



DESIGNATIONS

2020 ONWARDS



HISTORIC
ENVIRONMENT
SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD
EACHDRAIDHEIL
ALBA

MAY 2020

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WHO WE ARE

Historic Environment Scotland is a charity and public body leading the way in protecting, understanding and sharing Scotland's historic environment, for today and for the future.

We care for more than 300 sites of national importance all across the country and are the largest operator of paid visitor attractions in Scotland.

We look after internationally significant archives and artefacts.

We are at the forefront of investigating and researching the historic environment and addressing the impacts of climate change on its future.

We protect our historic places through designations and consents, promote their sustainable development, and provide millions of pounds each year to local communities to repair and revitalise their historic environment.

We provide advice and guidance about the historic environment, and offer a wide range of training and learning opportunities.

In every aspect of our work we strive to follow our five organisational values – we are collaborative, professional, innovative, open and respectful.

WHAT WE DO

Designation is the legal recognition of some of our most important historic sites and places. It ensures that these places are recognised by law through the planning system and other regulatory processes.

The Designations Team is responsible for designating sites and places at the national level. These are:

- [Scheduled monuments](#)
- [Listed buildings](#)
- [Inventory of gardens and designed landscapes](#)
- [Inventory of historic battlefields](#)

We also make recommendations to the Scottish Government about [historic marine protected areas](#) and the Scottish Ministers decide whether to designate.

We have around 22 staff who manage the designation records for over 55,000 designations across Scotland. From our remotest islands to our busiest cities and even under water, our designated sites and places tell us about Scotland's history and highlight our distinctiveness. They make Scotland a great place to live, work and visit. The historic character of our environment is important to our quality of life and it helps us to understand who we are. Our staff have a wide range of knowledge and experience and they include archaeologists, art and architectural historians as well as specialist support staff.

DESIGNATIONS AT A GLANCE

	Scheduled monuments	Listed buildings	Gardens and designed landscapes	Historic battlefields	Historic marine protected areas
When did it start?	1882	1957	1987	2011	2013
How many are there?	Around 8,000	Around 47,000	Around 360	Around 40	Around 8
What level are they designated at?	All are of national importance	Three categories: A, B and C	All are of national importance	All are of national importance	All are of national importance
What are they?	Archaeological sites and structures (such as prehistoric burial mounds, Roman forts, early Christian carved stones, anti-invasion defences) from 8,000 years ago up until the Second World War	Structures (such as bridges, churches, houses, schools) mostly from after 1500 up until the early 1990s	Grounds consciously laid out for artistic effect (such as country estate landscapes, botanic garden collections, urban parks and cemeteries)	Landscapes on which major battles took place and soldiers fought and died (such as Culloden and Bannockburn)	Marine historic assets such as particularly significant shipwrecks
Who decides?	Historic Environment Scotland	Historic Environment Scotland	Historic Environment Scotland	Historic Environment Scotland	Scottish Ministers

OUR WORK AND PRIORITIES

We carry out designation work by:

- adding, reviewing, amending and removing designations
- making minor changes to existing designation records that don't alter what is legally designated

Our priority for designation is to provide an up-to-date understanding of sites or places to aid decision-making about potential change. We do this by:

- responding to external designation requests
- improving the quality of our designation records and spatial data
- undertaking designation projects which address gaps in our understanding of sites or places
- developing partnerships by planning and undertaking our projects with the participation of stakeholders

Any person or organisation can request:

- the designation of a site or place
- the review of an existing designated site or place
- the removal of an existing designation
- minor changes to designation records
- a [Certificate of Intention Not to List \(COINTL\)](#)

The [application form for these requests](#) is available on our website.

SUPPORTING OUTCOMES AND POLICIES

This plan is informed by and supports wider outcomes and policies including:

National Outcomes in the [Scottish Government's National Performance Framework](#)

- We value, enjoy, protect and enhance our environment

These strategic priorities from [Our Place in Time](#), Scotland's strategy for the historic environment:

- understand – investigating and recording our historic environment to continually develop our knowledge, understanding and interpretation of the past, and how best to conserve, sustain and protect it
- protect – caring for and protecting the historic environment in order to both enjoy and benefit from it, and to conserve and enhance it for future generations
- value – sharing and celebrating the richness and significance of our historic environment

These outcomes from [Heritage for All](#), Historic Environment Scotland's corporate plan for 2019 onwards:

- The historic environment is looked after, protected and managed for the generations to come
- The historic environment is cared for and championed by a high-performing organisation

It aligns with the [Historic Environment Policy for Scotland](#) and the [Designation Policy and Selection Guidance](#).

OUR PLAN FOR 2020 ONWARDS

Outcome	Corporate plan priority	What success will look like
Improved understanding of what designation means	The historic environment is looked after, protected and managed for the generations to come	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What designation means reaches a wider audience
Improved awareness of the services we provide	The historic environment is looked after, protected and managed for the generations to come	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved engagement with stakeholders and the public
Continued dialogue with the people of Scotland about designations	The historic environment is looked after, protected and managed for the generations to come	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue our What's Your Heritage? approach to a dialogue with the people of Scotland about designation
Continued improvements to our service	The historic environment is cared for and championed by a high-performing organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved access to data and improved ability to make representations about designations decisions
Support the HES Climate Action Plan to reduce the carbon footprint of our work	The historic environment is cared for and championed by a high-performing organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to innovate ways in which to reduce the carbon footprint of our work

FIND OUT MORE

LEGISLATION

[Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979](#)

[Planning \(Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas\) \(Scotland\) Act 1997](#)

[Marine \(Scotland\) Act 2010](#)

STRATEGY POLICY AND PROCEDURE

[The Scottish Government's National Performance Framework](#)

[Our Place in Time: The Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland \(2014\)](#)

[Heritage for All, Historic Environment Scotland's corporate plan \(2019\)](#)

[Historic Environment Policy for Scotland \(2019\)](#)

[Designation Policy and Selection Guidance \(2019\)](#)

REPORTS

[Planning Performance Report 2018-19](#)

[Designations 3 year plan 2016-19 report](#)

[What's Your Heritage? 2017](#)

GUIDANCE

[Scotland's Listed Buildings](#)

[Scotland's Scheduled Monuments](#)

[Scotland's Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes](#)

[Scotland's Inventory of Historic Battlefields](#)

[Scotland's Historic Marine Protected Areas](#)

ONLINE RESOURCES

[Designation application form](#)

[Historic Environment Scotland website](#)

[Designation records and designation decisions](#)

CONTACT US

Designations Team

Historic Environment Scotland

Email: designations@hes.scot

Telephone: 0131 668 8914

www.historicenvironment.scot

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HISTORIC
ENVIRONMENT
SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD
EACHDRAIDHEIL
ALBA

Historic Environment Scotland
Longmore House
Salisbury Place
Edinburgh EH9 1SH

Telephone 0131 668 8716
Email HMEquiries@hes.scot
www.historicenvironment.scot

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