



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

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

Malone and Stranmillis Historic Urban Landscape

(2) Geographical Location

Name of country/region

Northern Ireland

Grid reference to centre of site

332825N 371128E

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 Malone and Stranmillis Historic Urban Landscape is reputed for having an epoch of the greatest concentration of buildings primarily dating from the Victorian and Edwardian periods. This is all the more so given the absence of intact streetscapes from earlier periods such as the medieval, early modern or Georgian eras, as would be the case in other cities, for example, Edinburgh with its preserved 'old town' and its eighteenth century set-piece 'new town'. It displays many examples of the 'Arts and Crafts' movement, integral to its spirit of place. The area's properties, which primarily date from the 1850's - 1950's, the site's 'Golden Age', are of cultural, historic and architectural interest, in many aspects including their articulate crafting, plan forms and materials. Paul Larmour (1991) said "The area contains a great wealth of buildings of special architectural interest" and ...there is no other suburb in this country (NI) with such a rich architectural heritage."

There is an exceptional harmonious visual character to the area, with its villas in their landscaped setting, reflecting a tended garden tradition, and the rhythm of the streetscapes.

(5) History

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

From the perspective of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Malone and Stranmillis Historic Urban Landscape the following events are considered significant in the history of the site:

The villa 'Nutley', Adelaide Park, received the Royal Academy Exhibition Award in 1908.

The current threat of total destruction that this site is under places the Malone and Stranmillis Historic Urban Landscape in danger. The very characteristics which make it special - its Outstanding Universal Value are at total risk. Unless this destruction is prevented, regrettably but realistically, this is likely to be the most significant event in the history of this site.

(6) Why do you think this site should be inscribed as a World Heritage Site?

Give reasons. 200 words

This site should be inscribed as a World Heritage Site as it is of exceptional cultural landscape importance and of Outstanding Universal Value. It is at risk of destruction as:-

- a) The Malone and Stranmillis HUL does not benefit from, for example, a single ownership which will protect it in perpetuity.
- b) Its Outstanding Universal Value and the harmonious visual character of the area, with its villas in their landscaped setting and the rhythm of the streetscapes, is entirely vulnerable to a myriad of cumulative threats. This includes demolition; visually disruptive extensions and alterations and un-controlled removal of historic fabric and landscape features (trees, boundary hedges and grass verges) and harmful interventions. Traditional villas have been redeveloped for more intensive apartment development; properties boarded up and vacant; intensive subdivision of single occupancy villas into flats. The statutory protection afforded to the area is fragmented through being covered by a number of separate demarcations, as opposed to having a single Conservation Area.

The site is an area of unique global cultural landscape significance that is at total and a rapidly alarming risk of being entirely destroyed.

The Site's Inscription would make an exceptional global contribution to peace building in post-conflict societies.

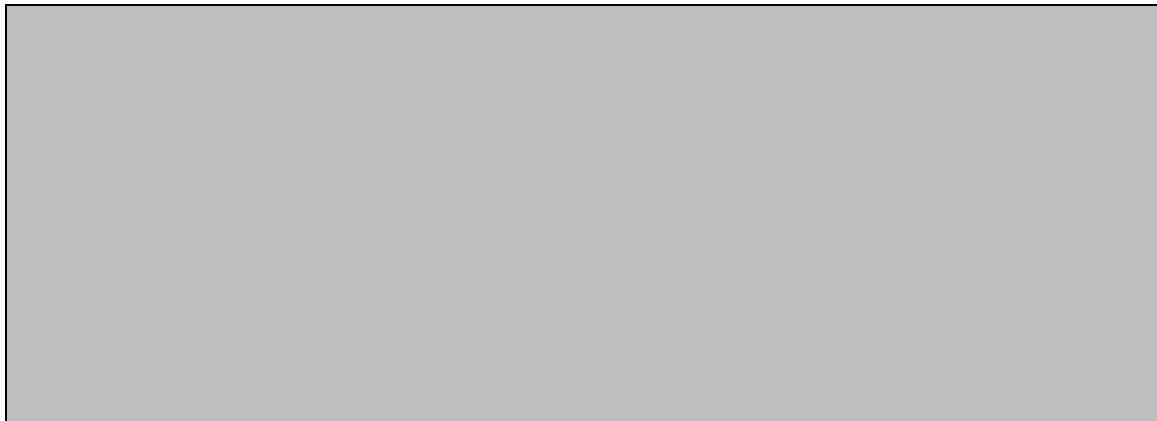
(7) Please say why the site has Outstanding Universal Value and specify the main features which underpin its importance. 200 words

This site, the Malone and Stranmillis Historic Urban Landscape has Outstanding Universal value as its importance goes beyond national significance. It is important for cultural landscape reasons which are so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and it has a truly international significance for all mankind and for the benefit of future generations. Viewed from an International perspective the Malone and Stranmillis Historic Urban Landscape has Outstanding Universal Value.

Outstanding Universal Value applies specifically to this site because it is an exceptional global example of a historic urban landscape, comprising a group of outstanding individually and artistically crafted villas, primarily dating from the Victorian and Edwardian periods, that are exceptionally and coherently designed within their landscaped setting.

What is evident is a group of buildings inextricably connected to their place - their cultural landscaped setting - which creates a globally unique spirit of place.

The Site is of common global importance for present and future generations of all humanity. Its permanent protection is, therefore, of the highest importance to the international community as a whole. It will make a uniquely significant contribution to post-conflict societies, a catalyst for peace building, a priority for UNESCO.



(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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The site represents a masterpiece of Victorian and Edwardian creative genius.
(ii)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(iii)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Internationally this is a unique site which bears an exceptional and lasting testimony extensively to the civilization of Victorian and Edwardian era.
(iv)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This site is a truly internationally outstanding example of the typology of a Historic Urban Landscape comprising an ensemble of villa buildings in their landscape setting primarily dating from the significant Victorian and Edwardian periods in history.
(v)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This Historic Urban Landscape site has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change primarily arising from development pressures.
(vi)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The villas display unique craftsmanship and articulation of artistic works.
(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 important of this site is still clearly evident through its attributes. The site, the Malone and Stranmillis Historic Urban Landscape has a most definite sense and spirit of place created by its unique:

- villas grouped in their landscaped setting - low trimmed evergreen hedges, grass verges & trees;
- materials including red brick, dressed stone, slate roofs and timber and terracotta detailing;
- the villas are predominately in their original use - single residential use;
- the villas clearly display highly developed and global artistic elements;
- the Malone and Stranmillis Historic Urban Landscape is framed by the River Lagan and Lagan Valley Regional Park setting to the East and the South and East and the Belfast Dublin Railway Line to the North and West;
- the villas display the vision of the patrons and their architects;
- the cross-community make up of the constituency.

(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 majority of the original villas of the 1850's - 1950's Golden Age of the 'Malone and Stranmillis Historic Urban Landscape' remain wholly intact in their landscaped setting clearly displaying the unique composition, residential use and design.

The site is an expansive suburb to the South of Belfast made up of a group of villas in their landscaped setting. Parts of the suburb have been identified as areas of special architectural and historic interest in the form of four designated Conservation Areas and their settings. The suburb's significance is as one coherent identity - the Malone and Stranmillis Historic Urban Landscape.

The entire site currently suffers from the adverse affects of development and neglect. This includes demolition; visually disruptive extensions and alterations and removal of historic fabric and landscape features and harmful interventions. Traditional villas have been redeveloped for more intensive apartment development; properties boarded up and vacant; intensive subdivision of single occupancy villas into flats. The pressure for development is increasing and a number of planning applications for both demolition and

harmful interventions are currently lodged.

Nevertheless the site still clearly demonstrates all the significance for which it is considered to have Outstanding Universal Value.

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

Yes No

If yes, please list. 100 words

N/A

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

150 words

N/A

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

200 words

This Site, the Malone and Stranmillis Historic Urban Landscape, contributes to meeting UNESCO's priorities for a balanced world heritage list in the following ways:-

- 1) Geographically, there is currently only one UNESCO World Heritage Site in Northern Ireland - it is, therefore, under-represented in this respect. The designation of this site in Northern Ireland will help address this imbalance.
- 2) Cultural Landscapes, specifically Historic Urban Landscapes, are currently an under-represented category on the UNESCO World Heritage List.
- 3) The inscription of the Malone and Stranmillis Historic Urban Landscape would move Belfast, Northern Ireland, forward from its troubled and segregated past. It would act as a catalyst for a re-imaged identity for Northern Ireland, post conflict with wider social and economic benefits. Irene Bokova, Director General of UNESCO identifies post-conflict countries as a top priority for UNESCO. A focus on global heritage will be for the benefit of every citizen of Belfast; the Province as a whole; and worldwide. It will also contribute to global peace by setting an example for other post-conflict locations around the World and providing a basis for further collaboration between people and nations.

(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 type="checkbox"/>
Conservation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other benefits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Please describe. 100 words.

The benefits UNESCO WHS inscription of the Malone and Stranmillis Historic Urban Landscape would bring are:

- conservation & protection of the site;
- social capital;
- civic pride and strong positive identity ;
- post-conflict re-imaging;
- stimulus for economic development, funding, investment & tourism;
- education and learning.

