

Case information

Case IDs	300018857, 300018601, 300018828, 300018978
File Reference	HGH/B/CA/45 and 46, AMH/628/16, AMH/632/16
Name of Site	Clackmannan Tolbooth, Mercat Cross and Clackmannan Stone

Local Authority	Clackmannanshire Council
National Grid Reference	Tolbooth NS 91113 91894; Mercat Cross NS 91110 91889; Clackmannan Stone NS 91115 91890
Designation No. (if any)	See table below
Case Type	Amendment of LB1947 Removal of SM628, SM632, LB1948

Project Start Date	13/06/2016
Decision Date	14/02/2017

1. Decision

The decision has been to remove the dual designation of this site.

Listing is considered the most appropriate designation to recognise the significance of this group of assets. The listing of the Tolbooth has been amended to include the mercat cross and the Clackmannan Stone and its category has changed from B to A.

The existing listing of the mercat cross and the schedulings of the tolbooth and the mercat cross plus Clackmannan Stone have been removed. The national importance of all these structures has continued to be recognised through inclusion in a listed building at Category A.

Amended Statutory address	Clackmannan Tolbooth, Mercat Cross and Clackmannan Stone, Main Street, Clackmannan
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Previous Statutory Address or SM name	Designation No.	Previous category of listing	Action
Clackmannan Tolbooth	LB1947	B	Amend; change to category A
Clackmannan Mercat Cross	LB1948	B	Merged with LB1947
Clackmannan Tolbooth	SM628	N/A	Remove
Clackmannan, market cross & Clackmannan Stone	SM632	N/A	Remove

2. Designation Background and Development Proposals

2.1 Designation Background

Clackmannan Market Cross and Clackmannan Stone were scheduled on 12/12/1949. Clackmannan Tolbooth was scheduled on 05/05/1953. There have been no amendments since that date.

Clackmannan Tolbooth was listed at category B on 09/06/1960. Clackmannan Mercat Cross was listed at category B on 09/06/1960. There have been no reviews since that date.

2.2 Development Proposals

There are no known development proposals.

3. Assessment

3.1 Assessment information

This site has been considered as part of the Dual Designation project. This is a nationwide project to review structures which are both listed as buildings of special architectural or historic interest and scheduled as monuments of national importance. Where appropriate the 'dual designation' of structures is being removed and they are being listed or scheduled depending on their individual circumstances.

The site was visited on 31/08/2016. The exterior of the Tolbooth was seen at this visit and the interior was not seen.

3.2 Assessment against designation criteria

An assessment against the listing criteria has been carried out. Clackmannan Tolbooth and Clackmannan Market Cross and Stone are considered to be more appropriately listed. Therefore they have been removed from the schedule. The building and monuments were found to continue meet the criteria for listing (see Annex A).

The designation criteria are published in the Historic Environment Scotland policy statement June 2016 - <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/advice-and-support/planning-and-guidance/legislation-and-guidance/historic-environment-scotland-policy-statement/>

3.3 Other considerations

As part of the Dual Designation project, we have reviewed the structures at this site and concluded that listing is the most appropriate mechanism to secure their preservation as an asset of national importance.

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ANNEX A – Assessment Against the Listing Criteria

Clackmannan Tolbooth, Mercat Cross and Clackmannan Stone, Main Street, Clackmannan

1 Description

Clackmannan Tolbooth: The belfry tower, built about 1680, with attached crowstepped gable wall is the surviving west end of the tolbooth which was first built in 1592. It is approximately square in plan and is built of buff-coloured rubble with sandstone dressings and grey off-set quoins, the plain walls rise to a moulded cornice. The roof has an ogival spire surmounted by a weathercock. There is a door on the south wall and rectangular openings at the lower stages with round arched openings at the belfry stage. There are clock faces, probably 19th century in date, on the east and west sides. The gable wall of the tolbooth has strip quoins.

Clackmannan Market Cross: The cross, probably dating from the 17th century has a square stone shaft with chamfered corners. It is tapered at the bottom and has a trefoil capital. The east and west faces of the capital have weathered coats of arms with the chief and saltire of the Bruce of Clackmannan, that on the east still discernible as such. The ball finial is a replacement of 1887 (or 1897). The cross is raised on an octagonal eight-coursed stone base which replaced similar steps in 2007. The second step from the top on the south side is inscribed 'MMVII'.

Clackmannan Stone: The capstone, thought to date from the third or second millennium BC, was broken in pieces at an early date and bound together with iron rods. It is supported on a massive irregularly shaped whinstone block erected in 1833.

2 Assessment Against the Listing Criteria (Historic Environment Scotland policy statement June 2016, Annex 1, pp. 48-50.)

