

Bishop's and Earl's Palace, Kirkwall
New interpretation panels
Phase 1 signage schedule
Info for SMC
16 September 2015

1.0 Background

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Interpretation Unit wishes to install new interpretation panels at the Bishop's and Earl's Palaces, Kirkwall, to a) replace outdated and faded signage and b) address major gaps in the on-site interpretation.
- 1.2 High quality interpretation delivers on the key outcome of the Historic Environment Strategy, *Our Place in Time*, 'to ensure that the cultural, social, environmental and economic value of Scotland's heritage makes a strong contribution to the wellbeing of the nation and its people'. Following the principles and standards outlined in Historic Scotland's Interpretation Strategy, *The Magic of the Real*, this new interpretation will allow visitors intellectual access to Bishop and Earl's Palaces, communicating the many stories we have to tell about this fascinating site, enhancing the visitor experience and promoting a powerful sense of place.
- 1.3 Historic Scotland Cultural and Natural Resources Team (CNRT) has been fully consulted in the development of this signage schedule, balancing the need for increased and improved interpretation with the sensitivities of the site and its setting. CNRT has assessed the scheme, sign by sign, in relation to the cultural significance of the castle, advising us of constraints and sensitivities. As a result:
- Existing panel locations will be reused where possible
 - Any new panel locations will be guided by CNRT to minimise and monitor archaeological disturbance
 - The panels will be designed using recessive colours from the Historic Scotland colour palette to minimise visual intrusion

1.4 The signage schedule has been developed in line with the Historic Scotland Signage Design Manual, which aims to achieve uniformity across the estate to create the best possible first impression, meet DDA requirements and achieve a uniformity in design and installation which will assist with the replacement and maintenance of signage and interpretation in the future.


2.0 Scope


2.1 This is a Phase 1 project that will focus on the upgrade of the panels at the Bishop’s Palace and around the arrival point.



2.2 A second phase will be required to address the rest of the onsite interpretation, including in the Earl’s Palace.



2.3 Please see below for full details of the six panels being produced as part of this Phase 1 batch. The Interpretation Unit understands that two of these will require SMC.

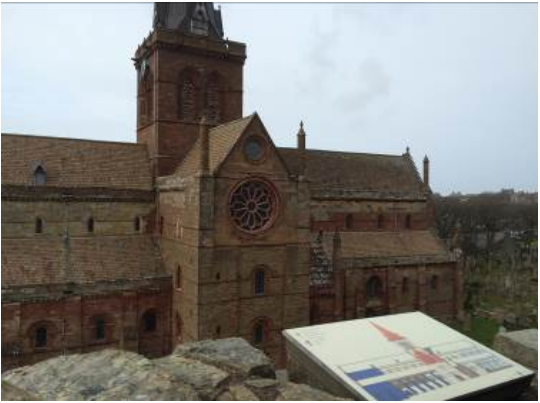
3.0 Signage schedule

Code	Content	Description	Dimensions (mm)	Fixings	Notes / Rationale	Location
BEP01	Bishop’s Palace introduction and orientation	Type LT1, A1 fixed lectern panel	Frame: 840x900x600 mm Graphic: 840x594x3 mm	To be bolted to a new concrete foundation (1000x800x250mm) to an overall depth of 450mm Note: This requires a new foundation in / near to the location shown opposite.	Addresses major gap in onsite interpretation and draws attention to the Bishop’s Palace – easily missed on arrival due to the prominence of the Earl’s Palace and the existence of the modern road dividing the site. Note this is the only opportunity we have to effectively interpret the Bishop’s Palace from an external perspective, allowing for a visual reconstruction which will help visitors appreciate the importance	 <p>To be located next to path, just north-east of ticket office, facing the bishop’s palace.</p>

