

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



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Glorious Gardens: The Development of the Designed Landscape at Stonebyres, Clyde Valley

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Stonebyres House, South Lanarkshire

NGR: NS84115 43865

Report on the development of the designed landscape

on behalf of

Scotland's Garden & Landscape Heritage

Cover Plate: Bridge over the Stonebyres Burn, leading to the site of Stonebyres House.

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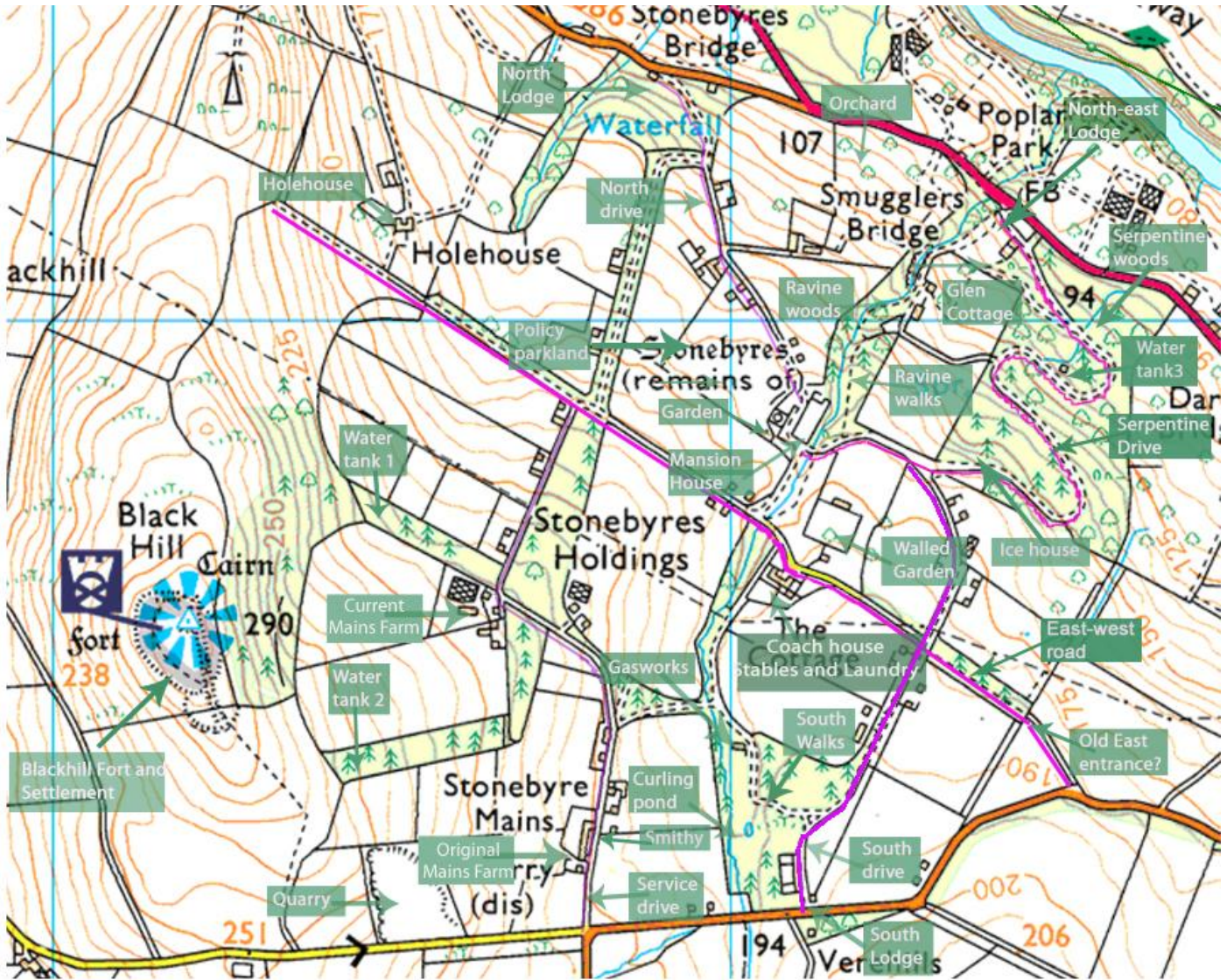
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Illus 1: Stonenebyres estate as shown on the 1:25000 Ordnance Survey, with components

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 2015-2017.

This report has been written by Margaret Baillie, Ruth McKinnon and Ruth Thomas, the volunteers who conducted the research and survey work. The assessment of significance (section 8) was conducted by Northlight Heritage based on their findings.

2.0 Introduction to Stonebyres

Stonebyres designed landscape is centred on the location of the now-demolished Stonebyres House (NGR: NS 84115 43865). The property lies in the parish of Lesmahagow, in South Lanarkshire. The survey took the A72 as the north-eastern boundary of the estate. The original house sat in an elevated position 0.7 km south-west and 90 metres above the River Clyde. The ravine of the Stonebyres Burn runs SW-NE next to the house, forming an integral part of the designed landscape. The land of the estate rises to the south-west to form Black Hill.

In its final incarnation, the area close to the house was laid as pleasure gardens with stonework, yews, and shrubs to the front and the landscaped ravine to the rear. Views from the house would have been expansive, across the Clyde Valley to Nempflar, Lanark and beyond and to the wooded slopes of Black Hill to the north-west. The pleasure gardens were surrounded by policy parkland, and surrounding that was the remainder of the estate, consisting of woodland and farmed fields.

Stonebyres House was demolished in 1934 following the death of the owner. The land was purchased by the Department of Agriculture and split into 28 holdings as part of an experiment in self-sufficiency. Today there are multiple landowners, though one farmer farms many of the fields. There are two types of statutory designations that apply to features on the estate.

Name	Designation	Grade	ID	Web link
Stonebyres coach house & adjoining buildings	Listed building	B	LB7697	http://portal.historicenvironment.scot/designation/LB7697
Stables	Listed building	C	LB7691	http://portal.historicenvironment.scot/designation/LB7691

Black Hill, fort & cairn	Scheduled monument	NA	SM2882	http://portal.historicenvironment.scot/designation/SM2882
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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 in January 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 7.

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

Stonebyres 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: Pont's Glasgow and the county of Lanark (Pont 34) (1593-96).



Pont records the presence of 'Stanbyres' and depicts a tower with turrets, highlighted in yellow on the image.

Illus 3: Blaeu's (1654) The nether ward of Clyds-dail and Glasco from Atlas of Scotland.



This map, based on Pont's work, records the presence of 'Stantwyse' and depicts a substantial building surrounded by several trees.

Illus 4: Roy's Military Survey of Scotland (1747-55) (©British Library).



This is the earliest map on which the area is referred to as 'Stonebyres'. Stonebyres Burn is shown running NNE across the estate towards the Clyde, with a number of buildings along the burn in the area of Stonebyres House.

The house is shown next to the burn, with an avenue leading toward it from the south-east. In the area along both sides of the burn, leading upstream from the house, are a number of buildings, enclosures and roads laid out in a rectilinear arrangement, with the appearance of an extensive farmstead or farming hamlet. A wider area on either side comprises policy parkland, with several large enclosures defined by walls, avenues and shelter belts.

A square, dark feature to the east of the house and burn may be a formal garden or an area of designed woodland; it appears to contain paths that extend to the corners from a central clear area. Another dark rectangular feature to the north-west of the house and immediately west of a farmstead called 'Holehouse' is more clearly represented as designed woodland. It has paths or divisions radiating from a central oval or circular area in a formal, geometric style. More diffuse woodland is also shown to the north of the house running down to the river Clyde and along the ravine in the burn on the eastern boundary of the estate. The surrounding landscape is under unenclosed cultivation and dotted with farmsteads.

As well as Stonebyres House and surrounding buildings, two other buildings are shown on the estate: Hillend is marked on the western boundary (where a house of that name stands today); and another unnamed building is

shown on the east slope of Black Hill. This does not necessarily mean that other buildings were not present as the notes accompanying Roy's maps on the NLS website (<http://maps.nls.uk/roy/>) state 'there are some quite wide variations in the recording of smaller hamlets and farms, with many missing.'

At the time this map was created, the Lanark to Hamilton road did not run alongside the Clyde as it does today, but ran through the Stonebyres estate just to the south of the house. Other roads leading through the estate along the boundaries of the policy parkland converge near Stonebyres House.

Black Hill is marked as an archaeological feature with a cairn on its summit.

Illus 5: Ross's (1773) A map of the shire of Lanark.



Ross's map shows considerably less detail than Roy's. The map is split in two halves, the split running through Stonebyres estate. The western section of the area is devoid of any details. The eastern side shows 'Stonebyre' house with an area of open land to the north-west and the word 'Camp'. The main difference from Roy's map is that Ross's shows more woodland surrounding the house, particularly to the south-east.

Illus 6: Forrest's (1816) The County of Lanark from Actual Survey.

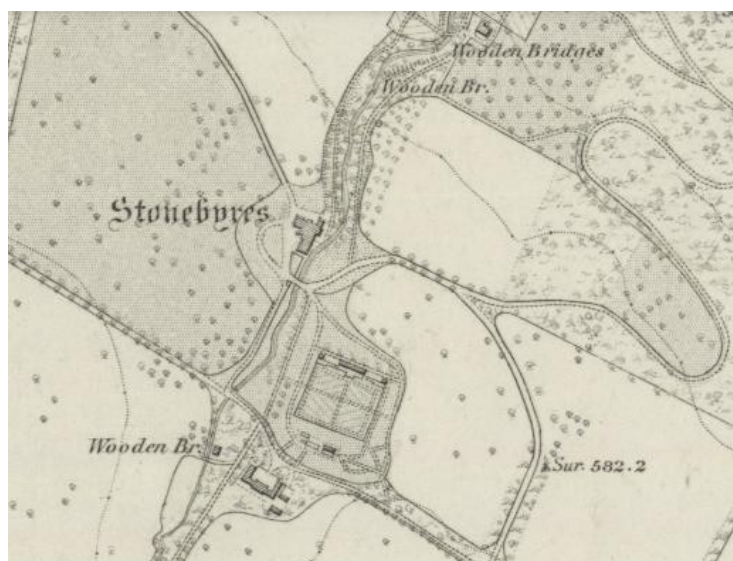


In Forrest's map of 1816, a major change is that the East-West Road, formerly the main route from Lanark to Hamilton, has been replaced by a new road (the current A72) lower down the slope along the river. The East-West Road still runs right through the estate and over Black Hill. Where it crosses Stonebyres Burn, it is shown as deviating from the straight to form three sides of a rectangle which extends towards the house; this seems to be the primary approach to the house. There is also a road shown cutting directly through the estate (south to north) from the Lanark-Lesmahagow road to join the new Clyde Valley road (A72). It passes to the west of Stonebyres House.

The layout of woodland and policy parkland surrounding Stonebyres House remains essentially unchanged, but there are now additional small areas of woodland to the north of Black Hill and shelter belts around areas of parkland south of the house. There appears to be an avenue running SE from the house (it could be a road, but there is no evidence of it leading anywhere beyond the wooded area). A rectangular garden lies to the north-east of the house, around where Roy's map showed a garden or block of woodland, which is connected to the house by a path along the east side of the ravine. A triangular garden is shown across the burn and south-east of the house, at the location of the current Walled Garden. Stonebyres House is represented as having two wings,

under the ownership of 'Vere Esq.'. Other buildings marked are the Mains Farm, Holehouse, Byrewood, Mavisbrae and Woodyate. The rectangular area of woodland with radiating paths or divisions, shown by Roy to the west of Holehouse and north of Black Hill, is still depicted but without any interior features.

Illus 7: Ordnance Survey six-inch (1st edition) Lanark Sheet XXV13 (Lesmahagow), showing overall view of the estate and (below) details of the house, gardens and policy parkland. Surveyed 1859, published 1864.



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The first edition Ordnance Survey map is the first to show the property in great detail, and the changes to the designed landscape and house that took place with the change of ownership in the 1840s (see section 4.3). The font used to name Stonebyres indicates the site of a post-Roman archaeological or historical feature, presumably the remains of an earlier castle incorporated into the house shown on the map (see p.21).

There is a marked change in the roads, both through routes and the estate roads. The main routes shown running through the estate on previous maps have changed; they are still tracks, but some sections appear more like footpaths. The map shows three new drives leading to Stonebyres House, each with a lodge at its entrance. Whilst two of the drives lead more or less directly to the house, the third is a serpentine drive that meanders through woodlands from the north-east corner of the estate. A fourth entrance to the south-west by the Mains Farm does not run directly to Stonebyres House.

