

# The Development of the Gardens and Designed Landscape at DALSERF, CLYDE VALLEY



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GARDENS**

Exploring our hidden gardens and forgotten landscapes



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Dalserf

NGR: NS 8015 5062

Report on the development of the designed landscape

on behalf of

Scotland's Garden & Landscape Heritage

Cover Plate: The Lime Avenue at Dalserf.

Report by: Lorna Innes and Maureen McKeown

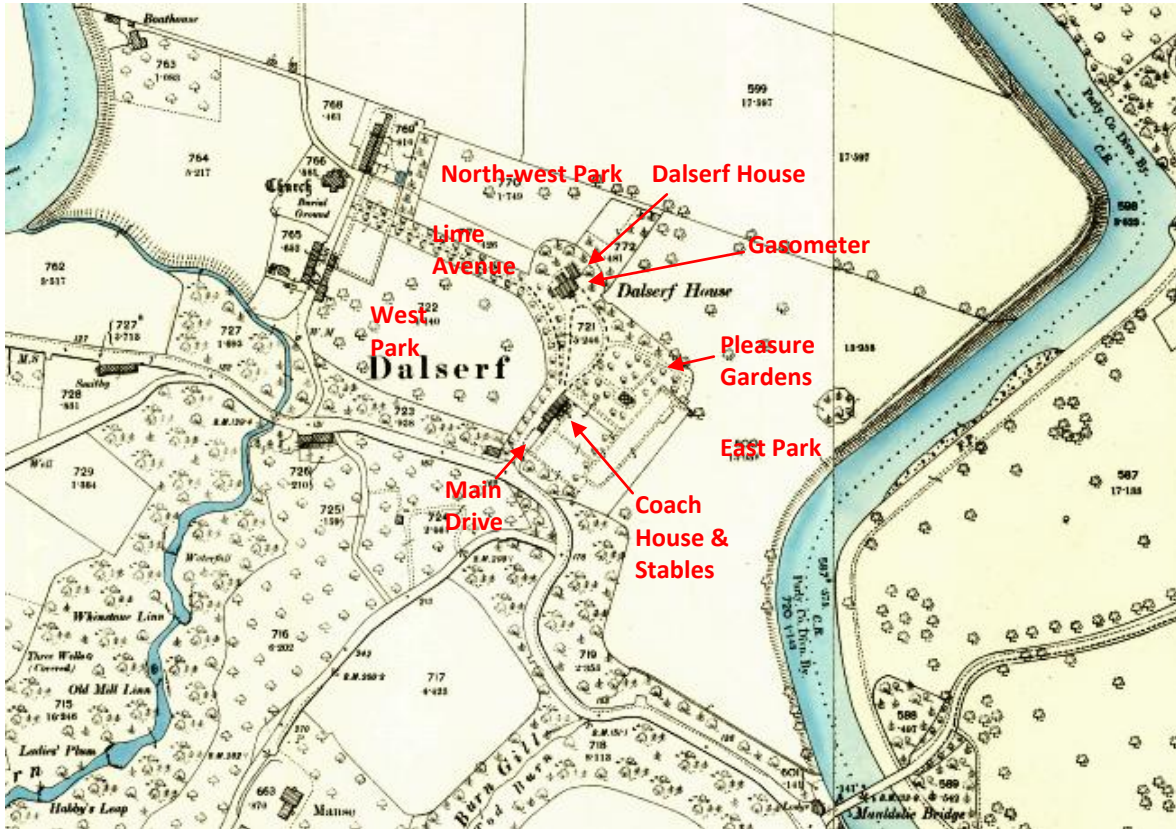
Edited by: Olivia Lelong and Anna Badcock

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Illus 1: The Dalserf estate as shown on the Ordnance Survey 25-inch (2nd edition), Lanarkshire O18.15, with components marked in red (<http://www.maps.nls.uk>).

## 1.0 Introduction to Glorious Gardens

Glorious Gardens was a two-year pilot project (2015-17) to research and record historic gardens and designed landscapes in two areas of Scotland. The project focused on properties which are not listed in the Historic Scotland Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes, but which still retain evidence for their development and have some conservation value.

One strand of the pilot project, funded by Historic Environment Scotland and the Heritage Lottery Fund, focused on gardens and designed landscapes (GDLs) in the Clyde & Avon Valley Landscape Partnership (CAVLP) area while a separate strand, funded by Historic Environment Scotland (HES), studied properties in the Falkirk local authority area.

The Glorious Gardens pilot project was initiated and managed by Scotland's Garden and Landscape Heritage, who contracted Northlight Heritage to recruit, train and support groups of volunteers to conduct the research and produce reports on properties in each area during 2015-17.

This report gathers together the results of research and survey work by volunteers, Maureen McKeown, Sarah Hogg, Kimm Curran and Dee McCarthy with Lorna Innes. The assessment of significance (section 7) was conducted by Northlight Heritage based on their findings.

## 2.0 Introduction to Dalserf

Dalserf House itself was demolished in 1963. It was located in the parish of Dalserf at NGR: NS 8015 5062, on a raised area above and east of the village of Dalserf. It sat at the centre of a small designed landscape, at the heart of a large working estate. The property overlooks Mauldslie Castle grounds on the other side of the River Clyde and there is low-lying agricultural pasture to the north; the estate is set in a bend in the river. Dalserf Lodge still stands, directly on the A72 Lanark Road at the entrance to the drive. The lodge, associated walling and gate piers are the only listed features within the property boundary.

Name	Designation	Grade	ID	Web link
Dalserf House Lodge including boundary walls, gatepiers, & railings	Listed building	C	LB45108	<a href="http://portal.historicenvironment.scot/designation/LB45108">http://portal.historicenvironment.scot/designation/LB45108</a>

## 3.0 Methods

The study followed the project methodology, as detailed in the Glorious Gardens Method Statement (see project archive, held at the National Record of the Historic Environment, maintained by HES).

It involved the consultation of key historic maps, aerial photographs, local and national archives, and databases of heritage assets and statutory designations. The results were entered on a Property Information form, hosted on a secure server, to ensure a consistent level of recording.

The desk-based research was followed by a systematic walkover survey over the winter of 2017 to identify and record surviving components and key elements of the historic designed landscape. The survey employed a recording system designed for the project that combines written field notes, tablet-based data capture and photography. All data gathered during the project are available for consultation as part of the Glorious Gardens archive, held at the National Record of the Historic Environment, maintained by HES. The sources consulted are listed in section 8.

The information gathered has been synthesised to establish a baseline understanding of the development of the designed landscape and its current state, including its overall structure, surviving components and conservation opportunities.

## 4.0 Desk-based research results

### 4.1 Historic maps

Dalserf appears on maps from the late 16th century onward. This section summarises the changes to the designed landscape which are captured on each of the more informative historic maps. Section 6 draws out further evidence from the maps as it relates to specific components of the landscape.



Illus 2: Blaeu's (1654) *Glottiana Praefectura Inferior, cum Baronia Glascuensi*, [vulgo], The nether ward of Clyds-dail and Glasco, based on surveys by Timothy Pont in the 1590s.



The name Dalsarf can clearly be seen, located in a dramatic bend of the river, 'Maldsly' or Mauldslie as we know it today is recorded on the opposite bank, as is 'Brouly' or Brownlee. The house appears to be partly surrounded by trees. The church is sited to the north of the house.

Illus 3: Roy's Military Survey of Scotland (1747-55) (©British Library).



On Roy's map Dalserv is clearly marked, surrounded by orchards and cultivated land in a crook of the river Clyde. Some fields have been enclosed by shelterbelts whilst others remain open. The apparently uncultivated area of land on the riverbank could be have been used for summer grazing. The house is recorded in red on a high spur of land and to the west is the village of Dalserv, consisting of a terrace of houses. Dalserv parish church is the large structure in red set within the kirkyard. The dot of red on the riverbank could be a boathouse There are two approaches to the house from the river. A partly tree-lined, partly fenced straight avenue runs to the north of the house with a turning off leading to the house itself. The main avenue continues on to the village. The other access road from the river, also partly tree-lined and partly fenced, runs south of the house into the village. There is a turning off to the north-east leading to the house. A densely tree-lined burn flows through the estate into the Clyde.

