The Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site

Management Plan

July 2005

Prepared by Edinburgh World Heritage on behalf of the Scottish Ministers, the City of Edinburgh Council and the Minister for Media and Heritage

Foreword

Ten years on from achieving World Heritage Site status we are proud to present Edinburgh's first World Heritage Site Management Plan. The Plan provides a framework for conservation in the heart of Scotland's capital city.

The preparation of a plan to conserve this superb 'world' city is an important step on a journey which began when early settlers first colonised Castle Rock in the Bronze Age, at least 3,000 years ago. Over three millennia, the city of Edinburgh has been shaped by powerful historical forces: political conflict, economic hardship, the eighteenth century Enlightenment, Victorian civic pride and twentieth century advances in science and technology.

Today we have a dynamic city centre, home to 24,000 people, the work place of 50,000 people and the focus of a tourism economy valued at £1 billion per annum. At the beginning of this new millennium, communication technology allows us to send images of Edinburgh's World Heritage Site instantly around the globe, from the broadcasted spectacle of a Festival Fireworks display to the personal message from a visitor's camera phone.

It is our responsibility to treasure the Edinburgh World Heritage Site and to do so by embracing the past and enhancing the future. The World Heritage Site is neither a museum piece, nor a random collection of monuments. It is today a complex city centre which daily absorbs the energy of human endeavour. The city is not simply a relic of the past, and the management of change in this concentration of activity must include an evaluation of the risks to our heritage. At the same time we must not dampen the spirit of ambition which has achieved, historically, the highest standards of design and management for architecture, the environment, transport and services.

The policies in this Management Plan have been derived from a public consultation process which has recognised the desire of individuals and organisations to contribute to and participate in managing the future development of the Site. We welcome everyone who has an interest in the future of the World Heritage Site to join us in our efforts. It is our responsibility to work together to implement the policies and to deliver the actions detailed in the accompanying Action Plan. It is our resolve not only to commit our own organisations to fulfil their responsibilities but also to inspire all to care daily for the Edinburgh World Heritage Site. Every action and thought, no matter how small, which seeks to embrace our past and enhance our future will make a difference.

- Rt Hon. the Lord McIntosh of Haringey,
  Minister for Media and Heritage.
- Patricia Ferguson, Scottish Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport.
- Dr Harold Mills, Chairman of the Board of Edinburgh World Heritage.
- The Rt Hon. the Lord Provost of Edinburgh Lesley Hinds on behalf of the City of Edinburgh Council.
- Jim McFarlane, Chief Executive,
  Scottish Enterprise Edinburgh and Lothian.
- David Nicolson, Chairman of the Edinburgh City Centre Management Company.

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Each State Party to this Convention recognizes the duty of ensuring the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage [and that]

It will do all it can to this end, to the utmost of its own resources
and, where appropriate, with any international assistance and
co-operation, in particular, financial, artistic, scientific and technical, which it may be able to obtain.

Article 4, Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, UNESCO 1972

The conservation of historic towns and urban areas is understood to mean those steps necessary for the protection, conservation and restoration of such towns and areas as well as their development and harmonious adaptation to contemporary life.

UNESCO recommendation Concerning the Safeguarding and Contemporary Role of Historic Areas as quoted in the ICOMOS Washington Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas ICOMOS 1987

Chapter One

Introduction

Edinburgh has long been celebrated as a great city: an ancient capital, the medieval Old Town juxtaposed with a world-renowned eighteenth century classical New Town, all placed in a spectacular landscape of hills and valleys beside the wide estuary of the Firth of Forth. The city retains a high level of authenticity and aesthetic quality, and has significantly influenced town planning and intellectual enquiry since the eighteenth century. It is the recognition of these qualities that has led to the city's inscription by UNESCO (United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation) as a World Heritage Site. These are also the qualities which enhance the lives of the city's inhabitants, attract large number of visitors every year and bolster commercial opportunities for its businesses.

Our aspiration is to protect the irreplaceable legacy of Edinburgh's heritage whilst carefully managing the changes required for modern living. To embrace the past in order to enhance the future, our vision for the Site is to:

- Protect its outstanding universal values and promote its harmonious adaptation to the needs of contemporary life in a modern city.
- Ensure that its unique qualities and its global significance are understood in order to conserve and to safeguard the inherited cultural and historical assets.
- Agree and co-ordinate action between interest groups through the medium of a Management Plan containing all necessary principles and policies.
- Ensure that it continues to be a thriving, living, contemporary city with services and facilities which meet users' needs and respect the World Heritage Site's cultural and historical significance.
- Build strong partnerships with local, national and international communities and organisations in order to bring people together to deliver the vision.
- Foster pride, awareness and understanding, and make it accessible, inclusive and enjoyable for all.
- Strive to make it an exemplar in urban heritage management and conservation, using the highest standards of design and materials.

UNESCO adopted the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage at its General Conference in Paris on 16 November 1972 and this was ratified by the UK in 1984. The Convention declares that parts of the cultural or natural heritage are of outstanding interest and therefore need to be preserved as part of the world heritage of humankind as a whole. The Convention provides for the identification, protection, conservation and presentation of cultural and natural sites of 'Outstanding Universal Value'. It requires a list

to be established under the management of an inter-governmental committee – the World Heritage Committee. Once a site has been inscribed the remit of the World Heritage Committee extends to monitoring its conservation for as long as it remains on the list. There are currently (April 2005) 788 sites on the list – 611 cultural, 154 natural and 23 mixed.

Criteria for Inclusion on the World Heritage List

Sites and properties may be inscribed on the World Heritage List for either their cultural or natural qualities (or both). Inscription on the list as a cultural site requires one or more of six criteria measuring outstanding universal value to be met. These criteria are set out in the UNESCO World Heritage Committee's 2005 Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention. The inscribed site must either:

i. Represent a masterpiece of human creative genius; or

ii. Exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town planning or landscape design; or

iii. Bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilisation which is living or which has disappeared; or

iv. Be an outstanding example of a type of building or architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history; or

v. Be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement or land-use which is representative of a culture, especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change; or

vi. Be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance.

When considering sites or properties for inscription on the World Heritage List, the World Heritage Committee compares these criteria against the qualities of the Site as described in the 'nomination document' and an assessor's report.

In addition, the World Heritage Committee requires to be convinced that any nominated site or property meets two further criteria, which are that the Site must:

vii. Meet the test of authenticity in design, material, workmanship, setting or their distinctive character and components.

viii. Have adequate legal and/or traditional protection and management mechanisms to ensure the conservation of the nominated cultural properties or cultural landscapes.

INSCRIPTION OF THE EDINBURGH WORLD HERITAGE SITE

The nomination for World Heritage Site status for Edinburgh was considered by the World Heritage Committee at its meeting in Berlin in December 1995. In terms of categories of property under Article 1 of the Convention the Old and New Town of Edinburgh constitutes a group of buildings.

In its report to the World Heritage Committee, the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) recommended that the property be inscribed as meeting the following criteria for measuring outstanding universal values:

ii. Exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town planning or landscape design.

iv. Be an outstanding example of a type of building or architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history.

and the report also offered the following brief description of the Site:

Edinburgh, capital of Scotland since the fifteenth century, presents the dual face of an old city dominated by a medieval fortress and a new neoclassic city whose development from the eighteenth century onwards exerted a far-reaching influence on European urban planning. The harmonious juxtaposition of these two highly contrasting historic areas, each containing many buildings of great significance, is what gives the city its unique character.

The Site was held to meet the test of authenticity in design, material, workmanship or setting and to have adequate legal and/or traditional protection and management mechanisms to ensure the conservation of the nominated cultural properties. The Committee therefore agreed the nomination and inscription of the Site on the World Heritage List.

In 1996, in response to inscription, the predecessor organisations of Edinburgh World Heritage, Historic Scotland on behalf of the Scottish Ministers, the City of Edinburgh Council, and Scottish Enterprise Edinburgh and Lothian were signatories to a statement of intent concerning the Edinburgh World Heritage Site. They agreed:

To work together to:

- Conserve and enhance the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh.
- Ensure that our policies and actions in respect of the Old and New Towns safeguard their ‘outstanding universal value’.

The Management Plan

At its simplest, a management plan is a document that sets out what is significant in a site or monument as a basis for understanding its important qualities, in order to determine the action necessary to protect and manage it. The success of this approach has resulted in the preparation of management plans becoming good practice for historic sites.

State Parties to the UNESCO Convention are now expected to ensure that

‘Each nominated property should have an appropriate management plan . . . which should specify how the outstanding universal value of a property should be preserved, preferably through participatory means.’. (Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention paragraph 108 (UNESCO 2005)).

It is the policy of the UK Government that Management Plans are required for all our World Heritage Sites (National Planning Policy Guideline 18).

Edinburgh has for many centuries developed within strictly controlled, broadly ‘conservationist’ parameters, but from the mid-1960s, in reaction to the wholesale reconstruction of the post-war years, a heritage ‘battle’ commenced, which tended to polarise development and conservation.

The intervening years have seen the two ‘sides’ come together, with developers seeking the added value of heritage, and conservationists coming to an understanding that good modern buildings will represent tomorrow’s heritage.

The Management Plan offers a positive approach in which conservation and development are not mutually exclusive objectives, but part of a single planned process. It provides a framework for the conservation of cultural heritage within the Site. It sets out the outstanding values of the Site and the challenges to be faced in the future by identifying key opportunities and risks along with the policies and proposals that are needed to sustain the Site successfully. The Plan encompasses preservation and enhancement of the architectural and archaeological landscape, natural assets and their setting. It seeks to enhance understanding of the Site, its interpretation and use as an educational resource, and supports the local community in its use of the Site. The Plan is supported by the many national and local statutory and non-statutory policies already in place, providing for the protection and future development of the Site.

The main aims of the Management Plan are to:

- Conserve the Site by promoting sustainable management as part of a dynamic, living and working city.
- Facilitate the co-ordination of all the actions of all the parties involved in the protection, enhancement and fostering of the appreciation of the Site.
- Improve access and interpretation, thereby encouraging all people to enjoy and understand the Site.
- Improve public awareness of, and interest and involvement in, the heritage of Edinburgh by achieving a broad-based ownership of the Management Plan.

The Plan was prepared by Edinburgh World Heritage, on behalf of all the stakeholders and with the assistance of a steering group which included representatives of the City of Edinburgh Council, Historic Scotland and the Scottish Executive Planning Divisions. This group produced a draft plan which was the subject of an extensive public consultation exercise during the autumn of 2004. The results guided the completion of the final version of the Plan, which, after approval by Historic Scotland and the City of Edinburgh Council, was published in the summer of 2005. The Management Plan will be reviewed every five years. The Action Plan, designed to secure the Management Plan’s objectives, forms an accompanying volume. The Action Plan sets out short-, medium- and long-term proposals and will be rolled forward on an annual basis. The partners will be responsible for the implementation of the actions. Lead partners or agencies for individual actions are identified in the Action Plan. (Please see Chapter Seven for further information on ‘Implementation’.)

The main parties with responsibilities for management of the Site are as follows.

Edinburgh World Heritage

In 1999 Historic Scotland and the City of Edinburgh Council established Edinburgh World Heritage (EWH) by facilitating the merger of the Edinburgh New Town Conservation Committee and the Edinburgh Old Town Renewal Trust. Edinburgh Word Heritage is a company limited by guarantee with a Board of Directors and is funded by Historic Scotland and the City of Edinburgh Council. Its primary purpose is the management, protection and enhancement of the Site. (Appendix IV lists the board members and staff).

The aims of Edinburgh World Heritage are to:

- Champion and represent the World Heritage Site and to monitor its state of conservation as required by UNESCO.
- Co-ordinate action, through the Management Plan, to protect and enhance the outstanding universal values of the World Heritage Site and to promote its harmonious adaptation to the needs of contemporary life.
- Conserve and enhance the historic fabric and historic environment of the World Heritage Site through a programme of financial assistance.
- Be exemplars in the field of conservation by developing and sharing specialist knowledge, setting standards for quality of workmanship, providing advice, promoting research and facilitating the conservation work of individuals and organisations.
- Build awareness of the World Heritage Site and to engender a sense of custodianship and secure long-term support by promoting enjoyment, understanding and appreciation of its value and significance.

City of Edinburgh Council

The City of Edinburgh Council has many important roles in the management of the Site. It is the Planning Authority and therefore sets the planning framework which governs the Site. It is also the Highway Authority and has responsibility for many caretaking functions such as refuse collection and cleansing. In addition the City Council is a major land and property owner within the Site with an extensive residential and commercial portfolio.

Historic Scotland

Historic Scotland is an Executive Agency within the Scottish Executive. It is accountable directly to the Scottish Ministers and is charged by them with responsibility for safeguarding the historic environment and promoting its understanding and enjoyment. The Agency provides policy advice and support to Scottish Ministers on all matters affecting the historic environment including representing the State Party's role in relation to World Heritage in Scotland. It also has responsibility for statutory listing and scheduling and associated consent procedures as well as further statutory powers in relation to conservation areas, gardens and designed landscapes. Other areas of work include the management, conservation and presentation of the 330 monuments in the care of Scottish Ministers and, through Crown ownership, playing an important role in the conservation, management and maintenance of the two key building complexes in the Site, Edinburgh Castle and the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

Edinburgh City Centre Management Company

The Edinburgh City Centre Management Company (ECCMC) was established in 1999 as a 'sister organisation' to Edinburgh World Heritage. It is a private sector led partnership which works closely with the City Centre business community and public sector agencies to promote and facilitate the development and improvement of Edinburgh City Centre to create conditions for business to prosper and for citizens and visitors to enjoy (A Strategy and Action Plan for Edinburgh City Centre April 2003–March 2008). Whilst the ECCMC seeks primarily to promote the economic success of the city centre, it recognises the importance of the historic built

environment. There are clearly similarities and potential synergy between the objectives of EWH and ECCMC and both organisations are committed to developing effective ways of working together.

Scottish Enterprise Edinburgh and Lothian

Scottish Enterprise Edinburgh and Lothian (SEEL) is the local branch of Scottish Enterprise, the main economic development agency for Scotland. With its role of working in partnership with the private and public sectors, SEEL recognises the importance of the Site in supporting the long-term success of the local economy. SEEL also plays an important role in supporting public realm improvements to:

- Enhance the quality of the visitor/tourist experience by creating a pleasant and comfortable environment for public interaction;

and

- provide a more sustainable city centre and a safer pedestrian environment by achieving a better balance among vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians.

Other Bodies

Other bodies with responsibilities for managing the Site or delivering specific action identified by the Action Plan include Scottish Natural Heritage, Residents' Associations, property owners, the University of Edinburgh, Community Councils and agencies such as the National Trust for Scotland, the Scottish Civic Trust, the Cockburn Association, the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland, the Water of Leith Preservation Trust and Architecture and Design Scotland.

Monitoring

The Management and Actions Plan are not ends in themselves but provide catalysts for actions designed to conserve and enhance the Site. It is therefore important that the Site is constantly monitored to determine whether these actions are delivering the desired effects or whether further or different actions are required.

Chapter Two

Description and History of the Site

Edinburgh's World Heritage Site encompasses both the Old Town and the New Town together with the ancient milling settlements on the Water of Leith where it cuts through high ground in the north-west of the area. At its greatest extent the Site is about 2 kilometres long from east to west and 1½ kilometres wide, north to south, giving a total area of some 4½ square kilometres. It covers the very centre of the city, encompassing many institutions of national significance including the new Scottish Parliament, the Scottish Executive and Scotland's supreme court, the Court of Session, much of the city's public administration along with its office-based activity and its retail core. It is the daily place of work for over 50,000 workers and is home to around 24,000 residents (about 5% of the city's total population). The Site is the focus of tourist-related businesses worth £904 million in 2000/01 and providing 25,000 jobs within Edinburgh (around 8% of the city's workforce).

The Site has retained its historic urban form and character to a remarkable extent. In the New Town the integrity of the street layout is a key defining factor of its character, while in the Old Town the 'spine and ribs' pattern of the High Street and its closes and wynds maintains the medieval street and its associated land holding pattern. Equally important is the overlaying of the Old Town in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century with wide streets as a result of City Improvement Acts and commercial ventures. There are also many open spaces and graveyards throughout the Site.

In addition to these broad area features, the Site contains nearly 4,500 individual buildings – with over 75% 'listed' because of their special architectural or historic interest. The concentration of buildings listed at Category A is the highest in Scotland. The vast majority of this building stock is constructed of local sandstone under pitched roofs covered with Scottish slate. Considerable financial and technical support is available to property owners to encourage the good repair and maintenance of these properties, and their overall state of conservation is generally good.

The Site also contains Scheduled Monuments, the best known being Edinburgh Castle. Archaeological remains above and below ground provide valuable evidence of past uses and the origins and evolution of the Site.

TOPOGRAPHY

The City of Edinburgh possesses one of the most spectacular urban landscapes in the world. Its dramatically varied terrain rests on a complicated geological pattern of sediments, extinct volcanoes, lava flows and igneous intrusions. This pattern has been emphasised by the differential weathering of hard and soft rocks.

Hard igneous rock outcrops form various areas of high ground in and around the Site. These include the old volcanic cores of Arthur's Seat and the Castle Rock, igneous intrusions such as Salisbury Crags and Corstorphine Hill, and the old lava flows of the Braid Hills, Craiglockhart Hill, Calton Hill and the slopes of Arthur's Seat.

During the Ice Age, the hard rocks that form these high points were shaped by eastward moving ice, creating the crag-and-tail structure of the Castle Rock and Old Town Ridge and the scooped-out hollows of the Nor' (North) Loch and the Grassmarket to the north and south. This erosion also formed a glacial lake, the drained remains of which now form the 'Meadows', an area of public parkland on the southern boundary of the Site.

The City's topography is central to the character of the Site. It shaped the City's spectacular townscape and creates the dramatic views into, out of, and through the Site, including the key views out to the 'mountain' of Arthur's Seat; down to the Firth of Forth (the River Forth estuary); towards the green slopes within the City; to open countryside up to 30 kilometres beyond; and to views down from high vantage points onto roofscapes and open spaces (see Appendix VI).

