

'If you build it, they will come' The Origins of Scotland's Country Parks

Volume 2

Appendix and Bibliography

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A thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

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Volume 2: Appendix and Bibliography



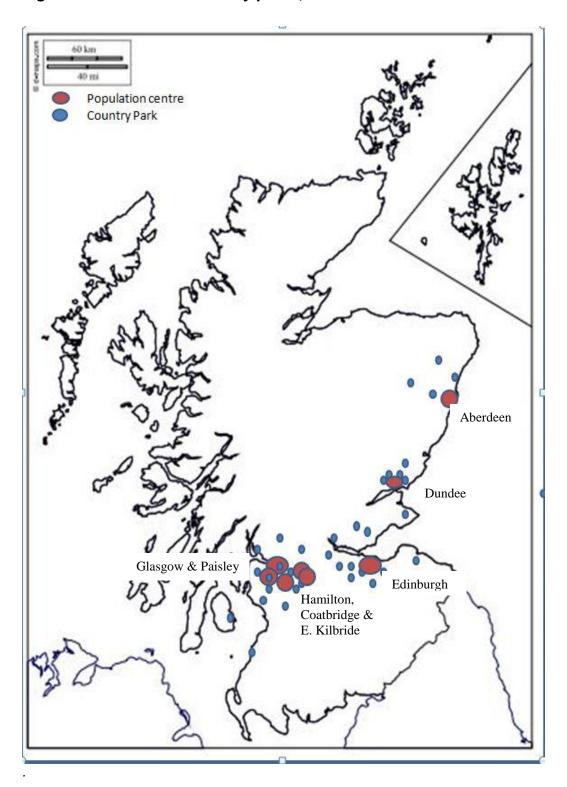
Forfar Loch Country Park (Author's Collection)

Submitted for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

Appendix: Scotland's Country Parks Phil Back

Appendix: Scotland's Country Parks

Fig. A.1: Locations of country parks, 1969-1992



Scottish outline map licensed for free use by D-map.com

Data sources and protocols

Parks are evolutionary in nature, and the facilities and amenities they offer change over time, as can also the extent of the park itself, and the availability of public access. As such it is difficult to offer a meaningful snapshot of how the park looked at the date of registration without reference to contemporary documents which vary both in availability and comprehensiveness. An additional complication is the changes in CCS policy, which initially required the park to be substantially complete before registration, but later made a concession to allow partly-ready parks to register before they actually opened, a concession which was later withdrawn as meaningless. Moreover, the park that was registered often changed significantly in the immediately succeeding years, often with CCS grant aid providing additional facilities and amenities not offered to the first visitors.

The appendix hopes to benefit from an attempt to introduce consistency into these complexities. The list of amenities available at the park is essentially what was offered at the date of registration, according to the Country Park Register, augmented by additional contemporary source material. The site description seeks not only to describe the park in general terms, but also to highlight any significant subsequent changes, where these are known, during the early life of the park. The analysis is assembled from these components:

Name: The name of the park as at the time of registration. A small number of parks have undergone minor name changes in the succeeding years. Taken from the CCS Country Park Register.

Location: The nearest named settlement to the visitor centre or main park entrance. Taken from Ordnance Survey Pathfinder maps.

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Grid reference: The Ordnance Survey Grid Reference of the Visitor Centre (or, if no centre provided, of the main entrance). Taken from Ordnance Survey Pathfinder maps.

Size of site: The area of the site in both imperial (acres) and metric (hectares) measures. This is the total area included in the registration, and includes the area of water bodies within the boundaries. Land added to or subtracted from the site since registration is not included. Taken from the CCS Country Park Register.

Date of registration: The date on which the site was formally registered with CCS. Policy on registration varied and not all facilities were necessarily open at this date. Taken from the CCS Country Park Register.

Ownership at registration: The recorded landowner at the date of registration. Taken from the CCS Country Park Register.

Management at registration: The authority or authorities responsible for managing the site immediately after registration. Taken from CCS minutes and papers concerning registration.

Current management: The present management arrangements for the park, as at 2016. Taken from local information, park websites and local knowledge.

Main landscape elements: The main features, in landscape terms, of the park, including a brief description of landscape character at the time of registration. Taken from site visits, local knowledge, and park information.

Principal visitor facilities around the time of registration: The main visitor provisions established either at the date of registration (for parks registered on completion) or shortly afterwards (for parks registered before completion). Taken from the CCS Country Park Register, and CCS minutes and papers concerning registration, augmented by local knowledge and site visits.¹

Other land uses within site: Any other known land uses in the area actually registered as a country park, other than those provided for the purposes of the park itself. Taken from CCS minutes and papers concerning registration, augmented by local knowledge and site visits.

Status prior to registration: The way the land registered as a country park was used immediately before the creation and/or registration of the park. Taken from CCS minutes and papers concerning registration, augmented by local knowledge and site visits.

Public access prior to registration: The extent of any known public access to the land registered as a country park immediately before the creation and/or registration of the park, and its accessibility by public transport; also its links to a wider network of countryside. Taken from CCS minutes and papers concerning registration, augmented by local knowledge and site visits, and from Ordnance Survey Pathfinder maps.

CCS Financial Support: The amount of money provided by CCS to support the creation and subsequent development of the country park, during the lifetime of the Commission, expressed as a 1996 equivalent figure, for capital works (one-off payments to support building or landscape development). The proportions show the CCS contribution towards the total expenditure that would have eligible for support under CCS regulations. Taken from Appendix A of *The Wood Not the Trees*, an unpublished report for Scottish Natural Heritage by Kit Campbell (Edinburgh, 1997) examining in detail the expenditure on country parks.

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¹ Edinburgh: National Records of Scotland: CCS Archive: Paper CCS (80) 140 for meeting 9 September 1980 includes a list of facilities, as does the CCS Country Park Register, but neither document is complete, nor are they consistent with one another.

Access and connections: The extent to which the park is accessible for those without a car, and the extent (if any) to which it gives access to wider countryside features such as Regional Parks or Long Distance Footpaths, or other publicly accessible land. Taken from local leaflets, site visits, and OS Pathfinder maps.

Site description: A summary of the site as a whole, including any interesting features or elements within it and, where known, any significant changes in the site since registration. Taken from site visits, park information, and in six cases gleaned from Kit Campbell's case studies on value for money.

Location Map: The outline of the park superimposed on the relevant OS Pathfinder map. Complexities of page layout mean that the scale of this map is not necessarily the 1:25000 original. All location maps are © Crown Copyright and Database Right 2018. Ordnance Survey (Digimap Licence)

Notional Catchment: A map showing the location of the park at the centre of a circle of 25 miles radius, including the names of significant urban settlements inside and outside the catchment, and the locations of other nearby registered sites. The choice of a 25 mile catchment reflects a generally understood typical maximum journey undertaken for a day out by car at this time.² The location is derived from the postcode of the visitor centre, or of the nearest usable address, and the buffer has been produced using GIS software. The catchment base map is supplied under licence from Caliper, Inc.

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² For example, in Christian, *Tomorrow's Countryside*, p. 138, and in Patmore, *Land and Leisure*, p. 98. The 25-mile figure was widely cited across the UK as the basis of planning for car-borne recreation; it originates in a survey of 1963 by the British Travel Association but has been supported, to a greater or lesser extent, by other studies.

Population centres within 25 miles: The total population resident in urban areas within a 25-mile catchment in 1971. The 1971 census is chosen as this would be the one most relevant to the majority of country parks. Since country parks were intended (at least at first) to provide for urban populations, and given the difficulties of calculating rural populations with any precision from the 1971 census for Scotland, it seems reasonable to limit the analysis to urban populations. This would naturally lead to an analysis of the burghs, and much of the population data is taken from the relevant census tabulations for burghs; however, this is not foolproof. There are several urban areas, such as Larkhall, Giffnock and Cambuslang, that never achieved burgh status in spite of substantial populations. At the same time, many burghs were so small as to be obviously villages, in spite of their self-governing status. This leads on to a problem of how to define 'urban'.

An obvious starting point is population size. Bartholomew's *Gazetteer* for 1981 uses a cut-off of 2,000 population for Scotland to create a list of larger settlements, but this allows the inclusion of several places that are still, to all intents and purposes, rural villages. A higher limit however excludes some places that are equally clearly urban in character, especially in industrial and post-industrial communities. An arbitrary view, based largely on local knowledge, has been taken which

- excludes anywhere, regardless of status, with a population of less than 1,000 in 1971;
- includes selected places with a population of between 1,000 and 5,000 which are contiguous with larger built-up areas;
- includes all locations with over 5,000 population, regardless of status.

This approach generates a list of 170 places which might reasonably be defined as 'urban' in character. Population figures for non-burgh locations have been drawn from www.scottish-places.info, Edinburgh University's online Scottish Gazetteer.

Towns and cities where a ferry crossing, or a lengthy indirect road route exceeding the 25-mile limit, would be needed to access the park in 1971 are excluded from park catchments. Where the catchment cuts through an urban area (this mostly happens with cities), the location is normally included fully within the catchment.

No. of other country parks within catchment: A count of other registered sites located within the catchment, and which therefore share the catchment population with the site being considered, to at least some extent. For three pairs of sites, the catchments are almost identical, but all sites other than Brodick share at least part of their catchment with a neighbour.

Visitor numbers: The recorded estimated visitor numbers for 1990, as set out in a report to the CCS management committee on 10 December 1991. Townhill Woods did not exist at this time and is not included in this report.

Aden Country Park

Location:

Mintlaw, Aberdeenshire

Grid reference:

NJ 981479

Size of site: 220 acres

89 hectares

Date of registration:

9 December 1980

Ownership at registration:

Banff and Buchan DC

Managed by:

Banff and Buchan DC

Current management (2016):

Aberdeenshire Council

Main landscape elements:

Open grassland, woodland, river (South Ugie Water) and ponds. Ruined estate mansion. Restored farm buildings. Arboretum.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Car parking Visitor centre

Campsite Shop

Caravan site Farming museum Picnic areas Ranger service Toilets Heritage buildings

Footpaths

Other land uses within site:

Agriculture (as part of working farm).

Status prior to registration:

Derelict agricultural estate used

for game shooting

Public access prior to registration: Informal access, uncontrolled; licensed use for pony trekking

CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):

Capital amount: £822,172

Capital proportion: 55% of

£1,483,843

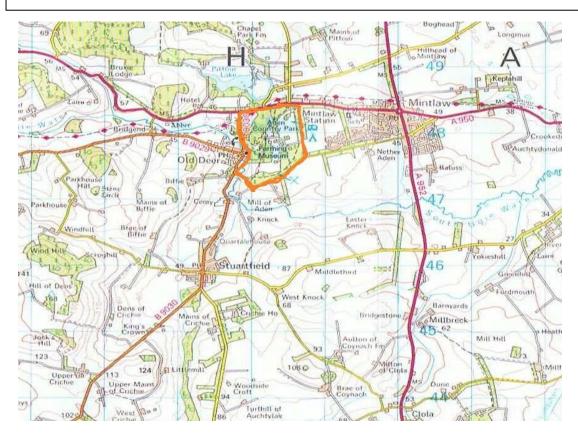
Connections and access:

Limited public transport past site entrance.

Footpath links to Formartine and Buchan Way LDP and ancient Deer Abbey ruins, and to Pitfour estate.

Aden is the most northerly of Scotland's country parks, and is relatively remotely located in the heart of the Buchan farmland. The estate was farmed into the twentieth century but became derelict and neglected after farming ceased. It was acquired by the District Council initially for housing, to enable the village of Mintlaw to expand significantly, but a large part of the land purchased was later allocated as a public park.

The site is unexceptional in landscape terms, but has attractive and well-managed open grassland together with substantial woodland areas; a river forms part of its boundary and there are two small ponds. A Victorian arboretum has been restored. The ruined mansion house has been stabilised and is accessible to the public. The unusual semi-circular farm buildings have been restored and are now in use as visitor facilities, including an agricultural museum with an extensive collection and exhibition area. An exhibition called *Weel Vrocht Grun* has been on display here since 1987, and showcases part of the Adamston Collection of agricultural implements, acquired in 1983; it is now closed pending review. After registration, a local farm was purchased and relocated on to the site to form a historic working farm, as an educational and visitor attraction, recreated as it would have been in the early 1950s. The working farm aspect of this has since been discontinued, but the 1950s farmhouse remains, furnished as a pre-electricity farm steading.



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Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 212,273

No. of other country parks within catchment: 2

Visitor numbers 1990: 186,906

Almondell and Calderwood Country Park

Location:

East Calder, West Lothian

Size of site: 223 acres

90 hectares

Ownership at registration:

West Lothian DC

Grid reference:

NT 091692

Date of registration:

27 January 1971

Managed by:

West Lothian DC

Current management (2016):

West Lothian Council

Main landscape elements:

Two separate sites linked by a footpath. Almondell is riverside with woodland and occasional open grassland, and heritage structures. Calderwood is unimproved semi-natural woodland.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

At Almondell:

Footpaths with nature trails

Picnic areas Camping area

Barbecue area Car park Toilets

Heritage bridges

Heritage structure

Visitor centre Ranger service At Calderwood:

Footpaths Car parks Ranger service

Other land uses within site:

None at Almondell; power transmission at Calderwood.

Status prior to registration:

Almondell is a former country estate. Calderwood is semi-natural woodland.

Public access prior to registration: Informal footpath access.

CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):

Capital amount: £674,300

Capital proportion: 48% of £1, 410,194

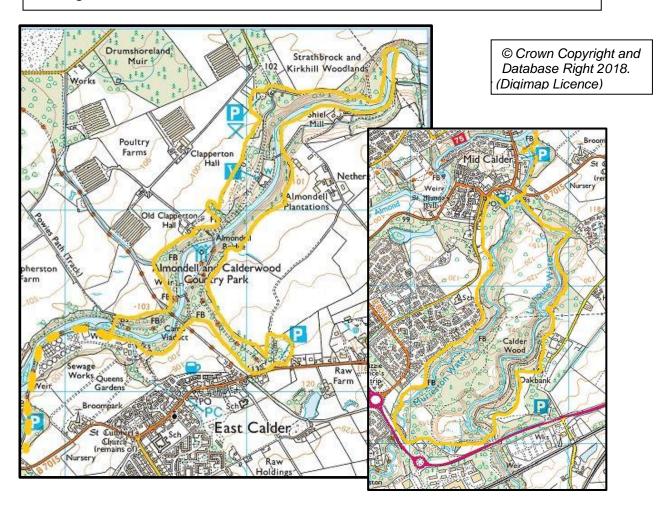
Connections and access:

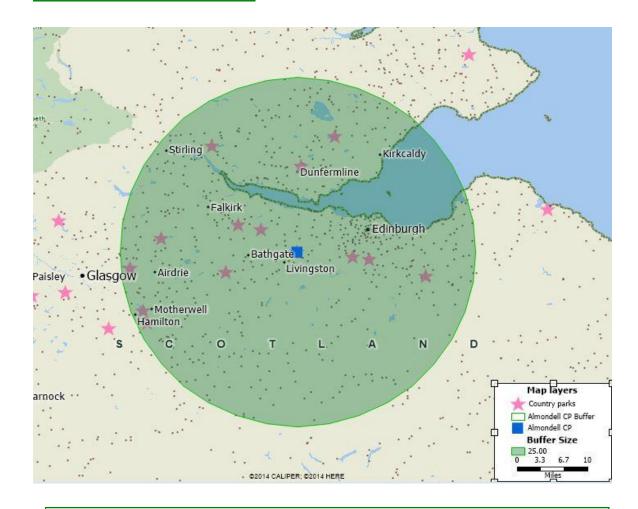
Footpath right of way connects the two areas of the park. Calderwood is close to Mid Calder village with public transport

links.

Almondell and Calderwood is an early country park, covering two sites in West Lothian linked by a public right of way. Almondell is an attractive linear park running alongside the River Almond, with mixed woodland and occasional open areas; a series of bridges of different styles and historic backgrounds have been made a feature of the site, one of which is the Nasmyth Bridge, constructed as part of a designed landscape, which collapsed in 1973 but has since been restored. There are interpretation boards at key locations. Wildlife in the park is known to include otter and kingfisher. Almondell has a small visitor centre in the estate's former stable block, with limited café facilities and a small exhibition space; there is also a formal garden linked to a play space. Outside the centre is the reconstructed Kirkhill Astronomical Tower, relocated from its original home. Almondell was a former country estate with shooting and fishing, but the estate mansion was abandoned in 1943, and demolished in 1969.

Calderwood is in complete contrast, as largely unimproved semi-natural woodland with footpaths but little else, either in terms of facilities or interpretation. It has been used for commercial timber production in the 16th century and in the 19th century for shale oil extraction. Calderwood is a designated SSSI with a mix of different habitats.





Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 1,070,518

No. of other country parks within catchment: 13

Visitor numbers 1990: 110,000

Balloch Castle Country Park

Location:

Balloch, Dunbartonshire

Grid reference: NS 391831

Size of site: 200 acres

81 hectares

Date of registration:

9 December 1980

Ownership at registration:

Dumbarton DC

Managed by:

Dumbarton DC

Current management (2016):

West Dunbartonshire DC

Main landscape elements:

Historic house and grounds, including formal and informal planted areas, extensive open grassland and broad-leaved woodland, on shores of Loch Lomond and with attractive outlooks.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Grounds and gardens Car parks

Footpaths/trails Visitor centre

Shelter Cafe

Slipway

Ranger Service

Toilets

Other land uses within site:

Castle has been used as offices and Council premises, currently closed.

Status prior to registration:

Public park, owned by Glasgow City Council since 1914.

Public access prior to registration:

Open access to grounds; no access to house.

CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):

Capital amount: £228,437

Connections and access:

Capital proportion: 52% of

accessed by bus or rail. On Vale of Leven cycle trail, and links to neighbouring Boturich estate and Woodland Trust woods. Part of Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park

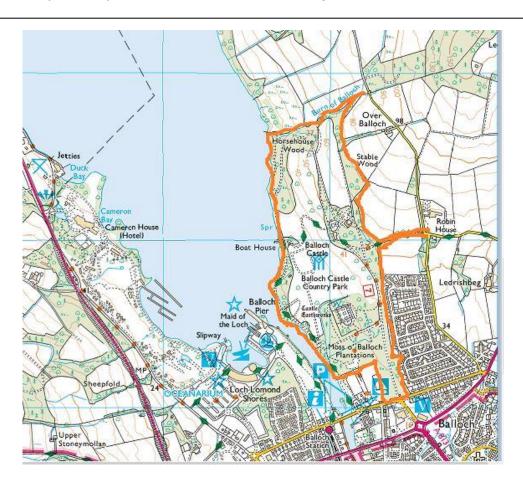
Close to centre of Balloch, easily

£438,424

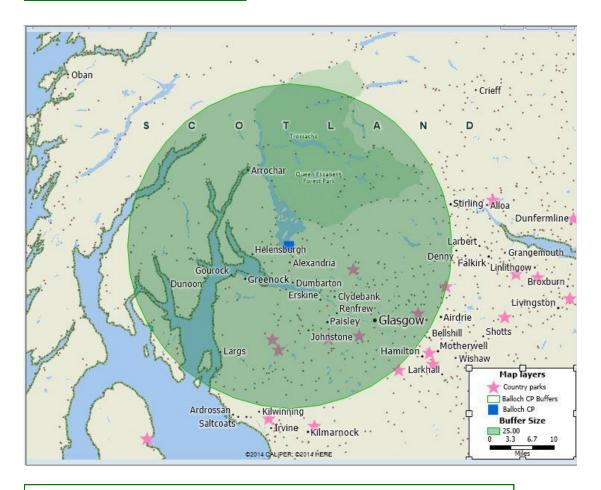
since 2002.

