



Blackburn House, West Lothian

A derelict 18th Century villa of significant historic and architectural importance restored and upgraded for office use and available to hire for conferences, exhibitions and events.



BEFORE:

The exterior in disrepair



AFTER:

The restored exterior



AFTER:

The restored drawing room

'Blackburn House with its rare blend of the grand and the rustic provides a wonderful location for creative businesses right at the heart of Scotland'

GEORGE McNEILL, FORMER CHIEF PLANNING OFFICER, WEST LOTHIAN COUNCIL

Blackburn House in West Lothian, was built by George Moncrieff in 1772. It is a fine example of an 18th Century country house in the Palladian style and is the only A-listed building in the local area.

While a fine example of 18th Century villa architecture, Blackburn House has several unique features in its decoration and construction. The unusual choice of timber for the internal walls may be due to the influence of plantation houses and building methods in the West Indies (Moncrieff had accrued his wealth from the operation of sugar plantations in Antigua). In addition the Rococo plasterwork in the main rooms is of exceptional quality.

Unoccupied since the early 1970's, the condition of this historic house deteriorated significantly and it was feared that unless action was taken, collapse and demolition were inevitable.

The Scottish Historic Buildings Trust took ownership of the building in 2005 after commissioning a feasibility study for the restoration and re-use of the house. A carefully planned programme of building work began allowing much of the building's original fabric to be retained while ensuring that the building would meet the requirements for contemporary tenants.

After its 3 year restoration, the house now has a new role as office accommodation with a focus on the creative industries in West Lothian. The house and pavilions now contain offices and a recording studio while principal rooms have been restored with a view to use as a period film set or for hire for conferences, exhibitions and special events.

Blackburn House was officially opened in 2009 by former Minister for Europe, External Affairs and Culture, Linda Fabiani.

BUILDING DEVELOPER AND OWNER:
Scottish Historic Buildings Trust

PROJECT COST:
£3.65 million

FUNDERS:
SHBT are grateful to numerous funders for their generous contributions to the project. Please refer to our website for details on project funding.



Scottish
Historic
Buildings
Trust

Ham Giral, Caithness

A project to bring new life to a historic and architecturally significant rural building in Caithness



THEN: *Photograph of Ham Giral circa 1925*



NOW: *Exterior view of building gable*



NOW: *Exterior view of building in landscape*

“undoubtedly one of the most impressive industrial buildings of the North Highlands”

Andrew PK Wright, Chartered Architect & Heritage Consultant

The Ham Giral and Corn Mill is located in Caithness in the far North East of Scotland. This category ‘B’ listed building is redundant and currently at risk. Constructed in the first half of the 18th century as a three storey ‘giral’ or grain store, it was later converted to a mill with an additional storey, a kiln and a mill added around the turn of the 19th century.

The extension of the original building highlights the growth of the export industry from Caithness. It ceased to be used as intended, however, around the turn of the 20th century. The internal floors of the building were removed in the mid 20th Century, the building became derelict and it is now extremely vulnerable.

Very few buildings of this type and scale remain in Scotland and, in addition to its aesthetic and material qualities, it retains importance as a physical link to the region’s agricultural past. Sited in an impressive landscape that is

both natural and manmade, the building is a landmark for the local community.

An Options Appraisal was undertaken by SHBT to investigate potential new uses for this significant building. The preferred option was to conserve and repair the existing fabric and develop the building as a ‘Cultural Hub for the Performing Arts’, providing flexible practice rooms, recital space and study space for creative users to partake in seminars, workshops and summer schools.

Residential accommodation will be provided in a new building adjacent to the ‘giral’, designed to complement the existing building.

SHBT will be taking this development project forward in 2012/2013, working in partnership with North Highland Connections who will become the end user, and are currently sourcing funding to raise the capital cost of £5m.

BUILDING DEVELOPER:
Scottish Historic Buildings Trust

PROJECT COST:
£5 million

FUNDING:
To contribute towards the project you can donate online at www.shbt.org.uk or by post to: SHBT, Riddle’s Court, 322 Lawnmarket, Edinburgh, EH1 2PG

Registered Charity No SC 034507

www.shbt.org.uk



Glasite Meeting House, Edinburgh

The historic meeting house of the Edinburgh Glasite sect available to hire for conferences, exhibitions and events.



Exterior View



The Meeting Hall



The McWilliam Room

'(The Glasites) wanted a very simple design that reflected their beliefs...as the building has not changed much since it was built, we can still see how it was intended to be... one of the few Glasite Meeting Houses still in existence.'

ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE SOCIETY FOR
SCOTLAND

The Glasite Meeting House on the periphery of Edinburgh's New Town is a category A-listed former place of worship of the Edinburgh branch of the Glasites. Built in 1835 to the specifications of the Glasite congregation who commissioned it, the building was in operation as a place of worship until 1989.

At one stage there were 30 Meeting Houses in Scotland of which Edinburgh is the largest and most elaborate. Many of the original features of the building survive including two working clocks and three feast tables which are still used at functions and meetings.

The purpose-built Edinburgh Glasite Meeting House itself has considerable symbolic significance as the only example of its kind which survives almost wholly intact.

Originally designed by Alexander Black, the domestic-scaled exterior and plain interior reflect the characteristics of the Glasite sect.

The interior is enlivened by a set piece skylight and simple architectural details. The pulpit in the main Meeting Hall was a later addition, designed by David Bryce in 1873.