Within the Site the landforms created the setting for the dramatic juxtaposition of the Old and New Towns across the green valley of Princes Street Gardens (the drained Nor' Loch). The Castle Rock and its geological 'tail' provided the perfect location for the original settlement of the medieval planned Burgh, shaping its subsequent development pattern of narrow property holdings on a single main street. Its steep, rocky slopes also ensured that a highly visible 'island' of natural landscape has been retained in the heart of the Site.

Within the Site there are two 'Sites of Special Scientific Interest' (SSSIs) (Calton Hill and the slopes of the Castle Rock), an Urban Wildlife Site (the Water of Leith Valley), and a series of outstanding eighteenth and nineteenth century New Town gardens. The New Town gardens are listed in the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes (1987) and range in size from the generous West Princes Street Gardens (12.8ha) to the small squares and 'pleasure grounds' such as Rothesay Terrace (0.12ha)

ARCHAEOLOGY

Edinburgh's World Heritage Site, particularly the Old Town, is an area of high archaeological significance and potential, containing a range of nationally important scheduled monuments and extensive areas of well-preserved archaeological deposits. The area was analysed in 1981 as part of the Scottish Burgh Survey (Turner et al. 1981).

Archaeological excavations have shown that Edinburgh's origins extend back into prehistory. It is likely that the forests, rivers, marshy lands and lochs (Nor' Loch and St Margaret's) which originally covered the Site provided food sources and camp sites for some of Scotland's earliest settlers, around 10,000 years ago, and the farmers who followed over the next few thousand years and built more permanent settlements. Sediments associated with the Nor' Loch (now Princes Street Gardens) and St Margaret's Loch (located at the southern end of Canongate and in Holyrood Park) are archaeologically important because they provide an invaluable record of Edinburgh's past environment, from the end of the last Ice Age up to the present day.

Edinburgh's Castle Rock was fortified from the late Bronze Age (around 900 BC) and is arguably the longest continuously occupied site in Scotland. Despite intensive use and re-building through the centuries, significant archaeological remains survive within Edinburgh Castle. Recent excavations have uncovered extensive middens (refuse tips), the evidence from which indicates that an aristocratic residence flourished on the Rock from at least the sixth to tenth centuries AD. The fort became a Scottish royal castle in the eleventh century, its history and archaeology reflecting the emergence of the Scottish nation.

Our pious Queen Margaret died within the castle in 1093 and one of her sons, King David I (1124-53), built the church that became St Margaret's Chapel when Pope Innocent IV canonised her in 1250. This little church, sited in the Castle's upper ward, is today the oldest standing building in Edinburgh.

By the eleventh century, settlement had almost certainly begun to develop along the rocky ridge that later became the Royal Mile. In 1125 this settlement was made a royal burgh by David I, who also founded the Abbey of Holyrood in 1128, in a marshy area at the foot of the crag-and-tail formation. From the outset Holyrood Abbey provided a royal guesthouse for the king and his court, and its popularity as a royal lodging increased during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. The presence of this wealthy abbey inevitably provided impetus for development at the lower end of the Royal Mile. This was formally recognised as the separate royal burgh of Canongate by 1140, but has been incorporated within Edinburgh (since 1636 as feudal inferior and formally since 1836). In the twelfth century, however, Edinburgh and Canongate were two of the newly chartered towns which set the country's political and economic development on a new plane.

The archaeology of these two burghs, Edinburgh and Canongate, lies buried beneath and within historic buildings and streets all along the Royal Mile, High Street and the Canongate, and in and around the Holyrood Abbey and Palace complex. Since the 1970s archaeological investigations have revealed that significant areas of deep (up to 5 metres), well-stratified, archaeological remains have survived in-situ across large sections of the medieval town.

Standing historic structures also routinely preserve archaeological evidence contemporary with, and pre-dating, the building. At the Tron Kirk, for example, as well as evidence for the original seventeenth century building, excavation has uncovered the remains of medieval timber structures and pits, later medieval iron-casting, and fragments of the 2-3 storey stone-built houses which occupied the site before the kirk was built. The site also provided surprisingly early evidence for underground sewers. At 21 St John Street, a property thought to be late eighteenth century in date, was shown to contain substantial portions of a sixteenth or seventeenth century back tenement. At 140-142 High Street, the standing building (now used by the Faculty of Advocates) overlays a complex arrangement of earlier stone foundations and medieval midden, the latter producing some 3,000 shards of probably thirteenth century pottery. Clearly, there is considerable potential for the existence of very substantial as yet undiscovered archaeology within the Old Town.

Extensive excavations in the Canongate on the site of the new Scottish Parliament provide a recent example of the high archaeological potential of the whole area. Here, the pre-burghal layout comprised a massive ditch and roadway, possibly associated with the abbey precinct. This infrastructure was overlaid by formal division of the site into burgage plots, originally c. 10m wide but later sub-divided into c. 5m wide strips, which contained typical backland activities: wells, rubbish pits, and industrial features probably associated with medieval brewing and dyeing. The fragmentary remains of stone buildings on the street frontage suggest that stone was used for construction from the earliest times, while the Canongate itself was wider than the present street. During the sixteenth century, in tandem with James IV and V's development of the Palace of Holyroodhouse, grand residences sprang up in this then fashionable part of town and the site was given over to their formal gardens and other cultivation. By the later seventeenth century, the formal gardens of Queensberry House, Haddington House and their re-drawn property boundaries dominate the archaeological record. The physical remains of nineteenth century military occupation of the site, including the quartermaster's block and parade ground, were also discovered.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

Research on Edinburgh has tended to focus on the main areas for which the city is celebrated: the built fabric of the New Town and Edinburgh's 'golden age' of philosophical and literary fame,

from the time of Adam Smith and David Hume in the 1750s, through to the generation of the writers Thomas Carlyle and Sir Walter Scott. Edinburgh was a key location for Enlightenment thinking, recognised as such by the Encyclopaedists. The high point of the Enlightenment was reached as early as the 1770s and Voltaire wrote in 1775, with some irony perhaps, that 'today it is from Scotland that we get rules of taste in all the arts, from epic poetry to gardening'. Two main centres of the Scottish Enlightenment were Edinburgh and Glasgow.

A remarkable amount of fabric from the city's 'golden age' has survived to the present day. The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Scotland published an inventory of the ancient and historical monuments of the City of Edinburgh in 1951. The survey was mainly concerned with the earliest times up until 1707, but also included a number of buildings erected between 1707 and 1815. Less is known about the working-class history of Edinburgh and how that relates to the built heritage of the Old and New Towns, except in terms of 'improvement'. A significant amount has been written on the amelioration of conditions and improvement of the buildings and streets in the Old Town. The level of detailed knowledge of the New Town's construction, development and social use in the 'golden age' is fairly high, whereas that of the Old Town needs further research, including research into documentary and archaeological investigation and buildings records.

Edinburgh's architecture and its historical importance set it apart from most other cities of the world. This is a consequence of its historic existence as a significant European capital from the Renaissance period, but there are other reasons. From an early date the city saw itself as great, and whenever this status seemed threatened Edinburgh responded in grand manner. Although in 1603 the city lost its royal presence, with the departure of James VI to London, the decades immediately following witnessed a conscious consolidation of the city's architectural position, exemplified by the city-financed Parliament House (1632-39). Then, in 1707, Scotland lost its independent parliament, and after a consequential period of decline and political instability, the city responded with a spectacular programme of civic expansion, driven by a desire to reclaim prestige. Much later, when by the 1860s parts of the Old Town had degenerated into slums, the civic response was, again, a pioneering one for its time, and important monumental architecture which, this time, responded to its setting was created.

The particular nature of Edinburgh's duality is unusual: on the one hand, on a high ridge is the ancient Old Town, while in contrast lying below and to the north, is the eighteenth and nineteenth century New Town (the name 'New Town' applies to the whole area developed in classical style between the 1760s and the 1870s). The Old Town is on a spectacular site, the skyline punched through by the Castle, the soaring neo-Gothic spire of the Highland Tolbooth St John's and the nationally symbolic, imperial crown spire of St Giles; all tower above the New Town, which in contrast is a calm sea of ordered classicism, the whole punctuated by world-class neo-classical buildings. The New Town was later enlivened with set-piece church spires and monuments, such as the Scott Monument and St Mary's Episcopalian Cathedral. At the same time, the then largely plain architecture of the Old Town, including the Castle with its huge eighteenth century barracks complex, was successively romanticized with 'Flemish' and, later, Scottish Baronial architecture. The architectural and social polarity of the 'chaotic' Old Town and 'calm, ordered' New Town was celebrated and accentuated from the late eighteenth century.

The Old Town

The Old Town is of very significant interest in its own right. It contains two planned twelfth century burghs with two early royal palaces (one within the Castle), a medieval abbey, and a wealth of early buildings. The tradition of building taller was regulated and limited to five storeys on main streets through by-laws in the seventeenth century but the tendency was predominantly

vertical and the sloping nature of the Site allowed for the creation of tenements that must have been the world's tallest buildings of their age, some of them still to be seen.

The Old Town grew along the wide main street (the Royal Mile) stretching from the Castle on its rock through the Canongate to the Palace of Holyroodhouse. Edinburgh Castle dominates: a medieval military fortress extended as a Royal Palace within a square in Renaissance times but later re-classified as an army barracks and hugely extended as such from the mid eighteenth century. Of special interest are the twelfth century St Margaret's Chapel and the Great Hall of 1500. At the other end of the Royal Mile are Holyrood Abbey and the Palace of Holyroodhouse. Once one of the wealthiest abbeys in Scotland, the Abbey was adapted by the Scottish kings from the late fifteenth century onwards. The ruins of the nave of Holyrood Abbey abut the Palace on the north. The Palace is largely as rebuilt in the 1670s by Sir William Bruce, but with very significant earlier elements, including James V's massive tower of 1528-32, surviving.

Along the Royal Mile is an impressive array of architecturally and historically outstanding buildings. The Parliament House and High Court of Justiciary complex comprise the two-storey T-plan Parliament House, a key building of the Scottish Renaissance by Sir James Murray of Kilbaberton (1632-39) with neo-classical additions and extensions as a court of justice complex by Sir Robert Reid and others in the earlier nineteenth century. The City Chambers (formerly a multi-use complex with the Royal Exchange at its core and from 1811 the headquarters of the city council) on the High Street are the work of John and Robert Adam (1753); the plan is that of a private square protected from the Street by a single-storey rusticated screen. The Canongate Tolbooth c.1590 is identified by its powerful turreted steeple. Other notable public buildings within the Old Town include George Heriot's School (1628-60), built in the area 'outside' the town enclosed by the contemporary Telfer Wall, Surgeons' Hall (1829-32, Playfair), and the Old College of the University (1815-27, Robert Adam, completed by Playfair).

Among the churches in the Old Town, the Highland Tolbooth St John's Church (1839 44) (James Gillespie Graham with A W N Pugin) is a striking landmark with its 74m high steeple. The High Kirk of St Giles in the High Street is of medieval origin and, apart from the crown-spired tower, the present external appearance dates essentially from the early nineteenth century. The seventeenth century Tron Kirk has an early nineteenth century steeple. The Presbyterian Canongate Church, with its churchyard, dates from 1688 and has an interesting aisled cruciform plan.

The burgh of Edinburgh was probably enclosed since its formal creation in the twelfth century. The first of the substantial masonry walls was probably the King's Wall (1450-75), which was strengthened and extended to enclose the Grassmarket and the Cowgate after the disaster of the Battle of Flodden (1513). Bastions and fortifications were added to the existing walls in 1650 and again in 1715 during the Jacobite Uprising. However, by the late eighteenth century the walls served no purpose and began to fall into disrepair. Obstructing new development and improved wheeled traffic, the walls and gates – including the superb Renaissance Netherbow Port – were demolished. Fragments of the walls remain at Heriot's School, the Pleasance, Tweeddale Court, the Vennel, Bristo Port and Drummond Street.

By the early seventeenth century, much of the wealth of the Scottish nation had come into the hands of the Edinburgh merchant elite, which resulted in considerable new building. The nobility also built high-quality town houses and all this activity came under the strict control of the municipal authorities. The heyday of the Old Town was the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. From the 1790s and especially after the development of the New Town, a slow social and economic decline began. During the later nineteenth century, the withdrawal of the middle classes from the Old Town began to be seen as a problem. In 1892 Sir Patrick Geddes proposed that the Old Town should be 'regenerated' by attracting back to it the university, the bourgeoisie, and the intelligentsia. The High Street would be converted into a collegiate street

and city, comparable in its way with the ‘magnificent High Street of Oxford and its noble surroundings’. Geddes’s plan involved the reuse of older buildings where they still had utility, and many buildings in the Lawnmarket were restored under his direction. Although Geddes left Edinburgh before his vision could be fully realised, many of his buildings and projects remain. More restoration work was carried out as part of Sir Patrick Abercrombie’s 1949 plan for Edinburgh, though Geddes’s concept of the High Street being reoccupied for residential purposes was abandoned and the street was zoned for commercial activity.

The New Town

The New Town is important for two main reasons: its high concentration of world-class neo-classical buildings and the sheer extent of the area covered with classical ashlar- faced (highly finished stone) architecture, all consistent to a degree without parallel and, perhaps crucially, all now surviving remarkably intact.

The New Town developed as a suburban residential area, at first for the nobility but later for the middle classes. The City, the charitable trusts and the aristocratic landowners who promoted the New Town insisted upon the finest materials being used, since they saw it as an enduring monument. The houses – whether row houses, multi-storey or single-storey ‘flats’ – were also to be sold rather than rented or leased. The system of land tenure in Scotland allows for the selling of multi-storey construction – tenements – as individual units. Also, good quality stone construction permits building on a very large scale. For all of these reasons, ashlar-facing is used almost exclusively, instead of stucco, in Scotland. The New Town consists of seven successive major developments, each different from, but closely related to, its predecessors, built in a continuous programme of construction from 1767, arguably until as late as 1890.

What is now known as the New Town was developed in several phases. The First New Town originated in proposals published by Lord Provost Drummond in 1752. These were embodied in an Act of Parliament, which envisaged the development of the city’s lands to the north of the Old Town, linked by an urban viaduct across the valley, the North Bridge. The rectangular layout of the first New Town was the competition-winning work of James Craig, redrawn in 1767 after consultation with John Adam. The second New Town followed from 1801, planned by Sir Robert Reid, and William Sibbald, and located to the north of the first, breaking away from the previous strictly rectangular plan by the incorporation of some curved terraces. The third New Town, the work of Robert Brown from 1813 onwards, essentially continues the approach of its predecessors.

The by now familiar pattern of terraces and crescents changed with the fourth New Town, planned by William Henry Playfair. Instead of imposing a grid-iron upon the landscape, the buildings exploit the contours, view and trees of Calton Hill in a romantic manner. The fifth New Town, built from 1822 on the lands of the Earl of Moray to designs by James Gillespie Graham, cleverly links the first three New Towns as a unified scheme. It was intended as a self-contained enclave for aristocrats and professional gentry. The sixth New Town followed in the 1850s on Lord Provost Learmonth’s Dean Estate, to the north of the Water of Leith, linked since 1831-32 by a spectacular bridge designed by Thomas Telford. The seventh and final New Town brought the hitherto detached Raeburn estate together with the rest, but building continued well into the later nineteenth century within the generally established precepts of the New Town ideal.

Although the original idea was that the New Town should be a purely residential suburb, it rapidly proved to be attractive to business and government; drawing this element of the city away from the Old Town. Most noteworthy for its planned ensembles rather than its individual buildings, the New Town has, however, a number of notable public buildings, including Register

House (1774, Robert Adam), the Royal Scottish Academy (1822-36, W H Playfair), and the Royal High School (1829, Thomas Hamilton). The New Town was to become the location for some of the finest public and commercial monuments of the neo-classical revival in Europe. Monuments symbolic of Scotland's past were grouped together on Calton Hill, in the aspiration to live up to the city's intellectual soubriquet, the 'Athens of the North'.

Appendix III (Chronology) gives further details of the history and architecture of the Site.

Streetscape

Natural stone paving slabs, extensively used throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, have an uninterrupted smooth surface which complemented the design of buildings. The slabs were laid with the same precision as the stone courses of adjacent buildings. Much of the remaining stone paving is carried through into private staircases, closes, and finally even into the hallways, kitchens, bathrooms and cellars of the dwellings themselves. Many of the setted streets in Edinburgh are now more than 150 years old and this represents a remarkable survival. Footways in the New Town were made from various materials, from the horonized paths of Drummond Place, made of slivers of spoil from stone working, to the Hailes-flagstoned pavements of Dundas Street. The Old Town was largely repaved in the nineteenth century with high-quality Carmyllie or Hailes flagstones.

What is now referred to as the 'public realm' was constructed to an extremely high standard in Edinburgh, although this quality was eroded to some extent in the second half of the last century. Carriageways, kerbs, pavements, footpaths, closes and wynds, boundary walls, railings, gatepiers, street signs, lamp posts, some historic bollards, and police boxes and other street furniture were either there from the beginning or were, for the most part, sensitively added as the materials became available or circumstances demanded an intervention.

Local residents' initiatives have also made a contribution. For example, in many streets in the New Town, residents have reinstated original railing-mounted streetlamps.

Parks and Gardens

Edinburgh's parks and gardens are integral to the New Town's layout and architectural composition. In the Old Town the designed landscape at the Palace of Holyroodhouse covering the Palace Yard at Holyrood and the garden enclosed within the boundary wall were identified for their significance in Volume 5 of the first Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland (1987), although only part of this is within the Site boundary. The Old Town also contains gardens – early 'pocket parks' laid out by Sir Patrick Geddes – which are also significant for the part they played in the 'regeneration' of the Old Town and are essential in providing a pleasant environment.

