



HISTORIC  
SCOTLAND



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AOSMHOR

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Our ref: AMH/1754/2/1

17 June 2011

Dear Ms Malkin

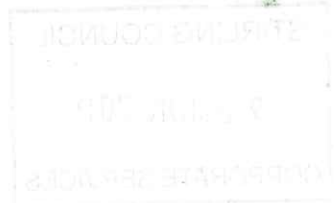
### **Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979**

The purpose of this letter is to let you know that we propose to reschedule a monument on land owned/or occupied by you known as **Stirling, town wall & bastion & Port Street Bastion at 44 Bastion Wynd**. In Scotland, the above Act provides protection of monuments of national importance by a process known as scheduling. The enclosed leaflet explains this process and its practical effects.

The reason for the rescheduling is to bring the scheduling documentation to modern standards.

I enclose a map showing, in red, the area which would be included in the rescheduling. Please note that the monument is likely to be more than what is visible on the ground today. I also enclose a statement indicating why we consider the monument to be of national importance. Any comments you may wish to make on our proposal will be taken into account before the Scottish Ministers take a final decision on whether or not to proceed with scheduling amendment if they are received within 14 days.

I should be grateful if you would complete the form attached to this letter and return it to me within 14 days; a pre-paid envelope is enclosed for your use. If you do not return the form within that period, we shall make our own enquiries into the title of the land on behalf of the Scottish Ministers. The information will then be used to draw up a legal document describing the monument to be rescheduled, its location and its ownership. This document will be signed on behalf of the Scottish Ministers and will be recorded in the Register of Sasines or registered in the Land Register, as the case may be. Copies will be issued to owners and occupiers of the land on which the scheduled monument is sited and to the appropriate planning authority.



Please do not hesitate to contact me if this request causes you any difficulty, or if you would like to discuss this proposal further with a member of the Scheduling Team.

Yours sincerely

*CKelly*

Christine Kelly  
Designations Support Manager

*cc. Aonghus Mackechnie, Casework Team leader  
Jenny Marshall, Monument Warden*



**SCHEDULING PARTICULARS**  
**Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979**

To: STIRLING COUNCIL  
 Name of Monument: STIRLING TOWN WALL  
 County: STIRLING Reference No: AMH/1754/2/1

°Please complete this form as fully as you can and return it in the envelope provided. Please tick the appropriate boxes.

°Any information you give will be used SOLELY for scheduling purposes.

°Return to: Historic Scotland  
 HS Inspectorate Administration  
 Room 2.20  
 Longmore House  
 Salisbury Place  
 Edinburgh EH9 1SH  
 Telephone: 0131-668-8777

°If you have any problems with the form please do not hesitate to contact us. We will be pleased to help.

1. Are you the owner of the land on which the monuments lie? YES  NO

If **NO**, go on to question 2. If **YES**, please give details of your title to the land (for example, the Disposition, the granter of the deed and the date on which it was recorded in Sasines or the Land Register Number). If the title to the land is in the name of another party, such as Trustees, please give details (if you do not have this information to hand an approximate date of title will suffice).

.....  
 .....  
 .....

2. Does someone other than the owner occupy the land involved? YES  NO

If **YES**, please give the name and address of the owner and/or occupier(s). Continue overleaf if necessary.

a. Name: .....  
 Address: .....  
 .....  
 .....

b. Name: .....  
 Address: .....  
 .....  
 .....

Relationship to land:

Relationship to land:

3. If you are **NOT** the owner or occupier, please give any information you can about the owner and/or occupier(s) of the land. Continue overleaf if necessary.

a. Name: .....  
 Address: .....  
 .....  
 .....

b. Name: .....  
 Address: .....  
 .....  
 .....

Relationship to land:

Relationship to land:

4. Are you aware of any current planning consents or appeals, or do you intend to apply for planning consent in the near future? YES  NO

If YES please give details including Local Authority reference.

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

5. Please sign this form.

Signed: ..... Date: .....

Print Name: .....

**PROPOSAL TO SCHEDULE AN ANCIENT MONUMENT  
STATEMENT OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE**

1754

**Council: STIRLING**

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Stirling, town wall & bastion & Port Street Bastion at 44 Bastion Wynd

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The proposal arose from programme : SEP

Map & Grid Ref. : 57 NS792935

The monument comprises five separate sections of the 16th-century defences of the town of Stirling. Four of the five sections comprise the surviving parts of the town wall bordering the public path known as Back Walk, and include a bastion; the fifth element comprises the remains of a second bastion, which now lies within 'The Thistles' shopping centre. The monument was first scheduled in 1952, but the documentation does not meet modern standards: this rescheduling rectifies this.

