



· INSTITUTE · OF · HISTORIC ·
BUILDING · CONSERVATION

Making Heritage Work

Billy Reading
English Heritage

By e-mail
Billy.Reading@english-heritage.org.uk

James Caird
Consultant Consultations Co-ordinator
IHBC Business Office
Jubilee House
High Street
Tisbury
Wiltshire
SP3 6HA

15 August 2014

Tel (01584) 876141
Web site www.ihbc.org.uk
E-mail consultations@ihbc.org.uk

Dear Billy

HISTORIC MILITARY AVIATION SITES, CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE

The Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC) is the professional body of the United Kingdom representing conservation specialists and historic environment practitioners in the public and private sectors. The Institute exists to establish the highest standards of conservation practice, to support the effective protection and enhancement of the historic environment, and to promote heritage-led regeneration and access to the historic environment for all.

Thank you for inviting us to participate in this consultation. We find that we have little expertise on this topic so we have approached our comments from the viewpoint of the non-specialist practitioner. Our comments are as follows:

1. We very much welcome the updating of the document and feel that it will be very useful in this rather specialist field.
2. There is, we think, only one major omission from the document. This is the lack of specific guidance on archaeological techniques. Archaeology is referred to in a good many places, not least in its importance (para 4.4), but also in connection with the statutes and statutory duties and the fact that the Crown enjoys immunity in certain cases. So we feel that there ought to be guidance on approaches in the sort of detail employed for other matters in sections 7, 8 and, particularly 9.
3. We don't think the document is very clear about the numbers of sites with potential to benefit from the Guidance. The Guidance refers to the key sites but it is not clear without constant reference whether these are the only ones referred to in the text. An index and a map would be useful; as well as some indication of the numbers and broad distribution of sites to which the Guidance might apply.
4. We have little information on individual sites but, in one example where we do, Manby, we don't think the information on current use is up-to-date; nor do we think

that there is any specific Guidance on it available. We would like to see the Guidance be as up-to-date as possible on publication.

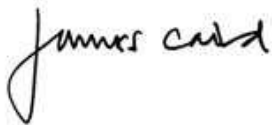
5. We think the document would benefit from illustration particularly in sections 7, 8 and 9.

6. There are a few typographical and other errors but we are sure you have these in hand:

- Paragraph 4 of the summary appears incomplete.
- The page numbering on the Contents page isn't entirely right.
- Coltishall is in Norfolk and not Suffolk.

All in all though, this will be a very useful document.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Caird". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

James Caird
Consultant Consultations Co-ordinator