



CELEBRATING SCOTLAND'S BATTLEFIELDS

Introducing the Inventory of Historic Battlefields

Scottish Ministers want to make sure that our most important battlefields are looked after now and for future generations.

In Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) 2009, they announced that Historic Scotland would prepare an Inventory of Historic Battlefields that identifies and provides information on our nationally important sites to aid their management into the future. View SHEP 2009 here www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/shep

What is the Inventory of Historic Battlefields?

The Inventory identifies battlefields considered to be of national importance for the contribution they make to the archaeology and history of our nation. It includes our most significant and iconic battlefields, and provides information to aid their protection, management, interpretation and promotion.

For each site there is a concise report describing the battlefield, the reasons for its inclusion and a map of its boundary.

The description includes a summary of the battle and its historical context, a succinct indication of its importance and an explanation of the area defined by the Inventory map. The selection factors encompass historical association, physical remains and archaeological potential, cultural associations and landscape context. These are set out in full in Annex 5 of SHEP 2009, www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/shep-july-2009.pdf.

The Inventory map indicates the extent of the battlefield, defining the overall area considered to be of interest on the basis of research undertaken. It includes the area where the main events of the battle are thought to have taken place, where associated physical remains and archaeological evidence occur or may be expected, and where additional landscape components, such as strategic viewpoints, may lie.

At the end of each report, there is a list of key source material and references to aid further research and for educational use.

Managing change in Inventory battlefields

The purpose of the Inventory is to highlight the importance of battlefields as part of the historic environment of Scotland and to celebrate the most significant sites by providing information on them to support decision-making and aid the management of change within them. Historic Scotland is working with local authorities and other relevant public bodies to establish key principles for managing change within battlefields and to develop guidelines for establishing specific policies. When completed, this guidance will form part of Historic Scotland's *Managing Change in the Historic Environment* series.

Historic Scotland are identified within the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 as a "Responsible Authority". Being a Responsible Authority means that we consider all of our qualifying plans, programmes and strategies for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). Where significant environmental effects are likely we undertake an environmental assessment prior to adoption. An SEA is being prepared of the Managing Change Guidance and an Environmental Report (ER) describing the findings of the assessment will accompany the guidance for consultation in early January 2011.

The consultation

When SHEP 2009 was launched, Scottish Ministers indicated that the Inventory of Historic Battlefields would be delivered in two stages, the first in March 2011, the second in March 2012.

Historic Scotland is now inviting comments on the following:

- the list of sites proposed for inclusion in the Inventory
- the site descriptions and boundaries for the first 17 sites
- a booklet explaining the purpose of the Inventory

The consultation runs from 13 December 2010 until 11 February 2011.

We are aiming to add a draft version of the guidance note, *Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Historic Battlefields*, to this consultation in early January 2011.

We would like to know what you think about the Inventory. You can let us know your views in one of the following ways:

- e-mail hs.battlefieldsconsultation@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

- telephone 0131 668 8716
- write to HS Inspectorate, Inspectorate Admin Team, Room 2.31, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH