

Heritage and Antiquities Advisory Council Parliamentary Report 2018/2019



Department of the Environment,
Sustainability, Climate Change
and Heritage

HM Government of Gibraltar

Heritage and Antiquities Advisory Council Parliamentary Report 2018/2019

Prepared for:

HM Government of Gibraltar Parliament,

John Mackintosh Square,

Gibraltar &

Chairman of

Heritage and Antiquities Advisory Council (HAAC)

Prepared by:

Ministry for Environment,

Sustainability,

Climate Change,

Heritage and Culture,

Gibraltar

Document Status

Document Type	Heritage and Antiquities Advisory Council Parliamentary Report 2018/2019
Document Prepared by	Dominic Lopez (Government Archaeologist: Ministry for Heritage)
Document Approved by	Heritage and Antiquities Advisory Council (HAAC)
Date Approved	31/1/20
Version Number/Date	HAACPR/1/19

Disclaimer

This report was prepared by the Heritage and Antiquities Advisory Council (HAAC) as required under Section 10 of the Heritage and Antiquities Act 2018.

Copyright

Copyright of this document rests with the Ministry for Environment, Sustainability, Climate Change, Heritage and Culture, 1B Leanse Place, 50 Town Range, Gibraltar.

Heritage and Antiquities Act 2018

2018/2019 Annual report.

This report has been prepared by the Heritage and Antiquities Advisory Council (HAAC), as required under Section 10 of the Heritage and Antiquities Act 2018.

The Minister for Heritage will lay a copy of this report before Parliament as specified in Subsection 10 (2).

This report covers the period from 10th October 2018 to 31st December 2019.

The Heritage and Antiquities Advisory Council (HAAC) was formed as part of the Heritage and Antiquities Act 2018 that commenced on 16th August 2018.

The members of the Council are-

Chairperson

The Hon Prof J Cortes - Minister for Heritage

Members

Prof Clive Finlayson - Curator of the Gibraltar National Museum

Anthony Pitaluga - Government Archivist

Dominic Lopez - Government Archaeologist

Marcello Sanguinetti - Representing the Ministry for Heritage

Dr. Liesl Mesilio - Representing the Department of the Environment.

(in her absence Stephen Warr shall be an alternate member)

Claire Montado - Representing the Board of the Gibraltar Heritage Trust.

(in her absence Ian Balestrino shall be an alternate member)

Paul Origo - Representing the Town Planning Department

(in his absence Paul Naughton-Rumbo shall be an alternate member)

Dr Keith Bensusan - Representing the Gibraltar Ornithological and Natural History Society

(in his absence Charles Perez shall be an alternate member)

The functions of the Council are—

- (a) to make its views known to the Minister on how to promote and secure the conservation, protection and enhancement of Gibraltar's heritage, antiquities or objects of interest, monuments or buildings, and historical conservation and archaeological areas;
- (b) to foster understanding and facilitate the enjoyment of Gibraltar's heritage, antiquities or objects of interest, monuments or buildings, and historical conservation and archaeological areas;
- (c) to advise on anything which is to be done in relation to antiquities or objects of interest, monuments or buildings or historical conservation and archaeological areas, including advice that such activity always be carried out in a sustainable manner by a suitably qualified person; and
- (d) to identify present and future issues which require or may require addressing in relation to heritage, antiquities or objects of interest, monuments or buildings and historical conservation and archaeological areas.

(2) The Council shall advise the Minister on matters relating to heritage, antiquities or objects of interest, monuments or buildings, historical conservation and archaeological areas it wishes to or which the Minister may refer to the Council.

Council to take account of certain matters.

8. It shall be the duty of the Council, in carrying out its functions under section 7(1) and (2), to take account, as may be appropriate, of—

- (a) actual or possible ecological and other environmental changes affecting heritage, antiquities or objects of interest, monuments or buildings and historical conservation and archaeological areas;
- (b) the need for social, cultural and economic changes in Gibraltar;
- (c) the interests of the community in general.

HAAC MEETINGS.

There have been a total of 6 meetings in this period, one in 2018 and 5 in 2019.

The Ministry for Heritage together with its heritage partner's focused primarily in bringing a working structure and system to the new act as the previous act was mainly concerned with the establishment of the heritage trust, its function and composition.

The Heritage and Antiquities Act 2018 and the establishment of the Heritage and Antiquities Advisory Council now allowed for much greater control and supervision over our built heritage and underground archaeology.

To celebrate the enactment of the act a Heritage Moratorium was put in place in order to allow individuals to hand in artefacts they had found which would constitute an offence under the new act.