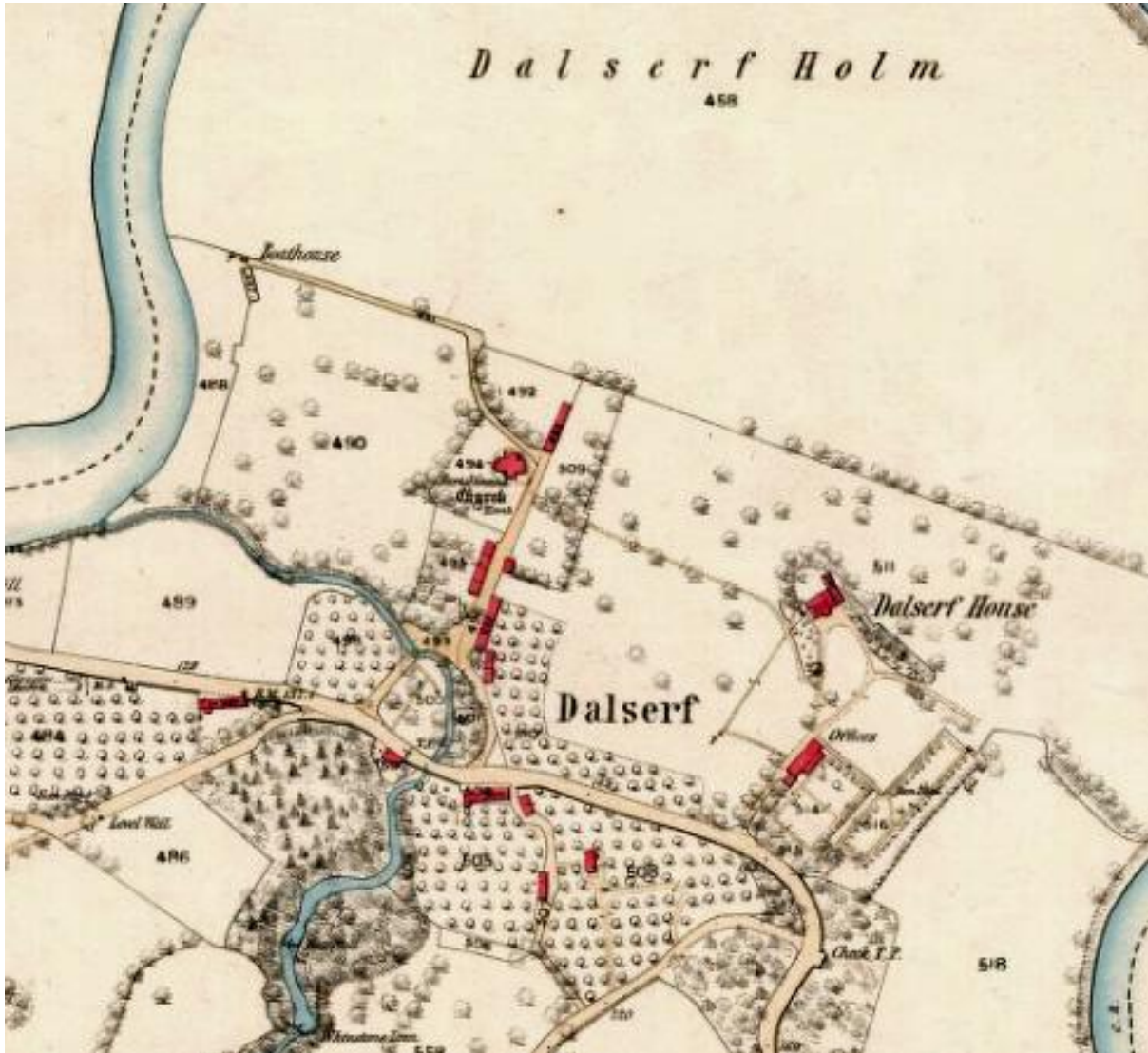


Illus 4: Forrest's (1816) The County of Lanark from Actual Survey.



In Forrest's map of 1816 there has been an extension to the road network with a track leading through the village to a boathouse. A carriage sweep in front of the house is clearly visible. There appear to be seven closely grouped housing units in the village whilst the big house is set within parkland cut through by a pathway running east from the house towards the river. North of the parkland there is the low-lying land of the Dalserf Holm. A significant series of square yards is located on the east side of the driveway.

Illus 5: Ordnance Survey 25-inch (1st edition), Lanark XVIII.15 (Dalsersh.) Surveyed 1859, published 1864.



The 25 inch 1st Edition OS map is more detailed than previous maps because of the scale. The house can be clearly seen on a raised area within what appears to be surrounding parkland with specimen trees and holm land beyond. The tree-lined drive extends in a straight line from the main road (Lanark Road; A72) to the south-west before splitting and forming a large looped carriage sweep in front of the house. There are two extensions from the drive. One sweeps down the slope in a curve before straightening out westward to Dalsersh Village and the church. The shorter route extends from the east side of the drive toward the parkland and river. It does not, however, continue to an obvious point. Neither of the

extensions is tree-lined.

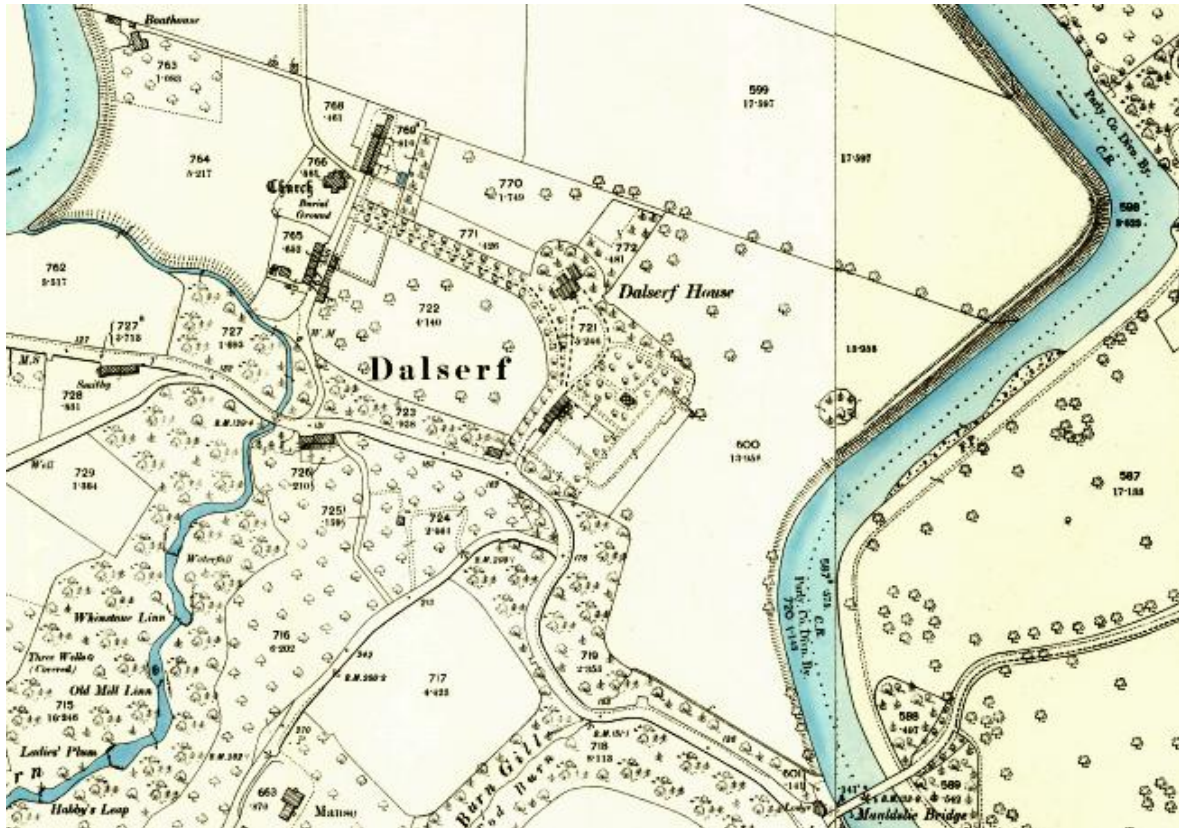
The purpose of the two enclosed areas giving on to the village street is not clear.

The number of dwellings in the village has increased.

There has been a marked increase in the land given over to orchards on either side of what is now the A72. The location of the Offices is marked and adjacent to them there is a walled garden in two sections within which there appear to be espaliered fruit trees growing on the south facing wall. Beyond the walled garden there is a long rectangular, terraced pleasure garden, tree-lined and with a sundial.



