

The book cover features a vertical stone column on the left with detailed carvings of a fleur-de-lis, a bird, and floral motifs. To the right is a stained glass window depicting a woman in a crown and a bird. At the bottom, two stone eagles are perched on a ledge.

# TANGSIDE HERITAGE TRAIL

**NEW  
REVISED  
EDITION**

## **Travel information:**

**Bus Services:** from city centre nos. **44** and **66** to Battlefield Rest: **38, 38A, 45, 47, 57 & 57A** to Pollokshaws Road by Langside Halls: cross city **23, 34, 89/90** to Langside Avenue.

**Train Services:** Glasgow Central Station to Langside, about 100 metres from Millbrae Bridge. From the station exit onto Langside Drive and turn to your right for Millbrae Bridge

Travel information was accurate at time of the production. Please check before your journey.

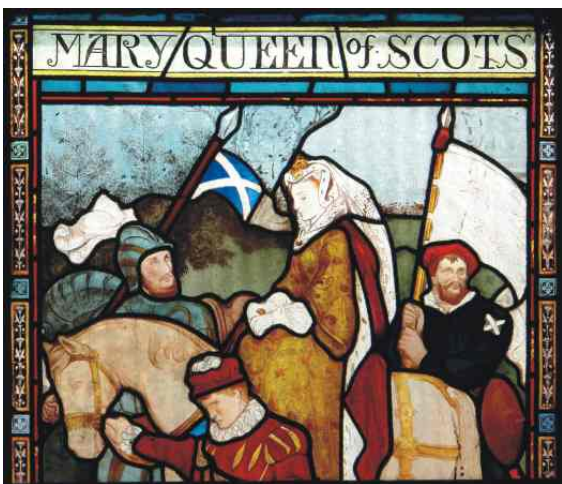
Please respect the privacy of privately owned properties on this trail.

# Langside Heritage Trail

Welcome to Langside!

The map (inside back cover) shows the trail, refreshment opportunities and some optional extra places to explore if you have time! The core trail, marked in red, is about 3.2 km long. The entire trail covers 6.5km. You can spend a morning or afternoon or sample it. You can join the trail anywhere it suits you.

This is a walking trail but it is all (except parts of the Park) accessible by car for those with restricted mobility.



Detail from Stained Glass Window in Rawcliffe of *Mary Queen of Scots after the Battle of Langside* by W. & J. J. Weir, Glasgow, 1874.

## Introduction

Langside is one of the oldest and most event-filled areas on the south side of Glasgow. There is evidence of prehistoric settlement, a famous battle, a community of radical weavers and some mansions, before it became fully urbanised.

The White Cart Water to the south and the two long hills with summits in Queen's Park and Mansionhouse Road define its hilly and surprisingly wooded character. The name Langside - long hill - refers to this feature.

Langside, Crossmyloof and Cathcart were all part of the ancient parish of Cathcart. Langside village originated at the cross-roads between the north-south route from the crossing of White Cart Water to the centre of Glasgow, and the east-west path from Crossmyloof down Lang Loan (Battlefield Road). Until well into the twentieth century the area encompassed the Battlefield area as well as modern day Langside. It formally became part of Glasgow in 1891.

### 1. Millbrae Bridge and the White Cart

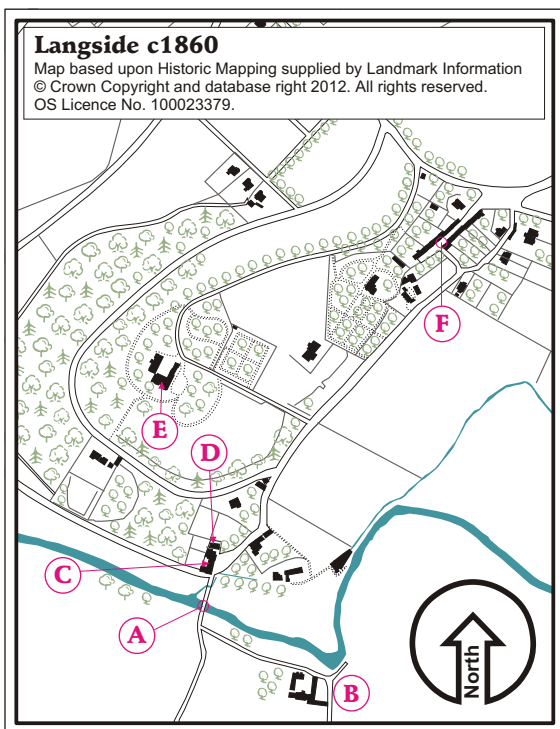


*Stand on the bridge facing up the steep hill (Millbrae Road). Note, there is access to a short walkway behind Millbrae Crescent nearby.*

This is an ancient crossing point. The present red sandstone and grey granite Millbrae Bridge (see map - **A**) was opened in 1899, replacing an earlier bridge.

There were once two mills on this stretch of the White Cart, a paper mill (**B**) dating back to 1690, and a meal mill (**C**). The meal mill stood just to the west of the present bridge until it was destroyed by fire in the mid-nineteenth century. You can still see the miller's cottage (**D** - 98 Millbrae Road) on a rise set back from the road to the left of the bridge, away from the risk of flooding.

Until the 1890s most of the area to the right of the bridge was open fields while the hill to the left was a bluebell wood and formal gardens surrounding Langside House (**E**). The farm, cottages and gardens of Langside village (**F**) clustered around the top end of Millbrae Road, then called the Vennel.