A public open space since 1915, when the estate was acquired by Glasgow Corporation, Balloch Castle was run as 'Glasgow's Garden', an amenity for city dwellers, served by public transport, and continued in this vein when it was leased to Dumbarton DC in 1975. The castle itself is 'A' listed and sits on rising ground, dominating the landscape; it is fronted by a large area of open grassland that slopes down to the shores of Loch Lomond, and there are extensive views of the loch, and of its surrounding mountainous landscape. Close by the castle are a walled garden which is formally planted, a secret garden added during Glasgow ownership, a restored Chinese garden, and other areas of less formal planting with extensive rhododendron cover, all part of an original designed landscape in Picturesque style. Footpaths lead to the castle area and beyond it into broad-leaved woodland, also sloping down to the lochside.

The castle was previously used as office accommodation but is now closed and under restoration. A small café has been created on the shore, and there is also a play area nearby, but visitor amenities are limited. Balloch has long been a popular visitor destination, especially for Clydeside, and was a departure point for Loch Lomond cruising.



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Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 1,019,589

No. of other country parks within catchment: 7

Visitor numbers 1990: 270,000

Balmedie Country Park

Location:

Balmedie, Aberdeenshire

Grid reference: NJ975177

Size of site: 185 acres

75 hectares

Date of registration:

14 June 1983

Ownership at registration:

Grampian Regional Council

Managed by:

Grampian Regional Council

Current management (2016):

Aberdeenshire Council

Main landscape elements:

Sand dunes, links and beach. Two small watercourses cross the site.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Footpaths and trails Wildlife

Car parks Barbecue areas Toilets Picnic sites

Ranger service Lifeguards

Other land uses within site:

The site was used for erosion control experiments linked to the sand dunes. Remains of shore defences at southern end.

Status prior to registration:

Public access prior to registration:

Public beach and dunes. Open access.

CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):

Capital amount: £105,749

Connections and access:

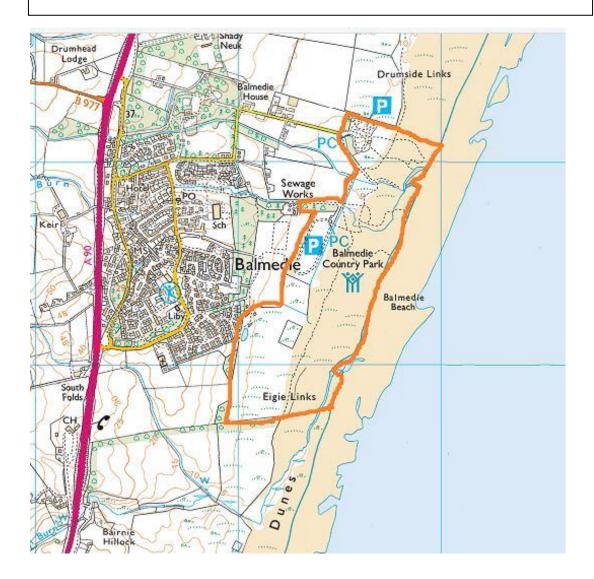
Capital proportion: 58% of £181,490

Local bus service to adjacent village. Informal access along beach beyond park boundary to both north and

south.

Balmedie is a popular sandy beach, 8 miles north of Aberdeen, on the North Sea coast, backed by extensive sand dunes, and has for many years been a destination for seaside outings from Aberdeen city. The country park is crossed by several footpaths, many of them made of duckboards, and disabled access is extensive through the site. Picnic facilities are provided, as is a small play area. It is bounded to the north by the Menie estate, now a high-end golf resort developed by Donald Trump.

The site is also known for its biodiverse habitat, and is part of the Sands of Forvie SSSI.



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Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 201,667

No. of other country parks within catchment: 3

Visitor numbers 1990: 100,000

Beecraigs Wood Country Park

Location:

Near Linlithgow, West Lothian

Grid reference:

NT 008 742

Size of site: 794 acres

321 hectares

Date of registration:

10 April 1979

Ownership at registration:

West Lothian DC

Managed by:

West Lothian DC

Current management (2016):

West Lothian Council

Main landscape elements:

Largely woodland, with a large reservoir and some scrubland.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Footpaths/trails Campsite Ranger service

Information centre Observation hides Sailing
Car parks Fishing Canoeing
Toilets Picnic areas Rock climbing

Other land uses within site:

Deer park with farmed deer. Fish farm. Grazing of Highland cattle.

Status prior to registration:

Former Forestry Commission plantation and reservoir.

Public access prior to registration:

Unknown, although trails around the reservoir may have been used informally.

CCS financial support (1996

equivalent):

Capital amount: £504,895

Capital proportion: 72% of £705,816

Connections and access:

Countryside location only accessible by car. Footpath links to nearby viewpoint at Cockleroy Hill.

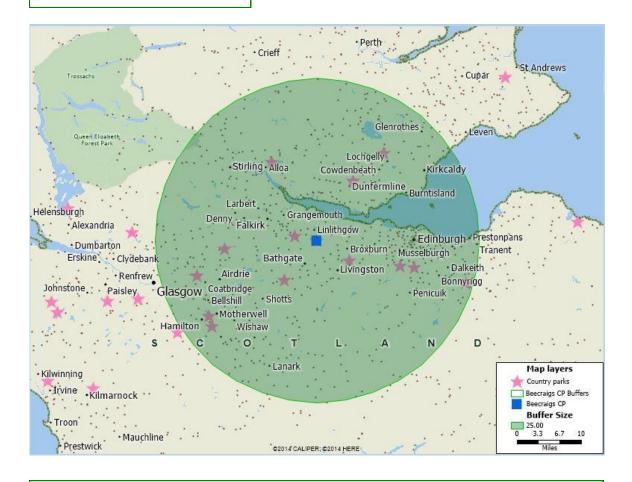
Originally known as Beecraigs Wood, but now simply Beecraigs, this site was previously a Forestry Commission plantation, and consists largely of extensive pine woodland with some areas of broad-leaved woods as well. A visitor centre has been added since registration, and there is also a large and well-equipped play area, as well as barbecue facilities. A large camping and caravan site are located north of the park centre. Aside from the woods, the main feature is the former reservoir, originally constructed by German prisoners during world war one, which has bird hides. Outdoor sports including archery are provided for, as are mountain biking and horse riding.

Beecraigs is located on higher ground in the Bathgate Hills, and was part of an ambitious project to designate the whole of the Bathgate Hills as a country park early on in CCS' existence. A popular aspect of the site is the footpath to Cockleroy Hill, outside the country park boundary, offering an extensive panoramic view across the Firth of Forth and as far as Arran to the west. Other attractions include the deer park, where venison is farmed, which can be viewed from a specially-constructed bridge and platform; fishing on the reservoir is also popular.

The park includes a memorial pagoda to British servicemen who lost their lives in the Korean conflict.



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Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 1,131,844

No. of other country parks within catchment: 13

Visitor numbers 1990: 400,000

Bonaly Country Park

Location:

Southern fringe of Edinburgh

Grid reference: NT 212675

Size of site: 670 acres

271 hectares

Date of registration:

18 December 1984

Ownership at registration:

Lothian Regional Council

Managed by:

Lothian Regional Council

Current management (2016):

City of Edinburgh Council, as part of Pentland Hills Regional Park

Main landscape elements:

Wooded hillside leading up slope of Pentland Hills into open moorland and reservoirs.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Footpaths and trails

Car parks

Toilets
Picnic sites
Ranger Service

Other land uses within site:

Reservoirs (active and defunct); power transmission lines; stock grazing.

Status prior to registration:

Part former public open space, part utilities land including catchment area and reservoirs.

Public access prior to registration:

Open access to lower park area since 1945.

CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):

Capital amount: £29,908

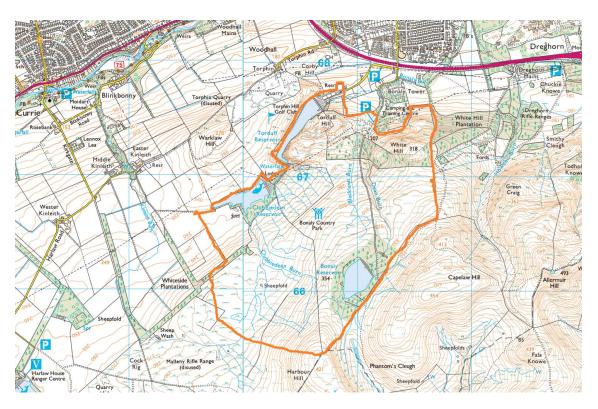
Capital proportion: 60% of £49,588

Connections and access:

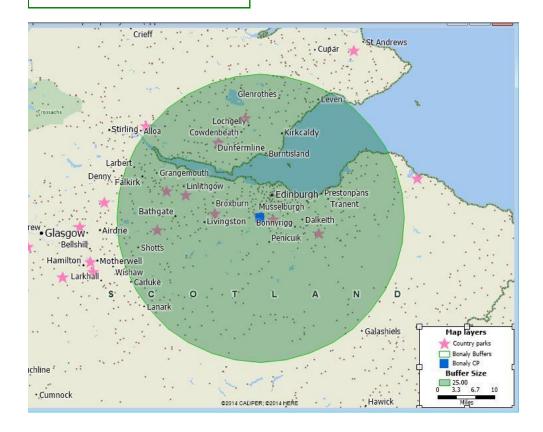
Close to southern limit of Edinburgh built-up area. Easily accessed by public transport. The park acts as a gateway to the Pentland Hills Regional Park.

Bonaly Country Park is a largely natural area formed of a lower grassed area leading through a wooded hillside with a steep path, that opens out onto open heather moorland at the top of the Pentland Hills. A small part was previously a public park (and managed as such from the 1940s onwards), but most of the space was a water catchment area for the reservoirs on the site, two of which are still in use. Visitor facilities are minimal, and the site was always intended as one focussed on hill-walking, although fishing is also available. There is no visitor centre, and the toilets originally provided are no longer operational; only a car park and an orientation board are now provided. The Council has been looking at possible upgrading of the facilities, but this has not taken place.

The landscape includes several reservoirs and their associated structures, and there are also electricity pylons across the lower parts of the site. There are expansive views across Edinburgh and the Firth of Forth from the top of the park, which also gives access to the larger Pentland Hills Regional Park. Much of the moorland is used for sheep grazing and some areas are fenced off to visitors, as is some of the utilities land. The site has a recent history of anti-social behaviour.



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Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 667,047

No. of other country parks within catchment: 8

Visitor numbers 1990: 52,000

Brodick Castle Country Park

Location:

Brodick, Isle of Arran

Grid reference: NS 016 378

Size of site: 179 acres

72 hectares

Date of registration:

10 April 1980

Ownership at registration:

National Trust for Scotland

Managed by:

NTS/Cunninghame DC

Current management (2016):

NTS/North Ayrshire Council

Main landscape elements:

Grassed areas, formal gardens and woodland surrounding Brodick Castle stately home.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Footpaths/trails

Cafeteria

Play area

Ranger service

Car parks Visitor centre

Campsite

Other land uses within site:

None

Status prior to registration:

Former private house acquired by

NTS in 1957.

Public access prior to registration:

Open to public on payment of fee.

CCS financial support (1996

equivalent):

Capital amount: £278,805

Capital proportion: 51% of £552,495

Connections and access:

Walking distance from Brodick, and served by occasional local bus, but island location makes a ferry trip necessary for all except islanders. Footpath access to wider mountain area of Goatfell, also owned by NTS.

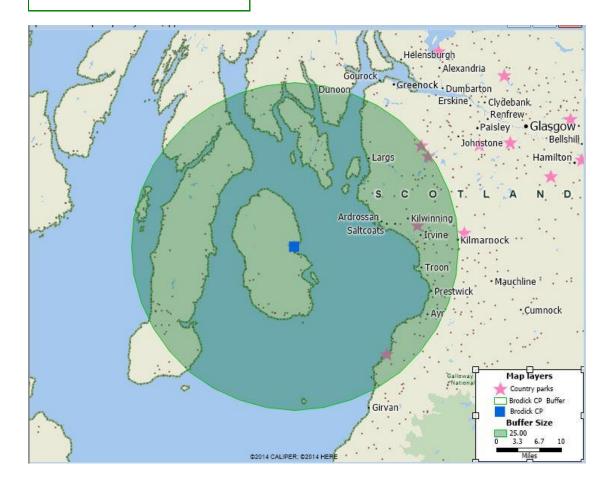
Brodick castle is an ancient stately home acquired by the NTS in 1957 in lieu of death duties. The gardens and wider grounds of the estate are managed as a country park, and include footpaths, trails, and a visitor centre with a play area. The NTS subsequently acquired other land adjacent to the Castle policies and access is now provided to a large area of coastal woodland as well as to the mountainous area of Goatfell, popular with walkers and requiring management to minimise erosion. As is customary with NTS properties, an admission charge is levied.

The gardens are a particular feature and are famed, winning national awards and reflecting the island's proximity to the warming effect of the Gulf Stream in their variety of plants growing outdoors. The castle, an A listed building partly dating from the 14th century, is a major visitor attraction in its own right. The gardens were improved in the 1930s with a large shipment of exotic plants from Tresco, and extended in the 1960s with planting of rhododendrons from Gigha.

The proposal for a country park was first made in 1979, essentially to enhance tourism in North Ayrshire, using a management agreement along the lines of the Culzean model. Brodick had no endowment and country park funding was as attractive here as it had been at Culzean. The remoteness of Arran and the cost of the ferry was always recognised as an obstacle.



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Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): no urban population within range other than by ferry.

No. of other country parks within catchment: 0

Visitor numbers 1990: 66,915

Calderglen Country Park

Location:

East Kilbride, South Lanarkshire

Grid reference:

NS 655 525

Size of site: 373 acres

151 hectares

Date of registration:

9 December 1980

Ownership at registration:

East Kilbride DC

Managed by:

East Kilbride DC

Current management (2016):

South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture (Charitable trust)

Main landscape elements:

Primarily linear country park along wooded glen of River Calder, on eastern edge of East Kilbride. Open grassland areas and woodland around Torrance House, former country house within estate.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Footpaths and trails Play areas

Golf course Visitor Centre Toilets

Picnic sites Car Park Ranger Service Zoo

Other land uses within site:

Sports facilities. Torrance House is used for art exhibitions; part of the house is now in private ownership. A series of aerials along eastern edge of park.

Status prior to registration:

Home of Development Corporation

Public access prior to registration:

Barbecue area

Not known

CCS financial support (1996

equivalent):

Capital amount: £200,947

Capital proportion: 68% of

£293,611

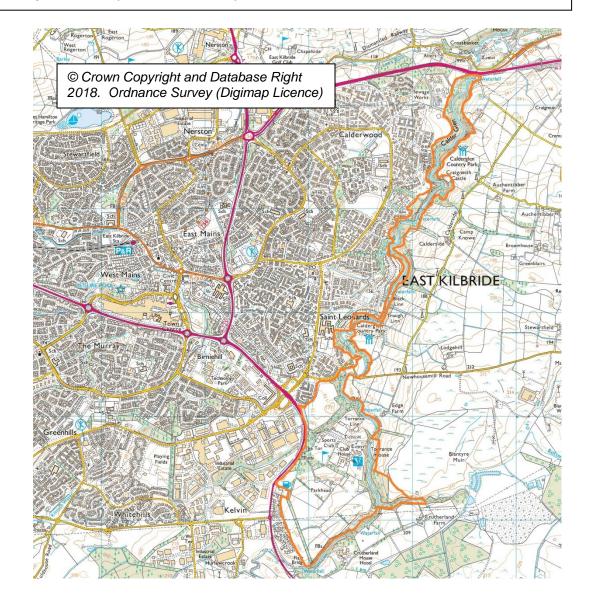
Connections and access:

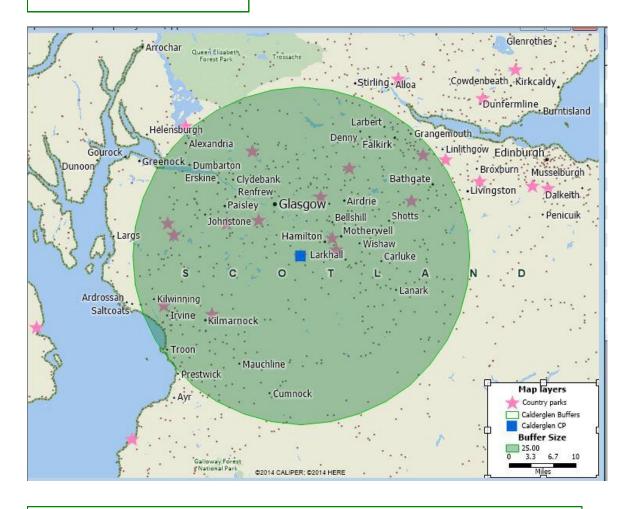
Easy access from eastern fringe of East Kilbride. Bus service from town centre runs past entrance. Access from park to

Langlands Moss.

This is a linear country park that extends for over 5 Km along the wooded valley of the Rotten Calder River, to the east of East Kilbride New Town and close by extensive areas of housing. The land was not originally designated countryside, but the definition was amended in 1980 by CCS.

A long riverside path gives access to a series of waterfalls and also the ruins of Calderwood Castle to the northern end, which is a geological SSSI. The landscape widens out to the south around Torrance House, providing space for open grassland areas, woodland and formal facilities that include extensive sports pitches, ornamental gardens, equipped play areas, a glasshouse, a golf course (which occupies much of the southern end of the site) and a children's zoo. Torrance House dates from the seventeenth century, and was the Headquarters of the East Kilbride Development Corporation prior to its winding up. A boardwalk allows access through a designated nature reserve, and the park provides a path to Langlands Moss, an area of restored raised peat bog and meadow south of Calderglen but in danger from expansion of an adjacent industrial estate.





Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 1,490,501

No. of other country parks within catchment: 13

Visitor numbers 1990: 260,000

Camperdown and Templeton Woods Country Park

Location:

Northern edge of Dundee

Grid reference:

NO 360 324

Size of site: 494 acres

200 hectares

Date of registration:

9 April 1985

Ownership at registration:

City of Dundee DC

Managed by:

City of Dundee DC

Current management (2016):

Dundee City Council

Main landscape elements:

Policies of Camperdown House, including open grassland, tree belts and shrubberies; area of woodland to north.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Footpaths/trails
Picnic and barbecue sites
Adventure Play

Golf course
Pitch and Putt

Sports pitches Tennis courts Ranger Service

Zoo Stables Restaurant Toilets

Other land uses within site:

None.

Status prior to registration:

Private estate bought by city in 1946.

Public access prior to registration: Open to the public since 1949.

