

Assessment Report

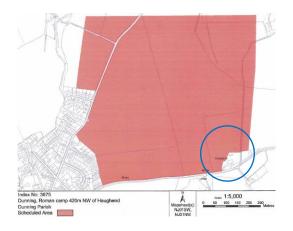
Case reference	SMC-PAK-006
Application details	Construction of new driveway, fencing, installation of floating bases, garden works and
	ploughing
Site address	Dunning Roman Camp, 420m NW of Haughend (SM 3675)
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Applicant	David and Carol Antia
Determining Authority	Historic Environment Scotland
Local Authority Area	Perth and Kinross 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
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Representations	Nil
Date notified to Ministers	26 January 2018
	26 January 2018
Date of recommendation	20 February 2018
Decision / recommendation	Clear

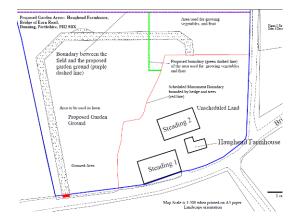
Description of Proposal and Site:

- Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) is sought for field ploughing, inserting post and wire fencing, constructing a drive and floating bases for short-life structures such as a greenhouse, shed, stable or polytunnels, cultivating a small area for growing soft fruit and vegetables in garden area, building paths and hard standing at Haughend Farm steading, within the southeast corner of Dunning Roman Camp near the village of Dunning.
- The monument consists of remains of a well preserved Roman temporary camp, dating to the 1st or 2nd Century AD. The camp is located on gently undulating ground under a mixture of cultivated land, deciduous woodland, modern tracks, metalled roads and field/property boundaries. It is of national importance because the camp makes a significant addition to our understanding of Roman military occupation in Scotland and the use, design and construction of temporary defensive camps. It retains a significant amount of structural detail in the cropmarked ditch, entrances and defensive outworks. As the survival of upstanding earthworks in these camps is rare, the linear stretch approximately 130m in the NW corner is especially important.









Dunning Roman Camp scheduled area shaded red – blue circle shows Haughend Farm

Proposed site works at Haughend Farm

Consultations and Representations:

- No representations were made during consideration of the application.
- PAD consulted SG Culture and Historic Environment Division following notification and they are content and have no further comment to make.

Assessment:

- 1. Historic Environment Scotland (HES) are minded to part refuse and part grant SMC for this application. The proposal to field plough goes beyond the minimum level of intervention which is consistent with conserving what is culturally significant in the monument. This conflicts with policy as set out in section 3.16 and 3.18 of HES' Policy Statement. HES consider the remaining proposals would have a minimal or minor physical impact on buried deposits and the cultural significance of the monument and therefore these works do not conflict with sections 3.16 and 3.18.
- 2. The application has been submitted by the landowners who wish to resume ploughing of an area maintained in grass since 1992 as well as constructing the features outlined above. No timescale for these works have been provided.
- 3. HES considers the resumption of field ploughing for arable agriculture of an area up to 3ha with maximum depth of 300mm is extensive and would expose this part of the monument to significant risk of soil moving downslope and thinning over time, leaving archaeological remains vulnerable to plough damage. Over time, the physical impact of ploughing would result in the destruction of archaeological remains and have a negative impact on the cultural significance of the Roman temporary camp. HES consider this impact is irreversible and is not necessary for the longer term preservation of the monument. No evidence has been submitted to show the proposals would generate public benefits which outweigh the impact on the cultural significance of the monument.
- 4. HES considers the other proposed works, some which involve building floating bases with geotextile membranes, have been carefully designed to avoid physically impacts on archaeological remains. The post and wire fencing will require a maximum of 18 straining posts with intermediate posts being smaller and driven to a shallower depth. Overall the affected area would be a very small

proportion of the total camp area with a minor physical impact. HES require a condition to ensure archaeological monitoring is undertaken when the fencing is installed to allow for recovery of potential artefacts and recording in accordance with a method statement.

- 5. HES consider the continuation of small scale cultivation in the garden area is unlikely to lead to accelerated soil erosion and damage to archaeological remains. The paths and hardstandings would not cause disturbance as they are to be constructed on top of the present ground surface.
- 6. In conclusion, HES consider the proposed ploughing should be refused because it is in conflict with national policy and does not represent the minimum intervention necessary to conserve the cultural significance of the monument. HES believe the remaining proposals should be granted consent as they would have a minimal or minor physical impact on buried deposits and a minimal impact on the camp's cultural significance and as such they accord with section 3.20 of the HES Policy Statement.
- 7. 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 issue the part refuse/part grant Scheduled Monument Consent with one condition.