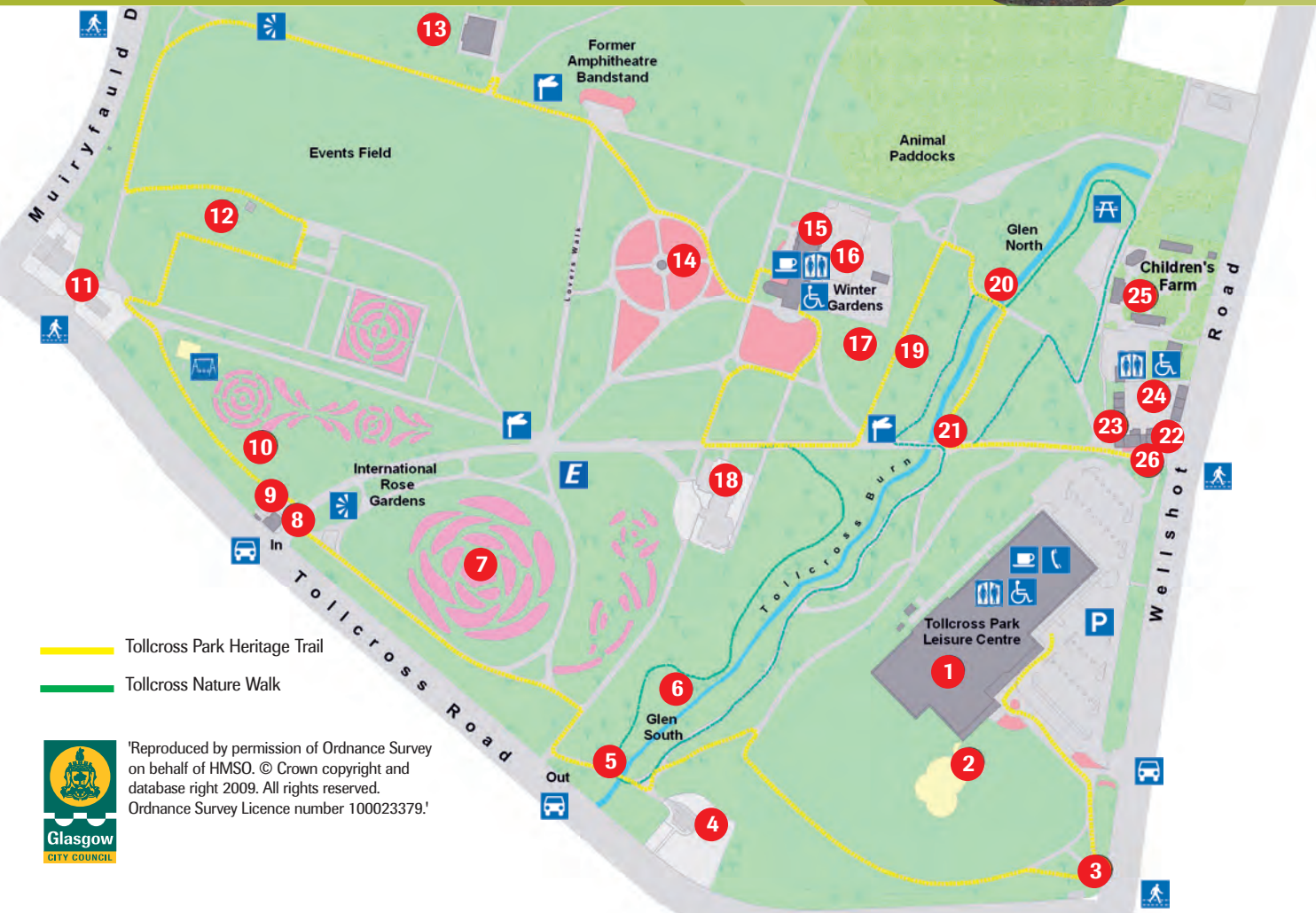




Tollcross Park Heritage Trail





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Tollcross Park Heritage Trail

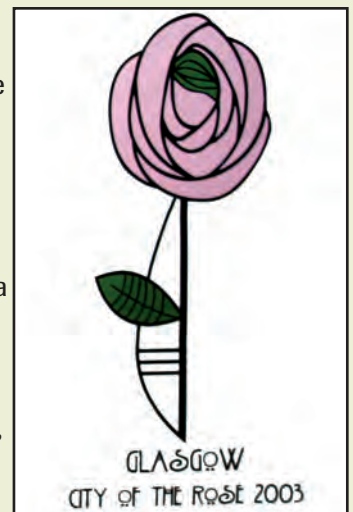
On behalf of Glasgow City Council, welcome to Tollcross Park. Please enjoy your visit. The park is located in the heart of Glasgow's East End some 3 miles east of the City Centre. Wellshot Road, Tollcross Road and Muiryfauld Drive surround the park.

The trail begins at the Leisure Centre (see item 1, page 24 in the trail). The trail should take approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes allowing for a brief stop at each item, through the park grounds and back again.

Following the suggested route will require walking along characteristically uneven ground and pathways. It is the responsibility of members of the public to please respect the privacy of those who live within the park.

Suitable footwear should be worn, and it is advised that the more remote areas of the trail leading down into the Glen are visited during drier weather conditions.

The heritage trail is full of points of interest and offers a welcome retreat from the busy surrounding streets. Toilet facilities are located at the Courtyard visitors Centre, the Winter Gardens and the Leisure Centre.





Introduction



Tollcross Park offers a haven of peace and tranquillity in a unique setting in the heart of Glasgow's East End. The park was named the Best Park in Scotland 2008 adding to a clutch of accolades Glasgow's parks have already attracted. The 91-acre park, famed for its impressive Winter Gardens and world-renowned Rose Garden, collected the Scottish regional award in the Britain's Best Park competition.

Following on from the Britain's Best Park award in 2008 Tollcross Park was crowned with an 'Award of Garden Excellence' in 2009, the World Federation of Rose Societies acknowledged the stunning Rose Gardens at Tollcross. These Awards are made to rose gardens around the world which are considered to be exceptional. Tollcross Leisure Centre situated on the south east corner of the park boasts the city's only 50 metre Olympic sized swimming pool which will feature as the National Swimming Centre during the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games. The park has many hidden gems including the Glen Nature Walk, Children's Farm and Courtyard state of the art Environment Centre. Additional features include remarkable architectural Category A & B listed buildings of national importance; significant rich family history of the Dunlop's and Corbett's.

Tollcross Park offers exceptional recreational activities, and family friendly children's play facilities. The park is extremely well maintained and the staff are knowledgeable, friendly and helpful to ensure a quality visitor experience.

In order to understand Tollcross Park's significance in Scottish History, let us take a step back in time.....

EARLY HISTORY OF TOLLCROSS

The lands of Tollcross or Towcourse' or 'Towcross' have been recorded from the medieval period and two theories have been advanced as to the derivation of the name. One theory is that it is from 'tow' or flax which was grown in the area and was a profitable industry until the later 18th century when the cotton and muslin industries were developed. The second theory is from 'towl' a common Scots form of toll, as Tollcross lay on the main road from Edinburgh to Glasgow at the time:

"In 1717 John Bowman, Lord Provost of Glasgow, attended a meeting of the Commissioners of Supply for Lanarkshire, the body responsible for the upkeep of the roads at the time, and spoke of 'the great inconveniences to the leidges for want of a bridge over the burn near Towcourse, betwixt Hamilton and Glasgow' and the dangers of crossing in time of flood 'when neither coaches, carts nor passengers can pass to Glasgow'. The Shire granted Glasgow 500 merks towards building a bridge and ordered the inhabitants of adjacent parishes to give their labour by bringing stones, lime and other necessary materials. Two masons, James Rae and Robert Wodrop, each received 100 merks in 1720 for work carried out on the bridge."





By 1753 when turnpikes and tollhouses were introduced, the route of the turnpike road lay from Edinburgh:

“through the counties of Linlithgow and Lanark, leading from the east end of Livingstoun to Polkemmet, in the county, in the country of Linlithgow; and from thence by the Shotts Hills, Kirk of Shotts and Muirehall, in the Parish of Shotts; and from thence by Hollowtoun and Bells Hill, in the parish of Bothwell; and from thence by Boghall and Towcross to the city of Glasgow.”

