed to display and interpret the stone.



Excavation of the Moness Cupmarked Stone.





An extract of Petit's 1715 map of Perth, showing Jacobite fortifications (Reproduced by kind permission of the Trustees of the National Library of Scotland).

In September the Trust began a new one-year project, part-funded by Historic Scotland, to study and map the archaeology of the medieval Royal burgh of Perth. The Perth Urban Archaeology Database project will aim to enhance the Trust's Historic Environment Record (HER) by collating information held in a number of local and national sources, including Perth Museum and Art Gallery, the Archives and Local Studies sections of the A.K. Bell Library, SUAT Ltd., the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, and the National Map Library of Scotland. Work this year has focussed on mapping sites on the wealth of pre-Ordnance Survey historic maps of Perth, such as those by Petit (1715), Buist (1765), Rutherford (1774) and Stobie (1783).

**Developer-funded archaeology** instigated through the planning process results from advice given by the Trust through its archaeology service to Perth and Kinross Council. A total of fifteen archaeological evaluations were also carried out in advance of residential or commercial developments over the year. This included work at Dalginross where the corner of a large ditch was discovered, probably that of a previously unknown annexe of the 1st/2nd century AD Roman fort. Beside the impressive stone circle of Croft Moraig, probable prehistoric pits were recorded and in advance of the demolition of the A-Listed C-Wing of HM Prison, Perth, evaluations discovered the remains of earlier prison exercise yards. In addition, historic building surveys were conducted at Pepperknowes Farm, prior to its conversion to dwellings, and at East Fortingall Free Church in advance of demolition.



Archaeological work beside the C-wing of Perth Prison.



Fortingall Free Church prior to demolition

**Permitted Development** consultations, or those carried out by statutory undertakers, have included the Gleneagles and the Balbeggie overhead line refurbishment for Scottish and Southern Energy, and monitoring of pole replacement works during overhead line refurbishments at Weem and Alyth. **Forestry consultations** continue, with the Trust being consulted on new planting applications including large areas of new planting at Dirnanean, Enochdhu and Invercauld, Glenshee. A site visit was made with Forestry Commission staff to the recent planting at phase one of a major new planned woodland at Geordies Wood, near Glendevon.

The main user of the **Historic Environment Record** continues to be land-owners who require archaeological audits carried out as part of their application for the Rural Stewardship Scheme, administered by the Scottish Executive Rural Affairs Department. A total of 190 such archaeological audits have been produced over the year generating over £5,000 income for the Trust.



### Education and Outreach

As part of a major remodelling of the Trust's website, Historic Scotland has grant-aided the development of **online access to the Perth and Kinross Historic Environment Record (HER).** 

The online database will provide a summary of the record to heritage professionals, researchers and the general public throughout the world and is an important addition to the Trust's Education and Outreach programme, as it will be promoted to schools as an educational tool.



Historic Environment Record online.

Perthshire Archaeology Week (PAW) ran for a third year in early June 2005 with a total of thirty-six events across the area. The week saw a significant increase of input by the Trust in the form of the first season of community excavations at the Black Spout homestead, near Pitlochry. The site is located on the edge of a cliff just below the Black Spout waterfall on the Edradour Burn and was first recorded as a circular building in 1776 by Pennant in his Tour of Scotland. Later interpreted as a fort, the circular enclosure is around 20m in diameter and has a stone-built wall around 2.5 m thick, and may well be type of site known as a Homestead. Homesteads are large circular enclosures, with thick walls which would have contained a substantial internal timber building. There are around sixty examples in Perth and Kinross where they are found along the glens of western highland Perthshire, particularly around Loch Tummel and Glen Lyon. It is possible that they date to the end of the late Iron Age to the Early Medieval period (the early to mid part of the first millennium AD). It is hoped that the excavations will tell us more about these sites as a whole, and that the remains will form a visitor attraction within the wood in the future. In addition, the Trust conducted guided tours to the Roman sites of the Gask Ridge and Moncrieffe, Dunsinnan and Barry hill-forts, as well as presentations on the restoration of Auchterarder Old Church and Recording the Past from the Air. The event was launched with Perth hosting the biannual Scottish Archaeology Fair, organised by the Council for Scottish Archaeology.