The house appears as a roughly L-shaped block with various extensions, surrounded by what appear to be pleasure gardens. A number of paths lead through the grounds, connecting the house with the Walled Garden and with walks that lead up and down the wooded ravine.

The Walled Garden contains glasshouses on the south-facing interior wall, along with other buildings, one possibly the gardener's cottage on the north-facing exterior wall. Internally it is divided in four equal parts by paths. Some greenhouses are shown on the land to the south of the walled garden. The cluster of rectilinear tracks, buildings and enclosures shown on Roy now contains the walled garden.

Farther up the burn are a dam, pond, sluices and a gasworks. Downstream from the house are two smaller walled gardens on opposite sides of the burn, accessed by wooden bridges and just above some waterfalls. There is a smithy marked on the map at the old eastern entrance to the estate.

The land to either side of the burn, centered on Stonebyres House, is still laid out as policy parkland, planted with specimen trees and protected by shelter belts. This extends as far as the A72. A large block of woodland still covers the slopes to the north-east of the house, but there are extensive orchards within this. Woodland now covers Black Hill and extends north as far as Holehouse and the rectangular woodland of the 18th century depicted by Roy. A track and several paths lead through the Black Hill woods.

The Mains Farm, Mavisbrae and Holehouse farms are shown on the map along with other smaller unnamed buildings. Evidence of a water supply taken from springs emerging on the eastern slope of Black Hill is shown in the form of a water tank (water tank 1) and a well. The estate also had a number of quarries. The modern quarry on Black Hill is shown, as is a quarry in the woods at the south of Byres Burn.

Illus 8: Ordnance Survey six-inch (2nd edition), Lanarkshire XXV.SW, showing overall view of the estate and (below) details of the house, gardens and policy parkland. Surveyed 1896, published 1898.



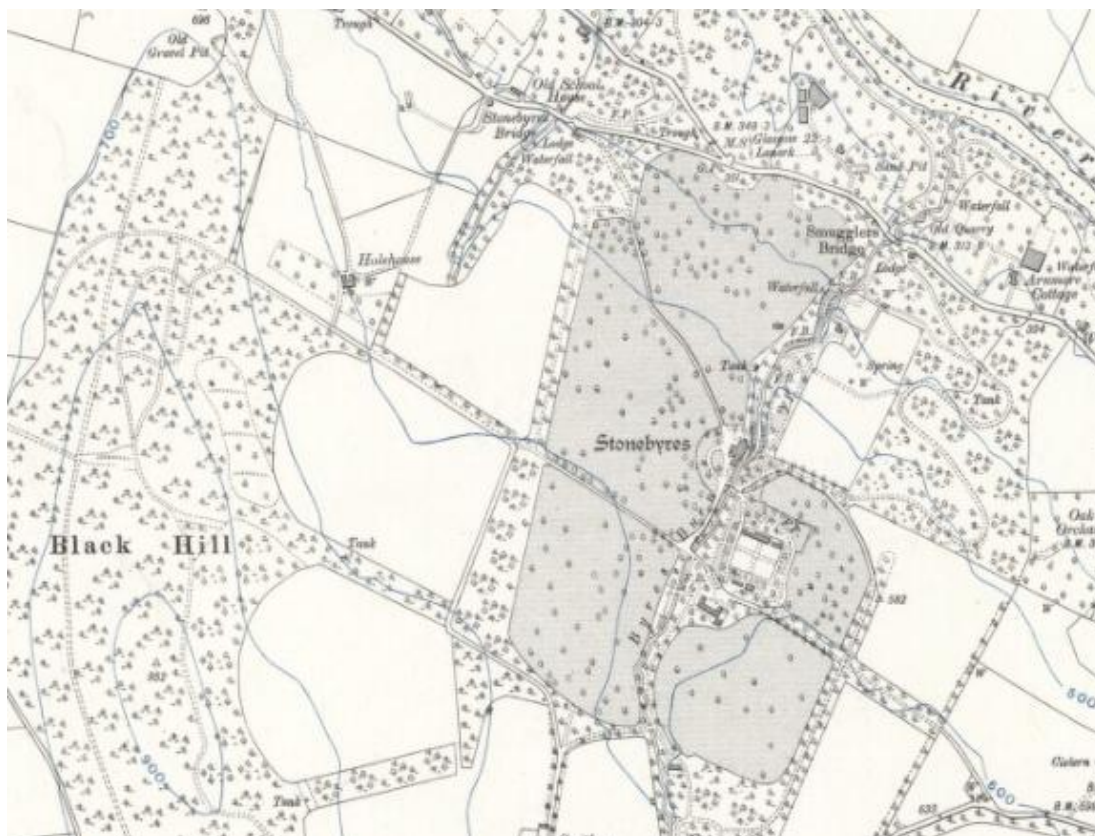
The second edition Ordnance Survey map shows only minor changes to the designed landscape in the preceding 37 years. There is a new orchard (Oak Orchard) and associated house in the east of the estate. The small walled gardens downstream from the house are still depicted, but, in keeping with the OS policy of the *Glorious Gardens: The Development of the Designed Landscape at Stonebyres, Clyde Valley*

time, no detail is shown. A large area of parkland north-west of the house is now labelled 'Deer Park'. There are minor changes to walks in the estate – some of the paths on the west side of Byres Burn (to the north of the house) have now gone. There are, however, additional paths shown in the woodland on Black Hill.

The woodland round the south drive and to the east of Black Hill is now shown as deciduous rather than mixed, and the Stonebyres Mains entrance is shown lined with an avenue of conifers rather than deciduous trees. It is possible that these are cartographic inconsistencies rather than actual changes.

There have been some changes in the tenant farms on the estate; Mavisbrae is now shown as only half its previous size, and Holehouse now has additional wings and a small orchard. The smithy is now located opposite the Mains Farm, and a second water supply tank is shown on the slopes of Black Hill. The largest quarry, on Black Hill, has increased in size.

Illus 9: Ordnance Survey six-inch (3rd edition, surveyed 1910, published 1913), Lanarkshire XXV.SW, with detail centred on the house (25-inch, revised 1910, published 1911) Lanarkshire .025.13.





By 1910, Stonebyres House has been extensively remodelled: it has been extended to the north and now incorporates an area of what appears to be a conservatory at its centre. The pleasure gardens around it contain more conifers now. The two small walled gardens downstream from the house have disappeared. In the policy parkland, the deer park is no longer labelled. There have been minor changes to the walks within the policy woodland and to the avenues. Upstream from the house, the sluices and dams have disappeared and a quarry is now marked in the area of the pond. The Black Hill quarry has again increased in size and there is a new quarry at the south end of Byres Burn.

Illus 10: Ordnance Survey six-inch (4th edition, revised 1941, published 1950), Lanarkshire XXV.SW. Detail below centred on the house, OS twenty-five-inch (revised 1941, published 1946) Lanarkshire 025.15.





By 1941, the estate has been broken up into a number of smallholdings, and Stonebyres House has been demolished. Although most of the original field boundaries remain, the policy parkland has been largely subdivided to create about 35 approximately equally sized small holdings, each with a residence and a barn. Small areas of orchard are now shown associated with some of them. The policy parkland trees have been removed.

The Coach House, Laundry and Gasworks are still standing. The map shows that a new, comparatively small formal garden had been created to the west of the Stonebyres House after the 1910 survey was completed. In this map, the garden is an outline only indicating a circular garden within a square. It was dismantled when the house was demolished. The walled garden and glasshouses have survived.

Across the rest of the estate, woodland has been much reduced, especially to the east of the south drive and on Black Hill; some of the shelter belts are depleted, and there are fewer trees lining some of the drives. The Black Hill quarry has again increased in size. The network of paths on Black Hill are still shown, though the woodland through which they ran has now gone. The network of paths along the ravine and around the Walled Garden still exists, though the footbridges across the ravine are no longer shown, and it is not clear if the path on the west side remains. Upstream, there is an irregularly shaped feature in the area where the pond and quarry were shown on earlier maps. Stonebyres Burn has been straightened, and there appears to be a section of the old riverbed shown.

4.2 Aerial Photographs

Two aerial photographs (1946 and 1971) of a large part of Stonebyres Holdings held in Lanark Library provided the clearest images to which we had access.

In 1946, some walls of the demolished Stonebyres House were still visible, but by 1971 the area had become obscured by trees. Between 1946 and 1971 some areas of scrubland have become wooded. Both photographs clearly show the new field boundaries of the holdings and the patchwork of crops growing in those fields.

5.0 Timeline for the Stonebyres Designed Landscape

Date/Period Event/Phase of Development

Up to the 14th century The Canmore website provides the main source of information about the area covered by the estate from pre-history to the 14th Century. There is evidence of occupation of the area from the Bronze Age onwards. Black Hill, in a prominent position to the west side of Stonebyres estate was the site of a Bronze Age cairn and later a settlement and fort (Canmore 1978a, 1978b). A Roman road on the route, Peebles - Castledykes - Loudoun Hill - Irvine (?) probably crossed the N shoulder of Black Hill on the line of the 18th-century road through Stonebyres Estate (Canmore 1978c).

14th century to 1840s Up until the 14th century there is no record of Stonebyres as an estate. From the 14th century to the 1840s there are some useful secondary sources: an article on the history of the Lesmahagow in the Scots Magazine of 1773 (Scots Magazine (1773); Greenshields' Annals of the Parish of Lesmahagow (Greenshields 1856) and a 1928 article in the Lanark Gazette on notable Lanarkshire men (Lanark Gazette (1928)).

The De Veres or Weirs of Stonebyres held the property from the 14th or 15th century, when the Castle was first built, until the 1840s. The Weirs held much of the land in the area and seem to have been extremely quarrelsome and violent. The article in the Scots Magazine (1778) notes 'Although the family of Weir of Blackwood was generally reputed chief yet the family of Weir of Stonebyres very ancient too who possessed and still do a very considerable barony in the parish often contended for it with great bravery and intrepidity. From thence there ensued the most dreadful heats and animosities and much bloodshed and devastation. And for many ages intermarriages the closest and most intimate connections and the mediations of friends could not entirely put an end to them but like embers covered up they often broke out with redoubled fury. The present lineal male representative of this brave family is Captain John Weir'.

When the lands of the Stonebyres estate were originally granted to a junior member of the Weir family, they stretched much further than they do today. The extent remained the same until 1727 when the then owner, James Weir, who changed the name of the family to Vere, sold part of the estate. From then on, the lands of Stonebyres diminished. The son of James Weir, also called James, was an MP and somewhat extravagant. On his death, part of the estate was sold by his brother John to meet his debts. John's son Daniel inherited the estate when aged 2. He was educated for the bar, but preferred the life of a country gentleman, his profligacy was renowned, and the article on his life in the Lanark Gazette (1928) records '... it was no uncommon thing for a dinner party of Lanarkshire lairds to be protracted through eighteen, twenty four or even thirty six hours. Stonebyres in those days was the meeting place of young and old lairds for miles around. In fact, it was a kind of Liberty Hall into which each and every one of the laird's neighbours appeared to think they had a right to enter and expect hospitality at any hour of the day or night. Such entertaining was bound to lay a heavy toll upon the laird's resources and bit by bit he had to sell the remainder of his

estate.'

Finally, in 1842 Daniel Vere was forced to sell the last portion of the estate, and it was bought by a Mr. James Monteath of Glasgow.

Stonebyres House and estate

Much of the information about the early house and estate comes from sources written in the 18th and 19th centuries, by which time the original fortified tower on the site had been encased in a more modern building.

The most complete description of the original castle comes from a paper copy of a web page (Castles on the web (2001)) that no longer exists (supplied by a Stonebyres resident). It indicates that

'The old keep occupied one end of the rectangular structure and had been considerably modified to match its extension, sharing a new roof and receiving corbelled out corner turrets and a centrally placed round stair turret in the gable from the second floor upward.

'The walls of the keep were 8-9ft thick, and it measured 34ft by 29ft compared to the 34 by 70 of the completed mansion. The entrance was at ground level with an adjacent turnpike within the wall leading to the second floor.

'Across a landing, another turnpike led to the floors above. Each floor had a single room, excepting the third, which was irregularly divided into two. The ground and second floors had small fireplaces, whilst the first, presumably the hall had a larger example. The basement walls were pierced by gun loops and the hall famed as one of the finest in the country'.