## **2. Millbrae Crescent** 1876-77

Nos. 2-38 (Category 'A' listed), nos. 40-46  
(Category 'B' listed)



*Walk uphill and take the first turning right to walk around Millbrae Crescent.*

Millbrae Crescent is built over the old mill lade. The handsome curved terrace in Giffnock sandstone on the right, backing onto the White Cart, is in the style of one of Glasgow's greatest architects, Alexander 'Greek' Thomson (1817-75) but was built by his partner Robert Turnbull shortly after Thomson's death. Thomson himself may have designed nos. 2-38.

Thomson never went to Greece but his architecture uses the language of the ancient world, strong horizontal and vertical lines, shallow pitched roofs, Egyptian-influenced lotus-headed columns and classical decorative patterns such as acanthus, Greek key and anthemion.

Since 1988 Millbrae Crescent has been a Conservation Area. Between 1995-96 the iron railings were restored.



*Carry on round the Crescent and back along Ailsa Drive to reach Millbrae Road again. Continue up the hill for about 50 metres. Then you have a choice, to turn left along Camphill Avenue [3] and then up Mansionhouse Road [4-6], to go straight on up Millbrae Road to the Langside Monument [7] or to turn right along Cathkin Road and explore the area now known as Battlefield [10-13] - about 1km.*

### **3. Site of Langside House, former Bluebell Wood and 155-157 Camphill Avenue**

The modern flats on the left as you enter Camphill Avenue were the setting for scenes in Bill Forsyth's 1984 film, *Comfort and Joy*.

The crest of the hill between Mansionhouse Road and Camphill Avenue, roughly where Mansionhouse Gardens now stands, was the site of Langside House, 1777, designed by one of the greatest Scottish architects, Robert Adam (1728-92). It was an elegant four-square classical mansion with symmetrically projecting stable block wings, patterned on Marble Hill House, Twickenham, Middlesex. Adam's client was an Ayrshire physician, Thomas Brown, who made his fortune practising in London and bought the 100 acre



*Langside House*



estate for about £4,000 in 1776. His grandson sold it to Neale Thomson, who owned the neighbouring Camphill estate in 1852 [see 18]. Thomson developed a feu plan that led to the construction of villas and terrace houses on crescents and avenues and started Langside's development as a pleasantly rural location for the homes of affluent professionals and businessmen during Glasgow's industrial heyday. Langside House itself remained in family ownership until it was requisitioned by the Fire Brigade during the Second World War. It was demolished in the 1950s.

Some of the earliest villas were built at this end of Camphill Avenue and along Mansionhouse Road. You can glimpse a pair of handsome, symmetrical sandstone villas at 157 (Hazelwood) and 155 (Thornwood Hall) Camphill Avenue. Both villas date from 1875. Hazelwood for many years housed a Jesuit preparatory school, St Aloysius.

Signs of much earlier habitation have been found here. A massive stone with Bronze Age cup and ring markings (now in Glasgow Museums no.1902.78) was discovered in the Bluebell Wood south of Langside House and presented to the Museum in 1902. The stone may have acted as a boundary or tribal marker.



*Now turn and walk uphill along Mansionhouse Road.*





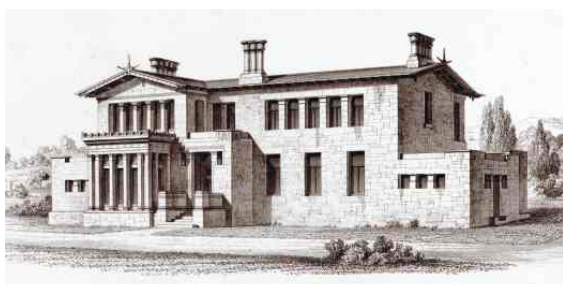
#### **4. Rawcliffe** 1862 and later additions 29 Mansionhouse Road (Category 'B' listed)

Rawcliffe is the road's grandest house, designed mostly in a French influenced Scottish Baronial style. It was built for Alexander Bannatyne Stewart (1836-80) of the drapery firm Stewart & MacDonald. He was a keen art collector, chairman of the Glasgow Institute of the Fine Arts and presided over a substantial household including his wife and eight children, a governess and fourteen servants.

In addition to reception rooms the house boasted a library and 'a large picture gallery hung round with choice examples of the work of living artists. . . early jewellery, illuminated manuscripts and other rarities.' A contemporary account by someone who had enjoyed his hospitality, ('nothing pleased the host better than to sit . . . chatting beside the capacious fireplace with an appreciative guest or two, over an after-dinner cigar') enthused over the elegant interior decoration. Stewart's country house was Ascog Hall on Bute; in both places he cultivated his love of plants, especially orchids of which he had a distinguished collection.

From 1919 to 2007 Rawcliffe was a Carmelite Convent. At one time there were so many religious buildings in the area it was known as 'Vatican Hill'. Next door, the Boswell Hotel (27 Mansionhouse Road), occupies another former villa, Kirklington, once owned by locomotive builder, William Lorimer.

**5. Alexander 'Greek' Thomson's Double Villa** 1856-57, 25 & 25a Mansionhouse Road (Category 'A' listed)



This looks like an asymmetrical and very classical villa with its colonnaded bay window, massive walls and ornamental details in Giffnock sandstone. Actually it is two houses, now known as the Double Villa and recognised as an early masterpiece by the partnership of 'Greek' and George Thomson. The internal floor plans are identical but by facing them in opposite directions Thomson ingeniously gave the residents maximum privacy and the building itself impressive presence. What you see is the majestic front of 25 and the plain back of 25A.

This was the first villa built on Mansionhouse Road. It is much less grand than Rawcliffe, each house having three bedrooms and room for one live-in servant. Both houses were built

for £2,250 in 1856-57, the same year as Thomson's much larger Holmwood (National Trust for Scotland) nearby in Cathcart. Clothing manufacturer George Watson lived in one house while one James Gibb, 'landed proprietor', lived in the other property.