The enclosure wall at the Black Spout homestead.



The Black Spout Team.

**Doors Open Day (DOD)** 2005 saw both the introduction of a large number of buildings which have not previously featured, as well as a new booklet format to promote the event. New buildings in the programme included the Perth Concert Hall, Cultybraggan WWII Prisoner of War camp, HMP Castle Huntly, Strathallan School, Glenalmond College, Balthayock keep and bridge, Inveralmond Brewery and

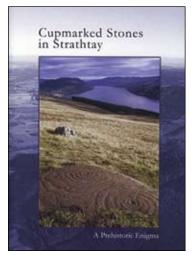
Coupar Angus Tolbooth. Previously featured buildings, returning by popular demand, included Camserney Longhouse, Errol Brickworks and Tullibole Castle. Four evening lectures on recent heritage projects within the area were held over the weekend. The subjects of these illustrated talks, given by the professionals involved, were the refurbishment of the Fergusson Gallery, the proposals for Ossian's Hall at The Hermitage, the plans for a museum / visitor centre at Stanley Mills and the Loch Leven Heritage Project, a project to construct a pathway linking sites of interest around Loch Leven.



Doors Open at Cottown Old Schoolhouse.



## Education and Outreach



Two new publications in the popular guide-book series have been produced. Historic Dunning covers both the archaeology and history of Dunning and the surrounding area, and was produced in partnership with the Dunning Parish Historical Society. Further partnership working saw the production of Cupmarked Stones in Strathtay, a field-guide to prehistoric rock art in upper Strathtay, jointly produced with Breadalbane Heritage Society and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland.

Cupmarks of Strathtay.

Following the restoration of **Auchterarder Old Church Tower** interpretative signage in the form of two stainless steel A3 panels, explaining the complicated history of this 400 year old building fragment, were installed before the G8 conference at Gleneagles in July. In addition, in partnership with the Cameronians Regimental Association, an interpretative sign was added to the 1850 obelisk raised to commemorate their first commander Thomas Graham, Baron Lynedoch. **The Lynedoch obelisk** is located on Murrayshall Hill overlooking Scone on a popular walking route, and on Cameronians Day a formal ceremony attended by the Provost and a piper was held to unveil the plaque.



The Lynedoch obelisk.

Public presentations and lectures continue to be an important part of the Trust's outreach programme and over the year a total of twenty-one presentations and lectures were given, on a variety of subjects, to various organisations including the Tay Estuary Forum, St Andrews University Archaeology Society, the Tayside and Fife Archaeological Committee conference, the Scottish Archaeology Fair, Scottish and Southern Energy, Perthshire Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group, Dunkeld and Birnam Historical Society, the Abertay History Society, Strathearn Archaeological Society, Scone and District History Society, Blackford Historical Society, Newburgh Historical Society and Dunning Historical Society.

## Looking Ahead

The ongoing project to alter and extend the **Fair Maid's House** to serve as a Headquarters for the Royal Scottish Geographical Society will initially move rapidly with submissions to the Heritage Lottery Fund and Historic Scotland made by the end of May 2006. It is expected that Planning Permission will be sought in late summer and detailed design work along with assistance in fundraising will continue, with a start on construction tentatively envisaged for mid-2007.

In addition to the annual key outreach event of **Doors Open Day (DOD)**, plans are ongoing to develop Perthshire Archaeology Week (PAW) into a month-long event, **Perthshire Archaeology Month (PAM) 2006**. As 2006 will be the **fiftieth anniversary of the twinning between Perth and Aschaffenburg** the Trust has been discussing with Aschaffenburg Museum the possibility of producing leaflets to celebrate the history and anniversary of the twinning while highlighting the historic environment of each area. It is envisaged that the leaflets would be distributed free-of charge in both towns.



Further the Trust has submitted a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to build on the success of Doors Open Days (DOD) and Perthshire Archaeology Week (PAW). The proposed **Exploring Perthshire's Past!** project aims to deliver similar opportunities as DOD and PAW throughout the year, and would primarily involve a series of guided walks to sites throughout the area, a travelling lecture series, and the development of local heritage initiatives by working with community groups. If the bid is successful, the project would involve the appointment of a new project officer and would run over a two-year period from 2006 to 2008.

