

RCAHMS: Building A Picture of Scotland's Past

The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) is a Non Departmental Public Body, sponsored by the Architecture Policy Unit, part of the Europe, External Affairs and Culture Directorate of the Scottish Government.

The results of 100 years of surveying, recording, and collecting provides a vivid and fascinating picture of human influence on the ever changing landscape of Scotland from the earliest times to the present day. This information, which includes 4.5 million items of archive, is made widely available to the public through publications, exhibitions and access both online and in the search room.

The work is as essential today as it was in 1908 when RCAHMS was founded. It provides independent and reliable evidence to inform the value that members of the public place on their historic environment and how it is managed at local and national level in the context of modern development.

RCAHMS:

- Identifies, surveys and analyses the built environment of Scotland
- Preserves, cares for and adds to the information and the items in its national collection
- Promotes public understanding and enjoyment through interpretation and presentation of the information it collects and the items it looks after

Our aim is to raise awareness of the man-made environment of the past and present that is on people's own doorstep. We hope to help people recognise the value of their own places and spaces, to share them with others, and, by understanding them, to increase their influence on future developments in their own environments.

For further information please go to www.rcahms.gov.uk