Opposite, two former villas are now the core of the Priory Clinic, while St Helen's Gardens and its new flats occupy the site of the Bon Secours Hospital that stood there from 1960 to 2004. The Sisters of Bon Secours de Paris came to Glasgow in 1948 and established a small nursing home here caring for people of all faiths.

Further along the road, on the left by a patch of woodland, runs Iser Lane. Originally leading to two villas, it was known as Linden Lane. However, such was the sensitivity about German sounding names (linden is German for lime) that the name was changed during the 1930s.



*Interior detail, Double Villa*

## 6. The old village of Langside

Langside Place (formerly Colquhoun Street),  
Algie Street

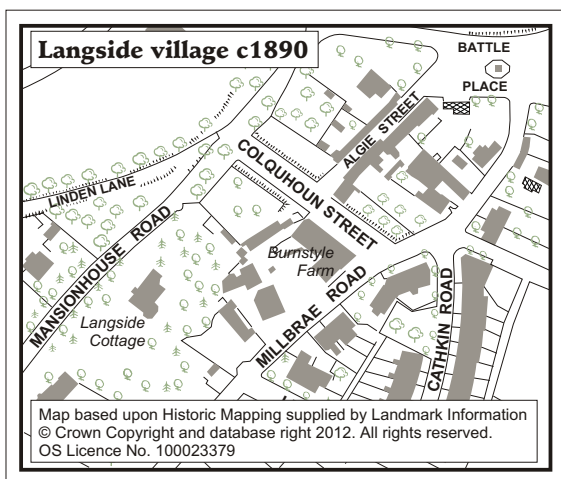
The ancient village of Langside clustered on either side of what is now Algie Street (named after a tea and coffee merchant).

By the eighteenth century there were about 20 cottages with gardens. In the 1841 census, 19 of the 24 householders were cotton handloom weavers, though by 1861 only six remained. The weavers cultivated apples, gooseberries and radical opinions. Scottish weavers were at the forefront of efforts to improve working conditions and extend the vote. Here, as also in Crossmyloof and Strathbungo, many of the weavers were 'celebrated growers of tulips, pansies, dahlias and other floricultural favourites.'

Glasgow people came here to enjoy fresh air, eat the apples and gooseberries with milk and cream supplied by Burnstyle farm (to the south of Langside Place, demolished in 1950). The cows were grazed in the fields below, along the White Cart east of Millbrae Road.



*Weavers' Cottage in Algie Street, c 1900*



By the 1890s about a third of Glasgow's 700,000 population lived south of the Clyde. Tenemented streets, shops and businesses quickly spread. The village eventually disappeared in the era of tenement building but some weavers' cottages in Algie Street survived until 1905.

## 7. Langside Monument and the Battle of Langside (Monument Category 'B' listed)

The Langside Monument commemorates a decisive battle in Scotland's history, the Battle of Langside (13<sup>th</sup> May 1568), which marked the final defeat of Mary Queen of Scots. The actual battle site is roughly where the Victoria Infirmary now stands.

Eleven days after escaping from Lochleven Castle where she had been imprisoned after her forced abdication in favour of the infant James VI, Mary had mustered an army of 6,000. The Regent, Earl of Moray intercepted

her planned march to Dumbarton by positioning his 4,000 troops on the hill to the north east of the village of Langside (now Queen's Park). It is said that the gardens of the village protected his soldiers so they could fire their hackbuts at the Queen's troops coming up the Lang Loan below (now Battlefield Road). Her army was defeated with about 400 men killed in forty-five minutes. There is no evidence for the popular story that the bodies were buried in Queen's Park. Mary fled to England, to imprisonment and eventual execution in 1587. Many local street names commemorate those who fought in the Battle which is the subject of a display at Kelvingrove.




*The Langside Monument c 1904. Behind it Langside Old Church and (left) the Victoria Infirmary.*

The granite Monument in Battle Place was erected in 1887, 300 years after Mary's death. It was designed by Alexander Skirving, 'Greek' Thomson's principal assistant. In addition to the lion with a cannonball under his paw, facing the battlefield, the column is decorated with thistles, roses and fleur-de-lys, reflecting Mary's coat of arms.

**8. Former Langside Hill Church** 1895-96  
22 Langside Avenue (Category 'B' listed)



Alexander Skirving (*below left*) was also the architect of Langside Hill Church (now a bar and restaurant ) , built for the Free Church. Skirving's design was in the classical tradition, the building placed imposingly on a large plinth and fronted by a pedimented portico supported by giant Ionic columns. There was meant to be a sculpture on the pediment showing John Knox, open Bible in hand, with



Regent Moray beside him, remonstrating with Queen Mary, since the government and religion of Scotland were affected by the outcome of the Battle of Langside. The sculpture was apparently designed but never carried out.





*Horses and carriage at Shands'*

Opposite, at the junction between Langside Place and Battlefield Road, stood an earlier church by Skirving, built in 1888 in a Gothic style; Langside Old Church of Scotland, by then an archive repository of the Victoria Infirmary, was destroyed by fire in 1982. Strategically placed opposite the Monument, between the churches and close to the Victoria Infirmary, was Shands' (now a garage). Established in the 1880s this was first a carriage hire business and later an undertakers which continued until the late 1970s. The hearses and their black horses were a common sight. The stables and former garage survive behind the modern garage.



## 9. Former Lighting Department building

1937-39, 15 Millbrae Road

(Category 'C' listed)

The crisp pale grey brickwork, blue tiles and glass bricks mark this as one of very few Modernist buildings in the area. It was designed by Sam Bunton in 1937-39 as a control station for the Glasgow Corporation Lighting Department. It has made a smooth transition to modern uses, first as a restaurant, and now as retail premises.



