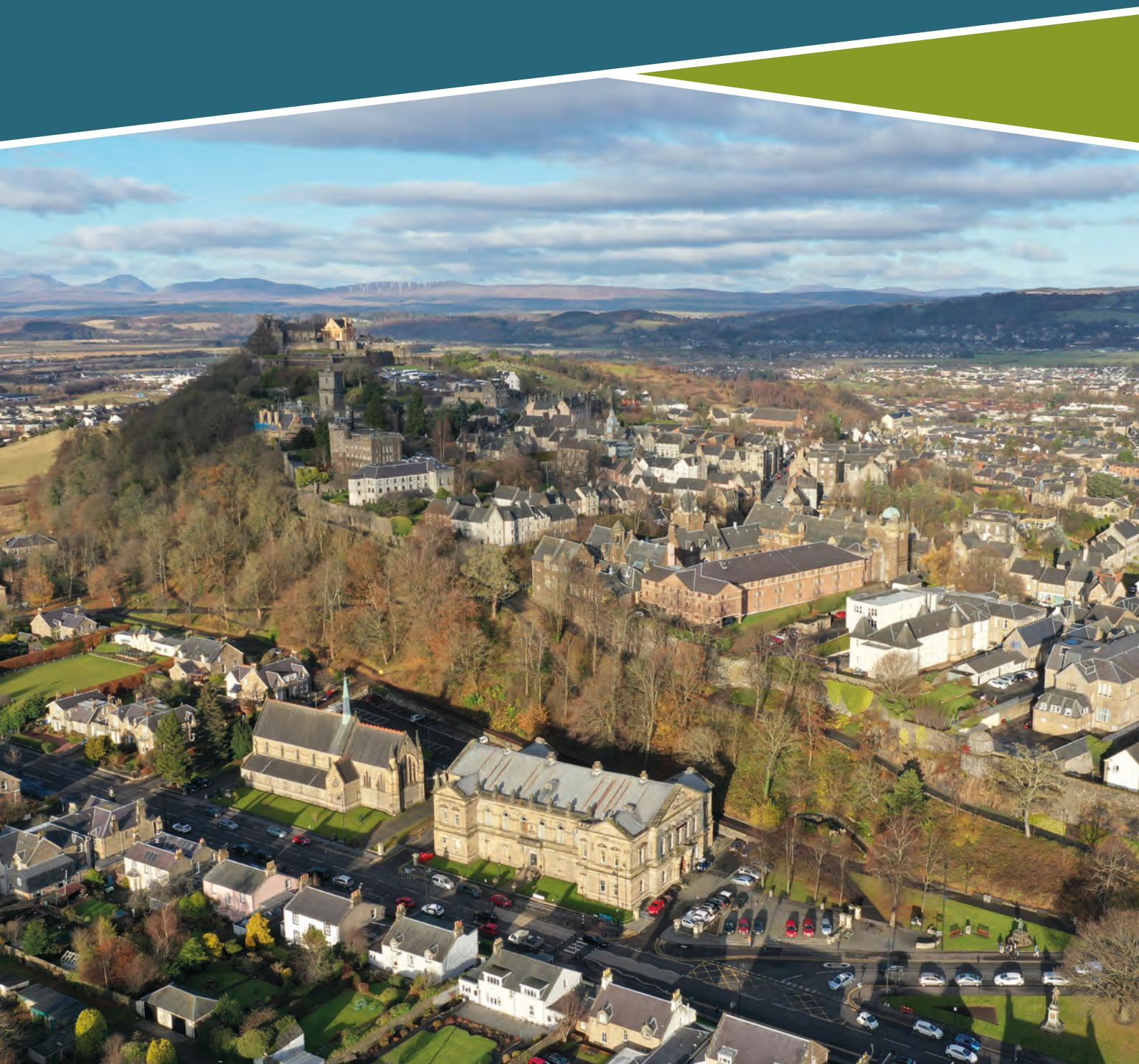


# 20 YEARS OF STIRLING CITY HERITAGE TRUST 2004-2024



20 YEARS SUPPORTING HERITAGE



# INTRODUCTION

Stirling City Heritage Trust (SCHT) is an independent company limited by guarantee (SC277033) and a registered Scottish Charity (SC037888) funded by Historic Environment Scotland and Stirling Council. Following on from the successful establishment of Edinburgh World Heritage in 1999, City Heritage Trusts were then established in Inverness, Dundee, Aberdeen and Stirling. Perth and Glasgow followed later. SCHT was officially formed in December 2004 with a launch event at Argyll's Lodgings in May 2005.

