Craigmillar Castle Park: Design Parameters in a Historic Designed Landscape and Scheduled Ancient Monument: Planning to Restore Attraction to a Dilapidated Park

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Design parameters in a historic designed landscape and scheduled ancient monument: planning to restore attraction to a dilapidated park.

Craigmillar Castle Park

Late Medieval
Stuart
Interregnum
Restoration

Located a short distance (2.5 mi) southeast of Edinburgh city centre at the tip of the South East Wedge.

History & Development

17th Century
19th Century

Georgian
Victorian

Preston
Gilmour

15th Century

1549 Rebuilding of the castle begins and the East Range is added
1561 Mary Queen of Scots comes to stay upon her return from France
1536 Mary uses the castle for recuperation, she visits often during this time
1566 Last visit by Mary during which the infamous "Craigmillar Conference" concerning Lord Darnley's murder took place
1567 Sir Simon Preston hold public office as Lord Justice-General of Scotland, Provost of Edinburgh, and Privy Councillor
1589 James the VI stays at Craigmillar
1636 Quarries produce stone for Parliament House
1639 Quarries produce stone for Edinburgh Castle
1660 Sir John Gilmour, knighted in 1650, is made Lord President of the Court of Session
1661 Construction of the West Range commences, the west garden terrace must have been redesigned at this time

1212 Earliest reference to the ownership of Craigmillar by William, son of Henry of Craig-Millar
William, then passed to John de Capella
1374 John de Capella sells the land to Sir Symon de Preston
1377 James III imprisons John, Earl of Mar, starving him to death in Craigmillar
1424 The curtain wall is built
1434 Henry, son of Symon de Preston, becomes Provost of Edinburgh
1477 John, Earl of Mar, is imprisoned by his older brother James III in a castle cellar and dies
1487 Sir Simon de Preston becomes a Member of Parliament for Edinburgh
1500 James IV builds a hunting chapel in Bridgend to serve the 'Kings Meadow' deer park
1511 Simon de Preston granted a royal charter 'Uniting the lands of Cragmelor and Gourton as the Baroney of Cragmelor'
1516 Outer walls built on the east side enclosing the chapel
1532 Quarries produce stone for the Palace of Holyrood
1544 Castle sacked and burned by English troops
1935 Castle listed as a Scheduled Ancient Monument
1949 Castle enters into State Guardianship
1970 Link belt walls connecting West and South Wood removed during this decade
1980 SE wall of castle garden removed during this decade, in breach of guardianship
1996 Plantathon sees the Hunting Park grounds planted with forest trees
1810 Most quarries planted as policy woods, North of site turned into a plant nursery
1880 Yew walk walls and Link belt walls added connecting West and South Wood
1894 Sundial removed from Craigmillar to the Inch

The castle is not longer the primary family residence. Both the structure and the grounds fall into disrepair. The castle is an attraction for landscape artists and the grounds are designed to be a Picturesque setting for the romantic ruin of the castle.

The height of the castle's garden development has a west terrace garden, walled orchard, a fish pond, and enclosing lines of trees along the walls.

The gardens begin with the east range garden, probably a pleasure and kitchen garden, and an orchard.

Much of this walling is no longer existing, having been torn down and used in building nearby.

A 1782 view from the edge of the orchard.

A view over the orchard area from 1836.

The local plan calls for increased connection to the area through a better road serving buses and autos.

The park has historically been an open and green retreat from the close air of Edinburgh and today occupies a key position as part of the city's open space.

Easily accessible by auto, located on the A7 just off the Edinburgh Bypass.

Easily accessible by local bus lines, three bus stops are immediately adjacent to park entrances and more are within 5 minutes walk.

Craigmillar Castle Park

Edinburgh City Council

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Much of this walling is no longer existing, having been torn down and used in building nearby.

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Craigmillar Castle Park
CRAIGMILLAR CASTLE PARK:

DESIGN PARAMETERS IN A HISTORIC DESIGNED LANDSCAPE AND SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENT: PLANNING TO RESTORE ATTRACTION TO A DILAPIDATED PARK.

A Project presented
by
Aaron M.N. Crowell

Submitted to the Graduate School of the University of Massachusetts Amherst in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

MASTER OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

September 2009

Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning
CRAIGMILLAR CASTLE PARK

A Project Presented
by
Aaron M.N. Crowell

Approved as to style and content by:

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Professor Mark Lindhult, FASLA, Committee Chair

__________________________________________
Professor Mark Hamin, Committee Member

__________________________________________
Elizabeth Brabec, Department Head
Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning
DEDICATION

To my most beloved and long suffering editor,
design reviewer,
partner,
and wife,

Heather L. Nichols-Crowell

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to my professors who have seen this through two continents, Mark Lindhult and Mark Hamin.

Thanks to Ethan Carr for his excellent advice in Edinburgh.

Thanks to my classmates who always encouraged me along the path.

Great thanks to my ever supportive Mother, Nan.

And to my daughter Rowyn who I hope will remember growing up with Craigmillar Castle adventures.
Abstract

Craigmillar Castle Park: Design Parameters in a Historic Designed Landscape and Scheduled Ancient Monument: Planning to Restore Attraction to a Dilapidated Park

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The castle of Craigmillar was begun in the late 14th century and was developed until the late 17th century when it was abandoned and the lands surrounding it which today comprise Craigmillar Castle Park (CCP) developed into a picturesque park and a plant nursery. This land has been a retreat from Edinburgh’s city center recorded as early as the time of King James the IV of Scotland, six centuries ago (Tabraham, 2003). The castle and its parkland have seen significant development of the gardens in the Tudor, Restoration, Georgian, Regency, and the Victorian British historical periods. The park like setting was a palette for developing into a Landscape Garden with Picturesque and Beautiful elements. It has since been the subject of hundreds of landscape paintings and drawings (CEC, 1994). As lately as fifty years ago it was a day out destination for city residents, but it has since seen a dramatic decline in visitors (McGowan, 1999). This result of post industrial decline, specifically for Craigmillar the cessation of coal mining in the region, contributed to making planning for Craigmillar Park a low priority for the City of Edinburgh Council. Now, as the adjoining neighborhoods are undergoing major redevelopment (CEC, 1998), CCP is ready for a new era of use and enjoyment by locals and tourists (CEC, 2002b). This plan proposal both makes longer term recommendations about the future form of the park and provides immediate design solutions for infrastructure improvements that enable broader access and will encourage visitation by adjoining neighborhoods, Edinburgh residents, and tourists from the city center.
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CHAPTER 1 : PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION : CRAIGMILLAR CASTLE PARK