The building remains remarkably well preserved and has been cared for by the Glasite Meeting House Trust. Repairs to the outer stonework and internal cupola have been completed in recent years. In 2012 the building was gifted to Scottish Historic Buildings Trust on the understanding that SHBT would be better placed to secure a viable future for the building.

The Meeting house is currently available to hire for conferences, exhibitions and special events. There are also a number of small offices available to let. Please contact SHBT for further details:

Tel: 0131 220 1232
Email: info@shbt.org.uk





Scottish
Historic
Buildings
Trust

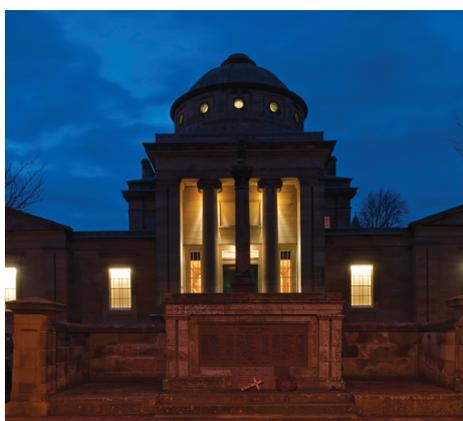
Greenlaw Town Hall, Scottish Borders

A redundant and derelict A-listed Georgian Town Hall saved for the benefit of the rural community by the creation of offices and a large public hall.



BEFORE:

The dome and chimneys.



AFTER:

The restored exterior.



AFTER:

The restored entrance hall.

'It is such a pleasure to look out onto this superbly restored Georgian building, knowing that its future is assured. It looks magnificent, alive and welcoming. What an inspiration.'

LOCAL RESIDENT

Greenlaw Town Hall was built in 1831 to designs by John Cunningham as the Courthouse for Berwickshire. It was a proud emblem for the village which held the status of county town for over 200 years (1696-1904).

The Town Hall is regarded as the most successful design of the Berwickshire born architect, leading him to build a number of significant public buildings in Liverpool. Together with the Castle Inn Hotel opposite, these are two of the few remaining examples of his work.

Duns replaced Greenlaw as the county town in 1904 and the Town Hall became a Community Hall, then a Swimming Pool briefly in 1973, and a local Antique Dealer's Sales Room until becoming empty in 1998. During the Second World War it was a billet for Polish soldiers.

The people behind the building's construction, including the architect, have significant local connections. It was financed by a local landowner, Sir John Purves Hume Campbell and constructed by a local builder, William Waddell using local Swinston Stone.

Prior to this project starting on site, Greenlaw Town Hall had been a Building at Risk since 2001 and unsafe for public access. Project priorities were to bring the building into a good state of repair to secure its future at the heart of the local community, and as a catalyst for local economic regeneration. The pavilions have been converted into much needed affordable office accommodation and the hall into a flexible community venue. The building is once again the proud centerpiece elevated on the village green.

www.shbt.org.uk
Registered Charity No SC 034507

BUILDING DEVELOPER AND OWNER:
Scottish Historic Buildings Trust

OPERATOR:
Scottish Historic Buildings Trust

DESIGN TEAM:
*Architect - Adam Dudley Architects
Quantity Surveyor - Morham and Brochie
Structural Engineer - David Narro Associates
Mechanical and Electrical Engineer - RYBKA
CDM Co-ordinator - Harley Haddow*

MAIN CONTRACTOR:
Campbell & Smith Construction Group Ltd

PROJECT COST:
£1.9 million



Scottish
Historic
Buildings
Trust

Hippodrome Cinema, Bo'ness

Multi-award winning, A-listed pre Art Deco cinema restored for the local community.



BEFORE:

The building in disrepair.



AFTER:

The restored exterior



AFTER:

The restored auditorium

“The Hippodrome offers all the comfort and high quality of a modern-day cinema, but with all the glamour of an old-style picture house... If you haven't been yet, treat yourself and go”

LOCAL COUNCILLOR

The Hippodrome, built in 1911, is a rare and beautiful example of pre-art deco cinema architecture and is arguably Scotland's earliest surviving purpose built cinema. It was commissioned by cinema pioneer Louis Dickson and designed by local architect Matt Steele in a prominent corner position between the historically busy port area and the Main Street of Bo'ness. The building is category A-listed, in recognition of its importance in the history of cinema and in the development of 20th Century architecture.

The Hippodrome was built during Bo'ness' heyday as a centre for heavy industry and coal mining as well as one of Scotland's largest export shipping ports. Today Bo'ness is primarily a commuter town since the decline of the coal industry and dock closure in the mid 20th Century.

Along with the town's general decline the Hippodrome was closed as a cinema and used for 20 years as a bingo hall. The building then lay derelict and empty for nearly 20 years and was subject to damp, fire and vandalism. To some, it appeared to be symbolic of the town's decline and its condition and appearance was detrimental to its significance.

The Hippodrome has now been restored and returned to the use for which it was originally built, a small picture house cinema, now operated by Falkirk Council. Much of the original fabric and character has been retained with a decorative scheme reflecting that of 1926.

The project has been successful not only in restoring a listed building for the community but also in that it has been a catalyst for regeneration in the town centre and a boost to local businesses.

BUILDING DEVELOPER AND OWNER:
Scottish Historic Buildings Trust

PROJECT COST:
£2.1 million

FUNDERS:
SHBT are grateful to numerous funders for their generous contributions to the project. Please refer to our website for details on project funding.

Registered Charity No SC 034507

www.shbt.org.uk