*Millbrae Road*

This part of the old village at the top of Millbrae was known as the Vennel. Later it became an extension of the shops and tenements in Langside Place. For much of the twentieth century there was a full range of shops for the local community - two grocers, two bakeries, a greengrocer, butcher, fishmonger, post office, shoe shop, draper and dressmaker, hairdresser, newsagent and electrical goods retailer.



*From here you may walk along Millbrae Road and down Cathkin Road [10-13 or turn back to the Monument to visit Camphill Avenue [16] or to enter Queen's Park [15].*



*The villas in Overdale Street were built in 1893*

## **10. From Villa to Tenement**

A walk along Cathkin and Ledard Roads and Sinclair Drive.



*With site no.9 on your left, walk on a few metres, then left down Cathkin Road and then left again down Ledard Road. At Sinclair Drive, go straight on for the Synagogue [11] or turn left along Sinclair Drive to Battlefield Rest and Langside Library [12, 13] before coming back up the hill, in all a distance of about 1.5km.*

During the late nineteenth century, the hillside south of the village became a popular place to build villas for the richer middle classes. There are good surviving examples in Cathkin Road.

The grid of tenemented streets to the east of Millbrae Road and south of Battlefield Road (Overdale, Ledard, Lochleven etc) forms a largely intact example of Glasgow's urban design of the late Victorian and Edwardian periods (1890 to 1914). These houses and flats were built for the expanding artisan and lower middle classes. It is worth wandering through the area to get a feel of what Glasgow city life might have felt like one hundred years ago.

Imagine the street with no parked cars, only horse drawn carriages, trams along Sinclair Drive, and crowded pavements with women in long dresses and men in caps.

### **11. Former Queen's Park Synagogue**

1925-27, Falloch Road (Category 'B' Listed)

In the early twentieth century Glasgow's Jewish community was 10,000 strong, many first or second generation immigrants. As some prospered they moved from areas such as the city centre and the Gorbals to Langside, Shawlands and Strathbungo. By 1925 the existing synagogue in Lochleven Road was too small and the new Queen's Park Synagogue, to hold over 500 people, was commissioned from the architect Ninian MacWhannel. It is unusual, being built of artificial red sandstone and with part of the roof in reinforced concrete. Completed in 1927, it is Romanesque in style and the apse rises almost full height to a glazed semi-dome.



In 1990, as part of Glasgow's year as European City of Culture, a series of fourteen stained glass windows designed by John K. Clark was installed, depicting the festivals of the Jewish Year. With the decline in the local congregation the Synagogue was closed in 2003. The windows are preserved in the Giffnock Synagogue (Maryville Avenue, G46) while its Ark has been removed to a new synagogue in Salford. In 2007 the building was converted to residential use (architects Sinclair, McPhail).



*Turn back up Ledard Road and right along Sinclair Drive.*





## **12. Battlefield Rest and former Queen's Park Secondary School**

Trams reached Langside in 1901 and the Battlefield Rest, the finest tram shelter in the city, was constructed in 1915. With its clock tower, balustrade, flag poles, seating, public conveniences, kiosk and smart green and cream tiling, people could wait in comfort for trams coming from the terminus at the junction of Holmlea and Battlefield Roads. Once the tram service ceased in 1962 people could still wait there for the trolley and motor buses. Many young couples would meet there before going on a night out. It fell into disrepair, lost part of its structure to fire and was at risk of demolition before being listed in 1981 after a local campaign. Its present owners restored it to use as an Italian restaurant. 🟡

Beyond it, at 44 Grange Road until 2006, were buildings familiar to generations of local people, the red and grey of Queen's Park School, established in 1876 and in use until 1966. Starting as Queen's Park Elementary School it expanded on the site and, in 1900, became a Senior Secondary, younger children attending Queen's Park Junior Secondary

School which still stands at 44 Carmichael Place (now called Battlefield Primary).

Distinguished alumni include Tom Honeyman (Director of Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum from 1939-54), Manny Shinwell MP, Winnie Ewing (Woodburn) MP, socialist campaigner John McLean, businessman and philanthropist Sir Isaac Wolfson, former Scotland football manager Ally McLeod and Stanley Jefferson, better known as Stan Laurel. A red letter day in the School's history was the visit of Laurel and Hardy during their UK tour in 1947.

In 1966 Queen's Park School was rebuilt on a site in Toryglen and most local children began to attend Shawlands Academy. Once the school closed in 1966 the building found a few transient uses, including as a film set for the TV drama, *The Prime of Miss Brodie*, but an arson attack in 1995 left it ruinous. The site has been incorporated into the precinct of the new Victoria Hospital.

### **13. Langside Library 1913-14** Sinclair Drive (Category 'B' listed)



*Turn to walk up  
Battlefield Road  
towards the  
Battlefield Monument.*

Langside Library is one of many in Scotland funded by Andrew Carnegie. George Simpson won a competition held for







its design in 1913 and it opened in 1915. We take browsing along library shelves for granted but this was the first library in the city to let people pick their own books instead of requesting them from a counter.

Inside, the Battle of Langside is commemorated in a large painting, designed by Maurice Greiffenhagen, A.R.A. and executed with the help of students at Glasgow School of Art. It was exhibited at the Royal Academy in London in 1919 and presented to the Library in January 1920.

Two war memorial panels commemorating former pupils of Queen's Park School who gave their lives in the 1914-19 and 1939-45 World Wars also hang in the library, having been put there on the closure of the School.

