Historic Environment Scotland
Àrainneachd Eachdraidheil Alba

# e-Application for Scheduled Monument Consent

**Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979**

It is important that you read the accompanying guidance notes as incorrect completion will delay the processing of your application. You can complete and submit this form by email (hs.smc@scotland.gsi.gov.uk) or by post to Heritage Management Business Support, Historic Environment Scotland, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH.

## 1 Applicant name and address

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Title** | Ms | **First Name** | Alison | **Surname** | O'Kane |
| **Company / Organisation** | West Dunbartonshire Council | | | | |
| **Building No / Name** | Planning & Building Standards, Aurora House | | | | |
| **Street** | Aurora Avenue | | | | |
| **Town / City** | Clydebank | | | | |
| **County / Region** | West Dunbartonshire | | | | |
| **Postcode** | G81 1BF | | | | |

## 2 Monument to which application applies

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Index no** | SM7070 | **Name** | Golden Hill Park Roman fort, annexe and bathhouse |
| **Local Authority** | West Dunbartonshire | **Grid Ref** | NS 49464 72744 |
| **Description of location of land** | Within Goldenhill Park on NW facing slope falling towards Duntocher Burn and Roman Bridge | | |

## 3 Pre-application discussions

| | |
|---|---|
| **Have you undertaken pre-application discussions with Historic Environment Scotland? (If yes, please give details below)** | Y ☒ N ☐ |

A range of discussions, meetings, site inpection and document exchanges have been undertaken with Richard Heawood and Simon Stronach (Historic Environment Scotland) and Tricia Weeks (WHS Co-ordinator) to inform the design of the works at Goldenhill Park to ensure they are compatible with the importance of the World Heritage Site.

## 4 Summary of proposed works (max 20 words)

Enhancement of exposed rampart base and renewal of fence enclosure around same.

## 5 Description of proposed works



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An exposed section of rampart base from the Antonine Wall has, since the late 1970s, been retained within a fenced enclosure at the NW limit of Goldenhill Park as a tangible, interpretable element of the Roman military defensive complex. This limited exposure is a valuable asset for presenting the monument. There have been significant issues with the maintenance of this section of rampart base: rank and unmanaged vegetation obscuring (and compromising) the fabric of the base; an unsympathetic and utilitarian fence (now deteriorating) that does not reflect or support the recognition of the significance of the monument; and the lack of a consistent long term management plan to prevent deterioration of the monument. Many of these problems are reflected in the 2010 re-presentation of the rampart base, when consented works saw the excavation of detritus, vegetation and soil from over the fabric of the rampart base - just 6 years later the base is in a comparable position to that exhibited in 2010 prior to the works. Repeating the same process in 2016 would not be a sustainable approach given that it would lead to the progressive deterioration and loss of archaeological material from the monument.

Our Project will seek to retain the rampart base in a manner that is stable, necessitating a low level non-deleterious maintenance regime, but readily interpretable and presented within a modern fit-for-purpose enclosure that reflects the significance of the monument. Specifically:

- the stones of the rampart base will be managed within a short grass sward negating the repetitve need for re-excavation (the sward being reflective of the turf fabric of the wall);
- to delimit the wall and to accentuate its linear form, enabling better intuitive interpretation, a gravel strip will be introduced on the outer edge of the kerb stones; and
- . the fenced enclosure will be renewed to modern standards and in a manner that is expressive of the significance and history of the monument.

Meeting these goals will enhance the setting of the monument including the exposed section of rampart base, maintain access to this tangible, interpretable element but place this access on a stable basis, removing the need for long term episodic interventions. This will be of public benefit in terms of access to and comprehension of the monument.

We have designed our Project to be compliant with the principles set out in the Supplementary Planning Guidance for the Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Antonine Wall) World Heritage Site and the Scottish Historic Environment Policy. Specifically the avoidance of adverse physical impacts on the monument, the conservation of the cultural significance of the monument and the promotion of public benefit from the monument.