2.1 Age and Rarity

Clackmannan Tolbooth was originally erected in 1592, though the belfry tower that is visible today was built around 1680. William Menteith, Sheriff of Clackmannan, presented a petition to Parliament requesting that a Tolbooth be built as he and his predecessors had been obliged to hold courts in the open air and to keep prisoners in his house. An Act was passed on 5 June 1592 which authorised the construction of the Tolbooth and the collection of taxes to pay for it. The west gable wall may have been rebuilt when the tower was erected about a century later. A bell presented by Sir Lawrence Dundas in 1765 was rung each evening until 1939. By 1792 the Tolbooth was said to be 'a heap of ruins' and the main part of it was probably demolished about 1822 when the Clackmannanshire sheriff court was transferred to Alloa.

Tolbooths are a relatively rare building type throughout Scotland. There are only 87 tolbooths described in the definitive book on this topic 'Tolbooths and Town-Houses: Civic Architecture in Scotland to 1833' (RCAHMS, 1996). The partial remains of the tolbooth at Clackmannan are of outstanding interest because of their early date. There are no surviving tolbooths of medieval date in Scotland, and only a very few from the last quarter of the 16th century, including the steeples of Crail and Dysart and the complete structures of Canongate and Musselburgh. Another small group of tolbooths dates from the 17th century, among them Aberdeen (of which the massive tower survives), Glasgow (rebuilt 1814), Kirkcudbright, and Linlithgow. As one of a small number of examples of this building type dating from the late 16th and 17th centuries, the building has high importance in listing terms.

The Market Cross dates from the 17th century and was donated to the town by Sir Henry Bruce, the Bruces being the superiors of the burgh. The lower part of the shaft of the column shows signs of wear. Some sources suggest that this was caused by the chains of prisoners who were secured to the shaft to await trial before the tolbooth was built. This suggests that the shaft may date from before 1592 but this is uncertain. The ball finial came from the grounds of the Clackmannan Tower in the late 19th century and replaced one removed 40 years before. The current stone steps were built in 2007 and replaced concrete steps that were constructed in 1949. There are currently 82 listed market crosses in Scotland. They are a relatively rare type of structure in Scotland and this combined with the early date of this example make it special in listing terms.

Clackmannan Stone (variously known as Clach Manau, Mannan's Stone or Bruce's Stone) is considered by some sources to date from the 3rd or 2nd Millennium BC, though other sources simply state that it is pre-Christian in origin. The stone is believed to have been originally located in Lookabooye Brae, closer to the River Forth. It may have been moved to Clackmannan Tower before being moved to its current position in 1833. At this time the stone on which it is supported was brought from Abbey Craig and installed in its current position.

The name of the County appears to derive from this stone and in the early 19th century the stone was described as a sort of symbol of power of the town, like the *Clachnacudden* of Inverness, with the privileges of the town supposed to depend, in some way, upon its existence. Various explanations have been given for the derivation of the name. One interpretation is that the name refers to the Celtic God Manau and the stone relates to worship of this pagan deity. It has also been suggested that Manau refers to the late Iron Age territory encompassing Stirlingshire and Clackmannanshire.

The stone is also sometimes referred to as Bruce's stone or King Robert's Stone. 19th century accounts record a local legend that says when King Robert Bruce was residing at the castle at Clackmannan, he happened to be passing one day on a journey, and stopped for a while at the stone, and, on departing, left his glove on it. His servant was sent back to the *clack* to fetch his *mannan*, or glove. The servant said, '*If ye'll just look about ye here, I'll be back wi't directly,*' and accordingly soon returned with the missing article. This story explains both the name 'Clackmannan' and the name of the location where the stone is first thought to located –

'Lookabooye Brae'. However, as Clackmannan is recorded from the 12th century onwards, this story cannot explain the derivation of the name.

The stone is of historical importance because of its associations with the origins of the county and town.

2.2 Architectural or Historic Interest

Interior

The interior of the tollbooth has not been seen and therefore has not been assessed.

Plan form

Tolbooth: The tower and attached gable wall are approximately T-shaped. The plan as far as can be judged was typical of similar structures of this date.

Technological excellence or innovation, material or design quality

Tolbooth: The detail of the tower and surviving gable wall are typical of the late 17th century and in many respects relate to the design of other tolbooths of this period. The position of the tower at the west end is similar to that at Crail although in other examples, like Culross, the tower is placed more centrally. The size of the tower is unusual as it is very slender and it is notable that the spire is very similar to that of the Old Parish Church at Alloa. The design may have been based on church buildings.

Market Cross: Market crosses are typically erected in prominent positions and raised on steps, like this example, or placed on a podium. A small number of early market crosses in Scotland have square-section stop-chamfered shafts like Clackmannan, such as the cross in nearby Alloa and that at Lochmaben. However the capitals in both of these cases are treated differently from the trefoil capital at Clackmannan. The unique design of this cross therefore gives it special interest. Some parts have been replaced in the 19th and 21st centuries.

Clackmannan Stone: N/A. The importance of the monument lies in its association with the beginnings of the town and county, rather than its aesthetic or design qualities.

