

EDINBURGH CASTLE ESPLANADE – PROPOSED RENEWAL OF KIOSK Design and Access Statement – October 2015

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1. Scope

There are presently two kiosks on the Edinburgh Castle Esplanade, both manned by Historic Environment Scotland staff. One is at the top, or west end, of the Esplanade, at the entrance to the vehicle service tunnel, and the other at the bottom, or east end of the Esplanade.

This statement relates to the proposed demolition and replacement of the existing pedestrian and vehicle control kiosk at the bottom, or east end of the Edinburgh Castle Esplanade, at its junction with Castlehill. This kiosk is known as the Bottom Box.

Appendix A includes an Archaeological and Visual Impact Assessment of the proposal, provide by the Cultural Resource Team of Historic Environment Scotland. Appendix B notes some of the legislation which is relevant to this application.

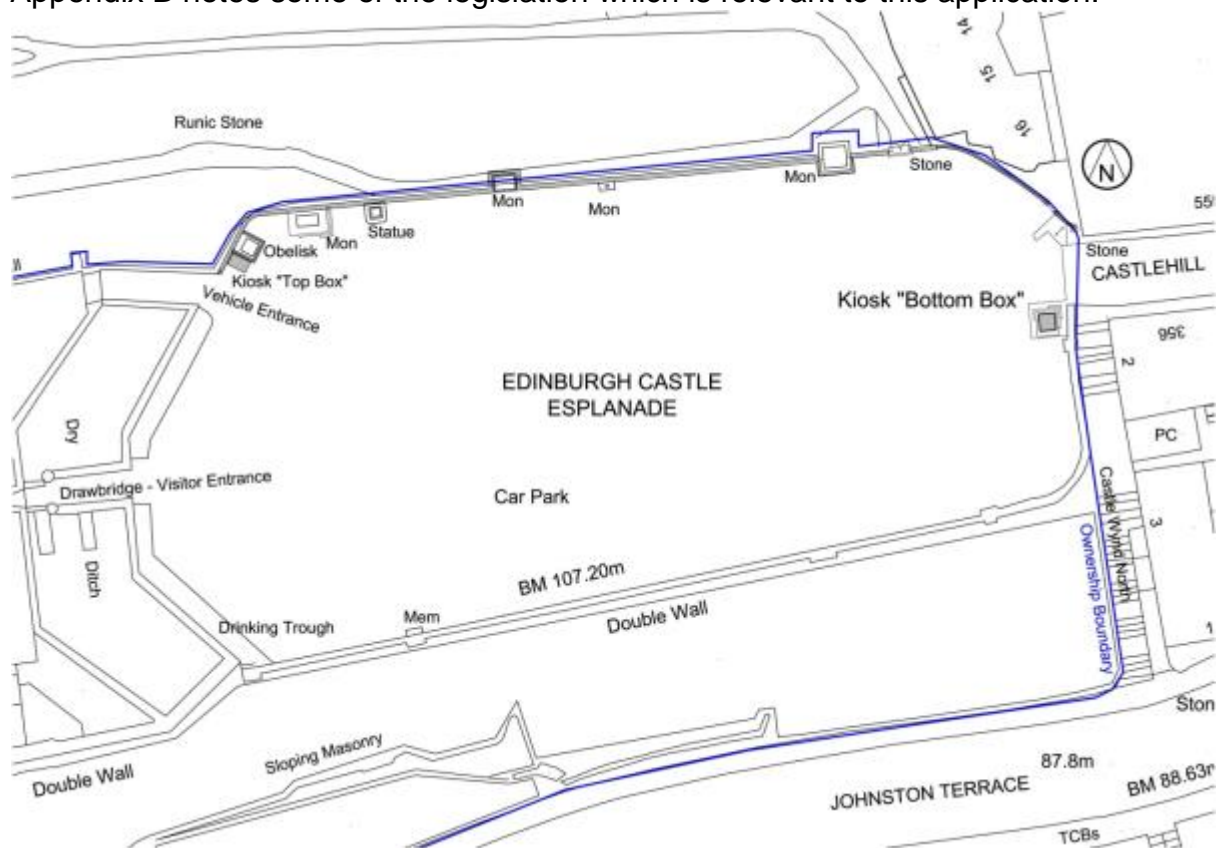


Fig.1 – Site Location Plan



Fig.2 - View east from the castle, across the Esplanade, towards the Bottom Box

2. The site and relevant boundaries

The existing Bottom Box occupies a slightly elevated position on the south side of the eastern entrance to the Esplanade from Castlehill. The proposed replacement kiosk will occupy the same site, but with a larger footprint, curving away from the stone boundary wall.

Historic Environment Scotland's ownership boundary is shown on the Site Plan, running across the junction between Castlehill and the Esplanade, and continuing south on the line of the stone boundary wall. The boundary of the Scheduled Area takes a similar line but also includes a small section of the road at Castlehill. The proposed Bottom Box lies within the both HES ownership and the Scheduled Area boundaries.

3. Existing buildings and landscape

For detail of the historical background of the Esplanade see Appendix A.

Since its inception, the Esplanade has been used as a ceremonial space, one of the earliest important occasions being the visit of George IV in 1822, when temporary stands were erected on north and south sides to form a grand entrance to the castle. Its use for important ceremonies continues to this day.

The first of the monuments and memorials around the perimeter of the Esplanade, the bronze statue of Frederick, Duke of York and Albany, was installed in 1839, and this was followed by many others, the most recent addition being the tomb of Ensign Ewart, constructed in 1938.