#### **14. Victoria Infirmary** Langside Road



##### *View from Langside Road.*

As the local population increased in the 1870s, Dr Ebenezer Duncan, a local GP, led the campaign for a hospital on the south side. The



Victoria Infirmary eventually opened in 1890 as a voluntary hospital with 94 beds. By 1906 it had 260 beds and a further 120 were added when a new wing was built in 1927. In the 1940s it became a major teaching hospital and from 1948 was part of the NHS, known to all as 'The Vicky'. It will soon be superseded by the new Victoria Hospital and the extended Southern General Hospital but those parts of the building that are listed, notably James Sellars' 1889 administration block facing Langside Road, will be protected during redevelopment.

The Royal Coat of Arms and, more surprisingly, a puma, carved in relief, appear high on the façade of the administration block facing Queen's Park. The puma is not commonly associated with health or medicine; whatever the explanation, the puma has become the Victoria's symbol, appearing on its nurse's badge and giving its name to the hospital's theatre group.

## 15. Queen's Park, the Glasshouse, Flagpole and Earthworks

(Glasshouse Category 'B' listed)



*You can enter Queen's Park from Battle Place via a short steep path to the Glasshouse, or by a pushchair/ wheelchair accessible path from park entrances in Langside Road or Langside Avenue. From here, it is worth following the signs up to the highest point of the park (The Flagpole) for a panoramic view of the city. It is about 750m there and back.*

The Park, named after Mary Queen of Scots and opened in 1862, is one of Scotland's best surviving examples of Victorian park design. The original plans were drawn up by the greatest of all Victorian park designers, Sir Joseph Paxton (1803-65), who also designed Kelvingrove Park. The Glasshouse (1905) contains exhibitions of plants and a café. 

Just to the west of the Flagpole viewpoint is Camphill, the remains of an earthwork rampart of unknown origin and purpose. Despite three excavations over the last 150 years and further surveys it remains mysterious. It has been proposed that it is Iron Age, Roman and medieval, a fort or a defended settlement. The location has obvious



advantages as a lookout and defensive position and the site could well have its origins in prehistoric times and then been re-used over the centuries.



*If you would like to continue the route in the Park follow Park signs to the Scottish Poetry Rose Garden and Langside Halls [17-20].*



## **16. Camphill Avenue**

Nos. 23-53 (Category 'B' listed)



*The walk along Camphill Avenue and round the 'Pleasure Grounds' is about 550m.*

The tenements at Nos 3-11 Camphill Avenue date from about 1903 and are in the Glasgow "new style". They replaced the classical buildings of the Langside Academy designed by Alexander 'Greek' Thomson. Built in 1858, this was the first school in the area, intended 'for Young Ladies and Gentleman and beautifully situated at the foot of Langside

Wood and well situated to promote the health of the pupils.'

Nos. 23-53 Camphill Avenue (1904) are an outstanding example of Glasgow tenement design. Local architect, John Campbell McKellar, also designed much of Hyndland in the West End. Built at the height of Glasgow's prosperity the design represents both the aspirations of its growing middle class and changing fashions in tenement building. About 1890 the stone used changed from cream to red sandstone and the terrace is a good example of "diluted baroque" with heavy ornamentation over the bay windows and double flights of steps leading to handsome exterior swing doors. With their small square windows they are reminiscent of the interior of the Glasgow School of Art, designed by Charles Rennie Mackintosh and opened only a few years earlier.

The railings surrounding the Gardens opposite (once part of 'the Pleasure Grounds' around Langside House) were restored in 2007 and are one of the few surviving examples of the Glasgow Art Nouveau ironwork.



## Camphill Avenue - a microcosm of Langside's social history?

An early advertisement for the flats at nos. 23-53 Camphill Avenue shows that the intention was to attract the better off and upwardly mobile middle classes who could not afford the surrounding villas.

Records from 1913 tell us much about who originally lived here. The names are mainly Lowland Scots (Duncan, Kerr), with only a few Highland or Irish names. Only three women had tenancies.

Attendance, 10 Queensborough Gds., 10 a.m. till 8.30 p.m.—William MacKinnon, 34 West George Street.

**AT REGENT PARK TERRACE, POLLOCK-SHAWNS ROAD, Facing South Side Park, 3 and 4 B. and K.—Apply James K. Neill & Co., 87 Union St.**

**AT YORK DRIVE (Near Kelvin-side and Hyndland Car Stations).—Best Amenities in Glasgow.—Three Beautifully-Finished, High-Class New 2 and 3 Room and Kitchen Houses. Granite Columns at Entrances, Large Parlours, Sculleries, Light Bath-Rooms, Electric Light Fittings, Ranges with Tiled Surrounds, Polished Mahogany Mirrored Mantelpieces with Art Tiled Interiors; for Whitaunderday, with early Entry.—Attendance at Buildings, 10 till 8, MacLaggart, 65 Bath St.**

**CAMPBILL AVENUE, LANGSIDE. TO LET, VERY SUPERIOR FIVE ROOMS and KITCHEN HOUSES, with Maid's Rooms. Splendid Situation and View.—Apply Wm. MacKinnon, 34 West George Street, Telephone, 6680 Royal. Attendance at Property, 2-5 Daily.**

**CLAREMONT TERRACE.—TO LET, Large, Handsome TOWN RESIDENCE, in first-class order, 17 Apartments. Rent, £130.—Apply to MacLaggart & Laidler, 46 Gordon Street.**

**DOLPHIN AND KIRKCALDY ROADS, MAXWELL PARK (beside Station).—SUPERIOR 3 (Main Door), 4, 5, and 6 R. and K. HOUSES TO LET. Commodious, Artistic, with Interiors and Electric Light.—Apply Property; or Eadie, 405 Mathieson Street.**

**EXCELLENT FLAT, One Up, 34 BURNBANK GARDENS, 6 Rooms and Kitchen. Electric Light.—Brown, 192 Riverside Street.**

**FREE TILL 28th FEBRUARY if taken for Excellent Houses of 1, 2, and 3**

*Glasgow Herald Newspaper advertisement*

The occupations reflect Glasgow's economy at the turn of the century - bakers, yarn, metal, coal, steel and machinery merchants and sack makers. There are also engineers, architects, solicitors and insurance brokers.