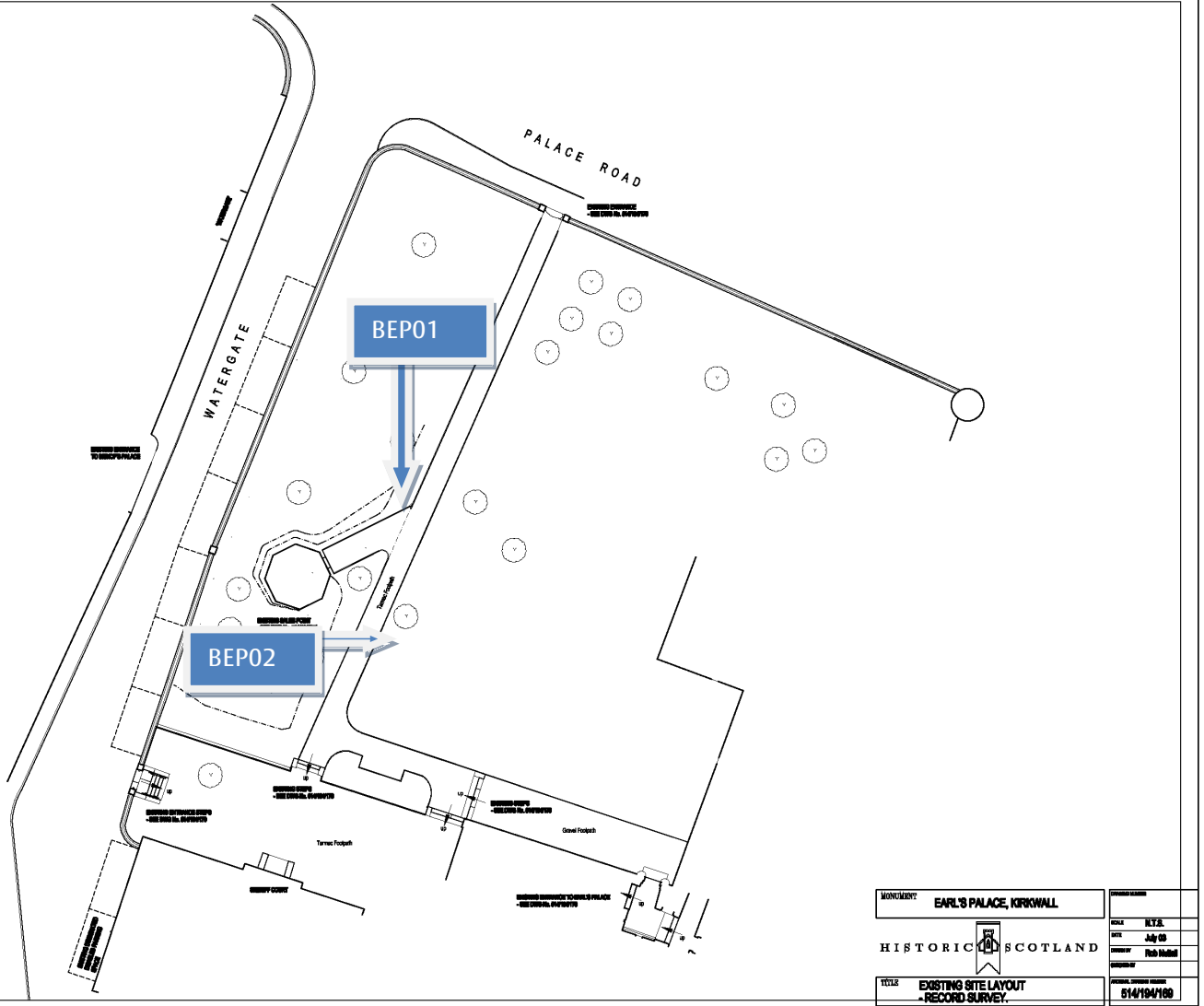
					of the palace and its relationship to the cathedral beyond.	
BEP02	Earl's Palace introduction and orientation	Type W2H, A1 panel to be fixed to existing lectern	Graphic: 840x594x20 mm	Bolt to existing stand through painted acrylic backing panel	Replaces faded and outdated signage, improving intellectual access. This will also allow for the removal of the existing Bakehouse panel on the outside face of the Earl's Palace, reducing this impact on the monument.	 <p>Located next to path to west of Earl's Palace, south-east of ticket office. Existing bakehouse panel to be removed from face of monument.</p>

