

# Station Hotel, Ayr

Get closer to this key gateway to the town of Ayr and help save it for the benefit of the local community.



*Station Hotel 1969.*

<http://canmore.org.uk/collection/712905>

*Station Hotel today in poor condition.*

*Station Hotel roof deterioration.*

*Everyone has walked past a forlorn and unloved historic building at some time. You may have asked why isn't someone doing something with it? The answer is often complex and the solutions equally so. It takes a special group of people to help keep these buildings alive to benefit the community.*

*Scottish Historic Building Trust (SHBT) is the charity working with the Kyle and Carrick Civic Society and Ayr Station Hotel Community Action Group to rescue the Station Hotel from possible demolition and find a new and sustainable future as a Gateway to the Town of Ayr.*

Built in 1886 to designs by Andrew Galloway for the Glasgow and South Western Railway, the hotel is in the French Chateau Style. It was described as 'A Castle in Ayr' when it opened catering for the newly mobile Scots looking for a holiday along the coast. Boasting marble-clad interiors, the hotel offered seawater bathing, golf excursions and Robert Burns tours. As hotel occupancy declined, it was sold to overseas investors and closed in 2013.

Still a much loved icon to the community of Ayr, serving as a Gateway to the Town from the Railway Station, the building now lies abandoned and a Dangerous Buildings Notice has been served on the current owners.

South Ayrshire Council are working with Network Rail to protect the public from any danger and an exclusion zone has been set up around the building. It is important that the Station remains open and alternative ticketing accommodation has been provided.

The building is in poor condition due to lack of maintenance and the Council is undertaking remedial work to remove any dangers from the public. It is important that action is taken now, and before the Winter to prevent any further deterioration. The aim is to save this important building which not only led to construction of the thriving Turnberry Hotel but could also deliver the same social impact to the Town of Ayr with a vibrant and successful restoration.

Scottish Historic Buildings Trust is working with the Kyle and Carrick Civic Society and the Ayr Station Hotel Community Action Group to undertake a Feasibility Study. This will consider future uses for the Station Hotel and will aim to see the building restored and given back its place as a working station and Gateway to the Town of Ayr whilst providing a sustainable future for the building. For further information on this project and the community consultation which will be undertaken, please visit our Website.

To contribute towards the public appeal to save the Station Hotel from demolition, you can donate online at [www.shbt.org.uk](http://www.shbt.org.uk), or by post to **Scottish Historic Buildings Trust**, Riddle's Court, 322 Lawnmarket, Edinburgh, EH1 2PG.

Email: [info@shbt.org.uk](mailto:info@shbt.org.uk)

Telephone: 0131 220 1232

9. Would you be interested in:

- Making use of the Station Hotel over the next few years or longer
- Helping us with fundraising for the capital project
- Being kept up to date with development of the project
- Becoming a member of the Kyle and Carrick Civic Society
- Volunteering with KCCS, SHBT and Ayr Station Hotel Community Action Group

10. If you are interested in volunteering please note area / skills you would like to become involved with:

11. Do you have any final comments that would help us in the future?

A little bit about yourself:

Age:  Under 18  19-30  31-50  51-60  Over 60

Gender:  Male  Female  Other

Connection:  Live here  Work here  Family from here  Visitor

Forename: ..... Surname: .....

Address: .....

E-mail: ..... Telephone: .....

**Thank you for taking the time to fill out the questionnaire**

If you have indicated that you would like to be kept informed, SHBT will hold your contact details and keep you up to date with the project. You are able to unsubscribe or change your preferences at any time.

**Kyle and Carrick Civic Society**  
10 Southpark Road  
Ayr KA7 2TL

**Scottish Historic Buildings Trust**  
Riddles Court, 322 Lawnmarket  
Edinburgh EH1 2PG  
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Registered Charity: SC014718

Registered Charity: SC034507

# Station Hotel, Ayr Community Consultation



Built in 1886 to designs by Andrew Galloway for the Glasgow and South Western Railway, the hotel is in the French Chateau Style. It was described as 'A Castle in Ayr' when it opened catering for the newly mobile Scots looking for a holiday along the Ayrshire Coast. Boasting marble-clad interiors, the hotel offered seawater bathing, golf excursions and Robert Burns tours. As hotel occupancy declined, it was sold to overseas investors and closed in 2013. Still a much loved icon to the community of Ayr, serving as a Gateway to the Town from the Railway Station, the building now lies forlorn and abandoned and a Dangerous Buildings Notice has been served on the current owners. South Ayrshire Council are working with Network Rail to protect the public from any immediate danger and an exclusion zone has been set up around the building as it is important that the station remains open.