By 1935 the residents of Camphill reflected changes not only in Glasgow's economy but also in its social and ethnic make-up. There are more Highland names (McKenzie, Macleod, Macintyre). Occupations have changed with an increase in business or professional people (accountants, solicitors, an artist and a musical director). Two sisters, the Miss Smiths at number 51, were milliners and there were many more married, or possibly widowed, women holding tenancies.

The biggest change by 1935 is in the number of Jewish residents (from none in 1913 to at least ten in 1935) with occupations such as tailor, jeweller and furrier. Rabbi Gottlieb of Queen's Park Synagogue lived at no. 25. By 1955 many Jewish households had moved further south and by 1978 a few distinctively Irish names, such as Monaghan and Leinster, had arrived. Only nine of the 64 flats had the same family as in 1955. During this period owner occupation began to replace tenancies.

A similar survey of Camphill Avenue in 2007 reveals a further transformation. Most residents are owner occupiers. Their professions now include social workers, the new technologies and business consultants. There are many more single people and women owners, families from Pakistan and China and young newcomers from Eastern Europe.





## 17. Queen's Park Rose Garden



*Use the entrance to the Park on Langside Avenue immediately opposite the end of Camphill Avenue. Then follow Park signposts.*

The Gardens of Camphill House [18] were sold to the City in 1893 to become part of the Park. The beech avenue became the present carriageway along the north side and other avenues of mature yews can still be seen in the gardens. A conservatory and hothouses were built in 1895 and demolished in 1935, but their stone foundations and sundial can still be seen. The original walled garden is now the Scottish Poetry Rose Garden created in 2003. The design is in the form of a thistle and all the rose varieties are propagated in Scotland.

Stone setts commemorate twelve Scottish poets from Henryson (15<sup>th</sup> century) to Burns (18<sup>th</sup> century) and Violet Jacob (20<sup>th</sup> century). There are three carved stones by David Lindsay of Edinburgh, each with a poem quoted. The central one, by Hugh McDiarmid, praises 'the little white rose of Scotland'.

On the east stone are lines from Sorley  
McLean, Scotland's foremost Gaelic poet -

*Esan bha 'n Glaschu ursan-chata nam feumach,  
Iain Mor MacGill-Eain,  
ceann is feitheam ar sgeula.*

*But he who was in Glasgow  
the battle-post of the poor,  
great John McLean,  
the top and hem of our story.*

John McLean (1879-1923) was the hero of 'Red  
Clydeside' in the early twentieth century. He  
was born locally, went to Queen's Park School  
and later lived in Langside. A Marxist and  
labour leader who founded the Scottish  
Workers' Republican Party, he was appointed  
the first Soviet Consul in Britain in 1918 but



was imprisoned five times for his views. Over 10,000 people lined the local streets for his funeral in 1923. He is buried in Eastwood Cemetery.

**18. Camphill House, Queen's Park, c.1798**  
(Category 'A' listed)

Camphill House once stood at the heart of the Camphill Estate which (with the Langside Estate owned by the Brown family [see 2]) dominated the area west of Langside village. Probably designed by David Hamilton in about 1798 as a country house for cotton manufacturer, Robert Thomson, it is classical in style. Note the Ionic columns and pilasters of the porch.

In 1893 the estate was bought by the Corporation of Glasgow and became part of Queen's Park. Camphill House was converted in 1894-95 into the City's Costume Museum and so remained until the late 1980s. In 1995 the house was converted into flats.



*Camphill House in the Camphill Estate, c 1900*



## **19. Langside Halls** 1847

1 Langside Avenue (Category 'A' listed)

If you think Langside Halls, recently described as being 'in an opulent Venetian palazzo style', looks a little odd placed at the corner of Queen's Park, you are right. The whole building was dismantled, moved from the city centre and reconstructed here in 1902-03 with the interior much altered, at a cost of £18,251.

It was originally one of the city's most imposing commercial buildings, the National Bank of Scotland at 57 Queen Street, designed in 1847 by John Gibson, a prolific bank architect, with sculpture by John Thomas who also worked on the decoration of the Houses of Parliament. An 1872 Glasgow Guide described this as 'one of the most beautiful



banking houses in the City'. The Royal Coat of Arms, flanked by a lion and unicorn and by seated female figures symbolising Peace and Plenty, is at attic level while the City's crest is carved in the lunette above the main door. In keeping with the mercantile interests of a major shipbuilding and trading city, the heads carved in the keystones above the ground floor windows symbolise the main rivers of Britain - the Clyde, Thames, Tweed, Severn and Humber.

When Mount Florida, Langside and Shawlands were annexed to the City of Glasgow in 1891, the City had to provide a public hall for the area. Moving the bank building met the need at higher quality and (probably) less cost than building from scratch. An ornate drinking fountain manufactured by the famous Saracen Foundry once stood before it but is now sited by Templeton's old factory on Glasgow Green.