The first reference to the owner of Towcorse is given in the Commissary Records of Glasgow at the beginning of the 17th century, where “Mr James Corbet of Towcors” is mentioned. A “Walter Corbet of Towcross” is referred to in 1678 and in 1722 the armorial bearings of “Walter Corbet of Towcross” are given in Nisbet’s ‘System of Heraldry’. The Corbet family had resided for several centuries in Clydesdale, in the Regality of Glasgow: “a Roger Corbet was one of the Barons of Scotland who swore fealty to King Edward of England, about 1296”.

The estate of Tollcross was once larger than it is now, extending from the ‘Little Hill of Tollcross’, now the Eastern Necropolis, to Sandyhills in the east. It was within the Barony Parish until 1846 and is now in the Parish of Shettleston.

In 1710, Hamilton of Wishaw in his description of Barony Parish gives an early reference to the old mansion house of the Corbets: “it is a good and substantial house, with good gardens and inclosures”.

MacEwing notes that: “the drawing room opened on a trim bowling green. On a stone bench in the open porch sat in



old times the familiar “gaberlunzies” or privileged beggars, waiting for the laird or the “leddy”.

In 1756, James Corbet sold his lands at Sandyhills. He died in 1767 and was succeeded by his son, John, also a merchant and by 1749 a tobacco importer. In 1748 he had married Janet Callendar and they had a large family of several daughters and two sons. Their fourth daughter, Catherine, was to marry Robert Dunlop, grandson of James Dunlop (3) of Garnkirk and nephew of Colin Dunlop of Carmyle, founder of Colin Dunlop and Sons, also tobacco importers. Robert’s cousin, James of Carmyle, later purchased the estate of Tollcross.

The village of Tollcross developed during the latter half of the 18th century and owed its development to the growth of “crafts and manufactures, especially handloom muslin weaving and cotton bleaching, coal mining and the construction of the Clyde Ironworks. The year 1788 saw the passage through Tollcross of the first direct coach from London: it took 4 days and finished its journey at the fashionable Glasgow Inn, The Saracen’s Head in the Gallowgate.”

(A feature of the Calton & Bridgeton Heritage trail)

LINKS BETWEEN THE CORBETS AND DUNLOPS

The Clyde Ironworks were an extension of the Carron Works (started 1760) and were opened as a foundry employing 100 men in 1780 to provide local iron for Carron, producing ordnance, gates, stoves, pots and pans. By the 1780s most of the tobacco lairds had interests in other industrial partnerships and in industries developed for the colonial markets: coal, tar, iron, raw materials, sugar, glass, rope and sailcloth. James Corbett & Co. had 15 partners including Colin Dunlop & Co and the Glasgow Ropework Co.

By 1785, after the American War, many Glasgow syndicates played a major role in the tobacco trade: Colin Dunlop & Sons, Corbett, Russell & Co. and three other firms shipped more than 90% of Port Glasgow’s tobacco imports, trading directly to France and Holland. The main factor in their ability to continue trading with America at this time, was that their manufacturing interests enabled them to supply



the goods at prices the Americans wanted. Both families were respected Glasgow merchant families of long-standing and several of them held public office. Members of both families shared interests on the many industrial syndicates which developed in the late – 18th century.

Many of the tobacco importers suffered from loss of trade at the end of the 18th century, and James Dunlop of Garnkirk suffered financial loss in 1793. David Dale writing 23rd March 1793 to Alexander of Ballochmyle: *“no doubt you will have heard of James Dunlop of Garnkirk’s failure...It has not surprised everyone here...at present I feel he will not have a great reversion. His brother John and some others are brought in by being security for him...John Dunlop and the concerns he is in have been very prosperous...”* John Dunlop of Rosebank later sold his estate to David Dale in 1801.

THE DUNLOPS AT TOLLCROSS. 1816 - 1897

The ‘Corbett’s of Towcross’ were a family of great antiquity, they continued to hold the estate of Tollcross till the beginning of the 18th century when it was purchased by James Dunlop, the eldest son of Colin Dunlop of Carmyle, and grandson of the second James Dunlop of Garnkirk. Colin Dunlop of Carmyle was born in 1706. He was the thirteenth child of the second James Dunlop of Garnkirk, by his wife Lilius, only daughter of Robert Campbell, of Northwoodside, merchant in Glasgow, by his first wife Katherine, second daughter of John Napier of Kilmahew, Dumbartonshire.

Colin Dunlop was one of the founders of the commercial greatness of Glasgow. He established the firm of Colin Dunlop & Sons, one of the great Virginia houses, (these were Glasgow merchants who, in the 18th Century made enormous fortunes by trading in tobacco from Great Britain’s Amercian Colonies). Along with his brother Robert of Househill, and a few of the principal merchants of Glasgow, he also originated, in 1750, the first Glasgow Bank, “The Ship”. He was a Bailie in 1747 and in 1761, Dean of Guild in 1759, and Provost in 1770. He died in 1777.

His son, James Dunlop was born 1742, married Marion Buchanan of the Drumpellier family, by whom he had four sons and three daughters. He acquired Garnkirk from the representatives of his uncle, the third James Dunlop, and added largely to his landed property by the purchase of estates in the neighbourhood of the old family place. Along with his father and brother John of Rosebank, he carried on the Virginia business, and the great house of Colin Dunlop & Sons seemed established on the firmest footing and to be at the height of its prosperity. Whilst on full sail for fortune he was caught in the commercial hurricane when a sudden and most severe “monetary crisis” occurred in 1793, the firm was obliged to succumb. Garnkirk and the other estates were then sold, James Dunlop retaining the



superiority and minerals of Carmyle, which were still the property of his grandson. James died at Tollcross 1816, aged 74, being succeeded by his eldest son Colin, he was bred to the bar and passed advocate, but never practised. In 1828 he repurchased the Clyde Ironworks, and under his energetic management raised them to their former glory. He was persuaded by JB Neilson, a native of Shettleston, to allow him to experiment at the Works with a process of using hot instead of cold air in the blasting furnace. The success of the hot-blast process in 1828 led to a major reduction in costs in the production of iron and quickly transformed the Monklands into the ironmaking centre of Scotland. Colin was also a keen Whig politician, and one of the great leaders of the Reform party in Glasgow. In 1835, along with James Oswald, he was elected M.P. for the City of Glasgow. In consequence of his advanced years and declining health, he did not again present himself as a candidate at the next



general election in July 1837....he was on the hustings on Wednesday, but died on the very morning of the election. Some idea of the general respect which was entertained for his memory may be inferred from the fact, that on the Monday subsequent to his decease, a highly respectable meeting of the inhabitants of this city was held in the Town Hall, in terms of a requisition to the Lord Provost, 'for the purpose of considering the propriety of paying a mark of respect to the late Colin Dunlop, Esq., by attending his funeral, which was to take place on the following day'. Accordingly, about a thousand people joined the funeral procession, the hearse being drawn by six horses, accompanied by four mourning coaches, and followed by a train of forty carriages. A more imposing funeral has never been witnessed in Glasgow. The procession, when viewed from the elevated ground in the Glasgow Necropolis, had a most solemn and imposing effect, and was seen to much advantage as it moved along the appropriately-named 'Bridge of Sighs'. Along the whole line of procession, the street was thronged with anxious crowds of citizens, eager to catch a glimpse at the passing of the mortal remains of one who was so universally beloved and so highly respected.



The monument for Colin Dunlop at the Glasgow Necropolis is a massive, square pillar of Aberdeen granite, rising to the height of c.12 feet and crowned with an elegant Greek pediment of the same material, bearing a simple inscription "Colin Dunlop of Tollcross, Born, 1775 – Died, 1837".

He never married and so the estate passed to his brother George's eldest son James (born 1811). James Dunlop from Edinburgh was also proprietor of the Clyde Ironworks. In 1843, James Dunlop commissioned the Architect, David Bryce, (then in partnership with William Burn), who enjoyed a fine reputation as a builder of Baronial compositions, to build a new mansion at Tollcross in 1848. Bryce had already designed and built **Seacliffe**, (East Lothian), **Carradale**, (Carradalebay, Kintyre) and **Cairnhill**, (Kilmarnock, Ayrshire) he was considered to be the leader in the Scottish Baronial style which he incorporated into his designs of Tollcross Mansion house.