The monument is constructed mainly of random rubble and in places is founded on substantial rock outcrops that cause significant changes in height along the course of the town wall. Stirling's town wall formerly protected the south-western and south-eastern approaches to the medieval burgh. The surviving remains of the wall represent a combination of the original 16th-century structure, with repairs dating to between the 17th and 19th centuries. Along its length, the wall stands between about 4.8m and 7m in height and is about 1.8m thick. The monument includes two bastions, both of which are also rubble-built. The first bastion stands on Back Walk. Circular on plan, this bastion projects to the south of the town wall and stands around 7m high. The bastion's outward face is pierced by three crudely formed rectangular gun loops. The structure appears to have undergone alterations for reuse as a dovecot, with the brick-lined interior and existing floor levels probably reflecting its conversion to a dovecote. The second bastion, often known as the Port Street bastion, now stands enclosed within the modern 'Thistles' shopping centre and is located in a subterranean service delivery area. It also stands to about 7m in height. The internal chamber has undergone substantial refurbishment and is now an interpretation area for visitors. Although altered, the bastion retains much of its original fabric and features, including two gun loops and a 'thieves pot' or prison chamber, accessed through an opening in the floor of the chamber.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, to include the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map. All upstanding elements of the wall are scheduled, as well as the areas of rock outcrop that underlie and support the wall. In addition a 1m strip of ground extending from the base of the wall on either side is also scheduled, except on the north-west side of the wall at 14-16 Dumbarton Road where the land is not scheduled because of the proximity of an electricity substation. Where roofed buildings adjoin the town wall, such as at Nos 2, 4 and 6 Back Walk, the scheduling includes the stone fabric of the town wall, but specifically excludes the other upstanding parts of the adjoining buildings to allow for their maintenance. The scheduling specifically excludes the above-ground elements of all street lights and street furniture, the Erskine Church doorway and the upper 300m of all paths and hard standings along Back Walk to allow for their maintenance. All modern doorways and stairs, as well as all modern fixtures and fittings attached to the wall or to the Port Street bastion, are specifically excluded to allow for their maintenance.

## Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

### Intrinsic characteristics

The monument represents a significant element in our understanding of the late medieval burgh of Stirling, its extent and the strategic importance it held, first as a seat of royal government, and latterly as one of Scotland's most important garrison towns. Like many of the town defences built at times of crisis, the wall's random rubble fabric may reflect its rapid construction in 1547, when the town represented an important target for English raiders. Various alterations and repairs over the next two centuries, principally at times of crisis, highlight the town's continued significance and the importance attached to maintaining the town's wall. Unusually, Stirling's town wall was never a continuous circuit, being designed to fortify the easier southern and western approaches to the town. On the north and west, the cliffs, river, backland walls and rows of tenement buildings appear to have provided sufficient obstacle.

Much of the surviving town wall stands to a considerable height and, although its fabric is a mixture of original work with later additions, repairs and restoration, it is likely that the lower courses and foundations date to the original 16th-century construction. Importantly, the surviving remains follow the same course as the 1547 town wall. Given Stirling's strong connections with Scotland's rulers, as well as its importance as a royal burgh, the 16th-century town wall may also overlie remains of earlier defensive works or evidence of earlier occupation.

One of the most significant aspects of Stirling's town wall is its two bastions. Only four examples of town wall bastions survive in Scotland, the others being a single surviving bastion of the 16th-century Flodden Wall in Edinburgh and a 16th-century round bastion forming part of the Peebles town wall. Although the Stirling bastions both show evidence of later adaptation, they still contain a high degree of their original fabric and character. The bastion on Back Walk, to the rear of 29 Spittal Street, originally served as a gunpowder store and was later converted to a dovecot, probably in the 17th or 18th centuries, as evidenced by the distinctive beehive-shaped roof and rat-courses/alighting ledges. The Port Street bastion, now standing within 'The Thistles' shopping centre, may have been used as a place for holding common criminals and was later incorporated within the fabric of a woollen mill.