Exhibition area

Waterfowl pond

Caravan site

CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):

Capital amount: £178,656

Capital proportion: 41% of £432,227

Connections and access:

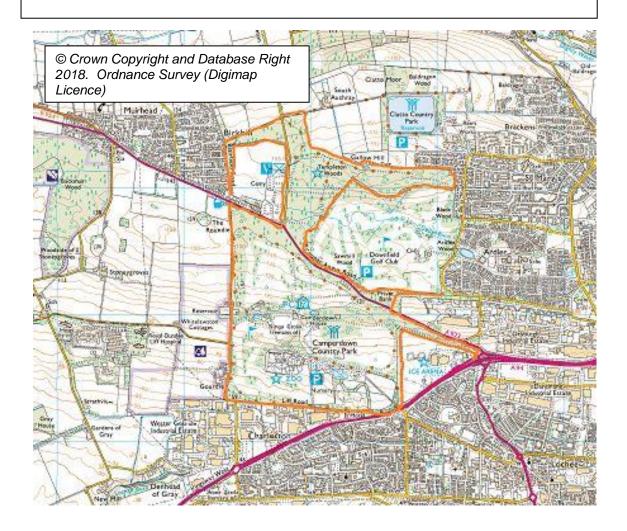
Close to edge of Dundee and housing areas. Accessible by public

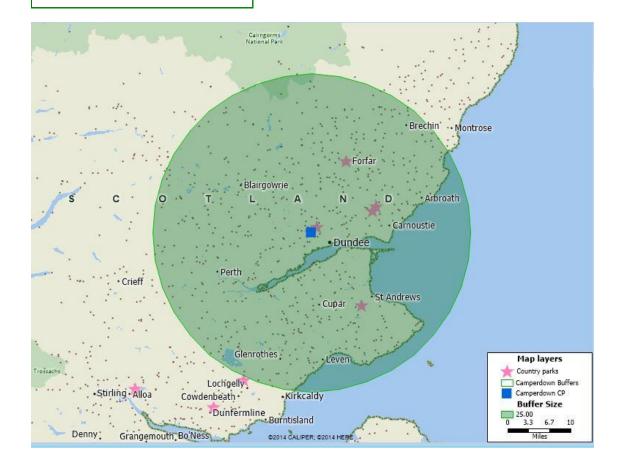
transport.

The park consists of the grounds of Camperdown House, a large A-listed mansion, together with a large wooded area, and is virtually adjacent to the water-based country park at Clatto, on the urban fringe of Dundee. The Camperdown estate was bought by Dundee City in 1946 and has been open to the public since 1949, but became threatened by development in the mid-1970s. Tayside Region then developed a recreational plan in 1982 aiming for country park status for Camperdown, and conserving the site for recreation.

The park includes 190 species of tree. Its main feature (aside from the house, which has been closed for several years) is a wildlife centre, for which an entrance charge is levied. Located in the former walled garden, this features animals once native to Scotland, including wolf and bear, as well as other rare creatures still found in the country such as a pine marten. The site also houses a popular golf course, opened in 1959and occupying a substantial amount of the park. The house was originally utilised as a conference centre and clubhouse.

Templeton Woods is a Green Flag woodland, originally managed for forestry, with resident deer and red squirrels, rarely found in urban Scotland. It is a popular location for dog walking, but, as the site of two unsolved murders in the late 1970s, it also has an unfortunate reputation.





Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 370,793

No. of other country parks within catchment: 5 (including Clatto, which is adjacent)

Visitor numbers 1990: 600,000

Castle Semple Country Park

Location:

Lochwinnoch, Renfrewshire

Grid reference:

NS 359 591

Size of site: 445 acres

180 hectares

Date of registration:

11 March 1975

Ownership at registration:

Renfrew District Council

Managed by:

Strathclyde Regional Council

Current management (2016):

Renfrewshire Council

Main landscape elements:

Large loch and access land. Parkhill Woods added shortly after registration.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Car Park Launching ramps Ranger service

Toilets Jetty Sailing
Picnic area Rescue boat Rowing
Changing Rooms Paths and trails Kayaking
Boat compound/hire Nature reserve Fishing

Other land uses within site:

RSPB observatory located within park boundary (Aird Meadow)

Status prior to registration:

Owned by Renfrew County Council. Parkhill Wood privately owned.

Public access prior to registration:

Unclear.

CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):

Capital amount: £187,682

Capital proportion: 29% of £644,524

Connections and access:

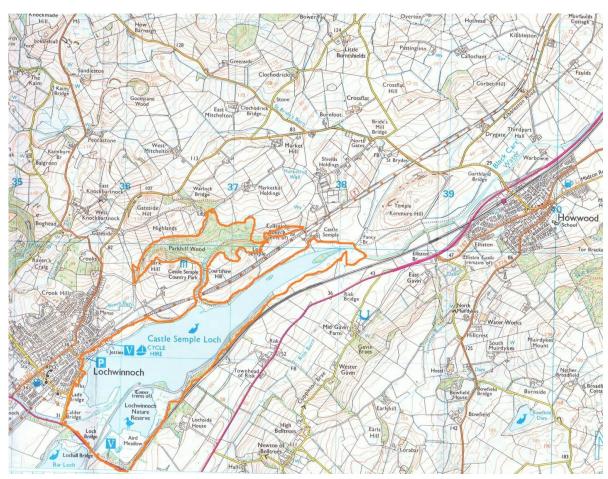
Adjacent to village of Lochwinnoch. Railway station at southern end. Disused railway on edge of park is a

national cycle trail.

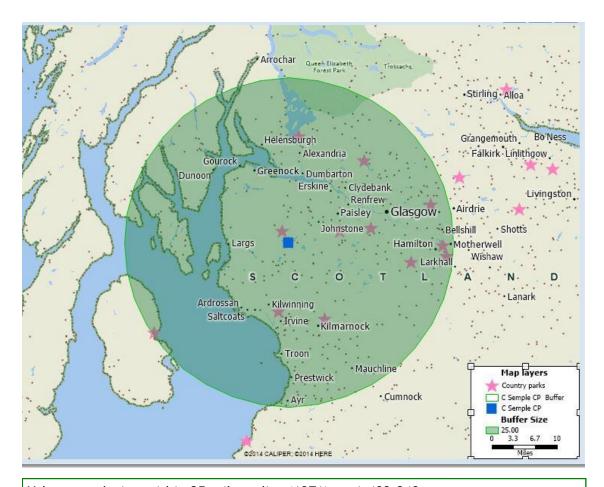
Castle Semple is a park originally focussed almost completely on watersports, providing the infrastructure necessary for a range of activities to take place on its large loch, including windsurfing, sailing, canoeing and rowing. Shortly after registration, a woodland area was acquired and added to the park, and more recently the accessible land has expanded to take in the disused railway line north from Lochwinnoch, providing access to heritage structures connected with the former Castle Semple estate, including an ancient church. Artwork and sculpture have also been installed and a trail leaflet developed, although a simple walk round the loch is still not possible.

An extensive visitor centre, funded by CCS in 1991 to replace a dilapidated predecessor, provides a shop, cafe and exhibition space, and cycle hire is also available.

Part of the land included in the park boundary has, since registration, been an RSPB reserve which is managed independently of the park and has its own visitor facilities.



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Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 1,409,840

No. of other country parks within catchment: 11

Visitor numbers 1990: 126,290

Chatelherault Country Park

Location:

Hamilton, Lanarkshire

Grid reference:

NS736539

Size of site: 508 acres

206 hectares

Date of registration:

9 June 1987

Ownership at registration:

Hamilton DC

Management at registration:

Hamilton DC

Current management (2016):

South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Ltd. (Charitable Trust)

Main landscape elements:

Extensive open grassland to north of centrepiece listed building. Remnants of planned landscape. Woodland and River Avon Gorge to south, with historic oaks and remains of Cadzow Castle.

Principal visitor facilities around time of registration:

Footpaths and trails

Car parks

Toilets

Visitor Centre
Auditorium
Ancient trees

Ranger service Historic White Cattle

Heritage buildings and bridges

Other land uses within site:

Agricultural use (cattle grazing)

Status prior to registration:

Former mineral extraction site on

country estate

Public access prior to registration:

Limited informal access, later closed to public due to safety and vandalism issues.

CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):

Capital amount: £55,646

Capital proportion: 27.8% of £200, 211

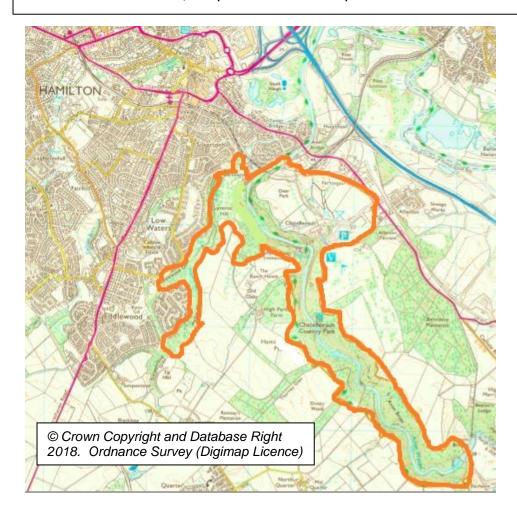
Access and connections:

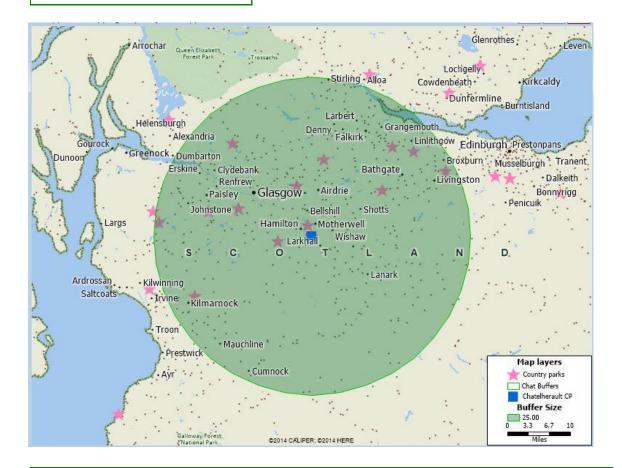
Easy access from Hamilton by bus and rail, with footpath links to local housing areas. Park has its own railway

station.

Almost the last country park to be created under the CCS regime, Chatelherault was for many years a controversial project that suffered from neglect and bureaucracy alike. It was part of the Hamilton Palace estate and was exploited in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries for coal mining and sand extraction, which undermined the palace itself (leading to its demolition in the 1920s) and seriously threatened Chatelherault, a large and prominent structure designed by William Adam, that originally provided the estate dog kennels. Although the site was used by local people on an informal basis, the owners closed it to public access when the buildings became unsafe, and to try and prevent further vandalism which had seriously damaged the property internally and externally.

After protracted negotiation, funding was secured to stabilise the building, restore its plasterwork interiors, reclaim the extraction area, and open the grass and woodland, including the Avon Gorge, as a country park. The parkland houses the famous white Cadzow cattle, while the woodland includes ancient oak trees allegedly dating from the fifteenth century. The ruins of Cadzow Castle, which is associated with Mary Queen of Scots, are on the edge of the gorge, but are not stabilised and are fenced off from visitors. The gorge itself includes evidence of early coal mining, and early habitation, and has extensive linear footpaths with occasional bridges across the river. An extensive visitor centre includes a cafe, shop and exhibition space.





Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 1,399,204

No. of other country parks within catchment: 13, with Strathclyde almost adjacent.

Visitor numbers 1990: 300,000

Clatto Country Park

Location:

Dundee

Size of site: 40 acres

16 hectares

Ownership at registration:

Tayside Regional Council

Grid reference:

NO 368 342

Date of registration:

10 May 1983

Managed by:

Tayside Regional Council

Current management (2016):

Dundee City Council and Ancrum Outdoor Centre (Arms Length Management

body)

Main landscape elements:

Small rectangular reservoir with beach area and shelter belt woodland.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Sailing Toilets
Windsurfing Picnic area
Boating Car park
Canoeing Ranger service

Fishing Play area Swimming Beach

Other land uses within site:

None

Status prior to registration:

Corporation reservoir.

Public access prior to registration:

None.

CCS financial support (1996

equivalent):

Capital amount: £276,449

Capital proportion: 53% of £524,087

Connections and access:

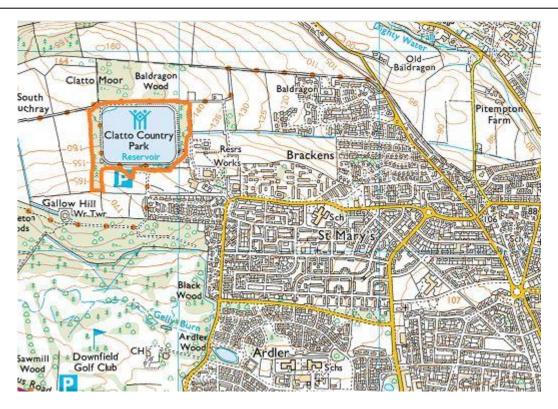
Adjacent to local housing area, reachable by bus.

Close to Templeton Woods area of Camperdown Country Park, and now linked by woodland paths.

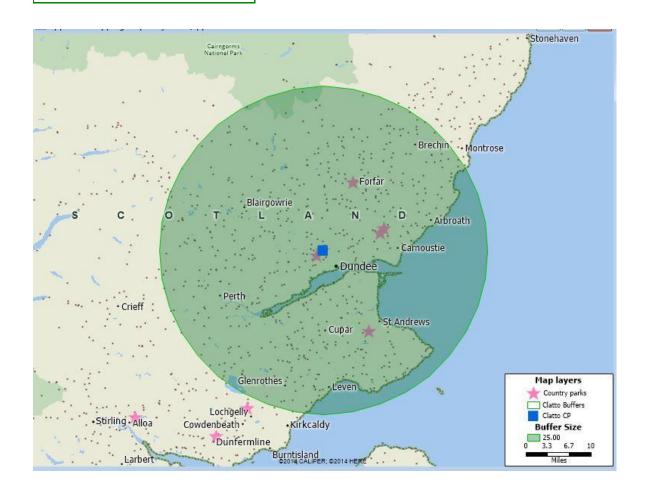
Scotland's smallest country park, 24 of its 40 acres are water and the remainder is mainly shelter belt woodland surrounding the former reservoir. There are views to the Sidlaw Hills. The site is used extensively for watersports and has built facilities to support these activities, and an equipment hire arrangement at accessible cost; fish stocks were introduced in 1983. A small beach was created at one end of the reservoir. A 1984 Management Plan indicated that the site would be managed in a complementary way to the other Tayside sites.

The initial car park provided space for just 20 vehicles. A visitor centre was added in 1987 to accommodate watersports, education and administration, but the park had no mains drainage and very limited electricity supply. In the 1990s there were significant problems with vandalism, and the play area was destroyed.

More recently, additional land has been acquired and the site extended to enable countryside walks, including a woodland linking the park to its near neighbour, Camperdown and Templeton Woods Country Park.



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Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 380,752

No. of other country parks within catchment: 5, with Camperdown almost adjacent.

Visitor numbers 1990: 90,000

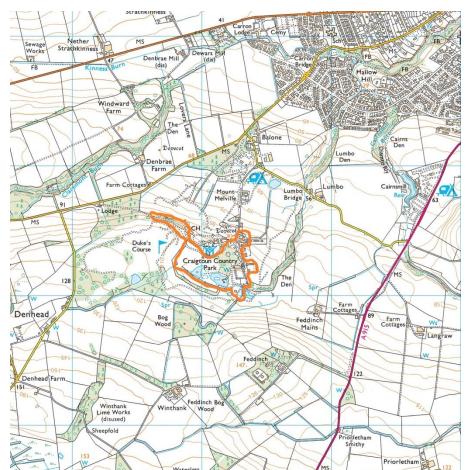
Craigtoun Country Park

Location: in countryside 2 miles west of St Grid reference: NO 483 143 Andrews, Fife Date of registration: Size of site: 50 acres 8 April 1975 20 hectares Ownership at registration: Managed by: North East Fife DC North East Fife DC Current management (2016): Fife Council Main landscape elements: Largely formal park with extensive planting, around loch. Principal visitor facilities around registration: Car park Toilets Greenhouses Open Air Theatre Angling Picnic areas Bowling Green Miniature Railway **Boating Pond** Ranger service Putting Green Model Village Other land uses within site: None. Status prior to registration: Public access prior to registration: Open access Public park CCS financial support (1996 equivalent): Connections and access: Remote and accessible Capital amount: £237,438 primarily by car.

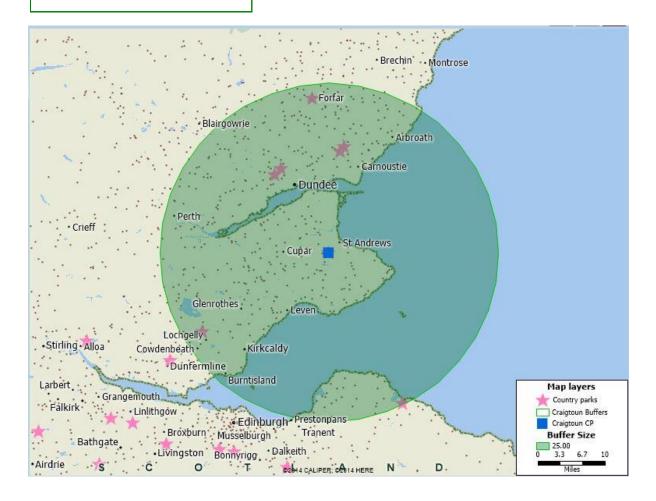
Capital proportion: 59% of £405,470

The site encompasses former hospital grounds acquired by the local authority in 1947 and developed as a public park thereafter. Craigtoun was already a major tourist and day-tripper attraction, particularly popular with coach trippers, before it secured country park status in 1975; CCS noted at the time that it was 'already functioning as a country park in practice' and the new local authority had already developed a management plan. Although designated as a country park, the grounds retain many of the features and much of the character of a large urban park, including extensive herbaceous planting, shrubberies, crazy golf, pedal cars and a miniature railway. However, it also has quieter areas of open grassland and small areas of woodland. There are also greenhouses and catering facilities, as well as a picnic area and children's play area.

Two lakes occupy part of the site, and one of these has a 'Dutch Castle' on an island in the middle of it; one lake is used for boating, while the castle awaits refurbishment. A network of footpaths extends around the site. Admission is free, but charges are made for use of some of the attractions.



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Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 422,301

No. of other country parks within catchment: 6

Visitor numbers 1990: 95,000

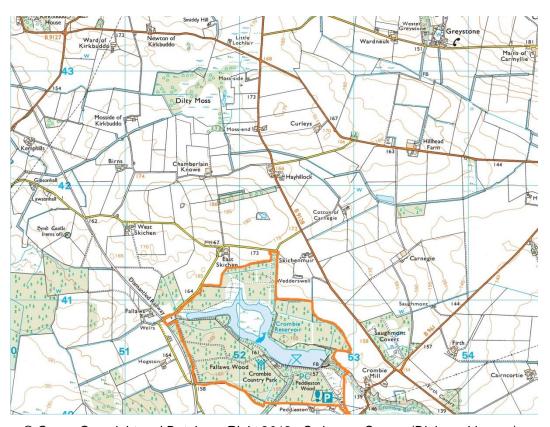
Crombie Country Park

Location: In Angus countryside, 5 Grid reference: miles northwest of Carnoustie NJ 583 169 Size of site: 245 acres Date of registration: 99 hectares 10 May 1983 Ownership at registration: Managed by: Tayside Regional Council Tayside Regional Council Current management (2016): Angus Council Main landscape elements: Large reservoir, with surrounding woodland. Principal visitor facilities around registration: Footpaths and trails Ranger service Picnic area Fishing **Toilets** Car park Other land uses within site: None. Status prior to registration: Public access prior to registration: Unknown, but likely to have been Utilities land limited informal access. CCS financial support (1996 Connections and access: equivalent): Remote and accessible only by car. Capital amount: £91,113 Capital proportion: 55% of £164,705

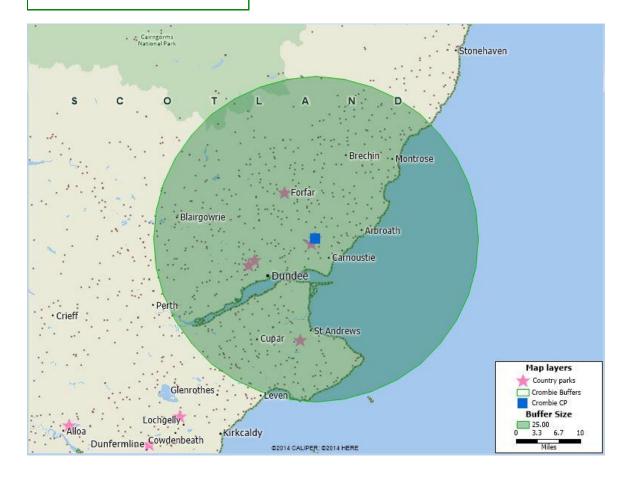
Crombie is a former reservoir, closed in 1981 and since converted to a somewhat understated country park. The central feature is the loch, which is used solely for passive recreation such as fishing. The land within the park is primarily woodland with some open grassed areas. The site has picnic spaces, a play space and is also used for marquee events.

