



## UK Tentative List of Potential Sites for World Heritage Nomination: Application form

Please save the application to your computer, fill in and email to:  
[UKTL.Application@culture.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:UKTL.Application@culture.gsi.gov.uk)

The application form should be completed using the boxes provided under each question, and, where possible, within the word limit indicated.

Please read the [Information Sheets](#) before completing the application form. It is also essential to refer to the accompanying [Guidance Note](#) for help with each question, and to the relevant paragraphs of UNESCO's *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*, (OG) available at: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/guidelines>

Applicants should provide only the information requested at this stage. Further information may be sought in due course.

### (1) Name of Proposed World Heritage Site

The Hill of Derry~Londonderry

### (2) Geographical Location

Name of country/region

Northern Ireland, United Kingdom

Grid reference to centre of site

C 43441666

Please enclose a map preferably A4-size, a plan of the site, and 6 photographs, preferably electronically.

### (3) Type of Site

Please indicate category:

Natural  Cultural  Mixed  Cultural Landscape

### (4) Description

Please provide a brief description of the proposed site, including the physical characteristics. 200 words

The site occupies the most culturally and historically significant part of the former island of Derry - a low hill at the head of the Foyle Estuary, defined on one side by the River and on the other by a silted up former course (the Bogside).

It includes the location of an important monastic city which was completely replaced in the Seventeenth Century by a colonial foundation on its northern slope. This retains the full circuit of its walls (1 mile in length, enclosing 13 hectares), ideal street layout and cathedral. Symbolic as a representation of the new order, it evolved to become a wider symbol of Ulster Protestant identity following three sieges. This symbolism is reinforced by key buildings and monuments.

The site however also illustrates attempts to highlight the lost glories of the medieval city by the opposing Catholic and Nationalist population. The most recent conflict in Northern Ireland, deeply influenced by this history, is also tangibly reflected in surviving fabric within the wider area. The site was the location for many key events, and has evolved to become a symbol of the respect for diversity upon which the current peace is based.

Since the partition of Ireland Derry has been a border city, but for most of its history it was the chief settlement in the north-west, with an extensive hinterland.

### (5) History

Please provide a short summary statement of any significant events in the history of the site. 200 words

'Doire' is Gaelic for 'Oak Grove' and reflects the ancient sacred significance of that tree. This grove existed until the late Middle Ages when the site was an important monastic foundation with links to St Columba - the first saint of Irish birth. The Plantation imposed new laws, customs, religion and language upon what was the most Gaelic part of Ireland. The new order, funded by the livery companies of London, was most clearly represented by their principal settlement at 'Londonderry'. The 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this link will occur in 2013.

This walled city withstood three sieges in the Seventeenth Century siding with Parliament in 1645 and William III in 1689. That 108 day event in particular, was crucial to the development of an Ulster Protestant identity and was where the cry 'no surrender' was coined.

In the Eighteenth and Nineteenth centuries, the mercantile aims of the settlement were largely realised and its founding myths reinforced through buildings and traditions. Opposing myths were also cultivated.

In the Twentieth Century these historic divisions erupted. The city is often seen as the birthplace of the Troubles and witnessed many of the key events.

It was also, where the civil rights movement began and attempts at 'power sharing' were first developed, setting a template for the current peace.

**(6) Why do you think this site should be inscribed as a World Heritage Site?**  
Give reasons. 200 words

Derry-Londonderry is a significant example of an ideal city. When the new 'London' was built at Derry, the city was designed on classical principles, based on ideal Platonic ideas of order. The streets were proportioned according to simple mathematical relationships with a perfect square (The Diamond) at the centre.

Derry~Londonderry is also the place that best articulates the creation, development and transformation of cultural divisions within Northern Ireland. The city stands out as an example of such divisions and their resolution - moving from a disputed past to a shared future. It is the blend of the existing tangible historic asset of the Walled City and its environs with the intangible story of people and place which provides this outstanding universal value.

The construction of the Walled City was integral to the plantation of Ulster which resulted in divisions which have continued to the present day. The London Companies were unwilling participants, but their participation provided one of the most lasting and obvious conflicts - the disputed name of the city itself. The building of understanding and shared ownership of the historic city is part of a wider transformation of attitudes in Northern Ireland and an important part (and symbol) of the process of reconciliation.