Scottish Historic Buildings Trust, working with the Kyle and Carrick Civic Society and Ayr Station Hotel Community Action Group will be undertaking a Feasibility Study to explore possible future uses for the Station Hotel. In order for the building to be sustainable in the long term, it is envisaged that a mixed-use scheme will be brought forward which not only restores the building and gives it back its presence as a gateway to Ayr, but also celebrates the history of Ayr. As part of this process, SHBT are seeking your views regarding potential meanwhile and future uses for the building to understand your initial thoughts. Full Community Consultation will be undertaken as part of the Feasibility Study. We would be grateful if you could spend a few minutes completing this short survey. You can also fill the survey in on-line at [www.shbt.org.uk](http://www.shbt.org.uk)

Scottish  
Historic  
Buildings  
Trust



*Kyle and Carrick Civic Society*

1. What have been your experiences of Ayr Train Station?

Commuter  Visitor  Other

Please comment: .....

2. What have been your experiences of the Station Hotel?

Guest  Wedding  Event attendee  Dining  Eating/Drinking

Other  Please comment: .....

3. Do you have any photographs, illustrations or documentation, anecdotes or memories of the Station Hotel? Would you allow us to use it in our research? If so, please note contact details overleaf:

Yes  No  Please comment: .....

4. In your view, how important is the Station Hotel to the history and as a gateway to the town of Ayr?

Very important  Important  Neither  Unimportant

Please comment: .....

5. If SHBT is successful in securing ownership of the building, are there any uses that you would like to see within the building in the short term while a capital project is being developed?

Community  Pop Up  Training / Workshops  Events   
Education  Arts  Youth/ Young People  Other

Please comment: .....

6. If the building is not saved and returned to public use and the only option was demolition, would this be:

A tragedy  Disappointing  Irritating  Not an issue

Please comment: .....

7. Thinking of the long term future of the Station Hotel if the building is fully restored, accessible and fit for 21st century use, what use or range of uses would you like to see in the building?

Hotel  Housing  Museum/Gallery  Studio/Workshop  
Office  Community  Training  Youth/Young People  
Tourism  Leisure  Events  Music / Theatre  
Market  Food/Drink  Weddings  Other

Please comment: .....

8. Are you a member, or do you know of any local groups who might use the Station Hotel in the short or long term?

Yes  No

If yes, what is the name of the group/society? How might they make use of the building and what is the contact name and number?

.....

Please comment: .....

Scottish Historic Buildings Trust (SHBT) is working with Kyle and Carrick Civic Society (KCCS) and Ayr Station Hotel Community Action Group to Campaign (ASHCAG) to save the Station Hotel from demolition and secure its future as a much loved icon to the community of Ayr and restore it as a Gateway to the Town. The Scottish Historic Buildings Trust is leading on a Feasibility Study to consider a range of uses which will contribute to the future Vision for the building. KCCS and ASHCAG will be supporting this Study by consulting with the community of Ayr and beyond, raising much needed funds to undertake the Feasibility Study, and in turn the capital project.

SHBT is a charity that secures the future of important historic buildings across Scotland. They expertly restore them for the nation and find new uses to regenerate local communities and the historic environment. Over 20 years ago, SHBT restored Lady Cathcart's House at 22 Sandgate, Ayr, working in partnership with the Kyle & Carrick Civic Society.

If you would like to help us in our campaign to save the Station Hotel, please give as much as you are able.

Name:	
Address:	
	Postcode:
Email:	Telephone:

**I would like to make a single gift to the Station Hotel, Ayr Appeal of: £.....**

Are you a UK Taxpayer? If so, boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate - at no extra cost to you. Please sign the Gift Aid declaration below.

I would like SHBT to reclaim the tax on any eligible donations or membership subscriptions that I make. I am a UK Taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signature:.....Date:.....

*giftaid it*

## How would you like to make your donation?

I enclose a cheque / postal order / charity voucher payable to Scottish Historic Buildings Trust

I would like to make a gift(s) by credit or debit card  
Please debit my Switch / Visa / Access / MasterCard / Amex / Solo

Card No.           Start Date /  End Date /

Issue No.     Security No.   (last three digits on security strip on reverse of card)

Signature:.....Date:.....

**Please return this form to SHBT, Riddle's Court, 322 Lawnmarket, Edinburgh EH1 2PG**

Data Protection: SHBT needs the personal data you provide on this form for the purposes of processing your donation. All this information is held securely by the Trust and will be treated confidentially in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. We will not disclose this information to other parties unless permitted or required by law. We may contact you about fundraising programmes and SHBT events. If you have made a Gift Aid Declaration we are required to share your details with HMRC to reclaim Gift Aid on your gift. Registered Charity No.SCO23407. By completing this section, the donor agrees that should there be an excess of funds for this project and no additional costs arising, as a result of a successful fundraising appeal, SHBT may use this donation to fund relevant activities.