

Case information

Reference/Case ID	201506505		
Scheduled Monument	Caledonian Canal, Loch Ness - Dochgarroch Lock		
Index no	M6498	Grid Ref	NH601376 260100.0000 837600.0000
Date of Application	14 January 2016	Application Received	14 January 2016
Summary of proposed works	Temporary access ramp from existing pontoon to allow access to vessels at higher levels - Land adjacent to Dochgarroch Locks		

1. Summary recommendation

This report recommends approval for the installation of a temporary access ramp from an existing pontoon to allow access to vessels at higher levels.

2. Background

The Caledonian Canal which was designed by Thomas Telford and built between 1803 and 1822. It was then, and remains today, the single largest construction work in the Highlands.

The temporary access ramp is needed for the proposed jetty and the applicant engaged Historic Environment Scotland in pre-application discussions.

3. Proposals

The proposals comprise the installation of a temporary bespoke designed adjustable access ramp from an existing pontoon to allow access to canal vessels at higher levels.

4. Representations received

No representations were received.

5. Report

a) Policy considerations

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

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.

3.20. Where change is proposed, it should be carefully considered, based on good authority, sensitively designed, properly planned and executed, and where appropriate in the context of an individual monument, reversible.

b) Assessment

The canal is an industrial, working monument meaning that numerous other works have been undertaken to it over the years. The access ramp will not have a significant impact on the historic fabric of the monument, and as it is temporary it is also reversible.

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

There will be no impact on Protected Species and Places.

In addition, the proposed works will have added on public benefits in facilitating access to boats on the canal.

d) Conclusion

The access ramp will not have a significant impact on cultural significance of the monument, meaning that it complies with Section 3.16 of the SHEP.

Given the ramp will also be reversible as it is temporary, it therefore complies with Section 3.20 of the SHEP

6. Recommended decision

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

I therefore recommend that **consent is granted, without conditions.**

7. Conditions

8. Approval

Officer	Nicola Hall	Date	29/01/2016
Approved by	John Raven	Date	01/02/2016

Annex A – list of supporting documents

CAA – location plan
SE designed ramp drawing
Photo of similar design