



## A5.2 The View from Clackmannan Tower

Project Overview:	<p>This project aimed to provide increased supervised access to Clackmannan Tower, a nationally important 14<sup>th</sup>-century keep built by Sir Robert Bruce.</p> <p>One aspect of the works undertaken by Historic Environment Scotland at Clackmannan Tower was the installation of a new balustrade. This allows for safer access to the upper parapet, with its spectacular view of the Ochil Hills and Forth Valley. Additionally, the steelwork helps to secure the structural integrity of the Tower.</p> <p>Improvements have been made to both the ambient and directional internal lighting, and safety barriers have been installed to allow people access to areas previously cordoned off.</p> <p>The number of guided tours have increased markedly over the lifetime of the project, with increased capacity on Doors Open Days events, the provision of Insight Tours by HES staff, and bespoke tours for specialist and school groups.</p>
Project lead and other organisations:	<p>Lead: Historic Environment Scotland</p> <p>Landowner consulted on works.</p>
Project Location:	<p>Clackmannan Tower, King's Seat Hill, Clackmannan (Clackmannanshire)</p> <p>NS 905 920</p>
Project dates	<p>Years 1-4: August 2014 to March 2018.</p>

### Project Outputs

Measure	Target	Delivered	Notes
Scheduled monument conserved	1	1	
Up to 60 two-hour tours	60	38	Whilst lower than originally targeted, these figures represent a significant increase in monument tours that allow visitors to access the site.
Up to 1,200 accompanied visits	1,200	824	

### What difference has this project made to the built, cultural and natural heritage of the Inner Forth?

Clackmannan Tower is a Scheduled Monument and thus of national importance. Work was undertaken by HES to install a new balustrade, thereby allowing safer access to the upper parapet and improving the structural integrity of the Tower. In addition, the lighting within the tower was upgraded, and new railings were installed at key locations internally, thus opening up more areas for people on guided tours.

Located on King's Seat Hill, at the top of the raised beach scarp, Clackmannan Tower provides a panoramic view of the Inner Forth landscape. As such, numerous cultural and natural heritage features – including RSPB Black Devon Wetlands - can be revealed and celebrated. The location is also ideal for interpreting how the landscape has altered over time, and thus this project has contributed towards a greater appreciation among locals and visitors of why the Tower was built here and how it links to the industrial development of the Inner Forth.

### ***What difference has this project made to people?***

This project has made a key site within the Inner Forth more accessible to residents and visitors, and has contributed to the process of safeguarding it for future generations.

Moreover, the works undertaken during the project have provided an improved visitor experience for those on guided tours, who are now able to access more internal areas than previously.

### ***Useful Links***

Project Page on IFLI website: <http://www.innerforthlandscape.co.uk/projects/conserving-restoring/the-view-from-clackmannan-tower>

HES page: <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/visit-a-place/places/clackmannan-tower/>

Canmore: <https://canmore.org.uk/site/48302/clackmannan-tower>

### ***Future Plans***

As access to the tower interior has been considerably improved by the project, it is hoped to be able to continue to provide an enhanced programme of events and tours to members of the public. A five-year consolidation plan has been prepared which focuses on repairs to the external elevations. HES will continue to invest in the site as Property in Care, and to work with the local community and other stakeholders – for example, working with a local historical society to allow them to be keyholders enabling them to provide additional guided tours.

### ***Lessons Learned***

The project has also provided an opportunity for different departments within HES to work together, and to work with external stakeholders, which will be of long-term benefit.

### ***Photographic Evidence***

## Inner Forth Landscape Initiative End of Project Report

*Parapet prior to balustrade*



*Cantilevered balustrade prior to powder coating*



*Works to install a section of balustrade*



*New balustrade*



*Example of new lighting from within the Lairds Hall.*



Photos courtesy of HES. Further images can be seen within this presentation from August 2018:

[www.innerforthlandscape.co.uk/files/Resources/8\\_DavidBorthwick\\_HES\\_Conservation\\_and\\_Consolidation\\_of\\_Built\\_Heritage.pdf](http://www.innerforthlandscape.co.uk/files/Resources/8_DavidBorthwick_HES_Conservation_and_Consolidation_of_Built_Heritage.pdf)

### Funding Partners

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