The Objects for which the Trust was established and which still stand today are:

***"To promote and encourage, either alone or in conjunction with others, the protection and preservation of the historic, architectural and landscape heritage within the Stirling Council Area (as defined in Section 1 of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994) by any means, all for the benefit of the general public now and in the future."***

SCHT invests in historic environment projects which contribute to the economic regeneration and resilience of Stirling's city centre and which aim to make it a better place to live, visit and invest. There is a strong focus on promoting understanding and appreciation of the city's historic built environment, together with identifying skills gaps and supporting initiatives to tackle this.

Delivery of repair grants, advice and supporting education through an array of outreach events has been central to the work of SCHT. The Trust is proud of its partnership working with other groups in the Stirling area to protect Stirling's rich and diverse heritage. Over the past 20 years, projects have included everything from a fountain in King's Park to the Stirling War Memorial and major tenements in King Street.

# MANAGING THE TRUST

The Trust has up to 11 volunteer Trustees who oversee the strategic direction of the organisation with the day to day running undertaken by staff. When the Trust was first established there was a single Trust Manager. Having expanded in remit over the past two decades, there are now seven members of staff.

To run effectively, the Trust relies on the dedication of the volunteer Trustees who give up their time for Board meetings and to support the wider work SCHT undertakes. The Board draws on a range of local expertise and Trustees are attracted to the Trust because they are passionate about Stirling's heritage.

The staff team have a variety of backgrounds including surveying, archaeology, engineering, traditional slating and history. All staff are committed to the care and conservation of the historic built environment of Stirling and promoting the benefits of traditional materials, careers and local heritage.

Originally based within the Stirling Council offices at Viewforth, as the Trust has expanded it has needed larger premises. In 2019, SCHT moved to the new charity hub at the Barracks developed by the Robertson Trust. Being located adjacent to the Historic Environment Scotland Engine Shed is particularly useful for partnership working and knowledge sharing.





# SMALL AND LARGE GRANTS 2004-2011

City Heritage Trusts were established to distribute funding to local areas of need and encourage city centre economic regeneration.

Small and large-scale conservation grants were established in 2005 to support owners of traditional buildings within the conservation areas of the city of Stirling. The grant scheme concentrated on the high-priority areas of Stirling Town and King's Park Conservation Areas. The primary purpose was to assist with and encourage the appropriate repair of traditional buildings, with a secondary purpose of the restoration and enhancement of features that give buildings their historic or architectural importance.

The small-scale conservation grant scheme also aimed to encourage good maintenance of historic buildings, thereby securing their continued use, and in turn preserving and enhancing the unique character of Stirling's conservation areas.

The large-scale conservation grant was utilised to support a comprehensive scheme of repairs for buildings with severe repair issues to ensure the future of the properties for many years to come. During the 2005-2012 period, SCHAT awarded 6 large grants, supporting the refurbishment of tenements in the Stirling Town Conservation Area including 55 Baker Street designed by John Allan and 55-57 King Street by Mcluckie and Walker.

These early grant schemes laid the groundwork for future projects, including the King Street Funding Initiative and the Traditional Buildings Health Check scheme.



**200+**

GRANT PROJECTS  
RECEIVED FUNDING FOR  
REPAIRS



**178**

BUILDINGS GRANT FUNDED  
56 CATEGORY B LISTED  
70 CATEGORY C LISTED



**32**

TENEMENT REPAIR  
PROJECTS



**£5 million**

TOTAL INVESTED IN  
REPAIRS TO TRADITIONAL  
BUILDINGS IN STIRLING  
2004-2011



**£2 million**

TOTAL GRANT  
SUPPORT AWARDED TO  
TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS  
2004-2011



**£3 million**

INVESTED BY PROPERTY  
OWNERS





# HERITAGE OUTREACH

Stirling City Heritage Trust endeavours to promote wider enjoyment, understanding and appreciation of local heritage. From 2005 to 2011, SCHAT operated the Community Heritage and Environment Grant Scheme (CHEG) and has also offered further funding to local organisations, developed exhibitions and events to engage with the community.