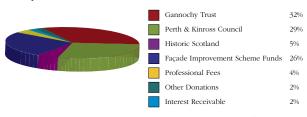
Plans are ongoing for a new publication in the Trust's popular series of guides. Provisionally entitled *The Origins of Perth: A Royal Medieval Burgh*, the booklet is planned to outline the history of the burgh from its early beginning until the reformation. The recent excavations in advance of Perth Concert Hall, and around St John's Kirk, make the production of a popular booklet on medieval Perth timely, particularly as the last such publication, *Perth: the archaeology of the medieval town*, has been out of print for almost a decade.

Work has been ongoing on a paper on the Trust's 2003 excavations carried out at **Upper Glendevon Reservoir** when drought conditions revealed a number of sites threatened by erosion. The paper will also cover the complementary survey carried out by the Royal Commission of the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) and will appear in the Tayside and Fife Archaeological Journal. Continued monitoring of the condition of the **Carpow logboat** has shown that the exceptionally well-preserved late Bronze Age logboat is being rapidly eroded in its inter-tidal location in the Tay Estuary. As a result, the Trust is developing a project to fully excavate and recover the 9.25m long vessel for further study and conservation. The work is scheduled for late summer 2006.

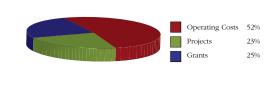
Finally the Trust is working with Perth and Kinross Council and its new Conservation and Regeneration Section to establish partnership working mechanisms in relation to areas of common interest as reflected in an emerging strategy and action plan the historic environment of Perth and Kinross.

## Financial Re-

### Analysis of Income 2005/2006



### **Analysis of Expediture 2005/2006**



The Trust's total income in financial year 2005/06 amounted to \$305,342. The major contributors to the Trust's activities were once again the Gannochy Trust and Perth & Kinross Council and the Trust appreciates the founding partners' continuing support. Included within this total, Historic Scotland and other contributors to the work of the Heritage Trust have generously provided funding for specific projects amounting to \$19,477 and fees have been charged for professional services totalling \$11,172. The Trust's income is analysed in the chart above.

Included in the above, the Trust manages the Perth Central Area and Blairgowrie Façade Improvement Schemes under an agreement with Scottish Enterprise Tayside and Perth & Kinross Council who jointly fund the projects. During the course of the year, the Trust administered £60,831 of expenditure and commitments in respect of the Schemes. The balance on the schemes, which is held separately from the Trust's main finances, was £36,376 as at 31st March 2006.

The Trust's expenditure in 2005/06 totalled £253,887, which resulted in a net operating surplus for the year of £51,455. After adjusting for balances held in respect of the Façade Improvement Schemes, the Net Assets of the Trust amounted to £143,596 as at 31st March 2006.



## INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2006

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2006 &	Total Funds 2005 &
Net Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	26,675	19,054	45,729	(7,996)
Interest and Investment income	4,185	1,541	5,726	7,105
Surplus / (Deficit) for Year	30,860	20,595	51,455	(891)

All amounts relate to continuing activities.

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal. In respect of the Trust this relates to the Façade Improvement Schemes.

### BALANCE SHEET YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2006

	2006 &	2005 &
Fixed Assets		
Tangible Assets	67,720	69,225
Current Assets		
Debtors	2,632	31,329
Cash at bank and in hand	359,191	332,375
	361,823	363,704
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(195,120)	(249,961)
Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)	166,703	113,743
Total Assets less Current Liabilities	234,423	182,968

The Financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies.

#### **Basis of Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the trustees in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charity's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of the information in the financial statements.

### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, of the state of affairs of the charity as at 31st March 2006 and of the incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended, have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985 and the information given in the Trustees' Report is consistent with the financial statements.

Tenon Audit Limited, Registered Auditor, 5 Kings Place, Perth, PH2 8AA

## Grant Guidelines

### **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 grants 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 applications before the outset of a project.

### www.pkht.org.uk



### PERTH AND KINROSS HERITAGE TRUST

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