**(7) Please say why the site has Outstanding Universal Value and specify the main features which underpin its importance. 200 words**

The site has OUV because it is a tangible representation of the ideals and problems of the initial era of European colonial expansion, the implications of such policies, and of the potential to use such assets to illustrate the complexity of history and promote peace.

Main features and examples include:

The scant surviving fabric of the medieval city.

The 17th century ideal city plan and associated archaeology enclosed by a complete circuit of walls, representing a utopian vision of what a post medieval city, focused on mercantile activity, should be like.

Buildings and monuments illustrating the divisions created by the Plantation i.e. its history of sieges, celebration and opposing traditions - which contributed to the partition of Ireland in the 20th century.

Buildings and monuments illustrating the success of initial mercantile aims in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth centuries.

Buildings, structures, and former bomb sites which reflect the continuation and reinforcement of divisions following the partition of Ireland and during the Troubles of the late Twentieth Century.

Buildings and cultural institutions which illustrate how divisions have been transformed more recently through an acceptance and celebration of diversity.

### (8) Outstanding Universal Value

Please state which of the [10 UNESCO criteria for Outstanding Universal Value](#) the proposed site meets, and describe briefly why the criteria were chosen. Please see criteria note at the end of the form.

UNESCO criterion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Why was this criterion chosen? 100 words
(i)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(ii)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(iii)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(iv)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The ensemble of buildings and monuments associated with the hill of Derry~Londonderry are an outstanding example of the application of utopian ideals associated with the initial era of European Colonial Expansion, onto an existing culture, and of the ramifications of this approach for both society and the development of culture over many succeeding generations.
(v)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(vi)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The ensemble of buildings and monuments associated with the hill of Derry~Londonderry are directly and tangibly associated with the colonial ideas of expansion of one culture onto another and the substitution of a new system of beliefs, law and language onto that place. They clearly illustrate the implications of such an imposition and how such divisions can be reinforced over time. They also provide an outstanding

<b>UNESCO criterion</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Why was this criterion chosen?</b> 100 words
		example of how these can ultimately be transcended.
(vii)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(viii)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(ix)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(x)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**(9) Authenticity (for cultural or mixed sites only)**

Authenticity concerns the current state of conservation of a cultural or mixed site; especially whether its importance, its Outstanding Universal Value, is still obvious from its physical condition. Please outline the condition of the site. 200 words

The site clearly reveals its outstanding universal value. Most importantly the city walls, plan and cathedral remain intact. Changes to the walls to construct new gates have reinforced the cultural story of the plantation, siege and their symbolism. The mercantile city is reasonably well preserved as are key buildings and monuments which illustrate the celebration of the founding tradition. Important structures which reveal the development of an opposing nationalist story based upon a reconstruction of medieval history are also preserved; as are sites associated with the more recent Troubles such as commemorative murals, monuments and a 'peace wall'. Some modern development, though inappropriate aesthetically, can be understood as a product of the economic aspect of this conflict with its associated bombing (and rebuilding) campaigns. The transformation of this conflict is represented in the establishment and ongoing development of a series of museums and cultural institutions around the walls. Managed by differing communities, these give different perspectives on the past, and explain the wider story and significance of Derry~Londonderry.

**(10) Integrity**

For cultural or mixed sites, please state how much original fabric is included in the proposed site, and its condition. For guidance on how the test of integrity is met for natural sites under criteria (vii) – (x), please refer to the OG 90-94. Information Sheet 6 also provides help on this point. 200 words

The focus of this site is its city walls (built 1613-18), their plan form and associated historic buildings and monuments which together illustrate the Outstanding Universal Value of a place which has seen: the imposition of a utopian colonial settlement ; the ramifications of this for future generations and a solution evolved from the resultant divisions, and based upon a celebration of diversity. The integrity of this story is clear in the surviving historic and modern structures which are closely associated with and clearly illustrate this evolution. In the context of this argument, original fabric is important in as far as it illustrates the story. Thus the replacement of an original gate by a new triumphal arch 100 years after the siege or the careful reconstruction of part of the symbolic Guildhall after a bomb in 1972 are both important and integral parts of the site's OUV.

**(11) Are there other examples of this kind of site already on the World Heritage List?**

Yes  No

If yes, please list. 100 words

A number of sites share some of the characteristics - but none share all.