The park includes a Tree Trail, which utilises several specimen trees on the site. and focusses strongly on its scenery and wildlife. There are bird hides at the eastern end of the loch, and a limited amount of interpretation of nature and local history. There is also a souterrain. Pathways have been improved to a highly accessible standard.

The site is jointly managed with Monikie, which is less than two miles away.



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Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 274,122

No. of other country parks within catchment: 5 (Monikie is very nearby)

Visitor numbers 1990: 44,742

Culzean Country Park

Location:

Ayrshire Coast, north of Maidens

Grid reference: NS 236105

Size of site: 565 acres

229 hectares

Date of registration:

19 December 1969

Ownership at registration:

National Trust for Scotland

Managed by:

NTS/Ayr CC/Ayr BC/ Kilmarnock BC

Current management (2016):

National Trust for Scotland

Main landscape elements:

Gardens and policies of Culzean Castle, including formal and informal planted areas, woodlands, pond, beach, heritage structures

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Visitor centre (new visitor centre provided shortly after registration)

Auditorium Car Parks
Picnic areas Ranger Service

Footpaths/trails Toilets

Camping Coastal views

Other land uses within site:

Residential Education Centre. Private housing and holiday lets in castle. Deer park.

Status prior to registration:

National Trust property open to the public

Public access prior to registration:

Public access to grounds and house, on payment of fee.

CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):

Capital amount: £2,119,315

Capital proportion: 64% of £3,288,666

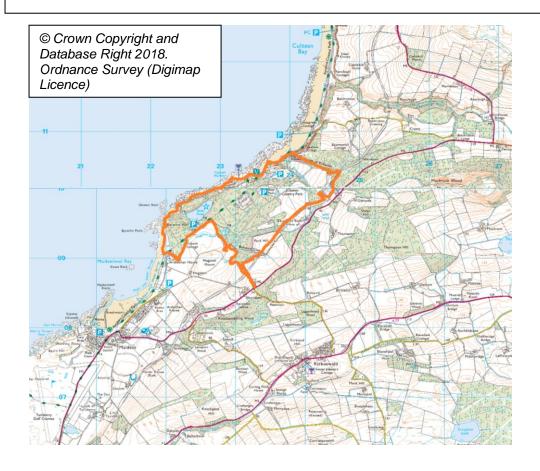
Connections and access:

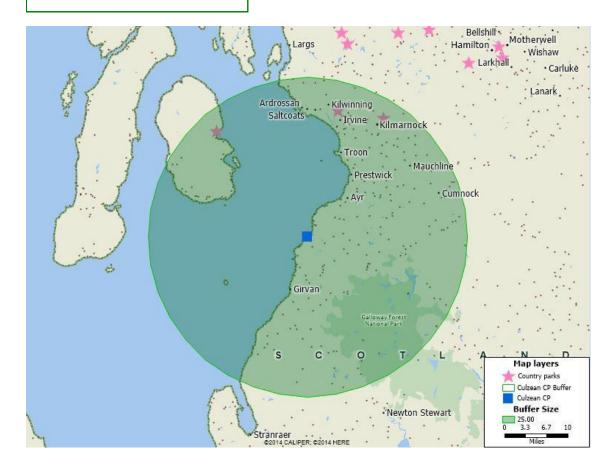
Fairly remote from public transport, with bus stop on main road at some distance from castle. Footpath access along dismantled railway from Girvan. Beach access from Maidens.

Culzean Country Park consists of the gardens and policies of Culzean castle, an iconic Scottish baronial house on a clifftop overlooking the Firth of Clyde, and has views across the firth to Arran, Kintyre and Ailsa Craig. The property was given to the National Trust for Scotland in 1945 and quickly became the Trust's flagship property, in spite of its significant draining effect on NTS finances. An innovative management agreement enabled CCS funding for the park area whilst leaving the castle under exclusive NTS control. In practice, the two entities have always been run as a seamless whole so far as the visiting public are concerned.

Culzean was Scotland's first country park, designated in 1969. The gardens and grounds include an extensive formal planted area, with two walled gardens, a camellia house, and paths and trails through a large woodland to a pond area, where an aviary is located. The grounds include several historic structures and ornamentation, including the Gas House on the beach, a pagoda near the pond, viaduct bridges and a ruined arch, and the Cat Gates on the landward side of the estate, as well as estate cottages since used as ranger residences. The Home Farm buildings were restored shortly after restoration as a new visitor centre with shop, restaurant and offices. The estate includes around three miles of coastline.

Access to the estate requires payment of a fairly significant charge, but in spite of this the site is one of Scotland's most popular visitor destinations.





Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 229,578

No. of other country parks within catchment: 2 (excluding Brodick)

Visitor numbers 1990: 365,000

Dean Castle Country Park

Location:

Kilmarnock, Ayrshire

Grid reference:

NS 392 435

Size of site: 200 acres

61 hectares

Date of registration:

9 September 1980

Ownership at registration:

Kilmarnock and Loudoun DC

Managed by:

Kilmarnock and Loudoun DC

Current management (2016):

East Ayrshire Leisure (Charitable Trust)

Main landscape elements:

Grassland and woodland, including a pond, two streams and former gardens around historic castle.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Ranger service Car parks Visitor centre **Toilets** Footpaths/trails Play area Tearoom Picnic areas

Historic buildings

Museum

Other land uses within site:

Some areas used as farmland.

Status prior to registration: Private estate gifted to Kilmarnock

Council in 1975.

Public access prior to registration: Open public access, previously private estate.

CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):

Capital amount: £803,372

Capital proportion: 59% of £1,354,863

Connections and access:

Easy walking distance from Kilmarnock. Accessible by public transport. Links into National cycle

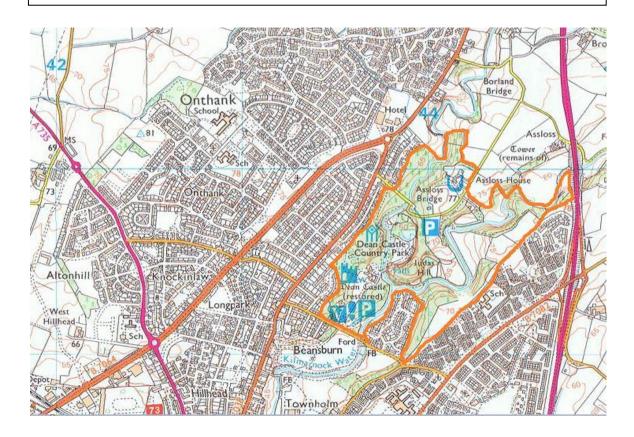
network.

Dean Castle Country Park is located on the northern side of Kilmarnock, and has housing on three sides with open countryside to the north. The land, castle and contents were gifted to the burgh of Kilmarnock in 1975, and it was registered as a country park in 1980.

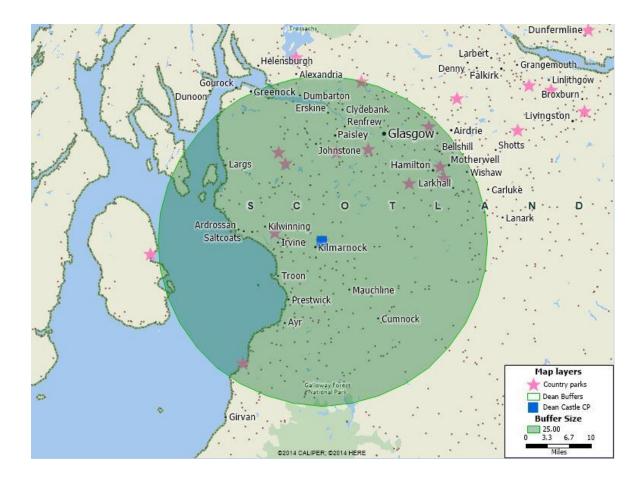
The landscape incorporates the surrounding policies of the castle itself, which dates from the fourteenth century, while the visitor centre was originally housed in the Dower House but has since relocated to a purpose-built structure nearer to the main entrance. The castle building houses a small museum focused especially on the previous owner's collection of ancient musical instruments. Elements of the state remain, including a family graveyard and a kitchen garden; there is also a motte and bailey thought to be the site of the original castle.

A former quarry area is also included in the park, with interpretation to help visitors identify quarry-related elements. There is also an area set aside for rare breed paddocks, a deer park, and an aviary, as well as a small city farm project. In spring, the daffodils are a favourite feature.

Plans have been drawn up for an ambitious project aiming to restore the landscape to that originally created by the castle's owners at the start of the twentieth century, and a funding bid of £4 million has been submitted.



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Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 1,373,645

No. of other country parks within catchment: 11

Visitor numbers 1990: 100,000

Drumpellier Country Park

Location:

Coatbridge, Lanarkshire

Grid reference: NS 705664

Size of site: 830 acres

336 hectares

Date of registration:

10 July 1984

Ownership at registration:

Monklands DC

Managed by:

Monklands DC

Current management (2016):

North Lanarkshire Council

Main landscape elements:

Open grassland, heath and woodland surrounding two large lochs, one reserved for wildlife and the other recreational. Formal gardens and informal planting.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Visitor Centre Footpaths and trails

Car parks Wildlife

Equipped play space Archaeological site Sailing Ranger service Canoeing Picnic areas

Golf course

Other land uses within site:

SSSI within site.

Status prior to registration:

Former country estate bequeathed to Corporation in early 20th century.

CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):

Capital amount: £1,046,144

Capital proportion: 69% of £1,507,077

Public access prior to registration:

Open access. Woodend Loch is managed as a restricted access area however.

Connections and access:

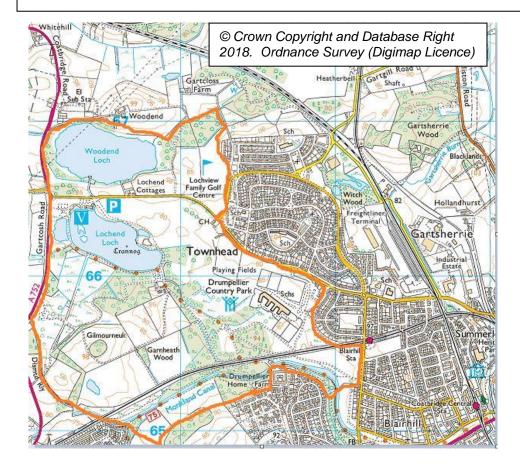
Accessible by local bus and

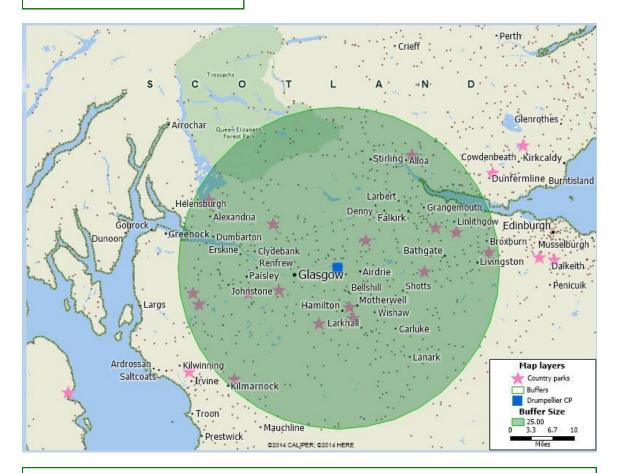
train.

Drumpellier is situated on the western side of Coatbridge and forms part of the green belt separating the Monklands from Glasgow. Originally a country estate, the land was gifted to the burgh of Coatbridge in 1919 and has served as public open space ever since; it was a popular destination for Glasgow's East End for several years, and was used for weekend camping trips for several years. On summer Sundays, the space was a popular promenade for younger residents. A shop was provided and there were rowing boats available for hire. During the 1960s and 1970s, municipal tips on the site were reclaimed, the canal was dredged, and a golf course was created, all before the country park designation was sought.

Drumpellier's main focus is its water; its lochs are kettle ponds and form part of a chain of similar water bodies along the eastern edge of Glasgow. Lochend Loch provides a base for a variety of active and passive pursuits, while Woodend Loch is managed more restrictively as an SSSI. Footpaths cross the site and give access to a small formal garden area with a memorial, and to extensive woodlands; there is an equipped play area for children. Some of the land was previously derelict and is now reclaimed as a golf course and sports pitches. The park's southern boundary includes a towpath along the former Monklands Canal.

Part of the site has been sold off to allow construction of school facilities. It is now advertised as being 500 acres in extent, and there has been pressure to release further space for development. There were problems reported with poaching and anti-social activity in the 1990s.





Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 1,524,469

No. of other country parks within catchment: 16

Visitor numbers 1990: 363,000

Eglinton Country Park

Location:

Kilwinning, Ayrshire

Grid reference: NS 320 420

Size of site: 1000 acres

350 hectares

Date of registration: 13 May 1986

Ownership at registration:

Cunninghame DC

Managed by:

Irvine Development Corporation

Current management (2016):

North Ayrshire Council

Main landscape elements:

Former gardens and policies of Eglinton castle, with grassland, woodland and riverside features.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Visitor centre

Ranger service

Toilets Car parks Nature reserve Footpaths and trails

Other land uses within site:

Extensive agricultural use, with farm within the country park still in private ownership. Former Wilson's food processing and canning plant operational in the park until 1997.

Status prior to registration:

Farmland and factory site, with gardens run by charitable trust

Public access prior to registration:

Informal public access to parts of grounds.

CCS financial support (1996

equivalent):

Capital amount: £280,240

Capital proportion: 61% of £460,161

Connections and access:

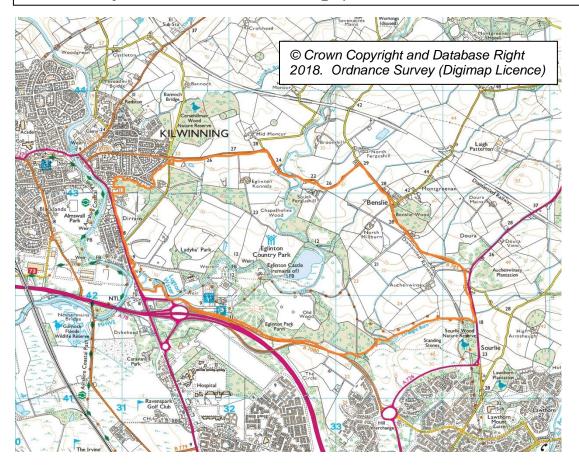
Easily accessed by public transport. Connected to wider Irvine new Town footpath network and to National

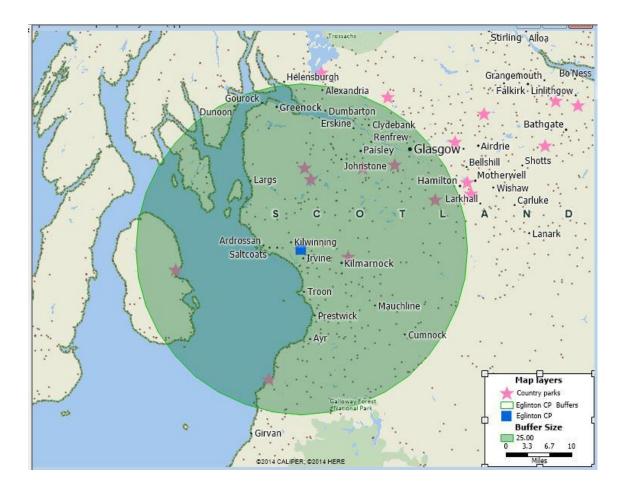
Cycle network.

The formal gardens and much of the landscape were created by a charitable trust and donated to the Council in 1976, while the bulk of the site was still in use as farmland and as a food processing plant, with areas accessible to the public. Eglinton, which lies between Irvine and Kilwinning, was designated as parkland in the 1964 Irvine New Town Development Plan, and formed from the policies of Eglinton Castle, whose stabilised ruins sit at its heart. The site is crossed by the Lugton Water which allows riverside walks, and there is also a small artificial loch. Although originally intended as a Regional Park, it became Scotland's 34th country park in 1986.

The park includes a large open grassed area with equipped play space, and extensive country and riverside walks, and showcases heritage structures and interpretation linked to the history of the site, which has had a varied past as a country estate, as a site for timber production, coal mining and ore extraction, and as a training ground for the Normandy landings. A folly, planned but never constructed, was built using historic drawings and plans, and a historic bridge restored, whilst other structures, some of them listed, have been retained. Camping and caravan pitches are provided.

The Visitor Centre, in refurbished stable buildings, includes interpretation of the history of the site; presentation makes much of the Jousting revival hosted in 1839. Three areas within the boundaries are nature reserves. Within the park boundary, much of the outlying land is still farmed commercially and this limits access to large parts of the site.





Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 1,112,651

No. of other country parks within catchment: 7 (excluding Brodick)

Visitor numbers 1990: 35,871

Forfar Loch Country Park

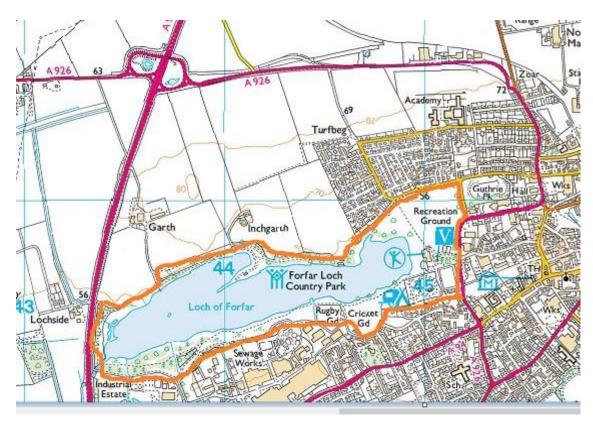
Location: Forfar, Angus	Grid reference: NO 450507	
Size of site: 210 acres 85 hectares	Date of registration: 14 December 1982	
Ownership at registration: Angus DC	Managed by: Angus DC	
Current management (2016): Angus Alive (Charitable Trust)		
Main landscape elements:		
Park combining urban elements and active sports features and countryside area dominated by large loch with natural/semi-natural surroundings.		
Dringing Lyighter facilities around registration		
Principal visitor facilities around registration	:	
Sailing Pitch and putt		
1 5	Wildlife area Adjacent leisure centre	
Picnicking NO ranger service		
Sports pitches Paths		
Other land uses within site:		
None.		
Status prior to registration:	Public access prior to registration:	
Public park and adjacent countryside.	Open access.	
CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):	Connections and access:	
Capital amount: £39,117	Adjacent to town and easily accessed. Footpath network to south of loch leads to wider	
16 1 100/ 6 6000 000	1 122 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 27 20 27	

urban fringe countryside.