Recent changes to the perimeter structures have included the re-location of the Earl Haig equestrian statue to Hospital Square, within the castle, and the re-siting of the Scottish Horse Memorial, both on the north side of the Esplanade. These changes

were made in order to accommodate the superstructure of the latest design for Royal Military Tattoo stands, which were first erected in 2012.

The surface of the Esplanade, once of setts, is now largely tarmac, and was last comprehensively re-surfaced in 2012. Castlehill, the eastern approach to the Esplanade, has recently been re-surfaced by the council as a “shared surface”, using granite and whin setts, whin drain channels, and Caithness paving slabs.



Fig.3 The existing Bottom Box with Ramsay Gardens, and Cannonball House to the right.



Fig.4 - The Esplanade looking east – with Tattoo Stands under construction

The existing eastern kiosk, the Bottom Box, was installed on the Esplanade just to the south of the main access point from Castlehill, in 1996, on a new concrete platform which finishes flush with the tarmac its south side, and with steps on the north. It is of timber framed construction, with a dark painted horizontal boarded exterior, and has windows to the front elevation and corners. It has a shallow lead pyramid roof, with heavy lead roll details, plastic guttering and downpipes.

Looking towards the castle from Lawnmarket and Castlehill, the Bottom Box appears at the left side of the view out over the Esplanade towards the dramatic east elevation of the castle; one of the most familiar and impressive views of Edinburgh Castle.

The range of buildings along the eastern boundary of the Esplanade, comprises Ramsay Gardens, Castlehill with The Hub in the middle distance, and Cannonball House and adjoining properties. Looking east from the castle towards the Old Town, the present Bottom Box is a minor element in this panorama.

The erection every year of the stands for the Royal Military Tattoo has a major impact on the character and use of the whole Esplanade.



Fig.5 - Castlehill and Cannonball House, and the existing Bottom Box, seen from beneath the Tattoo Stands. Note the circular steel column

4. The proposed replacement Bottom Box

4 a. Rationale for the proposed design

For operational and security reasons, some form of manned control point is required during castle opening hours, to oversee vehicle and pedestrian traffic wishing to access Edinburgh Castle via the Esplanade. The junction of Castlehill with the Esplanade, which is also the Edinburgh Castle property boundary, remains at present the optimum location for this control point.

The necessity for manned control in all weathers leads to the need for some form of shelter for staff, and the present, and proposed, location for the kiosk is considered the best compromise. At the proposed location, with the kiosk frontage on the same line as the existing, any intrusion into significant views on the approach to the castle is minimised, but good visibility down Castlehill, and onto the Esplanade, is maintained. A location in the centre of the access, giving easier contact with drivers,

might be operationally desirable, but would be visually less acceptable, and would be practically unworkable during the Royal Military Tattoo.

The increase in floor area proposed for the Bottom Box is required primarily to accommodate a number of self-service ticket pick-up points. These will reduce the congestion within Lower Ward, and help to increase the enjoyment and appreciation of that part of the castle by the visitors, as well as reducing frustration by speeding up admissions.

The design of the proposed Bottom Box has been informed by reference to policy and guidance contained in the Edinburgh Local Development Plan, and the Edinburgh Old Town Conservation Area Character Appraisal 2005. The building is of straightforward functional design and does not refer to any particular historical style. Its scale is reduced to the minimum commensurate with performance of its function, and it will be constructed using high quality materials finished in muted colours, such that it does not stand out against the surrounding walls and buildings.

The use of a lightweight construction, sitting on a shallow concrete slab, is intended to minimise any ground disturbance, and any possible effect on archaeology.

4 b. Layout and function

It is proposed that the replacement kiosk will be located over the footprint of the existing Bottom Box, but will extend further to the south-west, curving away from the eastern boundary wall.