James Dunlop moved into the new house in c1852. McEwing quotes Mr Buchanan of the Clyde Ironworks on the development of the landscape at the time: "...and it is of interest to know that the beautiful arrangement of trees in the glen, whereby variegated foliage in Spring is assured, and the fine lime tree avenue leading to the house, was the personal selection of this lover of woodland. Mr Dunlop had this charming trait to perfection. He was not a horticulturist or a botanist, but he was simply an idolater of the beautiful in trees, and whether in his own estate, or in others in which he had interest, woe betide the despoiler upon whom he laid hands".

The following passage is from the Glasgow Herald, 24th January 1893: In Memoriam James Dunlop of Tollcross:

"He was seldom seen and never heard on a platform, but he did good public work in a quiet way. He was a leader of the old Whigs, Colin D'lap's party, whose great services to the common-wealth are nowadays made light of; he was the oldest ex-member of the Town Council, going back to the '30s and to Provost Henry Dunlop; he was almost the oldest ex-director of the Merchant's House and of the Chamber of Commerce; except Lord Stair, he was the oldest Deputy-Lieutenant of the country, and he was the trusted adviser of successive Lord-Lieutenants; he was our oldest acting Justice of Peace, and he was long the Nestor of our Court, where his great experience, good sense, unfailing fairness, and unfailing courtesy gave him a unique authority.



SALE OF THE ESTATE

At the bankruptcy of James Dunlop in 1789, the Bank took possession of the Works and Colliery and employed a Mr Mungall as Manager, “to give them a breakup”. The Works were valued at only £58,000, the Coalfield at £52,000, and “before the balance of the debt is paid off by the feuing of Tollcross, the accumulation of interest will have swept it away also, to the ruin of James Dunlop by the reckless demand of the Bank – to get a payment to account of their debt at any cost, regardless both of his interest and their own”.

The Bank of Scotland had many similar accounts as a result of the changed conditions brought on by the depression.

“There were underlying difficulties facing banking in Glasgow. The good years were remembered, in an oversimplified manner, by Robert Gourlay, the Glasgow manager, in 1894: ‘During seven to eight years after 1869 there was great prosperity; prices became inflated in property, in coal and iron etc. but all this came to an end with the failure of the City of Glasgow bank, and the effects of its collapse have been felt more or less ever since’.

James Dunlop the last owner of Tollcross Mansion house died aged 81 on the 23rd January 1893 he is interred on the west slope of the Glasgow Necropolis in the Delta section (plot 79), below the fine Jacobean monument he had earlier raised to his first wife Janet Donald. It stands, where the first of the Glasgow Dunlop’s lived when James VI was king”.



On the death of James Dunlop, the estate passed to the Bank of Scotland. His son George lived and worked in Edinburgh, but the Misses Dunlop were living at Tollcross House with their father at the time of his death.

In 1894, Robert Gourlay, Glasgow manager of the Bank of Scotland, wrote to the Lord Provost of Glasgow:

“Owing to the death of Mr James Dunlop of Tollcross... the estate was being laid out for feuing, but it was suggested that the mansion house and policies would be useful as a public park, it being “beautifully situated, nicely wooded and well laid off with carriage drive and foot walks. It is a made place and seems specially adapted for a Public Park. Indeed it is now the only vacant space left to the east of the city, suitable for such”. This is an opportunity of “acquiring another beautiful and most valuable lung to the rapidly extending city”.



THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TOLLCROSS PARK

Throughout 1897, preparations were being made for the development of the Tollcross policies as a Public Park. An article in the Glasgow Herald of 21st June 1897 describes the Opening Ceremony.

“On behalf of the Parks Committee he (Councillor Shaw-Maxwell) presented the Lord Provost with a handsome key as a memento of the occasion. The key bore the inscription – “Presented to Lord Provost Richmond on the occasion of the opening of Tollcross Park 19th June 1897.” The Lord Provost said that as an old East-End-er he was proud to be there to open the park. The City of Glasgow was very closely built and he thought it was the duty, as it was the



pleasure of the Corporation to do what they could to give them breathing places and their children room to play themselves without danger. (Applause.) It had been said, and he had been twitted with it, that they were providing parks outwith the municipality for the benefit of the citizens of Glasgow. He did not care a straw whether they were outside or inside the municipality so long as they were within touch of the citizens, and they got the full benefit of them. (Applause.) He congratulated them on the latest to the parks. It was not a large one compared with some they knew, but there was a very large space, and he hoped it might long remain one of the lungs of this great city and be a great benefit to the public. In conclusion, his Lordship opened the gates, and, amid cheers, declared the park open to the public”.



Glasgow Corporation acquired 83.5 acres of land, including the Mansion House for the sum of £29,000 and the Lord Provost, Sir David Richmond, performed the opening ceremony on the 19th of June 1897, the year of Queen Victoria’s Diamond Jubilee. In the same year the two remaining “Misses Dunlop’s”, left the house, they wrote to the city fathers thanking for their kindness in allowing them time to stay in the house while its disposal was arranged, they wrote –

“We hope the Tollcross Park may always in the future give pleasure to the people of Glasgow”.

James Whitton, writing in 1914 as Superintendent of Parks and Curator of the Glasgow Botanic Gardens noted the improvements made.

“This unique property was long in the possession of the late Mr James Dunlop, whose planting did much to improve the grounds, which are generally well wooded with several

distinct generations of trees of the same species. A little stream runs through the grounds adds much to its natural charm and beauty. The property had been so well laid out that no outlay beyond the cost of widening the pathways and adapting some of the buildings for public conveniences was required before the opening of the park to the public. The usefulness of the park was much increased by the late ex-Bailie A G Macdonald presenting his glass-houses and collections of plants to the city for this park, and his gift formed the nucleus of the present block of conservatories.

In 1900 a further acre of land was purchased to save a group of trees on the Western boundary. After this last purchase was completed, the west lodge was remodelled, and suitable waiting-rooms built adjoining, for the comfort and convenience of the visitors to the park. The old kitchen garden was converted into a reserve nursery for the park. The collection of trees and shrubs are yearly receiving additions, and now this park is one of the most popular resorts in the city”.

Children’s Museum

In 1905, a Children’s Museum was opened in the Mansion House as a branch of the Kelvingrove Museum. This housed one of the most popular exhibits, the Cock Robin display, first put on show in 1906, containing a selection of preserved birds arranged in a glass case depicting the nursery rhyme *‘Who Killed Cock Robin’*. The one hundred year old tableau has happily survived and is much-loved by many older Glaswegians. It illustrates the story of Cock Robin and may have been inspired by one entitled ‘Death and Burial of Cock Robin’ completed in 1861 by Walter Potter (1835-1918) of Bramber, Sussex. Another famous nursery rhyme that is linked with the area is the immortal *“Wee Willie Winkie”*, which has been read nightly to many children around the (English) speaking world since the time it was written. The author William Miller, who grew up in Parkhead, published a collection of charming children’s poems in 1863 under the title of *Scottish Nursery Songs and Poems*. The poet is buried in Corbett Street behind the site of the former Tollcross Central Church which was demolished after it was destroyed by fire in 1990. A plaque to commemorate the fact that William Miller (1810-1871),



famous as the author of “Wee Willie Winkie”, lived at No 4 Ark Lane was erected on the wall of Tennent’s Wellpark Brewery in 2009. The plaque is sited close to the original line of Ark Lane and replaces an earlier plaque vandalised a few years ago. The plaque was cast in bronze by Graciela Ainsworth of Edinburgh and features a likeness of the poet taken from the original bronze cast from the Miller memorial monument in the Glasgow Necropolis. This memorial to one of the area’s notable literary figures was funded by Glasgow City Council Development and Regeneration Services.

Unfortunately the museum in the Mansion House closed due to financial strictures in the mid seventies as the building was in an advanced state of disrepair. Dean and Miers writing for SAVE in 1990 noted that *“Tollcross House is the victim not only of physical decline, but also of the machinations of impassioned local politics...It has been vacant since 1976 and is urgently in need of rescue....after heated local hostility towards the idea of purchasing a community asset....the developers are re-negotiating a scheme including sheltered housing....A large and splendid conservatory nearby is also dilapidated and in need of restoration”*.



