



Case Information

Reference/Case ID	300019122		
Scheduled Monument	Edinburgh Castle		
Index no	SM90130	Grid ref	NT 24900 73400
Date application validated	09 February 2017		
Summary of proposed works	Wall fixing of a bronze bracket to support white ensign		

1. Summary recommendation

This report recommends that approval for **Edinburgh Castle - Wall fixing of a bronze bracket to support white ensign** be granted without conditions.

2. Background

The monument is Edinburgh Castle comprising all buildings, structures, wells, fortifications street furniture, historic plaques, roadways, yards and other open spaces. The scheduled area is irregular and includes all of the above features and an area around them in which traces of activities associated with the Castle, such as outer fortifications, siege works or temporary workshops, may survive.

The monument is of national importance because of its supreme historical, architectural, archaeological and overall cultural significance.

This application relates to the Scottish National War Memorial. The application is for the fixing of a bronze bracket to an inner wall of the National War Memorial to support a White Ensign. The bracket will be supported by the insertion of two legs into existing bed joints in the internal stonework. It has been submitted by HES Conservation Group.

The application is accompanied by brief statement of the work; a location plan and; a detailed sectional drawing.

HES Heritage Management Directorate has undertaken pre-application discussions with the applicant regarding the scope and detail of the works, and this application accords with those discussions.



3. Proposals

The Proposed Works Include:

- Drilling of existing bed joints for bronze tails
- Insertion of bronze tails into bed joints to a depth of approximately 100mm.
- Filling of joint with clear silicon sealant

The work will include the securing of two bronze tails of a bracket into existing mortar joints to support the display of the White Ensign from HMS Royal Oak.

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.

3.15. Monuments are subject to decay and the threat of destruction, from natural and human causes. Conservation work is normally needed to prolong the life of a monument, but there is a risk that this can be so invasive that it irreversibly modifies the monument's character and affects the special interest or features that made the monument important in the first place.



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.

b) Assessment

The proposed works involve the **Edinburgh Castle - Wall fixing of a bronze bracket to support white ensign**. This is intended to provide a means of displaying a White Ensign from HMS Royal Oak within the Scottish National War Memorial.

The physical impact of the proposed works would be the drilling of two holes into existing bed joints on an internal wall, the insertion of a bronze bracket and filling of the two drilled holes with clear silicone sealant. The works will have minimal impact on the historic fabric and will facilitate the display of the White Ensign.

The works would not affect the cultural significance of the monument. The application has been accompanied by a method statement that sets out an appropriate and careful methodology.

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

No impact on Protected Species and Places considered likely – see PP&S assessment.

d) Conclusion

The application should be viewed as works as set out in both Part 1 Section 2 of the AMAA Act 1979 and paragraph 3.4 of the policy statement.

The works, comprising **Edinburgh Castle - Wall fixing of a bronze bracket to support white ensign**, are being done to elements of the monument in such a way that they will have minimal impact on the cultural significance of the monument. They do not, therefore, conflict with paragraphs 3.16 and 3.18 of the policy statement.

No conditions are considered necessary.

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	Iona Murray	Date	15 February 2017
Approved by	John Raven	Date	15 February 2017

Annex A – list of supporting documents

- Detailed location plan and section showing method of fixing (130L012017-SMC001).