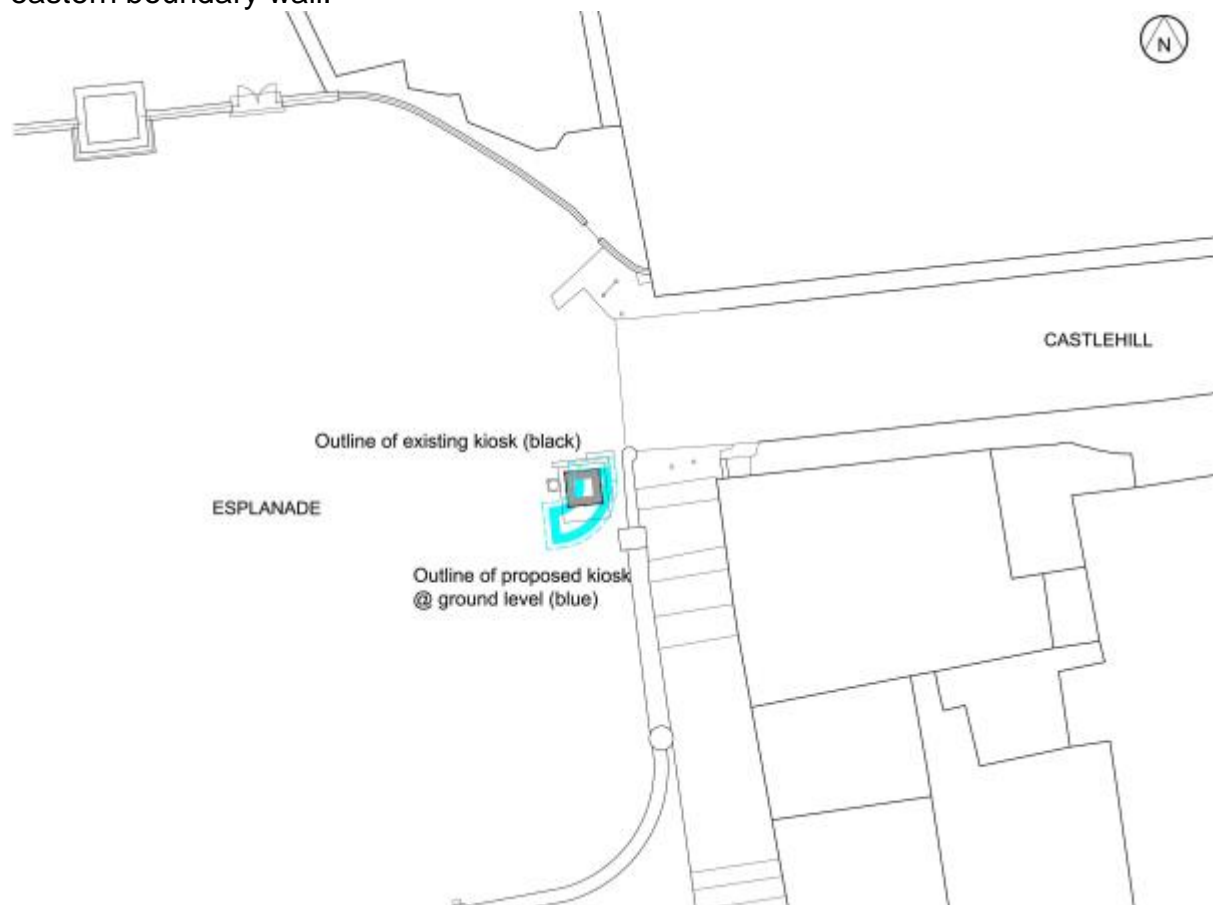


Fig.6 – Outline of Existing and Proposed Bottom Boxes

When the present kiosk was installed in 1996, castle visitor numbers were 1,200,000 per annum, and the principal function of the kiosk was the control and direction of vehicles and visitors. This will continue to be one of the main functions of the new kiosk, but it is also intended to provide additional ticket issuing facilities there, which will speed the admissions process.

The main admissions pay point was originally the small ticket office opposite the Gatehouse. This was eventually overcome by increasing visitor numbers, and for some years a temporary Portakabin ticketing point was located at the top of the Esplanade. This arrangement was superseded by the present Ticket Office, built in 2007 in Lower Ward, over the former Coalyard. Visitor numbers to Edinburgh Castle now exceed 1,500,000 per annum, increasing the frequency of entrance queues in Lower Ward, particularly at peak times.

The development of smart phones and the internet has enabled different methods of ticket reservation, payment and collection, and it is now possible to ease the pressure on the main Ticket Office by providing ticket collection at additional locations. The proposed replacement Bottom Box is designed to assist in this diversification, by providing a number of self-service ticket collection screens and printers.