Famous Nursery Rhymes Associated with Tollcross

Who Killed Cock Robin Poem

*Who killed Cock Robin?" "I," said the Sparrow,
 "With my bow and arrow, I killed Cock Robin."
 "Who saw him die?" "I," said the Fly,
 "With my little eye, I saw him die."
 "Who caught his blood?" "I," said the Fish,
 "With my little dish, I caught his blood."
 "Who'll make the shroud?" "I," said the Beetle,
 "With my thread and needle, I'll make the shroud."
 "Who'll dig his grave?" "I," said the Owl,
 "With my pick and trowel, I'll dig his grave."
 "Who'll be the parson?" "I," said the Rook,
 "With my little book, I'll be the parson."
 "Who'll be the clerk?" "I," said the Lark,
 "If it's not in the dark, I'll be the clerk."
 "Who'll carry the link?" "I," said the Linnet,
 "I'll fetch it in a minute, I'll carry the link."
 "Who'll be chief mourner?" "I," said the Dove,
 "I mourn for my love, I'll be chief mourner."
 "Who'll carry the coffin?" "I," said the Kite,
 "If it's not through the night, I'll carry the coffin."
 "Who'll bear the pall?" "We," said the Wren,
 "Both the cock and the hen, we'll bear the pall."
 "Who'll sing a psalm?" "I," said the Thrush,
 "As she sat on a bush, I'll sing a psalm."
 "Who'll toll the bell?" "I," said the bull,
 "Because I can pull, I'll toll the bell."
 All the birds of the air fell a-sighing and a-sobbing,
 When they heard the bell toll for poor Cock Robin.*



Wee Willie Winkie

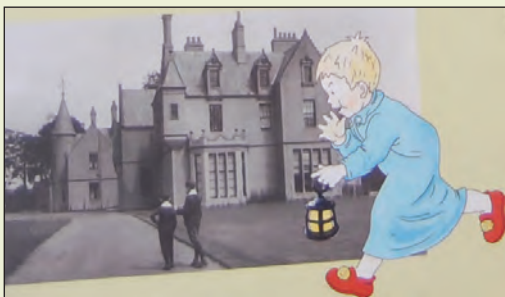
*Wee Willie Winkie rins through the town,
Up stairs and doon stairs in his nicht-goun,
Tirlin' at the window, cryin' at the lock,
'Are the weans in their bed, for it's noo ten o'clock?'*

*Hey, Willie Winkie, are ye comin' ben?
The cat's singin' grey thrums to the sleepin' hen,
The dog's spelder'd on the floor, and disna gi'e a cheep,
But here's a waukrife laddie that winna fa' asleep!'*

*Anything but sleep, you rogue! glow'ring like the mune,
Rattlin' in an airn jug wi' an airn spune,
Rumblin', tumblin' round about, crawin' like a cock,
Skirlin' like a kenna-what, wauk'nin' sleepin' fock.*

*Hey, Willie Winkie - the wean's in a creel!
Wambling aff a bodie's knee like a verra eel,
Ruggin' at the cat's lug, and ravelin' a' her thrums
Hey, Willie Winkie - see, there he comes!'*

*Wearit is the mither that has a stoorie wean,
A wee stumple stoussie, that canna rin his lane,
That has a battle aye wi' sleep before he'll close an ee
But a kiss frae aff his rosy lips gies strength anew to me.*



Winter Gardens

At the beginning of the 20th Century the park's glasshouses were presented to the Corporation. The Tollcross Glasshouses were originally built in 1870 at Adrossan and gifted to Glasgow Corporation in 1898 by Bailie A.G. MacDonald of Redholm, Adrossan, an ex-Convener of the Parks Committee. The gesture to present the Winter Gardens to the Corporation was in commemoration of his association with the East End of the city. In a letter dated 1st October 1898 from A G MacDonald, Redholm, Ardrossan: *"I have an extensive range of glass houses here, filled with valuable plants of all kinds, which I am desirous of gifting to the City, if agreeable to your Committee...Having been born and spent my early years in the East-End of the city, my wish would be if these conservatories are accepted of, to have them erected in the new Park of Tollcross, as a memorial of my boyhood's association with that part of the city.* The structure was transported to Glasgow and assembled by Messrs. Simpson and Farmer, Horticultural Builders, Heating & Ventilating Engineers, Partick Bridge. The timber and steel 'cruciform' structure, now known as the Winter Gardens are used to house local floral displays.



Bandstand

The first Bandstand in the park was erected in 1906 and was originally located to the West of the Winter Gardens. A photograph c1910 shows a typical Victorian small hexagonal band-stand, with cast-iron columns and balustrade with a roof lantern giving it some distinction. Several years later it was removed in favour of a much larger feature for outdoor concerts in the terraced amphitheatre (Arlington brick built building in 1928) on the north side to Shettleston Hill. Building work was delayed due to the General Strike of 1928 when the Corporation Tradesmen were called in to give their support. It cost sixpence to get in to see the many excellent amateur acts and military bands which performed there. The main path adjacent the bandstand became known as “lover’s walk” as this would have been the place for courting couples to have the opportunity to meet and walk under the watchful eye of a chaperone. Once television arrived in the early fifties, interest dropped off and the bandstand closed. In 1971 this building was sadly burnt down and had to be demolished.



Deer Park

Prior to 1897, Deer used to graze in Tollcross Estate. Just inside the entrance to the old Museum, the first item to be noticed was the massive head and antlers of a stag ‘Old Bob’ who once roamed the grounds. Many Parks or common Greens in Glasgow were historically used for grazing but the deer in Tollcross Park were introduced to give city dwellers a sample of nature rather than to work. Two deer were gifted to Tollcross Park by James Muirhead of Springburn. The existing lawns of the former Deer Park later became a Pitch and Putt green and then eventually developed into Tollcross Park’s International Rose Trial Garden, while the destiny of the last deer named, “Bobby”, was preserved by a Taxidermist and is still on display at Tollcross Visitor’s Centre today.



The Glen

The woodland stretches from the north east corner to the south side of Tollcross Park lying within the small glen of Tollcross Burn. The Glen consists of a network of informal paths that meander through the woodland making it a popular area to stroll. The nature walk which follows the line of Tollcross Burn features wildlife such as bats, foxes and woodpeckers. Several unusual species of trees have been introduced over the years such as the **Afghan Ash** (*Fraxinus xanthoxyloides*). It is rare to find this particular tree species so far north, and this is the only known recorded mature specimen in Scotland. The **Roble Beech** (*Nothofagus obliqua*), an infrequently planted species is highly attractive with gold, crimson and pink autumn colours. The **Camperdown Elm** (*Ulmus glabra* ‘Camperdown’) is associated with the Earl of Camperdown’s head forester, David Taylor who discovered the first mutant



branch growing in the forest at Camperdown House, Dundee. The Glen also includes a magnificent **Tulip Tree** (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) whose leaves have a unique shape, unlike any other tree and fossils of leaves of this species have been found in America. Unique species also include **Cappadocian Maple** (*Acer cappadocicum*) native to Asia, a tree of immense autumn colour, **Caucasian Wing - Nut** (*Pterocarya fraxinifolia*) a truly magnificent tree of weeping habit, **Filberts Hazel** (*Corylus maxima*) associated with Saint Philibert feast, 20th August are all regenerating successfully. The Glen is very secluded and sheltered with almost 70% tree cover, the steep banks are planted with spring flowering daffodils and carpeted with swathes of bluebells in the dappled shade of the woodland floor. To the lower end of the Glen you will find fine displays of Rhododendron, Laurel, Bamboo and many other species. The Tollcross Burn runs clear, opening out and entering into culverts at the boundaries of the park.



Historic Trees

Some historical evidence indicates that some of the largest trees in Tollcross Park to be 150 years old and a few are likely to be significantly older. At the opening ceremony of the park in June 1897 by Lord Provost Richmond, comments that, *“Near though the estate is to where many a flaring furnace pours forth its cloud of smoke to foul the air, it seem to escape most of the evil effects of this form of pollution. Vegetation flourishes, and the trees show all the*

signs of vigorous growth. The old trees are the finest on the east side of Glasgow, and include some grand specimens of beech, sycamore, ash and elm, while the younger trees such as the limes, are growing well. Among the ornamental trees are scarlet chestnuts, purple beeches, double flowering hawthorns and tulip trees.” These historic tree plantings appear on the 1st Edition OS map (1858).