Similar information in less detail is supplied by MacGibbon & Ross (1887). They note that 'Stonebyres was in existence in the 15th century and, prior to 1850 when the present mansion encasing the old structure was erected, consisted of the original keep, 34 feet by 29 feet, with an addition at one end making it an oblong tower approximately 70 feet by 34 feet, five storeys high'.

Other references to the original building are made by Greenshields (1856) who stated that 'The mansion of Stonebyres has frequently been styled the oldest inhabited house in the county of Lanark. The original walls are from eight to ten feet thick, and the ancient banqueting hall is one of the finest to be met with in Lanarkshire'.

In an article, just before the demolition of the house in 1934, a journalist from the Hamilton Advertiser wrote of the old building 'It is expected that the eventual demolition of the fabric of the house will reveal many interesting things. There are believed to be hidden passages in the walls, also subterranean passages. One at least of the features of the earliest structures remains; a hole in the wall above the former door from which molten lead used to be poured on the heads of unwanted visitors' (*Hamilton*

Advertiser, 1934).

Over the years the original building was modified such that Davidson in 1828 wrote of Stonebyres 'For several centuries, the family of Vere have been in possession of the estate; and, although the house appears to have been once a place of strength in the old castellated form, it is now tolerably modernised' (Davidson, 1828 97-8).

Images of the house and estate

Some images of Stonebyres house from before 1840 exist. James Denholm painter and James Stewart engraver produced the view shown in illustration 11 of Stonebyres House, Lanark in 1796 (Robertson et al 1796).



Illus 11: Engraving of Stonebyres House in 1796 by James Denholm.

Painter: James Denholm, Engraver: James Stewart. From *Views of Scotland* (Robertson et al 1796).

Judging by the location of the tower, the view is from the field to the north of the walled garden looking northwest over Stonebyres Burn towards the house. Although possibly idealised, the surrounding land seems to be policy parkland with woodland around the other sides of the house.

A later pencil drawing by Edward Blore in 1845 in the British Library, this time drawn from the ravine of Stonebyres Burn, shows a similar structure to the house with the old tower and a later extension. Deciduous trees are shown along the riverbank and there does not seem to be evidence of the later paths alongside the ravine.



Illus 12: Drawing of Stonebyres House by Edward Blore (1845). (©British Library)

<http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/topdrawings/s/005add000042019u00086000.html>

Gardens and landscape

Sources of information about the gardens and surrounding landscape for this period are sparse. The paintings and drawings (as above) are one source of information. An old display made by the Lanark Museum Trust on local gardeners in the Lanark area records James Wilson as being a Gardener at Stonebyres in the 1770s. He later moved to Lanark and became a Burgess in 1778.

We also know that in 1828 Daniel Vere won the prize for 'best and most vigorous' homemade wine. The type of wine is not stated, so it could have been made from grapes or other fruit (Caledonian Horticultural Society 1828).

The woods of the estate seem to have been quite notable. The *Scots Magazine* (1773) noted: 'At Stonebyres, the seat of the family and from whence it derives its title, there is a remarkable cataract or fall of water and a spacious wood bounded on one side by the pleasant river Clyde consisting of different kinds of timber which yields above 100 Sterling per ann.' Anderson (1819) mentioned 'The wood of Stonebyres a forest of considerable extent introduces the traveller within hearing of the Clyde.' William Hamilton (1831) listed Stonebyres as one of the more extensive woods in the parish of Lesmahagow in the late 18th century. Black (1844) referred to the woods belonging to Daniel Vere as 'the plantations of Stonebyres'.

The setting of the house and the views it commanded were also commented upon favourably:

'The ancient family mansion, is situated a considerable way up the hill, in front, and commands a wide, and varied prospect' (Davidson 1828).

'Stonebyres estate extends westward from the Falls of Clyde of cognate name, and a view of the

mansion of which is given in this volume; is one of great extent, and singularly beautiful in situation, as it commands a view of the Vale of the Clyde – from the upper Falls downward to the Carluke district – with the old town of Lanark, its picturesque environs, the dale of the Mouse-water, and the braes of Nemphlar near it'. Also 'The woods are extensive, of great age, are very finely disposed and add much to the beauty of the landscape' (Irving and Murray 1864).

'House stood on outcrop over ravine and waterfall in dramatic romantic position' (Binney et al 1980).

1840s –
1906 After the house was sold in the 1840s to James Monteath, considerable work was carried out on the house, gardens and designed landscape. Sources are slightly confused over the timing and architects employed on the work¹. Sources generally agree that the architects involved were David and James Hamilton and John Baird II, all well-known architects of their era, (David Hamilton's most famous work being The Royal Exchange in Queen Street in Glasgow). The Scottish Architects website "Record for Stonebyres House" notes additions to the house having been made from '1844 or 1856', with the suggestion being that the Hamiltons worked on the house circa 1840. Binney et al (1980) stated 'In 1840 David Hamilton also made Jacobethan alterations to Stonebyres'.

It is not clear whether any work was undertaken before the house was sold by Daniel Vere in 1842. Daniel Vere was in financial difficulties at the time, so if he did embark on the alterations, it cannot have helped his financial circumstances. There is, however, general agreement that James Monteath employed John Baird II to make extensive additions.

Stonebyres House

The following references provided information about the house:

- 'It is embraced in the modern arrangements of a superb dwelling-house, erected by the late James Monteath, Esq., from designs by Mr Baird, architect of Glasgow.' (Greenshields 1856)
- A mansion of considerable antiquity but so altered & renewed from time to time as to have become a modern building. Though mixed in style there is a prevalence of Gothic in the details of construction. The ornament of a large cross, deeply cut in the stone, is repeated several times upon prominent positions of the building, and an elegant porch supports an immense escutcheon containing the family arms. It is situated at the head of a deep rocky glen traversed by numerous walks. A portion of the original building erected about the end of 14th century still remains. (Lanarkshire OS Name Books (1858-1861))
- 'To the ancient fortress of the lordly Vere's a modern dwelling house has lately been added, and in admirable keeping with the peculiar style of the original building'. (Beveridge 1882)
- 'A lofty semi-baronial edifice, it was mainly rebuilt by the late James Monteath, Esq., from

¹ NB The SCRAN website in notes accompanying the Engraving of Stonebyres House, Lanark 1796(<http://www.scran.ac.uk/database/record.php?usi=000-000-608-854-C&scache=5agp9kqg8i&searchdb=scran&>) states that architect 'David Hamilton carried out further alterations in 1845.' clearly inaccurate since David Hamilton died in 1843.

designs by Mr Baird of Glasgow;' (Groome 1895)

- '... alterations by David Hamilton were in a 'Jacobethan' style.' (Clydesdale District Council 1994)

Gardens and landscape

There are a few written references giving information about the designed landscape and gardens in this era:

- 'From the upper windows of Stonebyres a view of great extent is obtained, comprising the Vale of Clyde, the ancient burgh of Lanark, the Nemphlar ridge, the ravine of Mouse Water, and Cartland Crag. The slope on which the mansion stands is intersected with ravines clad in brushwood and adorned with wood - some of it of great age. The policies are extensive, well laid out, and ornamented with statuary, while the beautiful gardens and the deer park add materially to the loveliness of the surroundings.' (Beveridge, 1882)
- 'The woods are extensive, of great age, are very finely disposed and add much to the beauty of the landscape.' (Irving & Murray, 1864)
- We know also from a letter to the Transactions of the Highland and agricultural Society of Scotland by the Stonebyres overseer, Angus Ross that in 1845 that the estate grew potatoes and like everywhere else was affected by potato blight. (Ross 1845)

Services

There is a full description of the coach house and its architecture on the British Listed buildings website. This is an extract: 'Circa 1850, probably John Baird II, remodelled early 20th century. U-plan range incorporating domestic accommodation, coach house/motor houses, lofts, meeting room originally for estate workers and cottage linked to main range by arch. Whin rubble with contrasting sand stone dressings, long and short detail to quoins and windows, corniced stacks, slate roofs' (British Listed Buildings).

Images

All the relevant images found from this era are pictures of Stonebyres House, but are of interest not only with respect to the house, but also for the glimpses they show of the garden surrounding the house. All but one of the images from this period are photographs and, as such, are mostly likely dated from later than the 1880s when photographic postcards became commonplace.

One engraving from 1864 showing the view north-eastwards towards the front entrance (Illustration 13) shows the house, carriage sweep and a garden laid out to shrubs and statuary. It shows mature trees near the older tower section of the house. Although showing a different view from the engraving of 1796 (Illustration 11) and the pencil drawing of 1845 (Illustration 12), it can be seen that the dwelling house next to the old tower has been greatly extended and is now the same height as the tower. Note that this is a slightly idealised view as the fence which would have been in the view is missing.



Stonebyres.

Illus 13: Stonebyres House c 1864 (published in Irving & Murray 1864).

Later illustrations come from photographic picture postcards and from the Canmore website. The following images are of reasonable quality looking north-east to the front door of the mansion.



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Illus 14: Stonebyres House in the early 20th C.

(<http://www.clydesdalesheritage.org.uk/clydesdales-houses/>)

This is the same view as the previous image which was drawn in 1864. The house has not changed, and the carriage sweep remains, but the shrubs are rather more dominant. There are two other views of the house from this direction that show more details of the garden to the front of the house.

Illus 15: A view of the house from close up from a postcard belonging to a Stonebyres resident who lives in the old coach house.



The second is a black and white photograph on a postcard from the Clydesdale heritage website. A date is not given for this image. However, a postcard in Lanark library archives postmarked November 9th 1904 and showing a slightly different view has the same man and dog standing by the clipped tree. This image is, therefore, presumably of the same vintage. It shows a plethora of what looks like rhododendrons in the foreground as well as what could be clipped yew in the background.



Illus 16: View to the front of Stonebyres House c 1904. (Card from Clydesdale heritage site) (<http://www.clydesdalesheritage.org.uk/clydesdales-houses/>).

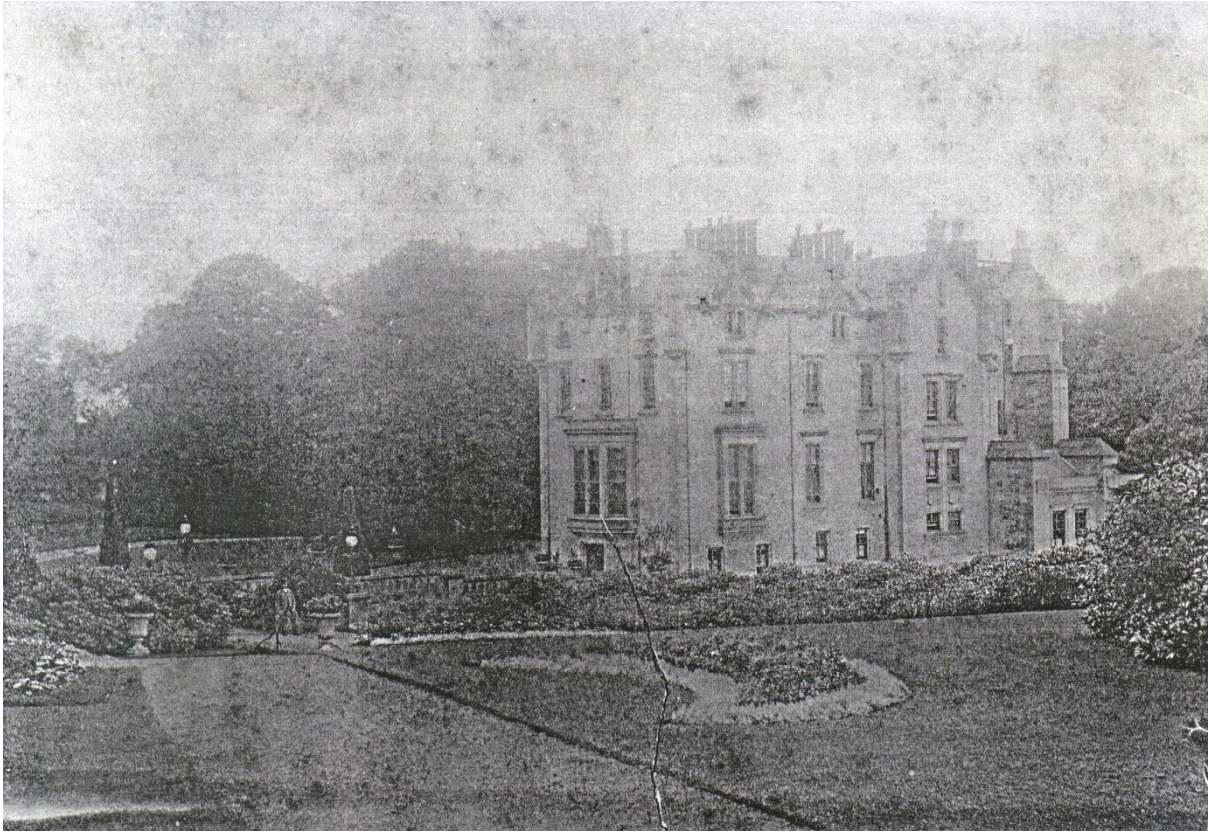


Illus 17: Stonebyres House looking north-east towards the front entrance, c 1890. (from Canmore <https://canmore.org.uk/collection/1243759>).

