

Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site

Landscape

• The volcanic hills and valleys create an internationally recognised skyline and stunning views.



Edinburgh Castle dominates the skyline



Calton Hill

Topography of Hills and Valleys

The setting of the Site is an ancient volcanic terrain of hills, valleys and skylines.



Arthur's Seat and Salisbury Crags

The Valley of the Water of Leith

A green space of continuous drama and tranquillity within walking distance of the city centre.



Aerial view of Prince Street Gardens

Princes Street Gardens

The green valley of Princes Street Gardens separates the Old and New Towns.



Leafy footpath along the Water of Leith

Find out more at www.ewht.org.uk



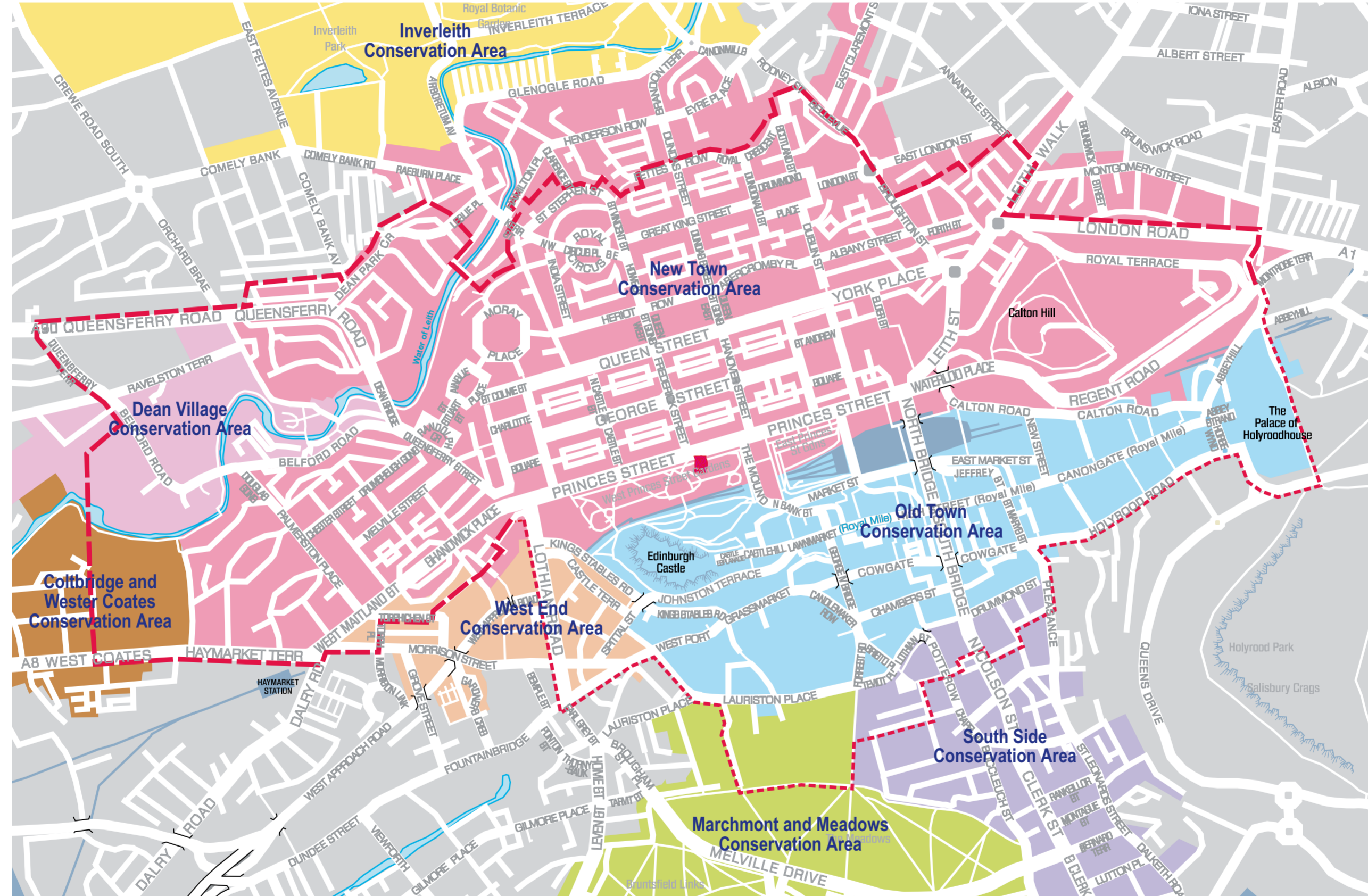
Contrasting styles of architecture

Urban Form and Architecture

• The quality of the architecture and the striking contrast of streetscape, between the Medieval Old Town and Georgian New Town.



Dragons at the entrance to Wardrop's Close



Contrasting Character

The Medieval Old Town with its historic street pattern of narrow closes and wynds, with tall tenements towering either side, forms a distinctive contrast with the formal, grand and spacious streets of the Georgian New Town.

Townscape

The high quality townscape is the result of conscious planning over the centuries, with a sense of place and local identity afforded by the consistent use of local materials.

Historic Buildings

There are many outstanding individual buildings within the Site.

Historic Interiors

Important historic interiors still exist within a variety of public and domestic properties.

Statues and monuments

Statues and monuments are part of the history of the Site as well as being important set pieces in their own right.

Parks, Gardens and Graveyards

The private gardens of the New Town provide an important green environment in the centre of the city, and the many graveyards are an oasis of calm with important historical connections.

History and Heritage

• Edinburgh is a capital city with national institutions, a continuing tradition of law and medicine, and with internationally recognised festivals and events.



The Scottish Parliament



The Palace of Holyrood House

Capital of Scotland

Edinburgh is a royal and ceremonial capital city with national institutions.



Sir Walter Scott

Communities

The city is home to residential and professional communities who have helped to create its unique character.



Statue of philosopher David Hume

Intellectual Tradition

Edinburgh was the birthplace of the eighteenth century Scottish Enlightenment, and the city has long traditions of excellence in geology, medicine, philosophy, law and literature.



Charlotte Square



The Edinburgh International Book Festival

Festival City

Edinburgh hosts the most important international cultural festivals, and the city centre has become the backdrop for events seen around the world.