Recreation

Since the early 1900's facilities for active recreation were added on a large scale into Tollcross Park. Initially public bowling and tennis were provided for, while later on the construction of pitches (football, cricket, rugby and hockey) and a Pitch and Putt course made sports participation in Tollcross Park a major activity. In the early 1950's, Tollcross was graced with a visit by Fred Perry the famous professional tennis player for an exhibition of tennis. Unfortunately rain caused the days events to be abandoned and Fred Perry with three other professionals retired to the home of Rena and Jim Houston at No 343 Wellshot Road to change. Perry was unique in Wimbledon's rich history, the first Englishman for 25 years to capture the men's singles and the only player to win the final in straight sets three times. No British Tennis player has won Wimbledon since Fred Perry last held aloft the championship trophy in 1936.



THE TOLLCROSS TRAIL (YELLOW ROUTE)

Beginning at the Leisure Centre follow the suggested yellow route it should take visitors approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes allowing for a brief stop at each item, through the park grounds and back again.

1. TOLLCROSS LEISURE CENTRE

The leisure centre was constructed in 1996 and is located on the south east corner of the park. The Jewel in the Crown of swimming facilities in Glasgow, it boasts the city's only 50 metre Olympic sized swimming pool with movable floor and a four lane 25 metre Training pool which provides facilities for school and community swimming, swim training and major swimming events. It also boasts an eight court Multi Sports Hall, split level Fitness Suite and Dance Studio, which includes a sprung floor, wall to wall mirrors and is equipped with high quality sound system. The health suite features a sauna, a steam room and spa bath with soothing coloured lighting, a saunarium, relaxation area and direct access to the outdoor pool and sun deck. There are crèche facilities within the building and a Rendezvous Café which is the ideal place to enjoy light snacks and refreshments. Tollcross Leisure Centre will feature as the swimming venue for Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games, and the centre will be extended to provide an additional 50 metre warm-up pool and seating for the Games. The cost of the centre was in the region of £12m. The leisure centre boasts a centrally - located large car park (c.155 spaces)



2. PLAY AREA (LEISURE CENTRE)

The play area adjacent to the leisure centre was constructed in 1997 to compliment the refurbished leisure centre. The play facility contains a robust range of modern play equipment including, Dalbin Tower slide, roundabout, 4 bay swings, Playzone Unit and Swing Unit catering for children between 3-14 years allowing for imagination and fun.



3. FEATURE ENTRANCE WELLSHOT ROAD/TOLLCROSS ROAD

These highly detailed artwork panels installed in 2005 form the entrance to Tollcross Park are based on the children's nursery rhyme. They depict various animals, insects and fish, "the beetle with the needle, the fish with the dish", etc. It was designed by local artist Andy Scott and tells the story of Cock Robin on sculptured railings. The entrance is illuminated as part of 'Glasgow City of Light' to create an ethereal fairytale appearance. A small plaque inserted into the stone wall under the ornate railings reads;

Tollcross Housing Association

These streetscape improvements officially opened on June 2005

By

Bill Dougan & Essie Rushford of Tollcross Housing Association

Based on the design of local schoolchildren and the poem "Who Killed Cock Robin"



4. GLEN COTTAGE

This building originally appears on 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map, annotated as 'Lodge' on 2nd Edition OS and is then called 'Glen Cottage' on subsequent editions. Not in the style of the Main and East Lodges, but constructed in stone. The building was originally a gamekeeper's cottage and dates from before 1860. It remains in its original form with the exception of a new tiled roof. The cottage was sold as the need for tied housing for employees was no longer required. Currently the Cottage is privately owned and occupied.



5. SOUTH GLEN BRIDGE

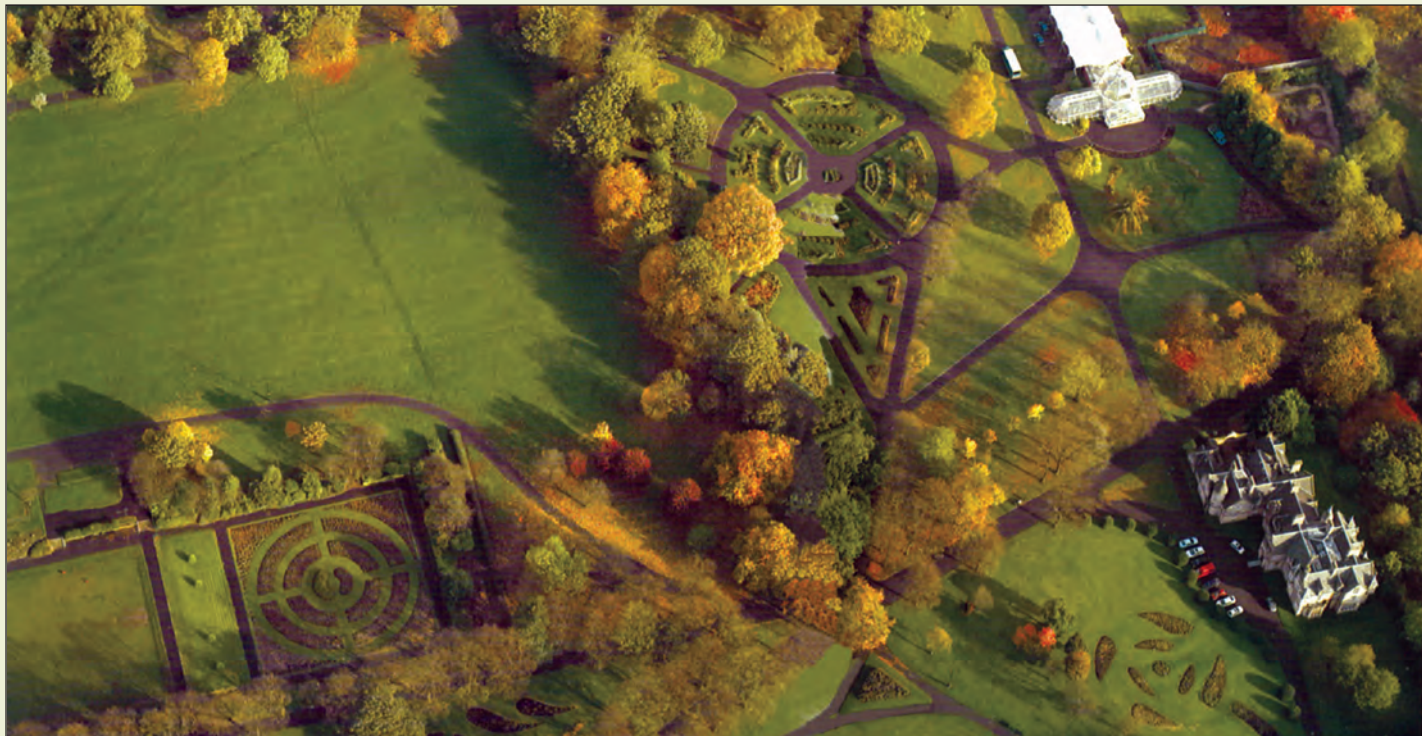
This bridge is a modern metal structure on steel "I" Section steel beams with steel sheet decking. It was upgraded in 1991. The bridge is used by pedestrians and also forms a vehicular entrance to Glen Cottage. Old photographs shows an earlier bridge with a rustic (round-section) timber balustrade in a diagonal pattern in the upper part.



6. FORMER WEIR & POND

Adjacent to the Tollcross burn is the site of the former pond and weir. An original feature of the park during the early 1900's which was sadly infilled in the early 1950's. The remnant of this concrete and stone sluice gate still remains. The pond and weir were much photographed and were used in many picturesque postcards of Tollcross Park. Subject to a hydrological study Glasgow City Council are considering one of two proposals for this area, including an innovative flood attenuation scheme or installing a new terraced lagoon, comprising of sensitively constructing a lagoon pond adjacent the Tollcross burn on the existing site of the former pond and weir.





7. INTERNATIONAL ROSE TRIALS

The International Rose Trials are situated on the South facing slope in front of the Mansion House developed on the site of the former pitch and putt course. Since the Rose Trials started in 1986 this area is undoubtedly one of the most attractive and accessible sections of the park. The gardens are open all year round with 250 rose varieties growing within the 16 beds depicting the petals of a single rose comprising the main part of the rose garden. Once judging of the rose varieties has been completed, the award winning roses remain in the gardens at Tollcross and continue to bloom for many years.

