

## Case information

---

|                                  |  |                             |                                     |
|----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Reference/Case ID</b>         | 201508039  |                             |                                     |
| <b>Scheduled Monument</b>        | Holyrood Park  |                             |                                     |
| <b>Index no</b>                  | M13032   | <b>Grid Ref</b>             | NT275741 327500.0000<br>674100.0000 |
| <b>Date of Application</b>       | 22 March 2016  | <b>Application Received</b> | 22 March 2016                       |
| <b>Summary of proposed works</b> | Installation of commemorative plaque on boundary wall of Holyrood Park (Retrospective) |                             |                                     |

### 1. Summary recommendation

---

This report recommends retrospective consent be granted without conditions

### 2. Background

---

Holyrood Park is a large multi-phase site, incorporating remains from the Bronze Age (and possibly earlier) to the present day. Its formal enclosure in 1541 as a royal park has led to the unusually good preservation of earlier remains in a peri-urban context while the post-medieval use of the site is also of importance and lends significantly to its character. The section of the monument affected by this application is the boundary wall of the Park, established in the 1540s.

The plaque was installed on the wall in October 2015 by City of Edinburgh Council, with no prior consultation with Historic Environment Scotland. It commemorates the site of the Braidwood Academy for the Deaf and Dumb; the world's first organised school for the deaf, established in in 1760. Historic Environment Scotland became aware of the plaque in January 2016 when enforcement action was initiated. Following consultation with HES Conservation Directorate (owners and managers of the section of wall affected) and a site meeting with representatives of City of Edinburgh Council, it was agreed that the plaque could remain in situ and that retrospective scheduled monument consent should be sought.

### 3. Proposals

---

Consented Works:

Installation of a circular cast iron commemorative plaque 500mm in diameter on the boundary wall of Holyrood Park – retrospective.

#### 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:

##### **The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979: Part 1 2 Control of works affecting scheduled monuments.**

(1) If any person executes or causes or permits to be executed any works to which this section applies he shall be guilty of an offence unless the works are authorised under this Part of the Act.

(2) This section applies to any of the following works, that is to say –

- (a) any works resulting in the demolition or destruction of or any damage to a scheduled monument;
- (b) any works for the purpose of removing or repairing a scheduled monument or any part of it or of making any alterations or additions thereto;
- (c) any flooding or tipping operations on land in, on or under which there is a scheduled monument.

##### **SHEP**

3.4. Scheduled monument consent is required for any works that would demolish, destroy, damage, remove, repair, alter or add to the monument or to carry out any flooding or tipping on the monument. It is a criminal offence to carry out any of these works without consent.

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.

3.17. As each monument will require treatment specific to its individual nature, characteristics, significance and needs, any proposed change to it must be fully and explicitly justified.

3.18. Scheduled monument consent applications must be considered in terms of the cultural significance of the monument and the impact that the proposals would have upon this cultural significance. The more important particular features of the monument are to its cultural significance, the greater will be the case against interventions which modify these features.

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 plaque has been fixed to the wall by inserting four metal tines on the reverse of the plaque into drilled holes in the wall. The plaque was further secured using epoxy resin on the reverse and a seal of lime mortar around the edge. These works constitute additions and alterations to the monument under Part 1, 2, 2 (b) of the Act, and as such scheduled monument consent is required.

I consider the works to have had a minimal impact on the monument, physically, visually, and in terms of its cultural significance. The information provided by the plaque is of public benefit, drawing attention to the history of the area and its particular relevance to the deaf community.

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

None.

**d) Conclusion**

I am content that the works have not had a detrimental impact on the cultural significance of the monument and are therefore in accordance with section 3.16 of SHEP.

**6. Recommended decision**

---

I recommend consent is **granted without conditions**.

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

**7. Conditions**

---

None.

**8. Approval**

---

|                    |                         |             |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| <b>Officer</b>     | <b>Deirdre Cameron</b>  | <b>Date</b> | <b>21/04/2016</b> |
| <b>Approved by</b> | <b>George Findlater</b> | <b>Date</b> | <b>22/04/2016</b> |

## **Annex A – list of supporting documents**

- Location map with illustrations of plaque
- Letter of 15 February 2016 from Stonemason outlining works undertaken