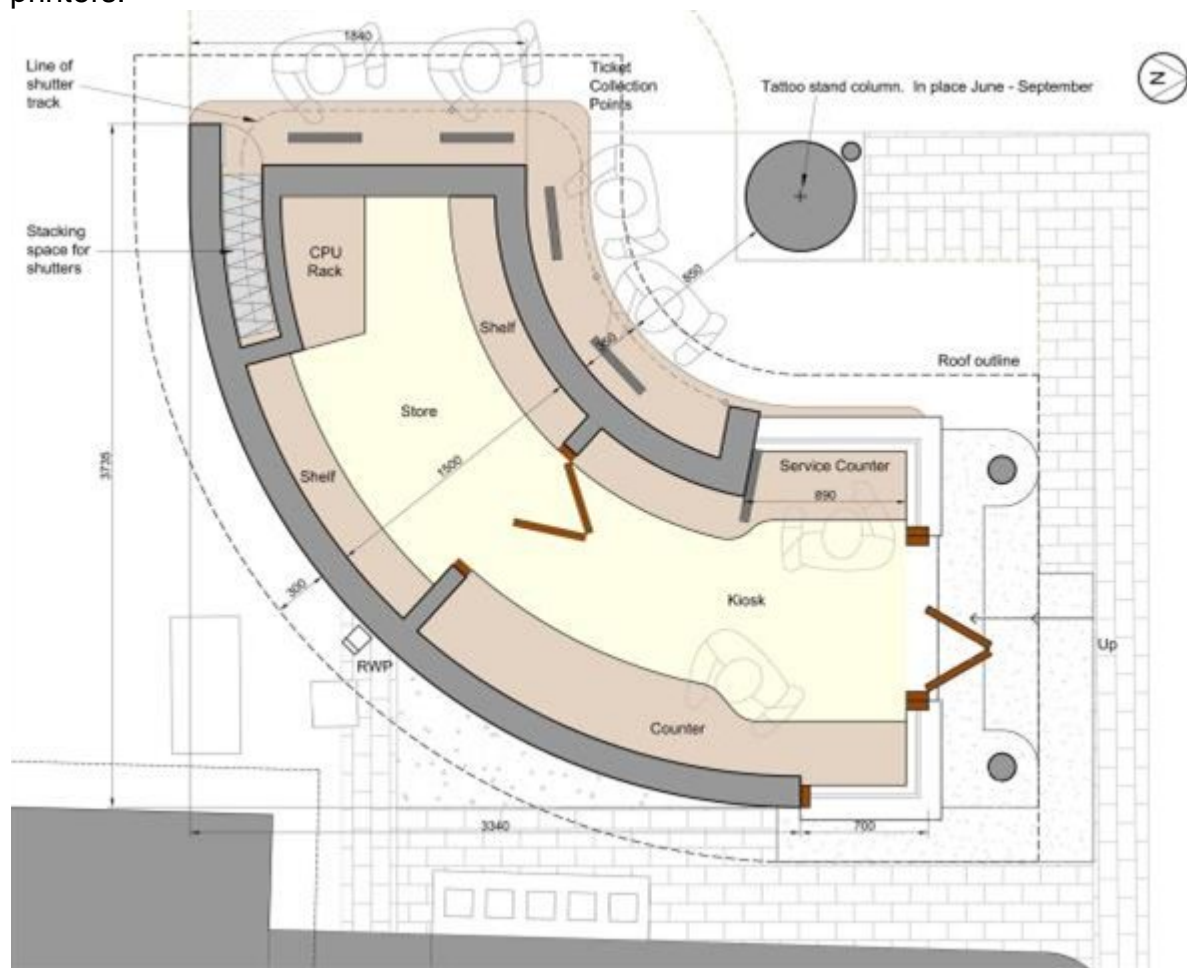


Fig.7 – Proposed plan of new Bottom Box

The kiosk will be manned by one or two staff and will have internal counter space for computers, printers, phones etc. There will be a service point on the west side where group leaders will be able to collect their pre-booked group tickets from a staff member without entering the kiosk. At present they have to enter the kiosk, which compromises security, and disrupts other staff functions.

The back room of the proposed kiosk will be used for the short term retention of small packages delivered to the castle. Any larger packages will either be delivered direct to the destination point within the castle, or held off-site at a nearby depot for delivery when required.

The west elevation, as well as having a service point for group bookings, will also have a long counter to accommodate four self-service touch-screens and ticket printers, which will enable visitors to collect their individual pre-paid tickets. Once their tickets have been issued, visitors will be able to go direct to the entry point at Portcullis Gate, avoiding the main Ticket Office and any queues in Lower Ward.

4 c. Scale and appearance

The proposed design has the same entrance frontage dimensions as the existing kiosk, but by elongating and curving the plan form, it incorporates approximately twice the internal area. The curved plan reduces the visual masking of the adjacent boundary wall turret; allows the building to avoid shallow below ground services, and provides space for the external touch-screen ticket collection points on the west side. The curved plan is also designed to allow for the presence of the large circular steel Tattoo Stands support column just to the west of the kiosk. This column is in place between May and September every year.

