

Case information

Case ID	300009944		
File Reference	AMH/1514/2/1		
Name of Site	Clachan More, two standing stones, Dowally		
Local Authority	Perth and Kinross Council		
National Grid Reference	NO 0003 4799		
Designation No. (if any)	SM1514		
Designation Type	Scheduled Monument	Current Category of Listing	N/A
Case Type	Amendment		

Received/Start Date	05/05/2014
Decision Date	22/02/2016

1. Decision

The monument was first scheduled in 1964 but an inadequate area was included to protect all of the archaeological remains. The assessment against criteria demonstrates that the monument continues to be of national importance. The decision is to update the entry in the Schedule as Clachan More, two standing stones 100m WSW of Dowally Kirk.

2. Designation Background and Development Proposals

2.1 Designation Background

Monument first scheduled in 1964; no subsequent amendment.

2.2 Development Proposals

N/A

3. Assessment

3.1 Assessment information

The site was visited on 05/05/2014.

3.2 Assessment against designation criteria

An assessment against the Scheduling criteria has been carried out (see **Annex A**).

The monument was found to meet the criteria for scheduling.

The designation criteria are found in the Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP), pp. 71-85. <http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/shep-dec2011.pdf>

3.3 Other considerations

N/A

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ANNEX A – Assessment Against the Scheduling Criteria*

Clachan More, two standing stones 100m WSW of Dowally Kirk

1. Description

The monument comprises two standing stones. The monument is likely to date from the Neolithic or Bronze Age (late third or second millennium BC). It is situated on level ground on the Tummel Valley at around 60m above sea level.

The two standing stones are aligned east-west. The eastern stone is approximately 2.1m high and the western stone is approximately 1.8m high. The stones are situated about 3m apart. There is evidence that the western stone has been re-set and early 20th century descriptions and sketches show the stones on a north-south alignment with the tallest stone to the north. The stones may originally have formed part of a larger alignment or been part of a stone circle.

The scheduled area is sub-rectangular on plan to include the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment is expected to survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map. The scheduling specifically excludes the above-ground elements of the post-and-wire fence running south and east of the standing stones. The monument was originally scheduled in 1964, but the documentation did not adequately cover the archaeological remains: the present amendment rectifies this.

2. Assessment Against the Scheduling Criteria (SHEP, 2011) pp71-73**

* This assessment is based on our current state of knowledge. It will form the basis of any new or updated scheduled monument record.

** A monument may be found to meet the scheduling criteria but in some circumstances may not be added to the Schedule. The purpose and implications of scheduling are issues that require to be taken into account when assessing monuments for scheduling. Scheduling may not be the only, or the most appropriate mechanism, to secure the future of all sites, even those that may otherwise meet the criteria.

Cultural significance

Characteristic	Assessment
Intrinsic	
Condition in which monument survives	- At least one stone has been repositioned and re-set and it is possible that both stones may have been re-set. However, it is likely the stones were originally erected within the immediate vicinity of where they stand today. OS historical map locations and early 20th century descriptions of their location adjacent to the Wade Military Road and Bridge support this. - The stones have numerous quartz inclusions and the west stone has a prominent strip of quartz running vertically down the west face. The quartz inclusions may have been the reason that these stones were chosen.
Archaeological, scientific, technological or other interest or research potential of the monument	Although the stones may have been reset, they remain in the vicinity of their original location. There is good potential for the survival of archaeological deposits and features that can tell us about how and when the monument was erected