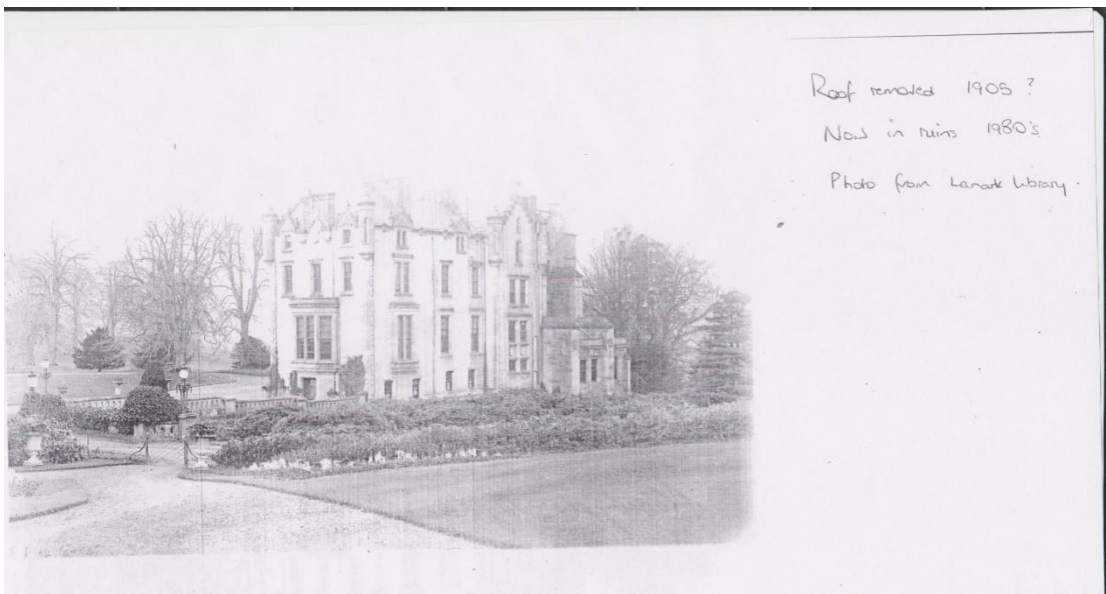
The best quality image of the front entrance from this era is on the Canmore site. It clearly shows the coat of arms above the door. This distinctive front door was changed in the later rebuild from 1906.

There are two not very good quality pictures showing the view looking north-west over Stonebyres Burn towards the house, from the direction of the walled garden (the same direction as the two images 11 and 12 from before 1840). Both show the bridge crossing the burn and the road leading to the house from the serpentine drive. The ends of the bridge have lampposts with ornate pillars and globe lights.

Note also the wire fencing, traces of which remain today. Both show neatly edged lawns and paths, one with a crescent-shaped flowerbed. Rhododendrons are much in evidence.



Illus 18: Stonebyres House and Garden looking NNW, c 1890. Lesmahagow Parish History Archives.



Illus 19: Stonebyres House and garden looking NNW, before 1906. (Lanark Library Archives).

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Canmore has three views of Stonebyres House (incorrectly labelled as being taken *from* the south, June 2017) looking towards the SSE. These views show the side of the house that would be seen on the approach from the northwest lodge. They seem to have been at a time when building work was being undertaken, judging by the materials lying about the grounds. The image chosen shows the widest view, and the other images show details of this view. Things to note on this view are the higher deer fencing in the field to the left and the line of yew trees along the field boundary in the middle distance. The portion of the house closest to the camera is the part of the building including the old tower.



Illus 20: View of Stonebyres House looking SSE, c 1890. (Canmore, <https://canmore.org.uk/collection/1243755>).

1906 – 1934 There are two main sources of information for the period 1906-1934, the Lanark Provost's scrapbook of newspaper cuttings available in Lanark Library on microfiche and personal reminiscences of the gamekeeper's son, John Martin, held by Lanark Museum Trust (Martin 2003).

Estate history

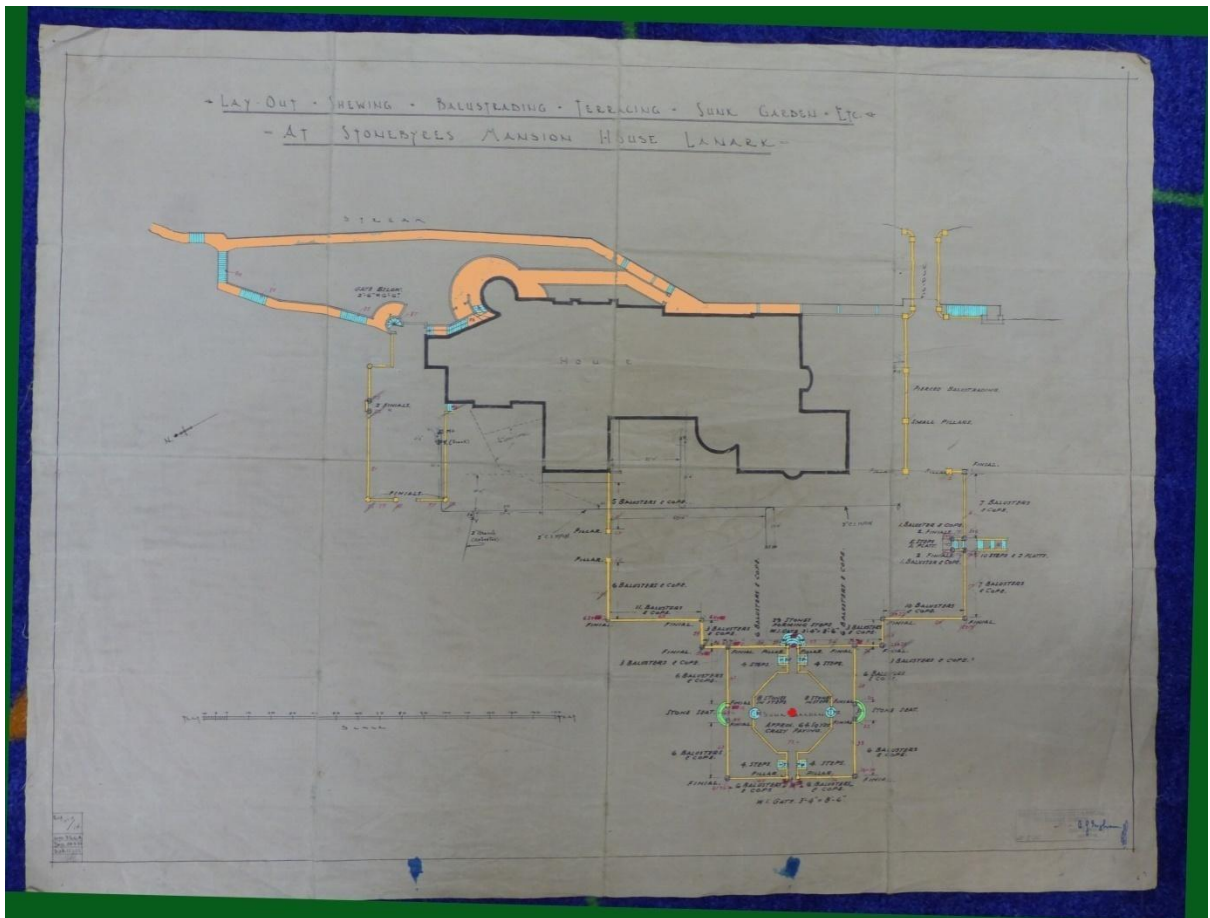
The book 'Clyde Built' from the Clydesdale District Council succinctly describes the history of the house in this period: 'In 1906, the owner of Stonebyres, Miss Monteath-Scott, sold the estate to Mr. James Noble Graham of Carfin House, Crossford. Between the time of this *Glorious Gardens: The Development of the Designed Landscape at Stonebyres, Clyde Valley*

purchase and 1914, over £60,000 was spent on renovations, putting in new panelling, floors and tiling. Carved woods were imported from Italy and Portugal. The house was never occupied by the Graham family. In 1924 it was sold back to the previous owner and until her death in late 1933, only lived in for a few months each year. Only a few of the 30 bedrooms were ever furnished and only two or three of the seven public rooms. Stonebyres was sold to a demolition contractor in 1935 for £1,750'. (Clydesdale District Council 1994). The architect for this remodelling of the house was Walter Crum Watson (Scottish Architects website). Martin (2003) mentions the builders were Gracie's of Crossford. The remodelling of the house was considered by some to be more in keeping with the style of the original older part of the house than the rebuild of the 1850s (Gilchrist 1937).

Stonebyres House

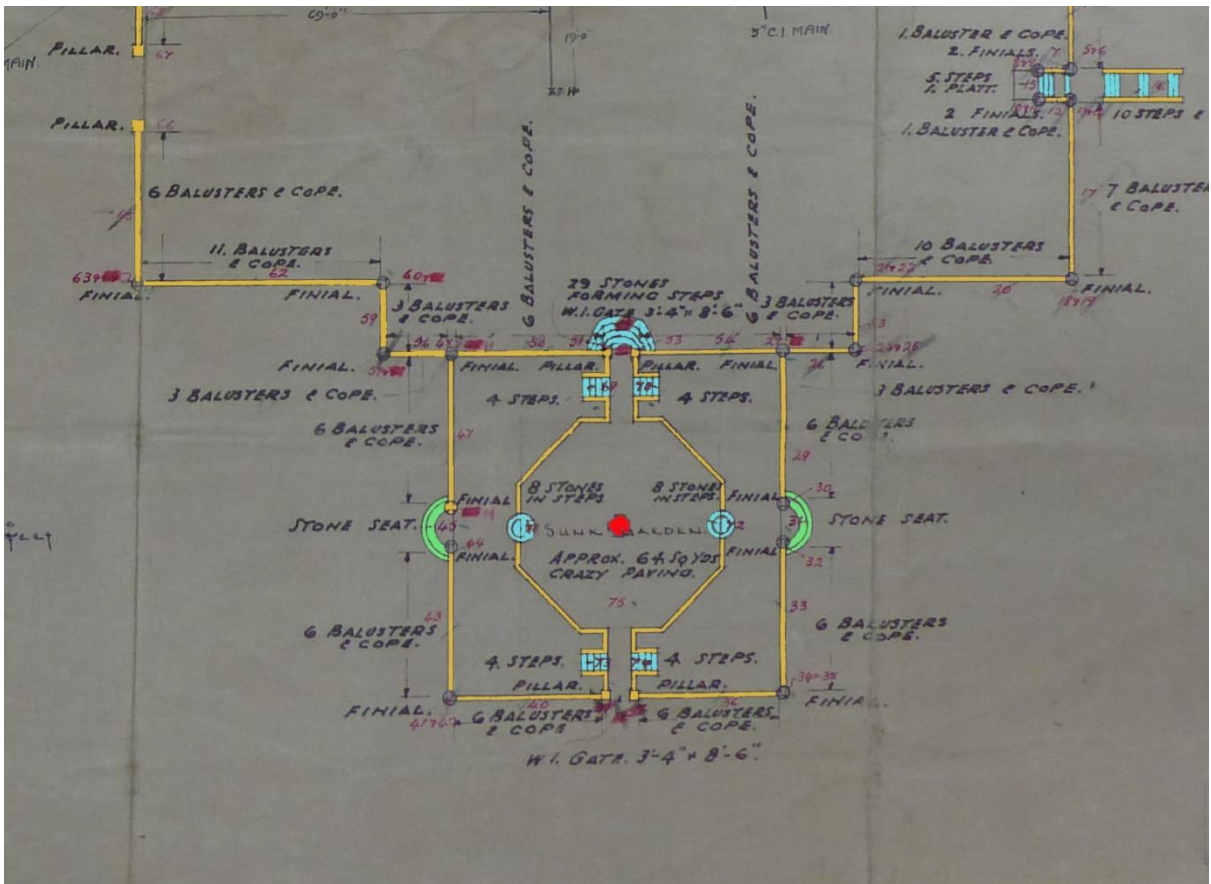
A great deal of information about the house during this era comes from reports of the sale of the house after Miss Monteath's death. A report in the Lanark Gazette in 1934 indicated that the estate consisted of 'the mansion house, with seven public and 27 bedrooms, offices, gardens, policies, the dwelling house and buildings of Stonebyres Mains, three entrance lodges, 800 acres of grass parks, the house and orchard of the Glen, the farm of Holehouse and other lands and fields. The total rental is £846 and the public burdens in 1933-34 amounted to £122' (Lanark Gazette 1934). Further details of the lavish interior of the house were given when the house was sold for dismantling. Mention was made of: 'many Rooms of Beautiful Oak'; 'Mahogany and Walnut Panelling, new and antique'; 'about 1000 sq. yards new polished oak flooring'; 'sprung Oak ballroom floor'; 'Carved Bookcases'; 'Musicians Gallery'; 'Oak staircases'; 'antique crystal chandeliers'; 'modern marble mantelpieces'; 'fancy carved and thick oak studded doors'; 'Electric Light Plant'; 'Electric Lifts to 4 floors'; 'ornamental balustrading'; and 'all the usual appointments of a first class modern mansion' (Lanark Gazette 1935). It was also noted in a late report "There is a huge main staircase which is a replica of the one in the Palace of Versailles" (Lanark Gazette 1935b).