Craigmillar Castle Park is in the capital city of Scotland, Edinburgh, in the United Kingdom (Figure 1). Within Edinburgh the park is located four kilometers south-east of the city center (figure 2) in the community of Craigmillar (Figure 3). The park occupies a minor ridge (Figure 4) and spreads over 170 acres of land (Glassock, 1992). Most of the park is owned by the City of Edinburgh, with some small inholdings projecting into the Park (figure 5). The park is centered on Craigmillar Castle, which is owned by the state and is under guardianship of Historic Scotland. The community of Craigmillar is one of the poorest in Scotland, recently ranking fourth (digitaldivide.net). A former coal mining community of 40,000, Craigmillar has been de-industrialized since the mid 20th century. Large community housing projects followed this local collapse of the collier industry. Crime, poverty, and violence gave Craigmillar and its residents an unenviable notoriety, and a designation as a place to avoid. These housing estates and the remnant structure of the mining based economy are now being demolished. Redevelopment is underway with the goal of creating a mixed demographic residential suburb. This change in the structure of the community means that for the first time in around fifty years there is the possibility of local tourism. The problem is that Craigmillar Castle and the Park have been functionally off limits to tourism for about a half century and reflect on the face and in the form this missing period of development. The opportunity is to renovate the Park as the neighborhood is redeveloped. The city of Edinburgh is a major tourist destination in the United Kingdom with Edinburgh Castle being the most visited attraction in the country almost every year (Historic Scotland, 2008). Craigmillar Castle Park (CCP) could be positioned as an important part of this tourist draw to the city as well as becoming a major woodland park for its own redeveloping neighborhood of Craigmillar, and for the city of Edinburgh. However, while the park has great location within Edinburgh it is very lacking in terms of accessibility. In fact, it is safe to say that most Edinburghers only know CCP for its host function of a city resident recycling center. Furthermore, the Craigmillar neighborhood shares its reputation with the park, and as the image of that community improves, the Park also needs to take steps to improve its identity image. Currently, CCP is largely off the tourist map and likewise it is not a destination for residents seeking a day out of the city. This project studies these problems of access, function, and image. The main objectives of the project seek to improve physical and interpretive access to the park and castle, attract more use of the park and the castle by the local community, the people of the greater Edinburgh area, and as a tourist attraction in general; and discourage misuse and abuse of the park and castle through increased access that elevates awareness and respect of the park. In addition to poor access and lack of identifying elements there are many problems with the overall appearance of CCP and its few facilities. While the castle is one of the most perfectly preserved late medieval castles in Scotland (Historic Scotland, 2008), it is simply not nearly as popular an attraction as it could be. The very low number of visitors to the park and the castle contribute to lack of respect from the local community. Vandalism and dumping are regular problems in the park, and illicit entry and vandalism are common within the castle grounds. While this is a City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) Park it does not host any CEC events, and Historic Scotland’s Castle visitor center has tracked a steady decline of visitors over the last few decades (McGowan, 1999). There are so few visitors to this park that compound problems arise from this general feeling of isolation. This project’s overarching goal is to dramatically increase recreational visitation to the Castle and the Park. The method for reaching this goal is to identify the areas which need to be resolved successfully as an initial step in rehabilitating CCP, and then following up with an extensive building scheme using master plans for scheduling development.
This project has addressed these two areas using three components:
1. Initial Detailed Design works for improving access and identity in detailed plans appropriate to a construction bid phase. Establishing the park’s visible identity and improving access will give the largest benefit if undertaken first. These two essential elements will serve as gateway works by providing and encouraging funding which will allow the master plan development needs for CCP and the Castle to be addressed.
2. A CCP master plan for future CEC uses and improvements which build from the initial works. This is labeled the Craigmillar Castle Park Master Plan (CCMP).
3. A master plan for the Castle redevelopment into a top tier historic tourism site is the Craigmillar Castle Development Recommendation Plan (CCDRP).

These three plans are intended to achieve the following goals:
1. To increase visitor numbers to Historic Scotland’s Craigmillar Castle.
2. Increase visitor numbers to CEC’s Park.
3. Capture more of the seasonal tourist market Edinburgh enjoys.
4. Provide for expanding use by the CEC.
5. Increase visitor capacity and modes of access.
6. Improve the quality of visitor experience to Craigmillar Castle Park and Craigmillar Castle.

1.2 PROJECT DESIGN INTENT

1.2 Design Statement
This project, comprised of Initial Detailed Design works, the CCPMP and the CCDRP will improve historic, natural, and cultural resources accessible within the City of Edinburgh by design of form and with materials sensitive to the present state of the historic designs and local context relevant to Craigmillar Castle Park.

1.3 CHAPTER OUTLINE AND STUDY LIMITS

The first chapter introduces the project and identifies the goals and methods proposed alongside describing the opportunity and the stakeholders involved. Chapter two outlines the park in terms of history, existing conditions, and development. The chapter identifies specific strengths and weaknesses which are strategy and design drivers for this project, and the specific process to deploy a design towards planning permission follows. Precedents for the proposed design are presented in chapter three. The fourth chapter is all of the design proposals taken in turn, with the castle development recommendations first, the overall park masterplan following, then the three detailed design areas and the planting design. Chapter five concludes the design proposal and gives review comments.

This project is focused on developing design and planning solutions that meet planning requirements. It is intended to be useful to future projects as an example of establishing design guidelines within a complex of site protections. The four precedent developments establish that once a design guide is established there can be many possible solutions that are acceptable. This is the salient point: in reinventing historic landscapes there is no correct answer, but there are many wrong answers. This study has taken CEC requirements for future use, input from Historic Scotland on problems with their facility, and the defined Historic Designed Landscape character as the guidelines and parameters within which to explore design solutions.
CCP occupies a minor ridge which rises thirty metres above the surrounding neighbourhoods.

**HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT**

**Craigmillar Castle Park**

**Development of Gardens at Craigmillar**

**17th Century**

The height of the castle's garden development has a west terrace garden, walled orchard, a fish pond, and enclosing lines of trees along the walls.

**19th Century**

The castle is not longer the primary family residence. Both the structure and the grounds fall into disrepair. The castle is an attraction for landscape artists and the grounds are designed to be a Picturesque setting for the romantic ruin of the castle.

**Timeline of Significant events in Craigmillars History**

- 1322 Earliest reference to the ownership of Craigmillar by William, son of Henry of Craig-Millar
- 1377 James III imprisons John, Earl of Mar, starving him to death in Craigmillar
- 1374 John de Capella sells the land to Sir Symon de Preston
- 1404 The curtain wall is built
- 1417 John, Lord of Preston, becomes Provost of Edinburgh
- 1424 The curtain wall is built
- 1424 Simon de Preston becomes a Member of Parliament for Edinburgh
- 1434 Henry, son of Symon de Preston, becomes Provost of Edinburgh
- 1487 Sir Simon de Preston becomes a Member of Parliament for Edinburgh
- 1500 James IV builds a hunting chapel in Bridgend to serve the 'Kings Meadow' deer park
- 1505 Sir James de Preston becomes a Member of Parliament for Edinburgh
- 1516 Outer walls built on the east side enclosing the chapel
- 1518 Sir John Gilmour, knighted in 1650, is made Lord President of the Court of Session
- 1532 Quarries produce stone for the Palace of Holyrood
- 1536 Mary uses the castle for recuperation, she visits often during this time
- 1544 Castle sacked and burned by English troops
- 1549 Rebuilding of the castle begins and the East Range is added
- 1554 Mary Queen of Scots comes to stay upon her return from France
- 1556 Last visit by Mary during which the infamous "Craigmillar Conference" concerning Lord Darnley's murder took place
- 1560 Sir John Gilmour, knighted in 1650, is made Lord President of the Court of Session
- 1561 Mary Queen of Scots comes to stay upon her return from France
- 1566 Last visit by Mary during which the infamous "Craigmillar Conference" concerning Lord Darnley's murder took place
- 1567 Sir Simon Preston hold public office as Lord Justice-General of Scotland, Provost of Edinburgh, and Privy Councillor
- 1570 Simon de Preston granted a royal charter 'Uniting the lands of Cragmelor and Gourton as the Barony of Cragmelor'
- 1589 James VI stays at Craigmillar
- 1636 Quarries produce stone for Edinburgh Castle
- 1661 Construction of the West Range commence, the west garden terrace was redesigned at this time
- 1662 Sir John Gilmour, knighted in 1650, is made Lord President of the Court of Session
- 1663 Quarries produce stone for Edinburgh Castle
- 1669 Construction of the West Range commence, the west garden terrace must have been redesigned at this time
- 17th Century
- 1836 A view over the orchard from 1836
- 1850 Most quarries planted as policy woods, North of site turned into a plant nursery
- 1860 New walk walls and Link belt walls added connecting West and South Wood
- 1894 Sundial removed from Craigmillar to the Inch
- 1911 Castle listed as a Scheduled Ancient Monument
- 1912 Last visit by Mary during which the infamous "Craigmillar Conference" concerning Lord Darnley's murder took place
- 1916 Quarries receive stone for Parliament House
- 1925 Quarries receive stone for Parliament House
- 1935 Castle listed as a Scheduled Ancient Monument
- 1949 Castle enters into State Guardianship
- 1960 Most quarries planted as policy woods, North of site turned into a plant nursery
- 1970 Link belt walls connecting West and South Wood removed during this decade, in breach of guardianship
- 1972 Building and policy woodland planted
- 1980 Yew walk walls and Link belt walls added connecting West and South Wood
- 1980 SE wall of castle garden removed during this decade, in breach of guardianship
- 1980 SE wall of castle garden removed during this decade, in breach of guardianship
- 1996 Plantathon sees the Hunting Park grounds planted with forest trees
- 2000 SE wall of castle garden removed during this decade, in breach of guardianship