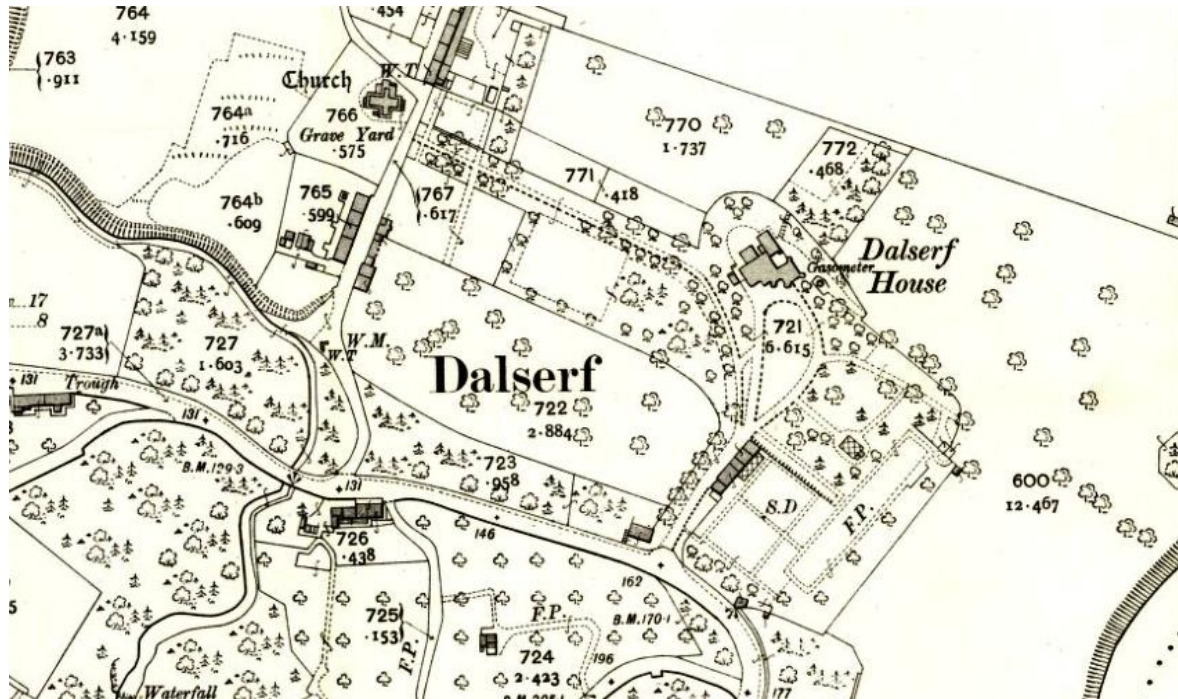
Illus 6: Ordnance Survey 25-inch (2nd edition), Lanarkshire



ire 018.15. Surveyed 1896, published 1897.

Dalsersf House has been extended at the rear since the last OS survey and the road leading to the church from the house has become a lime avenue. A lodge has been built on the west side of the driveway entrance. The orchard on the south edge of the West Park has been replaced by a band of mixed woodland. The parkland surrounding the house has been fenced off from the holm, as have other small parcels of land. These include an area to the north-east of the house planted with conifers. A roundel of trees has been planted in the East Parkland beside the riverbank. This would have provided a sheltered viewing point towards Mauldslee Bridge and over Mauldslee Parkland. The offices have been extended slightly to the south, and a small glasshouse or conservatory has been erected here and another on the lawn of the Pleasure Garden in front of the house.

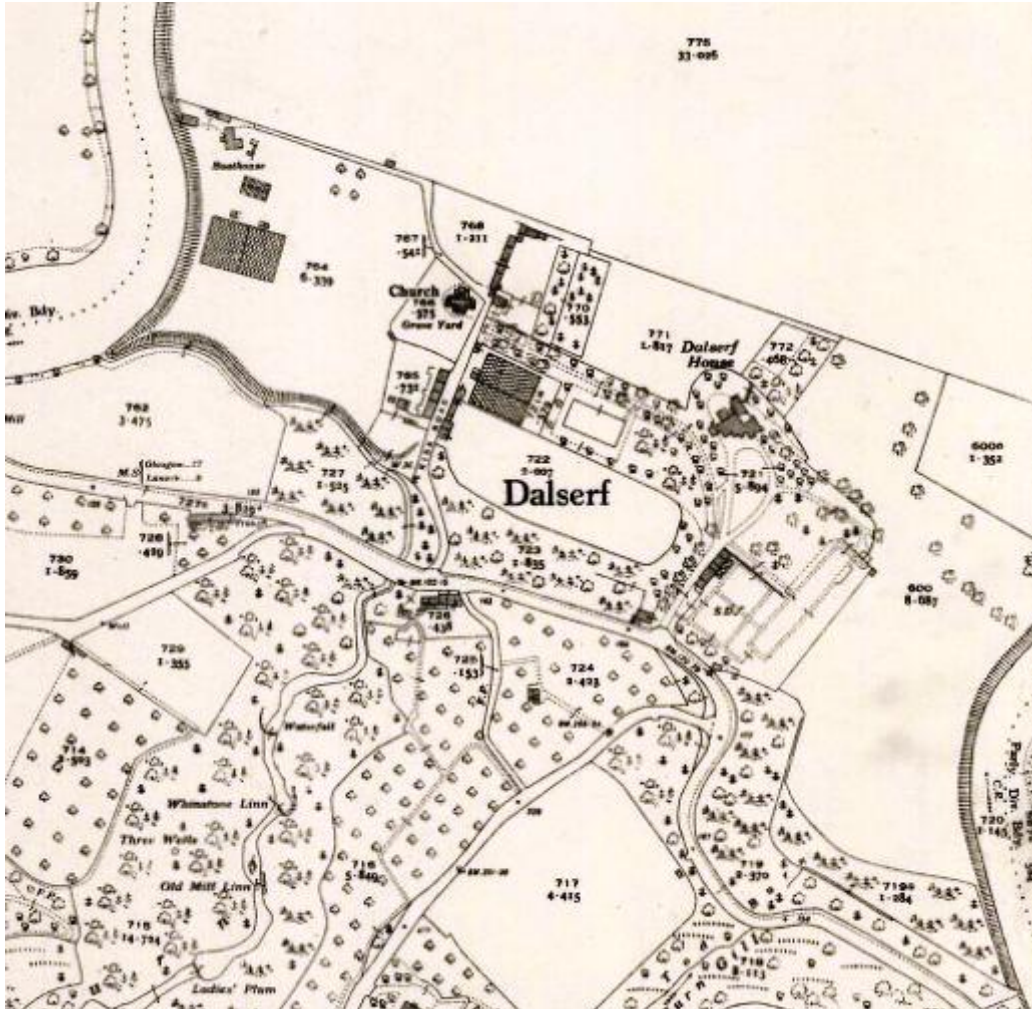
Illus 7: Ordnance Survey 25-inch (3rd edition), Lanarkshire O18.15. Revised 1910, published 1912.



There have been a number of changes since the last edition of the OS map was published; most notably the house has been extended again. Adjacent to the house on the east side there is now a gasometer and an associated routeway. Given the topography, this feature would have been below the house and not have been visible from there. A set of steps has been put in from the rear of the house to the enclosed conifer plantation to the north east. Some of the trees in the Lime Avenue appear to have died, although on the ground today the avenue is largely complete and the trees all appear to be of a similar, significant age. The West Park has been reduced in size, and a rectangular 'clear' area has been set out within a section given over to what appears to be further mixed woodland, possibly for a tennis court. The sundial has been moved into what was described previously as the walled garden. This garden and the pleasure garden now appear to have a wall only at the east end.



Illus 8: Ordnance Survey 25-inch (4th edition), Lanarkshire O18.15 (includes Cambusnethan, Dalserf). Revised 1939, published 1946.



The most notable change between this 1946 map and the previous one (1912) is the presence of large glasshouses to the west of the house, close to the village and further to the west by the river. A large area of the West Park has been cleared of trees, possibly for horticultural purposes. The clear area within the mixed woodland has an enclosure within it, possibly for a tennis court, and there is a further plantation of conifers to the west of the North West Park.

The glasshouse/conservatory on the Pleasure Garden lawn has been removed, and the associated pathways are not shown. The Gasometer is not labelled but is still recorded as is the routeway to it from the south-east.



## 4.2 Aerial Photographs



Illus 9: Dalserf 1946 (NCAP-000-000-110-469).



Illus 10: 1967 aerial photograph of Dalserf.



Illus 11: 1971 aerial photograph of Dalserf.