These project goals will be delivered sequence of works will be undertaken to the fence enclosure surrounding the exposed rampart base in Goldenhill Park:

A1. archaeological excavation of trial pits (no. 2) to characterise the existing foundations for the fence enclosure and survey of the existing enclosure (see Archaeological Method Statement);
A2. submission to HES of a foundation design for approval, informed by the preceeding works - the design to maintain the same configuration of main upright posts as the current enclosure though additional load bearing supports bedded in the topsoil may be added. No works on the fence to proceed without approval in writing from HES;
A3. submission to HES of a design for the fence panels for approval. No works on the fence to proceed without approval in writing from HES;
A4. removal of the existing fence enclosure and associated subsurface structures as required (inc



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concrete bases and stays) under archaeological supervision (see Archaeological Method Statement);
A5. installation of new fence (compliant with agreed foundation design and panel design) under archaeological supervision (see Archaeological Method Statement).

Existing signage within and outwith the fence enclosure will be unaffected by works. Concrete and metal from the existing (old) fence will be removed from the Scheduled Monument.

Within the fence enclosure a programme of works will be undertaken:

B1. cutting and point delivery of herbicide to rank and deleterious vegetation (while these works are reasonably outwith the scope of the Act they are detailed here for clarity);
B2. removal of any loose stone or modern material that has accumulated around the edge of the enclosure;
B3. archaeological excavation (see Archaeological Method Statement) of a strip of ground adjacent to the rampart kerbs along their exposed length, not broader than the smaller of 500mm or half the distance between the kerbs and the fence enclosure. This ground to be reduced to a maximum depth of 150mm below the kerb stones (lower edge) if archaeological remains related to the monument are not encountered - where significant archaeological remains are encountered, these will be safeguarded in situ, with this safeguarding taking absolute priority over the excavation of this strip of ground;
B4. fitting of geotextile membrane (with pins) within excavated strip and overlain by gravel to a level flush with the lower edge of the kerb stones (i.e. maximum depth of 150mm).

Prior to delivery of the tasks B3 and B4 the specification of the gravel to be used must be agreed with HES in writing. Spoil from the excavation will be used where appropriate to returf areas disrupted by the fence installation. All surplus spoil will be removed from the Scheduled Monument.

## 6 List of plans, drawings and other documents accompanying application (continue on separate sheet if necessary)

| No | Description | Reference | Document emailed | Document posted |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Location Plan | 15109LP | ☒ | ☐ |
| 2. | Archaeological Method Statement | 15109MS | ☒ | ☐ |
| 3. | | | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4. | | | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5. | | | ☐ | ☐ |

## 7 Nature Conservation – Protected Places and Species

**Will the proposed works affect any of the following:**

| Yes | No | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ | ☒ | Site of Special Scientific Interest |



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|---|---|---|
| ☐ | ☒ | Special Protection Areas |
| ☐ | ☒ | Special Areas of Conservation |
| ☐ | ☒ | European Protected Species |

**If Yes, please give details below**

## 8 Other information relevant to application

The archaeological works will be undertaken by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd who are acting as our agents for this SMC application (www.rathmell-arch.co.uk). Fence design, production and installation will be undertaken by Elspeth Bennie (www.elspethbennie.co.uk). The last maintenance works on the fence enclosure and rampart base were undertaken in March and September 2010.

## 9 Declaration

☒ I hereby apply for scheduled monument consent for the works described in this application and shown on the accompanying plans and drawings.

☒ I confirm that the information I have given on this form is true and accurate.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Name** | Alison O'Kane | **Date** | 19/02/16 |
| **On behalf of** | West Dunbartonshire Council | | |

Where an application is being dealt with by an agent to whom correspondence should be sent, state the:-

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Name of Agent** | Thomas Rees | **Tel No** | [redacted] |
| **Address** | Rathmell Archaeology Ltd, Unit 8 Ashgrove Workshops, Kilwinning, Ayrshire | | |
| | | **Post Code** | KA13 6PU |



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