**Development of the existing vegetation**

- **Figure 4:** Extensive plantings of tree stock with the park.
- **Figure 7:** A 1782 view from the edge of the orchard
- **Figure 8:** A view over the orchard from 1836
- **Figure 9:** Much of this walling is no longer existing, having been torn down and used in building nearby.
CHAPTER 2: CRAIGMILLAR: A PICTURESQUE PARK

2.1 HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT

2.1.1 History
This castle has been the scene and setting of several significant events and periods in Scottish history. The castle spaces and adjoining south field have a history of garden use from at least the early 16th century (Tabraham, 2003). A P-shaped pond in the south field is a rare 16th or 17th century archaeological remains making it an outstandingly important Scottish garden feature (Taylor, 1991). The ridge was used for sandstone quarrying from the medieval period until the 20th century, supplying stone to this castle, Edinburgh Castle, and Edinburgh’s southern suburbs (McGowan, 1999). The present landscape setting is mainly attributable to the early 19th century and is a fine example of a picturesque designed landscape focused on views of the castle. It is listed in the Register of Historic and Designed Landscapes (Historic Scotland, 2008). There is no single designer credited, it is rather evident that the Gilmour family and the managers of the nursery the Gilmours established on the north half of the land were responsible for the plantings and maintenance that formed the structure of the designed landscape. The design used a basic element of stone walling and stone retaining walls to separate forested patch from meadow. These walls allowed the highly practical maintenance method of sheep grazing to be used to keep the meadow and castle ground grass cropped. Today the Park is divided into three categories of land description: Scheduled Ancient Monument, Historic Designed Landscape, and CEC Parkland. (Figure 6) The Castle and its immediate grounds and former gardens are designated Scheduled Ancient Monument. The Forest and field landscape setting which is visible from the castle is the Historic Designed Landscape. The leftover land which is mostly abandoned use land of the nursery and quarries is CEC Parkland.

2.1.2 Development
Craigmiller castle was abandoned in the mid 18th century and the owners moved to the neighboring Inch House estate. In the late 19th century and for much of the 20th century they developed the lower fields of Craigmiller Hill into the nationally renowned Dickson and Co’s Castle Nurseries while the upper fields were sometimes used as planting land for parkland designs that showed off the nursery products (Robson, 1987). The nursery operation operated into the 1970’s and left remnants of its linear field layout such as a now mature avenue of chestnut trees, hawthorn hedges, and tree lined paths (Figure 7). Since the nursery’s closure CEC has been reconsolidating the ownership of Craigmiller Hill (CEC, 1994). In the 1990’s CEC gained a Millennium Forest for Scotland grant and carried out extensive plantings of tree stock within the park. (Figure 8) The resulting pattern of vegetation is summarized in figure 9.

2.1.3 Existing Conditions
The character of the park is semi-rural despite its urban location. The park straddles a green belt extending right to the core of the Old Town, at Holyrood Palace (Figure 10). Because of the large blocks of woods and grassy expanses of meadows, the Park has been assessed by ecologists to have a high wildlife habitat value and has an important function as the connection to the larger areas of the urban green belt without the city (CEC, 1994). Footpaths and paved trails run throughout the park (Figure 11) but most are simple desire lines and are in seasonally poor condition. Much of the trail through woodlands suffers from lack of maintenance and has an overgrown and forbidding appearance. Garbage dumping, vehicle abandonment and vehicle burning, and detritus from trespassing users such as transients and youth parties have left much of the park heavily littered.

2.1.4 Redevelopment
The neighborhood of Craigmiller, on the north and east borders of the park, is officially designated a redevelopment zone by the City of Edinburgh Council (CEC, 1998). The Parc Craigmiller development and other housing developments are replacing the closed council estates which border the park (Figure 12). These are largely intended to attract young families and include significant provision for playgrounds (CEC, 2002b). These projects are bringing new homeowners and residents in contact with the Park.

On the south border of the park the Royal Infirmary (Little France) was opened recently and the adjacent Biomedical Research Centre is under construction. These are providing many jobs and increasing the daily commuter traffic along the roads which border the park. To relieve the use of Craigmiller Castle Road as a rat run, or short cut, the CEC Local Plan 2002 includes a bypass road being built within a kilometer to the east (Figure 13) (CEC, 2002a). This will dramatically reduce the use of the Castle’s only access road to mostly visitor use. To the west lies Inch House and its grounds. This occupies half of the west side of CCP and is owned and operated by CEC for a plant nursery and a child care center. The stable Niddrie neighborhood borders the other, southern half of the west side.
Craigmillar Castle Park: Existing Conditions

Summary

Craigmillar Castle, which is described by Historic Scotland as "one of the most perfectly preserved medieval castles in Scotland", is located in the capital city of Edinburgh within 140 acres of land known at Craigmillar Castle Park and is mostly owned by the City of Edinburgh. Craigmillar Castle which is under guardianship of Historic Scotland was the scene of several significant events in Scottish history. The castle spaces and adjoining south field have a history of garden use from at least the early 16th century. A P-shaped pond in the south field (Preston’s Pond) is a rare 16th or 17th century archaeological remain making it an outstandingly important Scottish garden feature. Craigmillar hill has considerable interest for sandstone quarrying from the medieval period until the 20th century, supplying stone to this castle, Edinburgh Castle, and Edinburgh’s southern suburbs. The present landscape setting is mainly attributable to the early 19th century and is a fine example of a picturesque designed landscape focused on views of the castle. The castle can be seen from neighbouring estates and open spaces in Prestonfield, Holyrood Park, Duddingston, Niddrie, and Edmonstone. In the late 19th century and for much of the 20th century this area was the site of the nationally renowned Dickson and Co’s Castle Nurseries which have left a mature avenue of chestnut trees that are pleasant to walk through. The castle ruins stand on a minor ridge with great views of Edinburgh’s Old Town and Arthur’s Seat. Despite its urban location, the setting of the castle is semi-rural character. Because of the large blocks of woods and grassy expanses of meadows, the Park has been analyzed by ecologists to have a high wildlife habitat value and is an important part of a larger urban green belt within the city. Deer have been spotted within the park. Footpaths and paved trails currently exist throughout the park. Additionally, the center of the park is used for a Recycling Depot, a north section has been developed into the Bridge End Allotments, the south field of the castle is currently used as a horse farm, and a forthcoming cemetery is imminent. The Park is adjacent to major city roads that are also well-served by city buses. The National Cycle Path passes just to the north of the site and local cycle paths are somewhat linked through the park. There are several footpaths into the park affording access to surrounding neighborhoods and schools.

