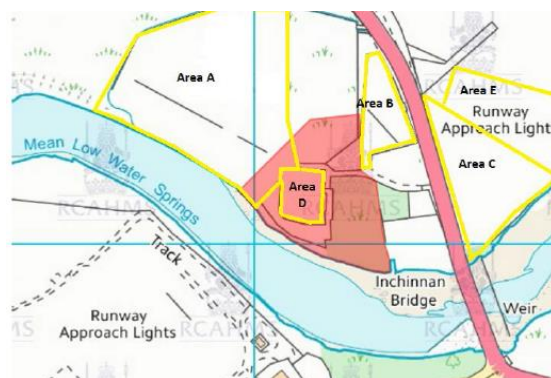
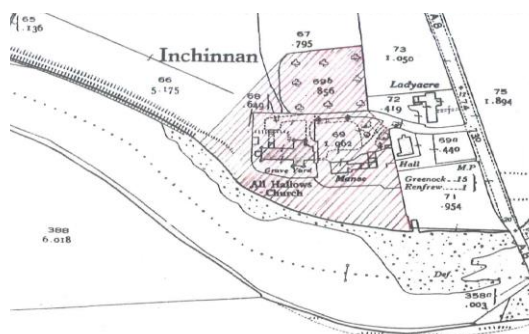
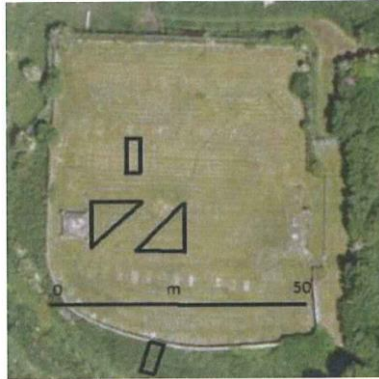


Case reference	SMC-RFS-001
Application details Site address	Excavation of four trenches including geophysical survey. Inchinnan, site of All Hallows Church (demolished) - M2792
Applicant Determining Authority Local Authority Area	Northlight Heritage Historic Environment Scotland (HES) Renfrewshire
Reason(s) for notification	Notification Direction 2015 – requires Historic Environment Scotland to notify Ministers if it intends to grant Scheduled Monument Consent where the works 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	30 May 2016 22 June 2016
Decision / recommendation	Clear

### Description of Proposal and Site:

- Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) is sought for geophysical survey and archaeological excavation of four trenches at the site of All Hallows Church, Inchinnan, just off the A8 and in the vicinity of Glasgow Airport.
- The monument (boundary in-filled in red below) comprises the remains of the former parish church of All Hallows, dating from the C12<sup>th</sup> (dismantled in 1828 as new parish church built - replaced by another new church in 1904 – since demolished for Glasgow Airport's expansion in 1967) and associated burial ground, tombstones and manse. It is located on the north bank of the Black Cart River, 490m WSW of its confluence with the White Cart River. The site of All Hallows consists of a small hill where it is said that St Conval established a church in the late C6<sup>th</sup> AD and where his shrine was located.





*Contemporary aerial view with suggested trenches (Googlemap)*

- There is a high potential for well-preserved foundations, artefacts and archaeological remains of the various phases of church building to survive below ground. This has the capacity to increase understanding of the early ecclesiastical foundations including the date and layout of structures in the Kingdom of Strathclyde period.

#### **Assessment:**

1. The SMC application has been notified to Scottish Ministers because HES are minded to grant consent for research excavations which will impact on the Scheduled Monument, as the insertion of trenches and related ground disturbance goes beyond the minimum level of intervention which is consistent with conserving what is culturally significant in the monument. This is a significant departure from policy as set out in section 3.16 of Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP).
2. PAD consulted Scottish Government's Culture and Historic Environment Division, following notification, and they do not consider that the SMC application raises issues of national interest that would warrant Ministerial intervention.
3. The application forms part of a wider research and community engagement project. The aims of the project, being led by Inchinnan Historical Interest Group in partnership with Northlight Heritage, are to: investigate the site of the early medieval shrine of St Conval and the later churches; record, research and disseminate information about Inchinnan and its carved stones; provide opportunities to learn about archaeology, heritage and event planning and encourage visitors to Inchinnan which will provide an economic benefit to the area.
4. The geophysical survey and walkover survey will be undertaken in 5 areas (identified on the coloured map above as Areas A to E) to ensure all areas of archaeological interest are identified at the start of the project and the trench locations are suitably targeted.
5. Trenches 1 & 2 will be triangular in shape and located over the body of the church and measure approx. 30m x 7m. Trench 3 is to be located to the north of

the church and measure about 8m x 1.5m. Trench 4 is to be located outside the enclosure boundary wall and measure about 8m x 1.5m. The trenches (see aerial photograph above) are seeking to reveal features including the oval shaped enclosure around the medieval church, the medieval church and later shrine and the footprint of the two later churches. All four trenches would be reinstated to existing ground levels and form upon completion of the project. Excavations will also be taking place outwith the scheduled area.

6. HES consider that the research agenda is robust and clear and has given reasons for arriving at its intention to grant SMC with conditions. The excavations are not necessary for the monument's minimum long term preservation however the results, sitting within the context of the wider project, would contribute to greater recognition of its cultural significance. The education, outreach and legacy elements would also provide significant additional benefits.
7. Some aspects of the works needed further clarification. HES have therefore recommended that a number of conditions be attached to the consent. Subject to these conditions, HES consider the application is compliant with sections 3.19, 3.20 and 3.22 of SHEP and demonstrates that there is public benefit of national importance, that the project is carefully considered, based on good authority, sensitively designed and properly planned. There is no reason to disagree with this assessment.
8. No European protected species or habitats have been identified as having the potential to be affected by these works. Although steps will be taken to avoid human remains it is likely they will be encountered in the graveyard. The proposed response strategy has been discussed with the relevant communities and they are content with the measures to be adopted.
9. Therefore this SMC application does not raise any issues of national importance that would merit intervention by Scottish Ministers.

**Decision/Recommendation:**

- The application should be cleared back to HES to issue the SMC with conditions.