**20. Camphill Gate and Crossmyloof Bakery** 1906, 988-1006 Pollokshaws Road  
(Category 'B' listed)

Camphill Gate is a symmetrical, five-storey, red sandstone tenement in the Glasgow style

with Art Nouveau ornament. It was designed by local architect, John Nisbet, in 1906 and was the first of its kind to be erected in Glasgow with fire resisting floors and roof by the Albion Fireproof Construction Company. It has a notable saucer dome and rooftop drying area because there was no room for a drying green at the rear.

Behind Camphill Gate(G) are some of the original buildings of the Crossmyloof Bakery, once one of the largest bakeries in Britain. Established by Neale Thomson in 1847 for the benefit of his textile workers, 'the Crossmyloof loaf' became a byword for quality and value. Hugh MacDonald, author of *Rambles round Glasgow (1851)*, visited it and was impressed with the 45-60 bakers who turned out '40,000 to 43,000 quarter loaves each week from the 26 ovens.' It continued in operation until 1880. Nearby, Baker Street, where there was once a terrace of houses designed by 'Greek' Thomson for the bakery workers, is a reminder of this local industry.



## 21. The Corona Bar 1912-13

Corner of Pollokshaws Road and Langside Avenue (Category 'C' listed)

The Corona Bar  is a single-storey public house with an Art Nouveau exterior and was built by Clarke and Bell in 1912-13 possibly to the design of J. H. Craigie. The bar has a small corner dome and top-lit interior with etched and stained glass. Above each entrance is a plaster hand with gold cross in the palm(loof). There are several unlikely stories involving Mary Queen of Scots to account for the origin of the name, but the most credible origin of the name is the Gaelic – *Crois MoLiubha* – St Malieu's Cross.'



An alternative name for this area was Westfield and by 1800 it was the most populous village in Cathcart parish, with the flat land to the west

behind the present Pollokshaws Road being another area of nurseries and orchards popular with Glasgow people in search of fresh country air.



## 22. **The Marlborough** 1920

26 Langside Avenue (Category 'C' listed)

Now The Shed and home of Marl Arts, the Marlborough House was for many years one of Glasgow's premier venues for weddings, dances, bridge and whist drives and society meetings. Designed by Whyte and Nichol in Edwardian Baroque style and built for the partnership of J H Hamilton and W J Smith, the Marlborough's plush suites were named after the Duke of Marlborough's early 18<sup>th</sup> century battles – Oudenarde, Malplaquet, Ramillies and Blenheim. During the '50s the venue became a hub for the music and youth revolution represented by the arrival of Rock and Roll. Billy Connolly performed there in the 3<sup>rd</sup> City String Band, in the early Seventies, for a fee of £75; the following year he was selling out the Apollo.



## Langside People

Industrialist and philanthropist **Neale Thomson** (1807-57). Born in Camphill, Thomson inherited his family's cotton manufacturing business and proved an enlightened employer, introducing shorter working hours, encouraging his employees to open savings accounts and establishing a bakery at Crossmyloof which, by offering good quality bread at a reasonable price, grew from a philanthropic enterprise to become a large, very successful business. He acquired land in nearby Camphill and gave it to the City in 1857 for the construction of South Side (now Queen's) Park.

Newspaperman and local philanthropist **Alexander Sinclair** (1828-1909). Born in Campbeltown, Sinclair worked his way up from boy clerk to managing partner of the 'Glasgow Herald'. He became a local councillor and eventually a senior magistrate. A Langside resident from 1870, he was instrumental in getting the almost impassable local roads improved. It was at his suggestion that the City of Glasgow bought the Camphill estate and mansion in 1894 and added part of it to Queen's Park. He was treasurer for the initiative to set up the Langside Monument. Sinclair Drive is named after him.

Architect and designer **Charles Rennie Mackintosh** (1868-1928), lived with his step mother, Margaret Rennie, and father William McIntosh, in a house called 'Holmwood' at 82 Langside Avenue from 1892-95. During this



period he was already working for the architectural practice Honeyman & Keppie. During the 1890s his family also lived for a period in Strathbungo. He would therefore have been very familiar with 'Greek' Thomson's work.

Civil servant **Ian McDonald.**

Ian McDonald, prominent during the Falklands Conflict as the Ministry of Defence spokesman who announced the attack on HMS Sheffield and the sinking of the Belgrano, grew up in Cartvale Road and attended Glasgow High School.

Diplomat and security chief **Baroness Ramsay of Cartvale** (b.1936). Margaret "Meta" Ramsay grew up in Cartvale Road. An outstanding student at Queen's Park Junior Secondary, Hutchesons' Grammar School and Glasgow University, she went on to a distinguished diplomatic career, culminating in her appointment as Deputy Director of MI6 and subsequently as a foreign policy adviser to John Smith. She became a life peer in 1996 and continues to serve as a security and foreign policy adviser.



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Page 10; Double Villa - Blackie (pub.), *Villa and Cottage Architecture*, 1868 - courtesy of University of Glasgow, Special Collections

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Page 39; Baroness Ramsay of Cartvale - courtesy of Hutchesons' Grammar School







*The Greek sculptor Phidias carves the Parthenon frieze in a stained glass window at Rawcliffe.*