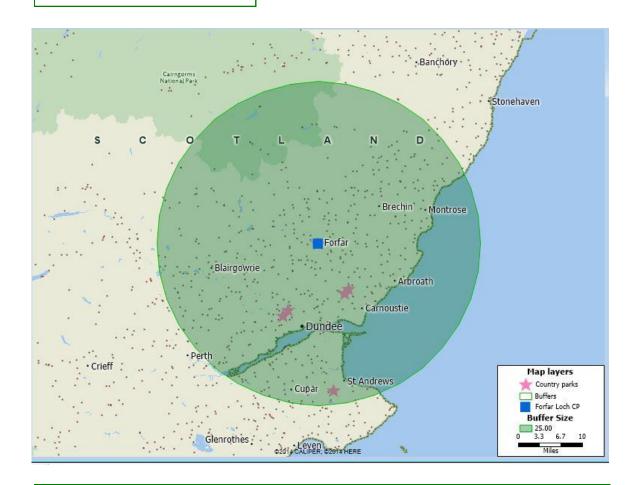
Capital proportion: 12% of £332,329

The site consists of several elements. A large sports area occupies land at the eastern end close to the town, and is serviced by a leisure centre. This area also features a number of elements associated with urban parks, including crazy golf and pitch and putt. The remainder of the site is dominated by the loch; on its northern shore there are facilities for water-based activities including sailing and fishing, and an orienteering course, while on the south western side the area is maintained as a less active space, managed to provide opportunities for wildlife, which include otters, stoats and wildfowl. The area has some historical associations with Queen Margaret, a crannog site and also a monument memorialising the Forfar witches. There is a caravan site within the park, as well as a picnic area and a bird hide.

Angus DC was planning to designate the site as an urban park, devoted to recreation, under the Public Parks (Scotland) Act 1878, but was persuaded by CCS that it met the criteria for consideration as a country park.



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Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 271,901

No. of other country parks within catchment: 5

Visitor numbers 1990: 263,231

Gartmorn Dam Country Park

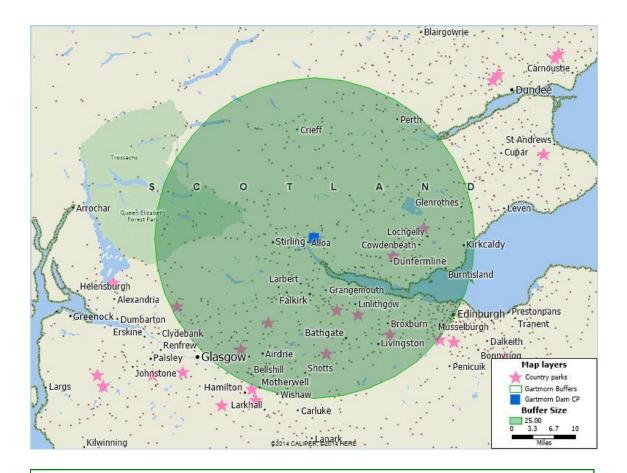
Location: Sauchie, Clackmannanshire	Grid reference: NS 911 940	
Size of site: 167 acres 68 hectares	Date of registration: 12 February 1980	
Ownership at registration: Water Authority	Managed by: Clackmannan DC	
Current management (2016): Clackmannanshire Council (leased from Scottish Water)		
Main landscape elements: Former reservoir and immediate surrounding land.		
Principal visitor facilities around registration: Visitor centre Ranger service Toilets Heritage structures Car park Picnic area Nature reserve Angling Footpaths and trails Birdwatching		
Other land uses within site: None.		
Status prior to registration: Utilities land and reservoir	Public access prior to registration: Informal public access for many years, but water access prevented.	
CCS financial support (1996 equivalent): Capital amount: £105,674 Capital proportion: 47% of £226,155	Connections and access: Easily accessed by public transport. Cycle path link to Alloa and Tillicoultry. Access to former railway between Alloa and Dunfermline.	

A shallow artificial loch originally created to provide power for coal mining, and subsequently used as a public water supply. The country park essentially consists of the loch and a pathway along its perimeter, with occasional industrial structures and relics. A bird hide allows visitors to watch waterfowl and sand martins. Several picnic tables are scattered around the site, which has been extended to include a community woodland south of the loch and a small wood to the northwest.

The park's limited facilities include a small visitor centre near the entrance. Part of the footpath round the loch follows the route of a former mineral railway to Sheriffyards Colliery at the eastern end of the loch.



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Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 1,008,369

No. of other country parks within catchment: 9

Visitor numbers 1990: 16,000

Gleniffer Braes Country Park

Location:

South of Paisley, Renfrewshire

Grid reference:

NS 471 607

Size of site: 1184 acres

480 hectares

Date of registration:

9 December 1980

Ownership at registration:

Renfrew DC

Managed by:

Renfrew DC

Current management (2016):

Renfrewshire Council

Main landscape elements:

Formal grassland and planting, waterfall in gorge, reservoirs, rough moorland and woodland.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Car parking Pony trekking Fishing

Toilets Archery Orienteering
Footpaths/trails Golf course Poetry events
Ranger service Viewpoints Sports pitches

Visitor centre Archaeological relics

Other land uses within site:

Agriculture (cattle grazing) and power distribution.

Status prior to registration:

Open countryside and public park.

Public access prior to registration:

Open informal access since 1850s.

CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):

Capital amount: £303,853

Capital proportion: 62% of £492,782

Connections and access:

Easy walking distance from south Paisley. Accessible by public transport.

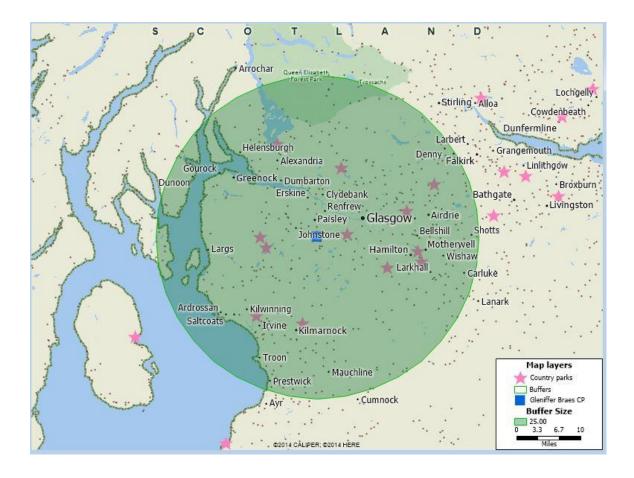
This large country park consists of Glen Park, a large formally designed and planted area with open grass and specimen trees, and a much wilder upland moorland area which includes rough grazing for cattle, walking trails, and spectacular views across Paisley and the lower Clyde towards the Trossachs. The two areas are separated by a burn, which forms an attractive waterfall at Craigielinn, and by a large reservoir surrounded by broad-leaved woodland. There are two standing stones at the western end of the site.

Gleniffer Braes was open for public access when in private ownership in the mid-19th century, and this has continued and been extended through land acquisition. The area has strong associations with local poets, especially the weaver poet Robert Tannahill, and he and others are commemorated in named walkways, a well and memorial stones. An outdoor centre was originally constructed in 1910 as a sanatorium for local workers. The park provides a habitat for wildlife, including roe deer, a variety of birdlife, and colourful flora. There are two play areas, and some paths are suited for equestrians and cyclists

The park was well-equipped at its outset with several activities organised, but is now much more informally used; the visitor centre is now only occasionally open.



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Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 1,512,530

No. of other country parks within catchment: 12

Visitor numbers 1990: 400,000

Haddo Country Park

Location: Remote Aberdeenshire

countryside near Methlick

Grid reference: NJ 869 348

Size of site: 180 acres

73 hectares

Date of registration:

9 December 1980

Ownership at registration:

Grampian Regional Council

Managed by:

Grampian Regional Council

Current management (2016):

Aberdeenshire Council

Main landscape elements:

Grassed areas, formal gardens and parkland, water and woodland, surrounding Haddo House.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Footpaths/trails
Information centre

Car parks Toilets Ranger service

Other land uses within site:

Haddo House is owned by the National Trust for Scotland and is managed separately. Some rights were retained when the land was transferred to Grampian RC. Family also retained monument field, later transferred to GRC. There are several private residences within the estate. Grazing continues in part of the property.

Status prior to registration:

Grounds of private residence of Lord Aberdeen, sold in 1979.

Public access prior to registration:

Occasional by invitation to local groups or for concerts.

CCS financial support (1996

equivalent):

Capital amount: £445,471

Capital proportion: 63% of £704,072

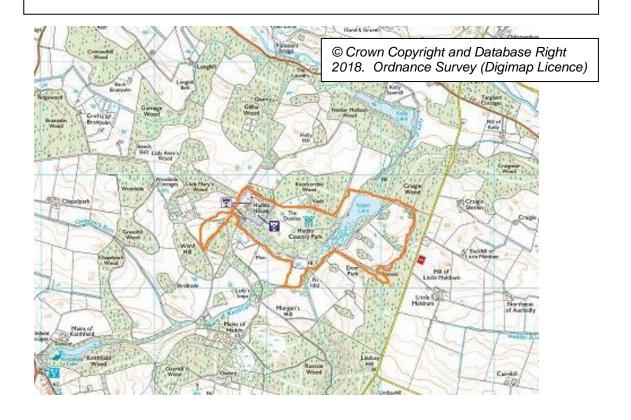
Connections and access:

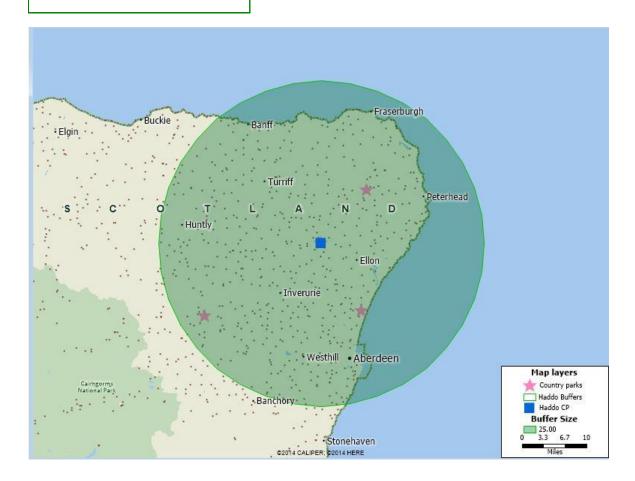
Remote countryside location accessible only by car.

Haddo is a country estate, with considerable formal design in its landscape. It includes statues, ornamental gates and other structures as well as the natural landscape. The park was extended in 1995 with the addition of 24 hectares of woodland, and access was also granted to the monument field, where the laird's monument is located. The lake, and its associated bird life, are a major feature of the site. Buildings on the estate include a pheasantry and a hall, still used for music recitals. A play area has been added in response to visitor demand, but the policy is generally to minimise change to the original layout and form of the estate.

The estate was accessible to the public only by invitation, but welcomed groups such as Sunday School parties from Aberdeen and Boy Scouts/Girl Guides, and also held renowned concerts featuring major artistes, open to the public. It was used as a maternity hospital during World War Two and hosts reunions of 'Haddo babies'. On the death of Lord Aberdeen, the estate was sold (at an inflated cost) to the local authority and the house to the National Trust for Scotland, with ownership transferring in 1979. However, there is no arrangement here akin to those at Culzean and Brodick.

Access was a problem from the outset and was eased by an SDD grant to improve the lengthy minor road up to the house. Sporting rights on the wider estate were retained by the family, to the discomfort of the SDD who felt shooting might be incompatible with a park. SDD were also unhappy at the exclusion of the Monument Field from the park.





Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 212,273

No. of other country parks within catchment: 3

Visitor numbers 1990: 150,000

Haughton House Country Park

Location:
Alford, Aberdeenshire
Grid reference:
NJ 583 169

Size of site: 97 acres
39 hectares
Date of registration:
13 December 1977

Ownership at registration:

Grampian Regional Council

Managed by:

Grampian Regional Council

Current management (2016):
Aberdeenshire Council

Main landscape elements:

Policies of country estate, including woodland and walled garden, with riverbank.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Caravan site Picnic area

Campsite Self-catering accommodation

Putting Green Ranger service

Footpaths and Trails

Play Areas

Other land uses within site:

None.

Status prior to registration:

Private estate acquired by local authority in 1970.

CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):

Capital amount: £401,683

Capital proportion: 62% of £645,373

Public access prior to registration:

Unknown, but likely to have been limited informal access.

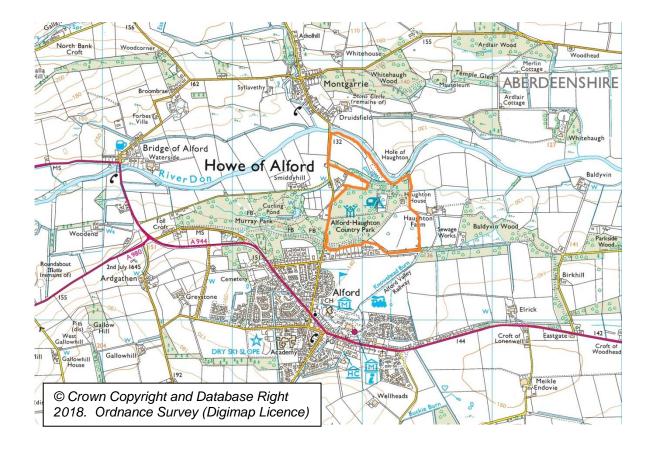
Connections and access:

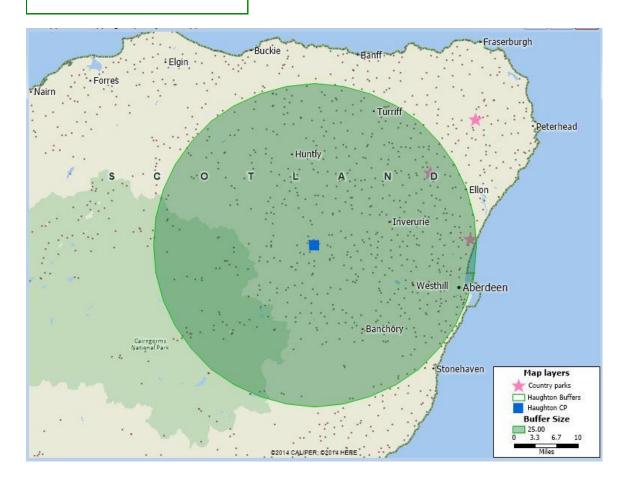
Easily accessed from Alford village, with miniature railway link. Adjacent to large public park.

The site was acquired by Aberdeen County Council in 1970, for the sum of £6,500, and work on creating the country park began in 1972 with significant support from CCS.

Haughton House Country Park was created from the policies of Haughton House, a largely unremarkable country house on the edge of a small market town in rural Aberdeenshire. The house has historically been used as a home, as a hotel, as a convent, a school and a church.

Much of the site is wooded, but there is rough grassland to the north, a wildflower meadow, and a riverside walk along the edge of the River Don. Accommodation has always been an important feature of the site, with caravan, camping and self-catering opportunities available; the caravan site, now outsourced to a private operator, has since become the dominant feature of the park and the operators occupy the mansion house for business purposes. The site is adjacent to Murray Park, a large urban park with extensive grass and woodland areas. It also provides the terminus station for a short light railway to Alford.





Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 187,507

No. of other country parks within catchment: 2

Visitor numbers 1990: 17,000

Hillend Country Park

Location:

immediately south of Edinburgh

Grid reference: NT 244 668

Size of site: 96 acres

39 hectares

Date of registration:

13 July 1982

Ownership at registration:

Lothian Regional Council

Managed by:

Lothian Regional Council

Current management (2016):

Midlothian Council

Main landscape elements:

Hillside with scrub and woodland cover. Much of the site is devoted to dry-slope ski-ing and associated infrastructure

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Information centre Footpaths/trails

Cafe Chairlift Car park Ski slope

Picnic site Ranger service

Toilets

Other land uses within site:

Ski centre

Status prior to registration:

Public park originally owned by City of Edinburgh, acquired 1924.

Public access prior to registration:

Open access. Ski-ing available to public since 1964

CCS financial support (1996

equivalent):

Capital amount: £29,925

Capital proportion: 49% of £61,273

Connections and access:

Frequent bus service to park entrance. Park is access point to Pentland Hills Regional Park with numerous pathways to viewpoints and

along Pentland ridge.

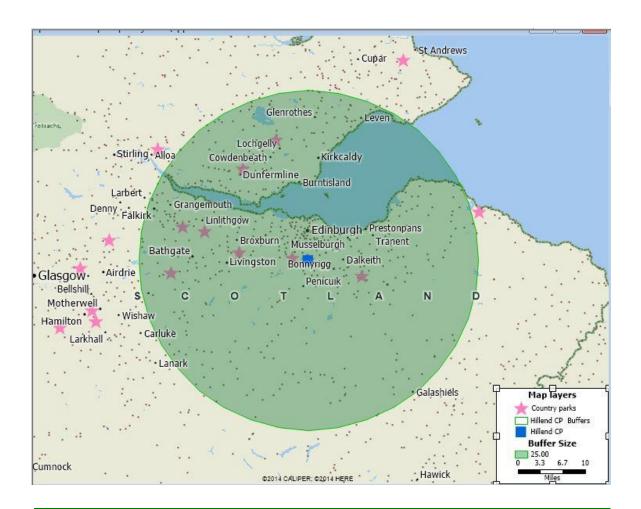
This unprepossessing country park was created in 1982 but was already a public park, acquired by Edinburgh in 1924 although located outside the city boundary. Ski-ing began here in 1964 utilising structures left after the end of hostilities. Hillend is one of several access points to the Pentland Hills Regional Park, of which it forms part. The landscape is essentially scrub with areas of woodland, primarily planted in the early 1980s; it is set on a steep slope that gives extensive views across Edinburgh and beyond; the best views are from Allermuir Hill, south of the park boundary. There is a hill fort within the site.

Space within the park is extensively devoted to dry-slope ski-ing. A main slope is augmented by supplementary slopes, and a mechanical ski lift operates to support access to the top of the slope. There is also a public chairlift which operates on a fairly unreliable basis, but which improves access for the less mobile. The park's visitor centre is now completely taken over by the ski-slope operation and the country park aspect of Hillend has a very low profile. A plan to improve the park has been drafted but is yet to be fully implemented.

Hillend is a highly visible site, prominent on the eastern approaches to Edinburgh and from the city by-pass road.



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Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 626,832

No. of other country parks within catchment: 8

Visitor numbers 1990: 160,000

John Muir Country Park

Location: between Dunbar and

Tyninghame, East Lothian

Grid reference: NT 673 795

Size of site: 1668 acres

675 hectares

Date of registration: 12 October 1976

Ownership at registration:

Crown Estate, Earl of Haddington

Managed by:

East Lothian DC

Current management (2016):

East Lothian Council (leased from landowners)

Main landscape elements:

Sea frontage with saltmarsh, sand, mudflats, dunes, cliffs, grassland and woodland, and two tidal river estuaries. Park is in two sections, with separate access.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Car parks Ra

Footpaths and trails Golf course

Caravan site Campsite Ranger service Toilets

Other land uses within site:

Golf course now separately managed. Part of site is an SSSI.