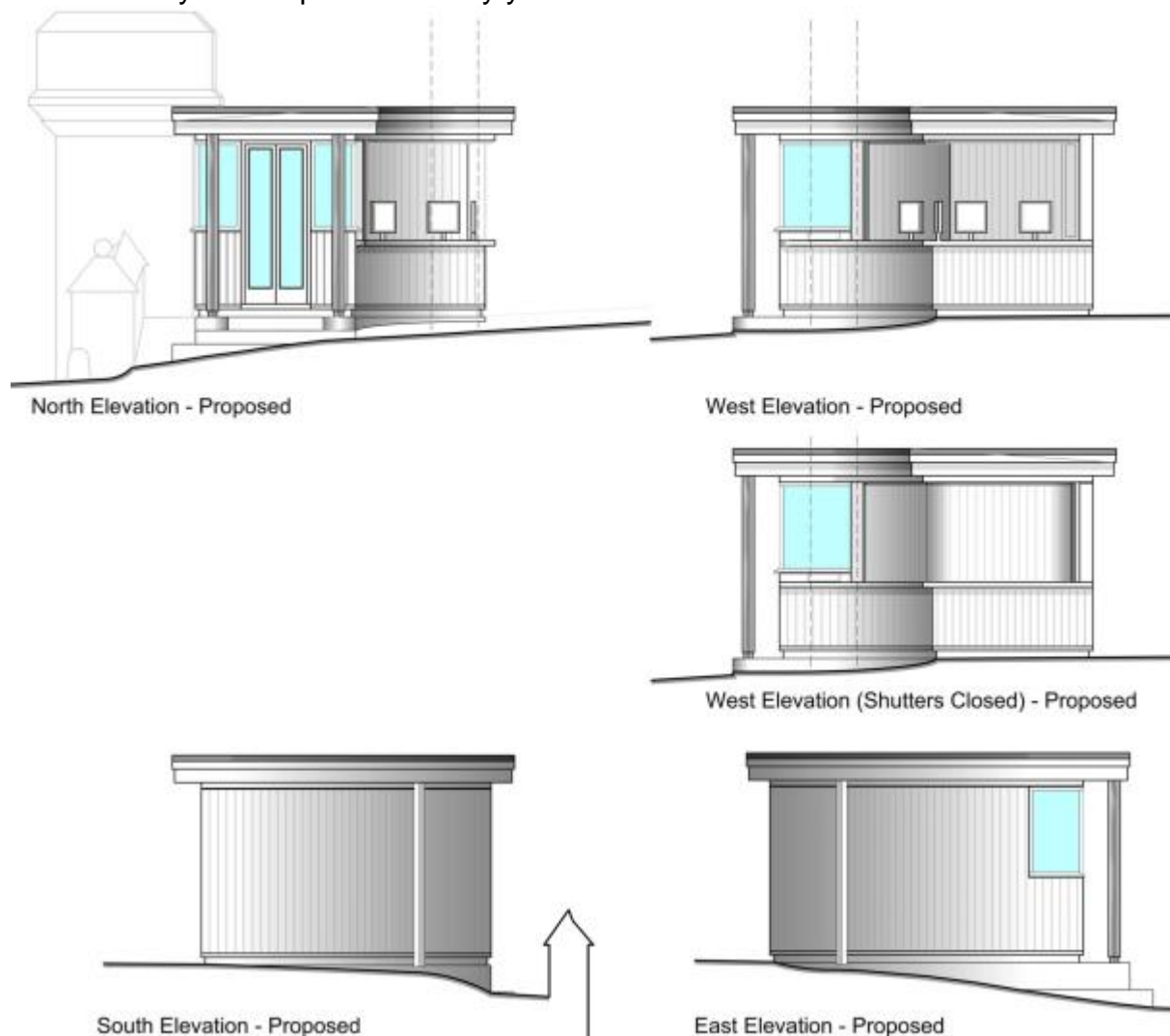


Fig.8 – Proposed elevations of new Bottom Box

The front of the proposed kiosk will have a glazed bi-fold central door, and corner windows to east and west, allowing good views down Castlehill and onto the Esplanade. Control of access to and egress from the Esplanade will remain a primary function of the Bottom Box. The walls will be clad in narrow western red cedar vertical boarding, with a dark stained or painted finish.

The proposed roof will be flat rather than pitched, and therefore less obtrusive than the existing. The roof will overhang the walls in order to provide some protection to visitors using the ticket pick-up points, and to staff on traffic control. The roof will be finished in high quality black single ply membrane (not roofing felt), discharging to a black square section metal downpipe at the rear of the building.

Out of hours the external self-service screens on the west side will be secured by top-hung vertical metal concertina shutters. The shutters will be finished to match the external timber boarding, and will be concealed when not in use.

4 d. Proposed landscaping

It is intended that the area of setts and the present tarmac surface surrounding the proposed kiosk will be retained.

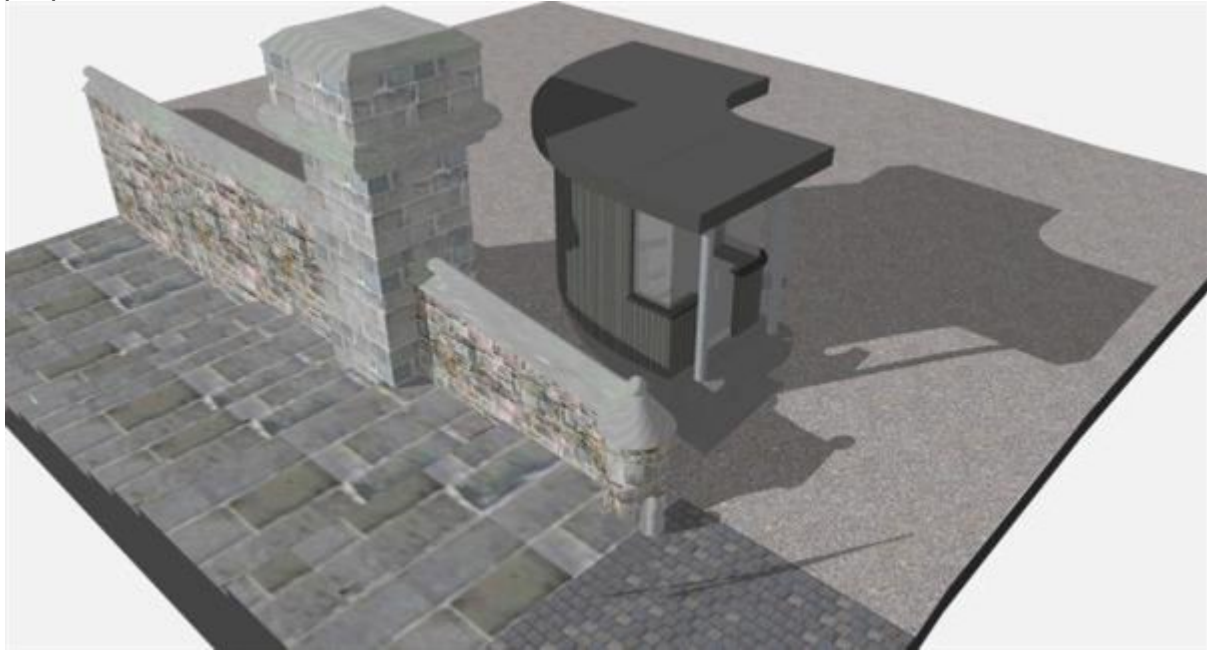


Fig.9 – Impression of proposed Bottom Box from north-east

5. Access issues

At present, disabled visitors arriving at the castle who have pre-paid for their tickets, are able to collect the tickets from one of the admissions team at the Bottom Box. The kiosk is staffed during opening hours, and this service is provided to meet disabled access requirements. There is a site courtesy vehicle which can be used to transport less able visitors to the upper wards of the castle as necessary.

On the rare occasions when disabled visitors arrive without having pre-paid for tickets; are without a carer or assistant, and wish to purchase their own tickets personally, they are guided to Visitor Information in the former Guardhouse in Lower Ward, which can provide this service. This is accessible by lift from the Portcullis Gift Shop above. These arrangements will continue when the proposed kiosk is in operation.

6. Proposed demolition of the existing Bottom Box

In order to enable the construction of a replacement Bottom Box it will be necessary to demolish the existing kiosk.

In support of this proposal we would contend that:

- a. The present building was constructed in 1996 and is of no special architectural or historical interest. The building makes no significant contribution to the surrounding townscape.

