Scheduled Monument Consent:
Report on Handling

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND | ÀRAINNEACHD EACHDRAIDHEIL ALBA

Case information

Reference/Case ID	201601287

Scheduled Monument	Forth and Clyde Canal: Cleveden Road - Bishopbriggs Golf Course		
Index no	6773	**Grid Ref**	256184 668986

Date of Application	08 June 2016	**Application Received**	08 June 2016
Summary of proposed works	Installation of two commemorative plaques on the Kelvin Aqueduct.		

1. Summary recommendation

This report recommends consent is granted without conditions.

2. Background

The monument comprises a length of inland waterway forming part of the Forth and Clyde Canal. The monument runs for some 6.5 km from Cleveden Road to Bishopbriggs Golf Course. As well as the canal, its banks and the towing path, the monument includes the Kelvin Aqueduct. The aqueduct is also a Category A listed building (LB32316).

The monument is of national importance because it is an integral part of the Forth and Clyde Canal, which is an excellent example of Georgian civil engineering. It was the first of Scotland's great inland waterways to be constructed (between 1768 and 1790).

In partnership with the Institute of Civil Engineers, Scottish Canals propose to attach two plaques to the Kelvin Aqueduct. The plaques are intended to publicly celebrate the engineering achievements of William Whitworth and William Gibb. They also provide some historical information about the canal and aqueduct.

3. Proposals

The plaques are cast from bronze. The appearance of one has been illustrated by photograph.

The plaques would be fixed to the aqueduct by way of two bronze dowels that form part of its rear face. The dowels would be inserted into two holes drilled into the mortar joints of the structure and filled with epoxy resin.

One plaque would be fixed to the viaduct's parapet wall on the towpath side. The second would be fixed to the viaduct wall next to the Kelvin Walkway which runs below the viaduct.

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:

Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979

- Part 1 Section 2 - Control of works affecting an ancient monument.

Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement (2016)

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.

3.14. A monument is included in the Schedule to secure the long-term legal protection of the monument in the national interest, *in situ* and as far as possible in the state it has come down to us. Scheduled monuments have an intrinsic value as monuments, not related to any concept of active use. It is the value of the monument to the nation's heritage, in terms set out in the section on Scheduling in Chapter 2 of this policy statement, that is the primary consideration in determining applications for scheduled monument 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

It is proposed to install two plaques on the Kelvin Aqueduct. These are intended to increase public understanding and appreciation of the monument and would be positioned next to public walkways. This aim is consistent with the policy statement's Key Principles, particularly paragraph 1.9d.

The plaques are oval and made from bronze. This traditional finish would be sympathetic to the character of the aqueduct. They would not adversely affect a visual appreciation of the monument nor significantly alter its cultural significance.

The work would involve drilling into the aqueduct. This would be into masonry joints. The plaques would be fixed with epoxy resin and bronze dowels. Because the holes would be drilled into joints and the materials should not corrode this should not adversely affect the fabric of the monument.

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

The application site does not lie in a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Area of Conservation (SAC) or Special Protection Area. National Biodiversity Network GIS data sets indicate no evidence for Protected Species in the relevant 100m grid squares.

d) Conclusion

The proposals should have a relatively minimal effect on the character and fabric of the aqueduct. Hence the cultural significance of the monument would not be materially affected and the proposals are not inconsistent with paragraph 3.14 and 3.18.

The plaques should increase public appreciation and understanding of the monument and hence are consistent with the policy statement's Key Principles.

6. Recommended decision

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

7. Conditions

Granted without conditions.

8. Approval

Officer	**Simon Stronach**	**Date**	**24/06/2016**
Approved by	**John Raven**	**Date**	**27/06/2016**

Annex A – list of supporting documents
Figure showing positions of proposed plaques
Photographs of plaque (x2)