



Historic England

Ms Felicity Hart
Dorset County Council
County Hall
Colliton Park
Dorchester
Dorset
DT1 1XJ

Direct Dial: [REDACTED]

Our ref: P01276590

9 March 2023

Dear Ms Hart

**T&CP (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015
& Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990**

**PORTLAND PORT, CASTLETOWN, PORTLAND DT5 1PP
Application No. WP/20/00692/DCC**

Thank you for your letter of 5 October 2020 regarding the above application for planning permission. On the basis of the information available to date, we offer the following advice to assist your authority in determining the application.

Historic England Advice

Thank you for consulting on us on the most recent document submitted for this application, *East Weare Camp and Military Battery Structures, Portland, Dorset Project No 11166 Review of Proposed Mitigation Including Site Boundary Protection*, Mann Williams.

We consider that the proposals for the improved management of the scheduled site would be a positive direction. There have been discussions between Historic England and the owners of the site, Portland Port over a number of years where we have recommended that work is undertaken to this vulnerable site, currently on our at Risk Register.

Whilst we would welcome a programme of repairs to secure the long term future of the batteries, including the provision of a path we do have concerns regarding the impact from a palisade style fence so close to the scheduled and listed sites. We appreciate that for security of Portland Port security fencing is necessary, however as we said in our most recent advice dated 22 February 2023, we have concerns regarding fencing the entire route as proposed and would be happy to discuss the proposals on site. There is also a need to balance the requirements of both the natural and heritage designations and we suggest that this could be achieved through a Conservation Management Plan for the site and we would be happy to be consulted on this. Please note that Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) will be necessary for any works including fencing within the scheduled East Battery. An application for SMC



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must be made to the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport before any work can be carried out and written consent must be obtained. Historic England administers this process on behalf of DCMS. We have not been consulted on any applications here.

We agree with the conclusions (4.02) set out in the newly submitted documentation from Mann Williams that the scheduled site has been declining over the past ten years but disagree that the proposed fence will protect and enable conservation to progress (4.07) and are of the opinion that works could have been undertaken by the Port Authority at any point in the last ten years.

We maintain concerns regarding the application on heritage grounds relating to the scale and massing of the waste recycling centre including the dominance of an 80m high stack that would visually compete with the Verne Citadel and dominate the associative heritage assets within the area.

Yours sincerely


Sasha Chapman
Inspector of Ancient Monuments