The list includes a range of 'colonial' settlements, reflecting different aspects of empire building such as Zamosc, Palmanova and Jacarta. However the Derry~Londonderry site is not primarily about preservation of a colonial site. It is the implications reflected in its buildings over time which give it most interest.

In this respect the closest parallels are those which examine cultural reconciliation, such as the symbolic rebuilding of the bridge at Mostar, or the story of division and reconciliation told at Robben Island.

**(12) What distinguishes this site from other similar sites?**

150 words

The importance of Derry~Londonderry is that it tells, in microcosm, the origins and history of a conflict and a process of reconciliation, which has global relevance, and is perceived as an example to other places.

There are sites which reflect different aspects of 'colonialism', or 'snapshots' of a civilization. In the case of Derry~Londonderry the building of the city walls marked a turning point. As a result, almost 400 years in the future, Derry would become the birthplace of the civil rights movement, and then the crucible of the troubles. In telling this story the city has devised a framework for the convergence of culture and heritage for the articulation of the story of this place.

**(13) How does the site contribute to meeting UNESCO’s priorities for a balanced World Heritage List?**

200 words

Derry-Londonderry's inclusion in the new UK Tentative List will exemplify how the UK have responded to UNESCO's need to address the gaps in the World List by 'encouraging the nomination of properties that better reflect regional cultural identities, significances and values.' The cultural quality of this story as articulated through the site's physical heritage has Outstanding Universal Value.

The story of 'Plantation-to-Peace' is of major importance in such a context and in our opinion is better articulated in this place than anywhere else. The site demonstrates the ideals and consequences of colonialism and that it is possible to overcome the division and conflict of previous generations. It shows how attitudes can be reinforced by buildings but also how a place can be transformed into one of shared ownership with a new symbolism. This process has had high levels of engagement, with the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders that has allowed understanding to develop, culminating in a range of physical restoration and renewal projects.

**(14) What benefits do you think World Heritage Site inscription would bring?**

Please indicate the main opportunities and benefits.

Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tourism	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Regeneration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conservation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other benefits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Please describe. 100 words.

Conservation and Protection are the key benefits. Inscription will bring a new understanding of the value of the site and will increase awareness, encouraging a more holistic approach to the conservation of the entire site. It will also encourage 'protections' to be extended to structures which are currently less valued. This in turn will highlight the educational value and opportunities afforded by the site, which is already regarded as important, and will promote benefits including tourism and regeneration opportunities.

**(15) Are there any known threats to the proposed World Heritage Site?**

Yes  No

Please indicate any proposed developments, or other potential impacts on the site.



Impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Please describe. 100 words for each issue.
Development	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Environmental	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**(16) Legal Protection**

Please list any legal and other protections, including cultural and natural designations, which cover the whole or part of the proposed site. 200 words

The majority of the site is protected under designations aimed at preserving individual historic buildings, historic areas or monuments. The city walls are maintained by the Government as a Monument in State Guardianship. Most of the area lies within a Conservation Area and an Area of Archaeological Potential. Many historic buildings are individually listed. All these designations however are based upon an assessment of tangible architectural and historical attributes. The World Heritage Site proposal seeks to move beyond this to also value a more intangible story of universal value which links these structures and other previously less valued monuments to the more recent cultural and interpretative developments. Collectively this constitutes a new way of appreciating and valuing this overall site which will be reflected by the development of more holistic management structures.

**(17) Ownership**

Please list the main owners of the site, where possible.

The site is under mixed ownership. The City Walls are a monument in state guardianship, which are owned by the Honourable The Irish Society. The rest of the site is mixed ownership - public and private.

Do the owners support the application?    Yes     No

A statement of support from the principle owners of the proposed site should be attached to the application, preferably electronically.

**(18) Local Authority support for the site**

Please list all Local Authorities with an interest in the proposed site.

Derry City Council (this application is from Derry City Council and includes a letter of support)

Does the proposed site have local Authority support? Yes  No

Please attach a statement of support from each one in relation to the application.

Please indicate whether the site is included in the local plan/s by specific policies.

Yes  No  Partly

Please describe. 200 words.

Protection of City Walls as a Monument in State Guardianship 1955 - following agreement with the owners of the walls, the Honourable the Irish Society.

