

THE BASTION PROJECT

Conservation and Improvement of a ‘Timestone of History’



The Constitution of the European Walled Towns for Friendship and Professional Co-Operation includes the 1998 Piran Declaration. This states: “Walled Towns are

eye-catching location providing the Bastion with surroundings fitting for a Grade 1 listed ancient monument.



A pre 1950's post card showing the road right up to the Bastion.

unique inheritances from times long past and should be treasured, maintained and safeguarded from neglect, damage and destruction and passed on into perpetuity as irreplaceable ‘Timestones of History’”. Visitors entering Stamford via the Tinwell Road will therefore have been delighted, this year, to see that the area around one of Stamford’s own ‘Timestones of History’, St Peter’s Bastion on West Street, has been improved handsomely thanks to a joint project undertaken by the Stamford Civic Society and the Urban Group. The objective of this project was to reveal the medieval bastion, which formed part of the original early 13th century town wall, and to landscape the surrounding area. What has long been an unsightly area of untidy rough ground marred by weeds, and scarred by tyre marks, has been transformed into an

Whilst the grass verge is owned by Lincolnshire County Council, South Kesteven District Council is responsible for its maintenance as well as that of the Bastion, of which it has ownership, although SKDC has only been able to offer minimum maintenance for the grass verge and the Bastion. The first part of the project entailed removing a diseased ash and sycamore tree prior to clearing, landscaping and turfing the site. Once this had



been undertaken, by local firm Precision Landscapes, green oak posts were installed to protect the grass and deter parking. Two trees were planted and it was decided that native English trees would be appropriate. Consequently a broad-leaved cockspur thorn – *Crataegus prunifolia*, and a cut-leaf crab apple – *Malus transitoria*, have been planted protected by attractive wrought iron