

## Case information

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<b>Reference/Case ID</b>	201505982		
<b>Scheduled Monument</b>	Edinburgh Castle		
<b>Index no</b>	M90130	<b>Grid Ref</b>	NT249734 324900.0000 673400.0000
<b>Date of Application</b>	11 December 2015	<b>Application Received</b>	17 December 2015
<b>Summary of proposed works</b>	Installation of decorative curtain		

## 1. Summary recommendation

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This report recommends that approval for installation of a decorative curtain within the Redcoat Café at Edinburgh Castle be granted without conditions.

## 2. Background

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The monument comprises all the buildings and other structures, wells, fortifications, street furniture, historic plaques, roadways, yards, and other open spaces that form Edinburgh Castle. In this particular case, the element of the monument to be affected is the Redcoat Café, formerly a Cart Shed and Barracks building. The former Cart Shed/ Barracks underwent extensive renovations in the 1990s during their adaption to become a café.

There have been pre-application discussions between HES staff and the agents for Benugo, who run the cafe. That meeting confirmed that the works would require scheduled monument clearance. This application accords with the outcome of these discussions.

## 3. Proposals

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Consented Works – Installation of a series of brass wedges to hold a curtain rail.

## 4. Representations received

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Historic Environment Scotland, through their Internal Scheme of Delegation for Scottish Ministers, are content with the works.

## **5. Report**

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### **a) Policy considerations**

The application should be viewed with the following legislative and policy considerations in mind:

#### Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979

Part 1 Section 2 - Control of works affecting an ancient monument.

#### The Scottish Historic Environment Policy

3.14. Scottish Ministers include a monument in the Schedule to secure the long-term legal protection of the monument in the national interest, in situ and as far as possible in the state it has come down to us. Scheduled monuments have an intrinsic value as monuments, not related to any concept of active use. It is the value of the monument to the nation's heritage, in terms set out in the section on Scheduling in Chapter 2 of SHEP, that is the primary consideration in determining applications for scheduled monument consent.

3.16. Works on scheduled monuments should therefore normally be the minimum level of intervention that is consistent with conserving what is culturally significant in a monument.

3.18. Scheduled monument consent applications must be considered in terms of the cultural significance of the monument and the impact that the proposals would have upon this cultural significance. The more important particular features of the monument are to its cultural significance, the greater will be the case against interventions which modify these features.

### **b) Assessment**

The proposed works will involve the insertion of brass wedges into existing spaces within the wooden beams which support the roof of the Redcoat Café. The wedges will not be physically attached to the wooden beams but are designed to fit tightly into the space between joists and support beams.

The brass wedges have been designed in a manner that minimises any potential impact upon the monument. The works form part of an overall re-design of the Redcoat Café and will be read as part of the internal fittings of the café. The works are entirely reversible as the wedges will not be physically attached. Given the location of the works and the function of the space I am content that there will be no impact upon the cultural significance of the monument.

**c) Other material considerations, including impact of the works on Protected Species and Places**

There are no other material considerations.

**d) Conclusion**

It is clear that this intervention should be viewed as works as set out in both Part 1 Section 2 of the AMAAA 1979 and under section 3.4 of SHEP. The works are in the form of an addition to the monument.

I am content that insertion of the brass wedges to hold a rail for a decorative curtain can therefore be considered as the minimum level of intervention that is consistent with conserving what is culturally significant in a monument, and thus compliant with SHEP 3.16 . The application contains sufficiently detailed information explaining both the reasoning behind the application and the methodology to be used to be considered to be consistent with SHEP 3.17, 3.20 and 3.22.

The proposed works will have no impact upon the cultural significance of Edinburgh Castle. The works are contained entirely within the Redcoat Café and will be viewed from that standpoint. The design of the brass wedges is such that they are not physically anchored to the roof support and therefore this addition is reversible.

I am content that the application contains sufficiently detailed methodologies and justification that a consent may be granted without the requirement for conditions.

**6. Recommended decision**

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The works proposed are considered acceptable in meeting the terms of national policy for scheduled monuments, and also accounting for other material considerations.

I recommend consent is **granted without conditions**.

**7. Conditions**

There are no conditions required.

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**8. Approval**

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<b>Officer</b>	<b>Rory McDonald</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>02/02/2016</b>
<b>Approved by</b>	<b>George Findlater</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>02/02/2016</b>

## **Annex A – list of supporting documents**

1. Proposed Curtain Detail: [AL(70)001]
2. Existing Plan (GA): [AL(70)00]
3. Proposed Plan (GA): [AL(70)01]