Another useful source of information on the estate for this era is the plan of the house and gardens made for the purpose of itemising the stone available as part of the demolition (Held in Lanark Library archives). As well as the shape of the base of the house, it shows a detailed layout of the stonework in the garden to the front of the house and the paths along the ravine to the back of the house. Three illustrations are taken from this plan: Illustration 21 shows the whole plan; illustration 22 shows details of the house and paths along the ravine; and illustration 23, the garden in the front of the house.



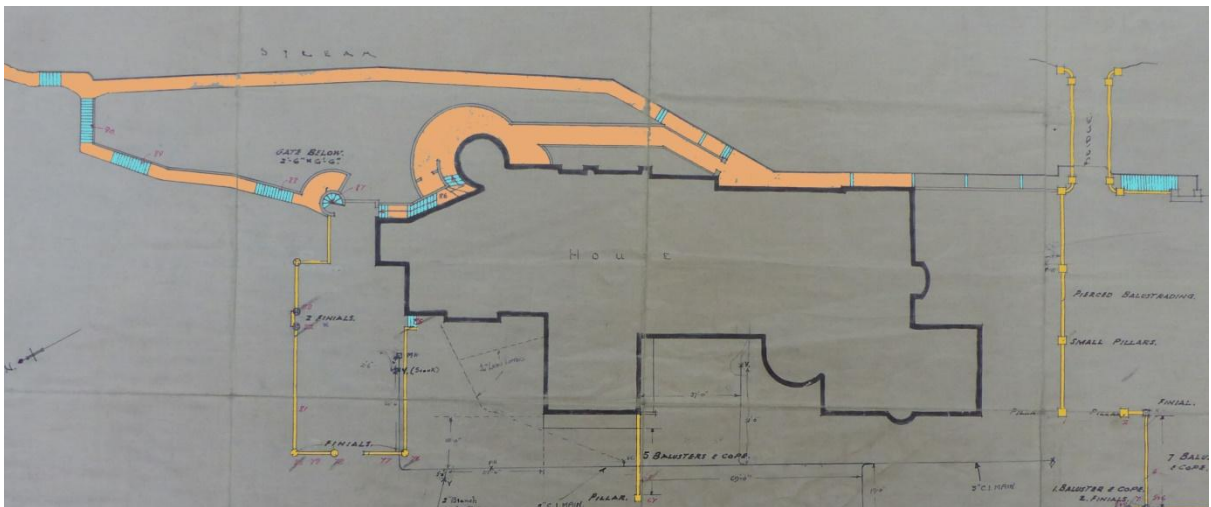
Illus 21: Complete plan of Stonebyres House and gardens at demolition (Lanark Library Archives).

The image has been enhanced to highlight various components. Yellow: Balustrades; Cyan: Steps; Orange: Paths; Green: Seats; Red: Sun dial



Illus 22: Plan of Stonebyres Gardens to the front of the house at demolition (Lanark Library Archives).

The image has been enhanced to highlight components. Yellow: Balustrades; Cyan: Steps; Green: Seats; Red: Sun dial



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Illus 23: Part of the plan of Stonebyres House at demolition showing the house, bridge and paths along the ravine of Stonebyres Burn (Lanark Library Archives).

The image has been enhanced to highlight components. Yellow: Balustrades; Cyan: Steps; Orange: Paths

One other source relating to this era has been very illuminating. This is the written reminiscences of John Martin, the gamekeeper's son during this period. The reminiscences are not easily accessible as the only copy is on paper held by the Lanark Museum Trust, so they are included in full as Appendix 1 to this document. They provide evidence in support of deductions made from the map analysis and a level of detail of the estate components not found elsewhere.

In describing the house and garden, Martin says 'It contains a fine entrance at the front, overlooking a large driveway with a walled garden in front view. At the rear (tradesmen entrance) there was a large conservatory with tiled floor and surrounds and supporting annex rooms for kitchen staff.' The 1910 25-inch OS map shows an area of glasswork within the house confirming this.

In describing the garden he says 'At that time it was a beautiful estate with larch / spruce, Rhodies, flowers of every description in the walled garden at the front of the House and Avenue.' This is interesting in that all pictures we have of the garden at the front show only yew trees. There is, however, mention (Lanark Gazette 1933) of the house being decorated for the Lanark Race Ball in 1933 with 'chrysanthemums, dahlias and tubs of multi-coloured flowers', though whether these were grown on the estate is not certain.

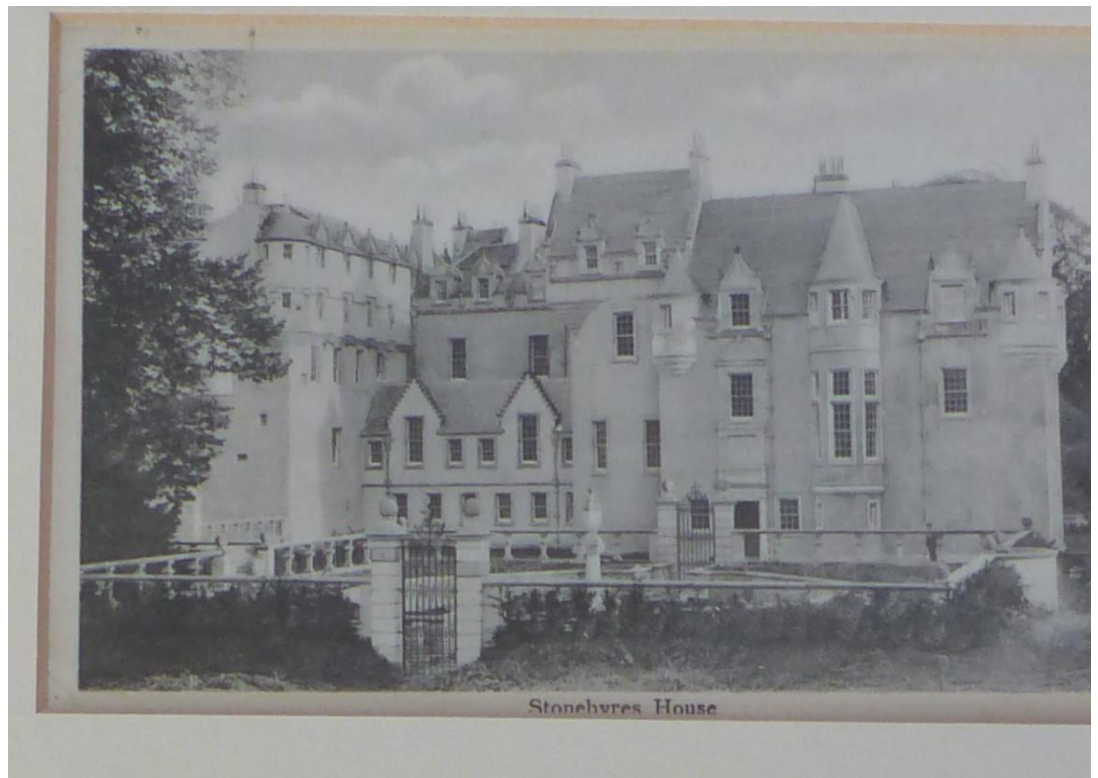
Martin (2003) also mentions the walled garden to the south-east of the house saying: 'The Estate boasted of a high walled garden with gardeners in attendance. It grew everything vegetables, fruits, etc. in abundance, with lean to glasshouses on the walls for all sorts of tropical fruits and for the gentry residents. Many a beautiful visit I paid there as a young boy to enjoy the fruits of grapes – tangerines – plums- currants, pears/oranges (under glass) apples etc.'

It seems that, despite the house only being occupied for part of the year, there was a large complement of workers and a range of estate services. Martin (2003) lists the outdoor employees as being 'gamekeeper, a gardener, forester, fencers, woodmen and electricians, and a host of other maintenance itinerants on the Estate - some of whom were housed on the Estate'. He also confirms that the estate generated its own electricity and had its own gasworks. He recalls that in the area upstream from the main house there were various buildings: a power house; gas works; a garage in a walled square with an entrance for vehicles with a workshop; and other self-contained accommodation for the working staff including the Chauffeur and family.

Martin (2003) notes that the many fields were let out for grazing and that there was 'wild life in abundance - pheasants, grouse, deer etc.'. When speaking of the lake he says that there was 'a homemade loch with swans/geese and other birds, as many other estates possessed at that time' and that the loch was used as a Curling Station for the neighbourhood. This is the only explicit evidence we have for its use as a curling pond since it was not labelled as such on any of the

maps.

The images available from this period show dramatic changes in the house and gardens. Whilst the old tower section of the house remains essentially unchanged, there are obvious major changes to the 'newer' part of the house: the roof now slopes to the front and back of the house, rather than to the side, the style of the house is different, the arrangement of windows has changed, and the house no longer has the same distinctive entrance. The garden, too, has been modified, the carriage sweep is gone and the balustrade area with yew hedges, sunken garden and crazy paving has replaced it. The garden to the south towards the walled garden has not changed much and is still lawns and gravel paths. The shrubbery is a little denser. Details of the garden layout can be seen in the plan illus 22. The three images which best illustrate these changes are shown in illustrations 24-26.



Illus 24: Picture postcard of front of house after renovation (post 1914, pre 1934).

Postcard owned by Stonebyres resident.



Illus 25: Side view of Stonebyres House (post 1914) from Binney et al (1980).



Illus 26: View of Stonebyres House looking north-west (post 1914, pre 1934). Postcard owned by a Stonebyres resident.

1934-present In 1934, after the death of Miss Monteath-Scott, the house was put up for sale. An article in the Hamilton Advertiser provides a history of the house and estate and notes: 'The last trace of the Monteath ownership was removed a week or two ago when, on Mrs Ashcroft's instructions, the coat of arms were defaced from the old door lintel, which has lain beside the house since it was removed at the last rebuilding.' (Hamilton Advertiser 1934). This is particularly interesting as the coat of arms and other stones still remain nearby.

The Canmore website has information about the fate of some of the interior fittings. The ornately carved woodwork from Stonebyres House (doors, fire surrounds etc.) ended up in Gask House in Perth and Kinross. (Canmore 1960a and 1960b).

The sale of the estate was not completely trouble free. There was legal action involving a dispute between the Dept. of Agriculture and the demolition contractor J. F. Lamonby. This was reported on in the Lanark Gazette (Lanark Gazette 1935b). Kennaways the estate agents bought the house from Mrs Ashcroft. Kennaways sold the Department of Agriculture 'a large part of the Stonebyres estate along with the solum of the mansion house and accepting [sic] the whole fabric of the house'. Before the offer was accepted, Kennaways also sold Mr Lamonby 'the fabric of Stonebyres with all fittings and fixtures with the stone seats and crazy paving', for £1760. A dispute arose over whether the balustrading round the house 'in all about 200yds' was owned by the Dept. of Agriculture or not. Kennaways had tried to buy it back from Mr Lamonby. The report notes that 'The question of the balustrading came into prominence through other Government departments seeking to acquire the peel tower for preservation in the national interest along with the balustrading' (Lanark Gazette 1935b).

