



RTPI

mediation of space · making of place

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Historic Scotland
Longmore House
Salisbury Place
Edinburgh
EH9 1SH

10 October 2011

Dear Sir/Madam

THE INVENTORY OF HISTORIC BATTLEFIELDS CONSULTATION

1. The RTPI is the UK body chartered to represent the planning profession and offers these comments from the point of view of a diverse and politically-neutral professional body committed to supporting devolved government in Scotland. The Institute has approximately 2100 members in Scotland, working across all sectors of central government, local government, government agencies, the voluntary sector, private consultancy, the development industry and academia.
2. Since devolution, the Institute has empowered its RTPI in Scotland Office, together with its Scottish Executive Committee, with the responsibility for working with government and public bodies generally for the improvement of the planning system in Scotland. This is in accordance with its charter obligation to work for the public interest.
3. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this round of consultation. I do not think the Institute was consulted on the initial tranche of battlefields to be included in the Inventory, so I apologise if some of the comments below are seen as either simplistic or belated. It is also difficult to see from the Historic Scotland website either the consultation deadline or to whom responses should be addressed: those who have not had the benefit of an email alert would presumably find it quite challenging to contribute.

4. Since the Institute does not normally comment on individual proposals in Scotland, this response is restricted to strategic matters, and uses only the entries for the (arbitrarily selected) Battle of Stirling Bridge as examples for the purposes of feedback.
5. For ease of reference and discussion it is suggested that future documents include paragraph and page numbering.
6. Where an Inventory entry is a Summary, the document should be so titled and should include a reference (and hyperlink?) to the fuller entry.
7. To an extent there will always be a measure of repetition and duplication, especially within the expanded entry, but there will be merit in adopting a more logical sequence where this is then minimised. The following sequence is suggested **for a 'full' entry**:

- a. **Overview**

- b. **Historical Context**

- i. *Location and Wider Setting*
- ii. *Topography (with specific reference, if known, to physical conditions at the date of the battle)*
- iii. *The Battle*
 1. *The Armies/Participants*
 2. *Numbers*
 3. *Preliminaries*
 4. *Engagements*
 5. *Losses*
 6. *Immediate Aftermath*
- iv. *Consequences*

- c. **Historical Significance**

- i. *Cultural Associations*
- ii. *Artefacts*
- iii. *Accounts*
 1. *Prose*
 2. *Poetry*
 3. *Art-works*

- d. **Boundary**

- i. *Justification*
- ii. *Views in and out*
- iii. *Setting*

- e. **Contemporary Context**

- i. *Battlefield today*
- ii. *Physical Description*
- iii. *Physical Remains (including Finds and archaeological sites)*
- iv. *Designations*
- v. *Commemoration and Interpretation*
- vi. *Ownership*

- f. Management Regime**
 - i. Contemporary Significance*
 - ii. Planning Position*
 - iii. Local Development Plan*
 - iv. Existing Planning Consents*
 - v. Archaeological Implications of Development*
 - vi. Future Management Regime*
 - vii. Further Research*

- g. Monitoring Regime**
 - i. Monitoring of Battlefield*
 - ii. Review of Inventory Entry*

- h. Bibliography**
 - i. Primary Sources*
 - ii. Secondary Sources*

8. For a 'summary entry' the following might be included:

- a. Overview**

- b. Historical Context**
 - i. Location and Wider Setting*
 - ii. Topography*
 - iii. The Battle*

- c. Historical Significance**

- d. Boundary**
 - i. Justification*
 - ii. Views in and out*
 - iii. Setting*

- e. Contemporary Context**
 - i. Physical Remains (including Finds and archaeological sites)*
 - ii. Ownership*

- f. Management Regime**
 - i. Contemporary Significance*
 - ii. Archaeological Implications of Development*

- g. Monitoring Regime**

- h. Bibliography**
 - i. Primary Sources*
 - ii. Secondary Sources*

9. The **maps** accompanying the entries should be as clear as possible, and it is felt that the examples examined would benefit from something of a less cluttered appearance. At the moment the Battlefield boundary is very difficult to see when imposed upon the OS colour map: perhaps the OS base could be shown in grey? Each map should have a north point as well as a scale incorporated.
10. As well as a location plan and any appropriate historical maps or sketch plans, perhaps the most important requirement is for a simpler 3-D or topographical map with no modern man-made features shown: only those historical features whose location can be reliably proved should be included.
11. On another such topographical map should be superimposed the battle 'actions'. It might be that the map(s) could also incorporate computer-based map layers which could be switched on or off. Computer-based animations might also be of assistance, although improvement above the quality of the title sequences of 'Dad's Army' would be desirable!
12. The Institute trusts that these comments are of assistance and has no objection to them being made available to the public in the usual way. Should you wish any clarification or further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles Strang". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'C'.

Scottish Planning Policy Officer
RTPI in Scotland