Calton Hill is the most dominant 'designed' landscape within the Site due to its prominence and character. Essentially a piece of rough ground which was unsuitable for comprehensive development, it has become the repository of national monuments. Having carried out this re-ordering of the hill, the stage was set for the building of the National Monument. This never-completed project attracted complementary schemes of commemoration to focus on Calton Hill, including the Nelson Monument, the Burns Monument and the Playfair Monument. The wider masterplan for the area had been published by William Stark and a competition to design the residential buildings fringing the hill was won by W H Playfair. Monuments were self-consciously fitted into the overall composition in a microcosm of Edinburgh as a whole. Playfair's Calton Hill

development to the east and south is a great continuous wall of houses further framing Calton Hill as a romantic wilderness within the city, reinforced to the south by Thomas Hamilton's Royal High School (1825-29) and, later, by Thomas Tait's St Andrew's House (1936-39).

The most significant of the many designed gardens in the Site is Princes Street Gardens, a green space planned like Queen Street Gardens to offer uninterrupted garden views to one-sided streets at each edge of the first New Town. Protected from 1752 as a pleasure ground in the 'proposals' document, the gardens were formally opened in 1821. The extent of Princes Street Gardens formerly included walks around and below the Castle walls: an 'amenity zone' separating the Old Town from the New Town. These walks are now separated from the more 'municipal' plantings and walks on the northern side of the railway line, which was sensitively eased through in the 1840s. East Princes Street Gardens was re-designed in 1840 to receive the Sir Walter Scott Monument, one of a number of elaborate Gothic episodes planned within the geometric layout of the New Town. Overlaying its historical role as private pleasure ground, Princes Street Gardens has an important collection of monuments and statuary.

Colour

The original stones of which the city was built were variations of yellow, which have now mellowed to grey. Edinburgh has, at certain times in its life, been colourful by modern standards. Windows have been painted white, green, brown and most other rich dark colours. New Town railings were also painted in various vibrant shades. Venetian blinds and planted balconies added to the scene. At some point in its history, however, probably around the time of Lord Cockburn in the early nineteenth century, Edinburgh took on an architectural mantle of respectability, often severe. Ruskin noticed this, with dismay. A delayed architectural reaction came eventually in the form of Rowand Anderson's Gothic, red sandstone, National Portrait Gallery (1885-90), Well Court in Dean (1883) and, later in the Old Town, Geddes's white and red-walled, red-roofed, Ramsay Garden (1892-94) which re-visited the perceived architectural chaos and confusion of the medieval town. Along with colour in the later nineteenth century Old Town came an interest in the romantic architectural effects of self-consciously random rubble construction. Layers of harling or limewash were often stripped from existing buildings, or new buildings designed to conform to this aesthetic. The colour issue has ebbed and flowed ever since, but the epoch of New Town conservation brought a renewed interest in 'sanity' and simplicity in keeping with the principles of modernism. The post-modern period revived colour and picturesque outline, notably at Ian Begg's Scandic Crown Hotel (now the Radisson SAS) and Richard Murphy's neo-Geddesian infills in the Canongate and off the High Street.

Conservation

From at least the sixteenth century – early in a European context – building control was enforced through a key burgh figure, the Dean of Guild, whose role was crucial for the direction of future planning in Edinburgh. The Dean's Court controlled, among other matters, new buildings and the role was successively consolidated throughout the coming centuries. For example, as a precaution against fire, all roofs had to be of tile or slate from 1621, and in 1674 this was extended to building facades, which had thenceforth to be of stone, although many timber-fronted examples survived well into the nineteenth century.

What was just as remarkable as the formal force of the grand plan for a new monumental city was the consistency with which it was carried out over the following decades, through

increasingly restrictive development controls by the Town Council and the private landowners and trusts concerned. It was a unique formula, using Town Council speculation along with Dean of Guild and feuing restrictions imposed by private speculators to protect the amenity of successive developments and therefore their value. From 1674 even the most ordinary buildings were constructed of stone. The main formations used for building are the Upper Old Red Sandstone (Devonian) at Craigmillar, and the carboniferous system of the Craigleith, Ravelston, Hailes, Dunnet and Binny sandstones. The geological processes that formed Edinburgh's landscape also provided the materials for its buildings. Until the mid-nineteenth century the cost of imported building materials was prohibitive, and Edinburgh, situated amidst beds of local sandstone, used this high-quality local material as its main building and paving material. This, together with Scottish slate and the occasional use of high-quality imported stone, has contributed a vital ingredient to the essential character of the Site.

Looking at Rothiemay's famous 1647 map of Edinburgh we can see the important introduction of stone-fronted tenements which takes us to the very beginning of the use of stone in 'ordinary' dwellings. As early as 1550, the expatriate Scot Alexander Alesius wrote that Edinburgh's Royal Mile was 'lined with buildings not constructed from bricks, but natural and square stones, so that even private houses can be compared with great palaces'. What distinguishes Edinburgh from other European capitals is the consistent use of ashlar (dressed stone) in the 'show' parts of the facades: those parts of the building which are on public view. Only in a handful of early New Town houses was rubble-work, originally stuccoed to represent ashlar, adopted for front elevations.

Slate roofs also make an extremely important contribution to the Edinburgh townscape. Generally, roofs are finished in West Highland slate laid characteristically in random widths and diminishing courses with a deeply textured, uneven appearance. New Town roofs were not generally 'architectural' and were concealed behind a parapet in views from the street. Nevertheless, the topography of the city is such that slate roofs become a dominant feature in distant views.

Habitation in the Old Town continued to decline after the Second World War. A similar pattern, if much less pronounced, was evident in the New Town where the need for conservation and restoration was first recognised in the late 1960s. A survey carried out by the Edinburgh Architectural Association was followed by an international conference in 1970, the outcome of which was the establishment of the Edinburgh New Town Conservation Committee. The Committee utilised Government and City Council aid to initiate a major programme of repair and rehabilitation.

In 1980 the problems of the Old Town were again recognised by a small group of architects, resulting in the establishment of what was to become the Edinburgh Old Town Renewal Trust in 1985. In 1999 this organisation and the Edinburgh New Town Conservation Committee were merged to form the Edinburgh World Heritage Trust with a broad remit focused on the whole Site.

Recent Development

Over many hundreds of years the Site has proved itself capable of adaptation to new uses and new ways of living. However a very important feature of the Site's cultural history has been its self-referential devotion to the idea of an ordered city where heritage has been highly valued. Edinburgh's deeply ingrained culture of conservation has created the conditions for the City's remarkable survival.

A considerable amount of development has taken place since the Site was inscribed. Most of

the major changes which have taken place are measurable under the existing monitoring arrangements. However, the nature of the Site is such that often very small changes can have a considerable incremental effect on its character and archaeology. The Site has a complex, multi-layered and very detailed significance. This requires, simultaneously, an overview related to setting, infill and development and a close attention to minute details of building fabric, streetscape and landscape design.

Chapter Three

Significance of the Site

It is a general principle of Management Plans that they should set out the significant elements of the World Heritage Site under consideration. From this, appropriate policies and actions can be identified to direct its protection and sympathetic adaptation for future use. This chapter expands on the outstanding qualities which justified the Site's inscription on the World Heritage List and explains Edinburgh's Outstanding Universal Values in the 'Statement of Significance' set out below.

The nomination of Edinburgh as a World Heritage Site was submitted in 1994. An extract from the nomination document setting out the justification for inscription is in Appendix I. In February 1995 an ICOMOS expert mission visited the proposed Site. In its subsequent report to the World Heritage Committee ICOMOS declared that the outstanding qualities of the proposed Site were:

Edinburgh's unique coupling of medieval Old Town and classical New Town, each of enormous distinction in its own right, has created a town of extraordinary richness and diversity, without parallel anywhere in the world. Its aesthetic qualities are high, it had a profound influence on town planning in Europe and beyond in the eighteenth and nineteenth century and it is generally recognised to be a major centre of thought and learning. Moreover Edinburgh retains most of its significant buildings and spaces in a better condition than most other historic cities of comparable value.

In comparison with other sites the report continued:

The uniqueness of Edinburgh is expressed in the preceding paragraph [the paragraph above]. Whilst comparisons might be valid, for example, between the New Town and Bath, the claims of Edinburgh for World Heritage Status are, quite properly, based on the integration of the eighteenth and nineteenth century new planned quarters with the historic Old Town.

The Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site was inscribed on the World Heritage List at the 19th session of the World Heritage Committee in Berlin in December 1995. The brief description, taken from the Committee report was:

Edinburgh capital of Scotland since the fifteenth century presents the dual face of an old city dominated by a medieval fortress and a new neoclassical city whose development from the eighteenth century onwards exerted a far-reaching influence on European urban planning. The harmonious juxtaposition of these two highly contrasting historic areas each containing many buildings of great significance is what gives the city its unique character.

The World Heritage Committee accepted that the proposed site had townscape and buildings of international acclaim set within a landscape of exceptional drama. They decided to inscribe the Site on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria ii and iv:

ii. Exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town planning or landscape design.

iv. Be an outstanding example of a type of building or architectural or technological ensemble or

landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history.

The decision noted that the Site 'represents a remarkable blend of the two urban phenomena: the organic medieval growth and the eighteenth and nineteenth century town planning'.

Authenticity

ICOMOS recognised that the level of authenticity in Edinburgh was high. The Site retains its historic role as the administrative and cultural capital of Scotland and has preserved, to a remarkable degree, its function as a lived-in, changing city along with its historic layout and stock of high-quality buildings.

Edinburgh's juxtaposition of distinct areas, the medieval Old Town and classical New Town, each of enormous importance in its own right, has also created a city of extraordinary richness and diversity, without parallel. The city's aesthetic qualities are high and it has had a significant influence on town planning in Europe and beyond in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Moreover, Edinburgh still retains most of its significant buildings and spaces in better condition than the majority of other, comparable historic cities. The quality and state of repair of the original fabric is outstanding.

The survival of historic fabric reflects the experience gained in the last thirty years of high conservation activity in the city. A conservative approach to repair and alteration continues to influence the rehabilitation of buildings within the Site. For example, stone cleaning and its often pernicious effects have now been eliminated by adopting a policy that requires owners clearly to demonstrate the conservation benefits for their building of any proposed stone cleaning work.

It was noted that in Edinburgh the concerns for material authenticity extend beyond the fabric of buildings, to the patterns of urban form and the qualities of urban spaces. The concern for maintaining these patterns is present everywhere. In the New Town, the integrity of the street layout is a key defining factor in maintaining New Town character. In the Old Town, concern was for the 'spine and ribs pattern' of the High Street. The closes and wynds maintained the existing – and reinstated lost – relationships within the medieval street pattern. The particular attention being paid to the integrity of the many significant open spaces (the New Town gardens, and the cemeteries) was also applauded.

This approach is taken both with the conservation of existing buildings and the design of new ones on infill sites. Conservation philosophy in Edinburgh consistently encourages approaches rooted in building values; Old Town buildings will usually retain the evidence of successive forms through conservation, while New Town buildings are more generally returned to the design coherence that informed their original architectural expression.

It is acknowledged that promoting good contemporary design which takes full account of, and understands, its surroundings, is important for a city such as Edinburgh to continue to live and grow in harmony with the past. Good contemporary design is encouraged for infill of gap sites and has given rise to a number of successful examples of modern design: the Poetry Library; Saltire Court; the Festival Theatre re-fronting; the new Parliament.

High-quality workmanship is an aspect of Edinburgh's authenticity which is extremely important to maintain. The identification and support of sources of craft expertise and the necessary traditional material needed for repair and restoration is a key challenge for the Management Plan.

Edinburgh's setting is an indispensable part of its character and is widely understood as being a key feature in the Site's authenticity. The need to maintain key aspects of the city's setting – such as the view out to Arthur's Seat, or down to the Firth of Forth, as well as many other key

vistas and views that contribute to this quality, cannot be over-emphasised.

ASSESSMENT OF VALUES

This part of the Management Plan sets out an assessment of those features that give the Site its outstanding value, justifying its inscription. In the case of Edinburgh, the World Heritage Site, the city, its environment, architecture and townscape, its cultural and intellectual traditions and its wider setting are inseparable. All contribute to the character and the outstanding universal value of the Site and provide important evidence of its historical evolution.

While the descriptions above sum up the outstanding values of the Site, they are very broad. The Statement of Outstanding Universal Value in the following section looks at the Site in detail and explains more fully the nomination document's description of the individual values which embody its overall importance.

The Statement identifies what is significant and why. Chapter Five identifies how these significant characteristics may be threatened or enhanced by the challenge of change, and indicates what measures need to be taken to protect or enhance them. The identification of the significant characteristics that make the Site worthy of international recognition is therefore crucial in laying the basis for future action.

Landscape Setting

Edinburgh's setting amongst a volcanic landscape of steep hills and valleys is outstanding. Situated in a strategic position on the Firth of Forth, at a natural crossroads of principal routes, the landscape over which the city is built is unique. Edinburgh's northern location means that the city enjoys a changeable seasonal and daily climate with short winter days and long summer evenings. The climatic setting itself contributes significantly to Edinburgh's beauty.

1. The Topography of Hills and Valleys

The natural landscape in which central Edinburgh lies is remarkable. The city is built around the natural eminences of the Castle Rock and Calton Hill with Arthur's Seat and Salisbury Crags forming the south-western boundary of its historic centre. Edinburgh's skyline is an internationally recognised icon of the city. Northwards the landform provides views to the Firth of Forth and the hills of Fife beyond, eastwards to North Berwick Law and the Bass Rock, while to the south and south-east the considerable prominences of the Pentland and Moorfoot Hills can be seen.

This setting, with its valleys and ridges, is created by the Site's geology, especially the distinctive crag-and-tail formation on which the Castle and Old Town developed. The associated flanking valley of Nor' Loch (now containing the main railway station and Princes Street Gardens) and the South Loch (now the Meadows), provide exceptional opportunities for vistas and panoramas out of, into and within the Site.

The topography of the Site set within an ancient volcanic terrain of hills, valleys and skylines, particularly those formed by Castle Rock and Calton Hill and overlooked by Arthur's Seat and Salisbury Crags.

This creates a variety of planned and accidental views out of, within, and into the Site including; views over the Firth of Forth to Fife; views to North Berwick Law, the Bass Rock and the Lammermuir and Pentland Hills; views of the historic skyline from many parts of the wider

city; and views from the hills beyond in the Lothians and from Fife.

2. Juxtaposition of the Old and New Towns

The juxtaposition of Old and New Edinburgh offers both an outstanding example of an architectural ensemble which epitomises significant stages in human history – the medieval and Renaissance city on the rock and the rationalist city on the plateau – and an exceptional example of the natural landscape setting of a city. The landscape encompasses the striking urban and the contrasting character of the Old and New Towns, clearly seen across the green valley of Princes Street Gardens.

The clear demarcation formed by the ridges and valleys of ancient glacial terrain within the Site which forms the Old Town ridge and the glacial hollows which now form the Grassmarket, Princes Street Gardens and the Waverley Valley, linked by the North and Waverley Bridges and the Mound.

3. Valley of the Water of Leith

One of the hidden treasures of the city is the valley of the Water of Leith, which offers a green environment of continuous drama and tranquillity within walking distance of the city centre. The deep river valley contains the original mill settlements of Bell's Mills, the village of Dean and part of Stockbridge.

The dramatic river valley of the Water of Leith, its green natural landscape and the old mill settlements of Bell's Mills, the village of Dean and part of Stockbridge.

Urban Form And Landscape

From an early date the city of Edinburgh strived for the highest standards of townscape and architectural design. Many generations have shared in this vision and civic pride resulting in the outstanding built heritage of today. Progress has been pursued relentlessly, with each generation both caring for, and adding to, the achievements of the past, not always with the same vigour or success.

The sources of Edinburgh New Town are familiar to all historians: Bath, for the idea of the agglomerated composition often referred to as 'palace fronting', Nancy and Richelieu (which bears a striking resemblance) for their plan. However, the idea of a 'New Town' was taken to an astonishing level in Edinburgh and its influence can be seen throughout Scotland and in the later large scale developments of London and throughout the world. Following Karl-Friedrich Schinkel's visit to Edinburgh in 1826, for example, the government of Prussia (for whom the architect worked) attempted to enforce town planning by statute. Contemporary accounts show that there was a great deal of communication between Edinburgh and America, and the idea of planning the monumental middle class and 'democraticised' city – the city without palaces – is also surely present in many American towns and cities, including Philadelphia and the capital, Washington DC.

4. Contrasting Character

The contrasting characteristics of the Site offer a range of experiences from the plan of the medieval Old Town and the formal geometry of the New Town to the old mill communities and grand establishments of Dean and the Water of Leith. The international icon of Edinburgh Castle stands high over the Old Town with its overlay of late eighteenth and nineteenth century ‘improvement’ streets on the medieval base, overlooking the elegance and discipline of the New Town which set new international standards in planning and architecture.

The contrasting characters of the planned and geometrically laid out New Town with the medieval Old Town and the contrast of the old milling communities with the grand establishments of Dean.

The most important elements include:

- Edinburgh Castle, an international icon, the original defensible site of the city, and its most distinctive feature.
- The medieval street pattern centred on, around and below the Old Town overlaid by the late eighteenth century interventions and early nineteenth century ‘improvement’ streets with their distinctive architecture.
- The scale, integrity, discipline and elegance of the planned eighteenth century New Town, complemented by later phases being built into the nineteenth century, which set new standards in planning and architecture throughout the world, and which remain consistent and substantially intact.

5. Townscape

The townscape of the Site is outstanding. In its own right, the Old Town is of great interest, its urban form overlaid with a web of late eighteenth and nineteenth century ‘Improvement Streets’ representing early planned neo-classical urban improvement initiatives of unusual sensitivity and success. Whereas earlier schemes, notably the huge South Bridge project or the Supreme Courts complex, sought to impose ‘New Town’ rationalist planning on the Old Town, similar nineteenth century schemes consciously applied of sympathetic ‘Flemish’ and, later, mature ‘Scottish Baronial’ styles to the buildings lining the new streets. Whilst the scope of such later works was as great, if not greater, the applied architecture was avowedly ‘contextual’.

