



Case reference	SMC-RFS-004
Application details Site address	ExcaPhase 2 excavation – 2020 Season Inchinnan, site of All Hallows' Church
Applicant Determining Authority Local Authority Area	Calluna Archaeology on behalf of Inchinnan Historical Interest Group Historic Environment Scotland (HES) Renfrewshire Council
Reason(s) for notification	Notification Direction 2015 – works to be granted Scheduled Monument Consent by Historic Environment Scotland go beyond the minimum level of intervention that is consistent with conserving what is culturally significant in a monument
Representations	NIL
Date notified to Ministers Date of recommendation	19 December 2019 10 January 2020
Decision / recommendation	Clear

Description of Proposal and Site:

- Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) is sought, by Calluna Archaeology on behalf of Inchinnan Historical Interest Group, for research excavation at the site of All Hallows' Church, Inchinnan.
- The monument is the remains of the former parish church of All Hallows, the associated burial ground, tombstones and manse. The west end of the church survives as a partial upstanding ruin and the rest of the monument survives as buried features and deposits. It is thought that a monastery was established on or near the site by St Conval in 600 AD, and subsequently replaced around 1100 by a church. That church was dismantled in 1820 and replaced by All Hallows church and manse, constructed between 1899 and 1904. The church and manse were largely demolished in 1965 to accommodate the expansion of Glasgow Airport. A location plan is below.
- The monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to the understanding of the past, in particular to the study of early church foundation, medieval ecclesiastical architecture, religious practices and the development of funerary monuments in Inverclyde.
- The works for which consent is sought constitute the excavation of two trenches in the area of the 1904 church, a trench to the west of the churchyard wall, and another across the location of the manse.

Consultations and Representations:

- No third party representations were received.
- Upon notification, PAD consulted the Scottish Government's Culture and Historic Environment Division (CHED) which advised that there are no clear negative consequences for the monument in allowing the proposed excavation to proceed.

Assessment:

1. Historic Environment Scotland has concluded that the proposal is broadly consistent with relevant policy, and intends to grant Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) for the proposed works. However, the proposal is not considered to be the minimum necessary consistent with conserving the cultural significance of the monument. HES has therefore notified Scottish Ministers of its intention to grant consent, as required by the Scheduled Monument Consent (Notification of Applications) Direction 2015.
2. HES has considered the application and concluded that the proposed works would have minimal impact on the cultural significance of the monument. HES also concludes that the works are the lowest level of intervention consistent with achieving the project's objective and are clearly justified as having public benefits. HES regards the application on the whole as being carefully considered, based on good authority, sensitively designed and properly planned. However, as a specific timescale for the works has not been supplied, HES intends to attach a condition to the consent, requiring submission to HES of such a timetable at least 4 weeks before works begin.
3. HES concludes that the proposal is broadly consistent with relevant policy (detailed in HES's Scheduled Monument Consents Policy document).
4. CHED has noted the perceived benefits of the excavation for heritage and the local community, and advised that there are no clear negative consequences for the monument in allowing the works to proceed.
5. In summary, the SMC application does not raise any issues of national importance that would merit intervention by Ministers.

Decision/Recommendation:

- The application should be cleared back to Historic Environment Scotland to determine.

