

Belmont Tower



By Lucy Williams

Most appreciated amongst Grantham's dog walkers and hikers, the Belmont Tower has been a

location for historical interest and pleasure since its acquisition and restoration by the National Trust in 2013, utilised by many as a peaceful and beautiful trail to walk during British summertime.

Its build dates back to the late 18th century, post-dating Belton House itself by around 100 years. The tower was originally built to serve as a folly, a kind of historical building in which no important purpose is served, to simply aid in the visual aesthetic of the house - of which it arguably does, as the house can be viewed as directly opposite the tower from the top of the hill - as well as entertain guests in its upper floors. It was also utilised (as was the greater grounds and Manor House) by soldiers during the First World War as training grounds.

Overall, visitors have regarded the area as scenic and calming, disregarding its historical countenance in favour of its enjoyability amongst families and dogs alike.

As a courtesy by the National Trust, the tower is open to the public all day every day, accompanied by free parking and toilets, alongside a more recent and notable addition of the upstairs room within the actual tower now being open and free to view on select days (as can be found on its website). Plus, there are guided tours by volunteers who can talk visitors through the history of the tower, as well as the history of Belton House itself.

The upper room of the tower has never been open to the public for free before, and so such an opportunity (if you are able to climb up the stairs hidden in the tower's spindly legs) should not be taken for granted.