Below, and to the north, of the Old Town lies the neo-classical set piece of the New Town. The strict architectural hierarchy, with its separation of the uses and social classes was a considerable innovation and produced a completely different environment from the ‘organic’ street patterns of the Old Town with its mingling of people and functions. Equally important was the work of Robert Adam at Charlotte Square which emphatically demonstrated how grandeur could be imposed upon an otherwise plainly orthodox row of terraced houses so as to raise rationalist urban design to a new pitch of monumentality and coherence.

In both the Old and New Towns, the quality of the townscape is the result of a constant conscious control of building forms. By-laws controlling the height and materials of building were a feature as early as the seventeenth century in Edinburgh, while the control of the development of the New Town brought this urban design tendency towards ordered capitalist development to an astonishing new pitch. Built in stages from the 1760s to the 1830s, the New Town of Edinburgh was the largest contemporary planned urban development in the world.

Finally, the Site contains the old mill communities in the Water of Leith Valley. These include Dean Village, overshadowed by Thomas Telford's magnificent Dean Bridge, and Bell's Mills upstream.

Townscape and urban street environments of the highest quality of design and construction – a result of conscious town planning over centuries.

Townscape features:

- The relationship between the set-pieces, individual streets, individual buildings and the green spaces within the New Town and their integration through scale, consistency in style and the use of materials.
- The planned relationships between key buildings, statues and monuments and open spaces.
- The sense of place and local identity afforded by the quality, durability and consistent use of local materials for construction including local stone, Scottish slate, cast iron, wrought iron, timber and glass.
- The consistency of buildings and urban grain throughout the different areas of the Site.
- The considerable survival of high-quality hard landscape items within and of the public realm, such as setted streets, natural stone paving, whinstone kerbs, railings, platts, mounting blocks and well heads.

6. Historic Buildings

The Site abounds with architecture of the highest order and historic interest. Within the Old Town there are two early royal palaces (one within the castle itself), a medieval abbey and many early buildings. The Site also contains a wealth of important residential, institutional and commercial buildings, many of which are referred to in the history section.

This Scottish architectural tradition was powerfully re-invigorated in the nineteenth century by the city itself, whose Improvement Act tenements are important for their sociological interest as well as for their architectural quality and use of a national historical style of architecture. So also are the buildings which were the subject of Sir Patrick Geddes's pioneering experiments in town planning and conservation: early tenements re-vitalised for new and socially-sensitive uses. The results of his experiments are still there to see.

The many outstanding individual buildings within the Site including:

- The many significant historic buildings some ruined (Adam Bothwell's House) or much altered (Regent Moray's House).
- Individual buildings or groups of buildings of international importance e.g. Edinburgh Castle, the Palace of Holyroodhouse, Edinburgh University Old College.
- Outstanding set-pieces of neo-classical buildings throughout the New Town, e.g. Great King Street and Robert Adam's Charlotte Square.
- Grand tenement buildings of the Old Town from the sixteenth century and the later working class tenements of the eighteenth and nineteenth century.

- Scottish Baronial architecture within the Old Town, such as Cockburn Street and the Old Royal Infirmary.

7. Historic Interiors

The Site is recognisable instantly by its external magnificence. However, building interiors are no less important. Behind the facades and doors of both public and domestic buildings lie a wealth of internal features from staircases to chimney pieces and column screens with fine architectural detailing. The survival on such a scale of historic interiors is remarkable.

The survival of important interiors within a variety of public and domestic properties including dwelling houses such as flats, row houses and double uppers (two and three-storey houses on upper floors), within ‘palace fronts’ and larger compositions. The existence of elaborate architectural interiors from the seventeenth century Parliament Hall to the Signet Library, the Old College Library and, most recently, the Scottish Parliament.

8. Statues and Monuments

The statues and monuments in Edinburgh inform the history and heritage of the Site as well as being set pieces in their own right. They form a remarkable collection, notable for their range and importance and include such varied examples as the National Monument in the Castle, the Scott Monument, and the numerous statues of celebrated local and national figures.

The outstanding statues and monuments throughout the Site which range in style from the extravagance of the Scott Monument to the intimacy of Greyfriars Bobby.

9. Parks, Gardens and Graveyards

The green environment is an important part of the planned urban space throughout the Site and includes the numerous public and privately managed gardens which are a particular feature of the New Town. The Site also contains an exceptional group of historic graveyards including St Cuthbert’s, Canongate, Greyfriars, Old Calton Burying Ground, and the New Calton Burying Ground.

Designed landscapes of public and private gardens and the historic graveyards of St Cuthbert’s, Canongate, Greyfriars, Old Calton, New Calton and Dean.

HISTORY AND HERITAGE

10. Historic City and Capital of Scotland

Edinburgh represents the essence of the cultural traditions of Scotland as a European city. The city bears testimony to the growth of Scottish civilisation, to its religious faiths, its government, its culture, and to its educational and legal system.

Scotland’s re-assertion of national status was formally recognised in the 1880s. In 1885, a Secretary for Scotland was appointed and the Scottish Office was established at Dover House, Whitehall in London. The Secretary for Scotland took responsibility for administering Scotland’s

separate legal system and the Scottish Boards for agriculture, education, local government and health. The increasing responsibilities of the Secretary for Scotland saw the post upgraded to Secretary of State in 1926, and in 1928 the Scottish Boards became departments of The Scottish Office.

In 1939, St Andrew's House in Edinburgh became the headquarters of The Scottish Office and Dover House was retained as a liaison office in Whitehall. From 1939 the country was administered directly from St Andrew's House, one of the finest and largest buildings of its period, dramatically sited near a cliff-top, as if in response to the castle which is set diagonally opposite. The building continues in use today as the home of the Scottish Executive, facing the new Scottish Parliament building also within the site.

The interwar years also witnessed a growing national cultural awareness with the creation of institutions such as the Scottish National War Memorial and the National Library, centred in Edinburgh.

Edinburgh is the home of Scotland's national museums, galleries, archives and library, and of its heritage administration. It contains Scotland's only royal palace, which is frequently inhabited by the monarch. It is the centre of the country's civil administration and contains the headquarters of the Church of Scotland and its 'parliament', the General Assembly. The city has a metropolitan Archbishopric linked with St Andrew's.

Edinburgh as a Royal and ceremonial capital city of Scotland from the fifteenth century with tangible associations expressed in the historic fabric and functions of the city.

11. Communities

The Site is the living heart of the city of Edinburgh, confidently looking to the future while embracing its past. The communities who live and work within the Site reflect the complexity of the economic and social variety of the City of Edinburgh. It is a fine example of an ancient city meeting the needs of modern society, yet which has retained its residential vitality with many areas of the Site still being densely populated. The economic base of the city is underpinned by the presence of the devolved administration, the strengths of the financial services sector, the legal, educational and medical professions, the arts community, the political world, the media and the commercial sector – all heavily represented within the Site.

The city centre has been a tourist destination since at least the middle of the nineteenth century. This popularity in itself creates a management challenge for the Site. Maintaining the qualities of the Site which underpin the vibrant, living, city centre is vital for the city's continued relevance and success for present and future generations.

The city centre is home to a range of residential and professional communities which leave a tangible mark upon the fabric and authenticity of the Site. They include the world of politics, religion, legal services, financial services, retailing, education and the arts. They generate the economic and intellectual well being of the city centre, and give it its purpose.

12. Intellectual Tradition, Education and Law

Scotland is associated with many things; one of the greatest of these is the intellectual tradition which her scholars carried abroad. (For instance, between 1411 and 1560 the University of Paris had 17 rectors who were Scots.) The University of Edinburgh is the fourth of Scotland's

ancient universities, and was founded in 1583 by the Town Council of Edinburgh, under general powers granted by the Charter of King James VI of Scotland. First established at Kirk O'Field, its buildings were redeveloped on the same site between 1789 and 1829. Since then it has expanded to occupy a series of precincts across Edinburgh which collectively represent a major land-holding of often important listed buildings from Robert Adam's Old College (from 1789) to Robert Matthew's David Hume tower (1960-3).

From the first the College possessed the privilege of conferring degrees. The Act of Confirmation, passed in 1621, secured to the College of James VI as it had come to be called, all the rights, immunities and privileges enjoyed by the other Universities of Scotland, and ratified this privilege. This ratification was renewed in the Treaty of Union between England and Scotland, and in the Act of Security. Gradually, in Acts of the General Assembly, of the Town Council, and of Parliament, the College of James VI came to be styled the University of Edinburgh; but it remained under the control and patronage of the Town Council until 1858 when, by the Universities Act, all the Universities of Scotland received new and autonomous constitutions.

During the eighteenth century the University became a key centre for the Scottish Enlightenment, famed for its research into the human condition, both mental and physical. It did much to give the city the philosophers and others who contributed to this 'hotbed of genius' which helped to create the intellectual and cultural environment which still exists in the city today. These achievements were not just cerebral: enlightenment thinking encompassed a respect for the old (to the extent that revived 'Old Scots' architecture is seen throughout much of the Old Town), while simultaneously pioneering the new and imagining the city itself as a monument. The Site is also associated with a list of notable individuals who have had international recognition and have left a tangible mark on the fabric of the Site or its culture.

Today, The University of Edinburgh is one of the largest universities in the UK, with a worldwide reputation for excellence in research and teaching in a wide range of disciplines. The main locations of the University occupy key positions within the Site.

The Supreme Courts of Scotland are also located in the heart of the Site at Parliament Close, which has as its centrepiece the former Scottish Parliament building. Covering more than three acres, the justiciary complex developed in phases commencing with an undeveloped plan by Robert Adam and carried forward by Sir Robert Reid and with many later alterations to provide public courts along with library facilities for advocates. Under the terms of the Act of Union Scotland retained its legal system and the courts were extensively expanded in the nineteenth century. This huge classical setpiece complex – still in daily use for its original purpose – sits in contrast to St Giles Cathedral in an open precinct created around the buildings, expanding the 'piazza' of Parliament Close on levelled ground between the Cowgate and High Street. The continued accommodation of the Scottish legal profession and justice system within the Site is of great significance for its historic character.

The cultural traditions of the Site emerge from a long history of intellectual enquiry. Geology, medicine, philosophy, law, the sciences and literature as well as architecture and planning flowered in Edinburgh with their achievements bringing fame to the city and the nation. As a result the Site has a strong tradition of association with these disciplines, their achievements and with many people of world recognition associated with them, including John Napier, David Hume, Adam Smith, Robert Adam, James Hutton, Sir Walter Scott, Charles Darwin, Sir James Clerk Maxwell, Robert Louis Stevenson, Alexander Graham Bell and Sir Patrick Geddes.

13. Edinburgh – Festival City

In 1947 the first Edinburgh Festival was symbolic of a new era. To the International Festival has been added the Festival Fringe, Jazz, Book and Film festivals amongst others. At New Year, the Hogmanay celebrations are seen worldwide. The city centre has become an internationally recognised venue and backdrop for events.

Since 1947, the city centre has hosted the world famous Edinburgh International Festival which has been a showcase for the city's heritage and its cultural dynamism. Additional festivals include the Festival Fringe, Book, Film, Jazz and Science festivals and, not least, the celebrations at Hogmanay.

Chapter 4

Management Strategy and Policy Context

Edinburgh's management and protective mechanisms have evolved over more than 300 years and have generally been effective and well-suited to the particular circumstances of the city. Today these mechanisms fit within an overall strategy that addresses the challenges of caring for the Site in the twenty-first century. The guiding principles are:

- The Site will be managed in such a way as to ensure its survival for future generations.
- The management of the Site will promote its harmonious adaptation and enhancement as well as its protection by respecting its outstanding universal values, character, historic fabric and authenticity.
- All individuals and organisations, visiting or resident, should be encouraged to participate in the care and management of the Site and develop an understanding of its values within the context of the World Heritage Convention.

The management strategy for the Site acknowledges that change will be necessary in a dynamic urban centre. Achieving a satisfactory balance between preservation and change lies at the heart of successful conservation management. Proposals for change should therefore be preceded by a full understanding of the Site's outstanding significance or values, consideration of the impact of change and methods for mitigating any potentially negative consequences. Proposals should recognise that the historic environment is a finite and non-renewable resource whose preservation and continued use should be encouraged so that it may be enjoyed today and passed on in good order to future generations. This supports the Scottish Executive's policy for the management of the historic environment set out in Historic Scotland's Passed to the Future (2002). As noted in National Planning Policy Guideline (NPPG) 18, maintaining and enhancing the economic and social fabric of the historic environment is vital if the variety, quality and special characteristics of this special resource are to be sustained.

Enhancement of the Site is a key objective of its management strategy. New developments, provided that they complement the character of the Site and enhance its special qualities, will play an important role. Much of the recent new construction within the Site has shown that substantial buildings can be built to a very high quality in a way that enhances the Site. In addition, the use of masterplans, and sensitive development guidance, has facilitated the creation of award-winning contemporary architecture within a traditional urban design framework.

Everyone has a role to play in caring for the site; however, key public sector agencies, which include Edinburgh World Heritage, Historic Scotland, the City Council, SEEL and the Edinburgh City Centre Management Company, share a special responsibility. Whilst there is potential for conflict, all interests are united in their support for maintaining and enhancing a city that has worldwide recognition for the quality of its built and natural environment.

The role of Edinburgh World Heritage is particularly significant. This organisation – an agency jointly funded by the City Council and Historic Scotland – is charged with championing and co-ordinating the conservation of the Site. EWH and its partners aim to promote the better protection and enhancement of the Site, provide financial assistance for repairs to historic

buildings and enhancement schemes and to promote the appreciation of the Site to as wide an audience as possible.

LEGAL PROTECTION FRAMEWORK

Change and development within the World Heritage Site is controlled and guided by a range of legislation and statutory and non-statutory guidance. These provisions provide important safeguards. The more important are described below.

In addition to legislation and statutory and non-statutory policy and guidance, the city has evolved a variety of measures aimed at managing the conservation of the Site effectively.

International Guidance

International guidance on conservation is derived from UNESCO and international charters.

The World Heritage Convention

In 1972 the member states of UNESCO adopted the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (World Heritage Convention). Its purpose was to ensure the proper identification, protection, conservation and presentation of the world's irreplaceable heritage.

Subsequently the World Heritage Committee and a World Heritage Fund were set up in 1976 and the Committee adopted Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the Convention in June 1977. These have subsequently been revised several times, most recently in February 2005.

The guidelines inform the Edinburgh World Heritage Site Management Plan, and its accompanying Action Plan, and also provide directions on monitoring and other issues which relate to the implementation of the Convention.

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) is the Department of the UK Government with responsibility for the heritage and represents the State Party in relation to the World Heritage Convention on behalf of the whole of the UK. Historic Scotland, on behalf of Scottish Ministers, is responsible for world heritage in relation to cultural sites in Scotland and works closely with colleagues in the DCMS on the implementation of the Convention.

Conservation Charters

International Conservation Charters set out widely recognised standards for those working with the conservation of the built heritage. Many of these documents are detailed and focus on very specialised subjects. However, there are five key charters which pertain to the conservation of Edinburgh's World Heritage Site:

- The Nara Declaration on Authenticity (UNESCO 1994) sets out guidance for identifying and conserving authenticity in historic areas.
- The Washington Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas (ICOMOS 1987) sets out principles of Area Conservation.
- The Venice Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS 1964) sets out the principles for the long-term preservation of historic monuments and heritage.

- Pecs Declaration on the Venice Charter (ICOMOS Hungary 2004).
- The Burra Charter (the Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance 1999) defines key universal conservation terms such as ‘preservation’ and ‘restoration’ and sets out principles of conservation.

Legislation, Policy and Guidance in Scotland

Following the enactment of the Scotland Act 1998, elections to the first Scottish Parliament for almost 300 years were held in May 1999 and the Parliament met for the first time in July of that year.

The Scottish Executive, the administrative arm of Government in Scotland, has responsibility for all public bodies whose functions are devolved and is accountable to the Scottish Parliament for them. The Scottish Executive comprises the First Minister (who must be a member of the Scottish Parliament), Ministers appointed under section 47 of the Scotland Act 1998 (from among the members of the Parliament), and the Lord Advocate and the Solicitor General for Scotland.

The Scottish Ministers and the Departments of the Scottish Executive have responsibility for a wide range of functions, including the historic and built environments, land use planning, culture and the arts, local government, economic development, transport, education, health and the civil and criminal law. As a result of policy decisions, legislation and actions since devolution was implemented in 1999, some policies and services in devolved areas are different in Scotland from those in England.

Primary sources of Scottish statutory and non-statutory guidance are contained within legislation, policy and guidance.

Legislation

Legislation which affects the management of the Site is primarily associated with planning matters. Relevant legislation includes:

- The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, which defines the general planning framework for Scotland.
- The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997 is the principal legislation concerning conservation areas, historic buildings and other built heritage in Scotland. This Act gives statutory protection to the urban form and its historic character. Policy in furtherance of its provisions encourages developers to provide high quality in design, construction and materials that takes full account of any historic context (see appendix VI).
- Scheduled monuments are protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. It is an offence to carry out, or permit to be carried out, any works which will lead to damage or destruction, alteration or addition, repair or removal of a scheduled monument, without prior written permission from the Scottish Ministers (Scheduled Monument Consent). There are also restrictions on the use of metal detectors in scheduled areas.

Scheduled monuments are, by definition, of national importance and it is government policy that they are preserved in situ and within an appropriate setting. Scheduled Monuments in the Site include: Edinburgh Castle, Holyrood Abbey, the Palace of Holyroodhouse and its gardens, Abbey Strand, and parts of the Flodden and Telfer Walls.

- Article 15 of the Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) (Scotland) Order 1992 (GDPO) affords Historic Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage a formal role in commenting on any development proposals that affect sites, the setting of Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Category A Listed Buildings or sites listed on the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes.