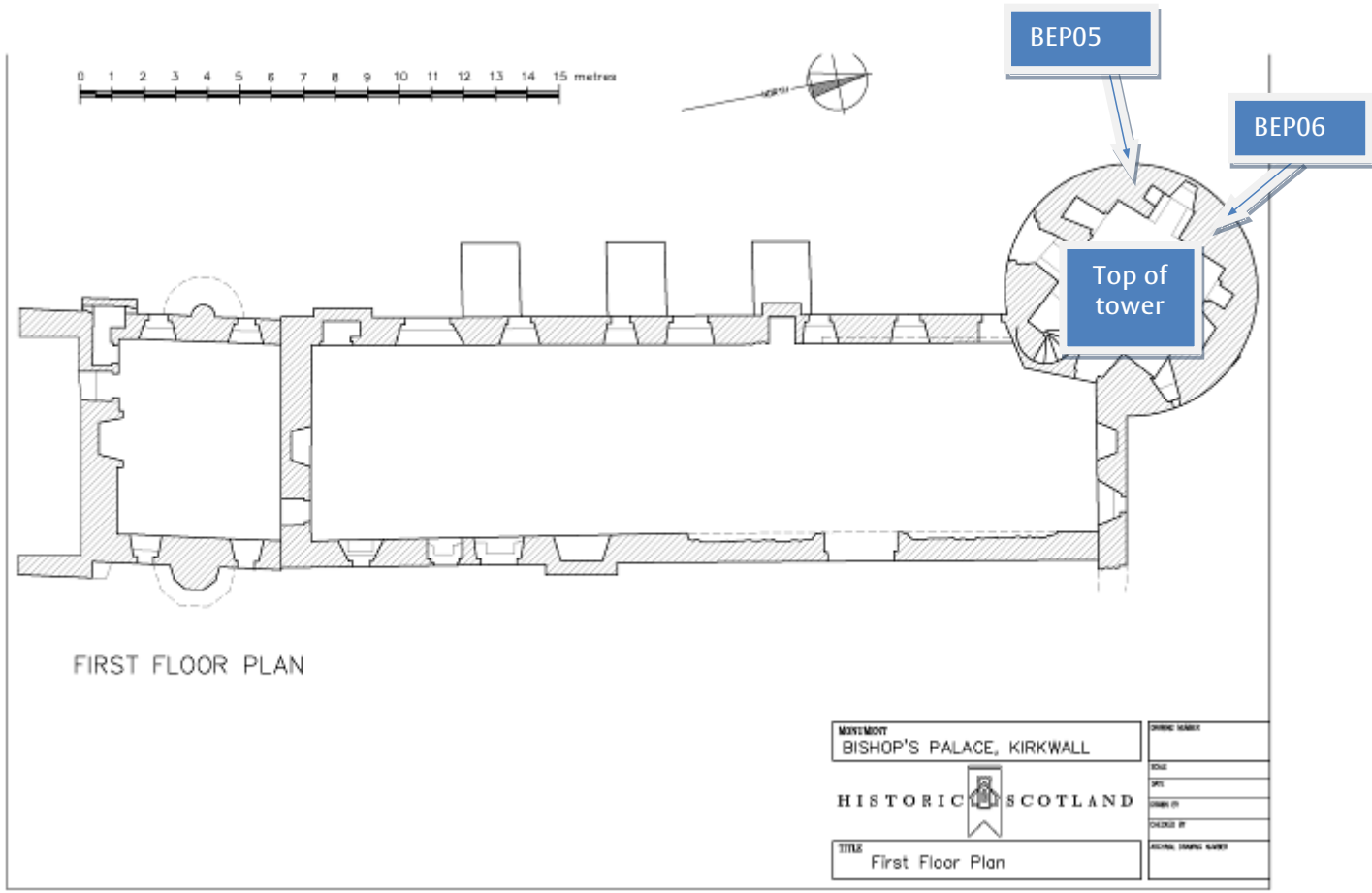
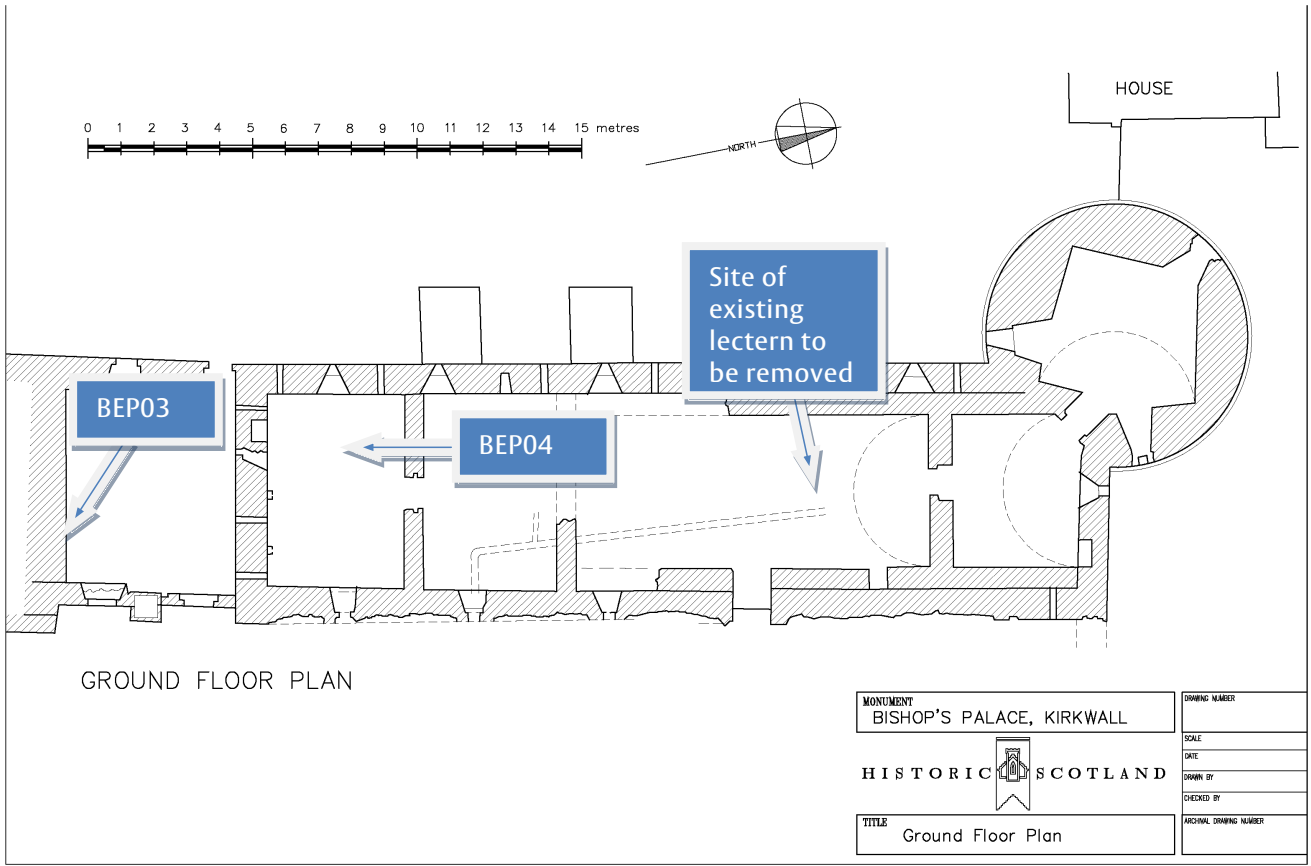
BEP03	Bishop's Palace interior introduction	W2H A1 (landscape) wall-mounted	840x594x20 mm	Screw fix through clear acrylic backing plate into existing mortar joints	Replaces faded and outdated signage. Rationalises and reduces visual impact by replacing two panels with one.	 <p>To replace one of the two existing panels on interior south wall of Bishop's Palace. The other panel will be removed altogether.</p>
BEP04	Bishop's Palace – main hall interpretation	LT6, A1 (landscape) Freestanding lectern panel with weighted base	840x600x900 mm Graphic panel 840 x 594 x 3mm	No fixings required – freestanding lectern	<p>The new panel will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be orientated to visitors as they enter the space • Provide a view right down the space towards the high end of the hall and allow for a multi-floor cutaway which also includes Bishop Reid's Tower and the external buttress features <p>Note: existing single-leg lectern at north end of space will be cut off at ground level</p>	 <p>New lectern to sit at south end of space facing north down the space, towards the high end, including a view of Reid's Tower.</p>