The sale of the land surrounding the house to the Department of Agriculture as part of a plan by the then Commissioner for Scotland, Sir Arthur Rose, to alleviate unemployment and promote self-sufficiency had considerable effect on the designed landscape. Unemployed men from Auchenheth were given small holdings within the old Stonebyres estate. Hansard (1935) provides details of what the Commissioner proposed to do:

'He is going to assist unemployed men who have made good as plot holders to get into an ordinary smallholding. He has on the stocks an experimental scheme whereby certain plot holders at Auchenheth in Lanarkshire are to be moved to neighbouring ground belonging to the Department of Agriculture at Stonebyres, and there to be set up in smallholdings.

Save in very exceptional cases you cannot, without assistance, set up an unemployed man who is without resources, even if he has been a successful plot holder for a year or two. The Commissioner proposes to give assistance in the transference of these men. He proposes to pay the first year's rent of the plot, to provide fences, to finance stock, seeds and equipment, and he is to do that by a sum of money which is 50 % grant and 50 % loan, repayable over a period of 10 years. That is a very important experiment indeed. The £750,000 includes provision for 70 men being thus transferred' (Hansard 1935).

As well as the creation of the smallholdings, other work was carried out for benefit of the community. The old laundry next to the coach house was converted to a hall for the area. A *Glorious Gardens: The Development of the Designed Landscape at Stonebyres, Clyde Valley*

plan of the modifications is held by Lanark Library. It shows the development of a communal area with toilets. The title of this plan is the main evidence that the building shown in the plan was originally a laundry.

There are two articles in the Lanark Provosts Scrapbook in Lanark Library providing more information about the fate of the 'small holding experiment'. In 1937 there was an article in the Lanark Gazette explaining that the smallholding scheme was organised by the Department of Agriculture to aid jobless men. They paid no rent and were given 'weekly aliment from the Unemployment Assistance Board' as well as capital for tools. A year was not enough time for them to become self-supporting. They got an extension of 6 months and an increased capital loan. At the end of the 6 months the smallholders got a choice of taking a provisional lease of 6 months or leaving then. The smallholders felt let down as they were within sight of being self-supporting – as their strawberry crops were going to mature soon but meanwhile they had nothing to live on. The other problem was the increase in cost of poultry feed – their other means of subsistence. It was also pointed out that, 'The men at Stonebyres began to till their ground from grass and the land had not been used for farming in the strict sense of the word'. All men said they were going to stay put – but the article says some of them might require assistance from the Public Assistance Authorities. (Lanark Gazette 1937)

Also, that year there was a letter in the Lanark Gazette describing the downfall of the estate and the tribulations of the smallholders and complaining about Government interference in local matters.

In the opinion of the letter writer, the Department of Agriculture had wasted a great sum of money. They had created 14 smallholdings at the cost of £1200 each. The unemployed men given the smallholdings paid no rent, and by the time that the experiment failed the Department of Agriculture had wasted £30,000. He also pointed out that the Board of Agriculture and Sir A Rose knew nothing about growing fruit or they would have recognised that the site was not a good place to grow fruit (Gilchrist 1937).

Martin (2003) mentions the fate of the trees on the estate, 'The forest / trees and anything worth anything on the land was taken by woodcutters to clear up the expansive pines/ firs, beeches/ plain (sic) trees /larch to be sold off for shipping purposes.'

The failure of the smallholding experiment led to the eventual sale of the residences to private individuals, and currently a number of the fields are being managed by one farm. Stonebyres House was after the demolition 'nothing less than a shell and there it remained for a long time until it depreciated to nothing other than the 4 walls' (Martin (2003)).

6.0 Summary Phasing of the Stonebyres Designed Landscape

This section summarises the main phases of development of the designed landscape at Stonebyres, based upon the evidence of the historic maps and other sources outlined in section 4. The stages in the

development of the designed landscape correspond to changes in ownership of the estate, namely when capital was invested in the house and estate by new owners, or finally when the house was demolished and the estate was split into holdings.

Phase 1: 14th century to sometime pre 1745

The De Veres or Weirs of Stonebyres held land in the area from the 14th or 15th century, when a castle was first built on the site. It was at that time said to be the oldest inhabited house in the county of Lanark (Greenshields 1856). The original building was a castellated keep, 34 feet by 29 feet, which was later added to, making it an oblong tower approximately 70 feet by 34 feet, five storeys high (MacGibbon & Ross 1887).

The point at which the castle's main purpose became residential rather than defensive is taken as marking the end of the first phase, though the exact date cannot be pinpointed; it was at some point prior to 1745 when Roy's map shows the presence of parkland around Stonebyres House. There is no evidence of a designed landscape prior to this.

Phase 2: pre 1745 – 1840s

Stonebyres House was situated in a heavily wooded location with spectacular views. Roy's map of 1745 shows that the house was surrounded by some form of parkland. A 1796 drawing of the house shows it set within tranquil pastures whereas a sketch in 1845 emphasises its location above a ravine. Roy's map clearly shows the presence of two gardens within the estate – neither is that close to the main house or other residences, and no other evidence of them exists.

The main through route from Lanark to Hamilton ran through the estate and passed close by the house, until at some point prior to 1816 a new main road to the north of the estate was constructed. The old road became part of the grid of paths within the estate.

From 1727, the lands of Stonebyres diminished as they were gradually sold off by the then owner, James Weir, who changed the name of the family to Vere. It was still a large estate, big enough to have a number of tenant farms, until the profligate lifestyle of Daniel Vere finally led to the estate being sold to Mr James Monteath of Glasgow in 1842.

Phase 3 1840s- 1906

This is the first phase for which clear maps (1858 OS) are available, showing the designed landscape. The inherent inaccuracies of Roy's maps mean that it is not easy to say exactly how different the landscape shown by the OS map was from the earlier landscape shown in Roy's map. The 1858 OS map is taken as providing the definitive phase 3 of the designed landscape of the estate, but it is of course possible that many of the features first seen in this map were in place prior to the sale of the estate in 1842.

After the house was sold to James Monteath in the 1840s, considerable work was carried out on the house, gardens and the designed landscape. The characteristic layout of the estate with three drives with entrance lodges and a grid-like layout of the paths around the fields of the policy parkland date from this phase. These included many features of a major self-sufficient estate of the period, walled garden with

glasshouses and gardener's cottage, curling pond/loch, pleasure walks and services such as coach house and stables, laundry, smithy, gasworks, and quarries

Despite changes of ownership - the estate passing to Lt General Thomas Monteath in 1850 and to his granddaughter Miss Monteath-Scott in 1868 - the design of house and landscape remained essentially the same until 1906 when new owners outwith the Monteath family took over the estate.

Phase 4: 1906 – 1934

In 1906, the owner Miss Monteath-Scott sold the estate to Mr James Noble Graham of Carfin House, Crossford. Between the time of this purchase and 1914, over £60,000 was spent on renovations, including new panelling, floors and tiling. Carved woods were imported from Italy and Portugal. The architect for this re-modelling, which was considered to be more in keeping with the style of the original older part of the house (Gilchrist 1937), was Walter Crum Watson. The house was never occupied by the Graham family. In 1924 it was sold back to the previous owner and until her death in late 1933, it was only lived in for a few months each year. Only a few of the 27 bedrooms and two or three of the seven public rooms were ever furnished. Stonebyres was sold to a demolition contractor in 1935 for £1,750 (Clydesdale District Council 1994).

Whilst the old tower section of the house remained essentially unchanged in the rebuild by Mr Graham, there were major changes to the 'newer' part of the house. The style of the house was changed, the roof was completely rebuilt to slope in a different direction, there was a different arrangement of windows, there was a large conservatory within the house and the house no longer had the same distinctive entrance.

The garden to the front of the house was remodelled in this period. The carriage sweep was replaced with a gravelled square with entrance and exit gates and beyond that, there was a square formal garden surrounded by a balustraded wall containing a circular sunken garden with crazy paving and a sundial and recessed semi-circular stone seats. Young yew trees formed an immature hedge outside the walls.

The area of garden over the bridge towards the kitchen garden was little changed, still consisting of lawns and flowerbeds. The walled garden was productive during these years, yielding vegetables, fruits and tropical fruits in the lean-to glasshouses.

There was also little change to the wider policy parkland in this period. Land use stayed the same, with fields let out for grazing. The woodland remained intact with only minor changes to trees lining the avenues. The man-made lake still flourished with populations of birds and fish, and it was used as a curling station in the winter. The estate appeared to be fully functioning despite being only occupied for part of the year with chauffeur, gamekeeper, gardeners, forester, fencers, woodmen and electricians all being resident on the estate. The coach house was in use as a garage and home for the chauffeur. The estate appeared to be self-contained with respect to gas, electricity and water.

Three lodges at the entrance remained and housed various workers. The Mains Farms, Holehouse Farm and Glen Cottage also formed part of the residences on the estate. Quarrying continued on the estate with the quarry on Black Hill increasing in size and a new quarry appearing at the south end of Byres Burn near the man-made lake.

1934-present day

The final phase in the development of the landscape of the estate came on the death of Miss Montearth-Scott. Mrs Ashcroft who inherited the house, sold it to the Edinburgh estate agents, Kennaways. Kennaways sold the house to a demolition contractor and the land to the Department of Agriculture. There was some attempt to preserve the original tower and to acquire both it and the garden balustrading in the national interest, but that came to nothing.

The house was dismantled and the interior fittings were sold. The shell of the building gradually declined, and scrub grew over the house foundations. The formal garden that had been created to the front of Stonebyres House in the first decade of the twentieth century was dismantled when the house was demolished. The large walled garden to the south was left intact.

Once the Department of Agriculture owned the land, a plan by the then Commissioner for Scotland, Sir Arthur Rose, to alleviate unemployment and promote self-sufficiency was put into place, and unemployed men from Aucheneath were given smallholdings within the old Stonebyres estate. The land was divided into plots, and each smallholder was provided with a house and barn.

The creation of the holdings obviously had an effect on the designed landscape of the estate. Most of the original field boundaries remained, but the original fields and policy parkland were in many cases split to create a number of approximately equally sized plots. Small orchards were started by some of the smallholders. The Department of Agriculture felled forest and trees and sold anything of value on the land to defray the expense of the purchase. As a result, the policy parkland no longer had any of the large trees one might expect to see in such a landscape. As well as the specimen trees in the policy parkland, the woodland to the east of the south drive was removed, as was much of the woodland on Black Hill. Some shelter belts were reduced in size, and there are fewer trees lining some of the drives.

At some point, replanting of some of the woods and shelter belts took place. Although the varieties of trees are almost certainly different, the current configuration of shelter belts and woodland is remarkably similar to that of the earlier phases. The woods on Black Hill and to the east of the south drive were not replaced.

The smallholding experiment was not a success. The land was not really suitable for the purpose, not least because it had been grazing land for years and was too nutrient poor to be suited to growing arable crops and fruit. The houses of the smallholders were eventually sold off and are now in private ownership. Many of the fields are farmed by one farmer. The Mains Farm was converted to residences, and the current Mains Farm is in a new location. The estate service buildings were also sold off and are now private residences

With the house removed and there being multiple landowners, many of the minor paths in the estate fell into disrepair, though the main grid of roads around the policy parkland remained intact.

7.0 Components of the Designed Landscape

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

Category	Name
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Glorious Gardens: The Development of the Designed Landscape at Stonebyres, Clyde Valley

Archaeological Feature	Black Hill Fort and settlement Roman Road (East West)
Drives & approaches	Serpentine Drive - North-east approach and Lodge Original Road (East-West) Southern Approach and Lodge North Approach and Lodge Service Drive
Industrial features	Quarry
Gardens	Walled Garden Front Garden Orchard
Pleasure walks	Ravine Paths
Policy woodland	Stonebyres Woods
Policy parkland	Parkland Curling Pond
Residential buildings	Stonebyres House Other old residences Small holdings
Services	Coach House and stables Laundry Gas Works Ice House Water Supply Smithy Farms

7.1 Archaeological features

Black Hill Fort and settlement

Black Hill Fort and Settlement are scheduled monuments, located on the hill to the westernmost edge of the estate. Their archaeological importance does not seem to have been recognised until 1956-8 when it was discovered during surveys of marginal land in 1955 and 1963 and more fully described in RCAHMS (1978) and Canmore (1978a and 1978b). The hill, up until the sale of the estate in 1934, had been covered in woodland which would have obscured the site, and it was not mentioned on any maps. The fort and settlement are clearly not part of any designed landscape. Although within the Stonebyres Estate at one time, the area is now farmed separately from the land within Stonebyres.