The Heritage Moratorium was a success, items were catalogued and following recommendations from the Curator, decisions were made on what should be returned and what should be kept for the benefit and enjoyment of the community.

A new enhanced working relationship between law enforcement and heritage stakeholders was also established as part of the heritage act working structure.

The Heritage and Antiquities Advisory Council (HAAC) was very active in between meetings as it was soon discovered that the workload was quite extensive and many decisions could not wait for the next scheduled meeting. With this in mind, a system of round robin emails/mailings was initiated in order to consult between members. This proved invaluable in being able to provide timely advice to the Minister for Heritage and not delay the decision making cycle.

Any decisions made in between meetings were included into the minutes so there was an official record.

This has assisted both Government and developers in streamlining operations, especially as the Council feeds in directly to the Town planning process.

The bulk of the work carried out by the Council has been in the advice to the Minister for the issue of Heritage Licences that are required to perform any works on Listed Sites.

It should be noted that HAAC took over from the Heritage Action Committee (HAC) that had been in existence for many years and was the precursor of the issuing of licences in accordance with the previous Act.

Please note that HAC still exists as a committee and will meet if any emergency arises.

One of the first functions of HAAC was to disseminate the main differences in legislation to stakeholders and this was done through direct briefings and the press.

Another of the main points was the improvement of relations with the MOD as there are several sites under their control that have potential for listing. This work is on-going and includes HQBF the Tower, Batteries and fortifications at Buffadero amongst others.

HAAC has also allowed for greater integration between the agencies represented, such as the Ministry for Heritage, Gibraltar Heritage Trust, Gibraltar National Museum, Gibraltar National Archives and the Town Planning Department.

Archaeological monitoring, restoration, heritage assessments and technical advice through the planning system continued and enhanced further still.

Examples of heritage projects include:

1. First phase of works at Nuns' Well
2. First phase of the Heritage Environment Record (HER) and the GIS layering of our listed sites
3. The restoration and interpretation of the Europa Foreshore
4. The restoration and interpretation centre at the ex 'du farol' site
5. First phase of the restoration of Southport Gates
6. The restoration of the Almond Tower
7. The restoration of the Garrison Library balustrade
8. The restoration of the southern defensive wall at Parson's Lodge
9. The restoration and subsequent relocation of the ex MOD Gatehouse
10. First phase of the restoration of the Old Mole Head
11. The restoration of the Larios Family Dresser
12. First phase of the restoration of Ford Canada
13. Continued restoration of the Northern Defences
14. Important archaeological discoveries due to enhanced supervision such as ancient shipwreck finds, Europa point Islamic medieval finds and the Torre del Molino amongst others

In 2018/2019, the Minister on advice from HAAC issued 12 Heritage Licences and 4 Export Licences. Only two Heritage Licences have had to be extended due to non-completion of works.

Heritage Licences issued through HAAC.

	ISSUED TO	DATE	LOCATION
1009	AMCO	20/9/18	Nun's Well
1010	4 Stagioni	12/11/18	4 Stagioni restaurant
1011	R&F Refrigeration	7/12/18	Fish Market ceiling
1012	Selina Ltd	20/12/18	Rosia cannon
1013	Unit 13 Chatham Count	28/2/19	Chatham Counterguard unit 13
1014	Cathedral St.Mary...	27/3/19	Cathedral façade
1015	Aquagib	5/4/19	Rosia Road Line curtain
1016	Aquagib	11/4/19	Tower of Homage culvert
1017	GSLA	25/4/19	Willis's Magazine
1018	FCO Services	20/5/19	The Convent reception area
1019	OHL	18/7/19	Airport jetty
1020	My Wines	22/7/19	Internal staircase/Chatham counterguard
1019	OHL	18/11/19	Airport jetty time extension
1008	AKS (issued prior to HAAC)	18/11/19	Europa Sports complex extension

Heritage Export permits issued through HAAC.

EXPORT NUMBER	ISSUED TO	DATE	LOCATION
1001	Koala	30/8/18	Garrison Lib balustrade element
1002	Koala	12/10/18	Garrison Library balustrade element
1003	DHL Gibraltar	9/1/19	Gentleman's Magazine
1004	Koala	18/1/19	Garrison Library balustrade element

Broader topics such as Heritage management plans and funding are also discussed at HAAC meetings and members bring to the Minister's attention any suggestions or concerns that they might have within their own organizations, as is the case with the Gibraltar Heritage Trust or GONHS.