Policy and Guidance

National legislation is supported by a considerable amount of national policy and guidance issued or adopted by the Scottish Ministers. Currently this includes:

Scottish Planning Policies and National Planning Policy Guidelines

Scottish Planning Policies (SPPs), which are gradually replacing National Planning Policy Guidelines (NPPGs), provide statements of government policy on nationally important land use matters. The most relevant include:

- SPP1 The Planning System (Revised November 2000) sets out the purpose and objectives of the planning system in Scotland and the contribution planning can make in achieving the wider objectives of the Scottish Executive. It updates the guidance on development plans and development control and addresses the quality of the Planning Service.
- Government policy on the treatment of unscheduled archaeological remains can be found in NPPG 5 on Archaeology and Planning, and an accompanying Planning Advice Note (PAN 42), Archaeology: the Planning Process and Scheduled Monument Procedures. These documents set out how archaeological remains and discoveries should be handled under the development control system. The primary policy objective is to preserve archaeological remains wherever feasible, and, where this proves not to be possible, to ensure their proper recording before destruction, and subsequent analysis and publication. Protection and management of unscheduled archaeological remains through the planning process is the responsibility of the local authority, advised by its own Archaeology Service. The care and management of unscheduled monuments is primarily the responsibility of owners.

Most of the important archaeological remains within the Site are unscheduled.

- NPPG 14 Natural Heritage (January 1999) sets out guidelines for protecting Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). This designation is defined in the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as areas of land or water which in the opinion of Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) are of special interest by reason of their flora, fauna or geological or physiographical features. There are two SSSIs within the Site (Castlehill and Calton Hill /Regent Gardens and Holyrood Park /Meadowfield Park) while the Duddingston Loch /Bawsinch SSSI is just outside the boundary. SNH has a statutory duty to notify and seek appropriate protection of such sites, which are identified in accordance with guidelines developed and applied on a UK wide basis (SNH is responsible for advising central and local government on all aspects of Scotland's natural heritage and was established by The Natural Heritage (Scotland) Act 1991).
- NPPG 18 Planning and the Historic Environment sets out government policy for how the planning system should take account of World Heritage Sites, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas. NPPG 18 states 'No additional statutory controls result from designation but a combination of a clear policy framework and comprehensive management plan should be established to assist in maintaining and enhancing the quality of these areas. The impact of proposed development upon a World Heritage Site will be a key material consideration in determining planning applications.'

Planning Advice Notes

Planning Advice Notes (PANs) provide advice on good practice. Those particularly relevant to protection and development include:

- PAN 42 Archaeology, the Planning Process and Scheduled Monument Procedures (Scottish Executive, January 1994) includes advice on the handling of archaeological matters within the planning process and on the separate controls over scheduled monuments under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.
- PAN 68 Design Statements (Scottish Executive 2001) focuses on design statements, and their relevance within the Planning System.
- PAN 71 Conservation Area Management (Scottish Executive, December 2004) sets out the Scottish Executive's expectations of the planning system to deliver high standards of design and quality.

Other National Policy Documents

In addition to the above, the following are important national documents concerning conservation best practice:

- Memorandum of Guidance on Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas (Historic Scotland 1998) sets out Scottish Ministers' policy on these matters, as directed by Scottish Office Development Department Circular No. 13/1998.
- British Standard No.7913: Guide to the Principles of the Conservation of Historic Buildings (British Standards Institute 1998).
- The Stirling Charter, Conserving Scotland's Built Heritage: Declaration of Historic Scotland's Conservation Philosophy (Historic Scotland 1999) sets out broad principles for the conservation of built heritage in Scotland.
- Passed to the Future (Historic Scotland 2002) sets out Historic Scotland's policy for the sustainable management of the historic environment.
- A Policy on Architecture for Scotland (Scottish Executive 2001) sets out the principles that underpin the Executive's commitment to the promotion of good architecture and good building design and the objectives and actions to achieve this.
- Designing Places: A Policy Statement for Scotland (Scottish Executive 2001) sets out the policy context for important areas of planning policy, professional practice, and education and training in relation to shaping the built environment.
- Creating Our Future: Minding Our Past, Scotland's National Cultural Strategy (Scottish Executive 2000) sets out a framework of action by the Scottish Executive for Scotland's cultural life, including heritage.
- A wide range of advice is issued by the Scottish Executive which includes Historic Scotland's Technical Advice Notes (TANs) and Practitioners' Guides. Of particular relevance to the Site is 'The Performance of Replacement Sandstone in the New Town of Edinburgh'.

Local Authority Policy Framework

The local policy framework consists of guidance produced at a local level and specifically for the needs of the Site and its surrounding areas. There is a statutory requirement to take account of particular guidance produced by the local authority, for example, development must have regard to the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Other guidance is non-statutory but can be a ‘material consideration’ in determining applications for planning permission or subsequent appeals.

Statutory Guidance

Planning decisions require to be based primarily on the Development Plan in force in any particular area. In Edinburgh, this currently consists of the Edinburgh and Lothians Structure Plan 2015, approved in 2004, and a number of local plans. Policy ENV 1 C: International and National Historic or Built Environment Designations of the Structure Plan states:

Development which would harm the character, appearance and setting of the following designated built or cultural heritage sites, and/or the specific features which justify their designation, should be resisted.

- World Heritage Sites.
- Listed Buildings.
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments.
- Royal Parks.
- Sites listed in the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes.

Local plans include policies relating to the above, and where appropriate proposals for their protection and enhancement.

The adopted Local Plan covering the city’s central areas, including the Site, is the Central Edinburgh Local Plan, 1997. A new Local Plan for the entire urban area of the city, the Edinburgh City Local Plan, is in preparation and in due course will replace all existing Local Plans, including the Central Edinburgh Local Plan.

The Management Plan in relationship to Key Policy Documents

Policies and proposals in Chapter Five of this Management Plan include many that address planning matters and development issues. They also include others that reflect or relate to other policy areas or functions of the local authority. Planning ‘policies’ in the Management Plan are consistent with the statutory planning position set out in the Council’s development plan, and with the Council’s non-statutory supplementary planning guidance currently in operation. It is not therefore proposed, nor considered necessary, that these also should be approved by the Council as supplementary planning guidance. Whilst the Plan contains a range of proposals drawn up to safeguard the Site from any threats to its Outstanding Universal Values, it also contains issues that lie outwith the planning remit. The inclusion of these policies in the Management Plan reflects the important advisory role of the EWH in relation to planning applications, and the consultative role that it will have as the new Local Plan is prepared. Every effort will be made to ensure continued consistency between the statutory and non-statutory position that the Council has adopted, or may decide to adopt in the future, and the position of the EWH in relation to its advisory role as set out in the Management Plan.

The level of detail contained in the Local Plan will not always cover the range of specific policies identified in the Management Plan. The policies contained in the Structure Plan, the Local Plan and the Management Plan should not be contradictory. For strategic planning purposes, where the Management Plan addresses planning issues, the Management Plan will be a material consideration. The aspirations of both documents are to safeguard the World Heritage Site and should coincide. The detailed policies and proposals set out in the Management Plan are therefore intended to rest within the more general policy objectives of the city plan.

Other key documents such as the Edinburgh City Centre Action Plan (prepared by the Edinburgh City Centre Management Company) should have a similar relationship with the Local Plan and should co-exist and co-support the Management Plan.

Non-Statutory Guidance

Non-statutory guidance dealing with policy matters, or providing more detailed guidance for individual sites and locations, supplements the statutory Development Plan. These tend to be more detailed in their approach than is appropriate for inclusion in a Local Plan. These may also be material considerations for the development control process.

Relevant documents include:

- Edinburgh World Heritage Site Conservation Manifesto (City of Edinburgh Council 1996) sets out the City of Edinburgh's commitment to conserving its World Heritage Site.
- The City of Edinburgh Council Development Quality Handbook (City of Edinburgh Council) sets out non-statutory planning policies that apply to details of development on the ground. These policies range from detailed guidance on new shop fronts to alterations and repairs to historic buildings. Edinburgh City Centre – The Way Forward (City of Edinburgh Council, May 2004).
- Edinburgh 2007, The City of Edinburgh Council's Corporate Plan 2003-2007 (City of Edinburgh Council 2003).
- A Vision for Edinburgh – A City Plan for the Next Five Years (City of Edinburgh Council 1999).
- Measuring Edinburgh's Performance – A Review of Progress on the City Plan (City of Edinburgh Council 2003).
- A Strategy and Action Plan for Edinburgh City Centre, April 2003 – March 2008 (ECCMC 2004).
- Edinburgh 2020: What do we want Edinburgh City region to be like in 20 years (City of Edinburgh Council 2003).
- Local Transport Strategy 2004-2007 (City of Edinburgh Council 2004).
- Managing Traffic in Central Edinburgh, 2000 (City of Edinburgh Council 2000).
- Draft Retail Strategy for the Edinburgh City Centre (City of Edinburgh Council 1999).
- Urban Nature Conservation Strategy (City of Edinburgh Council 1992).
- The Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan (City of Edinburgh Council March 2000).
- Edinburgh Streetscape Manual, ed. Colin J. Davis (City of Edinburgh Council 1995).
- The Tourism Action Plan 2004-2007 (City of Edinburgh Council 2004).

Urban Wildlife Sites

These are sites which have been identified in the City of Edinburgh Council's Urban Nature Conservation Strategy and are to be protected from potentially damaging development. There are two Urban Wildlife Sites within the Site: the Water of Leith and Calton Hill. As part of the Local Plan policies, the City of Edinburgh Council also promotes the enhancement of the amenity and recreational value of the Water of Leith.

Open Spaces

Within the Site, Castlehill, Princes Street Gardens, Calton Hill and Regent Gardens, all of the New Town Gardens and the Water of Leith are all designated as Open Spaces of Outstanding Landscape Quality where no development is to be allowed. George Square Gardens, the grounds of Donaldson's School, and Holyrood Park also have this designation though the latter is, at present, just outside the boundary.

Chapter 5

Challenges and Opportunities

Edinburgh is a thriving city and one of the UK's most desirable places to live, work or visit. It attracts millions of visitors each year, largely because of its distinctive historic character and its world famous festivals. Recent years have seen the arrival of high-quality shopping, culture and leisure developments.

Edinburgh's success is underpinned by the high quality of its urban environment. This has resulted from many years of enlightened care and control which has been recognised in the accolade of inscription on the World Heritage List. This designation is a source of pride for all the people of Edinburgh, and it offers the opportunity to build on past achievements in the World Heritage Site.

Every effort must be made to respond to the designation by ensuring that new development enhances or adds to the quality of the Site. The designation itself should facilitate the delivery of a higher quality of environment than would otherwise be achievable. However, it is recognised that the Outstanding Universal Values of the Site will, at times, be threatened by proposals that have a potentially adverse impact on the Site. All the partners of the Management Plan need to be alert to such threats.

This chapter identifies the risks to the Outstanding Universal Values of the Site together with the relevant policy measures which will not only mitigate the risks, but will further enhance the quality of the Site. These policy measures have been set out following an extensive public consultation with the whole community during the autumn of 2004.

LANDSCAPE SETTING

1. Setting and Views

The natural prominence of Castle Rock and Calton Hill, within the Site, and Arthur's Seat and Salisbury Crags, at its edge, will endure but it will be important to protect these assets from inappropriate developments and to protect the views to and from them. The views of the principal natural features are most likely to be threatened by buildings of an inappropriate scale which can interrupt distant as well as near views.

Public access can be damaging to these natural features if, for example, paths become eroded. Open public access to features exists but requires to be managed to avoid erosion and to ensure protection of the SSSIs. The opportunity should be taken to plan the conservation and management of these important features in such a way as to protect their geology and ecology, maintain public access and optimise them as viewpoints through good management and by providing good high-quality but discreet information.

The ridges and valleys are also key elements in the landscape but, unlike the volcanic hills, they have been urbanised over the centuries. The buildings on the Old Town ridge provide a memorable and distinctive skyline. The valleys contain a mix of development, the historic form of which has accentuated the topography.

The current boundary of the Site itself should be reviewed together with consideration of the need for, and extent of, a 'buffer zone' around the Site. A boundary which is drawn too tightly

around the Site and the lack of a buffer zone may compromise the adequate protection of the Site. A wider boundary can emphasise the distinctiveness of natural features such as Arthur's Seat and Salisbury Crags.

Risk	Policies
• The blocking of views into, out of, or within the Site by the intrusion of new development. • The degradation of the Site's landform by the intrusion of inappropriate new development.	1. To protect the Site's setting and the views into, out of, or within the Site. 2. To control inappropriate development by: Protecting the clear demarcation around the natural prominence of Castle Rock, Calton Hill, Arthur's Seat and Salisbury Crags and the views to and from these features. • Controlling the development of high buildings by ensuring that appropriate policies are in place. •Protecting the views of the Old Town ridge from being adversely affected by development. •Considering the need for revisions to the boundary of the World Heritage Site and the need for and extent of a buffer zone (as recommended by ICOMOS in 1995). 3. To put in place and implement proper maintenance and management plans for the key landscape features of the Site. 4. To encourage public access, particularly to viewpoints, in a way that safeguards the Site.

2. Juxtaposition of the Old Town and the New Town

The Waverley Valley provides the best appreciation of Castle Rock and the Old Town Ridge. It forms the heart of the Site, at Princes Street Gardens, by providing the dramatic separation between the Old Town and the New Town.

Risk	Policies
• The loss of the separating function and green character of the valley between the Old Town and the New Town. • New development in the valley, on its undeveloped slopes, or a loss of the green character of the valley.	5. To protect the separating role of Princes Street Gardens and the Waverley Valley. 6. To ensure that any development or redevelopment proposals in the Waverley Valley will enhance its character.

3. Valley of the Water of Leith

The valley of the Water of Leith offers both drama and tranquillity within walking distance of the city centre and acts as a walking and cycling link through the area. Threats to the valley arise mainly from development and from the risk of flooding. In addition, the proposed flood protection schemes can be seen as essential to protect homes and the environment but the design of walls, embankments and bridges requires to be sympathetic to the locality.

The valley of the Water of Leith also serves as a key wildlife corridor within the centre of the city.

Risk	Policies
• Loss of the green tranquillity of the valley of the Water of Leith. • Inappropriate development within the valley.	7. To ensure that development or redevelopment proposals in the valley of the Water of Leith respect the green setting of the valley and the traditional village scale and character of existing buildings. 8. To maintain the important natural habitats of the Valley to appropriate standards.

URBAN FORM AND ARCHITECTURE

4. Contrasting Character

The contrasting characteristics of the Site offer a range of experiences from the medieval Old Town through the formal geometry of the New Town and on to the old mill communities and grand establishments of Dean by the Water of Leith. To the north lies the elegance and discipline of the New Town, which set new standards in planning and architecture throughout the world.

The challenge in conserving the urban form is to safeguard the differences between, and the unity within, each of these areas.

Risk	Policies
• The erosion of the distinct characters of various areas of the Site by inappropriate or insensitive new development, redevelopment or adaptation.	9. To understand and protect the urban form and the distinct characters of the different areas of the Site.
• The use of a common architectural idiom for new development leading to the dilution of the particular character of individual areas.	10. To protect the coherent yet distinct characters of the historic planned Old Town and New Towns. 11. To ensure that development proposals respect and respond to their specific context.

5. Outstanding Townscape

A major challenge for the Site is to maintain its world-class townscape and plan through excellence in management and programmes of environmental improvement. The architecture of the Old Town and the New Town incorporates a unity and discipline in both buildings and streets which has been subject to detailed control over the centuries. Respect for this discipline should be demonstrated in the way new building is inserted into the framework of the existing townscape; on one hand respecting its scale and form while on the other producing contemporary architecture of the highest quality. The quality of the spaces between buildings presents another challenge. The city must strive for the standard which reflects the quality of the Site, both in the maintenance and in the enhancement of the public realm. One of the major challenges to the public realm is its ability to accommodate the varying demands that are imposed on a city centre by both traffic and pedestrians.

Risk	Policies
• Erosion of the quality of the existing townscape from intrusive elements, through insensitive or over large development (in or adjacent. to the Site), changes to historic street patterns and surfaces, and the introduction of inappropriate materials and street furniture. • The loss of planned vistas and views.	12. To pursue the highest architectural and urban design quality in new development by making appropriate development guidance available from the outset in line with Government policy as set out in NPPG 18 (Planning and the Historic Environment). 13. To protect planned vistas and encourage the creation of new vistas and views where this does not threaten existing townscape. 14. To protect and reinforce the historic street patterns and geometry.
• Increasing pressure to redevelop sections of the Site through real or perceived loss of economic performance or reduction in quality.	. 15. To promote a holistic and sustainable strategy towards redevelopment in the Site that explicitly acknowledges the benefits derived from the economic advantages of World Heritage Site status and the Site's historic environment. 16. To encourage new development of the highest quality and appropriate scale where suitable sites occur, or poor buildings become available for redevelopment.
• Loss of quality through inadequate planning controls or their poor application.	17. To continue to maintain due diligence in the application of planning control and enforcement procedure. 18. To monitor and update planning controls where necessary.

The erosion of Edinburgh's unique Sense of Place and outstanding townscape through: - loss of local materials - inappropriate intervention or poor maintenance of the public realm - the accretion of clutter and small-scale additions to the public realm.	19. To manage the streets of the Site in a way that respects, promotes and enhances its Outstanding Universal Values. 20. To encourage the availability and use of traditional materials. 21. To promote the retention or re-establishment of conservation skills. 22. To promote the recycling of traditional materials (especially those which may be in short supply or no longer obtainable). 23. To promote best practice in the design of environmental improvement and traffic management measures, consistent with the preservation of the Outstanding Universal Values of the Site. 24. To respect the existing palette of traditional materials in new work and in the maintenance of the existing historic fabric. 25. To reduce the proliferation of street signs and other street furniture (bus shelters, stops, parking meters, domestic waste bins, trade waste bins, traffic signs).
• Loss of quality of townscape through the impact of vehicular traffic and its management.	26. To reduce the adverse impact of parking in the Site. 27. To reduce vehicular traffic in the Site by promoting walking, cycling and public transport as the primary modes of access to and within the Site. 28. To support actions and initiatives that mitigate the negative impacts of vehicular traffic.
• Loss through fire or other disaster. • Loss of archaeological data through failure to investigate or record when opportunities arises.	29. To promote the application of current best practice in emergency or disaster planning. 30. To promote archaeological investigation and recording of the Site and remains as opportunities arise. 31. To encourage timely replacement /redevelopment in the event of loss.