## Exhibitions

These included working in partnership with local organisations including Stirling Local History Society, artist Iona Leishman and Allan's Primary School. Stirling Archives and the Stirling Smith Art Gallery & Museum provided images from their collections.

- John Allan: A Man of Original Ideas 2016
- King Street: A Place of Quality 2019
- McLuckie & Walker: The Men Who Built Stirling 2021 & 2022
- Avenues to the Past: Stirling's Conservation Areas 2023

## Heritage Trails and Maps

Heritage trails have proved popular throughout the Trust's two decades with some so much in demand that they have required multiple reprints.

- The City Centre Hidden Gems in 2007
- Children's Postcard trail 2008
- John Allan in 2018 written by Stirling Local History Society and published by SCHAT
- Architects of Stirling: McLuckie and Walker and John Allan in 2021
- Who Built Stirling 2023
- Stirling Family trail in 2023

## Community Heritage Projects

The Trust worked closely with Community Councils and local organisations, supporting interpretation plaques and social history projects. In 2010-2012 the Trust worked with the Friends of King's Park and Stirling High School to support the Stirling Schools Interpretation Project, a heritage trail with mosaic sculptures marking key historic sites around the park.

In 2011, grant funding was awarded to an exciting archaeological project investigating the King's Knot. The outline of the landmark inspired the current SCHAT logo.

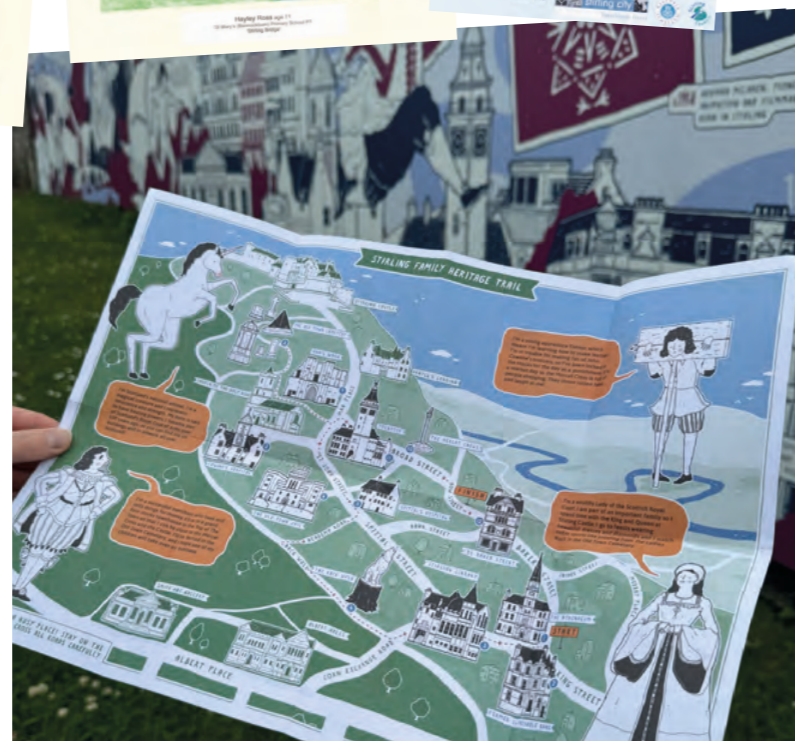
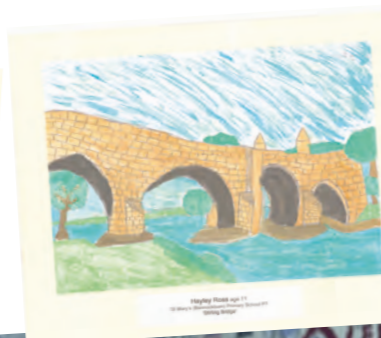
## Dementia Reminiscence Project

Recent projects have contributed to Stirling Council's wider strategic plans to promote mental health and wellbeing. In 2022, the Trust published *20 Great Buildings of Stirling*, in partnership with the Stirling Smith who had previously published *20 Great Paintings: Highlights from the Stirling Smith's Art Collection*. These accessible publications were created for people living with dementia, in care communities, and New Scots.

