



House of Falkland / Fife
Private Trust Case Study

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Type and Size of Project

- Conservation/Restoration Management
- Audience Development Planning
- Access Development Planning

Bell Ingram team members Bill McConnell and Patrick Laughlin have been heavily involved with the House of Falkland since 1990

The House is a Grade A listed mansion, designed by the pre-eminent Victorian architect, William Burn, and is sited in a designed landscape of national importance. The House's magnificent interiors contain an amazing collection of unique "arts and crafts" works influenced by religion, symbolism and Byzantine architecture, mainly commissioned by the third Marquis of Bute, the greatest private architectural patron of the 19th century.

Advising in his capacity of RICS accredited Building Surveyor; Bill McConnell devised a Planned Maintenance Scheme aimed at preserving the very dilapidated and complex roof structure whilst reducing the annual maintenance budget. This produced substantial savings over the years during

Over 100,000 visits to the new paths network made annually

extended negotiations with Heritage Lottery Fund in respect of grant assistance. During this period, Bill also dealt with all unplanned emergency repairs including masonry works to the fragile and ornate chimney stacks.

In 2006-07, Patrick Laughlin managed and authored audience development and access development plans for the House. These were produced to HLF-approved standards and have been used successfully to apply for Heritage Lottery Fund support.

Over 100,000 visits to the new paths network around the House are now being made annually, and the focus has shifted to improving and increasing public access to the House and its ancillary buildings, under the auspices of "Falkland Centre for Stewardship", which is a leading proponent of sustainable rural development (see www.centreforstewardship.org.uk) Patrick's involvement continues; he wrote a business plan for the new Centre in 2007 and is now one of its voluntary Trustees.



Successful Heritage Lottery Fund applications in respect of building restoration, audience development and access development. Maintenance cost savings and increased visitor numbers.

www.centreforstewardship.org.uk