Redevelopment of the surrounding neighborhood is happening. The Parc Craigmillar development and other housing developments are replacing the closed council estates. The Royal Infirmary is open and the Biomedical research centre is under construction, as is the bypass road to the south.

http://earth.google.com/
2.2 SPECIFIC STRENGTH AND WEAKNESS POINTS

2.2.1 Access: Strengths
1. The Park is adjacent to major city roads that are well-served by city buses (Figure 14).
2. The park is just a few minutes off the A7 motorway, the road connecting Edinburgh with Glasgow and Newcastle, the nearest cities.
3. The National Cycle Path passes just to the north of the site (Figure 15) and local cycle paths are somewhat linked through the park (Figure 16).
4. There are several footpaths into the park affording access to surrounding neighborhoods and schools.
5. Parking is available on street along Craigmillar Castle Avenue and in the Castle visitor centre car park which has 12 spaces but no bus parking.

Access: Weakness summary: Despite its central location, physical access is problematic. Entry points to the park are not defined by unifying features and have inadequate postings. At two points CEC have erected new signs but these are not adequate to define the entrances. (Sequence A p.10) Clearly marked, safe passage across the busy roads bordering the park is nonexistent. There are no well defined entrances for pedestrians and those using the city bus service. There is inadequate pavement and no pedestrian crossing measures at key entrances to the park. (Sequence B p.10) Parking facilities are inadequate for demand. There are only twelve designated parking spaces for the entire park, all located adjacent the existing castle’s visitor centre. This car park, as it exists, cannot accommodate tour buses, which could be seen as a missed opportunity for increasing visitors to the castle. On street parking along Craigmillar Castle Avenue is informal, unmarked, and not successful. (Sequence C p.10)

2.2.2 Uses: Strengths
1. A large quarry pit in the centre of the park is used as one of Edinburgh’s residential recycling depots.
2. Former nursery on the north west border has been developed into the Bridge End Allotment Gardens.
3. CEC has designated one section of former nursery field for a future cemetery (Figure 17 p.15).
4. Walkers, joggers and motor bikes use the paths.
5. Cycle path in the park connects Craigmillar neighborhood to the Royal Infirmary used for commuting.

Uses: Weakness summary: Within the Park the trail system is a mixture of formally constructed paths [with dust and asphalt], and desire lines. The southern half of the park has had over two hundred years to develop the desire line paths and there is high confidence that these are successful. The north half has been evolving much more recently and is slightly deranged as a result of fragmentary development. The trail system in the north is fragmented and unclear. There are some parts of the park that walkers do not have access to and there are cycle trails that could connect and currently do not. (Figure 18 p.13) The access road to the Recycling Depot cuts the park nearly in two and interrupts the existing trail system with heavy traffic (Figure 19 p.13). Finally, while the trail system in the south has long been rationalized the surfaces are seasonally muddy.

2.2.3 Facilities: Strengths
1. New welcome signs are at two entrances with illustrative maps of the park and some interpretive content (Figure 20).
2. There are picnic tables at two locations in the park (Figure 21).

Facilities: Weakness summary: All but two access points have poorly marked, run-down, or absent signs that are not unified in appearance. There is no seating in the park other than the three picnic tables. No trail side rest points, no meeting area seating near parking. The only lighting in the park is within the Recycling depot and at Bridge End Farm for security. Incidental lighting from street lights in the north and south, and along one paved section of the bike trail along the east side connecting the Royal Infirmary with Craigmillar (Figure 22). There are no litter bins, dog litter bins, recycling bins, nor any other litter collection furniture. The only toilet facility is in the castle and is available to paying visitors.

2.2.4. Visual Setting: Strengths
1. The castle ruins stand on a minor ridge which rises thirty metres above the surrounding neighborhoods (Figure 4). The castle can be seen from neighboring estates and open spaces in Prestonfield, Holyrood Park, Duddingston, Niddrie, and Edmonstone (Series E).
2. From the castle there are panoramic views of Edinburgh’s Old Town and Arthur’s Seat to the west, the Pentland Hills southward, Berwick Law to the east, and Fife to the north across the Firth of Forth (Series E).

Visual Setting: Weakness summary: There are several views of Edinburgh’s Old Town and Arthur’s Seat to the west, the Pentland Hills southward, Berwick Law to the east, and Fife to the north across the Firth of Forth (Series E).

2. The castle is part of a series of scenic viewpoints which are the result of the visual setting of Craigmillar Castle Park. The southern areas of the park have a mature designed landscape setting and are suffering from dead and dying trees and weedy, sparse, or bare under-story. Some recent plantings are at odds with the designed, picturesque views of the Castle protected by the status of the site as a listed Designed Landscape. The northern parkland has grown on for over ten years since the extensive tree planting. There are few species present for wildlife. The designed landscape plan is in a decadent condition overall. Future forest areas are not diverse in structure or flora. There have been plantings and unmanaged areas of regeneration that conflict with designed views to the castle. (Examples of areas needing application of management goals are shown in Series F)
THE PARK: ASSESSMENT

A  Unclear entry points prevent visitors from discovering the park

B  There is poor pedestrian access from pavements with no controlled crossings

C  Parking is completely inadequate for visitors and unclear that it is connected to the park
2.3 PLANNING OVERSIGHT ORGANIZATIONS

In the table of organization for historic properties and buildings used by the United Kingdom Craigmillar Castle and its visual setting are classified as a site of grade II interest with a Grade A historic building. Within that designation Craigmillar Castle and its landscape setting are classed as a multi phased historic site (Historic Scotland, 2008). Additionally the landscape setting is listed on the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland (Historic Scotland, 2008). The multi-phase classification is important in the designation of Craigmillar Castle’s visual setting as a Historic Designed Landscape because in cases of multi phased interest it is the sum of the development as seen today that must be considered by permitting and consulting organizations (Historic Scotland, 1996). The sum of development or the last phase of development, for Craigmillar Castle is a historic ruin in a picturesque park landscape (Rogers, 2001). What this means is Craigmillar Castle and its landscape setting can be developed as needed to maintain, restore, or enhance this recognized historic state (a historic ruin in a picturesque park landscape). A planning consent process that includes consultation with the oversight organizations is necessary but typically is addressed within one planning application that is used to aggregate permissions from oversight organizations (The Scottish Office, 1999).

2.4 PLANNING PERMISSION : PLANNING ADVICE NOTE 68

There are two agencies directly concerned with the planning process for CCP; Historic Scotland and the City of Edinburgh Council (CEC). Historic Scotland has guidelines in effect for the area of Craigmillar Castle and its visual setting. The Local Planning Authority, CEC, has oversight of the Historic Designed Landscape within CCP. Both agencies can be generally said to be in favor of development on this site if the design can be demonstrated to improve, restore, or create access, function, or structure of the resource with minimal incidental negative impact upon the resource or its setting (Historic Scotland, 1998) (CEC, 1994). A principle guidance resource used by these bodies in determining the appropriateness of a design is the designers response to the Scottish Executives Planning Advice Note 68: Design Statements (Scottish Executive, 2003). Design is a material planning consideration in Scotland. Accordingly PAN 68 sets out the five qualities of a successful place.
Series D - Craigmillar Castle and its hilltop Designed Landscape can be appreciated from all surrounding neighborhoods. The Park’s vegetation structure should be maintained to preserve this excellent part of the communities visual setting.

Series E - Views out from Craigmillar Castle’s Tower House are excellent in all directions, however views from lower elevations are being obscured by stands of trees not part of the designed landscape.

Series F - Examples of areas needing application of management goals.
2.4 The Five qualities of a Successful Place: Planning Application

1. It is distinctive: Does the development enhance the sense of identity?
   - One of the main goals of the development is to bring a fragmented sense of CCP into one identifiable whole park. Interpreting CCP’s history and providing the facility for further interaction with the park seek to bring its distinctive identity into the limelight.

2. It is safe and pleasant: Is the space safe for the community, attractive, usable, and at the right scale?
   - Emphasis in the design is about safe access with materials appropriate that contribute to the beauty of the landscape and are scaled to address community needs for use of CCP.