Building on this success, in 2023, the Stirling Reminiscence Boxes were launched. During 2023-2024, 150 boxes were distributed to care homes, local organisations working with people with dementia, the Bellfield Centre and through the Stirling Library Service. Stirling Voluntary Enterprise and Clackmannanshire Third Sector Interface funded this project.

*'Our residents loved looking through the boxes. It generated a lot of memories and they enjoyed discussing with others. The box was lovely to sit and talk through with our residents, we heard a few stories from back in*

Randolph Hill Nursing Home





# SHOPFRONTS

Attractive shopfronts contribute to the streetscape and are important for the economic vitality of a place. In contrast, poor signage, vacant premises and use of unsympathetic security measures can detract from the appearance of a retail centre.

The Façade Enhancement Scheme launched in 2010 aimed to tackle poor shopfronts, repair and enhance street frontages, reduce vacancy, improve security and encourage footfall in King Street. Two groups of shops were part of the scheme, four shops at 3-15 King Street and a pair of shopfronts at 38-40 King Street, as well as three close entrances. In total, around £220,000 was invested in the conservation, repair and enhancement of these six shopfronts and close entrances.

***“We have partnered with Stirling City Heritage Trust on several shop front improvement projects in the city centre, regularly seeking their advice and benefitting from their invaluable expertise in built heritage”***

Go Forth Stirling Business Improvement District

Further shopfront enhancements took place at 57-71 Barnton Street in 2020, where original signs dating to the start of the twentieth century were uncovered during repair works. Once recorded and recovered, new signs were hand-painted by local signwriter, Ross Hastie, providing a new but traditional look for the shopfronts in this row.

A new Shopfront Grant was launched in 2021 in partnership with the Go Forth Stirling Business Improvement District (BID). A total of 5 grants were offered for new signage, repainting of shopfronts and new traditional style doors.

# MONUMENTS & MEMORIALS

In addition to repairing buildings, the Trust has also funded repair and enhancement of monuments and memorials. These form part of local history and are important to communities.

The following projects have been funded:

- Restoration of four Victorian cast iron drinking pillar wells in King’s Park with the Friends of King’s Park
- Repair and restoration of the King’s Park drinking fountain
- Repairs to the masonry and bronzes of Stirling War Memorial with funds from War Memorial Fund, the Stirling Common Good Fund and the Clackmannanshire and Stirling Environment Trust





# KING STREET FUNDING INITIATIVE

Between 2013 and 2018 over £1.5 million was invested in the historic buildings of King Street and nearby streets through public and private investment. The King Street Funding Initiative (KSFI) was a proactive project which involved external repairs, conservation and enhancement work to several tenements to aid the economic regeneration of Stirling's historic city centre.

King Street, like many historic commercial areas, had faced considerable change resulting in vacancy and deterioration of building fabric. Focusing investment on this street recognised its historic and architectural importance to Stirling and its ongoing contribution to the economic vitality of the city centre.

The works ranged from small shopfront enhancements to full tenement repairs. In total, the Trust spoke to 44 residential and business occupiers over the course of the project, which involved overcoming many complex issues faced in achieving such projects. Repairs were completed on 24 residential flats, 9 shops and 4 businesses.

The KSFI aimed to bring economic improvements to a street that was once the commercial centre of Stirling. The focus was on tackling tenement disrepair through owners working together. In total, 8 buildings were repaired including the McLuckie and Walker designed Co-operative Building which received grant funding for masonry repairs, leadwork, slating and window refurbishment. King Street's earliest bank, 50-52 King Street, was awarded funding for roof work, repointing and repairs to the masonry balustrades.