The garden provides an opportunity to assess new rose varieties growing in climatic conditions common to Glasgow and the West of Scotland and provide some guidance when considering new roses for planting in your garden. Varieties of climbing roses are also included in the rose trials. You can find these growing within the centre gardens adjacent to the Winter Gardens.

Famous visitors include Her Imperial Highness, Princess Nobuko of Japan, President of the Rose Society of Japan,

who visited the International Rose Trial Garden, Tollcross Park, while attending the World Rose Convention alongside Her Royal Highness, Princess Anne in Glasgow, July 2003.

The Rose Gardens are best visited between June and September to fully appreciate the blooms and fragrances. From the time the first roses were planted in the Rose gardens at Tollcross Park in the mid 80s, the garden has steadily grown and established its position not only as a major city attraction but also as an attraction for rose enthusiasts from around the world.

In 2009, the World Federation of Rose Societies acknowledged the Rose Gardens at Tollcross with an 'Award of Garden Excellence'. These Awards are made to rose gardens around the world which are considered to be exceptional and very few gardens achieve this status.





8. FEATURE GATES AT TOLLCROSS ROAD

This magnificent gated entrance would have been the original main entry to the Mansion House. The entrance gates are defined by sandstone pillars mounted with sandstone oak acorn' features. The pillars date back to the 1850's, the decorative sandstone acorns' are very distinctive and important to the park and the local streetscape. The metal gates have been redesigned to incorporate the symbol of a rose (in Charles Rennie Mackintosh style) which is significant to the park and the International Rose Trials. This gateway entrance is identical in design to the park entrance on Wellshot Road.



9. TOLLCROSS (SOUTH) LODGE HOUSE

Situated at the south end of Main Drive on Tollcross Road. The former main lodge house (category 'B' listed) dates back to before 1860. The building is a single storey sandstone structure with crow-stepped plain gable facing road, 2 gables facing drive, the smaller forms a porch with bolection-moulded doorway and was also designed by David Bryce of Edinburgh c.1848 or later. It was renovated during 1993, including a small extension in matching materials on the west side, and is now privately owned and occupied. The stone boundary walls curves inwards at the driveway on the east side of the lodge, with iron railings on top. Cornice square gatepiers with acorn finials form the gateway.



10. HISTORY OF THE ROSE - GARDEN

To the West of the International Rose Trial beds, this rose garden is set out depicting the theme of the 'History of the Rose'. The garden illustrates the development of roses through the centuries, from early varieties to modern varieties of the 20th Century. A selection of 36 varieties are planted throughout the beds.





11. PRIVATE DWELLING HOUSE

515 TOLLCROSS ROAD

This timber building replaced the old West Lodge buildings. Early in the 19th century the West Lodge was remodelled and 'waiting rooms' built adjoining it, as evident on 1912 and 1934 OS maps. The present building is a single storey detached bungalow of timber construction set within its own grounds. The building was originally built to serve as a Bowling Pavilion in 1969 and then later to house Parks and Recreation staff. The City Council Housing Department took over the property on behalf of the Talbot Association as part of a special needs project. Today the property is now privately owned and occupied.

12. FLAGPOLE

The present flagstaff sits within its own fenced area just to the north of the former site of the old bowling greens which were made derelict following declining use and vandalism. There is fencing around the flagpole with cast iron posts. The spikes were removed from the mild steel railings during the 1930's. Many original sections of the park railings were removed during the Second World War as part of the war effort. The original flagstaff was made from Douglas fir and stood some 25 metres in height. It is understood it was most likely added to the Park after the Second World War. Sadly the original flag pole structure was replaced in 1973 with a more robust metal pole which stands today.

13. SPORTS PAVILION

The sports pavilion is located in the North West area of the park with access to Muiryfauld Drive. The building is single storey structure of brick and render built in the 1970s. Originally the changing pavilion was added to the park to provide changing facilities for the former blaes football and rugby pitches. Today the building is currently leased by the Glasgow Baseball Association who host coaching and championship matches each week. The club also regularly hold 'come and try' sessions for adults and children and is keen to welcome new recruits





14. BANDSTAND

This modern style bandstand is a miniature replica of the original bandstand which sits in the centre of the formal gardens adjacent to the Winter Gardens. It is an open gazebo style structure with eight columns, supporting a pagoda roof, finished in steel with scrolls between each supporting column. The centre gardens provides an eclectic mix of colourful annuals, striking herbaceous plantings, rose beds, and quality lawns complementing the bandstand and obelisks, which are used to grow climbing roses for the International Rose trails. Summer fills the centre gardens with an array of exciting colours, where there is a wealth of scents from both flowers and foliage.



15. WINTER GARDENS

The Winter Gardens are located in the centre of the park, the original Winter Garden is a Category “B” listed conservatory. This unique structure and other hot-houses were the gift of A G MacDonald of Redholm, Ardrrossan to the City, complete with plants, and were removed from Ardrrossan and re-erected in Tollcross Park in 1898-99 by Simpson & Farmer. Over the year’s the cruciform shape glasshouse construction proved very expensive to maintain. In 1986 the conservatory closed to the public where much of the steel framework perished due to vandalism. Tollcross Winter Gardens has since then been lovingly restored to its former glory by Glasgow City Council and partners including Historic Scotland and the Heritage Lottery. The hothouses have many colourful temperate and



exotic tropical plant species with flamboyant flowers flaunting their vivid reds and yellows or amazing visitors with their bizarre shape and scents contain hidden floral treasures. These include, Lemon, Citrus limon (*Rutaceae*) native to the Mediterranean, the Canary Date Palm, (*Canariensis*) from the Canary Islands, Japanese Banana Musa, Dicksonia, Squarrosa, the most famous usage of this symbol is by New Zealand's national rugby team the All Blacks, who proudly wear the fern on the front of their rugby jerseys. Exotic species also include the Moth Orchid, Phalaenopsis, Australasia, the Urn Plant, Acchmea, Fasciata, native to Brazil, Coffee Plant, Coffea, Arabica, Ethiopia and the Stripped Inch Plant, Callisa, Egans native to Mexico. The restoration of the Winter Gardens began in 1998 and officially reopened in 2000. The former north wing of the glasshouse was demolished and replaced by a modern style structure with glass walls and a tented roof. Today the Winter Gardens are open to the general public and are also used for functions and provide the perfect setting for Wedding photographs.

The Winter Gardens houses a toddler’s play area and Café; it provides the perfect place to relax in the middle of the park.





16. PLAY AREA (REAR OF WINTER GARDENS)

The play area situated to the rear of the Winter Gardens is the most recent addition to the park completed in May 2007. The facility caters for toddlers and is linked via a sliding door to the soft indoor toddlers play area within the Winter Garden. The play area contains a variety of modern safe equipment, including a revolution roundabout, double swing, See-Saw, Springy and double swing and “Mirage” seat including five point harness.



17. SECRET GARDEN

Tollcross Park has a hidden attraction known as the Secret Garden, this addition was designed in spring 2003 as a secluded performance arts venue for the park. Visitors will not find any directional signage or fingerboards. Instead, the challenge is to roam the park in search of this special sensory garden. The garden has been developed to be used as a special place for quiet contemplation, it also provides performance spaces for the poetry and drama groups who meet in the park. Visits are especially welcome from local care agencies; this space has been designed to make it accessible to all and is wheelchair friendly.



18. TOLLCROSS MANSION HOUSE

Set within its own landscaped area, the present handsome Scots renaissance style Mansion House was built in 1848 to the designs of the famous Edinburgh Architect, David Bryce as the centre piece of James Dunlop’s estate. David Bryce was a Victorian architect best known for his large Scottish Baronial country houses, he also won 1st prize in 1831 in a competition for the design of the Glasgow Necropolis, Bryce based his design on the famous Pere-Lachaise cemetery in Paris. Little known outside Scotland, he designed over 200 buildings as well as many smaller commissions, and influenced a generation of Scottish architects, many of whom passed through his own office. Much of Bryce’s work has been altered or demolished as their purpose and society at large have changed, but most of what survives is protected by listed status. Tollcross House is a category “A” listed building.