6. Historic Buildings

Edinburgh has one of the greatest concentrations of listed buildings and is the most extensively designated city in the country. It also contains a significant number of outstanding contemporary buildings within a culturally vibrant, economically prosperous city. Designation has presented no impediment to economic success; indeed Edinburgh has thrived both architecturally and economically under a planning regime which has tightly controlled development for several centuries.

It is hard to conceive of a situation where the loss of an iconic, historic building, such as the Tron Kirk, would be contemplated. However, there may be particular circumstances where demolition of all, or part, of a building or group of buildings of lesser quality may be justified. There are some buildings which detract from the character of the city, and where an existing building may detract from the site or where once worthwhile buildings have become irretrievably damaged by structural instability, fire or some other incident, demolition may be accepted. Along with existing gap sites these present opportunities for enhancement of the site through the design and construction of outstanding contemporary buildings.

The demand for the repair of historic buildings and the creation of new buildings will generate the need for a continuing supply of local materials and craftsmanship to maintain the key value of authenticity within the Site. The use of inappropriate replacement stone can have a negative impact on buildings. The difficult issue of where to source relevant matching material remains for practitioners, and a major revival of the Scottish stone industry may be required if the issue is to be effectively addressed. Advice on where to obtain matching materials is available from EWH and the British Geological Survey.

Today's society sets exacting safety standards for the protection of buildings and their occupants from fire, whilst property owners are also being encouraged to meet improved standards in energy conservation and access. Greater demands are also being placed on key public buildings and public realm spaces to meet security needs. Careful consideration must be given to such issues before determining whether upgrading is desirable. Historic buildings often possess features, such as internal shuttered windows, which contribute to security and energy efficiency, and make a useful contribution to their performance. Where upgrading is necessary, methods should be employed which raise performance to an acceptable level and in a manner which is sympathetic to the historic fabric and character of buildings and spaces.

Risk	Policies
• Redundancy of buildings due to lack of a suitable use.	32. To encourage adaptation or re-use of vacant historic buildings in preference to redevelopment.
	33. To encourage the good maintenance of unoccupied buildings.

• Loss of quality and authenticity due to: - weathering and decay - wear and tear - insufficient or poorly considered 'improvements' or repairs - use of inappropriate replacement stone or slate in repairs to historic buildings - shortage of suitable materials for the repair of historic fabric.	34. To protect historic buildings within the Site by: - Promoting appropriate maintenance for buildings. - Encouraging well-informed repair work carried out with the appropriate materials and to a high standard of craftsmanship using the correct stone. - Ensuring that any improvement or adaptation receives the appropriate statutory approvals and is carried out correctly. 35. To encourage the restoration of buildings or building features only on the basis of historical evidence. Proposals for restoration or other intervention will be assessed on their merit and with reference to the Nara document on Authenticity (ICOMOS 1994).

7. Interiors

Many of the buildings in the Site have been in constant use for over 200 years. Where use has changed, the accommodation provided by the buildings has proved sufficiently flexible – usually without adversely impacting on character.

The challenge is to maintain the continued use or re-use of buildings, meeting the standards of modern living and sustaining their economic viability whilst protecting their significant features.

Risk	Policies
• Loss through: - unauthorised or inappropriate improvement or removal of historic features - poor or insufficient maintenance.	36. To protect the historic interiors of buildings within the Site.

8. Statues and Monuments

The statues and monuments in Edinburgh add to the richness of the external environment in most cases contributing to the townscape in a deliberate and positive manner. The encouragement of new pieces of public art following the tradition of the city may be regarded as part of the developing story of the Site. Current pieces should be well maintained and presented

in a meaningful way so that they continue to have a relevance to the city and its residents and visitors.

Risk	Policies
• Erosion due to insufficient or inappropriate care and maintenance. • The deterioration or undermining of the setting of statues and monuments through inappropriate development in the vicinity.	37. To maintain, respect and interpret statues and monuments in place and in their appropriate setting.
• Statues and monuments becoming less relevant to modern culture.	38. To continue the tradition of producing statues and monuments as well as new art and sculpture which take account of their setting.

9. Parks, Gardens and Graveyards

Maintenance of the green environment and its historic character is an important part of the Plan. Many of the public and privately managed gardens and historic graveyards are recorded and described in the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes, volume 5 and supplementary volume 1. These spaces must be managed in a way that enhances their environmental quality, character and public appreciation.

Risk	Policies
• Erosion of open spaces by the introduction of inappropriate uses or by the loss of appropriate uses.	39. To maintain a strong presumption in favour of retaining the present quiet reflective character of gardens and churchyards within the Site.
	40. To facilitate, where appropriate, the greater public use of gardens
	41. The physical enclosure of gardens and similar open spaces should be maintained or, where lost, reinstated.
• Insufficient or inappropriate maintenance.	42. To promote appropriate maintenance regimes in the public open space, parks and burial grounds, shared gardens of the New Town and the Old Town green spaces.
• Insufficient understanding of historic development	43. To promote the Princes Street Gardens Conservation Plan

appropriate plant species and management regimes leading to a loss of authentic character.	Plan.

HISTORY AND HERITAGE

10. Historic City and Royal Ancient Capital of Scotland

The designation by UNESCO of the city centre of Edinburgh relies on its history and cultural heritage expressed through its landscape, architecture and people. It has always been a dynamic city and the sustainability of its World Heritage status is dependent on a balance between continuity and change, taking the past forward together with the present and future. Major institutions, local businesses, property owners, community groups, residents and individuals all have a role to play. The historic record inherent in the site must not be lost and needs to be made more accessible to raise the level of knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the importance of the designation.

Risk	Policies
• Loss of civic and institutional functions, uses and traditions that relate to Edinburgh's role as Scotland's capital.	44.To support the retention of the traditional institutional and civic functions located within the city centre.
• Loss or erosion of the historic record as expressed in the archaeological remains and historic fabric of the Site.	45. To promote and publicise the historic associations, e.g. the recognition and interpretation of 'standing' archaeology.
	46. To preserve in situ, or, failing this, record, archaeological remains.
	47. To undertake proper evaluation of potential sites of archaeological remains.

11. Communities

The different communities which live and work within the Site reflect the complexity of the economic and social activities in the city centre. It is a fine example of an ancient city in a modern society which has retained its residential vitality. It is the seat of government in Scotland and the home of the Scottish Parliament. The economic base is underpinned by the strengths of the financial services sector, the legal, educational and medical professions, the arts community, the church, the political world, the media and the commercial sector. The city centre has been a tourist destination since the middle of the nineteenth century. This popularity in itself creates a management challenge for the Site. Many areas of the Site are densely populated, to the advantage of maintaining a vibrant, living city centre.

Risk	Policies
• Migration of traditional uses, institutions and communities from the Site.	48. To retain key institutions and professions within the Site.
	49. To support sustainable residential communities within the Site and support the provision of affordable housing in line with City of Edinburgh Council policy and where other opportunities occur.
	50. To promote the involvement of different communities in the management of the Site.
• The failure to accommodate new uses reflecting the needs of contemporary society.	51. To understand the implications of these pressures and whether and how these may be met.
• Pressures for redevelopment from the need to compete in a global market.	

12. Seat of Learning, Education and Law

It was said of the Enlightenment years of the eighteenth century that ‘a man could stand by the Mercat Cross and in a few minutes, take fifty men of genius by the hand’. ‘Enlightenment Edinburgh’ was largely pre-New Town: created in the mile between the Castle and Holyrood and in the numerous closes and wynds. In modern times the Site retains that essence of ‘propinquity’ which makes it a city of ‘close encounters’.

Risk	Policies
• Loss or erosion of the historic fabric associated with people of world recognition	53. To identify and protect the historic fabric associated with persons of world recognition
• Loss of memory and common understanding of the intangible values associated with historical figures, communities and events.	54. To enhance knowledge and awareness by education and outreach policies.

13. Edinburgh – Festival City

Edinburgh's various Festivals are an extremely important aspect of the city's culture. However, the pressure on the physical capacity of the Site at Festival times is immense. It is recognised that the rewards for successfully managing such great events are significant as is their contribution to sustaining the viability and vitality of the city. The challenge is therefore to maintain a harmonious balance between the needs of the city's Festivals and its other communities.

Risk	Policies
• Loss of Festivals.	55. To seek to retain and maintain the Festivals within the city centre.
• Exceeding the carrying capacity of all or part of the Site due to over-intensification of use.	56. To encourage policies that spread use to under-used areas of the city centre.

Chapter Six

Promotion and Appreciation

This chapter sets out the opportunities to encourage everyone to appreciate the World Heritage Site, to learn about it, enjoy it and participate in it. This applies not just to those who are fortunate enough to live within the World Heritage Site, but to all the people of Edinburgh and visitors too. Encouraging appreciation of our heritage in this way can add value to and enrich everyone's lives and is the best way to secure long-term support in protecting the World Heritage Site for future generations. We want to build awareness of the value of Edinburgh's heritage and the issues that surround it and to create the broadest possible involvement in the management of the Site.

OBLIGATIONS OF THE WORLD HERITAGE SITE CONVENTION

Promoting appreciation of the World Heritage is a requirement under the World Heritage Convention. Article 27 of the World Heritage Convention states:

1. The State Parties to this Convention shall endeavour by all appropriate means, and in particular by educational and information programmes, to strengthen appreciation and respect

by their peoples of the cultural and natural heritage defined in Article 1 and Article 2 of the Convention.

2. They shall undertake to keep the public broadly informed of the dangers threatening this heritage and of the activities carried on in pursuance of this.

Recent research (University of Lancaster) has indicated a relatively low level of awareness of World Heritage issues in the UK. A key issue, therefore, is to communicate the Site's values to residents, visitors and other users and thereby to engender an understanding and appreciation of its characteristics, value and importance, in cultural, economic and social terms.

The following objectives have been identified as being of primary importance for promoting an understanding of the Site:

• To engender a sense of custodianship for World Heritage in general and the Site in
• To increase the appreciation of the rich history of the Site, its Outstanding Universal Values and its environmental quality by promotion, research, intellectual access and education.
• To maintain archives and collections relating to the World Heritage in the best possible condition, and promote effective and convenient access to archival information.
• To collect and make available statistics and archival information.
• To increase the appreciation of the economic advantages of the Site and its conservation.
• To improve the understanding of best technical practice of conservation of the Site.

Appreciation

The Outstanding Universal Values of the Site, and the histories and uses that are illustrated in its physical fabric, form part of the cultural heritage of mankind as a whole and are therefore of outstanding interest and importance. It is both highly desirable, and a duty of inscription, to promote an appreciation of these values among specialists and the general public alike.

A strategy is needed whose primary objective is to promote an understanding and appreciation of World Heritage and the World Heritage Site by placing accurate and timely information targeted at the needs of all with an interest in the Site. In order to have the greatest effect, this information should be focused on the particular needs of different audiences. A 'scattergun' approach risks wasting resources and having little tangible effect. Particular audiences should include:

- local residents;
- local commercial and other businesses;
- schools and school pupils;
- researchers and academics;
- visitors;
- local property professionals;
- the media;

- local and central government;
- other special interest groups.

Knowledge and Sources of Information

Knowledge of the Site and its past will be at the heart of the outreach strategy. In order to deliver this knowledge it needs to draw upon sources of information and these must aim to meet the needs of the user. The Site is large and has a long and complex history. However, Edinburgh is fortunate in that its history and development have been well documented and future understanding can draw upon many rich primary sources of information. These include:

- National Monuments Record.
- Dean of Guild Court Archives.
- Edinburgh Room in the Central Library.
- National Library of Scotland.
- The Buildings of Scotland Trust.

The following surveys also provide valuable information.

- Old Town Survey, 1984.
- Site Streetscape Survey, 1999.
- The New Town Survey, 1991.
- Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes, 1987.

KEY AGENCIES

Various parties are involved in promoting the Site and delivering information. The roles of the major players are outlined below.

Edinburgh World Heritage Trust

The Trust seeks to raise public awareness and pride in the outstanding qualities of the Site by:

- increasing appreciation of the Site and its cultural and economic benefits;
- increasing the amount of information available and facilitating access by a wider audience, particularly online;
- developing educational and public awareness programmes.

The Trust sees a distinct role for itself as an initiator, co-ordinator and enabler but will be working with other key providers, as described below.

City of Edinburgh Council

The City of Edinburgh Council is involved in promoting the Site in a variety of ways. Its policy objectives are encapsulated in its Towards the New Enlightenment cultural policy statement published in 1999 which has, as one of its cultural objectives, the preservation and interpretation of Edinburgh's heritage. It states:

Edinburgh has an important built and natural heritage. The Old and New Town areas of the city have been designated as a United Nations World Heritage Site. Working with others, the Council believes it is important to foster the public interest in the city's heritage. This will be achieved through:

- Preserving and enhancing the city's built heritage;
- Arranging exhibitions on aspects of the city's Site;
- Carrying out archaeological and social Site research;
- Developing close links between the city's schools and its museums and galleries;
- Maintaining and encouraging the enjoyment of the city's natural heritage of parks and open spaces;
- Interpreting the city's architectural and historical background and identifying ways of making it more accessible to the public;
- Collecting and preserving artefacts relating to the city's heritage.

The roles of various departments within the Council are as follows:

City Development

The City Development Department contains the Planning function of the local authority and is the Department with key responsibility for World Heritage issues. It published the World Heritage Manifesto in 1999. The objective of the Manifesto is to assist in preserving the historic fabric of Edinburgh's World Heritage Site and to ensure that changes complement and enhance its special character. The Department also regards the World Heritage status of the Site as a material consideration when considering applications for planning permission and listed building consent.

Promotional activities have included the installation of the World Heritage plaque and the establishment of a World Heritage website. The Department is also represented on the Local Authority World Heritage Forum and the Organisation of World Heritage Cities.

Culture and Leisure

The Culture and Leisure Department is responsible for the management of the parks, museums, galleries and libraries that are the responsibility of the City of Edinburgh Council. The Department is responsible for parks, including the management and maintenance of public open space and the public tree stock.

The Department's responsibilities in the case of museums, galleries and the like, extend not only to the collections but also to the buildings that house them, often important historical items

in their own right. The Department is also responsible for many of the monuments, statues and graveyards (together with Environmental and Consumer Services) within the Site that are in the ownership of the Council. The Department, therefore, has a dual role of conserver and educator.

The Department's portfolio includes many historically important buildings. It actively seeks to make these accessible to the public and to interpret them to improve understanding. In addition, the Department organises guided walks to many of the important monuments in its care and makes details of many monuments available on the internet through the Scottish Cultural Resources Access Network (SCRAN) http://www.scran.ac.uk.

The Museums and Arts Department has a Learning and Access Manager who is responsible for promoting an understanding of the significance of various museum collections and aspects of the World Heritage Site. The City Museums work to promote the cultural heritage by a variety of programmes, including exhibitions, poetry events, drama, workshops and special events.

The City Libraries promote the use of the Edinburgh Room and also arrange exhibitions in libraries throughout the city.

The Department also contains the archaeological service for the Council. Its remit is to provide archaeological advice for planning, heritage project management and archaeological conservation.

Corporate Services

The Department of Corporate Services is responsible for the City Archive, which contains many important historical records and an outstanding collection of original architectural drawings of buildings in the area dating back at least to the eighteenth century. The City Archivist provides a public enquiry service.

Education

The City of Edinburgh Council has a statutory responsibility for formal education in schools and nurseries and to ensure that the curriculum is delivered effectively and appropriately for young learners up to the age of 18 years. This includes adherence to the 5-14 curriculum guidelines, a key priority for any education programme. The City of Edinburgh Council's Education Department has developed a project on Edinburgh's Old Town as part of its Primary School curriculum.

The City of Edinburgh Council's involvement in informal education includes responsibility for funding and liaison with after-school clubs, museums, galleries, visitor attractions, arts organisations and festivals. It delivers an ongoing programme of educational activity in venues all over the City from the City Arts Centre to Lauriston Castle; to environmental education at the Water of Leith visitor centre; to informal education for learners of all ages in libraries and in unusual locations including Mary King's Close.

Historic Scotland

Historic Scotland has a large educational resource covering the whole of Scotland with one of its key objectives being to share the benefits of the historic environment with all the people of Scotland. Its activities, which are delivered in conjunction with a wide range of providers, include

the delivery of information, seminars and publications for a range of audiences. Historic Scotland's Technical Advice Notes (TANs) are a widely used and valuable resource for practitioners.

Edinburgh Castle, which is in the care of Historic Scotland, is perhaps the most prominent building in the World Heritage Site, with a very significant site. The Castle has an Education Unit, led by an Education Manager, which provides a wide-ranging education programme for all age groups. There are also three dedicated education spaces at the Castle two in the old vaulted prisons on the 'Devil's Elbow' and a new facility situated in the redeveloped Queen Ann Building opened in March 2004. The Education Unit works in partnership with other bodies such as Careers Scotland, the University of Edinburgh, the Council for Scottish Archaeology, the Scottish Storytelling Centre and the Scottish Adult Learning Partnership, to provide educational events and activities for a wide range of learners of all ages, abilities and backgrounds

Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS)

The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland is the national body of survey and record of the historic environment. It is responsible for the survey of all aspects of the historic environment, archaeology and architecture from the earliest times to the present day. One of its aims is to participate in an increasing number and range of outreach activities designed to inform the public about its work and encouraging the use of its resources. An Education Officer was appointed in 2003/4 whose role is to promote accessibility to the skills and practices of RCAHMS and the resource of its archive and database.