## 5.0 Timeline for the Development of the Dalserf House Designed Landscape

Date / Period	Event / Phase of Development
1292	<p>William de Hamilton was the first member of the Hamilton family to appear in Scotland. In 1292 he swears fealty to King Edward I of England but for centuries the descendants of one branch of William de Hamilton's family have lived in Lanarkshire and played a prominent role. It is from this branch of the Hamilton family that the lairds of Dalserf come.</p> <p>Source: O'Niell (2010)</p>
1300-1400	<p>The Dalserf estate was originally part of the much larger Cadzow Estate which had been granted to Sir Walter de Hamilton (Walter Fitzgilbert) by King Robert the Bruce in around 1300. In around 1400, a newly created Dalserf Estate was separated from the Cadzow estate, with the King's permission, and given to the second son of the family, Sir David de Hamilton. It has since descended through successive generations of Sir David's branch of the Hamilton family. At times the land descended through the female line, with the occasional addition of extra Hamilton blood from other branches of the family.</p> <p>Source: O'Niell (2010)</p>
c 1700	<p>The earliest known seat of the Hamiltons of Dalserf was Alton or Aldton (Auldtown) between Dalserf and Ashgill, possibly built in the 1600s. The new family residence, Dalserf House, is thought to have been built in the early 1700s, close to Dalserf Village and Church, although Bleau's map of 1654 indicates a large house in approximately the correct position. There is no entry for Aldton House until Roy's map of 1747-55. Dalserf Church was built in 1655. The village may be older and originally served a ferry that once crossed the Clyde there prior to the construction of Garrion Bridge in 1817.</p> <p>Source: O'Niell (2010)</p>
1756	<p>Margaret Hamilton of Dalserf married a distant cousin, Captain James Birnie Hamilton of Broomhill, and the family live at Dalserf House.</p> <p>Source: O'Niell (2010)</p>

- 1792 The minister writing about Dalsersf Parish for the First Statistical Account notes:
- Dalsersf House, the residence of Captain James Hamilton of Broomhill, is a neat modern building, standing up on an eminence, near the village of Dalsersf, and commands a charming prospect, both up and down the Clyde... Mr Hamilton, induced by the remarkable beauty of the situation, is now building another house, upon an eminence above the village of Dalsersf; which commands one of the most extensive and delightful prospects, that can well be imagined.
- This presumably refers to the building of Millburn House, sometimes referred to as the Dower House, which survives.
- The *Statistical Account* also states that Dalsersf ‘... was formerly the principal village in the parish, but is now fallen much into decay because the present proprietor does not consider it an advantage to have a village near the seat of the family, and therefore does not encourage the increase of it, by granting either lease or feu, the houses being only let from year to year, so that a troublesome neighbour may be easily removed’.
- The account also records that the fertile land around Dalsersf is filled with extensive orchards and the fruit is very flavoursome; hedges are recorded as being full of plum trees. Wooded slopes are covered in oak, sycamore and ash which are managed every 30 years. Larger trees grow by the Clyde.
- Source: Statistical Account of Scotland Vol. VII 1792, 373-4
- c 1800 The estate passed to Elizabeth Hamilton, daughter of Margaret and Captain James Birnie Hamilton, who marries Lt Col Robert Campbell in 1803. The family name becomes Campbell Hamilton. Elizabeth died in 1808 when her son, James was a baby. The estate was to pass to him but held in trust until he came of age in 1828.
- Source: O’Niell (2010)
- 1815 The surveyor John Yule produced a plan detailing the land around Dalsersf House (RHP 10586). Unfortunately, this potentially valuable source has not been examined at this time but is available in the National Records of Scotland in Edinburgh <https://goo.gl/IT7Q9K>.
- c 1828 Dalsersf is passed to James Campbell Hamilton, youngest son of Elizabeth and Robert Campbell Hamilton, on his coming of age. He married Mary Rorison with whom he had five children. He rose to the rank of commander in the Royal Navy.
- Source: O’Niell (2010)

1836 Dalsersf House was offered to let: 'Dalsersf House, with Coach-house, Stable of eight stalls, Garden, Hot House, and various Out Houses. The house is comfortably and completely furnished, and the garden and hot house in good order. For particulars inquire of the house, or of James Harvie Esq of Brownlee, Carluke; or of Mr John Dalziel, Newhouse, Carstairs. The Shooting over the estate will be let with the House; and 15-20 acres of old grass can be had at a valuation, if wanted.'

Source: *Caledonian Mercury*, 29 October, 1836

1845 Extracts from *New Statistical Account Scotland* (hereafter NSAS), 1834-1845.

'The fruit district of Clydesdale may be said to extend from near Lanark on the one hand, to the extremity of the parish of Bothwell towards Glasgow on the other, comprising a distance of about twenty miles. The banks of the Clyde at Dalsersf are nearly in the centre of this favoured range. The orchards are chiefly planted on the declivities which overlook the river, or on the sides of the ravines which run into it, and very few of which could be cultivated by the plough. A few acres are planted on the holms and banks along the side of the river Avon, on the western boundary of the parish, but not with the same success as in the Vale of Clyde. The plum district is not co-extensive with the general fruit one. Taking Dalsersf as the centre, the plum range, on both banks of the river, does not extend beyond three or three-and-a-half miles on either side. Within these limits, several kinds of plums appear to be indigenous ...'

'Of apples, about sixty varieties are now cultivated, viz, sixteen sorts of summer, twenty of harvest, and twenty-four of winter apples. Of pears there are about twenty-four kinds.'

'Some of the old orchards are very irregularly planted. The system pursued at present is to set out the young trees in rows, at from ten to thirty feet distant from each other, with a space of from ten to twenty feet between the trees. Regular and careful cultivation is required, especially when the trees are young. The expense of this is covered by the under-crops, such as potatoes, oats, beans, barley, rye ...'

The account also mentions gooseberries as being 'cultivated to a considerable extent', and that there was a 'total failure of the fruit crop' in 1839.

'The extent of ground occupied by orchards within the bounds of the parish is about 50 acres' Gooseberries, plums, and pears being less liable to be affected by competition, still yield an encouraging return to the cultivator and dealer'.

(NSAS) 1834-45, vol. VI 744.

'Dalsersf... was at one time a clachan or kirk-town of some size and importance. It now consists merely of a few low roofed cottages, on the two sides of the lane leading from the Lanark Road to the parish church. Till about twenty years ago, when Garion Bridge was built, there was a ferry at Dalsersf, connecting the two banks of the river, and which caused considerable stir in the village. Standing close to the mansion-house of Dalsersf, the

proprietors for a good while past have felt a natural desire to have it wholly removed, and it bids fair very soon to disappear altogether from the landscape. Nothing but the presence of the parish church, which cannot be so easily removed, saves the few remaining houses from destruction'.

(NSAS 1834-45, vol.VI 748)

'In the lawn in front of Dalsersf House, there is an ash tree of great size and girth, perhaps one of the finest in Scotland, and which attracts the notice of strangers'.

(NSAS 1834-45, Vol VI 729)

- 1858  
(and  
1862)
- The Estate seems to have regularly let grassparks in 'Dalsersf Holm and Pleasure Grounds about 61 Scotch acres' for the grazing of sheep.  
Source: *Glasgow Herald*, 24 and 29 March 1858, 21 and 24 March 1862
- 1858
- In August 1858, the Estate was advertising a large sale of wood by public auction: 'Large quantity of Cut Timber in Lots, consisting old Larch and Scotch Firs, large size and very superior quality, and well adapted to Railway Sleepers and other country purposes. Also, Two Lots on Foot, of the same description, in all about Two Acres. John Montgomery at Rosebank will point out the various Lots, any day previous to the Roup. ...'  
Source: *Glasgow Herald*, 9 and 11 August 1858
- 1859
- The Ordnance Survey *Name Book* records Dalsersf as 'A good mansion having ornamental grounds, garden and offices adjoining, occupied by the proprietor J. Campbell Hamilton late Lieut. Royal Navy. An artificial embankment surrounds the greater part of the house. The holm of Dalsersf is about 3 chains of Dalsersf House'.  
Source: Lanarkshire OS *Name Books* 1858-61, Vol. 20 Page 54
- 1859
- 'Births at Dalsersf House on 6<sup>th</sup> inst., Mrs John Forsyth, of a daughter'. A further birth, again by an unknown family, perhaps suggesting Dalsersf House is let at this time.  
Source: *Greenock Advertiser*, 9 August 1859
- 1865
- From the entry for Dalsersf Parish in the 1865 Ordnance Gazetteer of Scotland:  
'The principal mansions are Broomhill, Dalsersf House and Millburn House; and much of the property is divided between the Hamiltons of Raploch and the Hamiltons of Dalsersf, the latter holding 3200 acres in the shire, valued at £4700 per annum.'  
Source: *Ordnance Gazetteer of Scotland: A Survey of Scottish Topography. Statistical, Biographical and Historical*, ed. Francis H Groome. Edinburgh: Thomas C Jack, 1882-5.