Status prior to registration:

Open foreshore

Public access prior to registration:

Full open access

CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):

Capital amount: £75,145

Capital proportion: 49% of £152,598

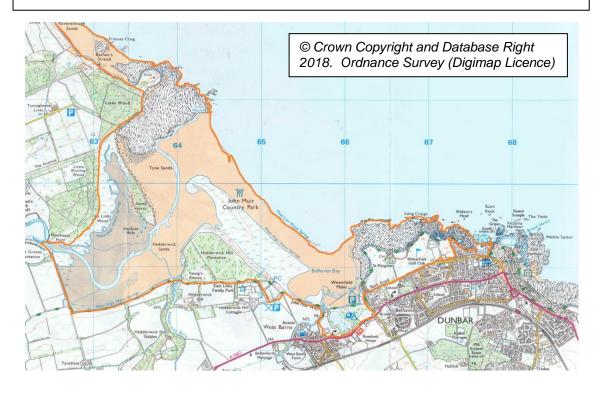
Connections and access:

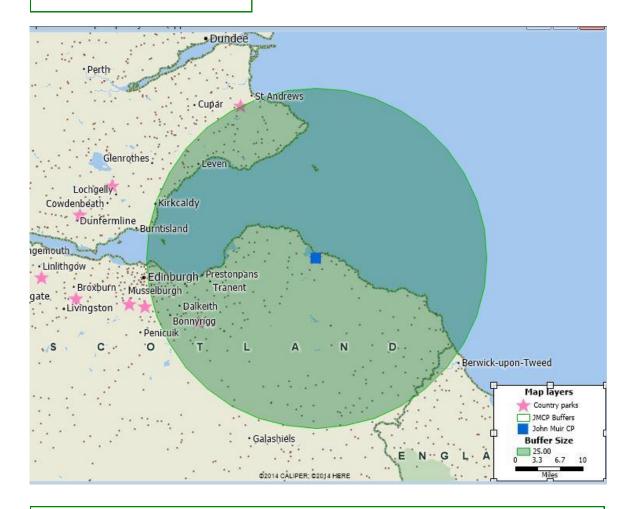
Adjacent to Dunbar, easily accessed on foot or by public transport. Traversed by John Muir Way long distance path, and access to other footpath networks

The John Muir Country Park was opened in 1976 and commemorates Dunbar's most famous son. It is in two sections, which together make up 8 miles of coast. The area closest to Dunbar begins with the ruined castle, and as a public grassed area with public art and sports facilities, but westward it develops into a clifftop path, opening out into the estuary of the Biel Water near Belhaven, which it crosses by a small bridge (inaccessible at high tide), and continues along the dunes of the foreshore of Belhaven Bay into an area of saltmarsh with woodland to landward. The western section, on the far side of the Tyne estuary, is accessed independently via Tyninghame, is maintained as a nature reserve and is deliberately much less well publicised. Shooting and riding are allowed with permits. A key objective is to reduce pressure on other sites in East Lothian.

Several concrete defences remain from wartime. The park is a place of high biodiversity with many varieties of flora and fauna. It was created primarily as a conservation measure to protect habitats and much of the land is designated as an SSSI. There is no visitor centre.

The path through the country park is now part of a Long Distance Footpath, the John Muir Way, which leads ultimately to the west coast of Scotland as well as connecting with the wider national footpath network. Views across the Firth of Forth include several offshore islands as well as the coast of Fife; Traprain Law is visible to landward and North Berwick Law to the northwest. Adjacent to, but not part of, the park is the East Links Family Park, an outdoor amusement attraction with animals.





Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 264,396

No. of other country parks within catchment: 1 (bearing in mind the need to cross the Firth of Forth)

Visitor numbers 1990: 200,000

Lochore Meadows Country Park

Location: between Lochgelly and

Ballingry, Fife

Grid reference:

Fife NT 165 955

Size of site: 920 acres

372 hectares

Date of registration:

14 September 1976

Ownership at registration:

Fife Regional Council

Managed by:

Fife Regional Council

Current management (2016):

Fife Coast and Countryside Trust (Charitable Trust)

Main landscape elements:

Reclaimed colliery with large lake, surrounded by open grassland, rough pasture and both new and ancient woodland, with colliery relics and remains of ancient tower house/castle.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Car parks Golf course Footpaths/trails Putting Green

Riding centre Local nature reserve Sailing centre Visitor centre

Windsurfing school Heritage features
Angling Ranger service

Sailing Boating

Picnic areas Toilets

Other land uses within site:

Golf course now separately managed.

Status prior to registration:

Derelict colliery site with severe contamination

Public access prior to registration:

Informal access but at some health

risk

CCS financial support (1996

equivalent):

Capital amount: £689,957

Capital proportion: 70% of £988,869

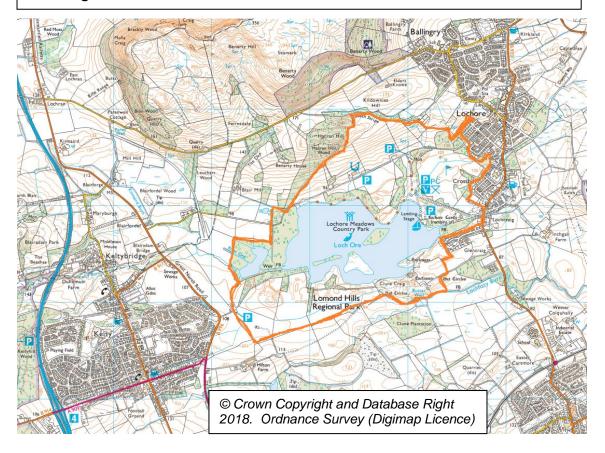
Connections and access:

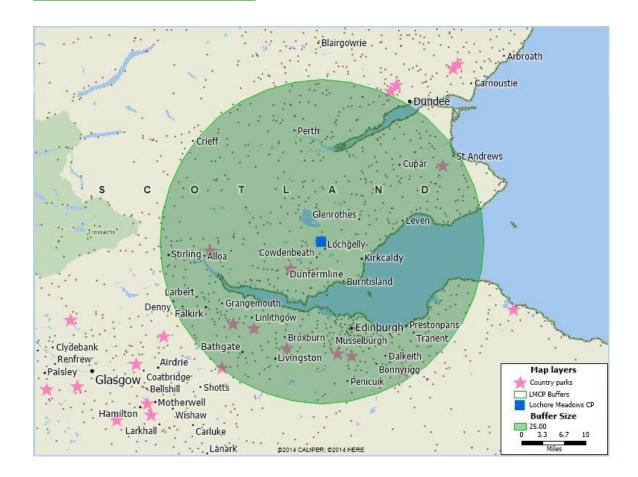
Bus service passes entrance. Footpaths connect to wider countryside and to Lomond Hills

Regional Park.

Lochore Meadows was created from the dereliction of an enormous colliery complex that closed for good in the 1960s. Loch Ore, a natural feature, had been drained as part of 18th century agricultural improvement but reappeared as a result of land subsidence, while the railway embankment crossing it became a series of three islands. Spoil heaps liable to spontaneous combustion had to be cleared away, new soil brought in, and thousands of trees planted. CCS funding was used following reclamation to introduce park facilities and planting. The site is now completely transformed, but still includes relics of its former existence, including the colliery winding gear, and a winding wheel at the entrance; a locomotive on the site is not original and was introduced from a different colliery. The ruins of Inchgall castle, a mediaeval tower house, are close to the entrance but require stabilisation and are not accessible.

The lake is a main feature and is used for a wide range of water-based activities including sailing and fishing; facilities for boat storage have been erected at the eastern end. Paths round the loch are used by pedestrians and equestrians. The southern side of the loch is rough ground and contains evidence of early habitation in the area. A play area, themed around the colliery heritage, has been added since creation, and a nature reserve has been created at the western end of the site, with woodland and wetland habitats. The golf course is now separately managed. Harran Hill Wood, an accessible area of ancient woodland, was added to the park after registration, and provides footpath access to the local vantage point of Benarty. The site forms a detached part of the Lomond Hills Regional Park.





Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 789,772

No. of other country parks within catchment: 10

Visitor numbers 1990: 400,000

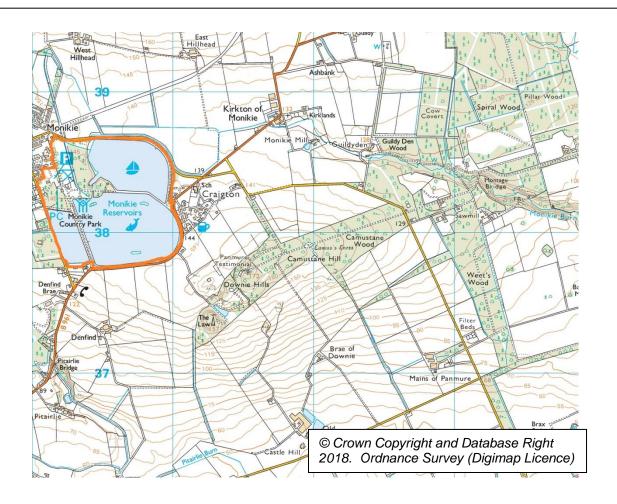
Monikie Country Park

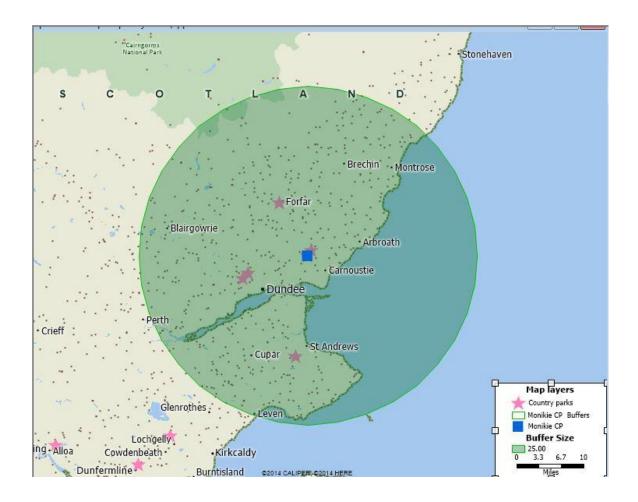
Location: In Angus countryside, 5 miles Grid reference: NJ 583 169 north-west of Carnoustie Size of site: 185 acres Date of registration: 75 hectares 10 May 1983 Ownership at registration: Managed by: Tayside Regional Council Tayside Regional Council Current management (2016): **Angus Council** Main landscape elements: Mainly water, in the form of two large reservoirs, surrounded by woodland and parkland. Principal visitor facilities around registration: Footpaths and trails Ranger service Wildlife observation Windsurfing Children's play Sailing Fishing Canoeing **Toilets** Picnic areas Car park **Swimming** Other land uses within site: None. Status prior to registration: Public access prior to registration: Extensive informal access, Utilities land. evidently a place for outings in late nineteenth century. CCS financial support (1996 equivalent): Connections and access: Remote and accessible primarily Capital amount: £147,134 by car. A bus service passes the main entrance. Capital proportion: 56% of £264,413

Monikie Country Park is primarily water, with 140 acres of reservoir within its boundaries. Three separate water areas are located there, one of which is used for active watersports (sailing, kayaking, windsurfing), one for fishing, and one as a wildlife sanctuary with bird hides for ornithologists. There is also a picnic area and an adventure play area, and a small woodland. There is a ranger centre in the old estate house, with a cafe nearby, and also a water centre for boat storage and preparation beside the northernmost reservoir.

Monikie is the subject of an 1890 poem by William McGonagall, which confirms that the reservoir was a popular choice for an outing from Dundee as early as the later nineteenth century, and that the site included an area used as a park even at that early date.

The site is jointly managed with Crombie, which is less than two miles away to the northeast. The two parks can be seen as similar but complementary, in that one promotes active and the other more passive recreation. However, there is no connecting path.





Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 286,424

No. of other country parks within catchment: 5 (Crombie is very nearby)

Visitor numbers 1990: 180,000

Mugdock Country Park

Location: North of Milngavie, East

Dunbartonshire

Grid reference:

NS 546 780

Size of site: 507 acres

206 hectares

Date of registration:

12 March 1985

Ownership at registration:

Stirling District Council

Managed by:

Mugdock Joint Management Ctee

Current management (2016):

East Dunbartonshire Council/Stirling Council

Main landscape elements:

Woodland, moorland, heath and grassland with loch.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Ranger service Picnic areas Footpaths/trails

Car parks

Heritage structures

Other land uses within site:

None.

Status prior to registration:

Private estate gifted to council in early 1980s.

Public access prior to registration:

Informal public access especially at Craigallion.

CCS financial support (1996

equivalent):

Capital amount: £471,144

Capital proportion: 64% of £735,015

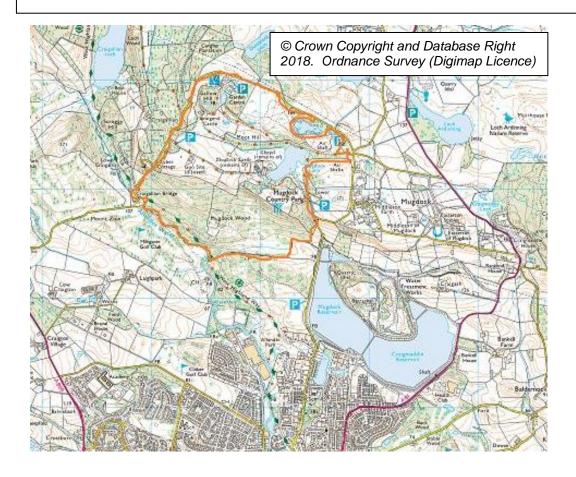
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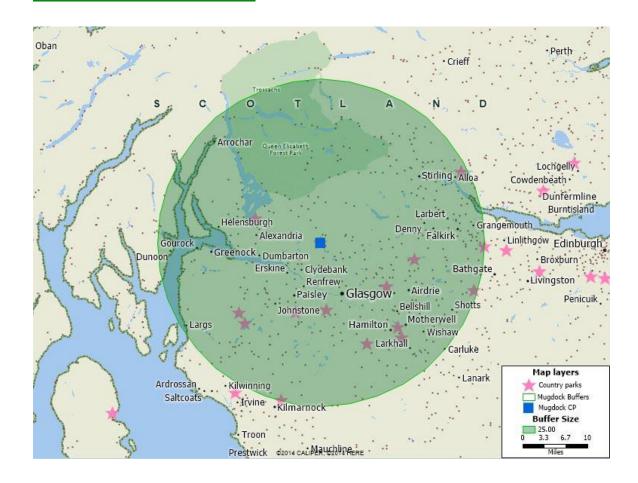
Connected by footpath to Milngavie, but essentially demands a car to visit. West Highland Way LDP passes through site. Close to Allander Park, urban public park in Milngavie.

Formerly a private estate, gifted by Sir Hugh Fraser to the local authority in the early 1980s (together with £100,000 towards improvements) for use as a country park. Although located in Stirlingshire, the park is on the border with Dunbartonshire and has always been managed by a Joint Committee of the two councils.

Mugdock includes two former castles, Mugdock Castle now in ruins and Craigend Castle, off limits to visitors for safety reasons. Mugdock also includes the remains of an extensive World War Two anti-aircraft battery constructed to protect Glasgow and Clydebank from bombing. A small pond was at one time used for trial by ordeal. There was a zoo on the site for a few years in the early 1950s, with 4,000 animals, and remains of this can also be seen. Views from this area across the lower Clyde valley and the Arrochar alps are extensive. A stables area provides a visitor centre and some craft shops and catering outlets.

The country park is largely managed as an environmental site and includes a variety of habitats, with its mixed oak woodland designated as an SSSI. A heathland is also conserved, as is a high grassy moorland, and an abandoned quarry is also a habitat, now fenced off for safety. The West Highland Way, opened in 1980, crosses a corner of the park and links it to the nearby Allander Park.





Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 1,510,470

No. of other country parks within catchment: 14

Visitor numbers 1990: 220,000

Muiravonside Country Park

Location:

Linlithgow, West Lothian

Grid reference:

NS 965764

Size of site: 150 acres

61 hectares

Date of registration:

9 December 1980

Ownership at registration:

Falkirk DC

Managed by:

Falkirk DC

Current management (2016):

Falkirk Community Trust (Charitable Trust)

Main landscape elements:

Small grassed area, with linear riverside and woodland.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Footpaths/trails Ranger service Car park Estate buildings

Toilets Gardens
Visitor centre Arboretum

Picnic and barbecue areas

Other land uses within site:

Agricultural land with rare breed livestock. Power transmission lines.

Status prior to registration:

Derelict country estate.

Public access prior to registration:

Informal access. Public use of towpath and disused railway lines, but footpaths overgrown.

CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):

Capital amount: £ 238,145

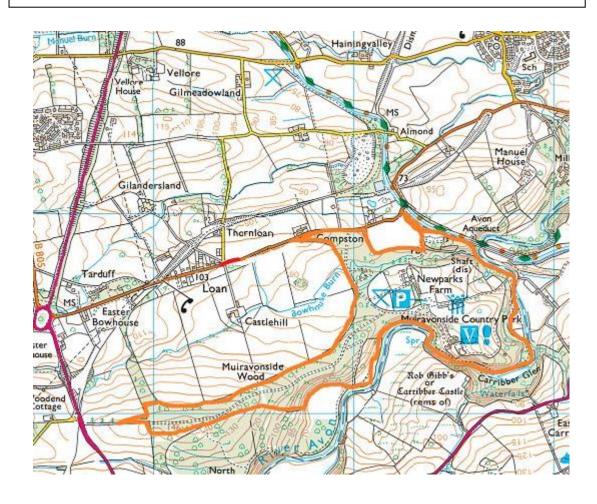
Capital proportion: 68% of £349,418

Connections and access:

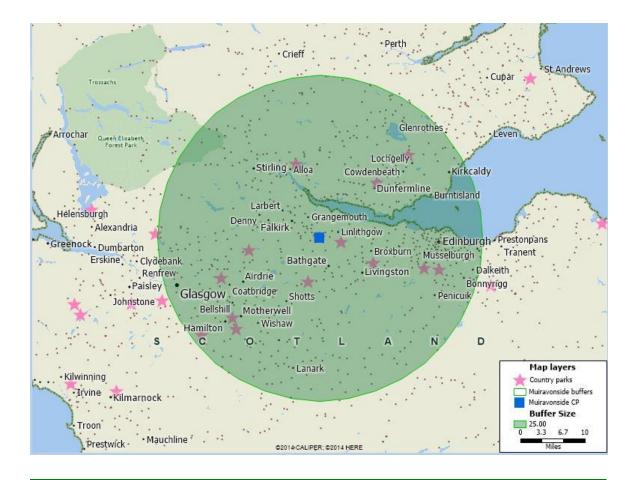
Remotely located and accessible only by car. Footpath links to wider countryside and also along Union Canal towpath, which crosses site on aqueduct. Link also to John Muir Way LDP.

A remotely located site three miles from Linlithgow on minor roads (but actually in Stirlingshire), Muiravonside is based on a former estate, the mansion house now demolished but its outline still clear in the landscape. The stable buildings form a small visitor centre with other amenities. The park includes a long linear element along the R. Avon, which forms the boundary between West Lothian and Stirlingshire, through mixed woodland, and which is crossed by the Forth and Clyde canal on a lengthy aqueduct that provides access to a long distance path, as well as by a disused railway viaduct. Fishing is offered by permit.

A feasibility report prepared by Stirling County Planning Dept in 1987, prior to local authority acquisition, described a neglected and overgrown estate, but with an SSSI and some wildlife potential. The river itself was described as polluted, while the house was in a ruinous condition; some other structures had been vandalised, and the formal gardens had degenerated. A footpath network was badly overgrown, although locals were using towpaths and disused railway courses. The network needed to be extended to make effective links with surrounding countryside.



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Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 1,588,587

No. of other country parks within catchment: 13

Visitor numbers 1990: 100,000

Muirshiel Country Park

Location: in hills north west of Lochwinnoch, Renfrewshire

Grid reference: NS 312 633

Size of site: 78 acres

32 hectares

Date of registration:

27 January 1971

Ownership at registration:

Renfrew County Council

Managed by:

Renfrew County Council

Current management (2016):

Renfrewshire Council

Main landscape elements:

Small wooded and grassland area, with extensive rhododendron and spruce plantations, within wilder countryside, with riverbank and waterfall.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Information centre

Picnic area

Footpaths and trails

Car Parks Toilets Ranger service

Other land uses within site:

None

Status prior to registration:

Former estate policies bought by Renfrew County Council in 1950.