Derry Area Plan 2011 - framework for planning decisions in the city and surrounding area. Designates most of proposed site as 'an area of archaeological potential', which ensures consideration of any archaeology to emerge in redevelopment in this area.

Protection of the Walled City as Conservation Area - designation in 1977, and area expanded in 2006.

Public Realm Plan - by Derry City Council and Northern Ireland Tourist Board - looks at how best to use public realm including walls to promote tourism.

NITB Walled City Designation - the 'Walled City' has been designated as 1 of 5 'standout destinations' for visitors to NI.

City Walls Conservation and Management Plan - sets out the the importance of the City Walls, provides historical and architectural detail, and sets out policies for conservation and management.

Built Heritage Project - 6 key historic buildings within the proposed area were

identified for restoration.

Townscape Heritage Initiative - partnership programme to identify and restore historically important, but usually less prominent, buildings in designated areas.

Regeneration Plan 2010-20 - will take into account the issues raised in this application.

### **(19) Stakeholders**

Please list the main parties with an interest in the site. 100 words

A stakeholder list of 75 groups was drawn up in the process of developing the City Walls Conservation Plan. These include local community groups, heritage organisations, and neighbourhood groups. Some of the main groups are:

The Honourable the Irish Society  
Northern Ireland Environment Agency  
Derry City Council  
Ilex Urban Regeneration Company  
Chamber of Commerce  
Owners of individual buildings  
Dept of Social Development North West Development Office  
University of Ulster  
Northern Ireland Tourist Board

### **(20) How will the Site be managed?**

Please outline the management arrangements for the proposed World Heritage Site, including where the responsibilities lie. 200 words

In 2009 the City Walls Management Group was formed. This was a result of the production of the City Walls Conservation and Management Plans. This group is responsible for management of the Walls, and it is proposed that their role be expanded for the entire site. Membership includes:

Northern Ireland Environment Agency  
Derry City Council  
Ilex Urban Regeneration Company  
Derry City Centre Initiative  
Derry Visitor and Convention Bureau  
Northern Ireland Tourist Board  
Department of the Environment Planning Office  
Department of Regional Development Roads Service  
Department of Social Development North West Development Office

The Honourable The Irish Society  
Police Service of Northern Ireland  
The Northern Ireland Office

**(21) Funding: the nomination**

Please indicate how the preparation of the nomination would be funded.  
100 words

Preparation of the nomination will be led by Derry City Council. The process will be partnership-based and application will be made to the Department of the Environment NI, and other relevant bodies, for additional assistance.

**(22) Funding: management**

Please outline how the future management would be funded. 100 words

Management of the site would be based on the expanded Derry City Walls Management Group (see Q20). As can be seen from the listing of participants this is already an extensive partnership, including a number of public and statutory bodies, with each partner having specific responsibilities.

With the expansion of the remit of this group, individual responsibilities will also be increased. It is also proposed that a 'secretariat' facility be developed to assist the group.

This partnership approach has the benefit of ensuring stakeholder participation and consultation, and reflects the history and importance of the site.

**Name and Contact Details of Applicant**

Name	Mrs Valerie Watts
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Status	Town Clerk and Chief Executive
Address	Derry City Council 98 Strand Road
Telephone	028 71365151
Email	

Completed applications should be forwarded, preferably in electronic format, to the World Heritage Team, Department for Culture, Media and Sport at the following email address: [UKTL.Application@culture.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:UKTL.Application@culture.gsi.gov.uk)

Any material that cannot be sent electronically should be sent to the following address:

World Heritage Team, Department for Culture, Media and Sport  
2-4 Cockspur Street  
London  
SW1 5DH

The closing date for applications is 11th June 2010

## UNESCO's criteria for the assessment of Outstanding Universal Value (para 77 of the Operational Guidelines)

- (i) represent a masterpiece of human creative genius;
- (ii) exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design;
- (iii) bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared;
- (iv) be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history;
- (v) be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change;
- (vi) be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance.
- (vii) contain superlative natural phenomena or areas of exceptional natural beauty and aesthetic importance;
- (viii) be outstanding examples representing major stages of earth's history, including the record of life, significant on-going geological processes in the development of landforms, or significant geomorphic or physiographic features;
- (ix) be outstanding examples representing significant ongoing ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of terrestrial, fresh water, coastal and marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals;
- (x) contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation.