

Principles and Heritage Values

The trustees recognise the significance of Maker Heights and appreciate the high value of the site to local and national communities. Consequently, we have formally adopted [Historic England's](#) (HE) Conservation Principles and Heritage Values.

Conservation Principles

HE's '[Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance](#)' outlines six high-level principles which encapsulate the Trusts approach to heritage and conservation at Maker Heights:

1. The historic environment is a shared resource
2. Everyone should be able to participate in sustaining the historic environment
3. Understanding the significance of places is vital
4. Significant places should be managed to sustain their values
5. Decisions about change must be reasonable, transparent and consistent
6. Documenting and learning from decisions is essential

Understanding 'significance' and 'heritage values'

HE stresses that 'significance' is at the core of their principles and defines it as the collective term for all heritage values associated with a place like Maker. HE group these values into four categories

Evidential/Archaeological value: the potential of a place to yield evidence of past human activity.

Historical value: the ways in which past people, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present – it tends to be illustrative or associative.

Aesthetic value: the ways in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place.

Communal value: the meanings of a place for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory.

These categories provide us with a clear way to organise how the Trust and the people of the local community value the historical assets at Maker Heights.

Find out More...

Visit Historic England's site and read the full document here: ['Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance'](#)

RCT Principles

We have developed our own set of principles to guide the charity's work at Maker Heights. These comprise three Guiding Principles for future use, as well as ten Development Principles.

1. Any development needs to be sustainable: environmental (protection of natural resources), social (promotion of community cohesion and well-being) as well as economic
2. Restoration and reuse of existing buildings
3. No new permanent buildings in the landscape
4. No private residential development, with the exception of caretakers accommodation
5. Temporary structures sympathetic in the landscape to be removed on a seasonal basis
6. Uses compatible with heritage and community values
7. Maintain wild and open aesthetic of the landscape
8. Promote inclusion and affordability for users of the site and free public access
9. Promote use of the site all year round
10. Maintain existing historical association of existing buildings and landscape