***'Having a geographically focused project which supported tenement and shop owners to holistically repair and enhance their properties made a tangible difference to Stirling's most historic streets.'***

Lindsay Lennie,  
Stirling City Heritage Trust Manager



8

TENEMENTS GRANT FUNDED

4 BUSINESSES

9 SHOPS

24 FLATS



## Buildings Repaired

- 3-15 KING STREET
- 14-18 KING STREET
- 30-34 KING STREET
- 42-46 KING STREET
- 52-54 KING STREET
- WILLY WALLACE HOSTEL, MURRAY PLACE
- 53-71 BARNTON STREET
- 32 SPITTAL STREET



£1.54m

TOTAL INVESTED IN REPAIRS TO KSFI PROJECTS



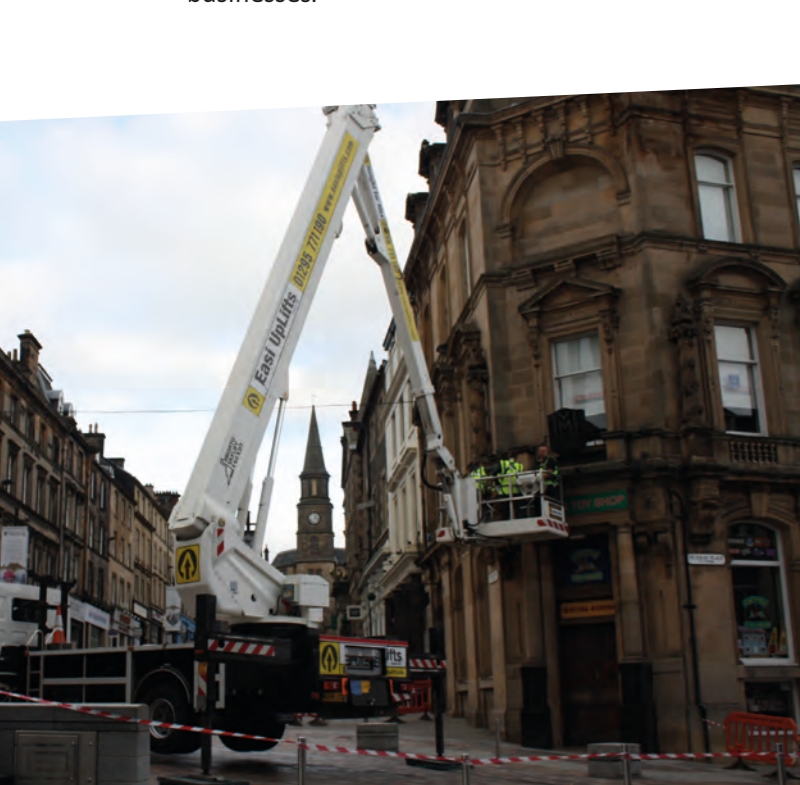
£940k

TOTAL GRANT SUPPORT AWARDED TO KSFI



£600K

INVESTED BY PROPERTY OWNERS





# TRADITIONAL SKILLS TRAINING

The Trust is committed to supporting education and training in traditional skills. Since 2017, SCHT have organised events in partnership with the Forth Valley Traditional Buildings Forum to allow young people to try out different skills and have offered other training opportunities.

- Supported the first year of training for three local apprentices in joinery and stonemasonry.
- Hosted two students as part of the Robertson Trust Journey to Success programme in summer 2020 and 2022. The 4-week placement is fully funded by the Robertson Trust. We focus on young people who are studying either architecture or building surveying.
- Offered skills training to over 150 pupils from S2 to S6 in slating, stonemasonry and signwriting.

## Women in Construction

Since 2020, the Trust has focused on offering training to female pupils to encourage them to consider a career in the construction sector. According to the Office of National Statistics\* women currently make up only 16.6% of workers in the construction sector, and only 2.5% of Modern Apprentices in Scotland‡, with a 23% gender pay gap within the construction industries biggest companies†.

Inspired by Women in Engineering events/programmes, the Trust conceived of and organised Women in Construction, a series of skills events for high school age girls, where the majority of the demonstrators were women. The events showcase how varied and rewarding work in the sector can be, with a focus on roles which involve working with the historic built environment.

The first Women in Construction event was held in 2020 at Bannockburn High School for 70 female pupils. Since then, events have also been held at Wallace High and Stirling High, with over 150 female pupils participating. In 2024, a 2-day build event was held at Bannockburn House and 12 female pupils constructed a timber pergola for the garden.

