



Case Information

Reference/Case ID	300018473		
Scheduled Monument	Craigmillar Castle, castle and gardens		
Index no	SM90129	Grid ref	NT 28300 70500
Date application validated	13 September 2016		
Summary of proposed works	Installation of two timber perch style seats		

1. Summary recommendation

This report recommends that approval for the installation of two timber perch style seats in the verge of existing tarmac pathway be granted without conditions.

2. Background

The monument consists of Craigmillar Castle and its surrounding designed landscape. Craigmillar may be the best example of a medieval castle surviving in Scotland. Built according to 15th and 16th-century principles of fortification, it is substantially complete and placed within the remains of a significant and important designed landscape.

This application relates to a small area next to the footpath that runs parallel to the road in the northern half of the scheduled area. The application is to install two timber perch style seats in the verge of existing tarmac pathway. This is to provide amenity support for those with restricted mobility when they use the pathway. The proposed location is next to the tarmac path, a watching brief was carried out in advance of the extension of this path. No significant archaeological deposits were encountered during these works.

The works have been discussed via email with the applicant, and the principle of this application accords with the outcome of these discussions.



3. Proposals

Consented works - Installation of two timber perch style seats in the verge of existing tarmac pathway.

The proposals comprise:

- Digging on parkland of two holes of approximately 70cm depth and 30cm width for installation of two timber perch seats.
- Installation of two timber perch style seats in the verge of existing tarmac pathway.
- Postcrete may be used to set perch seats and the base of the seats will be landscaped to match verge vegetation.

4. Representations received

No third party representations were received.

5. Report

a) Policy considerations

The application should be considered with the following legislative and policy considerations in mind:

Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979

Part 1 Section 2: Control of works affecting scheduled monuments.

Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement June 2016

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.



3.18. 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 works involve the excavation of two holes, each 70cm in depth and 30cm in width, and the installation of the two timber perch seats.

The physical impact of these works on the preservation of archaeological deposits associated with the monument is minimal. This area of the monument has seen significant landscaping and levelling, the watching brief relating to the extension of the path encountered no significant archaeology deposits.

There is no archaeological response proposed as part of the application. The archaeological potential of this part of the monument, given the lack of archaeological sensitivity in the area of the proposed works, is very low and as such we are content that no mitigation is required as part of this consent.

The aesthetic impact of these works on the character of the monument will be negligible and the works will sit alongside existing tarmac path.

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

No impact on Protected Species and Places.

d) Conclusion

The works are not for the benefit of the long term preservation of the monument. However, the works will not have an impact upon culturally significant buried archaeological deposits, and therefore can be considered as the minimum level of intervention that is consistent with conserving what is culturally significant in a monument, and thus compliant with paragraph 3.16 of the policy statement.

The works have been designed to be low impact; more heavily engineered alternatives would likely have a greater impact on buried archaeological deposits. As such, the application is mostly compliant with paragraph 3.20 of the policy statement.



There is no archaeological response proposed as part of the application, and given the lack of potential for stray finds and/or redeposited material to be present an archaeological watching brief is not necessary. The application is fully compliant with paragraph 3.20 of the policy statement.

6. Recommended decision

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

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

7. Conditions

No conditions have been attached to this decision.

8. Approval

Case officer	James Bruhn	Date	07 November 2016
Approved by	George Findlater	Date	07 November 2016

Annex A – list of supporting documents

- 20161309Craigmillar Castle footpath CFA Excavation DSR 3129 CAFO
- 20161309Location Map Craigmillar Perch Seats
- 20161309Location Map
- 20161309Supplementary Information2_Craigmillar Cycle way CCW02
- 20161309Supplementary Information3_SNH design guide