As a whole, the monument presents an excellent opportunity to study the construction, development and subsequent re-use and adaptation of late medieval municipal defences in Scotland. Artefactual and other evidence from the site can enhance our understanding of its construction, use, maintenance and abandonment. Additionally, the monument offers us the potential to understand daily life in the late medieval burgh of Stirling. Through comparison with similar sites in Scotland and elsewhere in the United Kingdom, we can begin to identify regional trends and traditions.

### Contextual characteristics

The town wall dates to the mid 16th century when Scotland came under increased pressure from England's Henry

VIII for a marriage alliance between his heir, Edward, Prince of Wales, and Mary, Queen of Scots, known as the 'Rough Wooing'. Documentary evidence shows that funds for the town wall came not only from the burgh council, but also the Queen Regent, Mary of Guise, and several wealthy individuals resident in the town. Documentary records show that Stirling is one of only eleven of Scotland's medieval burghs known to have possessed stone-built town walls.

Many Scottish medieval towns probably possessed some form of defence, although this might often have comprised little more than an earthwork rampart and ditch, a timber palisade, or a combination of these, together with property boundaries. Stone walls were built by a small number of burgh councils, usually in the troubled 16th century when Scotland endured lengthy periods of unrest and uncertainty caused by the minorities of King James V, Mary Queen of Scots and King James VI. Visible remains of town walls in Scotland survive only at Peebles, Edinburgh, Haddington, Montrose and Inverkeithing.

Documentary records show that the town walls underwent renewal and expansion at various times of crisis, notably 1574, 1650, 1715 and 1745. In particular, the Port Street bastion belongs to the 1574 expansion of the town wall.

#### Associative characteristics

Stirling's town wall is directly associated with the short but intense period of hostilities with England known as the 'Rough Wooing'. Following the death of King James V in 1542, Henry VIII actively sought to forge an Anglo-Scottish alliance through a marriage between his heir, Edward, Prince of Wales, and Mary, Queen of Scots, agreed in principle by the 1543 Treaties of Greenwich. When the Scottish Parliament rejected the treaty, open war broke out between pro-French and pro-English factions. Henry launched a series of catastrophic raids across southern Scotland. Although causing widespread damage, Henry's aggressive policy ultimately failed. Not only did it unite the Scots factions, but it led to the Scots accepting a marriage alliance with France, by which Mary Queen of Scots became betrothed to the Dauphin Francis, and was ultimately sent to safety at the French court of King Henri II.

The town wall is associated with significant social military events in the 17th and 18th centuries. Repairs in 1650 were prompted by the Cromwellian invasion of Scotland, when General Monck's parliamentary army crushed Scottish forces under King Charles II at the Battle of Dunbar. Similar urgent repairs took place during the Jacobite uprisings of 1715 and 1745-46. During inquiries into the 1745-46 uprising, Stirling's town council faced accusations of allowing the burgh to be captured by the Jacobites. The town council responded by stating that it was well known that Stirling's town walls protected the south and west approaches, while the north and east sides enjoyed the limited protection of garden walls and property boundaries.

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to our understanding of the past, in particular the construction, design and use of Scottish medieval burgh defences.

Stirling is one of only 11 Scottish medieval burghs known to have been protected by walls, and of those only four others retain any visible remains. Town wall bastions are especially rare survivals, with only four surviving in Scotland, and two of them are an important part of this monument. The wall is directly associated with defining episodes in both Scottish and British history. The loss of the monument would significantly diminish our future ability to appreciate and understand the construction and development of Scottish medieval burgh defences in general, as well as the specific relationships between the wall, the historic medieval burgh of Stirling and Stirling Castle.

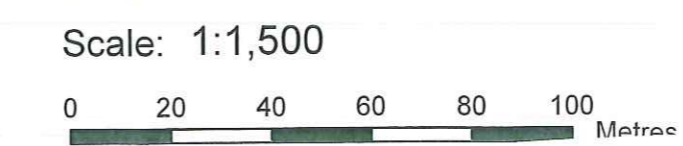
This is the plan referred to in the entry in the Schedule affecting:  
Stirling, town wall & bastion & Port Street Bastion at 44 Bastion Wynd

dated: / / and is signed as relative thereto.



Index No: 1754  
 Stirling, town wall & bastion & Port Street Bastion at 44 Bastion Wynd  
 Stirling Parish  
 Scheduled Area

N  
  
 Mapsheet(s):  
 NS79SE



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