## Langside Heritage Trail Site List

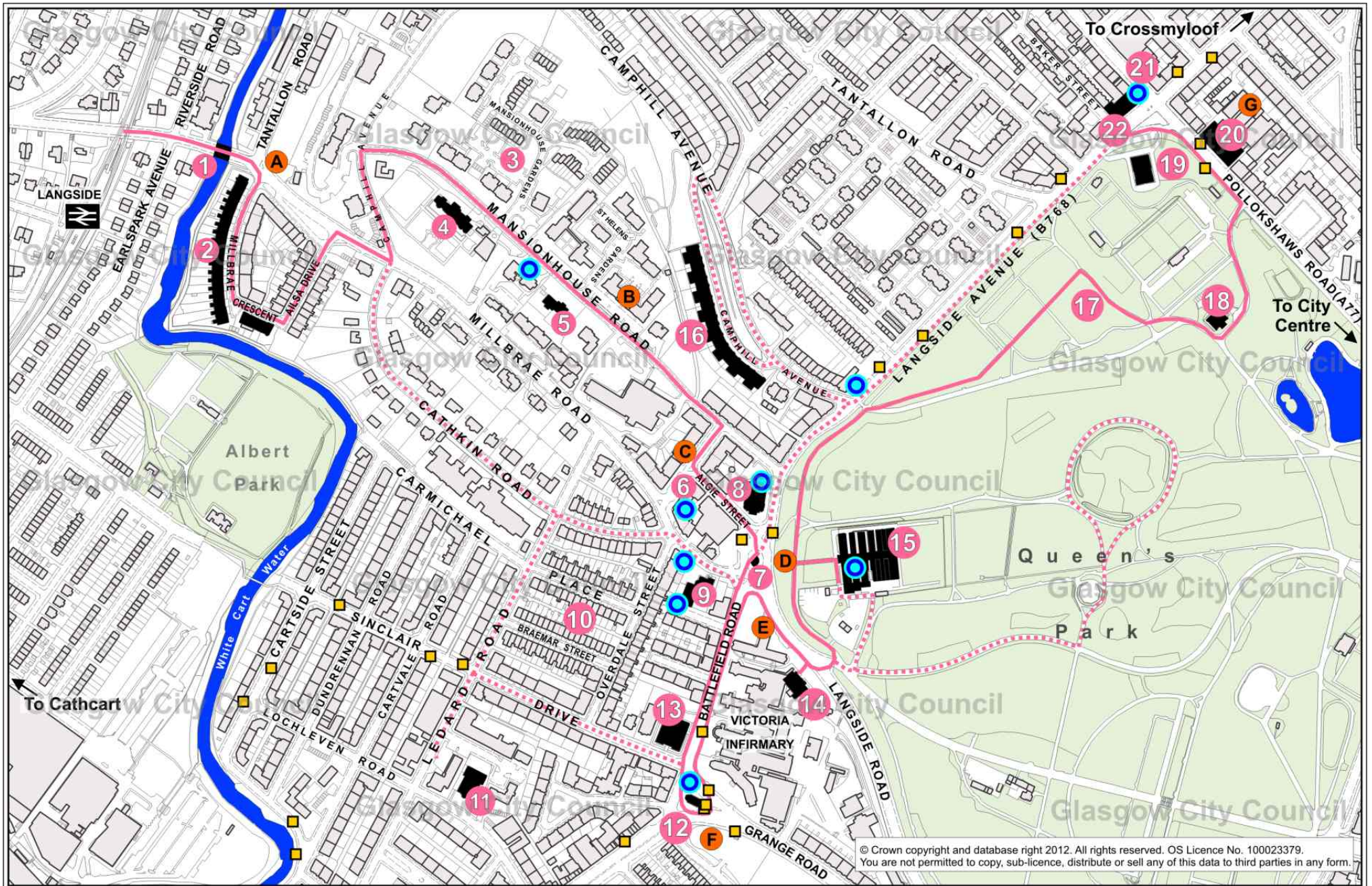
1. Millbrae Bridge and the White Cart
2. Millbrae Crescent
3. Site of Langside House, former Bluebell Woods and Camphill Avenue (Nos. 155-157)
4. Rawcliffe, 29 Mansionhouse Road
5. Alexander 'Greek' Thomson's Double Villa
6. The old village of Langside - Langside Place, Algie Street
7. Langside Monument and the Battle of Langside
8. Former Langside Hill Church
9. The former Lighting Department building
10. From Villa to Tenement - A walk along Cathkin and Ledard Roads and Sinclair Drive
11. Queen's Park Synagogue, Falloch Road
12. Battlefield Rest and former Queen's Park Secondary School
13. Langside Library, Sinclair Drive
14. Victoria Infirmary - Langside Road
15. Queen's Park, the Glasshouse, Flagpole and Earthworks
16. Camphill Avenue (Nos. 23-53)
17. Queen's Park Rose Garden
18. Camphill House, Queen's Park
19. Langside Halls, 1 Langside Avenue
20. Camphill Gate and Crossmyloof Bakery
21. The Corona Bar
22. The Marlborough, 26 Langside Avenue

- A. Site of Mill
- B. Site of Bon Secours Hospital
- C. Site of old village and Burnstyle Farm
- D. Site of the Battle of Langside
- E. Site of Langside Old Church of Scotland
- F. Site of Queen's Park School
- G. Site of former Crossmyloof Bakery

### Key

-  Trail Route
-  Optional Trail Routes
-  Establishment with refreshments/ facilities
-  bus stop





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**Langside Heritage Trail Map**



## Further reading

Langside Library holds a file on the history of Langside, obtainable for reference from the counter. It includes several privately produced studies including those by M. Greene and R. Marshall, as well as maps and press cuttings. The Mitchell Library is the major reference and research resource.

E. Eunson, *Old Cathcart, Langside and Mount Florida*, 1999

*Old Queen's Park*, 1995

available from [www.stenlake.co.uk](http://www.stenlake.co.uk)

A. Smart, *Villages of Glasgow*, vol. 2, 1996

E. Williamson, A. Riches & M. Higgs, *The Buildings of Glasgow*, 1990

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This Trail, including a large print version and other information on Langside can also be accessed from

[www.glasgow.gov.uk/heritagetrails/](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/heritagetrails/)