\* ONS Data March 2023, Labour Force Survey  
 ‡ Skills Development Scotland, Modern Apprenticeship Statistics Q4 2022/23  
 † CIPD gender pay gap reporting 2022-2023

***'This has been an amazing opportunity for our pupils to get involved in a practical project which they will be able to visit with their families for years to come. They are so proud of what they achieved!'***

Teacher, Design & Technology



***'An excellent showcase of career options for pupils interested in Design & Engineering and Creative Industries.'***  
 Principal Teacher, Partnerships



***'I enjoyed today a lot, it was really good seeing people proud of their work.'***

Student, S3



150

TOTAL NUMBER OF FEMALE PUPILS ATTENDING WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION EVENTS SINCE 2020



**78%**  
 OF STUDENTS WOULD CONSIDER A CAREER IN CONSTRUCTION/HERITAGE AFTER WIC



**81%**  
 OF STUDENTS FELT BETTER PREPARED TO MAKE CHOICES ABOUT THEIR CAREER AS A RESULT OF WIC



**100%**  
 OF TEACHERS FELT BETTER ABLE TO SUPPORT STUDENTS LOOKING AT CAREERS IN CONSTRUCTION/HERITAGE





# TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS HEALTH CHECK

The Traditional Buildings Health Check (TBHC) was set up following a 2012 scoping study undertaken by Stirling City Heritage Trust for Historic Environment Scotland (HES). The study highlighted the need for a proactive maintenance scheme in Scotland. In response, HES commissioned Stirling City Heritage Trust to conduct a 5-year pilot scheme, which ran from April 2013 to March 2018 and was funded in partnership with CITB Scotland.

The TBHC has been designed as a not-for-profit, proactive maintenance scheme open to anyone in the City of Stirling and surrounding area who owns a pre-1919 building. It offers an inspection and advice service, a small repairs schedule and grant assistance for priority repairs identified in the inspection reports. Subsidised fee rates are charged for membership and services, which are reinvested in the operation of the TBHC. The TBHC report has a traffic light system to help owners easily identify and prioritise repairs.

The Traditional Building Repair Grant (TBRG) was established in 2015 to encourage TBHC members to act on the issues highlighted in their inspection reports.

The grant scheme incentivises members to undertake high-quality conservation-standard repairs using traditional materials. Owners can apply for up to £15,000 to assist with repairs.

Since 2018, Stirling City Heritage Trust has continued to operate the TBHC as part of its primary services. The service has expanded to areas outside the City of Stirling and has innovated inspection methods with the introduction of Small Unmanned Aircraft (SUA or Drone). The TBHC remains a unique service in the UK.

The increasing need to make buildings more energy efficient is also changing the landscape in terms of what is being expected of building owners in helping to address the Climate Emergency. The TBHC Retrofit Service was launched in 2023 with additional funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. This has allowed the Trust to offer bespoke advice to building owners together with a small grant to assist in undertaking appropriate energy efficiency measures such as secondary glazing.



**488**

PROPERTY OWNERS SUPPORTED



**319**

BUILDINGS INSPECTED  
56 TENEMENTS  
70 HOUSES



**71**

GRANTS PROJECTS COMPLETED  
15 CATEGORY B LISTED  
27 CATEGORY C LISTED



**£1.5 million**

TOTAL PROJECT COST ON GRANT FUNDED REPAIR WORK



**£480k**

TOTAL GRANT SUPPORT AWARDED



**£1 million**

INVESTED BY PROPERTY OWNERS














# PARTNERSHIP WORKING

Stirling City Heritage Trust prides itself on its partnership working. The city has many excellent local organisations and throughout its two decades of operations, SCHT has worked with many of them to deliver meaningful local projects. These partnerships have ranged from events and activities to supporting other charities with the repair of their traditional buildings and tackling the skills shortage.