Higher Education

Edinburgh is fortunate to have a number of higher education institutions. Some, like the University of Edinburgh, have a considerable presence within the Site, making them important property owners in addition to their contribution to providing information about the Site.

Large numbers of students use the World Heritage Site as an educational resource. Many visit the City in organised groups each year, swelling the ranks of those already attending educational establishments based in the city. The city is also well-equipped with educational facilities provided by various public-access institutions, such as the National Library, the National Map Library and the National Monuments Record.

VisitScotland and the Edinburgh and Lothians Tourist Board

VisitScotland, along with the Edinburgh and Lothians Tourist Board, is responsible for marketing Edinburgh and its environs to visitors and the tourist industry. The Site is reflected in its promotions through key themes such as the city's site and heritage, majestic architecture, the townscape of the Old Town and the New Town.

The Board recognises the importance of the Site and is currently undertaking a brand development project that will draw upon the historical and contemporary relevance of the Site to present a clear marketing image of Edinburgh to visitors, investors, residents and other important audiences.

National Trust for Scotland

The National Trust for Scotland is a non-governmental body with a dedicated education department and aims to make all the Trust's resources, properties, staff and expertise available for education.

Like Historic Scotland, the National Trust for Scotland has a nationwide role bringing a broad range of events to the public. These events are usually focused on particular Trust properties, of which there are several in the Site including the Georgian House and Gladstone's Land. Events and programmes embrace many activities and subjects and may employ 'live interpreters' and actors to bring history to life. The focus on conservation through education is evidenced by a range of National Trust for Scotland conservation projects involving students and by its adult volunteer programme.

At its properties the National Trust for Scotland offers a range of educational resources designed to be relevant and appropriate to particular audiences. In this way, the resources are designed to meet the needs of the target visitor group.

Chapter Seven

Implementation

The Management Plan is not an end in itself. Effective implementation is necessary if it is to achieve its vision, aims and objectives. Whilst the Plan will provide the focus, and is a potent tool, its implementation will require the concerted effort and continued commitment of all the organisations and individuals concerned.

It is essential that senior executives and political figures within the City of Edinburgh Council and other relevant organisations and agencies are fully aware of and committed to the Plan. Delivery of the objectives set out in Chapters Five and Six depends on stakeholders across the Site making a commitment to action. Therefore, the Plan's success will be dependent upon careful co-ordination of partner organisations to ensure that collective effort is possible and resources are used to best effect.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The key components of the implementation strategy are:

- review of the Management Plan every five years;
- the World Heritage Site Action Plan, which translates the principles and policies of the Management Plan into practical actions;
- co-ordination of projects, initiatives and funding;
- annual review of the Action Plan;
- annual and periodic monitoring of the state of conservation of the Site.

Mechanisms

The following mechanisms will be established:

- A World Heritage Site Partnership Group will support, enable and implement at the highest level. This will comprise the Chief Executives and Chairpersons of key stakeholder organisations. This group will meet annually.
- A World Heritage Site Steering Group will be responsible for co-ordinating and delivering the activities necessary to implement the plan. This group will comprise relevant senior staff drawn from partner organisations. This group will meet quarterly.
- Working Groups will be established as necessary to facilitate implementation of specific themes or projects within the Action Plan. Where appropriate, existing groups may be asked to take forward projects. These groups will comprise individuals or representatives of organisations involved in or affected by initiatives. Examples might include research; provision of interpretation; promotion and outreach; or an environmental improvement project.
- A World Heritage Site Co-ordinator employed by Edinburgh World Heritage will be responsible for implementing the Management and Action Plans and either actioning or co-ordinating initiatives contained in them. Responsibilities will include planning the implementation of the Action Plan; initiating and managing projects recommended in the Plan; and liaising with key stakeholders and the local communities.

The World Heritage Site Co-ordinator will also be responsible for compiling and updating annual action programmes drawn from the Action Plan. These will identify short-term targets and require close liaison with partner agencies.

Resources

Some of the principles and actions contained in the Management and Action Plan do not depend on the availability of resources. Their function is to guide those considering undertaking work in the Site and to encourage them to ensure that policies and actions are carried out in a way which protects and enhances the Site's Outstanding Universal Values.

Some of the proposals and actions will require a new way of working and prioritising existing staff and time resource. Many initiatives will be resourced by harnessing funding available through existing budgets. Others will depend on the availability of new sources of funding. For these projects, the process of identifying need and potential sources of funding will form part of the ongoing implementation process.

Partnership Working

The major share of responsibility for enabling implementation will rest with Edinburgh World Heritage, the City of Edinburgh Council and Historic Scotland.

However, few tasks can be successfully carried out without effective collaboration with a variety of other organisations that make significant contributions to the Site. These organisations include Scottish Enterprise Edinburgh and Lothians, the City Centre Management Company, the Scottish Civic Trust, the Royal Commission for Historic and Ancient Monuments, Scottish Natural Heritage, the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland, the Cockburn Association, Architecture and Design Scotland, the National Trust for Scotland, the University of Edinburgh and the Edinburgh and Lothians Tourist Board.

Community Involvement

The local community's involvement is fundamental. A number of Community Councils and community groups, resident and street associations and individuals already participate actively in the management and maintenance of the Site. These groups and individuals (including residents, businesses, commuters and visitors) have the potential to contribute to the successful implementation of the Management Plan. Their positive involvement is considered essential to the future of the World Heritage Site. As a great deal of the Site is in private ownership, this factor and the valuable contribution of residents at a local level is clearly recognised as a strength which should be optimised. Implementation will include consideration of the best methods of communication and engagement.

Responsible Organisations and Agencies

The main organisations and agencies with responsibilities for the management of the Site are described below.

Edinburgh World Heritage

In 1999 Historic Scotland and the City of Edinburgh Council established the Edinburgh World Heritage Trust by facilitating the merger of the Edinburgh New Town Conservation Committee and the Edinburgh Old Town Renewal Trust. Edinburgh Word Heritage (as it is now called) is a company limited by guarantee with a Board of Directors and is funded by Historic Scotland and the City of Edinburgh Council. Membership is limited to Directors and representatives nominated by residents' associations within the Site. From its offices at 5 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, it focuses on championing the management, protection and enhancement of the Site (Appendix IV lists the Trust's board members and staff).

The aims of Edinburgh World Heritage are to:

- Champion and represent the World Heritage Site and to monitor its state of conservation as required by UNESCO.
- Co-ordinate action, through the Management Plan, to protect and enhance the outstanding universal values of the World Heritage Site and to promote its harmonious adaptation to the needs of contemporary life.
- Conserve and enhance the historic fabric and historic environment of the World Heritage Site through a programme of financial assistance.
- Be exemplars in the field of conservation by developing and sharing specialist knowledge, setting standards for quality of workmanship, providing advice, promoting research and facilitating the conservation work of individuals and organizations.
- Build awareness of the World Heritage Site and to engender a sense of custodianship and secure long-term support by promoting enjoyment, understanding and appreciation of its value and significance.

City of Edinburgh Council

The City of Edinburgh Council has many important roles in the management of the Site. It is the Planning Authority and therefore sets the planning framework that governs the Site. It is also the

Highway Authority and has responsibility for many caretaking functions such as refuse collection and cleansing. In addition the City Council is a major land and property owner within the Site with an extensive residential and commercial portfolio.

Historic Scotland

Historic Scotland is an Executive Agency within the Scottish Executive. It is accountable directly to the Scottish Ministers and is charged by them with responsibility for safeguarding the historic environment and promoting its understanding and enjoyment. The Agency provides policy advice and support to Scottish Ministers on all matters affecting the historic environment.

The key statutory powers in relation to the conservation and protection of the city's heritage assets reside with City of Edinburgh Council and Historic Scotland, acting on behalf of the Scottish Ministers. Any works which will affect the character of A or B listed buildings require listed building consent, a two stage process involving the local authority and Historic Scotland acting for the Scottish Ministers. C(S) listed buildings are delegated to local authorities in respect of alterations, but not demolition. In addition, buildings in the Conservation Area (the entire site is covered by various Conservation Areas) proposed for demolition require Conservation Area Consent. Under the General Development Procedure Order (GDPO) any development which affects an A-listed building or its setting must be notified to the Scottish Ministers, who may decide to call in any such application for their own decision.

Historic Scotland also has responsibility for scheduling and associated consent procedures that are available to Scottish Ministers, as well as powers in relation to conservation areas, designed landscapes and wrecks. Other areas of work include the management, conservation and presentation of the 330 monuments in the care of Scottish Ministers and, through Crown ownership, playing an important role in the conservation, management and maintenance of key buildings in the Site such as Edinburgh Castle and the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

Edinburgh City Centre Management Company

The Edinburgh City Centre Management Company (ECCMC) was established in 1999 as a 'sister organisation' to Edinburgh World Heritage. It is a private sector-led partnership which works closely with the city centre business community and public sector agencies 'to promote and facilitate the development and improvement of Edinburgh city centre to create conditions for business to prosper and for citizens and visitors to enjoy' (A Strategy and Action Plan for Edinburgh City Centre April 2003-March 2008). Whilst the ECCMC seeks primarily to promote the economic success of the city centre, it recognises the importance of the historic built environment. There are clearly similarities and potential synergy between the objectives of EWH and ECCMC, and both organisations are committed to developing effective ways of working together.

Scottish Enterprise Edinburgh and Lothian

Scottish Enterprise Edinburgh and Lothian (SEEL) is the local branch of Scottish Enterprise, the main economic development agency for Scotland. With its role of working in partnership with the private and public sectors, SEEL recognises the importance of the Site in supporting the long-term success of the local economy. SEEL also plays an important role in supporting public realm improvements to:

- enhance the quality of the visitor/tourist experience by creating a pleasant and comfortable environment for public interaction;
- provide a more sustainable city centre and a safer pedestrian environment by achieving a better balance among vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians.

MONITORING AND PERIODIC REVIEW

One of the responsibilities of inscription upon the UNESCO World Heritage List is monitoring each site's state of conservation. This includes both periodic monitoring according to UNESCO's timetable and regular monitoring of key indicators identified for each site and carried out more frequently (systematic monitoring).

Periodic reports are prepared every six years. They contain statements of how the State Party fulfils its obligations under the Convention and give detailed information for each World Heritage Site inscribed on the List. The next report on Edinburgh is due to be presented to the World Heritage Committee in 2006 as part of the report on North American and European World Heritage Sites.

Systematic monitoring reflects the guidance offered in the Operational Guidelines, that it '... is necessary that every year the condition of the property be recorded by the Site manager or the agency with management authority'.

Edinburgh World Heritage monitors the Site, and publishes an annual report on findings, in order to:

- Identify how, if at all, the Site is changing by using a series of indicators;
- Assess the effectiveness of management and planning measures in protecting the significant qualities of the Site such as the setting, townscape and historic fabric of the Site;
- Measure the progress of initiatives to enhance the Site.

The indicators used are shown in Appendix VII.

Appendices

Appendix I

Justification for Inclusion in the World Heritage List

(extract from Nomination Document)

d. Justification for inclusion in World Heritage List

a) General

Edinburgh is a great city. Its architecture and its historical importance set it apart from most other cities of the world. Partly, this greatness – this uniqueness – is a consequence of its historic existence as a significant European capital from the Renaissance period, but there are other reasons. From an early date the city saw itself as great, and whenever this status seemed threatened, Edinburgh responded in grand manner. Although in 1603 Edinburgh lost its royal presence, the decades immediately following witnessed a consolidation of the national architectural tradition – a fact illustrated most forcibly by Heriot's Hospital (1628), which resembles a royal palace rather than the school it was built to be. In 1707 Scotland lost its parliament. After a consequential period of decline and political instability, the city began a spectacular programme of civic expansion: driven by a desire for national prestige, and yet international in character. What should have been set-backs were turned, paradoxically, to bring out a staggeringly brilliant and exciting response. And then much later, when in the 1860s parts

of the Old Town had degenerated into slums, the civic response was a pioneering one for its time: and again, prestigious architecture of national stature was to result from their action.

The particular nature of Edinburgh's duality is unusual: on the one hand, on a high ridge, is the ancient Old Town, while in contrast, and set apart on a fresh site, the 18th century New Town; the former on its spectacular site, the skyline punched through by the castle, the soaring neo-gothic spire of Highland Tolbooth St John's and the robust, nationally-symbolic Imperial crown spire of St Giles; a feast of ancient architecture, looking down on the New Town, which in contrast is a calm sea of ordered classicism, the whole framed and articulated by neo-classical buildings of world-class distinction.

Scotland is associated with many things: one of the greatest of these is the intellectual tradition, which her scholars carried abroad. (For instance, between 1411 and 1560 the University of Paris had 17 rectors who were Scots.) The importance of the role which Scotland had on the European stage is well recognised. But this can be focused yet further, for Edinburgh holds a key role in this tradition, in that this city was for a time the centre of the Scottish Enlightenment, that period during which such enormous intellectual advances were made. This is the same city which these philosophers and others of this 'Hotbed of Genius' helped to create: having a respect for the old (to the extent that revived 'Old Scots' architecture is seen throughout much of the Old Town), while simultaneously pioneering the new, with sometimes astonishing new ideas worked through at the Scott Monument, the Royal High School and many others, consciously contributing to the collective idea of city as monument.

Scotland's re-assertions of Edinburgh's status led at last to its role as capital being re-assessed; in the 1880s, when a Scottish Office was established. From the 1930s the country was – indeed, still is – administered from St Andrew's House, one of the finest and largest buildings of its period, dramatically sited near a cliff-top, as if in response to the castle which is set diagonally opposite. Culture, to a degree, was nationalised and firmly centred in Edinburgh, with the creation of institutions such as the National Library: all emphasising the validity of Edinburgh's claim to be called national capital.

In its own right, the interest of the Old Town is substantial. It contains two of King David I's new-planned 12th century burghs – Edinburgh (founded c.l125), and the once-separate burgh of Canongate (founded c.1140). It also contains two early royal palaces (one within the spectacular castle), a medieval abbey and a wealth of early buildings. The national tradition of building tall reached its climax in Edinburgh with tenements which were surely the world's tallest domestic buildings of their age – and some of which are still to be seen. This tradition was powerfully re-invigorated in the nineteenth century by the city itself, whose Improvement Act tenements are important for their sociological interest as well as for their architectural quality. So also are the buildings which were the subject of Patrick Geddes's pioneering experiments in town planning: early tenements re-vitalised for new and socially-sensitive uses, and the results of his experiments are still there to see. The New Town is important for principally two reasons; its having an uncommonly high concentration of world-class neo-classical buildings, and for the amazing size of area covered by classical, ashlar-faced architecture, all consistent to a degree without parallel; and perhaps crucially – all now surviving remarkably intact.

b) Religion

Edinburgh is the headquarters of the Church of Scotland. Missionaries from the Church of Scotland have had a worldwide influence. In the New Town, within St Andrew's Church, took place the Disruption in 1843, leading to the establishment of the Free Kirk of Scotland, largely reunited with the Church of Scotland in 1929.

c) 18th century planning

Edinburgh exerted great influence on the development of urban architecture through the development of the New Town: first, the plan of the New Town became highly influential throughout the rest of Scotland in the way it separated the uses and classes that had so mingled in the Old Town. Of comparable importance, the particular influence of Robert Adam at Charlotte Square was to show how grandeur could be imposed upon an otherwise plainly orthodox row of terraced houses, so as to raise rationalist urban design to a new pitch.

d) Neo-classicism: Edinburgh's international links

Scotland has a long tradition of classicism, and also of maintaining close cultural and political links with mainland Europe. The last-mentioned has been noted above with respect to scholarship, but applies also in the field of architecture, where the integration of Scots with other cultures is clearly seen both visually and through documentary references. Links with Italy and with France were particularly significant. For instance, documentation identifies European architects and masons such as John Morrow, 'born in Parysse' [Paris], active in Scotland in the 15th century; French master masons were involved in the royal works of King James V, most notably in the 1530s, perhaps including Holyrood, while at the end of the 16th century, William Schaw, King's master of works, had visited the royal palaces of Denmark, and had been to France and other countries. Besides the French links, this Europeanism is seen in the Italian influence of the late 16th century, but also much earlier in the works of King James IV, notably at his great hall (within Edinburgh Castle), where Italianate Renaissance corbels dating from the early 16th century are still seen. While in the early 17th century there is no evidence of Sir James Murray of Kilbaberton, architect of the Parliament House, or William Wallace, master mason of Heriot's Hospital, having travelled abroad, Murray's partner, Anthony Alexander, is known to have travelled in Europe. The generally Danish or Scandinavian architecture with which the last three are associated may owe its origins to the developing Scots links with these countries, while Edinburgh's Tron Kirk of 1636, by John Mylne, demonstrates a sensitive appreciation of Dutch ecclesiastical architecture. Sir William Bruce, architect of Holyroodhouse, was certainly in Holland in 1659-60 and may have included France in his travels of 1663 as his associate Alexander Edward certainly did in 1701-02. James Smith, architect of the Canongate Kirk, studied in Rome, apparently in 1671-75. Even although his studies were at first for the priesthood (as initially were those of the London-Scot, James Gibbs from 1703) he set the precedent for Edinburgh's subsequent neo-classicists.

It is known that William Adam never travelled further beyond Scotland than to England. Nevertheless he appears to have had direct or indirect correspondence with the architect Earl of Mar in his Paris exile, from whence the Earl outlined the concept of the First New Town in 1728 for George Drummond, John Adam and James Craig to follow. The central pavilion of William Adam's Infirmary, regrettably demolished in 1879, echoed that of Soufflot's exactly contemporary Hotel Dieu at Lyon to a degree which is unlikely to have been wholly coincidental, while the basic concept of John Adam's Exchange (now the City Chambers) was essentially French even if the detail was Gibbsian.