- b. The building is in poor condition and has already been repaired on a number of occasions. It has become increasingly difficult to bring it up to the standard required by those who are to work in it.
- c. The building is no longer fit for purpose, and its replacement is necessary in order to sustain the economic benefits of present and future visitor admissions to Edinburgh Castle.
- d. The building has little material value, and it is not considered to be a saleable asset, as ownership by a third party in this sensitive location would be unacceptable.



Fig.8 The present Bottom Box. The lower section has been overclad with ply because of rot in the original timber boarding and floor.

7. Heritage Assets of the site and its surroundings; their significance, and the effect of these proposals.

See also Appendix A - Assessment of Archaeological Sensitivity and Impact, - Assessment of Visual Impact and Impact upon Setting, - Proposed Archaeological Mitigation.

7 a. The Esplanade:

7 a i. Designations

The site of the proposed Bottom Box lies on the Esplanade, which is Listed Cat. A, including the monuments, memorials, boundary walls and railings surrounding it.

The Esplanade is also within the Scheduled Area of Edinburgh Castle (SM90130); the Edinburgh World Heritage Site, and the Edinburgh Old Town Conservation Area.

7 a ii. Effect of the proposals

The proposals will entail some physical ground disturbance in the formation of an extension to the concrete ground slab of the existing kiosk.

The proposed Bottom Box will intrude to a limited extent on views of the stone perimeter wall of the Esplanade.

7 a iii. Mitigation

The impact on archaeology should be minor, as the kiosk is designed as a lightweight structure, supported on a shallow concrete slab. It is intended to utilise the slab already existing under the present kiosk, but with an extension to incorporate the footprint of the proposed kiosk. Any ground disturbance will be carried out in accordance with the conditions of the necessary Scheduled Monument Consent, including the terms of a Written Scheme of Investigation, which will include

the necessary assessment, monitoring and recording. The area has been subject to substantial disruption in the past as a result of the installation of various below ground services. See also Appendix A.



Fig.9 – The Esplanade east perimeter wall, with existing services installations adjacent to the present Bottom Box.

Although part of the stone boundary wall will be obscured by the proposed kiosk, as it is by the present building, this effect will be reduced by the curved plan, and it will still be possible to appreciate the form and context of the wall and false turret.

7 b. Edinburgh Castle:

7 b i. Designations

Edinburgh Castle is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SM90130) , and is also Listed Category A. It is within the Edinburgh World Heritage Site, and the Edinburgh Old Town Conservation Area.

7 b ii. Effect of the proposals

The proposed Bottom Box will impact to some extent on views of the castle from the east, up Castlehill.



Fig.10 - Edinburgh Castle seen from Castlehill, with the existing Bottom Box to the left

7 b iii. Mitigation

The kiosk will impinge slightly on the views up Castlehill towards the castle, but hardly to any greater extent than the present kiosk. The location of the proposed kiosk to the south side of the approach onto the Esplanade will allow the greater part of the panorama of the castle, when seen from Castlehill to be unobstructed. The curved plan assists in reducing the impact from this viewpoint.



Fig. 11 – Proposed Bottom Box viewed from the entrance to the Esplanade

7 c. Cannonball House:

7 c i. Designations

Cannonball House is Listed Category A, and dates from the 17th century, with later additions. Its west elevation forms a very significant part of the view when looking east from the Esplanade. It is within the Edinburgh World Heritage Site, and the Edinburgh Old Town Conservation Area.

7 c ii. Effect of the proposals

Views from the castle down the Esplanade towards its eastern boundary wall, and to the west elevation of Cannonball House, will include the proposed kiosk in the lower foreground.



Fig.12 - Cannonball House – west elevation from the Esplanade, with existing Bottom Box in the foreground.

7 c iii. Mitigation

The most prominent feature of the present kiosk is its light grey lead pyramid roof. The proposed new design incorporates a black flat roof, which will be less obtrusive, especially when seen from the upper end of the Esplanade.

Given the scale of the western elevation facing the Esplanade, and the proposed use of dark finishes on the exterior of the kiosk, the impact on the panorama as a whole may be slightly greater than the existing, but nonetheless minor.



Fig.13 - Looking east from the top of the Esplanade, with Cannonball House on the right, and the proposed Bottom Box



Fig.14 – Looking east from the top of the Esplanade, with Cannonball House on the right, and the proposed Bottom Box with shutters closed



Fig. 15 – Looking east from the top of the Esplanade, with Cannonball House on the right, and the proposed Bottom Box with shutters closed and Tattoo Stand column
Appendix A.

Edinburgh Castle
Esplanade Lower Kiosk Replacement: Archaeological and Visual Impact
Assessment

Cultural and Natural Resources Team
 Historic Environment Scotland

Proposed works

A new kiosk is proposed on the same frontage line and on the same level as the existing kiosk (or bottom box) at the lower, east end of the Esplanade, to replace the existing structure. The height of the new kiosk is largely the same, but the footprint is approximately twice the size of the existing kiosk. The new kiosk will be a lightweight structure, with minimal foundations required. The existing concrete slab which forms the base of the present kiosk will be extended to encompass the footprint of the new structure. It is expected that a depth of no greater than 450mm would be required across the footprint area, though this may vary depending upon the nature of the underlying ground. Ground disturbance and foundation depths are to be kept to the minimum necessary.

Historical Background

The Esplanade was created in its present form in 1816-20, to celebrate the British Army's victory over Napoleonic France at the battle of Waterloo. For around 3000 years, this area has been one of, if not the main access routes to the summit of Castle Rock. It also has a long history as the site of numerous defences to protect this access route and the castle itself. Archaeological investigations in 1989 (Yeoman & Driscoll) revealed evidence for large ditches below the western end of the Esplanade, running roughly along the natural fault line between volcanic and sedimentary rock. The ditches date back to the Iron Age, but were modified and re-used up until the 15th century. Earlier defences may have extended further to the east.