3. It is easy to get to and move around: Have direct routes been created and does it provide access for disabled people?
   - Direct routes and access to the park for all people lie at the heart of this project. This project is about opening a great resource to the people who currently do not enjoy much access at all. Disabled access is particularly improved through added parking and improved trail surfacing.

4. It is welcoming: Have any new landmarks or gateways been created which will help people find their way around?
   - Making CCP identifiable in scale and access by new gateways in the south and north and bringing the perimeter into a cohesive appearance is a key element of this development proposal.

5. It is adaptable: Does the development or improvements support a mix of compatible uses and will there be opportunities to make buildings and areas adaptable to a variety of future uses?
   - This design plans for the care of landscape features into the future, with durable access and circulation, a strong framework, this development is about opening possibilities for CCP.

   - The North has landscape rooms being populated as CEC needs them, holding recycling, allotment gardening, a job training site, and accommodating a burial ground: all community needs. Raising the standard of materials and access for this area of CCP is intended to keep future development a topic of community discussion based on newly possible interaction with CCP. This is in line with the goals of CEC’s Parc Craigmillar regeneration scheme (CEC, 1998).

   - The South half of CCP has potential for development for which this proposal intends to lay the groundwork of access and visibility. By elevating the level of accommodation to attract national and international coach tourism and by bringing local access to a significantly more available level the Historic Monument and the Historic Designed Landscape will be available for use by unprecedented numbers of visitors. With these higher access numbers it is possible that plans such as Simpson and Brown’s renovation of the castle and its pleasure garden grounds will find funding.

Baltersan Castle in South Ayrshire, Scotland is a ruinous castle being repaired
CRAIGMILLAR CASTLE: ASSESSMENT

1. Castle access lacks clarity and has only a small car park for autos and no coach parking.

2. There is no paved pedestrian or cycle access - only a beaten path through the field.

3. Visitor facilities are very limited, just a small shop with very little amenity and a small classroom.

4. The main gate is too far from the visitor centre with no effective control over access leading to unpaid entry and vandalism.

5. Visitor experience of the grounds is limited by the fenced off section because of the demolished walls and the private pasture ownership of the south field.

6. The only toilet facilities are locked and require a pass code issued by staff - this has resulted from vandalism.

7. The castle is used for special events such as weddings, however there are very few facilities to support such activities.

CRAIGMILLAR CASTLE PROPOSAL BY ARCHITECTURAL RESTORATIONIST FROM SIMPSON AND BROWN
CHAPTER 3: PRECEDENTS

Castles are part of the fabric of Scotland, they are everywhere. As ancient monuments they are incredibly important to Scottish history and culture. They are not static, unchanging, standing stones however. Just as the following castles have been laid waste and rebuilt many times in their history a ruin today could be tomorrow’s residence, resort, or public attraction.

3.1 BALTERSAN CASTLE

To habitable condition. Like Craigmillar this is a Grade A Historic Building and Class 2 Designed Landscape. This is a State Property being managed by Historic Scotland. The Castle has a £500k grant from Historic Scotland’s Building Repair Grants Scheme with the intent of contributing to the regeneration of the area and its tourist market. Leading Scottish Historic restoration architecture firm Simpson & Brown prepared plans for renovating parts of the castle to expand its facilities and reinventing Baltersan’s gardens. The garden cannot be restored as no plans exist, just as at Craigmillar. The scheme was granted full Planning & Listed Building Consents for reconstruction as tourist accommodation in 2008. Alnwick Castle, in the Borders region, has been the Ducal residence of Northumberland since 1309 (August, 2006) and is well known for its role as the setting for the Harry Potter films. The comprehensive reinventions of the Class 2 Designed Landscape accompanying Alnwick has combined greatly expanded access with an ambitious garden design by the Wirtzes and has been very successful. Alnwick Castle is a Grade A Historic Building, and its Designed Landscape could be partly attributed to a single designer which factored heavily in parts of the planning consent process (August, 2006), unlike Craigmillar which has no single attribution or surviving plans.

Another precedent for the intent of a design to develop access to castles as a tourist attraction is Urquhart Castle in the Scottish Highland on the shores of Loch Ness. This site is identical to Craigmillar in Historic and Designed Landscape ratings and Listed Building status. Historic Scotland undertook a major construction program to improve the visitor center and parking. The new expanded visitor center and parking strategy which the Derek Lovejoy Partnership designed for Urquhart Castle opened in 2002 and it is now Historic Scotland’s 3rd busiest site. The design offered much better car and bus parking and has resulted in this great increase in the number of visitors. The castle is owned by The National Trust for Scotland but visitor access is run by Historic Scotland who also operate a souvenir store and a restaurant there. Craigmillar has an identical arrangement for access to the separately owned castle.

At Drummond Castle Gardens in Tayside, Scotland, the gardens were first laid out in the early 17th cty as a Scottish Renaissance garden and these have been fully redeveloped through partial reinvention being restructured in the Victorian era and again in the mid 20th century. Drummond would be a precedent for using an early Scottish parterre at Craigmillar. Drummond also has a Scottish multi-faceted sundial from 1630, a period connection with the Craigmillar sundial now at Inch house nearby, but originally set in Craigmillar’s West terrace garden (Lacey, 1996). Using the existing features and surrounding built vocabulary in a simple palette, Drummond is a composite garden with Scottish design history built in and serves as the oldest modern precedent for a reinvention of Craigmillar’s gardens. There is a clear set of problems with the Castle in the arrangement of visitor facilities, access, and the
CRAIGMILLAR CASTLE: RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Castle access for pedestrians from the park
2. Castle access from the car park and cycle trail
3. Main gate at the visitor centre controls access
4. Visitor facilities include a shop, cafe, and classrooms
5. Reconstructed balustrade gives access to the south gardens
6. Reopened gate from the West Garden
7. Rebuilt wall section completes enclosure on the west side
8. West woodland planting to replace overmature stand
9. West Tree Walk
10. Lookout tower to Edinburgh
11. Trellis Tunnel Walk
12. Preston’s Pond
13. South Tree Walk
14. Gate for special staff led events in the Fairie Dell wood
15. Heirloom apple orchard
16. Rebuilt wall section completes enclosure on the east side
17. Lookout tower to Berwick Law
18. Special events and internal viewpoint
19. West Garden
20. Access gate for events
21. East Garden
22. Change use to leased restaurant pub

View from the northeast
CHAPTER 4: DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CASTLE

The current visitor center is located in a building adjacent to the car park and has a small classroom and gift shop with self-serve coffee and tea. The building is 150 meters from the main gate to the Castle and does not have a secure border along its path making it impossible for Historic Scotland employees managing the visitor center to monitor the Castle entrance to ensure all visitors buy a ticket. This arrangement leads to problems of frequent vandalism, illicit entry, and low visitor numbers. The existing car park only accommodates twelve vehicles and the opportunity to deliver bus loads of paying visitors to the Castle is missed because tour buses cannot be accommodated with the current car park. The Castle has relatively clear access for vehicles to the castle’s car park, but access via trails and paths for walkers and cyclists are unclear or non-existent. Although cycling is encouraged through the park, no cycle path leads to the castle grounds. In the grounds, the area of the P-shaped pond, orchard, and gardens once are fenced off and currently grazed by livestock. The gates leading out of the West Garden are locked because of the disrepair of the outer walls. The castle is a great educational resource yet has limited facilities to support educational use or special events. The City of Durham has found that planning to accommodate use of historic resources tends to attract funding opportunities not available to set aside sites (City of Durham, 1977).