- 1866 A Notice was published that James Campbell Hamilton of Dalsersf House had made a loan application to the Lands Improvement Company of up to £5400. The loan would be made 'under the Provisions of the Lands Improvement Company's Act' to fund improvements on the Dalsersf and Millburn Estates. The money was to be repaid with interest 'by way of Rent-charge or Annuity' over a Term of 25 years.  
Source: *Glasgow Herald*, 23 March 1866
- 1869 to 1880 His wife having died in 1867, Cdr. James Campbell Hamilton RN passed away in 1869 at Dalsersf and the estate went to his son, also called James Campbell Hamilton at the age of 13. He joined the Royal Scots Greys and died at the age of just 24 of pleurisy while stationed at Dublin barracks. The estate then passed to his eldest sister, Mary Campbell Hamilton.
- 1871 A report on the annual UP Sabbath School Procession told of 300 children, accompanied by a flute band, walking to Dalsersf House where they were welcomed by Mr Rorison, lady and family. Presumably this was the Rev. William Peebles Rorison, uncle of the late Mrs Campbell Hamilton and Minister of Dalsersf Parish Church, standing in for the Hamilton family. Before setting off back to Stonehouse the children enjoyed 'Football, races and other amusements. Inspection of the Vinery, etc.'  
Source: *Hamilton Advertiser* 9 September 1871
- 1875 Dalsersf was advertised to let: 'To Let, Furnished. Dalsersf House, Dalsersf, with Offices, Gardens, Lawn, Shooting etc. ....'  
Source: *Glasgow Herald*, 23 July 1875
- 1876 Dalsersf House was advertised to let again.  
'To let, furnished, for One Year, from Whitsunday next, Dalsersf House, ... with Offices, Garden, Vinery and Green House. The Garden is well stocked with Fruit-Trees and Bushes, and is early and productive. The House is comfortably furnished and contains Three Public Rooms and Seven Bed-rooms, besides Attics and Servants' accommodation. It is beautifully situated on the banks of the Clyde, and is surrounded by a lawn. ... The Offices consist of a Four-Stalled Stable, Coach-House, and Harness-Room, &c. A plentiful supply of excellent Spring water is introduced into the House by gravitation. A Post-runner calls at the House.'  
Source: *The Scotsman*, 2, 9 and 12 February 1876.

1879 Dalsersf House was again advertised to let but now on a long-term lease.

‘Dalsersf House to be let, furnished, together with the Shootings on the Estate, for a term of years. Entry may be had immediately. The House is pleasantly situated on the Banks of the Clyde, and contains 3 public rooms, 7 bedrooms, 2 Attic rooms, Bathroom, Servants’ accommodation etc. Hot and Cold Water Pipes through the House. The Offices consist of Four-stalled Stable, Coach-house, etc. The lawn in front of the house extends to three-quarters of an acre, the Garden to about an acre and a half. There is also a Greenhouse and Vinery. The Shootings on the Estate extend to about 1300 acres, of which about 100 acres are Young Plantations, and those in the Parish of Carstairs, which will also be let, extend to about 700 acres of Moor and 1300 acres of Wild Pasture. ... The House and Grounds will be shown on application to Mr John Montgomery, Overseer, Dalsersf ...’.

Source: *The Scotsman*, 12 February 1879

11<sup>th</sup> February 1880 John Montgomery (Dalsersf employee) wrote from Dalsersf to Gibson and Strathern (Notaries at 12 Charlotte Square Edinburgh):

‘In reply to your letter of the 9th inst. The cost of erecting fence along side of walk from Dalsersf House to the village would be £18. The material would cost about £16. And the workmanship £2. If the grass in the pleasure-grounds is let for cattle we will get a very considerable rise in rent. The party who had the grass last season have offered me £50. For this season’s grass, if allowed to graze cattle. I have now in my possession a list of the articles to be sold at Dalsersf stables on 26th inst.’

[On the back of the note, the Notaries describe the content as ‘about expense of dividing fields’]

Source: Original letter from collection of Mr Kenneth Liddell, Lanark



24th February 1880 John Montgomery wrote from Dalserf to Gibson and Strathern (Notaries at 12 Charlotte Square Edinburgh):

‘Gentlemen I am favoured with your letter of yesterday. The length of fence proposed to be erected along the right hand side of walk from Dalserf House to the Church is 133 yds. An iron gate with iron pillars would also be required. The fence which I propose to put up is the patent continuous flatbar fence; 3 ft 6 inches high above ground, 13 inches below, with standards 3 ft apart, with double-pronged feet, five bars; the top one round iron 5/8 of an inch diameter, and the other four flat, 1 inch wide ¼ inch thick, the joint standards 1 ½ inches wide by 3/8ths of an inch thick, and the intermediate ones 1 3/8ths of an inch wide by 5/16ths of an inch thick. The price of the above fence would be 2/- per yd and the gate with iron pillars £2 15/- (as per catalogue). This does not include the fitting up of fence. It has just occurred to me that this fence might be dispensed with, the whole of the grass in the pleasure grounds is enclosed with the exception of that portion on right hand of walk leading from Mansion House to church and which extends to 2 ac. – 2 ro. – 13 poles Imperial measure or thereby, if this small portion could be let for sheep only it is not necessary that a fence be put up.’

On the same day, John Montgomery sent the ‘workers’ monthly paybills’ to Gibson & Strathern. In his covering note he writes: ‘I also enclose W. Hudspith & Co. account for chimney cans, A Thomson’s account for Lime, and the accounts for digging the Dalserf Orchards and for manure supplies to same.’

Source: Original letters from collection of Mr Kenneth Liddell, Lanark

1880 On the 7 November 1880, Lieutenant James Campbell Hamilton died at the Royal Barracks, Dublin whilst serving with the Scots Greys.

1881-1917 In 1881 Mary Campbell Hamilton married The Rev. Charles Greenhill Henderson of St Mary’s Episcopal Church in Hamilton. The family name became Henderson-Hamilton (see entry for 1915-17).

In the later 19th to early 20th century the Dalserf Estate owned six dairy or arable farms, two hill farms, all of the houses in Dalserf village and several in the outlying area. The Estate was managed by a Factor.

Source: O’Niell (2010)

1882 Letter dated 1 March 1882 from James Marshall to Messrs Gibson & Strathern, Notaries, Edinburgh about the Public Auction to let the Grass Parks at Dalserf:

‘Dalserf Grass If Mr Murray is not to be at the Roup kindly let me have articles and say if I will take whisky as usual.’

Source: Original letter in the collection of Mr Kenneth Liddell, Lanark

This is of interest as it shows grass still being let.

1883 On 13 November 1883 John Montgomery wrote to Gibson & Strathern (Notaries, 12 Charlotte St, Edinburgh) enclosing a statement and cheque relating to the sale of stock at Dalserf: ‘As desired I now send you herewith a detailed statement of the sale of the stock in the pleasure-grounds at same time I enclose Cheque on the Union Bank of Scotland Larkhall in your favour p£142: 1 / 2 being the proceeds of sale of said stock. The sum received by me for fruit this season and paid to Mr Henderson Hamilton amounts to £227/16/3. I trust you have not been put to any inconvenience on account of me not replying to your letter sooner I only received the account sales of large fruit yesterday hence the reason for the delay.’

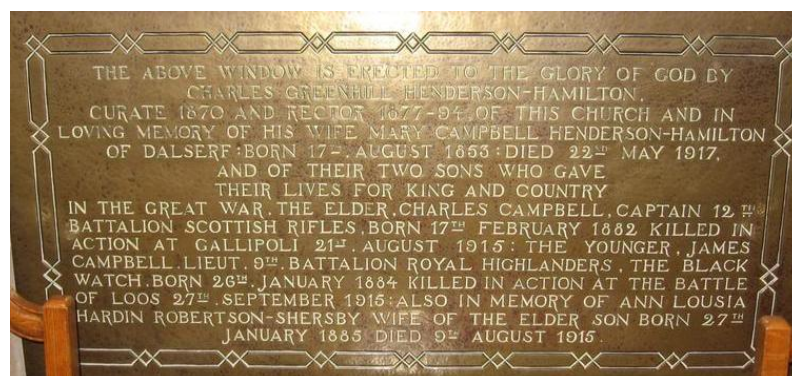
Source: Original letter from the Collection of Mr Kenneth Liddell, Lanark

1912 The Scottish Colourist, Francis C B Caddell was a family friend. He painted the picture below in 1912 of his sister sitting at the top of the rose garden steps looking over the haugh to the Clyde with Mauldslie Bridge in the background.



Illus. 12: *Joan Cadell at Dalserf*, by Francis C B Caddell (1883-1937) 1912 (© 2002-2017 [www.francis-campbell-boileau-cadell.org](http://www.francis-campbell-boileau-cadell.org)). Caddell painted another piece entitled *The Clyde at Dalserf* around the same time.