In the 1540s an elaborate defensive spur was designed and built by the Italian military engineer Ubaldini, this is shown in Gordon of Rothiemay's bird's-eye view of Edinburgh (Fig. 1). The spur was rebuilt and modified at least once, following damage in the Lang Siege in 1573. By 1650 it was removed, under Cromwell's orders, and replaced with a new defensive

work – the hornwork – which was completed in the later 17th century during the reign of Charles II. Features of these new defences included the Dry Ditch, a deep stone-lined ditch with a gatehouse immediately to the west and gun flankers.



Fig. 1: Detail of Gordon of Rothiemay's bird's eye view of Edinburgh, c. 1647 showing the spur and Castlehill.

Jacobite Risings in the late 17th and early 18th century spurred plans to improve the defences of Edinburgh Castle, as part of this designs were made for a new defensive outwork to the east of the castle in the area of the present Esplanade. There are plans of the so-called 'Grand Secret' but work was abandoned at an early stage. In 1753 the entire area was extensively landscaped and levelled to create a parade ground for the castle garrison, with the castle forming an imposing backdrop to the west. The area was landscaped using imported earth excavated during the construction of the City Chambers and the ground was built up to the north and south to extend the platform either side. The area underwent further developments in the 1810's, when it was again widened, laid with granite setts and enclosed by low stone walls with decorative railings on the north side and dummy sentry posts on the south side. Recent excavations by CFA Archaeology on the Esplanade suggest that there was further significant landscaping in the early 20th century.

The first ceremonial occasion was held on the Esplanade in 1822 for George IV's visit to Scotland. Since then it has increasingly been used as a place for ceremonial events and military displays – the first performance of the Edinburgh Military Tattoo was held on the Esplanade in 1950 and has been held every year since. It has also become a stage for commemoration and memorial, housing a number of military monuments.

Assessment of Archaeological Sensitivity and Impact

The area of the Esplanade has high archaeological potential, given that it is the main access route up to Castle Rock, which has been occupied for over 3000 years. Furthermore, landscaping in the 18th and early 19th century is likely to have sealed medieval and earlier deposits and structures. It is likely that the Esplanade can reveal a great range of evidence for its long history in the form of defensive structures, occupation deposits, evidence for siege activity and works, and associate finds.

There have been a number of investigations in recent years (between 2008-2012), alongside works to improve the Military Tattoo Grandstand. Boreholes taken in 2008 revealed, albeit limited, evidence for the stratigraphy and depth of deposits across the Esplanade. Borehole no. 10 situated slightly to the southwest of the area of proposed works indicated that the upper deposits (upper 1 – 1.5m) comprised tarmac and made ground consisting of broken stone, sandstone, gravelly to fine sand and pockets of clay, with further made up ground below. Excavations between 2009-11 by CFA Archaeology uncovered evidence for the remains of the 16th-century defensive spur, and further to the east on the Esplanade they revealed evidence for an L-shaped wall line. The wall seems to be that of the westernmost building in a row of houses which once ran along the north side of Castlehill. The investigations carried out by CFA Archaeology have provided valuable evidence on the nature of the made up ground that forms the Esplanade. Sections recorded through utility

trenches running the length and width of the Esplanade indicate that the upper 0.5m of deposits comprise 20th century landscaping, and that any archaeologically significant structural remains are likely to lie at least 1.2m below the tarmac.

There remains high potential for further structures and evidence of occupation and defensive structures across the area of the Esplanade. However, as recent investigations have demonstrated, the extensive landscaping between the 18th and 20th centuries means that any significant archaeological deposits are likely to be well-buried. Further to this, the south-eastern corner of the Esplanade has suffered disturbance in the recent past associated with the construction of the public toilets on Castle Wynd, and it is likely there has been other disturbance in the vicinity as a result of modern services. The upper levels in the area of the proposed works are therefore unlikely to be archaeologically sensitive.

While the area below the Esplanade has high archaeological potential, the nature and location of the works mean that the new development is unlikely to impact upon any archaeological remains. Ground disturbance is unlikely to extend to a depth of greater than 450mm, and given what we know about the nature of the made up ground and underlying deposits on the Esplanade, it is likely that only modern deposits will be disturbed.

Assessment of Visual Impact and Impact upon Setting

The Esplanade is a broad open space at the top of Castlehill, bridging the space between the Royal Mile and the castle. It is mainly used as a service area today, providing vehicular access up to the castle and limited parking spaces. During the summer months it is used to host the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo and periodically hosts other large events such as concerts. While the aesthetic value of the Esplanade itself is low, it provides a platform for some of the most iconic and impressive views in Edinburgh and is important as a publicly accessible amenity space. The Esplanade was designed with these reasons in mind and the open space and impressive views form key elements of its cultural significance. The view of the castle from the Esplanade is arguably the best that can be had, with its towering height, the curved mass of the Half-Moon Battery and the Royal Palace beyond. From the Esplanade, views out towards Arthur's Seat, down along Castlehill and over Princes Street Gardens, the New Town and Firth of Forth are all highly impressive and significant. It is important therefore that any new structure does not have an adverse impact upon these views. It is also important that any new structure does not obscure or detract from key historic structures in the area, such as the Gatehouse, military monuments, or the 19th-century boundary walls, piers and dummy sentry posts that enclose the Esplanade.