The visitor centre could be relocated to inside the castle’s main gate with a shop, toilets, and a café under one roof using an existing doorway. Café could serve picnic hampers to take out into the gardens as well as hot drinks, sandwiches and cakes. Tables and chairs would be available inside the café and another hut could be opened up on fair weather days for additional seating. It is suggested to change the use of the existing visitor centre into a privately-owned restaurant or pub for another food option. When opportunity allows the land currently grazing private livestock will be reclaimed to restore the pre-existing extent of the south field. An existing building built into the stone wall to the south of the east garden could be renovated to be a special events facility with a classroom, toilets, and storage for tents, tables, and chairs. The fronting area would be kept at its current elevation and transformed into a grassy seating terrace. Rebuilding the south field walls and lookout towers would complete the enclosure, assuring a secure site. The gardens will be reinvented based on what is known to have been there historically, what is determined from further archaeological investigations, and using period examples from the region. The East Garden was the original medieval garden and will be reinvented informed known medieval garden designs. A pleasance and kitchen garden would be appropriate in this area. Elements would include turf seating, parterres filled with edible and medicinal plants available at the time and topiary (Duchess of Hamilton, 1996).

The West Garden was designed in the late medieval era probably as parterres with predominantly ornamental plants and a sundial (Symes, 1993). The original sun dial is currently at Inch House (CEC, 1994) and should be replaced here. Benches located throughout both gardens will allow for leisurely visits and picnics. The P-shaped pond is remade based on evidence of former use as a fish pond lined by small trees with a bridge crossing two small islands. Creations of parterres which were likely to have accompanied the pond on both sides (Burbridge, 1989) and a two acre orchard known to have existed during the time of James the V’s youth (McGowan, 1999) should be replanted. A double row of trees along the south wall is replanted as they were known to have existed and a row of trees along the west wall would be replanted. The picturesque view of the castle from outside the boundary walls on the south west approach would be preserved. This is not a historic planned view into the grounds but is now one of the main approaches to the Castle.

Three main entrances to Craigmillar Castle Park are developed on Craigmillar Castle Road, Craigmillar
The park master plan proposals

- Unify the appearance of park entrances
- Design for safe pedestrian and cycle access
- Pedestrian controlled crossings lead to park entrances

Footpaths are connected to key areas and cycle path segments are linked. Path surfaces are improved and given hierarchy of materials.

Recycling depot relocated off site. Its location made a picturesque feature in the heart of the park, Quarry Loch.

Design planning for the future CEC cemetery plans to ensure the visual character of the park is not interrupted. Separate cemetery only vehicle access and a stone perimeter wall. A forest lawn cemetery using woodland and lawn interment sites is preferred option to match the site character.
4.3 CRAIGMILLAR CASTLE PARK MASTER PLAN

Castle Avenue, and at the visitor centre. Each entrance accommodates vehicle and cycle parking, pedestrian and cycle access, and interpretive signs. Each entrance can serve Castle visitors and Park visitors. Clear signs show destinations within the Park, including the Castle and Visitor Center, with maps, information, rules, and other appropriate interpretative features. Footpaths and cycle paths route through these to all destinations and are upgraded in some stretches. A planting and vegetation management scheme is applied throughout the park. Two existing cycle trails that border the park are connected by a route through the Park. These entrances should increase visitor access to the park and staff effectiveness at monitoring entrance by providing clear entry points.

As part of the interpretive strategy several footpaths and areas of the park are named to connect to history, encourage exploration, and to help mental mapping of the park. The two view corridors planned in the 19th century design that link the hilltop with the North half of the park, and with the Edinburgh city landmarks beyond are restored by the vegetation management strategy. This will remove trees to restore the gap in the Quarry Wood, east extension, allowing filtered views up to the castle from the West end of Craigmillar Castle Avenue entrance to the park, and views from the trail back to Arthur’s Seat. Trees are removed from the slope between the Quarry Wood and the West Wood to open views from the hilltop over the quarry and across the northwest of the park out to Edinburgh’s Old Town. A new stand that has been lost from the designed landscape will be restored in the field to the north of the castle and will create a new visual approach to the castle from Craigmillar as well as shield the coach parking area and some of the car parking from viewing from the Castle tower house.

The master plan uses the local stone palette to unify entry area materials, signs, gate features, and internal park furniture. The history of quarrying on Craigmillar Hill informed the use of stone as a furniture and building element. There is also desirability in the Craigmillar area for the resistance of stone materials to vandalism. Stone Block benches of solid stone, two meters long, post fixed to a buried concrete foundation slab with a flamed finish provide durable, attractive seating throughout the park. Interpretive welcome signs are cast in bronze with maps bearing brass locator ‘you are here’ studs and recessed into one meter high rough stone piers bearing carvings of the Coats of Arms of the two families who developed the castle through seven centuries. The map faces are set at a 60 degree angle to ground to encourage close inspection.

The master plan aims to restore, improve, and plan routes of the trail system to work as an attraction in their own right. This may have a knock on effect of increasing the visibility of the Castle to Park visitors and raise visitor numbers at the Castle.
4.4 DETAIL MATERIALS INDEX

Natural stone examples. Reconstituted products not represented but specified as similar in appearance as approved samples.

Stone source: Border Stone Quarries. Example supplier: Kirkholmedale, Lanty’s Lonnen, Haltwhistle, Northumberland, NE49 0HQ

Stone Types:
Breat: A general purpose open grain variegated sandstone.
Corsehill: General Purpose fine grain red sandstone.
Caithness: A General purpose granite of small crystal size and even color.

4.4.1 Surfaces

P1_Natural Stone Paving-- 150 x (300-900mm) Caithness flags – flat pedestrian only areas_cropped finish.
P2_Natural Stone Cubes-- Caithness 70-90mm cubes - pedestrian crossings, detail strips, and edging for flinting areas_cropped finish.
P3_Natural Stone Flintling--Caithness flints – Areas needing traction such as ramps__cropped finish.

Surfaces
P1_Natural Stone Paving-- 150 x (300-900mm) Caithness flags – flat pedestrian only areas_cropped finish.
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4.4.2 Edges

E1_Natural Stone P63mm Pin Kerb pin kerb 63mm for path edging_rough picked finish.
E2_Natural Stone 200mm Kerb kerbs – edge of road_rough picked finish.
E3_Reconstituted 63mm Pin Kerb–outwith Designed Landscape area.
E4_Reconstituted 200mm Kerb–outwith Designed Landscape area.
E5_Natural Stone Mortar fill Wall--Northumbrian sandstone for walling.
E6_Metal Post & Wire Fence – supports H1 Mixed hedging.

Surfaces
P4_Breedon Gravel--Designed Landscape paths.
P5_Whin Stone Dust--Parkland paths.
P6_Reconstituted Slab Paving--Charcon or equivalent product.
P7_Reconstituted Cubes--Marshalls or equivalent product.
P8_Reconstituted Stone Blister Paving-- Pedestrian crossings outwith Designed Landscape area.
P9_Natural Stone Blister Paving--Pedestrian crossings within Designed Landscape area.
P10_Asphalt Paving--Road surfaces generally.
P11_Fibredeck Surfaced Paving--Cycle path surfaces generally.
4.4.3 Furniture
F1_Natural Stone Block Bench--to be used in all areas of the park fine picked finish.
F2_Natural Stone Boulder Barrier--used as vehicle access deterrent throughout park.
F3_Refuse Bin--Stainless steel with RAL 7016 finish.
F4_Cycle Stand--Stainless steel with RAL 7016 finish.
F10_Natural Stone Gate Pier--Northumbrian sandstone for gate piers
F11_Natural Stone Sign Base- Northumbrian sandstone for cast brass welcome sign.

4.4.4 Soft Landscape
L_Turfed Lawn
GC_Groundcover Planting
NM_Native Meadow Seed Mix
MH_Mixed Species Hedge

Not shown:
ST_Specimen Trees –By schedule
APM_Area Planting Mixes- by schedule

4.4.5 Design materials palette

For Craigmillar, as a prestige location, the use and cost of natural materials as a palette for development of amenities within the designed landscape areas is indicated by all precedents. Primarily this calls for the use of natural stone.