	and how it was used. - Excavations elsewhere across Scotland have revealed the presence of cremation burials and urns beneath or around standing stones. There is potential here for the survival of important archaeological deposits beneath and around the standing stones, including human remains, artefacts and environmental remains, such as charcoal or pollen. - Such remains can inform our understanding of the characteristics of the contemporary population, how and why the stones were erected, the nature of related activities carried out in the vicinity, and the character of the local environment at the time of the stones' erection and use.
Apparent developmental sequence of monument (either long or short may provide insights of importance)	- Standing stones are typically thought to date to the late third and second millennium BC. It is possible that this monument has a long development sequence, with different phases of use over several generations. - Excavation of the sockets around the base of the stones could help to establish the date of the standing stones' erection, the history of use and the likely relocation of at least one of the stones. - Future archaeological excavation could help to provide an insight into the form, function and development of the monument.
Original or subsequent functions of the monument and its parts	N/A
Contextual	
Present rarity or representativeness of all or any part of the monument, assessed against knowledge of the archaeology of Scotland and of the region in which the monument occurs	- Standing stones are a widespread class of monument across Scotland with notable concentrations in Dumfries and Galloway, the Western and Northern Isles, Perthshire, Aberdeenshire and Caithness. - There are around 10 pairs of standing stones recorded in Perthshire including Dunkeld (SM1541), Balnabroich (SM1503) and Crofthead (SM1587) and East Cult (SM1544). The existence and survival of paired standing stones in this relatively high density is interesting and unusual.
Relationship of the monument to other monuments of the same or related classes or period, or to features or monuments in the vicinity. (Particularly important for monuments forming part of a widespread but varied class)	- There are a number of other broadly contemporary sites in the vicinity, including other potential ritual and funerary sites. In 1842 a cairn approximately 125m southeast of this monument was fully excavated revealing a burial cist (RCAHMS NO04NW 3). A possible ring ditch lies approximately 150m northwest of this monument (RCAHMS NN94NE 11). Further study of this site in relation to other sites in the area, including prehistoric settlements, could add to our understanding of the function of this site, the significance of its placing in the landscape, and its relationship with broadly contemporary settlement sites in the area. - These nearby sites highlight the fact that this monument is an important component of the wider prehistoric landscape of land-use and settlement in the Tummel Valley.
Relationship of the monument and its parts with its wider landscape and setting	- The monument is situated on level ground on the side of the Tummel Valley at about 60m above sea level with potentially open views across the valley. It would have been a prominent feature in the landscape. - The position of the monument in the landscape is undoubtedly significant and merits further analysis. It could further our understanding of the positioning of ritual

	monuments in the landscape, and of the significance of these monuments to the societies that built and used them. The stones are only 2m from the Wade Military Road and this may have been a main route for travellers for many centuries prior to the construction of the road. The stones may originally have had a connection to this key north-south route.
Associative	
Historical, cultural and social influences that have affected the form and fabric of the monument, and vice versa	N/A
Aesthetic attributes of the monument	N/A
Significance in the national consciousness or to people who use or have used the monument, or descendants of such people	N/A
Associations the monument has with historical, traditional or artistic characters or events	N/A

Assessment of national importance

Criteria	Assessment
Its inherent capability or potential to make a significant addition to the understanding or appreciation of the past	The monument is of national importance because it has inherent potential to make a significant contribution to our understanding of the past, in particular the design and development of prehistoric burial and ritual monuments. It can inform our understanding of prehistoric land-use, social organisation and belief systems, including funerary and burial rites. There is potential for the survival of important archaeological deposits beneath and around the standing stones, including human remains or other deposits relating to ritual and funerary activities, together with artefacts and palaeoenvironmental evidence, such as charcoal or pollen. The loss of this monument would impede our ability to understand the nature of prehistoric belief and ceremony and the placing and function of ritual monuments within the landscape.
Its retention of the structural, decorative or field characteristics of its kind to a marked degree	
Its contribution, or the contribution of its class, to today's landscape and/or the historic landscape	
The quality and extent of any documentation or association that adds to the understanding of the monument or its context	
The diminution of the potential of a particular class or classes of monument to contribute to an understanding of the past, should the monument be lost or damaged	
Its place in the national consciousness [a factor that may be considered in support of other factors]	

References

Historic Environment Scotland <http://www.canmore.org.uk> reference number
CANMORE ID 27109 (accessed on 3/3/2015)