The new kiosk will be situated in the same location as the existing structure, at the bottom of the Esplanade on the southeast side. In this location there are two key views that any new structure has the potential to impact upon: the view of the castle at the top of the Esplanade on the approach up from Castlehill and, views along Castlehill from the top of the Esplanade or the castle, looking along the spine of the Royal Mile, with the tenements, Camera Obscura and the Hub. The replacement kiosk has been designed with this in mind, to reduce additional visual impact from the new structure as much as possible. It will be stepped back slightly from the main access route, in the same way as the present kiosk, to provide a clear view of the Castle on the approach from Castlehill and from the Esplanade and Castle down Castlehill and the Royal Mile. It will extend further to the south and west than the existing kiosk, which may be noticeable when viewed from the east on Castlehill. However, the increased footprint of the structure will not result in any additional adverse impact upon views of the castle from this direction, as it will extend to the south and will not create any additional obstruction to views of the castle from Castlehill than there is at present from existing structures. Views of the castle, and to the north and south across Edinburgh from the Esplanade itself will remain largely unchanged.

Although the character and footprint of the replacement kiosk is notably different from the existing kiosk, its position, curved design and flat roof means that it will not result in increased adverse visual impact upon the elements of high cultural significance. It is set apart from the castle itself and the monuments on the Esplanade, and given its scale and location is unlikely to detract from key views to or from the castle. It will form a very minor element in panoramic views from the castle, and does not compete or detract from the

buildings on Castlehill, notably the A-listed Cannonball House. Its position downslope from the castle at the bottom of the Esplanade, set back from the main access route and against the backdrop of the buildings on Castlehill mean that this low structure should not dominate its surroundings or detract from the stunning views from the castle. Furthermore, the flat roof in the new design may result in reduced visual impact upon views of the Palace block from certain viewpoints. The new kiosk have also been designed so as to reduce visual impact upon the boundary walls and pier; the curved design means creates a greater spatial distinction between the kiosk and the wall and pier. The increased width of the kiosk will reduce visibility of the wall pier, but will not completely obscure it when viewed from the Esplanade itself.

The inclusion of self-service ticket collection points in the new kiosk may lead to increased queues at the bottom of the Esplanade. Increased visitor traffic will result in reduced visibility of the castle on the approach from Castlehill. However, it is difficult to predict the nature and scale of this impact, and it is likely to be temporary and seasonal. This is also likely to coincide with periods when the Tattoo stands and other associated structures are in place, creating a cumulative, though temporary, adverse impact to views of the castle. Therefore, while the overall form and size of the new kiosk will have a fairly minor visual impact, the added function of the kiosk as a ticket collection point may have a knock-on effect.

Replacement of the existing kiosk with a new and larger structure will have an increased minor adverse impact upon the setting and character of the Esplanade. However, as it replaces an existing modern structure in the same location, the additional impact represented by the new structure is minimal. The new kiosk will not have a significant adverse impact upon any key views, nor will it detract from the adjacent listed buildings or impact upon the Edinburgh skyline. Its position and scale have been chosen so as to reduce additional adverse visual impact as far as possible, while providing improved and additional staff and visitor services facilities. The increased footprint of the new structure is a reflection of the need to provide additional ticket collection points to relieve visitor flow pressures from the Lower Ward during peak times. The design of the new kiosk is simple and modest and will result in little overall discernible change to the character of the area than at present. Therefore while it does not have a positive visual impact upon the monument and its setting, the overall visual impact of the new development is considered to be minor. It will not further compromise the setting of the castle or the Esplanade. The minor adverse impact which it may have upon the character of the Esplanade is outweighed by operational needs in this instance, as there is a need for improved facilities for traffic control and additional ticket collection points and this is the most suitable location on the Esplanade for such a structure, in terms of operations, visual impact and archaeological sensitivity.

Proposed Archaeological Mitigation

The footprint of the building has been kept to the minimum necessary to enable it to perform effectively, and it has been designed to use the pre-existing ground slab in order to minimise any additional excavation work.

While the works are unlikely to impact upon significant archaeological deposits, given the high cultural significance of the monument and the high archaeological potential of the Esplanade, it is recommended that the works are undertaken under archaeological monitoring. An archaeological watching brief should be undertaken during the ground breaking works and reduction of levels down to the depth required for the concrete foundations. The sensitivity and significance of any underlying deposits should be reviewed as work progresses. HES Cultural and Natural Resources should be consulted if any significant archaeological deposits or finds are uncovered, excavation should stop and the archaeological remains should be cleaned and recorded. If nothing of significance is noted then excavation will proceed to the required depth. Once this depth is reached the area should be cleaned and recorded in plan and section.

The archaeological works will be undertaken by Kirkdale Archaeology under the terms of Historic Environment Scotland's Minor Works to Properties in Care Call-off contract. All works will be undertaken as per Written Scheme of Investigation.

Rachel Pickering

Cultural Resource Advisor
Historic Environment Scotland
05/11/2015

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Images of Existing Kiosk



Fig.1: Existing kiosk viewed from top of Castlehill; kiosk currently obscures part of palace block.



Fig. 2: View of existing kiosk from Esplanade (to the west). Increased width of new kiosk will obscure most of the adjacent wall pier from this angle.



Fig. 3: View up Castlehill towards the Esplanade. Replacement kiosk will appear lower in height and will extend to left (south).

Appendix B. Legislative Context.

The various heritage designation of the site have been noted above in Section 7.

Selected relevant legislation is:

The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1997

The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997

- Section 55 Exceptions for ancient monuments

- Section 67 Cases in which section 66 does not apply

The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013.

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