



Historic England

NORTH EAST OFFICE

Mr Chris Stanworth  
Northumberland National Park Authority  
Eastburn  
South Park  
Hexham  
Northumberland  
NE46 1BS

Direct Dial: 0191 2691212

Our ref: P00517073

6 July 2016

Dear Mr Stanworth

**Arrangements for Handling Heritage Applications Direction 2015  
& T&CP (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015**

**NATIONAL PARK CENTRE ONCE BREWED, B6318 MILITARY ROAD TWICE  
BREWED TO HOUSESTEADS, BARDON MILL, NE47 7AN  
Application No 16NP0065**

Thank you for your letter of 4 July 2016 notifying Historic England of the above application.

**Historic England Advice**

As you will recall from earlier applications in connection with 'The Sill' centre, because of its position in relation to the Hadrian's Wall Vallum this proposed advertisement lies in an area of very high archaeological sensitivity. The Vallum remains a poorly understood part of the Hadrian's Wall Roman frontier, but this massive Roman ditch seems to have both provided further in-depth protection for the frontier if attacked from the north, and also marked the southern limit of the Roman military zone associated with Hadrian's Wall to the north.

The current application involves three separate signs. Of these, the signs labelled 1 and 3 lie within the line of the Vallum where it is protected as a Scheduled Monument, and will therefore require Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) in addition to any advertisement consent given.

With reference to the potential direct impact of the signs on the archaeological remains of the Vallum, we are content for this aspect to be dealt with via the SMC process. However, at this stage we would be clear that with reference to the SMC application we are very concerned about the potential impact of these two signs within the Scheduled Monument, particularly with reference to sign number 3 which appears to lie right across the visible remains of the south mound of the Vallum.

With reference to the potential impact of this proposal on the setting of the Vallum and



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wider World Heritage Site, we also need to be clear that location number 3, by virtue of the presence of visible earthworks of the Vallum, is in our view unsuitable as a place for signage in the long term, and that this may also be the case for location number 1, because of the impact that this would have on the setting. However, for the period specified in the application we would be content that these signs would not cause harm to the setting of the Vallum and World Heritage Site, subject to the need to address direct archaeological impacts and obtain SMC discussed above.

**Recommendation**

Historic England does not object to the granting of advertisement consent for this development for the period specified in the application. However, we would also register the need to address the archaeological implications of placing the signs in locations 1 and 3, and obtain Scheduled Monument Consent for any acceptable solution to this, but also that in our view the location of sign 3 and possibly sign 1 are inappropriate for such signage in the long term because of this impact that this would have on the setting of the Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site.

It is not necessary to consult us again on this application. Please send us a copy of the decision notice in due course. This will help us to monitor actions related to changes to historic places

Yours sincerely

Mike Collins  
Inspector of Ancient Monuments (Hadrian's Wall)  
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cc. Chris Jones - NNPA



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