						 <p>TOP FLOOR RESTAURANT</p> <p>Look up and see how the monks' refectory was built over this two-story undercroft. The remaining high wall demonstrates the soaring quality of 12th-century architecture.</p> <p>UNDER A WATCHFUL EYE</p> <p>Contemporary art is integrated using the vaulted, ribbed floor that originally, through the undercroft, was designed to hold up the weight of the high wall above. The new design allows the space to be used as a restaurant and gallery, with the original structure preserved and enhanced.</p> <p>FOR THE BUILDER</p> <p>In 2011, a team of architects designed the ability to combine existing and new structures, creating a new space for the building. The design was approved by Historic Scotland, Historic Environment Scotland, and the local authority.</p> <p>THE HISTORY MUSEUM OF DUNFERMLINE ABBEY</p> <p>The museum is a collection of objects and artefacts that tell the story of the abbey and its people. It is a place where you can learn about the past and see the things that have survived from that time.</p>
BEP05	The Siege of Orkney interpretation	W2 custom panel	370x585x20 mm	Screw fix to existing backing board through clear acrylic fixing plate	Direct like-for-like replacement of existing panel.	 <p>Same location as existing panel.</p>

BEP06	St Magnus and St Magnus Cathedral interpretation	W2 custom panel	370x585x20 mm	Screw fix to existing backing board through clear acrylic fixing plate	Direct like-for-like replacement of existing panel.	 <p data-bbox="1525 549 1890 577">Same location as existing panel.</p>
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4.0 Plan showing panel locations





5.0 Appendices

Accompanying documentation includes:

- Relevant pages from Interpretation Unit Signage Design Manual
- Fixing intent for wall-mounted panels