Stone has the benefit of durability when used for furniture items and should be considered as having longevity advantages in terms of life cycle replacement costs. This is also a design response to the short cycle that amenities have had generally in this location.

The bedrock underlying the area of CCP is primarily Devonian upper old red sandstone, which is generally red and highly siliceous, with yellow strata inter-bedded with red or purplish brown shale. This stone has been used in much of the building of the castle and the walls of the park (CEC, 1994). Local sources in Northumbria can provide a stone of similar makeup that should be suitable for use (August, 2006).

This is appropriate for use in constructing new walling and vertical edge features as well as the map pillar detail and the crest carvings on those and the wall piers.

Granite is a very common paving material locally since the availability of local basalt, or whinstone as it is locally known, was in practice reduced to salvaged materials. Devonian Granite from Northern Scotland, or Caithness stone, is widely used in proximity to local sandstone walling and buildings and together makes a locally distinct materials palette.

Natural stone elements are used at the visitor centre and in conjunction with existing stone features such as walling in other places. Detailed locations of natural stone use are indicated on the drawings.

For some areas reconstituted stone elements are used. This is for works outside of the Designed Landscape and Historic Building where no tie-in with existing stone features indicates an appropriate use of natural stone. This is generally at the gateways connecting to public roads.
4.5.1 THE CASTLE GATE: Detailed Design Area 1  Car and coach parking for Craigmillar Castle

The design of Castle Gate is informed by the historic access path along the face of the castle and the stone materials palette of Craigmillar sandstone and local granites. The existing stone walls are extended to finish the enclosure of the access area using Northumbrian sandstone in a mortar fill wall. Traditional sandstone gate piers cap the wall ends and flank the entrance to castle path. These gate piers are set with engraved panels featuring the coats of arms of the Gilmour and Preston families as found on the castle gates. Seating is provided by solid sandstone block benches in the color of Craigmillar stone with a fine picked finish as reference to the Craigmillar quarries. Granite setts and sandstone walling are used to complement the castle and the visitor centre building. The former access path is revealed from under the current car park and picked out by a paving of natural stone cubes contained by granite kerbs. Pedestrian and cycle path circulation is flagged with Caithness flamed finish granite. The area between the nose of the car parking spaces and the grass at the base of the stone wall along the road is a moderate slope and here the traditional local treatment of using granite flinting contained by granite kerbs provides traction for pedestrians. The cycle and pedestrian road crossing uses stone pin kerbs containing gaine cubes to provide a rumble strip effect to the speed table construction arrangement of the crossing for physical and auditory safety measures at the crossing. The design arrangement follows specifically the precedent set in 2002 at Urquhart Castle for improving access. Parking and circulation at the castle visitor centre is realigned and expanded to accommodate more vehicles as well as tour buses. This new parking area is designed to accommodate a number of vehicles appropriate to demand, and includes drop-off and parking for tour buses. Elements of the new car park include bus spaces, car spaces, cycle racks, map and trail routes, a brief history of the park and castle, park rules and regulations. Trails to all destinations within CCP route through this new access area.
THE NORTH GATE
4.5.2 North Park Gate

Detailed Design Area 2: A Car Park for the north access along Craigmillar Castle Avenue

On the north face of the Park, the two existing access points (images at left) are connected and developed by the North Park Gate design. This improves access to the park from the Craigmillar neighborhood by adding pedestrian-controlled crossings and pavement extensions in appropriate locations. This is a highly permeable face of the park, and these plans emphasize identity and ease of access.

Existing parking along Craigmillar Castle Avenue is formalized for autos and can be used as overflow parking for tour buses visiting the castle. North Gate is intended for use by local residents visiting the park who want to access the north areas or who wish to avoid tourist crowds at the main, castle car park. Pedestrian, cycle, and disabled access footpaths lead from this area to the new entrance area on Craigmillar Castle Avenue.

This entrance to the park is unified in appearance with the South Gate and contains interpretive features to make the entrance easily recognizable and to encourage the park’s intended uses. Materials here are specified as reconstituted stone as a method for building in cost savings as compared to the price of the design scheme as done in completely natural stone. This is an appropriate location to use these materials for paving. The feature wall, gate piers, and other furniture remain natural stone because they are part of a unified identity scheme for the park whereas the paving is not.
4.6 DETAIL ELEMENTS

**F12_FEATURE ENRAVED STONE PANELS**  
Sandstone to match local Craigmiller quarry origin stone color  
Plastered finish to all exposed surfaces  
600mm x 600mm x 150mm depth panel.  
Fastener fixed to reinforced concrete foundation.

NATURAL STONE WALL  
Architectural modeling suggests large exposed stone panels to be in full color under existing stone.  
Solid cut granite and exposed stone in a repeating pattern.  
Copper oxide panel to be used for finish.  
F12 Feature Engraved Panel

DETAIL ELEMENTS USING NATIVE NORTHUMBRIAN SANDSTONE

Coats of arms for the Preston and Gilmour families are used recreated in the F_12 Feature engraved stone panels.
The South Gate is the most prominent face to CCP and the one currently the least recognizable as such. Old Dalkeith Road that runs along the southwest side of this area is a main artery from the highway into the city, as well as being the main bus route to the infirmary for lines from all over the city. Currently there is nothing but a wire sheep gate in front of a sign and no parking at all. This design uses widened pavements along Craigmillar Castle Road and adds controlled pedestrian crossings to allow safe access from the bus stops that are already right there. The existing stone wall that borders the small property inholding to the Park is extended up to a new gate and entrance using the Northumbrian sandstone walling and furniture used at DD1 and DD2. Wide pavement allows for groups to gather at the gate outside. Through the gate is an area with seating and the feature engraved stone park interpretive map. This former extent of the woodland is restored and sets a Forest Lawn scene that points the way along the trail into the Park.
4.7 PLANTING STRATEGY

A comprehensive vegetation strategy is used to augment and maintain the designed landscape of the park, and integrate existing and variable landscapes throughout the park. This cohesive plan improves both aesthetic and ecological qualities while remaining sensitive to historically significant plantings. The structure of woodland is managed by replacing dead and dying trees with native large-growing trees. At the interface of wooded areas and open meadow, native edge species are added for ornamental and wildlife value. Native understory species and grass increase biodiversity in open areas and add color and interest along paths and trails. Mixed Species Hedgerows provide low-maintenance live barriers at park boundaries while also increasing wildlife habitat.

The following points from the Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan (CEC, 2002a) are to be pursued as part of the Biodiversity strategy for CCP:

- The site is suitable for maiden pink (Dianthus deltoides) restoration— it is suggested to replant with plugs in rocky, sunny areas.
- Mowing regime should leave 20-50 cm meadow to overwinter to provide nesting habitat for skylarks.
- Hedges 0.5-2.0m high would benefit linnets.
- There is not enough land area to justify leaving dead trees for great spotted woodpeckers.
- Thick shrubs, woodland edge, and hedgerow will benefit song thrush and yellowhammers.