East-West Road (possible Roman Road)

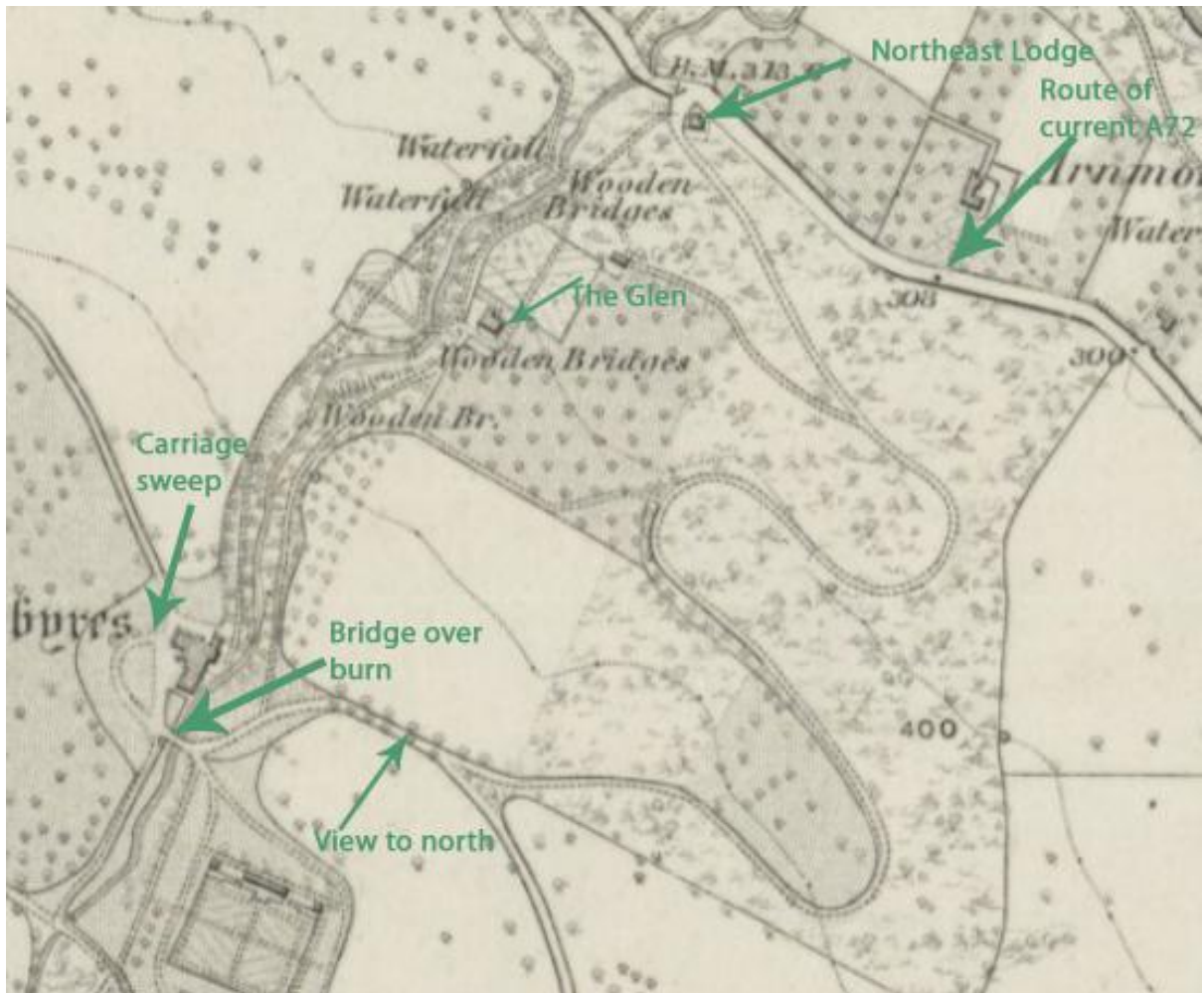
The possibility was discussed by RCAHMS (1978) that a Roman road running from Castledykes to Stonehouse ran across the Stonebyres Estate from Nether Affleck to Hallhill, crossing Black Hill. The road is certainly old, appearing on the first maps of the area, and runs straight across the estate, but no physical evidence has been presented that it was a Roman Road. It is discussed in more detail under the section on drives and approaches.

7.2 Drives & approaches

Serpentine Drive (Illus 27, 28, 29)

The Serpentine drive is about 1.3km long and runs from a lodge house on the northeast corner of the estate on the current A72, winding up the slope then running along the edge of the flatter land at the top of the hill to a bridge over Stonebyres Burn and thence to the front entrance of Stonebyres House. It is shown on all maps from the first edition OS map of 1858. Illustration 27 shows the main features mentioned in this section.

Illustration 28 shows the lodge at the entrance to the drive. It is sandstone built with stepped gables. It is not a listed building and so presumably has been modified from the original building. It has, however, been sympathetically extended and is in very good condition. The crosses in the walls, we were told, match with those in the original Stonebyres House. There are six stone gateposts. The gates are not the original ones. They were destroyed during the war according to the current resident of the lodge.



Illus 27: The main features of the Serpentine Drive, shown on the 1st edition six-inch OS map.



Illus 28: The Lodge at the entrance to the Serpentine Drive (from the north-west).

According to local residents this drive was used by Miss Monteath-Scott only when she was resident and not by tradesmen or servants. To the right-hand side at the start of the drive, there are steps leading to the footpaths which according to current resident of the lodge were used by the staff to get to Stonebyres House. We know from Martin (2003) that the gamekeeper, his father, lived in the lodge prior to 1934.

The first part of the road has been tarred, but higher up, it then becomes unmetalled. It is driveable up to the access to the house called Glen Cottage. It winds through a plantation of firs with some broadleaf trees, none of great age. There is a planting of 8 Black Poplar Hybrids and an evergreen of a fair age on the road to the Glen Cottage. Whether they pre-date the demolition is not clear. From 'The Glen' upwards a low sandstone wall is evident on the topside of the path. It is in poor condition in places. Ditches have been recently dug, presumably to improve drainage. The woodland today is densely planted, and there is no view to be seen from the serpentine part of the drive, though from earlier maps it seems likely that, with the sparser planting, there would have been of views across the Clyde to Nempflar.

As the drive flattens out at the top of the slope, it runs directly towards the house for a short distance along what was, in earlier phases, a tree-lined avenue, before curving left to cross the balustraded bridge over Stonebyres Burn. At the top of the hill, the house would have come into view, and there would have been fine views to the north over the Clyde. Any views across the valley are blocked by a recent planting of trees.

Today, the drive progressively narrows once it reaches the top of the hill, though there is evidence that at one time this was a wider road tarmacked with pink stone. It becomes a narrow path as it approaches the

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bridge over the burn. Illustrations 19 and 26 from before and after 1906, respectively, show the drive running between a shrubby hedge before it crosses the bridge. Today there is a great mass of rhododendrons to the right of the path as it approaches the bridge, so presumably at least this part of the shrubby hedge was rhododendrons.

The bridge is in reasonable condition and is protected by wire fencing to prevent vehicular access. Its elegance is still evident. Illustration 29 shows the current state of the bridge.

Some other features shown in illustration 19 are still visible: there is some ironwork where the lamps might have fitted into the end stones of the bridge, and there are partial remains of the iron fences close to the bridge.

No evidence of the carriage sweep shown in illustration 19 remains as it was replaced in the 1906 rebuild.



Illustration 29: The upstream face of the bridge across Stonebyres Burn (looking north-east).

East-West Road (Illus 30)

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This road through the estate follows the track of the original road through the Stonebyres Estate. It is shown on the Roy and Ross maps as the main road from Lanark to Hamilton south of the river Clyde. Originally it ran over Black Hill, but there is no evidence of this now. It is possible it is part of the East West Roman Road between Melrose and Loudon Hill in Ayrshire (see section 7.1). Once a new road (now the A72) was built, the importance of this East-West Road declined, and it became merely an internal estate road.



Illustration 30: Details of the East-West Road through Stonebyres.

By 1858, the east entrance has a smithy, but the path from there through to the walled garden and coach house was only a track surrounded by a shelter belt. It would, therefore, not seem to be one of the major approaches to the house. By 1911 even the avenue of trees had declined, and in 1941 this part of the route was marked as scrub. Today a new mixed woodland has been fairly recently planted in the old avenue. There is also some evidence of large, old, tree stumps within the area. Current evidence for the existence of the east entrance comes from the current estate boundary wall which has been roughly filled in between two old gate posts. There are also remnants of an old road running along the field boundary from the wall to the Lesmahagow Road, and the base of a building is evident in the area where the lodge (Smiddy) was marked. Since the survey new houses have been built in this area.

Beyond this section, the road follows the route shown on all maps back to 1858 and is still an estate road used for vehicles. It no longer continues over Black Hill, but finishes at Holehouse. On the south side of

this route there are eight beech trees (3-4m circumference) lining the road. These would seem to be older than the trees planted by the Department of Agriculture in the 1930s and could be part of the designed landscape.

Southern Approach & Lodge (Illus 31)

The southern approach to the house has been in existence since at least 1858 when it was first shown on maps. It ran from the Lesmahagow Road (B7018) in a NNE direction, crossing the **East-West road**, sweeping left, to join the serpentine drive at the point where that drive reached the top of the hill. As noted before, the Serpentine Drive narrows and becomes a footpath when it reaches the top of the hill so there is no longer vehicular access to the old house by the southern approach.



Illus 31: Southern Approach to Stonebyres showing gateposts and new houses.

On the OS maps from 1858 onwards a lodge is shown at the south entrance. The original lodge no longer exists, and a new house has been built on the site. The boundary wall is present at this entrance and is curved round to enhance the approach. Two engraved stone pillars still exist with evidence of a third hidden in the grass. The entrance is shown in illustration 31.

Northern Approach & Lodge (Illus 32)

The northern approach and lodge are shown on maps from 1858 onwards. This is the shortest approach to Stonebyres House, running directly from the B7086, Auchenheath road, to the house. The route is unchanged from the 1858 map.

The current building at the entrance is a stone-built, slate-roofed entrance lodge with crow step gable ends. It is not a listed building so presumably has been altered from the original. See illustration 32. Sandstone

gateposts still exist on either side of the entrance. They are smaller and less ostentatious than those at the start of the south drive.



Illustration 32: The entrance lodge on the North-west Approach to Stonebyres House.

From the entrance, the road passes through a small wood and through what was policy parkland and a deer park. Illustration 20 shows this drive in 1890 as it approaches the house.

Service Drive (Illus 33)

The route described here as the 'service drive' is the one route through Stonebyres that does not run to the House. It is perhaps not strictly a service drive, more a through route, connecting a number of farms on the estate. Part of the route includes a section of the east-west road. The route runs from the Lesmahagow Road, past the original Mains farm, then towards Black Hill, past the modern Mains farm, then to Holehouse farm and then out to the other side of the estate on the Auchenheath Road. (See illustration 1 for details of the route)

This track is shown on the OS maps from 1858 onwards and today follows the same route until close to Auchenheath Road where it now exits at a slightly different point onto that road. The road is unmetalled for all of its length, though it is in a reasonable state of repair.

OS maps in the 19th century show that there was an avenue of trees along the road at the old Mains Farm. There is a dead tree that has been limbed and pollarded to the west of the path in this area, and this could possibly be one of the original trees from before the sale to the Department of Agriculture (see illustration 33).



Illus 33: Old tree, possibly from the original avenue of trees near the old Stonebyres Mains Farm (NGR NS83802 43320).