1915-1917 Mary Campbell Hamilton and the Rev. Charles Greenhill Henderson, Minister of St Mary's Episcopal Church in Hamilton, had two sons; Charles and James. Both were killed in their early thirties in 1915 during the Great War. James' death is recorded as being on the 27th of September 1915 at Loos (although he is thought to have died on the 25th), and Charles died at Gallipoli on August 21st 1915. Charles's wife (the sister of the laird of neighbouring Brownlee) also died only 12 days before him. The mother of James and Charles was reportedly (and unsurprisingly) broken hearted by the loss of her children and died in May 1917. Her husband, a minister, memorialised his tragic family in stained glass in a window in his church; St Mary's Episcopal Church, Auchingramont Road, Hamilton. The figures of Rachel, Joseph and Benjamin are believed to be very much like the memorialised individuals. This seems to be the case and can be seen looking at a photo of James and the associated stained glass image of 'Benjamin', son of Rachel (Book of Genesis).



- 1917 The daughter of the late Charles Campbell Henderson-Hamilton, Elspeth Campbell Hamilton, inherited the estate on the death of her grandmother in 1917, and it was held in trust for her. Elspeth had been taken to England to be raised by her mother's sister.  
Source: O'Niell (2010)
- 1917 The Dalsersf fruit crop featured in the Annual Sale of Clydesdale Fruit held at Garrion Bridge in August 1917. In addition, Dalsersf offered its Growing Crop for sale on the same day. Interested buyers were invited to come at 4.30pm or 'immediately after the Large Fruit Sale at Garrion Bridge'. This was probably an annual event as well.  
At the same time, the auctioneers, Shirlaw, Allan and Co, had 'received instructions from the Rev. Charles G Henderson Hamilton to sell by auction' two acres of oats, 'nearly ready for cutting', a few drills of Swedish turnips, and 'Goods Crops' In Lots to suit Purchasers'  
Source: *Hamilton Advertiser*, 18 August 1917
- 1922 The Rev. Charles G Henderson Hamilton died in 1922. He was the last member of the family to live at Dalsersf House which was then let again.
- 1926 A sale of work at Cambusnethan Parish Church was opened by a Mrs James Houldsworth of Dalsersf House, who was presumably leasing the House.  
Source: *Motherwell Times*, 10 December 1926
- 1932 Dalsersf House was advertised to let, unfurnished. The description was as follows: 'Occupying a fine situation above the River Clyde and commanding splendid views. The residence contains: three reception rooms, lounge, six bedrooms and dressing rooms, two attic rooms, two bathrooms, servants' hall, three maids' rooms, and complete offices. Central heating. Gas lighting. Attractive Gardens. Tennis Court.'  
Source: *The Scotsman*, 13 February 1932
- 1930s-1955 From some point in the 1930s, Dalsersf seems to have been leased from the Estate by a Mr and Mrs A F Grierson. They were involved in a number of fund raising and community events, some held at Dalsersf House, such as a Garden Fete in 1941 and the opening of the grounds for Scotland's Garden Scheme in at least 1937 and 1941. Mrs Grierson died at Dalsersf House in February 1955. Mr Grierson died in September 1955, while still resident at Dalsersf House. He left a considerable personal estate of £119,191.

Mid-late 1950s In the 1950s, the Offices were converted into a private residence known as The Coach House. At about the same time, Dalsersf House was marked for demolition due to undermining by the nearby Ashgill coal pit. Several features from the House were removed and installed in this new residence, including Adam-style fireplaces, an oriel window and the original front door and stone tablet above it bearing the Hamilton Coat of Arms.

Source: O’Niell (2010)

1950 'A notable innovation in horticulture, during the past fifty years, has been the development of tomato growing under glass. There are now within the parish between thirty and forty tomato houses, of varying sizes, some as part of a general market garden, and others solely for tomato growing. A few new market gardens with glass have been established within the past year.'

*The Third Statistical Account of Scotland, 1960, 396–97*

1962 The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) visited the site and recorded some of the grounds and interior/exterior of Dalsersf House. These records are available for examination in Edinburgh, or selected photographs can be viewed online via Canmore.



Illus: 14 Dalsersf House 1962, RCAHMS Survey (1471884).

1963 Dalsersf House was a category B listed building but was demolished in this year.

1989 Due to failing health, Elspeth Campbell Hamilton passed Dalsersf Estate to her cousin's son, the present laird, Christopher J Henderson-Hamilton.

Source: O'Niell (2010)

2016-17 The Young family (Funeral Directors) moved into the property, firstly on a short-term lease with a view to building their own property; however, they quickly formed an attachment to the property and negotiated a lifelong lease. As a result of this, they decided to reinstate much of the garden to its former condition where possible. This project has recently commenced.

## 6.0 Components of the Designed Landscape

The following designed landscape components still exist at Dalsersf. Illus 1 shows their locations.

Category	Name
Gardens	Pleasure Gardens
Offices	Coach House & Stables
Drives & approaches	Main Drive Lime Avenue
Policy parkland	West Park North-west Park East Park
Residential buildings	Dalsersf House (footings)
Agricultural & industrial features	Gasometer

### 6.1 Gardens

#### Pleasure Gardens (Illus 15-18)

As indicated by Roy, the house and its setting lay close to the village in a crook of the Clyde, in much the same place as they do today. By Forrest's map of 1816 the avenue to the east of the house has gone, and it is now approached by a short drive from what is today the A72, ending in its characteristic carriage tear-drop carriage sweep. To the right of the entrance is a formal garden apparently consisting of a series of walled or fenced squares, probably partly terraced. The house is set within parkland beyond which is what was later called the Dalsersf Holm.

By the mid-19th century the area in front of and to the south-west of the house is lawned and significant changes have taken place in the formal garden. The walls of the yards have been cleared to provide a two-sectioned walled garden and below it, two long, rectangular terraces, at the mid and top point of which, where four paths meet, there is a sundial. There are fruit trees against the south-west facing wall of the top garden, and the long sides of the lower terraced garden are tree-lined. The terraced garden slopes down to a walled boundary on the east side. In the OS Name Book Dalsersf is said to have 'ornamental grounds' (Lanarkshire OS Name Books 1858-61, Vol. 20, 54). There are footpaths around the formal garden area which link with the parkland. An area of woodland lies between this boundary wall and the pleasure garden.

By the last quarter of the 19th century there is said to be a vinery and greenhouse. It may be that what was earlier referred to as the hot house in the 1830s is now referenced as the vinery, possibly the structure situated on the east side of the office/stable complex. The greenhouse or glasshouse may be the structure on the lawn that appears on the 1897 2nd edition OS map. A pathway extends to the glasshouse from the driveway and a further one from the pathway to the north (see Illus 6). The glasshouse was located within a circular/oval shaped area surrounded by trees and/or shrubs, planted after the first edition OS map surveyed in 1859. Further changes in the 1890s include the presence of a small built feature at the north end of the lower pathway in the terraced garden. This remains in place (although in poor condition) today and appears to have been a predominantly brick built cold frame. The pathway on the northern edge of the Pleasure Gardens has been extended, and it seems that the boundary has been fenced since the 1880s. This is supported by two letters from John Montgomery, overseer at Dalsersf, to Gibson and Strathearn, Notaries, in Edinburgh in October 1880, in which the price and requirements for estate fencing for the Dalsersf pleasure grounds are discussed (see section 5.0). It is likely that it was around this time (1880) that the fence and a small gateway between the Pleasure Gardens and the East Park were erected. By the end of the century the avenue leading to the church had been lined with trees and is referred to today as the Lime Walk.

By the 1912 OS map (3rd edition) the sundial has been moved to a central location in the walled garden adjacent to the coach house and stables where there are a number of new paths. It was also in 1912 that the Scottish colourist, Francis C.B. Caddell painted his sister in the Dalsersf grounds; she appears to be seated at the top of the steps that lead to the terraced (rose) garden, the artist facing roughly to the south-east with a view over the terraced garden and beyond to the East Park and the holt by the Clyde (See Illus. 12). A small potting shed has been erected in the woodland between the pleasure garden and the boundary wall abutting the A72 Lanark Road. This feature is also noted on the 1946 OS map, the most notable change at that time being the removal of the glasshouse and associated pathways.

At present the pleasure gardens are suffering from a degree of neglect. The formal area with rose garden and box hedging (directly adjacent and east of the stables/office complex) is overgrown and weeds are threatening the planting. The flower beds are weedy and have lost shape while pathways are narrowed and less defined. Stone features such as the steps down to the lower terraced banks of the kitchen garden, the sundial pedestal and a slate sundial face are preserved but not together, the latter being in at least two pieces and requiring professional attention to preserve it. It has been suggested that the sundial face may have been a piece by the eminent sundial maker Richard Melville who worked in the

Lanarkshire area in the 1840s. In addition to the sundial there are various urns and pots in the formal garden, including those pictured in Cadell's painting (1912).