Setting

This group of structures, the Tolbooth, Market Cross and Clackmannan Stone are situated at the west end of Main Street in the centre of Clackmannan within a small grassed area enclosed by a low stone wall. Main Street is flanked by a range of domestic and commercial buildings, mainly of two storeys. The group is a significant focal point in the streetscape.

Regional variations

There are no known regional variations

2.3 Close Historical Associations

As noted above, there is a local tradition that King Robert Bruce inadvertently left his glove on the stone after spending the night at nearby Clackmannan.

3. Working with the Principles of Listing (HES Policy Statement, 2016) Annex 2, pp. 53

In choosing buildings within the above broad headings particular attention is paid to:

- a. special value within building types*
- b. contribution to an architecturally or historically interesting group*
- c. the impact of a grouping of buildings*
- d. authenticity*

When working with the principles of listing Clackmannan Tolbooth, The Market Cross and Clackmannan Stone have particular interest under a, b, and d

a. Clackmannan Tolbooth, the tower dating from 1680, the gable possibly earlier, is a good, although fragmentary, early example of the building type and one of very few of this date in Scotland. The Market Cross, the shafts and capital of which date from the 17th century, is a good example of the type. Although its general form is typical, it has a highly unusual trefoil capital at the top of the shaft. Clackmannan Stone, said to date from the 3rd or 2nd millennium BC, is valued for its association with the foundation of the town and shire.

b. The structures here represent a group important to the history, identity and evolution of the town.

d. Although some restoration work has been carried out to the tolbooth, the tower is largely unaltered. The main shaft and capital of the Market Cross are unaltered although the ball finial and steps are replacements of the 19th and 21st centuries respectively. Although Clackmannan Stone has been repaired with iron rods at some point in the past and the supporting stone added in the 19th century, the rock is in essence unaltered.

4. Summary of Assessment Against the Listing Criteria**

This group of structures is of national importance because of the very early origins of each part as well as the fact that they are significant to the history and evolution of the town and shire. The Tolbooth was built originally in 1590s with the tower added in 1680, the tower being a significant example of civic architecture and an important survival of one of the earliest tolbooths in Scotland. The Market Cross dates from the 17th century and is a good example of an early cross, with the Bruce arms still discernible in the unusual trefoil capital. Clackmannan Stone is also a very unusual monument, potentially dating from the 3rd or 2nd millennium BC, with associations with the foundation of the town and shire.

In our current state of knowledge the Tolbooth and Market cross continue to meet the criteria for listing and it is recommended that the Clackmannan Stone be added to this listing. It is proposed that all three structures, which are currently scheduled, are removed from the schedule.

5. Category of Listing

Categories of listing are non-statutory and buildings are assigned a category (A, B or C) according to their relative importance following the assessment against the criteria for listing.

Category definitions are found at: <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/advice-and-support/listing-scheduling-and-designations/listed-buildings/what-is-listing/>

Category A is for buildings of national or international importance, either architectural or historic; or fine, little-altered examples of some particular period, style or building type. This group of structures is of national importance because of their very early date and survival as little altered examples of their types. It is proposed that these three structures are listed together at category A.

6. Other Information

N/A

7. References

Canmore: <http://canmore.org.uk/> CANMORE ID 48313, 48318, 48321.

Maps

Ordnance Survey (surveyed 1861, published 1866). Perth and Clackmannan Clackmannanshire Sheet CXL.5 (Combined). 25 inch to the mile. Southampton: Ordnance Survey.

Ordnance Survey (revised 1898, published 1900). Clackmannanshire 140.05 (includes: Clackmannan). 25 inch to the mile. Southampton: Ordnance Survey.

Archives

Clackmannanshire Ordnance Survey Name Books, 1861-1862, Vol 3 Parish of Clackmannan, p.27.

Printed Sources

Gifford, J. and Walker, F.A. (2002) *Buildings of Scotland: Central and Stirling*. London: Yale University Press. pp.327-328.

Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (1996) *Tolbooths and Town-Houses: Civic architecture in Scotland to 1833*. Edinburgh: RCAHMS. pp.2-3 and 55.

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Small, J.W. (1900) Scottish Market Crosses. Stirling: Eneas Mackay.

Swan, A. (1987). Clackmannan and the Ochils: an Illustrated Architectural Guide. Edinburgh: Scottish Academic Press. pp.8-9.

* This assessment is based on our current state of knowledge and has been prepared for the purpose of consultation or to provide a view on the special interest of a building. This assessment is a consultation document and will form the basis of any new or updated listed building record should the structure be listed. The content of this assessment may change to take into account further information received as a result of the consultation process.

** A building may be found to meet the listing criteria but in some circumstances may not be added to the list. See 'When might Historic Environment Scotland list a building' at <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/advice-and-support/listing-scheduling-and-designations/listed-buildings/what-is-listing/>