

Funding for monument management

Historic Environment Scotland has some funding available for owners of scheduled monuments to assist in the cost of management works. We can fund a variety of works, including vegetation removal, fencing and small scale consolidation. On some occasions we can contribute to survey works and site interpretation, where this would benefit the long term management of a monument.

Case study

This church overgrown with ivy was cleared and consolidated with the help of monument management funding. Its condition is now much improved and the risk of future deterioration has been reduced.



Further information

You can search by text or map for scheduled monuments and other designations by visiting our website. You can also find out more information about designation and consent decisions.

portal.historicenvironment.scot

Changes in ownership

If you no longer own, occupy or manage a scheduled monument we would be grateful if you could contact us to let us know about the changes.

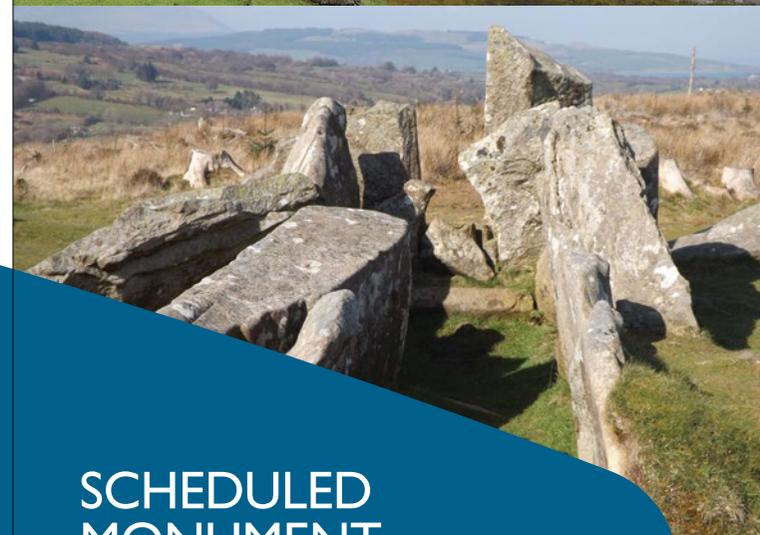
Who we are

Historic Environment Scotland is a Non Departmental Public Body (NDPB) and a registered Scottish Charity (SC045925). One of our roles is to maintain the schedule of monuments of national importance and monitor their condition. This leaflet explains how our monitoring program operates.

For further information contact

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SCHEDULED MONUMENT CONDITION MONITORING

A guide for owners, occupiers
and land managers

October 2016



HISTORIC
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SCOTLAND

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ALBA



Scheduled monuments

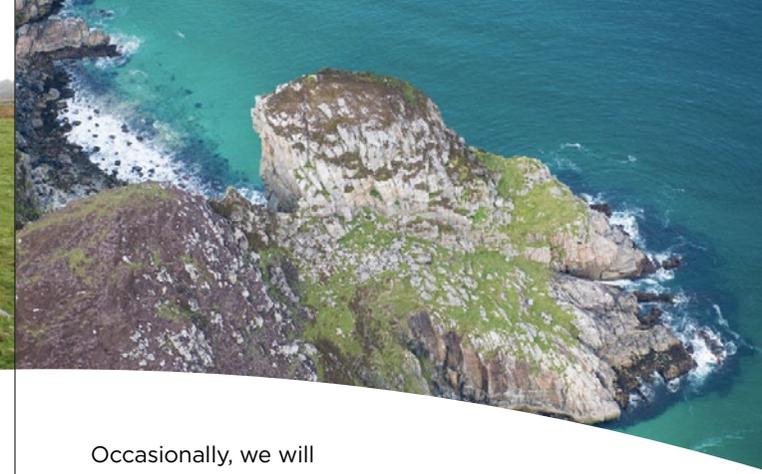
Scheduled monuments are archaeological sites which are recognised as nationally important and designated under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979). There are around 8000 scheduled monuments in Scotland. A wide variety of sites is scheduled, ranging from 6000 year old burial sites of the first farming communities to military defences from the last century.

Historic Environment Scotland's role

Historic Environment Scotland maintains the schedule of monuments and monitors the condition of sites on it. The information gathered during a monitoring visit provides a snapshot of the state of Scotland's nationally important monuments. This information can assist with the prioritisation of funding for management and agri-environment schemes. Our visits also provide an opportunity to give management and grant advice to owners, occupiers and land managers.

How often are scheduled monuments visited?

The length of time between each visit will vary, depending on the nature and condition of the monument. Some will be visited yearly. For others, we aim for a 5-10 year cycle.



What to expect

Our monitoring is normally conducted by a site visit. We will contact you by email, telephone or letter to notify you of an intended visit. You do not need to accompany us on our visit, but are welcome to do so. We will be happy to rearrange a visit for a date convenient for you.

If there are any specific biosecurity or access issues it would be useful if these could be notified to us prior to the planned visit date. If you are available during the site visit we will be happy to offer advice on management.

During a site visit, we will walk over the scheduled area, and may take photographs and notes to record features or erosion. We will assess the condition of the monument, and likely future risks to it using a standard scoring system.

After our visit you will receive a letter confirming our observations and recommendations for future management. These recommendations are only advisory. However, if you are interested in undertaking management works there may be grant available to help meet the costs of the work.

Occasionally, we will monitor sites via the use of aerial photography. We will not notify you in advance of this as we do not require access to your land. However, we will write to you once we have assessed the photographs and provide advice on suggested management.

Works on scheduled monuments

Most works on scheduled monuments require scheduled monument consent (SMC) from Historic Environment Scotland. It is an offence to undertake works without consent. Works which require consent include, but are not limited to ground-breaking works, fencing, drainage, paths, tree planting and flooding.

Before works begin it is important to identify the scheduled area on the ground as it may extend beyond any visible features. Historic Environment Scotland staff can arrange to visit, help identify the scheduled area and mark it out on the ground.

If unauthorised works are noted during a monitoring visit we will refer the matter to one of our enforcement colleagues who will be in touch to discuss the circumstances of the works and inform you of any further action. More information on works to scheduled monuments, unauthorised works, enforcement and prosecution can be found in our leaflet 'Works on scheduled monuments', which is available on our website.