The kitchen gardens or terraced gardens also require attention at this time. A number of fruit trees and remnant fruit/berry bushes remain but are not managed and the walkways, steps and coldframe bases require some maintenance.

A large yew tree lies roughly at the centre of the formal garden, between the terraced area to the east, the formal garden to the south and the lawned area with shrubs and trees to the north. At the heart of the garden this tree would perhaps benefit from some management as it must be of significant age, possibly in the region of 500 years old or even more.

A previously unknown set of stone steps lead from the formal garden to the wooded band adjacent to the boundary wall (at the A72). They are very overgrown and hardly visible at present, covered with self seeded shrubs and trees. There are also a number of old yew trees and other tree species in this shaded area. A potting shed next to the boundary wall has fallen into disrepair and collapsed and in places the boundary wall itself is unstable and requires attention. The potting shed was made of corrugated iron within a wooden frame which has aged and fallen away. The brick floor remains (the bricks are on their side) largely intact. This area as a whole is very overgrown and many of the trees are entangled in creeping vegetation.

## 6.2 Offices

### Coach House & Stables (Illus 19-21)

In 1836 the Dalsersf house is offered to be let in a newspaper (*Caledonian Mercury*), and is recorded as having a coach-house and stable containing eight stalls. They are clearly recorded for the first time on the first edition OS map (1864). There are further adverts for the house and grounds to be let throughout the mid and later 19th century, including one in 1876 that notes '... The Offices consist of a Four-Stalled Stable, Coach-House, and Harness-Room, &c. (Scotsman February 1876).' This suggests that there has been a degree of internal modification to the coach House and stables between 1836 and 1876, reducing the number of stalls. It is unclear whether this made way for the harness room or simply further space for the domestic offices.

Map evidence suggests the coach house and stables to have been an elongated structure, with a glasshouse on the garden side by the final quarter of the 19th century, replacing an earlier, unglazed, building. This is possibly the vinery that is mentioned in the advert to let the house in 1876 and at other times in the 19th century. This glasshouse is shown on all subsequent maps from the OS 2nd edition through to and including the 1946 edition. However, it was presumably removed before the conversion of the building to a dwelling house in the mid to late 1950s. It is thought that an extension was built as part of this work.

In the 1950s, the coach house and stables were converted into a private residence. At about the same time, Dalsersf House was confirmed for demolition due to undermining by the nearby Ashgill coal pit. Several features from Dalsersf house were removed and installed in this new residence, including a number of Adam-style fireplaces and an oriel window. The original front door from the house and stone



tablet above it bearing the Hamilton Coat of Arms were also salvaged in addition to a number of sculpted 'gargoyle-type' creatures in red sandstone that are now attached to the exterior frontage.

The coach house has been let on several occasions since the 1950s and is currently under a lifetime lease by the Young family, local funeral directors. The property was advertised for let on Rightmove on April 7th, 2016 as comprising a living room, dining room, dining kitchen, four bedrooms (master bedroom with dressing area), bathroom, and shower room. The property also offers two garages, large gardens, driveway and gates. It is also recorded that there is new double-glazing and a biomass central heating system in the newly refurbished property.

### 6.3 Drives & approaches

#### **Main Drive (Illus 22-24)**

On Roy's map the Main Drive seems to continue past the house from the Lanark Road before turning north-west towards the village. On Forrest's map (1816) the drive comes in from the Lanark road, passing the formal garden area and continuing on to the front door along the tear-drop carriage sweep. The Main Drive does not change significantly after 1816 until the house is demolished in 1963. The northern part of the drive is partly grassed over and partly overgrown by the continued growth of decorative planting in the form of rhododendrons and tree cover (self seeded) close to the house site.

Today this part of the drive is still visible on the lawn, the edges clearly noted in low light conditions. The southern part of the drive between the converted coach house and the Lanark road is wide and well maintained and remains the route into and out of the property. It is entered through a stone pillared gateway, adjacent to a lodge house with stone boundary walls and railings, all of which are Category C listed. The lodge appears for the first time on the second edition OS map (1897). Built in the later 19th century with some subsequent alterations and additions, the lodge is a single storey sandstone structure with a raised basement. The boundary wall separates the house from the Lanark Road, and the gatepiers and gates are sited to the east. The Main Drive, walls, lodge and gates are well maintained.

#### **Lime Avenue (Illus 25)**

The Lime Avenue extends west from the Main Drive (as it is today) down a slope in a curve, before straightening out towards the churchyard in Dalsersf village. The first edition OS map (1864) indicates the route, but by the 2nd edition OS map (1896) it has become a fully tree-lined avenue (see Illus 5). On entering the village it passes between two rectangular features. These may have been walled gardens or small grazing areas for the villagers' livestock. The 3rd edition OS map suggest there are trees missing from the avenue. It is now largely lined with healthy mature limes but which are beginning to require some attention. The avenue itself is overgrown, but current tenants plan a programme of works to restore this and other features at Dalsersf. Obvious threats to the integrity of the Lime Avenue include extensive rhododendron overgrowth and ivy and other creepers growing up the trunks; these latter affect most of the trees throughout the Dalsersf estate.

## 6.4 Policy parkland

There are three small areas of policy parkland within the compact Dalsersh property: West Park, North-west Park and East Park. Today the North-west and West Parks are linked. However this is a relatively recent alteration to allow livestock to move between these two areas. The East Park and North-west Park are also linked by a corridor north of a relatively small wooded enclosure. Today this is separated by a modern metal farm gateway. The East Park is the largest and lies next to the Clyde.

### **West Park (Illus 26)**

On earlier maps including the first edition OS map (1864) the West Park, North-west Park and East Park are open and surround Dalsersh House on all sides. The West Park is adjacent to the Lanark Road and abutting the Kirk Road into Dalsersh. The pathway that later becomes the Lime Avenue marks the northern edge of the West Parkland, the area beyond becoming the North-west Parkland.

The Roy map (1747-55) indicates an orchard surrounding Dalsersh House whilst the land on Dalsersh Holm to the north is under arable cultivation. By 1864 the first edition OS map indicates the orchard has reduced in size, giving way to more open parkland with specimen trees throughout but most notably in the West and North-west Parkland (see Illus 1). The orchard at this time is limited to the southern and western edge of the West Park. In the second edition map (1896/7) the orchard has been converted to parkland. The West Park and North-west Park are completely separate by this period. Several specimen trees are indicated, and the hard border/edge to the West Park on the 2nd edition map is likely to be strap fencing, which is still present in places today.

There were further developments in the first decade of the 20th century. The area of the West Park was reduced in size; on the north side new strap fencing was erected. This in turn made space between the Lime Avenue and West Park. This space was planted up with mixed woodland and shrubs, and a rectangular feature was introduced which is believed to have been a tennis court. In 1932 the house was advertised for let, and the description includes a tennis court (Scotsman February 13th 1932). In 1946 the aerial photograph (AP) indicates that the West Park is a patchwork of horticultural activity but no park trees; the horticulture may be related to the need to grow food in the immediate post-war period. The large glasshouses close to the village (See Illus 8) are clearly visible, as is the clearing where it is thought the tennis court was. It is likely that the glasshouses were for growing tomatoes or strawberries and other soft fruit, as was common in this area at this time. Today the tennis court is an area of self seeded undergrowth with substantial overgrowth of rhododendron and other shrubbery, and the glasshouses have been removed. There are traces of low-level brick walling adjacent to the Lime Avenue where the glasshouses were, and there is also an overgrown yew hedge which possibly once kept the tennis court and glasshouse areas separate.

### **North-west Park (Illus 27)**

As noted above the North-west Park was once part of the overall Dalsersh parkland which was later divided into separate areas. The North-west Park was part of the area which looked to be orchard in the mid 18th century (Roy 1747-55), but in which specimen trees were subsequently planted. The second edition map (1897) suggests a small area of enclosure adjacent to the boundary with the Lime Avenue.

This enclosed area has been divided into roughly two equal parts by 1912. At the western extreme of the North-west Park there is a small conifer plantation indicated on the second edition OS map. This plantation has increased in size by 1946. Where the North-west and East Park meet, a further enclosed conifer plantation appears on the 1897 OS map, together with a small unplanted area (of unknown purpose) within it. On the 1912 and 1946 map the trees within this enclosure are mixed conifer and broadleaf. A narrow routeway is maintained between the North-west and East Parkland on the north side of this enclosed plantation. Today the North-west Park is open grazing. The enclosed woodland plantations are unmanaged and in very poor condition. There are no surviving specimen trees within the parkland.