4.7.1 SPECIES LIST BY RESTORATION BLOCK

**Large trees for structural plantings**
- **Betula pendula** ..... silver birch
- **Fraxinus excelsior** ..... common ash
- **Pinus sylvestris** ..... Scots pine
- **Prunus avium** ..... wild cherry
- **Quercus petrea** ..... sessile oak
- **Quercus robur** ..... common oak
- **Salix alba** (specularis) ..... drooping white willow

**Woodland Understory**
- **Allium ursinum** ..... ramsoms
- **Ilex aquifolium** ..... holly
- **Corylus avellana** ..... common hazel
- **Dryopteris dilatata** ..... broad buckler fern
- **Dryopteris filix-mas** ..... male fern
- **Hyacinthoides non-scripta** ..... bluebells
- **Prunus padus** ..... bird cherry

**Woodland Edge**
- **Cornus sanguinea** ..... dogwood
- **Corylus avellana** ..... common hazel
- **Salix caprea** ..... goat willow
- **Salix purpurea** ..... purple osier

**Meadow mix of native grass and wildflowers**
- **Alchillea millefolium** ..... yarrow
- **Campanula rotundifolia** ..... bluebell
- **Cirsium vulgare** ..... spear thistle
- **Festuca rubra** ..... red fescue

**Mixed Species Hedgerow**
- **Crataegus monogyna** ..... Hawthorne
- **Ilex aquifolium** ..... holly
- **Fagus sylvatica** ..... Beech
4.7.2 CATLES GARDEN REINVENTIONS

**EAST GARDEN**

Garden Medieval Pleasure Re-creation

Bellis perennis ..... lawn daisy
Barag officinals ..... borage
Digitalis purpurea ..... foxglove
Fragaria vesca ..... white horehound
Galium odoratum ..... sweet woodruff
Marrubium vulgare ..... self heal
Prunella vulgaris ..... pennyroyal
Viola odorata ..... sweet violet
Viola tricolor ..... heartsease

Bed for ancient vegetables- leeks, turnip, beets, etc.

U-shaped stone raised bed for flowers and climbing roses trained on trellis. Inside of raised bed is turf seats with small herbs growing with the grass such as creeping thyme, sweet violet, and lawn daisy. A small table would complete the scene. The other raised beds contain a collection of UK native plants that were used during the medieval period for various purposes. Benches along the upper terrace as fruit trees were often planted in walled gardens. (Burbridge, 1989)

**WEST GARDEN**

Re-creation of what the gardens might have been during the 16th-17th centuries. It is known that a sundial and parterres previously existed here. Boxwood parterre with ornamental perennials known to have been available at the time (17th century) and would reflect design influence and plant materials from the continent. A row of pear trees are planted along the upper terrace. Lilac hedge blocks views up to Southfield. Lavandula angustifolia officinalis Lavender

**SOUTH FIELD**

Large Structural Trees within South Field for along south field wall and for “West Woodland Walk”

Cardamine pratensis ..... Lady’s smock
Caltha palustris ..... marsh-marigold (gowan)
Ranunculus lingua ..... greater spearwort
Scutellaria galericulata ..... skullcap
Succisa pratensis ..... devil’s-bit scabious
Trollis europaeus ..... globeflower
Alchillea millefolium ..... yarrow
Filipendula ulmaria ..... Meadowsweet
Lathyrus pratensis ..... yellow vetching
Linaria vulgaris ..... common toadflax
Lotus corniculatus ..... bird’s-foot-trefoil
Pilosella officinarum ..... mouse-ear hawkweed
Prunella veris ..... cowslip
Trifolium medium ..... zigzag clover
Trifolium pretense ..... red clover

The existing stands, rows and clumps of trees and hedges have been predominantly open grown. This has resulted in a form that has branches and leaves extending from the ground to the crown. The aesthetic here tends to be unity. Low branches also block trails, views, and shade out understory plants.

It is in these cases that thinning or clearing of the established vegetation is called for.

In a few areas trees have been allowed to grow or even planted, as with the row of maples alongside the Castle, in places where they have come into conflict with key views designed into the landscape. It is in these cases that thinning or clearing of the new forest plantings is called for.

**PRESTON POND**

Water plants

Nymphaea alba ..... white water-lily (in baskets 1.5 m deep
On islands and shore beneath Hazel grove
Lysimachia nummularia ..... creeping-Jenny
Iris pseudacorus ..... yellow iris or flag
Cardamine pratensis ..... Lady’s smock
Caltha palustris ..... marsh-marigold (gowan)
Ranunculus lingua ..... greater spearwort
Scutellaria galericulata ..... skullcap
Succisa pratensis ..... devil’s-bit scabious
Trollis europaeus ..... globeflower

Preston pond used in the Castle grounds

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5.1 CONCLUSION

Craigmillar Castle Park is a complex entity when viewed from the process of its development or from the regulation and oversight organizations that keep it functioning. However, the visitor will not see these differences. Currently the lack of unifying design organization and intent create manifest differences when visitors attempt to access the park. The question this design proposal undertook is how to merge the intent and resources of the different governing entities and forge the appearance and feel of a single experience park. The purpose of addressing this question was to realize the timely opportunities in setting redesign work in the Park with the redevelopment work underway in the community of Craigmillar. The park has endured as a community resource through a half century of near neglect as Craigmillar processed its post industrial age and its post social welfare setting stage. During this time the park did not have planning or development to keep pace with technological changes to society even as elemental as the advent of the personal automobile. Access to the park by bus fifty years ago was intended to bring visitors and tourists to the park, but that dropped off completely until recently when it has potentially improved dramatically because of the lines servicing the Royal Infirmary at Little France from every corner of Edinburgh and its outskirts. However, the identity of the park has not been reestablished, and this access is not capitalized upon. There is not even decent access by foot from the park's own neighborhood.

The detail in this project is about identifying the basic needs of success for a recreational site historically embedded within the urban matrix but having absolutely no plan for access by any means in any quantity. As a site that has seven centuries of history in a world class historic asset, and is itself a preserved historic landscape, CCP requires a carefully considered advancement into the access appropriate to this age. On the face of the challenge there are many possible projects which viewed independently would improve CCP’s situation. What this study has done is identify both access and identity as the linchpins in the redevelopment drive. The two master plans laid out in this study look forward into how development will proceed once the initial gateway works are finished. It predicts that the relatively straightforward construction projects to improve access and identity will lead to the adoption of the master plans. As such, this project will be useful as a case study to other sites whose time for renewal may have come but needs to proceed slowly and sensibly to build popular and funding momentum.

Craigmillar Castle Park has a huge opportunity to use the incredible resource of Craigmillar Castle, the Designed Landscape, and the large parcel of city council owned lands to become a major destination point for local residents, local tourists, and international tourists. The study investigation process revealed willingness by the concerned trustees of CCP to develop and promote the use of the Park towards this goal. If the development is undertaken as the two phased plan proposed here the first phase built works will begin a large increase in the number of visitors expected immediately following the completion of the first phase works designed in this project. The use and feedback of and by the new users will help inform the further division of the master plans into funding and priority phases.

What other designers may hope to see in this project is that the problems afflicting a site may have solutions which start simply. It may not be so rare that access by foot, cycle, bus, coach, and auto are all in need of overhaul at the same time. The combination with a historic scheduled monument as a project for reinvention may be uncommon outside of the UK, but leaving that detail aside there is a contribution here in allowing simple solutions to problems that are given design form by local palettes and process.

5.2 DESIGN REVIEWS

Detailed design area critique by Mark Linhuldt included suggestion to review traffic engineering at the visitor center parking lot, and to review the hierarchy of materials used to guide different types of traffic through the parking lot. There is some confusion created by the current scheme layout as to what is happening for pedestrian and bus movement paths. The design intent in this area of using material changes to visually recreate the former path leading straight to the castle needs to also work within a clear delineation of pedestrian and vehicle space. Specific suggestion was to combine the bus and car lanes into one material to simplify the visual hierarchy of circulation space and allow attention to focus on the paving material which marks the historic path to the castle. Planning critique by Mark Hamin suggested bringing oversight bodies into closer focus from the planning application process preparation. This is a site of complex and overlapping jurisdictions. While aligned in purpose they all need to be addressed with equal importance. Securing permissions from these multiple organizations requires the plan proposal to be comprehensive.


PAN (Planning Advice Note) 68, Design Statements. Scottish Executive, Development Department. 2003.


Scottish Planning Policy, Green Belts. Scottish Executive, Development Department. 1996.


