

Case information

Reference/Case ID	201507767		
Scheduled Monument	Holyrood Park		
Index no	M13032	Grid Ref	NT275741 327500.0000 674100.0000
Date of Application	10 December 2015	Application Received	04 March 2016
Summary of proposed works	Installation of lighting columns and associated infrastructure along the route of the Innocent Path, Holyrood Park		

1. Summary recommendation

This report recommends 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. The Innocent Railway runs along the south western edge of Holyrood Park and is a notable post-medieval feature of the monument. Opened in 1831, the railway was built to carry coal and agricultural produce into the city from Dalkeith, but subsequently became a popular passenger route. There are two theories for the adoption of the “Innocent” title: the carriages on the railway were originally horse-drawn and therefore innocent of the noise and dirt which characterised steam rail; and the route was notably accident free and therefore innocent of causing any injury or damage. The section of the railway within Holyrood Park was closed in 1968, but was subsequently developed by City of Edinburgh Council as a walking and cycling route.

The applicant has held pre-application discussions with Historic Environment Scotland and other interested parties to help develop the scheme and limit its environmental impact. HES Conservation Directorate have confirmed they do not object to the proposals in their capacity as managers of the Park. Archaeological mitigation in the form of a watching brief forms part of the application.

Only part of the proposed scheme lies within the scheduled area protecting Holyrood Park, representing approximately one third of the route at its north-western end.

HES has therefore also undertaken discussions with City of Edinburgh Council's archaeology service to ensure a consistent approach acceptable to both parties.

3. Proposals

Consented Works - Installation of lighting columns and associated infrastructure along the route of the Innocent Path, Holyrood Park

The consented works comprise –

- Installation of lighting columns along the route of the Innocent Path
- Excavation of a service trench and installation of electrical cabling to supply the lighting columns.
- Archaeological works as detailed in the written scheme of investigation submitted in support of the application.

The works are intended to make an existing unlit pedestrian and cycle route safer for users.

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.

3.22. Where consent for the range of works set out in paragraph 3.4 is granted, conditions are normally applied to ensure the works are undertaken in an appropriate manner. Common requirements are:

- a. the use of appropriate assessment methodologies to determine the full impact of any proposed management, use or development;
- b. the avoidance of irreversible change particularly wherever its effects cannot be adequately assessed;
- c. that where change is necessary, strategies should be adopted to mitigate its impact and limit intervention;
- d. that the management and execution of alteration, including remedial work, is sympathetic to the historic character;
- e. that appropriate skills and techniques, materials and construction techniques are specified where appropriate;
- f. that an appropriate level of record is made before, during and after any work and deposited in local and national archives, and, where appropriate, published;
- g. that it is possible, on close inspection, to differentiate new work from old particularly on masonry structures;
- h. that any archaeological excavation or other intrusive investigation should be based upon a detailed research strategy, with adequate resources, using appropriately skilled and experienced archaeologists with a satisfactory record of the completion and publication of projects (see Note 3.10); and,
- i. that the design, planning and execution of works on scheduled monuments are undertaken by people with appropriate professional and craft qualifications, skills and experience.

b) Assessment

The works will comprise the installation of fourteen 6m high lighting columns along the section of the Innocent Path which lies within Holyrood Park. The columns will be linked by an electricity supply (to be installed as part of the same project) and will be spaced approximately 36m apart; any potential variation in distance is to allow for micro-siting to take account of local circumstances such as avoiding tree roots. The columns require installation to a depth of 1m and the service trench for the electricity cabling will be a minimum of 0.5m deep.

These works represent alterations and additions to the monument under Part 1.1.2(b) and as such, scheduled monument consent is required. It should be noted that the scheduling designation specifically excludes an area 50cm below the surface of existing paths and roads. Some of the works included in this application will fall under this exclusion but the nature of the proposals does not make it possible to highlight or exclude the areas involved.

The excavation of holes for the lighting columns and the trench for the electrical power cable has the potential to disturb archaeological deposits. Remains related to the Innocent Railway are most likely to be encountered, although it is believed that much of the railway structure was dismantled and removed before the route was converted to a pathway.

The application is supported by a written scheme of investigation for an archaeological watching brief which will allow for the investigation and recording of any artefacts or features encountered during ground breaking works. This work is undertaken by Rubicon Heritage, an archaeological contracting company, and appears written to industry standards.

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

None.

d) Conclusion

While the works will have a limited physical impact on a small section of the site, I am content that this will not have a detrimental effect on the cultural significance of the monument. I, therefore consider the application to comply with paragraph 3.16 of SHEP.

I am content that the proposed archaeological watching brief is a proportionate scheme of archaeological mitigation. I am also content that the written scheme of investigation submitted in support of the application is sufficiently detailed and that the works will be carried out by appropriately qualified professionals and thus policy at 3.20 is met. I am therefore content that the potential issues raised in SHEP 3.22 are met and that no conditions are required.

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

Officer	Deirdre Cameron	Date	21/04/2016
Approved by	George Findlater	Date	26/04/2016

Annex A – list of supporting documents

- Site location plan
- CEC11/04/24: 6m aluminium conical post-top lantern
- DSR097409 Sheet 1/2: Map showing extent of path illumination based on height of column (1 of 2)
- DSR097409 Sheet 2/2: Map showing extent of path illumination based on height of column (2 of 2)
- Philips Roadway Lighting Report 097409, Innocent Cycle Path
- Map of National Cycle Network Route 1
- Luma Mini-Assembly drawing: image showing Lighting Head with louvre assembled to direct light
- Luma lighting brochure
- Rubicon HPCP15: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Watching Brief: Holyrood Park Innocent Railway Cycle-path, Edinburgh (21/4/16)