### **East Park (Illus 28, 29)**

The East Park is located on the east side of the house and beyond the walled boundary. On the Roy map (1747-55) the northern part again has the appearance of orchard. The southern part is largely open, with a band of possible orchard along the bank of the Clyde. By the mid 19th century (1864) there are occasional trees in the northern part and along the bank of the Clyde, but the low lying southern part remains clear but banded by substantial woodland where the boundary is adjacent to the Lanark Road (A72). By the mid to late 1890s the most significant difference is the appearance of a roundel of trees, predominantly beech and oak. The northern part is dotted with specimen trees on the first edition OS map. The East Park is believed to be where the curling pond was, possibly on the low-lying land. The edges of this feature are gently banked, and at the northern end a series of large beech trees mark a banked walkway. These trees are in need of some attention. Today the land is used for grazing cattle and the area where curling took place is slightly boggy underfoot.

## **6.5 Residential Buildings**

### **Dalserf House (Illus 30, 31)**

The mansion house was thought to have been built in the early 1700s but could be slightly earlier. It is recorded on the Roy map (1747-55), surrounded by orchards and close to the village of Dalserf. On Forrest's map the mansion house is marked but there is little detail given. The first edition OS map (1864) suggests a substantial structure facing out (south-easterly) onto the lawns and set within parkland. Between 1864 and 1897 the house is extended to the rear, and by 1912 it has been extended again, this time at the front (the south-east). The mansion house remains unchanged in plan in 1946 and was demolished less than twenty years after this (1963). It was Category B listed but was undermined by coal workings in the area and demolished as a result of this instability. In 1962 the RCAHMS took a number of photographs at the property.

The site of the mansion house remains clearly identifiable not only from the map evidence and topography of the land but also from the presence of significant demolition material (such as large masonry blocks, tiles etc) and identifiable footings and other remains of the house, particularly on the north and east sides. The mansion house seems to have been pulled down and pushed over but much of it was left *in situ* and covered by self seeding tree saplings. The mansion house had been removed by the time the 1967 aerial photograph was taken.

## 6.6 Agricultural and industrial features

### Gasometer (Illus 32)

The gasometer and associated short routeway first appear on the 1912 OS map. In 1946 the gasometer is still visible but is not marked (as a gasometer) on the map. An advertisement to let the house in the 1930s notes that there is central heating and gas lighting throughout the house (Scotsman February 13th 1932). It is unclear when this feature went out of use. Today this overgrown structure comprises two roofed chambers. The entrances are suffering from root damage, and the surrounding wall has been damaged by falling trees in the past. The routeway into the gasometer is completely blocked by vegetation debris such as roots, foliage and fallen trees. The structures are stone built, as is the associated walling. The edges of the routeway to the structure seem to be at least partly brick-built. Given the state of the gasometer, the workings are inevitably gone; however, two substantial semi-subterranean chambers that once fed gas to the mansion house remain in place despite being hidden and damaged.



Illus 15: Pleasure Gardens with ornamental box hedges and yew tree, with Mauldslie parkland to rear.





Illus 16: Pleasure Garden lawns to the south-east of the house site, where the glasshouse was once located.



Illus 17: The terraced kitchen garden at the south edge of Pleasure Gardens, with surviving fruit trees and remnant fruit bushes.



Illus 18: The steps from the ornamental Pleasure Garden (painted by Cadell from the east).



Illus 19: The Coach House & Stables from the east.





Illus 20: The west side of the Coach House & Stables from the drive.



Illus 21: The doorway relocated from Dalsersf House to a 20th-century extension to the Coach House & Stables (from the south).



Illus 22: The entrance to the property showing the lodge, gateway and gate piers off the Lanark Road. (A72).





Illus 23: The Main Drive and Coach House & Stables (from the south).



Illus 24: The eastern side of the 'teardrop' carriage sweep leading to the site of Dalsersf House (from south).



Illus 25: The Lime Avenue (from the west).





Illus 26: West Park (from the west).



Illus 27: North-west Park (from the south-west).



Illus 28: East Park, overlooking the curling pond area (from the south-west).



Illus 29: East Park towards the roundel (from the south-west).





Illus 30: The house site, now under birch trees (from the south).



Illus 31: The footings of Dalsarf House within the self-sown woodland (from the west).



Illus 32: The Gasometer's exterior and interior roof (from the north and below).

## 7.0 Assessment of significance

### 7.1 The concept of significance

In the context of national policy, it is necessary to identify and understand the cultural significance of an aspect of the historic environment before its national importance can be considered. The concept of cultural significance, which is now widely accepted, was introduced in policy statements including the *Burra Charter* (2013). Assessment of significance is designed to help establish why a place or feature is considered to be important and why it is valued. It can be a subjective exercise – reflecting the moment in history when it is written and the state of knowledge about the site at that time. This means that the assessment of significance has the potential to change as knowledge and understanding of the site increase, as ideas and values change or as a result of alterations to the place or feature.

In order to be considered to be of national importance and therefore inscribed on the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes, designed landscapes must have a particular cultural significance - artistic, archaeological, historic, traditional, aesthetic, scientific and social - for past, present or future generations (*Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement*, June 2016).

The cultural significance of a designed landscape rests on three types of characteristics, as set out in the *HES Policy Statement* (2016).

1. **Intrinsic** - those inherent in the landscape and/or its constituent parts, including:
  - its condition
  - its research potential
  - the length and legibility of its apparent developmental sequence
  - its original or subsequent functions
2. **Contextual** - those relating to its place in the wider landscape or body of existing knowledge, including:
  - the rarity of the designed landscape or any part of it, assessed against its regional and national context
  - its relationship to other, similar landscapes in the vicinity
  - the relationship of the designed landscape and its constituent parts to the wider landscape setting
3. **Associative** - the historic, cultural and social influences that have affected the form and fabric of the designed landscape, and vice versa, including:
  - its aesthetic attributes
  - its significance in the national consciousness or to people who use or have used it, or their descendants
  - its associations with historical, traditional or artistic characters or events

The grading of significance here is based on a ranking system developed from Kerr (2013) for conservation plans. It grades the **quality** of the landscape's intrinsic, contextual and associative

characteristics; based on the grading of quality, it assesses cultural significance according to a **range**, as set out below.

<b>Quality:</b>	Outstanding	<b>Range:</b>	International
	High		National (Scotland)
	Some		Regional
	Little		Local

An assessment of local cultural significance does not mean that a designed landscape or its constituent parts are not worth conserving; indeed, sound conservation and management practices can enhance their significance.

## 7.2 The significance of the designed landscape at Dalserf

### **Intrinsic value**

The intrinsic value of much of the designed landscape around the former Dalserf house is high. Significant elements survive, including the Lime Avenue, the Main Drive and traces of the teardrop carriage sweep; elements of the Pleasure Gardens, specimen tree plantings and fruit trees, and various buildings associated with the property. Structural elements such as steps, garden sculpture, sundial and gasometer also survive, although in variable condition. The gasometer is an important piece of evidence for the provision of heating and lighting to the house. Many elements of the designed landscape are still legible in the landscape, and the developmental sequence of the site can be traced back through the map regression and evidence from photographs, sales documents, letters and other archive materials.

### **Contextual value**

The designed landscape at Dalserf contributes to the landscape character of this part of the Clyde Valley, the house having been built in a prominent location with grounds reaching down to the western riverbank. The designed landscape still has a clear and legible physical and symbolic link with the village of Dalserf to the west, maintained by the Lime Avenue. Dalserf is thus considered to have some contextual value.

### **Associative value**

Dalserf House was associated with the Hamilton family, for whom it was built, for its entire history. Another notable association was with Scottish Colourist Francis C B Caddell (1883-1937), who painted at Dalserf. In 1912, Caddell painted his sister Joan sitting at the top of the rose garden steps looking over the haugh to the Clyde, with Mauldslie Bridge in the background. This view, the urns and the steps are still present within the landscape. During their lifetimes the Scottish Colourists were internationally known and, although their work fell out of favour until the last quarter of the 20th century, they are now acknowledged to have influenced the development of Scottish art. The associative value of Dalserf is considered to be high to outstanding.



## Cultural significance

Although Dalsersf House no longer stands, many elements of the associated designed landscape and gardens do survive, albeit in variable condition. Positive conservation management could greatly enhance the significance and value of the property. Overall, the property has at least regional cultural significance, and its association with one of the Scottish Colourists is considered to be of national or even international cultural significance.

## 8.0 Sources consulted

### 8.1 Historic maps

<i>Cartographer</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sheet</i>
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### 8.2 Aerial photographs

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Source: [www.ncap.org.uk](http://www.ncap.org.uk)

## 8.3 Other sources

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