(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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The harmonious visual character of the area, with its villas in their landscaped setting and the rhythm of the streetscapes, is vulnerable to a myriad of cumulative threats. This includes demolition; visually disruptive extensions and alterations and removal of historic fabric and landscape features (trees, boundary hedges and grass verges) and harmful interventions. Traditional villas have been redeveloped for more intensive apartment development; properties boarded up and vacant; intensive subdivision of single occupancy villas into flats.
Environmental	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Removal of trees, boundary hedges and landscaping features, including grass verges.
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Removal of legal covenants which serve to protect the occupation of each site by a single dwelling house, amongst other things.

(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

Well established legislation exists to secure the protection of the site. This is primarily through the Planning (NI) Order 1991.

Article 50(5) of the Planning (NI) Order 1991 requires that where such an area is designated “special attention shall be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing its character or appearance.” Paragraph 7.3 of PPS6 states:

“This will be the prime consideration for the Department in the exercise of its planning functions within conservation areas, and, there will be a presumption against the grant of planning permission where development proposals would conflict with this requirement...”

The designated Conservation Areas are:-

Malone Conservation Area - Statutorily Designated
Stranmillis Conservation Area - Statutorily Designated
Adelaide Park Conservation Area - Statutorily Designated
Malone Park Conservation Area - Statutorily Designated

In addition are a number of statutorily designated Listed Buildings. Under Article 42 of the Planning (Northern Ireland) Order 1991 the Department of Environment has a statutory duty to compile lists of buildings of special architectural or historic interest. The statutory criteria for the inclusion of a building on the list are that it is of 'special architectural or historic interest.'

Also Tree Preservation Orders and Legal Covenants.

(17) Ownership

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

It is considered that within the Malone and Stranmillis Historic Urban Landscape there are many owners, primarily private individuals (ie single family ownership). Also, numerous commercial premises, mainly retail, along the Lisburn and Stranmillis Road frontages.

It is, therefore, not possible to identify even the main ones.

Residents/owners in the constituency are democratically represented by their MLA's in the NI Assembly and at Westminster UK Parliament. The Member of Parliament, recently returned to office, is Dr Alasdair McDonnell (SDLP).

Dr McDonnell has expressed his full support for the UNESCO World Heritage Designation for this site within his constituency.

Letters of support from Dr McDonnell MP are attached.

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.

Northern Ireland Department of the Environment Planning Service is the statutory planning authority for the site, in advance of any Review of Public Administration.

The full support of the MP for the area, Dr Alasdair McDonnell, has been obtained. Letter of support is attached.

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.

The general policy framework that exists for the site includes the Regional Development Strategy, Planning Policy Statement 6 - Planning, Archaeology and the Built Heritage (this includes a general policy on World Heritage Sites), the relevant Development Plan, in particular the Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan and respective Conservation Area Booklets. There is policy to prevent the demolition of historic villas, harmful extensions and interventions in the conservation area. But this is not happening – the special architectural and historic character of the area is being rapidly destroyed.

(19) Stakeholders

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

The main bodies or individuals or communities involved in the Malone and Stranmillis Historic Urban Landscape are:
Department of the Environment, Planning Service
Department of the Environment, NI Environment Agency - Built Heritage
Department of the Environment, NI Environment Agency - Landscape
Department of Regional Development, Roads Service
Belfast City Council
Lisburn City Council
Lagan Valley Regional Park
Local community and their elected representatives

(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

Key to the proposed management arrangements for the Malone and Stranmillis Historic Urban Landscape will be the establishment of a Steering Group; and the preparation of a World Heritage Management Plan which the UK Government requires for all World Heritage Sites.

The key elements the Management Plan will include are:

- A Shared Vision for the Site party to all Stakeholders;
- Legislative, planning & global context;
- Involvement of all Parties and Stakeholders;
- Short and Long term objectives and actions to protect, conserve and present the site;
- Planning and Implementation Mechanisms;
- Allocation of necessary resources;
- Capacity building;
- Accountable Management Mechanisms;
- Monitoring and Re-evaluation Strategy.

This is to ensure the protection of this site for present and future generations.

(21) Funding: the nomination

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

The preparation of the case for the nomination of Malone and Stranmillis Historic Urban Landscape for UNESCO World Heritage inscription would be prepared by [redacted] and [redacted].

Funding to be confirmed but it is envisaged that this would be primarily by the Department of the Environment.

(22) Funding: management

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

There would a wide range of possible suitable funders for the long term management of the site which could be pursued.

Name and Contact Details of Applicant

Name	[redacted]
Status	[redacted]
Address	[redacted]
Telephone	[redacted]
Email	[redacted]

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

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.