## KEY PROJECTS HAVE INCLUDED

-  SUPPORTING PRE-APPRENTICE TRAINING WITH STIRLING COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE
-  WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE STIRLING CIVIC TRUST ON LOCAL ARCHITECTURAL AWARDS
-  DELIVERING SHOPFRONT ENHANCEMENT GRANTS IN CONJUNCTION WITH GO FORTH BID
-  PARTNERING THE STIRLING SMITH ART GALLERY & MUSEUM AND STIRLING ARCHIVES ON EXHIBITIONS AND PUBLICATIONS
-  PROVIDING ADVICE TO STIRLING COUNCIL ON THEIR ASSETS AND SUPPORT TO STAFF ON TECHNICAL ISSUES
-  DELIVERING THE STIRLING HERITAGE STRATEGY IN 2024 FOR STIRLING COUNCIL IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL AND NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS
-  SUPPORTING THE HES ENGINE SHED WITH THEIR TECHNICAL SEMINAR SERIES OFFERING STAFF EXPERTISE FOR LECTURES AND GUIDED TOURS
-  ORGANISING OUTREACH EVENTS WITH CREATIVE STIRLING INCLUDING FOR DOORS OPEN DAYS, THE STIRLING PHOTOGRAPHY FESTIVAL AND THE BIG CITY BOX BUILD
-  ASSISTING THE STIRLING CONSERVATION AREA REGENERATION SCHEME (CARS) WITH TECHNICAL ADVICE AND DRONE SURVEYS OF BUILDINGS



*'We only really borrow a property for a period of time. We think we own it but we really just curate it for a period. The building's life is much longer than ours. We should aim to pass the building on in a better state than we received it.'*

TBHC Member





# SUMMARY



**£8.2 million**

TOTAL REPAIR PROJECT COSTS 2004 - 2024

**£2.9 million**

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND GRANT FUNDING

**£500k**

STIRLING COUNCIL FUNDING

**£4.6 million**

OWNER INVESTMENT

**£3.5 million**

GRANT FUNDING FOR REPAIRS 2004-2024



**247**

BUILDINGS SUPPORTED WITH GRANT FUNDING

- 1 CATEGORY A LISTED
- 56 CATEGORY B LISTED
- 70 CATEGORY C LISTED



**287**

BUILDING REPAIR PROJECTS FUNDED SINCE 2004



**565**

TRADITIONAL PROPERTY OWNERS SUPPORTED SINCE 2004

# LOOKING AHEAD

Stirling City Heritage Trust can look back on the past two decades with pride in the significant contribution it has made to Stirling's heritage. The Trust has supported a huge variety of projects which have improved the economic resilience of the city and ensured that traditional buildings are better cared for. Local communities have seen many aspects of their heritage celebrated and promoted through involvement in SCHT-funded projects including exhibitions, publications and events.

Staff and Trustees are grateful to the funders and partners who support the Trust to carry out this important work, particularly Historic Environment Scotland and Stirling Council, together with the numerous local organisations based in the Stirling area.

These relationships are especially important at a time of tighter budgets and more limited resources, where working effectively together can result in good outcomes for Stirling's historic environment.

Looking ahead, SCHT will continue to encourage building owners to proactively maintain their older properties through the Traditional Buildings Health Check scheme. It remains at the heart of everything that the Trust delivers. However, SCHT will continue to innovate and use the public funds it receives to tackle identified priorities and areas of need. Future plans will include projects to help the transition to Net Zero, expanding partnership working and continuing to champion Stirling's heritage to ensure that it can be enjoyed by all.

***"Stirling can be proud of the difference SCHT has made over the past two decades and the expertise and knowledge that the Trust has brought to the city."***

Jim Thompson, Chair of Stirling City Heritage Trust





## ABOUT SCHAT

A registered Scottish Charity and a private company limited by guarantee. The Trust is managed by a Trust Manager and overseen by a Board of up to 11 voluntary Trustees. Funding is from **Historic Environment Scotland** and **Stirling Council**.

**Stirling City Heritage Trust,**  
Ground Floor, Cameron House,  
Forthside Way, Stirling, FK8 1QZ  
Company number: SC277033



**Stirling City**  
HERITAGE TRUST



**TRADITIONAL**  
**BUILDINGS**  
HEALTH CHECK



HISTORIC  
ENVIRONMENT  
SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD  
EACHDRAIDHEIL  
ALBA



**Funded by**  
**UK Government**