From 1750 a will to study in Rome, even at some personal hardship as in the case of the Mylnes, was marked. The first to go was Sir William Chambers, architect of the Dundas Mansion (now the Royal Bank). Although born in Sweden, educated in England, and ultimately London-based, he was descended from old Aberdeenshire landed families. He made three journeys to China in the 1740s, studied under J F Blondel in Paris in 1749 and spent the years 1750-55 in Rome. The next to travel to Paris and Rome appear to have been William and Robert Mylne, of the family of the Royal Master masons. They were in Paris in October 1754 and in Rome by the end of the year. Robert had a particularly distinguished record, winning the Concorso Clementino and becoming a full member of the Academy of St Luke in 1759.

William's work was represented in Edinburgh by the old North Bridge, Robert's by St Cecilia's Hall and by the still extant but much altered Whitefoord House in the Canongate. The Mylnes were closely followed by Robert Adam who made the full Grand Tour, had the honour of a plate dedicated to him by his close friend G B Piranesi, and reached Spalato in 1757, his studies there inaugurating his brilliant career in London. His Register House, Edinburgh University and Charlotte Square are among the most important monuments of earlier Scottish and indeed European neo-classicism, the latter being erected when his career was concentrated on Scotland, and on Edinburgh and Glasgow in particular.

Adam was followed in 1761 by John Baxter who studied in Rome and was admitted a full member of the Academy of St Luke in 1767, and in 1774 by John Henderson. Their work was austerely neo-classical as can still be seen at the former's Merchants Hall and Baxter's Place and formerly at the latter's Assembly Rooms prior to the addition of the portico in 1818. The London-Scottish architect James Playfair, whose original training is still unclear, was visiting Paris, where he was deeply influenced by the Revolutionary School, from 1787 and interrupted practice to study in Rome in 1792-3. Although his business was predominantly Scottish, and although he died in Edinburgh in the following year, no building in Edinburgh can be identified as his for certain. Nevertheless his work had an immediate effect on the earlier work of Archibald Elliot who appears to have worked for him. Elliot subsequently had an office in London as well as in Scotland, becoming from 1815 one of Edinburgh's pioneer Greek Revivalists. Although most of James Playfair's drawings were sold out of the possession of his family, his designs were ultimately to have an effect on his son, William Henry, only four when his father died.

Brought up by his scientist uncle Professor John Playfair, the younger Playfair was apprenticed to the pioneer Scottish Greek revivalist William Stark, architect of the Signet Libraries. As in the case of the elder Playfair, Stark's initial training is unknown but he was in St Petersburg, then a microcosm of European neo-classicism, in 1798 and had visited Holland, probably en route. As related earlier, it was he who led Edinburgh away from gridiron street planning to a Romantic Classicism in which the contours of the land and any existing planting were exploited rather than levelled.

The younger Playfair belonged to that remarkable group of architects who dominated the Edinburgh architectural scene from the 1820s. Although two of its leading members, including Playfair himself, were London-trained, the influence of contemporary German rather than London architecture is at times marked. The oldest of the group was James Gillespie Graham, born in 1776, who although in later years extremely well-off, appears not to have travelled, at least not in his early life. Neither did Thomas Hamilton, born 1784, although his Royal High School leaves little doubt that he must have been familiar with the latest architecture in Munich, even if only on paper. In 1808-11 William Burn and c. 1813-16 the younger Playfair worked in London for Sir Robert Smirke, profiting from his first-hand knowledge of Greek antiquity and later from that of another Smirke pupil, Charles Robert Cockerell, who also studied Greek antiquity at first hand. Playfair also worked for Benjamin Dean Wyatt, and, like his father earlier, had seen the latest French architecture, having made a tour with his Paris-based uncle William in 1816. As with Hamilton, Playfair's work from the early 1820s onwards was profoundly influenced by Schinkel, some of his drawings being very similar in character to those in Schinkel's Sammiung. Despite the Imperial Roman grandeur of his British Linen Bank, there is no evidence that David Bryce travelled in his earlier years, but that other giant of the Graeco-Roman phase of the early 1840s, David Rhind, most certainly did in the early 1830s.

Although substantial sections of the northern and western areas of the New Town were designed by untravelled and rather more secondary architects such as the King's Architect, Robert Reid, the City Architects Thomas Bonnar and Thomas Brown (the former subsequently

architect to the Heriot Trust), the influence of those who studied in Paris, Rome, St Petersburg and London, cascaded down into their work, most spectacularly so in the case of James Milne, architect of the Raeburn estate whose Playfair-inspired crescent, terrace and associated streets are among the finest individual performances.

Within the coherent Romantic classical concept of architecture and landscape there is a variety and invention which extends far beyond the contrast of the New Town with the Old, or the inclusion of the occasional gothic church or palatial Elizabethan institution for Picturesque effect. Each development has an architectural character of its own, whether post-Adam or neo-Roman or neo-Greek, which is as marked in the geometry of the planning as it is in the elevations, each reflects not only the architect who designed it but the vision and ambition of the councillors who controlled the city and perhaps even more so that of the classically-educated lawyers who controlled the charitable and private family trusts which promoted a city punctuated with pilastered and colonnaded pavilions and generously planned private gardens. Throughout the whole, and particularly in the developments of the 1820s, is evident an intention not merely to establish the Athens of the North as one of Europe's greatest capital cities, but as a worthy counterpart to the city of classical antiquity.

e) 20th century town planning

Sir Patrick Geddes, founder of modern town planning, used Old Edinburgh as his laboratory; and in it first put his ideas into execution.

f) The Culture of Scotland

Edinburgh represents the essence of the cultural traditions of Scotland as a European city, and is a European capital city itself. It bears testimony to the growth of Scottish civilisation, to its church, to its law and its legal system. The then physical form of the city was a key factor in the Enlightenment.

g) Old and New landscapes

The juxtaposition of Old and New Edinburgh offers an outstanding example of an architectural ensemble which epitomises significant stages in human history – the Renaissance city on the rock versus the rationalist city on the plateau.

h) Land use

Edinburgh is an outstanding example of the development of human settlement and land use; in the Old and New Town it is possible to witness the growth of a Renaissance capital city, its limitations and its opportunities, and its rejection by changing social patterns and different aspirations in the 18th century. In no other city in the world is the contrast between those two ideas so marked. The integration of built form with open space exhibits similar contrasts.

i) Cultural activity

Edinburgh is tangibly associated with events – being the host of the world's largest number of annual cultural Festivals – and with living traditions – being the home of Scottish law, the Scottish legal, medical and architectural professions and the Scottish church. It is the site of the nation's national museums, galleries, archives and library, and of its heritage administration. It contains Scotland's only active Royal Palace, and is the centre of the country's civil administration.

j) Authenticity

Edinburgh is authentic: using the principal Scottish building materials – stone and slate – the design and the workmanship grow from the setting, in the Old Town, so that the tenements

appear to be extrusions from the rock itself. Equally authentically, the New Towns settle on their plateaux and hillsides to form a perfect, and almost unspoilt, 18th and early nineteenth century environment of an extent unmatched elsewhere.

Edinburgh, as has been stated, does indeed enjoy adequate legal and technical protection, and through the District Council, the Regional Council, the Edinburgh Old Town Renewal Trust and the Edinburgh New Town Conservation Committee, has sufficient management mechanisms to ensure conservation.

Edinburgh is a built embodiment of the evolution of Scottish society and settlements, indicating how they have adapted and changed over time, to take advantage of the physical constraints and opportunities. Furthermore, by virtue of being the focus of the Scottish Reformation, the Scottish Enlightenment, the Athens of the North, the Scottish Renaissance, Edinburgh pre-eminently is an associative cultural landscape enjoying powerful resonances of religious, artistic and cultural history of an international significance.

Appendix II

World Heritage Site Manifesto

In 1997 the City of Edinburgh of Council produced the World Heritage Site Manifesto. The manifesto summed up the reasons for, importance of and responsibilities of, inscription. Because of its importance as a policy statement relevant to the Site it is reproduced below.

WORLD HERITAGE SITE MANIFESTO

The environment of central Edinburgh is one of exceptional interest with unrivalled urban and landscape qualities which successfully incorporates all the functions of a thriving capital city. The inscription of the Edinburgh Site on the list of World Heritage Sites was based on the following UNESCO criteria:

- exhibiting an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town planning or landscape design;
- an outstanding example of a type of building or architectural or technological ensemble which illustrates significant stages in human history.

The stated aim of inscription as a World Heritage Site is the ‘better protection and safeguarding of World Heritage Sites, so the immediate and obvious benefit of international listing is to strengthen the hand of those who are committed to their protection and enjoyment’. The conservation and protection of the World Heritage Site are, therefore, the paramount issues in terms of UNESCO’s criteria.

The conservation of the World Heritage Site is defined as those steps necessary for its protection, conservation and restoration as well as its controlled development and harmonious adaptation to contemporary life.

The significant features and qualities of the World Heritage Site include the historic character of the Site and all those material elements which express this character especially the:

- Historic and planned development patterns of the Site;

- Physical appearance and attributes of the interior and exterior of individual buildings. These include not only the main facade of a building, but its construction features, proportions, and interior spaces. The main characteristics to be preserved include its scale, materials, construction features, size, style and ornamentation;
- Relationship between individual buildings and the surrounding streetscape and landscape;
- Various functions that the Site has acquired over time. These functions give it an overall ambience which create or define its special character.

Inscription as a World Heritage Site has no immediate consequences in terms of statutory protection. However, World Heritage status highlights the outstanding international importance of the Site. The Council will, therefore, regard the World Heritage status of the Site as a material consideration when considering applications for planning permission and listed building consent.

The World Heritage Site will be actively protected against damage of all kinds, particularly that resulting from unsuitable use, unnecessary additions and insensitive changes such as will impair the authenticity of the Site. The preservation of the historic fabric by beneficial use is a prime objective within the World Heritage Site.

The organic plan form of the medieval Old Town and the clarity of the geometrically planned neo-classical New Town together with the outstanding historic buildings are fundamental characteristics of the World Heritage Site. All proposals affecting the plan form or historic buildings, including their setting, will be considered for their impact on their design integrity.

The Council will ensure that all conservation work and new building intervention carried out within the Site is to an appropriate internationally acknowledged standard. The Venice Charter, which was adopted by ICOMOS in 1965, sets down principles to guide the conservation and restoration of historic buildings on an international basis. The Charter stresses:

- The importance of setting and respect for original fabric;
- Precise documentation of intervention;
- The importance of contributions from all periods to the buildings and
- The maintenance of historic buildings for socially useful purposes.

The Charter outlines the basic tenets of what is now accepted to be an appropriate approach to dealing in philosophical terms with historic buildings. The general principles of the Venice Charter will be applied when dealing with historic building issues within the World Heritage Site.

The Council will promote architectural quality and excellence and encourage innovation, whilst enhancing the historic environment and preserving the features which contribute to its character and visual cohesion.

The conservation and design objectives and policies detailed in the Central Edinburgh Local Plan and the Conservation Strategy will be actively promoted within the World Heritage Site. These will continue to recognise the significance of the World Heritage Site.

It is a UNESCO requirement that five yearly reports on the state of conservation of World Heritage Sites should be submitted for their consideration. In order to satisfy this requirement, a series of criteria will be identified which will be used to establish a system which will allow change within the World Heritage Site to be monitored and an assessment of the aim of conserving and enhancing the Site to be made.

EDINBURGH: WORLD HERITAGE CITY

The historic centre of Edinburgh, including the medieval Old Town and the Georgian New Town, was inscribed on the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation's (UNESCO's) List of World Heritage Sites in December, 1995. This represents international recognition that the Site is of outstanding universal value, and ranks Edinburgh in the same world status as the Taj Mahal and the pyramids of Egypt. UNESCO's operational guidelines for the identification of World Heritage Sites recommends that historic urban centres should only be included on the World Heritage List if they are of exceptional interest. The inscription of central Edinburgh as a World Heritage Site is, therefore, an outstanding accolade. To date there are 23 other World Heritage Sites in the UK. The Scottish Sites are New Lanark, St Kilda and the Heart of Neolithic Orkney. Other urban centres are Bath, Greenwich and Liverpool.

The concept of World Heritage Sites is based on UNESCO's 1972 Convention for the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. The Convention noted that the cultural and natural heritage were increasingly threatened by traditional causes of decay, and by changing economic and social conditions. It established the World Heritage Committee which was charged with compiling a World Heritage List of properties and sites which were considered to be of outstanding universal value. The List was intended to 'ensure as far as possible, the identification, protection, conservation and presentation of the World's irreplaceable heritage'.

The formal UNESCO brief description of the Edinburgh World Heritage Site is as follows:

'Edinburgh, capital of Scotland since the 15th century, presents the dual face of an old city dominated by a medieval fortress and a new neo-classical city whose development from the 18th century onwards exerted a far-reaching influence on European urban planning. The harmonious juxtaposition of these two highly contrasting historic areas, each containing many buildings of great significance, is what gives the city its unique character'

The City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh New Town Conservation Committee, the Edinburgh Old Town Renewal Trust, Historic Scotland and Lothian and Edinburgh Enterprise Limited are signatories to a Statement of Intent to work together to conserve and enhance the World Heritage Site, and to ensure that policies and actions in respect of the Site safeguard its outstanding universal value. In 1999, the Edinburgh World Heritage Trust was established, combining the responsibilities of the Edinburgh New Town Conservation Committee and the Edinburgh Old Town Renewal Trust.

It is the intention that the World Heritage Site Conservation Manifesto should represent a statement of the Council's commitment to the conservation and protection of the World Heritage Site and the Council's acceptance of its responsibilities as guardian of a World Heritage Site. The Manifesto also provides an opportunity for the Council to reassert its conservation objectives and to consider the issues affecting Edinburgh's historic core in a holistic fashion.

Appendix III

Chronology

c. 900 BC	Fort established on the Castle Rock
c. 1110	Queen Margaret's Chapel, Castle Rock
1125	Royal Burgh of Edinburgh created

1128	Holyrood Abbey founded
c. 1140	Royal burgh of Canongate created
c. 1500	Edinburgh Castle Great Hall
1528-32	Building of NW tower, Palace of Holyroodhouse
c.1600	Gladstone's Land built
1603	Union of Crowns of Scotland, England and France
1615	Building of Palace Block, Edinburgh Castle
1621	Town Council ordinance requiring building in stone
1625	Moray House, Canongate
1628	George Heriot's Hospital and School
1633	Parliament House, Sir James Murray of Kilbaberton
1636-47	Tron Kirk (steeple later)
1671-6	Rebuilding of Palace of Holyrooodhouse, Sir William Bruce
1684-8	Mylne Square. First of the wide fronted new tenements
1707	The 'Act of Union'
1752	'Proposals' Document outlining scheme for New Town and North Bridge
1766	James Craig prepares Plan of Edinburgh New Town
1785-8	Building of South Bridge
1791	Charlotte Square, Robert Adam
1819	Calton Hill scheme, W H Playfair
1822	Visit of King George IV
	National Monument on Calton Hill begun
	Moray Place, James Gillespie Graham
1827	City Improvement Act: Johnston Terrace, George IV Bridge, King's Bridge
1833	Bankruptcy of Town Council over Leith Docks extension scheme
1837-46	Building of Scott Monument
1859-60	Cockburn Street constructed
1867	City Improvement Act
1883-6	Well Court, Dean Village, Sydney Mitchell
1909	Edinburgh College of Art
1924-7	Scottish National War Memorial, Edinburgh Castle
1936	St Andrew's House, Thomas Tait
1999	Museum of Scotland, Benson and Forsyth
2004	Scottish Parliament at Holyrood, Enric Miralles

Appendix IV

Edinburgh World Heritage Board Members And Staff

Board Members

Dr Harold Mills CB (Chairman)

Robin Burley MBE

Maidie Cahill

Cllr Trevor Davies

Graham Duncan

Andrew Kerr

Grant Macrae

Krystyna Robinson

James Simpson

Staff

Director	Zoë Clark
WHS Co-ordinator/Deputy Director	Jane Jackson
Conservation Architect	Fiona MacDonald
Finance & Administration Manager	Douglas Fleming
Communications Manager	David Hicks
Business Manager	Caroline Sibbald
Communications Officer	Linda Cairns
Administrator	Caroline Lyon

APPENDIX V

Selected Bibliography

History

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APPENDIX VI

Maps and Illustrations

1. THE WORLD HERITAGE SITE AND ITS CONSERVATION AREAS

2. TOPOGRAPHY OF THE SITE

APPENDIX VII

Systematic Monitoring Indicators used for the Site

Measuring Change – Indicators

The chart opposite details the issues currently addressed by Edinburgh World Heritage's annual monitoring reports and the indicators used to assess change.

Issue	Indicator
CHARACTER AND TOWNSCAPE	
Protection of Site afforded by Conservation Areas Pressure for change within the Site Effect of new construction Protection of streetscape	• Area of the Site covered by Conservation Areas • Number of planning applications (per year) • Urban design quality achieved by major developments gaining planning approval. • Retention of setted carriageways

	• Amount of street furniture and retention of historic street surfaces
BUILDING AND HISTORIC FABRIC	
Retention of building State of repair of building stock	• Numbers of buildings and their listed status • Identification of buildings demolished or lost from other causes. • Statutory Repairs Notices issued (per year) • Monitoring of Buildings at Risk
EXISTING COMMUNITIES AND USES	
Protection of existing residential community Retention of institutions Retail performance Visitors	• Breakdown of population of World Heritage Site (by area) • Institutions within World Heritage Site • Retail Indicator • Visitor attitudes • Tourism numbers, spend etc.
TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT	
Volume and modal split of traffic in the Site Volume of Parking in the Site	• Traffic volumes and percentage of journeys made by different transport types • Number of on and off street parking spaces
ENHANCEMENT	
Enhancement, repair and maintenance of historic fabric	• Level of financial assistance distributed by Conservation Assistance Programme • Progress of projects identified in the Action Plan
PROMOTION	
Number and range of promotional activities	• Progress of projects identified in the Action Plan • Promotional activities carried out