Tollcross House was described by Dean & Mears in 1852 as a sophisticated composition with a crisp handling of relatively few Baronial details (Pinkie styled bartizans, and crow stepped gables) and the original use of scalloped coins, moulded crow steps and compound dormer pediments. It is possible that part of the earlier house was incorporated into the new house at the north end. The accommodation in Tollcross House was described as 1 drawing room, 1 anti drawing, 1 dining room, 1 library, 23 bedrooms, 1 kitchen, 1 scullery, 1 laundry, 1 washhouse, 2 bathrooms, pantry, milk house, and larders.

Tollcross Mansion closed down from 1973 until 1992 when the National Trust for Scotland undertook the renovation of the building, restoring it back to its original grandeur at a cost of c. £2m, with assistance from the local authority and other funding sources. In the same year the building was reopened after it was purchased by Shettleston Housing Association, as a special needs and sheltered housing complex managed by Glasgow District Council Social Work Services and the Church of Scotland.

Other famous buildings David Bryce was commissioned to design include; **Leny**, near Callander, **Balfour Castle** on Shapinsay in the Orkneys, **Torosay**, on the Isle of Mull, British Linen Bank in St Andrew’s Square, Edinburgh, **Fettes College**, Edinburgh and **Dargavel**, near Bishopton.



19. LEDDY'S WALK

This was initially taken to mean 'lady's walk' an area of the park that the lady of the big house frequented. In fact, 'Leddy' is more likely to be a corruption of the word Laird (i.e. Laird of the manor). It was always known to be the laird's favourite walk around the grounds. Another possibility is leddy was a derogatory colloquialism (by staff, servants, etc) for the laird meaning laddie.



20. NORTH GLEN BRIDGE

The rustic timber bridge sits on the site of the original bridge which dates from the late 1800's. People used this path to go to the Bandstand or Shettleston Hill playing fields. The bridge was renewed to its original style and installed in 2001. A postcard c1904 calls it 'Rustic Bridge' and shows it similar as the then Bridge in the South Glen.





21. MAIN DRIVE BRIDGE

This sandstone semi-circular arched bridge dates back to the 1840's; the original sandstone lower section is still intact today. The unique sandstone balustrades have since been removed and replaced with new ornate balustrades. Old photographs show stone piers c1.2m high topped by a moulded cope and stone ball at each end of the main span.



22. EAST LODGE, FORMER COACH HOUSE & COURTYARD

Designed by David Bryce, the Coach House itself dates back to circa 1848 while some of the other buildings around the courtyard were possibly added at the turn of the 20th century. The buildings are described as crow-stepped stables in a courtyard layout with a symmetrical rusticated faced south front onto Main Drive, with recessed ends and a pend in the centre gable; loft/attic windows in flanking bays break through eaves; small paned sashes. It was originally designed to house carriages and stable horses and at one time was also used as a Parks Maintenance Depot. Today the building has been fully restored and refurbished to provide staff and visitor facilities.



23. EDUCATION/ VISITOR CENTRE

Situated within the courtyard, the state of the art environment centre aims to educate and inform children about the nature and the cycle of life. The centre caters for schools and groups, casual visitors to the park as well as regular local users. The Centre features many interactive attractions, audio visual displays, interpretative displays, information, leaflets, posters, workshops, which keeps many of the visiting children entertained. Visitors to the centre can also see 'Old Bob' the preserved stag who used to graze in the estate around the turn of the 20th century and the glass case which depicts the nursery rhyme 'Who Killed Cock Robin'. Some restoration work was carried out in 1990, allowing it to be put on display once again.





24. HIELAN COO (STEEL) SCULPTURE

Designed by local artist Andy Scott in his workshop at Maryhill, this is a life size replica of Highland cow (Scottish breed of long haired cattle) was commissioned for Tollcross Children's Farm and the Friends of Tollcross Park, this has proved a great attraction for youngsters. Andy is a figurative sculptor and works in steel and bronze. He combines traditional figurative symbolism and artforms with contemporary fabrication techniques to create iconic sculptures for the public realm. His portfolio and studio practice concentrates on handskills, draughtsmanship and manual dexterity. Over the years Andy's practice has extended to Australia where he established a workshop in S.E. Queensland. He has established a presence in the field of public sculpture there which compliments his on-going prodigious output of artworks from his base in his native city of Glasgow.

Other animals Andy has sculpted include Deer, Dolphins, Owls, Wolves, and of course many Horses.

*Additional famous sculptures Andy Scott has been commissioned to design include; **The Heavy Horse**, Glasgow Business Park, **The Phoenix**, Easterhouse, **Argestes Aqua**, Mainland Australia, **The Thanksgiving Square Beacon**, Belfast, **Taurus**, New south Wales, **The Heron**, Carmyle and **Kelpies**, Forth & Clyde Canal to name but a few.*

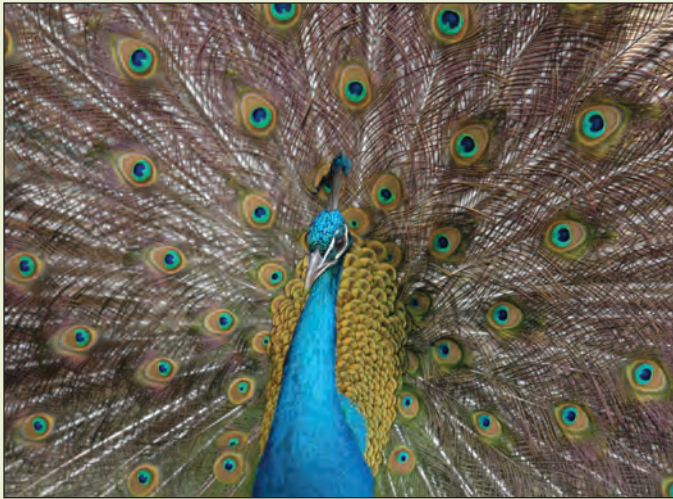


25. CHILDREN'S CITY FARM

The Children's Farm (formerly known as Pet's Corner) is adjacent to the Courtyard Visitor Centre on the site of the former walled garden or kitchen garden. This area originally provided vegetables and flowers for the Mansion House. In 1971 it became the Pets Corner exhibiting mainly birds and rabbits. In 1980 as part of Job Creation (Project 80's) the Pets Corner was redeveloped and renamed the Children's City Farm holding around 100 animals. Today the Children's Farm has a wide range of buildings and animal pens which are connected by a slab footpath. More recently new storage facilities and stables have been added. The Children's Farm is an outstanding facility which appeals to young and old alike. Regulars in the farm enclosures at the moment are a Shire horse, an Irish cob, and Shetland ponies, also a variety of goats – Cashmeres' and Anglo – Nubian. The Tamworth pigs are also a great favourite. The duck pond is home to Muscovy ducks, pretty little Mandarin ducks, very vocal call ducks, Mallards, Farmyard chickens, "Percy" the Peacock and his two Peahens. The smaller aviary pens include Domestic rabbits, guinea pigs, various varieties of chickens including the more unusual Yokohamas from Japan and Silkies, first seen in India by the explorer Marco Polo. Budgerigars, Zebra Finches, Love Birds and Java doves that can all be easily observed, try spotting the shy Chinchillas. In the fields you can observe 3 rare breeds of sheep; Welsh Badger Faced, Castlemilk Moorits and Boreray, all of which have lambs at foot in springtime, also a few of the award winning Highland Cattle from the Pollok Fold at Pollok Country Park join "Inca" the Llama, throughout the year. The Farm provides the ideal opportunity for inner city children to learn more about country life and Educational Tours can be booked for nurseries and school groups. There are also limited places for Work Experience and College students.

The Farm is open daily (except Christmas Day and New Years day), Mon – Thurs. 10.00am – 3.30pm.

Fri. 10.00am – 3.00pm. Sat – Sun. 10.00am – 3.30pm. Knowledgeable staff are on hand to answer any queries or questions you may have.



26. FEATURE ENTRANCE WELLSHOT ROAD

These gatepiers are an identical design to the entrance on Tollcross Road, defined by massive acorn finials, much larger than those at the Main Gates. The sandstone pillars date back to the 1850's and the 'acorns' are very distinctive and important to the park and the local streetscape. The metal gates have been redesigned to incorporate the symbol of a rose (in Charles Rennie Mackintosh style) which is significant to the park and the International Rose Trials.



This brings you to the end of Tollcross Park Heritage Trail why not visit the local facilities for refreshments?