Public access prior to registration:

Informal access.

CCS financial support (1996

equivalent):

Capital amount: £24,660

Capital proportion: 71% of £34,724

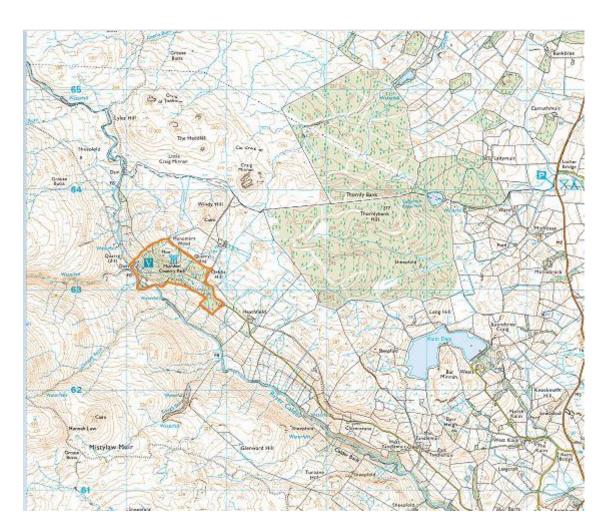
Connections and access:

Remotely situated 8 miles from nearest settlement, accessible only by car along single track road. Footpaths extend into Regional Park surrounding

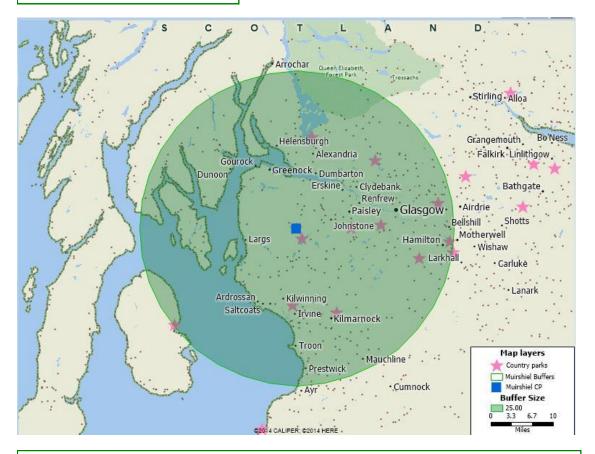
the area.

Muirshiel is an early country park in the heart of what is now the Clyde-Muirshiel Regional Park, and essentially provides a base and visitor facilities for the wider countryside that surrounds it, much of which is wild and uncultivated moorland. The country park site offers little in its own right other than basic visitor facilities of parking and toilets, although there is an attractive picnic area within the park close to the River Calder, and a waterfall can be viewed further along the trail. The park woodland is now being redeveloped with native species.

The short path to the viewpoint at the top of Windy Hill (outside the park boundary) is a popular walk.



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Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 1,265,439

No. of other country parks within catchment: 11

Visitor numbers 1990: 45,000

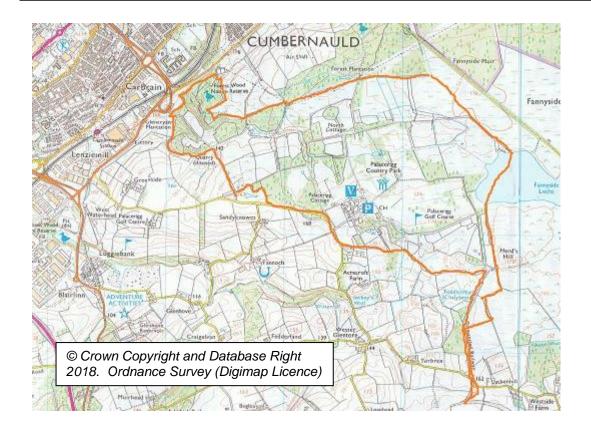
Palacerigg Country Park

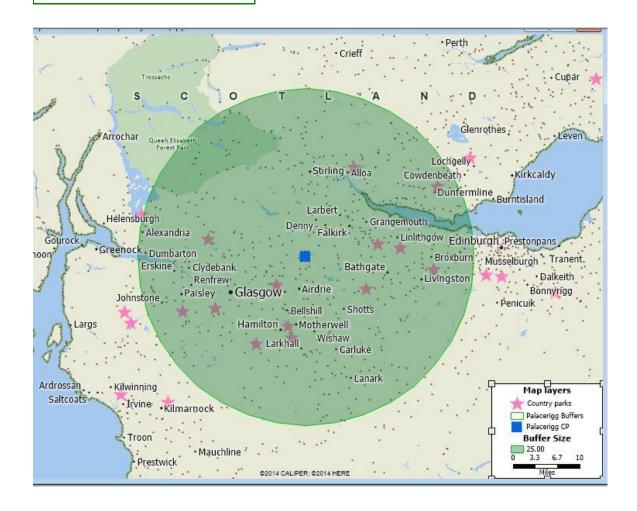
Location: Cumbernauld, East Dunbartonsh	Grid reference:
Size of site: 720 acres 291 hectares	Date of registration: 14 November 1972
Ownership at registration: Cumbernauld and Kilsyth DC	Managed by: Cumbernauld Town Council
Current management (2016): North Lanarkshire Leisure (Charitable Trust))	
Main landscape elements: Grassland, moorland and extensive woodland, with small ponds.	
Footpaths/trails Ranger service Fishing Car park Sailing Campsite Toilets Golf course Visitor centre Pony trekking Children's farmyard Shooting	
Other land uses within site: None.	
Status prior to registration:	Public access prior to registration:
Farmland, and former rural industrial site.	No permitted access, but informal access likely.
CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):	Connections and access:
Capital amount: £ 113,710	Fairly remote, although a footpath link to Cumbernauld exists. In practice, reachable only by car.
Capital proportion: 71% of £160,097	Links to an adjacent Scottish Wildlife Trust reserve.

Palacerigg is an early country park developed from a bleak former upland farm site with some rural industrial heritage. From the early twentieth century till World War Two, part of the site was used as a farm and peat extraction area benefitting local unemployed people in the form of a 'Labour Colony', and a firelighter factory was built. Fireclay mining has also taken place on the site. Cumbernauld Town Council, as one of its first acts, took over the site and demolished all the old buildings, reduced grazing and planted new trees and hedgerows.

A graphic in the visitor centre pays tribute to David Stephen, a celebrated naturalist and the first warden, who was closely involved in planning and setting up the country park, with its focus on conservation and education. The park's main distinctive feature is a children's farmyard and petting zoo with a rare breeds collection. In the past, though, it has also showcased local wildlife, and even tame wolves.

Much of the area is occupied by a golf course (designed by Henry Cotton), but there is an extensive network of footpaths and bridleways, and a large children's play area. A millennium project involved the creation of two longhouses used for exhibitions and craft displays. A treetop walkway has been installed which gives access to bird viewing and long-distance views towards Arran. Vandalism has been a persistent problem since the very beginning.





Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 1,516,579

No. of other country parks within catchment: 13

Visitor numbers 1990: 120,000

Polkemmet Country Park

Location:

Whitburn, West Lothian

Grid reference: NS 655 525

Size of site: 169 acres

68 hectares

Date of registration:

14 May 1985

Ownership at registration:

West Lothian DC

Managed by:

West Lothian DC

Ranger service

Current management (2016):

West Lothian Council

Main landscape elements:

Policies of former country house; stables and outbuildings remain. Open grassland and extensive woodland.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Footpaths and trails Visitor centre/cafe

Picnic areas Golf course
Play area Driving range
Car Parks Putting Green
Toilets Bowling Green

Other land uses within site:

Sports provision, especially for golf. Stables house Scottish Owl Centre. Some land used for grazing at time of registration.

Status prior to registration:

Derelict former coal extraction site and country estate, acquired by Council in 1978 Public access prior to registration:

Public access following reclamation completion in 1981.

CCS financial support (1996

equivalent):

Capital amount: £29,465

Capital proportion: 50% of £58,931

Connections and access:

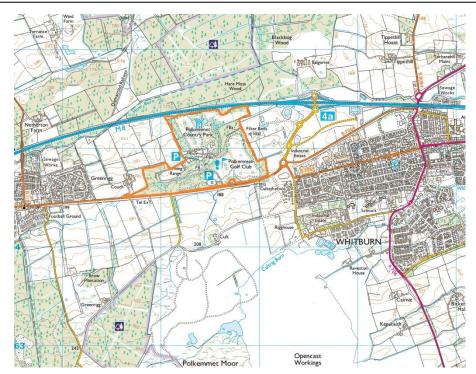
Short walk from Whitburn village, on bus route.

Polkemmet was originally a private estate which became an opencast coal extraction site in the 1970s. It was purchased by West Lothian DC in 1978 (with CCS support), and a reclamation programme was undertaken to create a public open space, which opened in 1981. It became a country park in 1985 (apparently without the usual management plan) and offers a range of play and sports activities in an attractive, but unremarkable, landscape setting that includes woodland and open grassland. The Mansion House was demolished as part of the mining operations in the 1960s, but the stables and ancillary buildings remain and now house a cafe, shop and the Scottish Owl Centre.

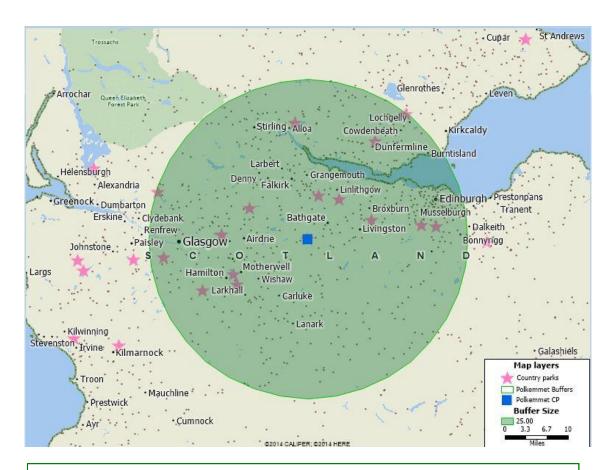
Sports, and especially golf, are a major feature of the site and much of the land is given over to golf-related activity, including a 9-hole course and an extensive driving range; there is also a bowling green and an orienteering course. Environmental assets include a wildflower meadow, and the River Almond flows through the site; there are also several specimen trees.

Heritage features include a mausoleum, and also an old colliery engine now made into a play feature.

It is bounded to the north by the M8 motorway, and incorporates one of a series of public art installations along the motorway, 'The Horn', which used to broadcast to passing motorists (but is thought to be no longer operational).



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Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 1,531,599

No. of other country parks within catchment: 15

Visitor numbers 1990: 316,224

Pollok Country Park

Location:

Glasgow

Grid reference:

NS 547 619

Size of site: 361 acres

146 hectares

Date of registration:

9 September 1980

Ownership at registration:

City of Glasgow DC

Managed by:

Pollok Advisory Committee

Current management (2016):

National Trust for Scotland on behalf of City of Glasgow

Main landscape elements:

Large estate of woodland and open grassland around historic house and formal gardens.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Footpaths and trails Historic House and gardens

Art collection Playing fields
Car parks Golf course

Ranger service

Other land uses within site:

A large part of the estate is given over to sports facilities, including golf, rugby and cricket run by private clubs. Part of the land is used as pasture for Highland cattle. A building within the grounds houses the Burrell Collection. Strathclyde Police house horses and dogs within the park, and some buildings are used as private dwellings. Allotments are rented out.

Status prior to registration:

Private estate (Maxwell family) gifted to

city in 1966.

Public access prior to registration:

Open access to much of estate since 1911 under formal lease arrangement.

CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):

Capital amount: £34,625

Capital proportion: 51% of £68,396

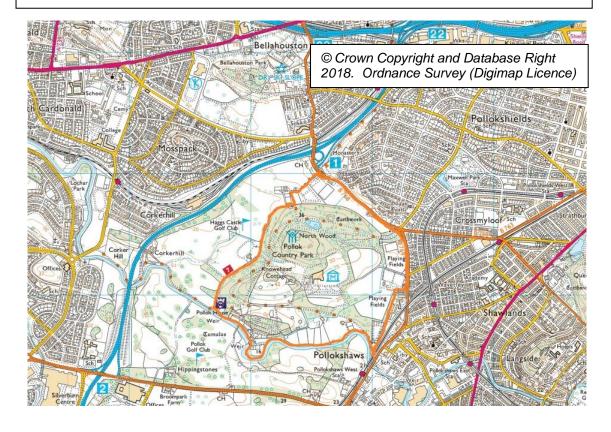
Connections and access:

Surrounded by urban development, easily accessed by bus and train and on foot.

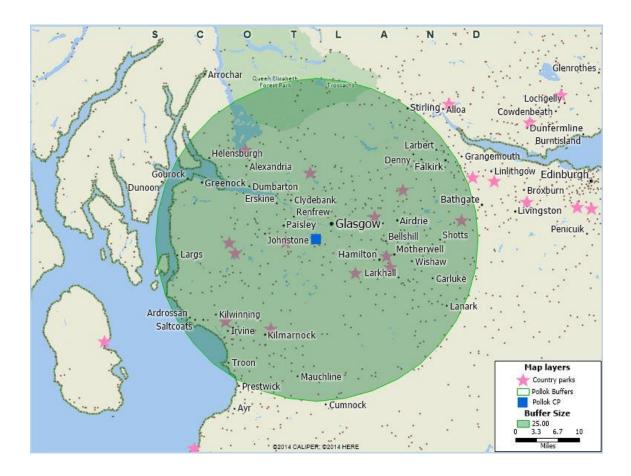
Pollok is an unusual country park in that it is not located in the countryside; it is nevertheless a large space with many countryside attributes. The park is part of a much larger open area that now incorporates several formal sports spaces, including three private golf clubs, and which has been eroded by the building of a railway in the 1860s and a motorway in the 1990s. Pollok was gifted to the City of Glasgow in 1966 and both the grounds and the house have been open to the public ever since. The NTS eventually took over management of the estate in 1998.

The house is A-listed, while the grounds include extensive open grassland (much of it planned and planted to a design) and a large wooded area, with separated trails for pedestrians and mountain bikers; there are also ornamental gardens, a walled garden, pond, stables and a mill. There is a large lime walk and a renowned rhododendron walk. A small museum and visitor centre recall life on the estate at the turn of the 20th century. A woodland garden incorporates a beech tree thought to be 250 years old. The southern boundary of the park (but not of the estate as a whole) is formed by the White Cart Water, a tributary of the Clyde.

The grounds house the Burrell Collection, an eclectic assemblage of art, sculpture and artefact from all over the world and across the spread of history, in a purpose-built structure opened in 1983. They also provide pasture for highland cattle, reared commercially but nevertheless a visitor attraction in their own right. Pollok was selected as Europe's best park in 2008, having been voted Britain's best park the year before.



Notional catchment:



Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 1,593,111

No. of other country parks within catchment: 13

Visitor numbers 1990: 900,000

Strathclyde Country Park

Location:

Motherwell, Lanarkshire

Grid reference:

NS 763565

Size of site: 1600 acres

648 hectares

Date of registration:

14 December 1976

Ownership at registration:

Strathclyde RC

Managed by: Strathclyde RC, Hamilton DC,

Motherwell & Wishaw DC

Current management (2016):

North Lanarkshire Council

Main landscape elements:

Large artificial loch surrounded by grassland. Extensive open grass to western side with sports pitches, eastern side of loch is largely woodland. River South Calder crosses site, which is bisected by R. Clyde and M74.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Footpaths and trails

Car parks

Nature reserve

International Rowing Course

Visitor centre
Picnic areas

Toilets
Ranger service

Heritage buildings

Water sports centre

Golf course

Sports pitches Caravan Site Campsite

Other land uses within site:

Private sector-operated attractions including funfair, bowling, snooker, crazy golf, amusements. Hotels. Museum. Racecourse.

Status prior to registration:

Part former estate, but primarily reclaimed mineral extraction site.

Public access prior to registration:

Limited access to parts of site only.

CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):

Capital amount: £117,520

Capital proportion: 58% of £202,004

Connections and access:

Adjacent to Motherwell, Bellshill and Hamilton, and close to M74. Easily accessed by public transport. Crossed by Clyde walkway LDP, links to Dalzell and Baron's Haugh Nature Reserve.

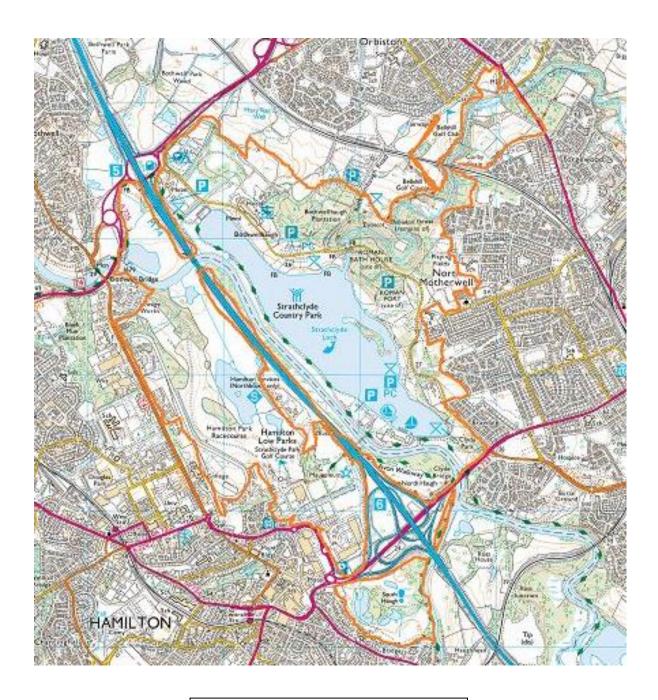
Site description:

Much of Strathclyde Country Park was a land reclamation scheme of enormous scale and complexity, requiring a change of river course as well as extensive decontamination, the drowning of a former village, and an enormous allocation of public funding. A former coal extraction site, and three municipal waste tips, were converted into a public park (adding to a nature reserve and golf courses already present) aiming to provide facilities for the locality but also to beautify a site alongside the new M74 gateway to central Scotland. The idea was originally conceived as early as 1946, and was revived in 1964 by a consortium of local authorities.

The eastern side of the park, east of the M74, is primarily an artificial loch fed by the South Calder Water, which crosses the site; this includes a rowing course and other watersports facilities of international standard, with a purpose-built centre to support use. East of the loch are mixed woodlands, with footpaths and trails, and some ruined buildings including a former walled garden, as well as Roman antiquities. This area is easily accessed from neighbouring housing estates and safety concerns have been expressed at times about litter and anti-social activities in the park.

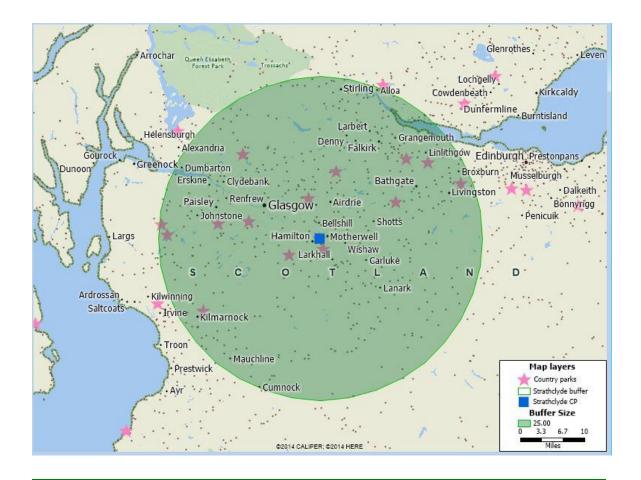
The western side of the park, reached by a bridge over the Clyde and a tunnel under the motorway, is completely different, given over almost entirely to sports pitches and primarily serving the community of Hamilton. This area is flat and largely bereft of interest other than for the Duke of Hamilton's Mausoleum, a prominent local landmark which now houses a small museum. The western side also includes Hamilton Racecourse. There are camping and caravan facilities to the north of the site, as well as a small nature reserve isolated by the road alignments. Strathclyde has acquired a permanently sited funfair and also has an indoor amusement centre, as well as two hotels. A separate area south of the main park provides a nature reserve in the shadow of the motorway.