Outline Chronology

- 1290** A Roger Corbett is recorded as a Baron of Scotland.
- 1580** A Gabriel Corbart was granted land in Towcorse.
- 1600** James Corbett of Towcorse.
- 1634** John Dunlop bought the Garnkirk estate.
- 1662** John Dunlop, 1st of Garnkirk died. James Dunlop, his son, succeeded as 2nd of Garnkirk.
- 1700** Walter Corbett of Towcorse. The estate of Towcorse extended to East Camlachie and Sandyhills.
- 1706** Colin Dunlop born, second son of James (3rd).
- 1719** James Dunlop succeeded as 4th of Garnkirk.
- 1720** A bridge built over a burn near Tollcross on the road to Hamilton
- c.1746–50** Roy's map, which shows inter alia a small triangular area of woodland at Tollcross.
- 1750** 'The Ship Bank' started by Colin Dunlop and others.
- 1751** James Corbet feued Little Hill of Tollcross (now the Eastern Necropolis).
- 1756** Corbetts sold their lands of Sandyhills.
- 1769** James Dunlop, 4th of Garnkirk, died.
- 1770** Colin Dunlop, Provost of Glasgow.
- 1777** Colin Dunlop died, succeeded by James.
- 1782** James Dunlop of Carmyle purchased Garnkirk.
- 1786** Clyde Ironworks started, an offshoot of the Carron Works.
- 1788** Passage through Tollcross of the first direct mail coach from London to Glasgow.
- 1793** Dunlop monetary crisis – Garnkirk sold.
- 1799** Colin Dunlop & Sons, tobacco house, closed.
- 1806–10** James Dunlop purchased lands and house at Tollcross.
- 1806 and 1816** Further charters of resignation from Corbett family to James and Colin Dunlop.
- 1810** Purchased the Clyde Ironworks.
- 1816** James Dunlop died, succeeded by his son Colin.
- 1824** Colin Dunlop made bankrupt.
- 1828** Repurchased the Clyde Ironworks
- 1829** Discovery of the hot-blast system by Neilson at the Clyde Ironworks.
- 1831** David Bryce won first prize in the competition for the design of Glasgow Necropolis
- 1835** Colin Dunlop elected MP for Glasgow.



- 1837** Colin Dunlop died; succeeded by his nephew James.
- 1843** James commissioned David Bryce to design a new mansion house.
- 1852** Moved into new house.
- 1870** Winter Gardens at Ardrossan built.
- 1874** Loan of £137,000 from the Bank of Scotland. (Clyde Ironworks)
- 1893** James Dunlop died.
- 1894–7** Bank of Scotland negotiations with Glasgow Corporation over sale of mansion house and polices.
- 1897** Glasgow Corporation acquired 82.75 acres and the Mansion House for £29,000.
- 1898** Removal of Glasshouses from Redholm, Ardrossan to Tollcross Park (Simpson and Farmer).
- 1898** WCs in stable block.
- 1900** Glasgow Corporation acquired another 0.75 acre on the west margin of the park from the Bank.
- 1900–06** Various improvements for use as a public park and house as a children’s museum.
- C1900** West Lodge remodelled.
- 1905** Children’s museum opened.
- 1906** Bandstand – later re-sited.
- 1974** Reference to “varied and interesting collection of plants in the conservatories, including the house plant display unit.”
- 1990** Cock Robin Display – restoration work carried out.
- 1991** South Glen Bridge upgraded
- 1992** National Trust for Scotland restoration of the Mansion House and conversion for special need housing.
- 1993** South Lodge House renovated
- 1996** Tollcross Leisure Centre constructed
- 1997** Play area adjacent to leisure centre constructed
- 2001** North Glen Bridge renewed
- 2003** Secret Garden developed
- 2003** Tollcross International Rose Trials features as part of the World Rose Convention
- 2005** Artwork panels installed into feature park entrance
- 2007** Play area installed to the rear of the Winter Gardens
- 2008** Tollcross Park named Best Park in Scotland
- 2009** World Federation of Rose Societies acknowledged the Rose Gardens at Tollcross with an ‘Award of Garden Excellence’

TOLLCROSS PARK ACCOLADE - BEST PARK IN SCOTLAND AWARD 2008

The dear green place (Tollcross Park) in Glasgow was named the best park in Scotland 2008. The 91-acre Tollcross Park, famed for its world-renowned rose garden, picked up the Scottish regional award in the Britain's Best Park competition.

A framed certificate marking the accolade was delivered to Glasgow City Council staffs who manage the park.



Further Reading

Rhona Wilson, **Old Shettleston and Tollcross**, Williamson, Riches & Higgs, **Buildings of Scotland – Glasgow (1989)**

Glasgow Digital Library, **The old country houses of the old Glasgow gentry**

Aileen Smart, **Villages of Glasgow North of the Clyde**

George Blair, M.A. **Sketches of Glasgow Necropolis**

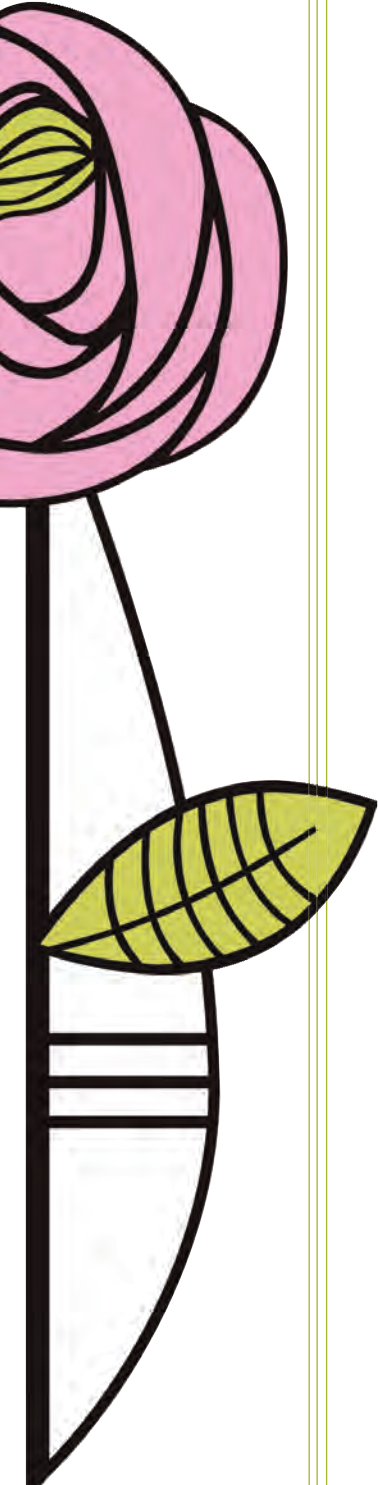
Land and Environmental Services

Glasgow City Council 231 George Street Glasgow G1 1RX

Phone 0141 287 5064

E-mail LES@land.glasgow.gov.uk

Link to Tollcross Park website: www.glasgow.gov.uk/parks



Acknowledgements

The information contained in this leaflet was provided from various sources, in particular

Glasgow City Council

Land and Environmental Services,
Unless otherwise acknowledged

Donald Forbes, Assistant District
Superintendent Tollcross Park,
1968-1975, Senior Depute Director,
City of Glasgow, Parks & Recreation,
1980-1993.

Alex Morrison, Project Officer

Glasgow City Council,

The Regeneration of
Tollcross Park

Tollcross Park Historic Landscape

Survey (Commissioned by
Glasgow City Council)
Peter McGowan Associates
Landscape Architects and Urban
Designers

Mitchell Library,

Rare Books Collection

Friends of Tollcross Park

Travel Information

Train – Trains travel from Glasgow
Queen Street low level Station to
Carntyne Station, which is a 10 minute
walk from the park.

Bus – Various bus routes operate
from the city centre leaving every 10
minutes to Tollcross Road and Shettle-
ston Road, bus numbers 61, 62 and
the 240 operate a regular bus service.
(www.firstgroup.com)

Car- the Park is located close to the
end of the M74 motorway, junction 1
and A74 London Road. Follow the AA
signs for Tollcross Leisure Centre.

Walking – There are various access
points available from Tollcross Road,
Wellshot Road, Anstruther Street and
Muiryfauld Drive.

Land and Environmental Services
General Enquiries 0141 287 5064

Travel Line Scotland 0871 200 2233