The park is no longer as extensive as it was originally; some land has been sold to create a shopping centre in the south western corner, and much of the western side is no longer managed as a country park. Its maintenance budget was reported as already insufficient in 1983.



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Notional catchment:



Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 1,456,598

No. of other country parks within catchment: 14, with Chatelherault almost adjacent.

Visitor numbers 1990: 6,808,495

Townhill Country Park

Location:

Dunfermline, Fife

Grid reference: NT 100 893

Size of site: 180 acres

73 hectares

Date of registration:

3 December 1991

Ownership at registration:

Dunfermline DC

Managed by:

Dunfermline DC

Current management (2016):

Fife Coast and Countryside Trust (Charitable Trust)

Main landscape elements:

A large loch, with surrounding woodland and grassland, to the west of Townhill village; woodland to the east of the village, linked by pathways and a village park.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Car parks Footpaths and trails
Toilets Visitor centre

Ranger service

Cafe

Wildflower meadow

Other land uses within site:

Underground reservoir. The park envelops and overlaps in function with a local urban park.

Status prior to registration:

Part derelict, part accessible woodland and wildlife site.

Public access prior to registration:

Informal access to woodland and wildlife area.

CCS financial support (1996

equivalent):

Capital amount: £66,602

Capital proportion: 63% of £106,416

Connections and access:

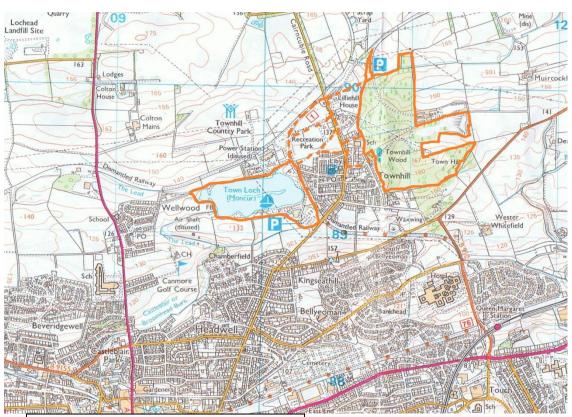
Easily accessed by bus from

Dunfermline.

Site description:

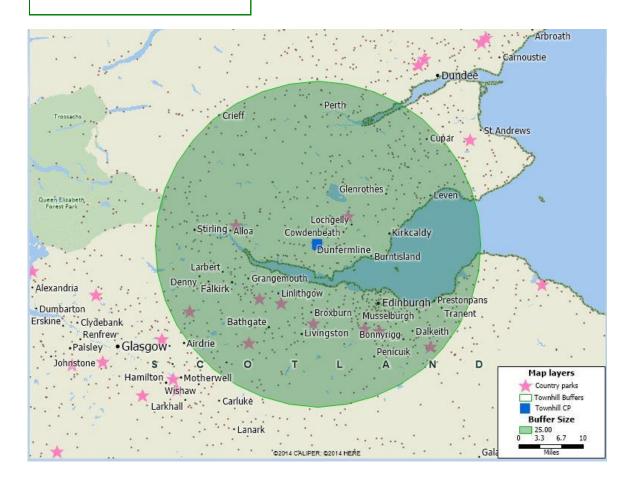
The site was originally considered for country park status in 1983 in the Local Plan, and received significant support from CCS to prepare for this, with £134,000 recorded in addition to the figures quoted previously, funds that included land acquisition costs as well as improvements. Designated as Townhill Country Park in 1992, the park is split into two main areas, of approximately equal size, connected by pathways across a large urban park in the village of Townhill, on the northern edge of Dunfermline. The loch area was formerly derelict, while the woods and moor included a mine site at Muircockhall, closed in 1970. This was the last country park to be registered by CCS and was not included in the formal register, so some of the basic information from the date of registration is missing.

The loch area includes a visitor centre with cafe and toilets, and is also the home of the Scottish Water-Ski Centre. Its main funding was from the Sports Council and the centre opened in 2000. A golf course is located west of the loch, and a wildflower meadow to the south. The woodland is crossed by several paths following the line of old mine railways and leads on to Townhill Muir, a wildlife area designated in 1988. The two areas are almost joined together by the village park, a large urban-style park with play, sports and other facilities, and also a small area devoted to the mining heritage of the village, and to its most famous son Billy Liddell.



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Notional catchment:



Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 839,137

No. of other country parks within catchment: 10

Visitor numbers 1990: 50,000

Vogrie Country Park

Location:

Pathhead, Midlothian

Grid reference: NT380633

Size of site: 260 acres

104 hectares

Date of registration:

9 December 1980

Ownership at registration:

Midlothian DC

Managed by:

Midlothian DC

Current management (2016):

Midlothian Council

Main landscape elements:

Country estate with grassed areas, woodland and watercourses.

Principal visitor facilities around registration:

Footpaths and trails Outdoor sports

Car park Environmental Education Toilets Grade 'A' listed house

Ranger service

Other land uses within site:

Agricultural land. Walled garden used as Council nursery. Girl Guide centre.

Status prior to registration:

Former country estate, acquired by local authority in 1964, extended in 1977.

Public access prior to registration:

Open access. House used by Civil Defence and Girl Guides, who retain a centre within the park.

CCS financial support (1996 equivalent):

Capital amount: £115,539

Capital proportion: 73% of £158,837

Connections and access:

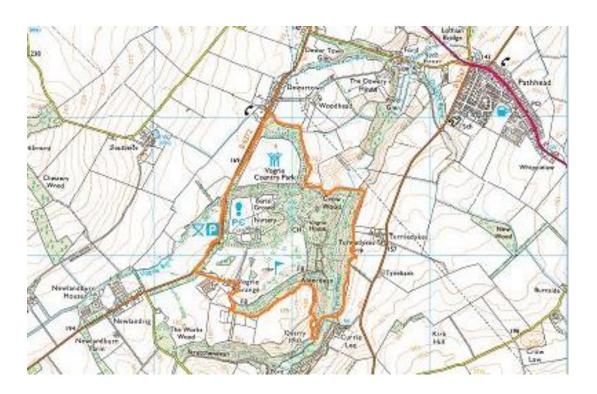
Remotely located and accessible only by car. Footpath links to wider countryside.

Site description:

Vogrie was the country estate of whisky magnates the Dewars, but was sold in 1919 for use as a hospital and later used as Civil Defence base. It was purchased by the local council in 1964, initially with housing development in mind. It retains the features of the estate, focussed on the 'A'- listed mansion house which is partially open to the public, and its surrounding open grassland. There are extensive mixed woodlands and a rolling landscape with a watercourse, the Tyne Water. Part of the site is a golf course, but there are extensive paths throughout the site and several areas set aside for picnics and barbecues. The Country Park Register is singularly uninformative about visitor facilities, but a car park, toilets and catering are evidently provided. A visitor centre was added in 1995, but this was not grant-aided by CCS because the Council overlooked the submission of an application.

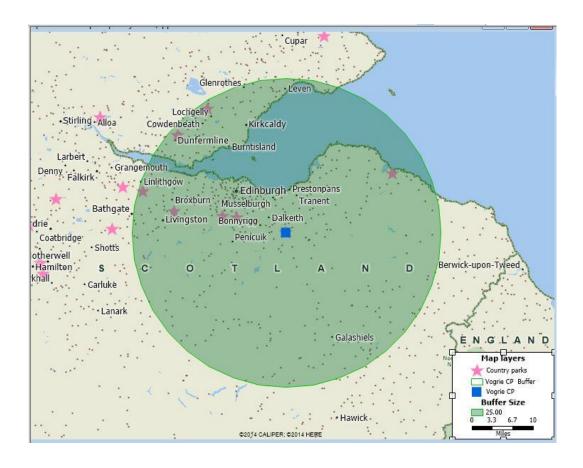
Vogrie was one of ten provisionally registered parks all granted formal recognition in 1980. A 1985 user survey reported most of its visitors came from the Edinburgh area, and used the site for walking, especially dog walking; there was a high proportion of repeat visitors.

The site now includes a small model railway and an adventure playground as well as over 11 miles of footpath, including a rhododendron walk. Vogrie also offers a variety of wildlife habitats.



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Notional catchment:



Urban population within 25 mile radius (1971): 530,187

No. of other country parks within catchment: 5

Visitor numbers 1990: 45,000

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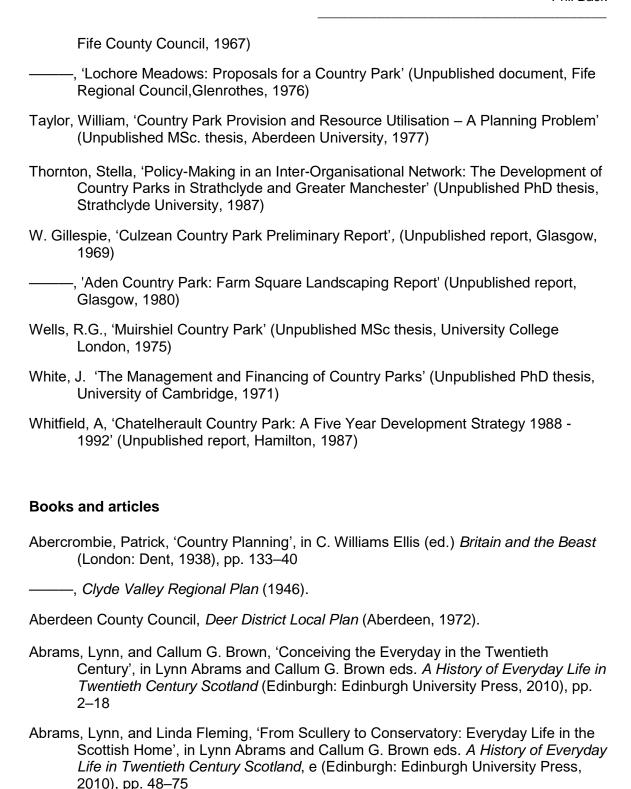
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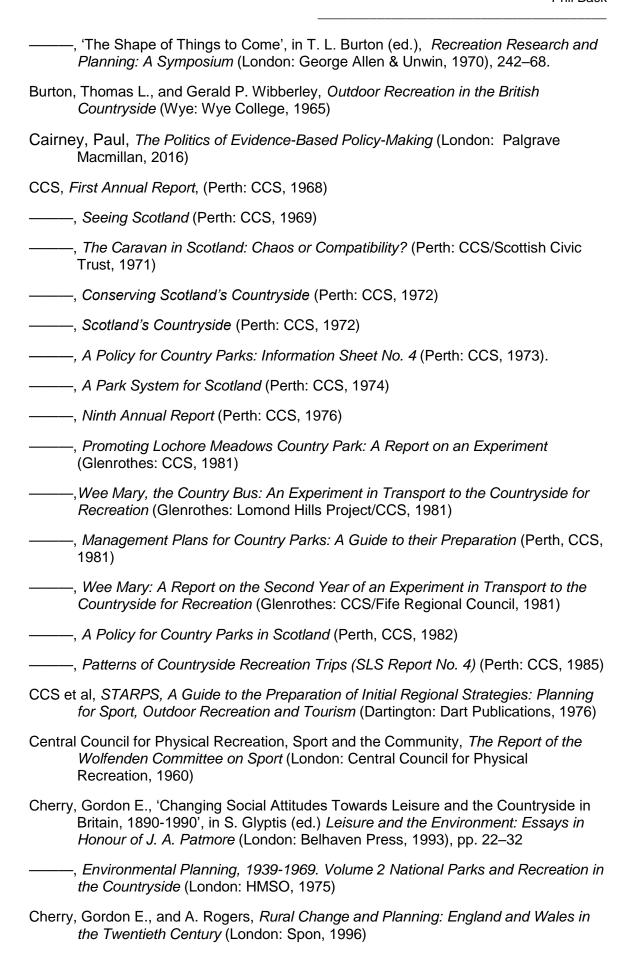
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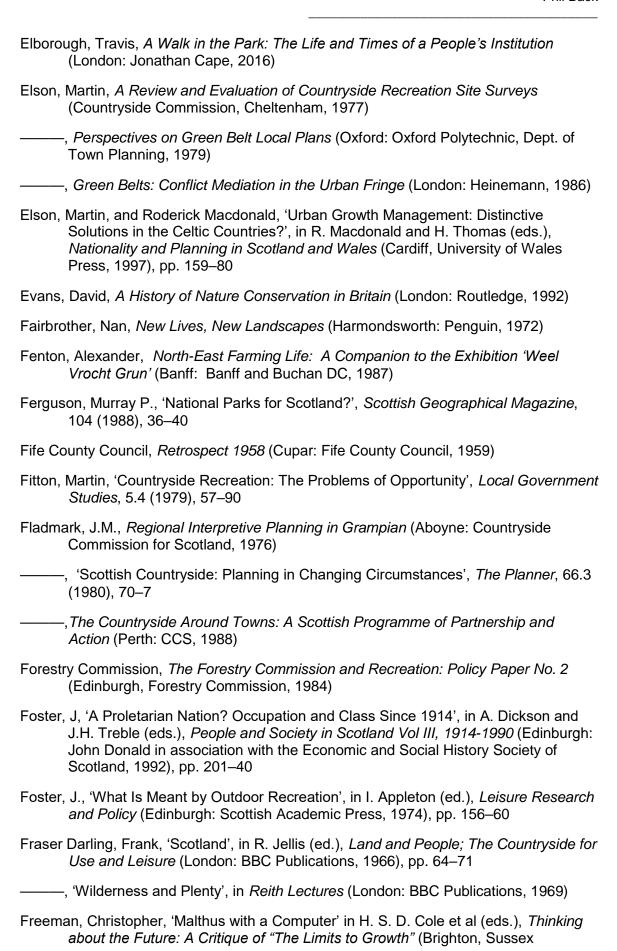
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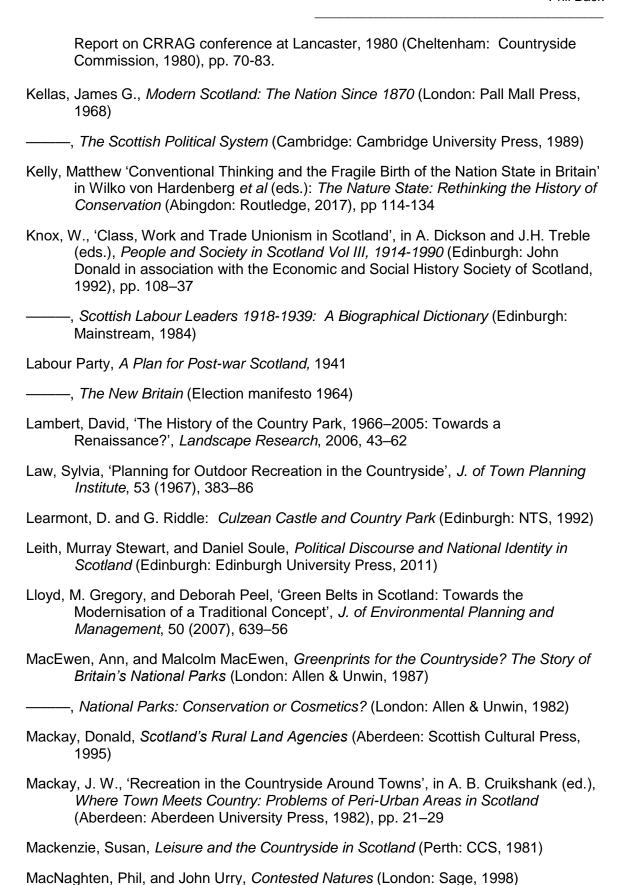
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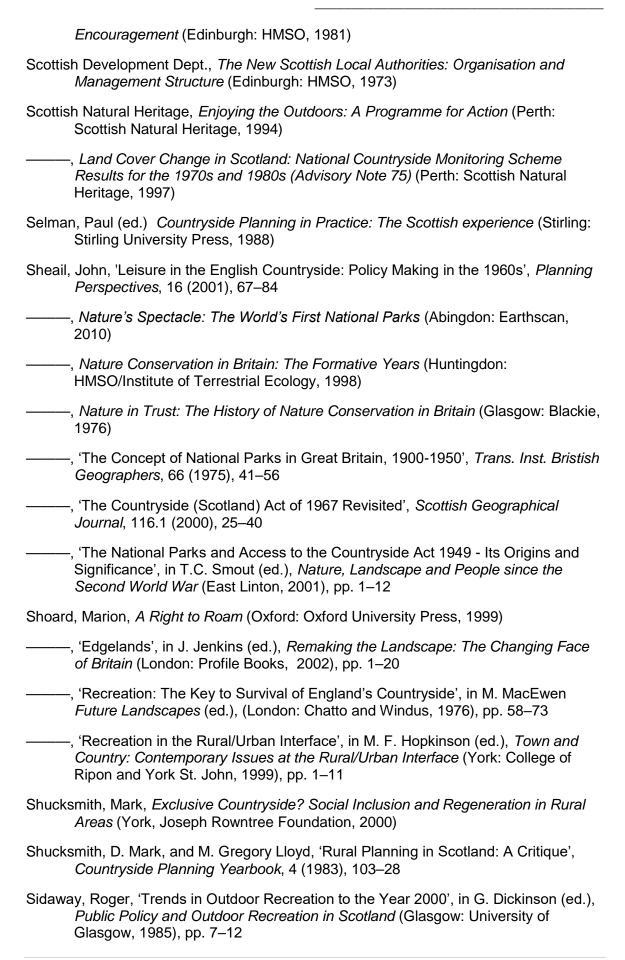
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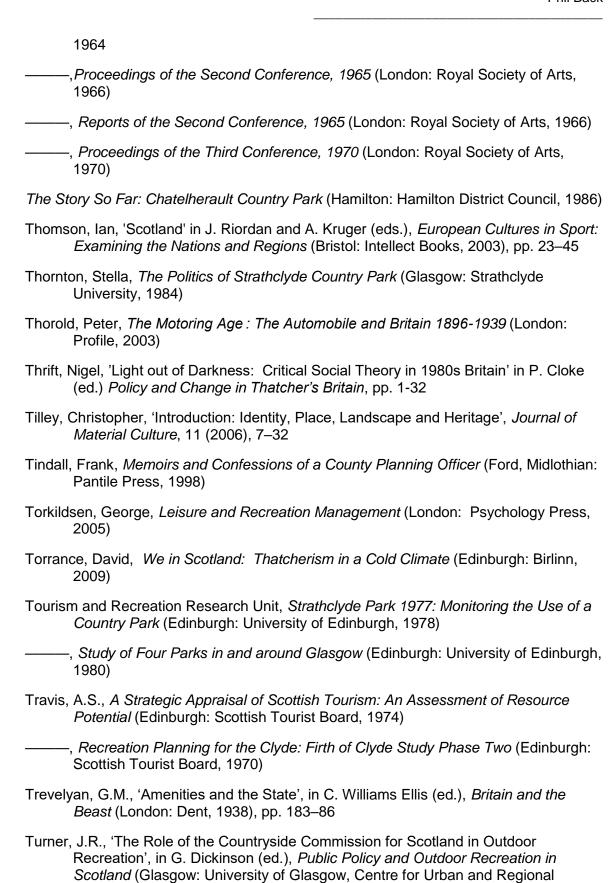
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