7.3 Industrial features

Quarry

The OS maps from 1858 onwards show the presence of quarries within Stonebyres estate. Stonebyres quarry (NGR NS83510 43155) has been worked since at least 1858, growing in size over the years. It is

now disused. There is no evidence now of the quarry in the woods to the south of the gasworks near the lake

7.4 Garden & orchards

Walled Garden (Illus 34-38)

The walled garden is shown on maps from 1858. It faced SSW and was approximately 200 by 160 metres. The interior was split into four quadrants by paths. As well as the walls, there were lean-to glasshouses on the SSW facing interior wall, buildings, including presumably a gardener's cottage and sheds, on the exterior of the north wall and a number of standalone greenhouses to the south of the walled area. The walled garden was connected to the main house by a path to the bridge over Stonebyres Burn. The main entrance to the walled garden was on the WNW facing wall with smaller exit doors on the other three sides. It continued to be productive, yielding fruit (including tropical fruit) and vegetables in the years up to the sale of the house in 1934 (Martin 2003). From maps, it appears that the configuration of the walled garden changed little over the years until the purchase by the Department of Agriculture.

The external walls of the garden still exist. They are lined with brick on the inside and sandstone (red and yellow) on the outside. There are sandstone coping stones around the top of the wall. Many of the interior bricks show signs of crumbling and loose mortar. There is vegetation growing in some brickwork. Whilst the brickwork is standing around the entire garden, there is evidence of some structural instability, particularly two large holes in the north wall covered with netting. Illustration 34 shows typical interior brickwork and external stonework of the walled garden.



Illus 34: Typical interior brickwork (left image) and external stonework (right image) of the Walled Garden.

The Walled Garden is currently used as a riding arena, and the internal paths no longer exist, although the side doors to which they ran are still present in all walls. Illustration 35 shows the door in the east wall. It is typical of the style of all the small exit doors. The west entrance to the garden has been enlarged and gates added.



Illus 35: Door in the east wall of the Walled Garden.

The glasshouses on the SSW facing interior wall are no longer present although remnants of their roofs and internal trellis (currently covered in a climber) are still present. Illustration 36 shows the entire SSW facing interior wall, and illustration 37 shows details from the wall where the glasshouses would have been originally.



Illus 36: View of the interior south-west facing wall of the Walled Garden.



Illus 37: Details of the south-facing interior wall of Stonebyres walled garden.

Maps until 1941 show three buildings on the north side of the north wall of the walled garden, including two smaller ones at either end and a larger one in the middle. Today the larger building, a stone-built house, presumably originally the gardener's cottage, still exists, but the smaller buildings have gone. It seems likely that the house has been reconstructed in the past since it does not tie in with the stonework on the wall. Evidence of one of the smaller buildings can be seen in the wall as an outline roof and walls (Illustration 38)



Illus 38: Outline of the small building at the west end of the north side of the Walled Garden's north wall.

No evidence remains of the glasshouses to the south of the walled garden, although one of the current houses there is named 'The Peach House', a name harking back to earlier times. We were told by a person who once renovated that building that the old stonework wall and chimney from the peach house heating system still form part of the fabric of the building.

Orchards

Within the estate, there have at times been areas of orchards associated with some of the residences such as Holehouse and The Glen. Today the only area of orchard is in the north of the estate alongside the A72. This orchard first appears on maps in 1941 so could have been part of the smallholding experiment. The trees have not been maintained, and the orchard does not appear to be productive.

7.5 Pleasure walks

There are many paths marked on the OS maps from 1850 onwards. Three sets of paths were noted in the analysis of the 1858 OS map:

1. to the north of Stonebyres House along Stonebyres Burn. Paths connected by footbridges run along both sides of the ravine formed the Burn;
2. to the south of Stonebyres House. Paths run to the walled garden, the gasworks and the woodland and lake on the south boundary of the estate;
3. Within the woods on Black Hill.

Although there are still paths in the area to the south of Stonebyres House, the removal and replanting of the woodland and the division of the land into parcels mean that they are not original. One path which is in the same location is the track running through a shelter belt from the gasworks to the service road. The trees lining this pleasant woodland track are poplars, which a local resident said were around 40 years old and not part of the original designed landscape.

There is faint evidence of the larger paths on the south end of Black Hill, but since the woodland has now gone from the hill, they are not really part of a designed landscape.

Ravine Paths (Illus 39-43)

It is only along Stonebyres Burn to the north of the house that there is evidence of paths remaining in their original environment. The reason for this is probably because the ravine itself is relatively inaccessible and not of any agricultural use. Maps from 1858 show an extensive set of paths and wooden footbridges along the ravine of Stonebyres Burn from the house down to the North-East Lodge. Over the years, according to the maps, the paths gradually decreased in number, but they were still fairly extensive in 1911.

Today the west bank of the ravine is inaccessible and although the east side of the ravine can be accessed at the top (near Stonebyres House) and the bottom (near the North-East Lodge), it is completely overgrown in the area near Glen Cottage. From the east bank of the ravine opposite Stonebyres House there is a clearly defined wide track running alongside the top of the bank. It is lost in undergrowth a few hundred metres down the hill.

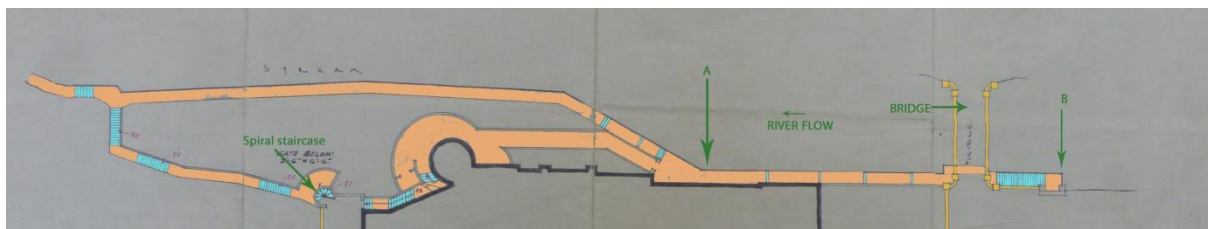


Illus 39: Remnants of the track from Stonebyres House to the North-East Lodge, along the east side of Stonebyres Burn.

There is now no evidence of the wooden bridges previously marked on the maps. The best evidence of paths is along the west bank of the Burn near Stonebyres House. The 1935 demolition plan shows the

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paths and steps running along the Burn. Above and below the bridge over Stonebyres Burn, the river still flows between stone built walls. Above these, in some places, the stonework of the paths and steps still survives, but where the stonework has been removed, the banks have slipped and partially obliterated the paths. Illustration 41 shows a part of the demolition plan to help explain which parts of the paths still remain.



Illus 40: Part of the 1935 demolition plan showing the paths and steps in the ravine.

At point B there are steps down to the river, they are overgrown and broken by tree roots but are essentially intact. Under the bridge and downstream to point A, the stonework and steps are still partly visible despite the tree roots growing through them. Beyond point A, the route of the path is just visible, but there are no stones. The path leads past some rooms which would have been below ground level in the house (see section 6.9 for more details of these rooms). Illustration 42 shows the path and wall on the west side of the burn below the bridge



Illus 41: Path and wall on the west side of the Stonebyres Burn below the bridge.

Further downstream along the path there are the collapsed remnants of a spiral staircase that would have led down to the paths from the north side of the house (see diagram in illustration 40 and image in illustration 42).



Illus 42: Entrance to the spiral staircase leading from the north of Stonebyres House to the West side of Stonebyres Burn ravine.

In its heyday with less overhanging growth and a little more light in the ravine, this walk along the burn would probably have been very pleasant.

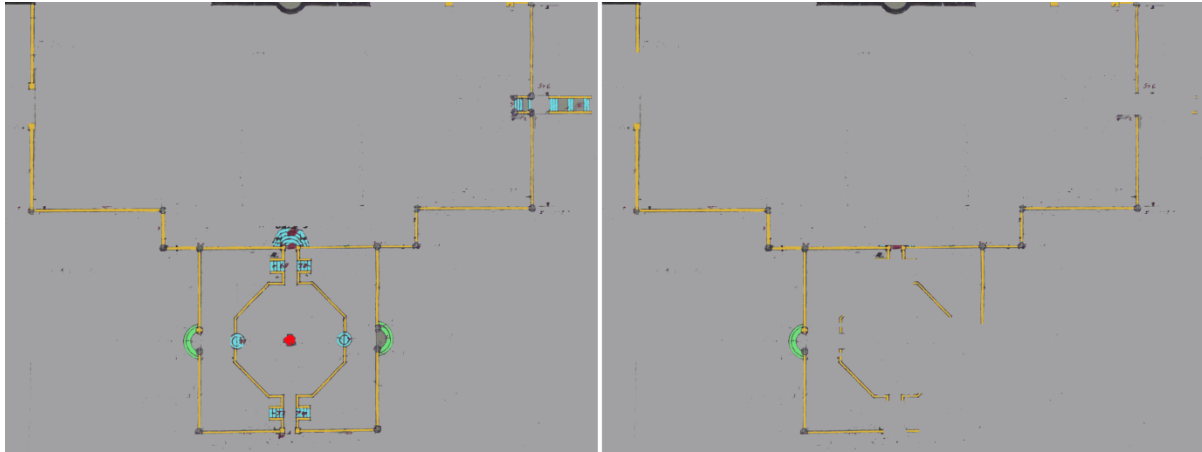
7.6 Pleasure Gardens

The images we have of the house and garden from the late 19th century show gardens to the front of the house and between the house and the walled garden. The major works carried out between 1906 and 1914 led to the redesign of the garden to the front and the removal of all traces of earlier gardens. There are, however, remnants of this final garden that were not completely removed in the demolition of 1934. However, any evidence of the lawns and flowerbeds of the garden between the house and walled garden (illustrations 19 and 26) is gone, and the area is now a field given over to horses. Traces of the iron railings visible in illustrations 19 and 26 can still be seen around the bridge over Stonebyres Burn.

The Front Garden (Illus 43, 44)

The design and layout of the garden to the front of the house after 1914 was discussed in section 4 and can be seen in illustrations 24 and 25. It consisted of an enclosed stone walled garden surrounded by young yew trees. At the present time, the base of parts of the walls of the hexagonal inner garden and much of the square outer walls are visible. Although it is possible to trace the outline of what was there and match it

up with the old plan, it is in very poor condition. Illustration 44 shows how much of the foundations remains.



Illus 43: The remnants of the Front Garden; the left image shows the original garden layout and the right image shows where the foundations of the walls still remain. (Yellow = walls, cyan = steps)

The small yew trees shown in illustrations 25 and 26 have now grown into large trees. Illustration 43 shows the typical configuration of the remains.



Illus 44: Remnant of the garden at the front of Stonebyres House showing the base of the wall and the overgrown yew trees typical of much of the remains.

7.7 Policy Woodland

Stonebyres Woods (Illus 45)

All the OS maps from 1858 onwards show extensive woodland on the estate considered by some to be one of its finest features. Most of the timber was cut and sold when the Department of Agriculture bought the estate. (Martin 2003). The one area where this might not have taken place was within the deeper parts of Stonebyres Burn ravine. Replanting has taken place over the years and seems to be ongoing with some new planting. The shelter belts, copses and woods are in much the same configuration as in the original landscape, the exception being Black Hill where the woods are now gone. There has been some replanting of closely spaced evergreen plantations, such as part of the woodlands on the north-facing slope of the Serpentine drive, but there is also fairly recent planting of broadleaf trees as along the East-West road. In areas where replanting has taken place, there is often evidence of previous ancient woodland in the form of bluebells (see illustration 46).



Illus 45: New woodland to the east of the Ravine. The bluebells would have been a feature of the original woodland.

7.8 Policy Parkland including curling pond

Policy parkland

From The 1858 OS map until the sale of the estate in 1934, there does not seem to be much change in what could be defined as policy parkland. For the purposes of this report, policy parkland is considered to be the nearest five fields to the House, shown on the maps as having shelter belts and individual trees marked within them. The external boundaries of these fields are as they have been since at least 1858, but they were subdivided in the 1930s during the small holding experiment.

Most of these fields are now given to farming being either owned or rented by the Comries of Stonebyres Mains. Most of the ground is in good condition and well managed. However, very few if any of the parkland trees still exist since most were cut down and sold by the Department of Agriculture to finance the Smallholding Scheme.

The estate wall extends from the gatehouse at the North Lodge right along the A72 past an orchard then uphill past South Lodge to the base of Blackhill. Many sections have been repaired or are in need of relatively minor repair.

Curling Pond (Illus 46)

On maps from 1858, there is an area of water marked between the South Lodge and the Stonebyres Burn. The shape and configuration of this water changes over the years, and in 1911 it is shown as being almost contiguous with a quarry. However, Martin (2003) remembers this as being full of wildlife and fish. He also stated that it was '*used as a Curling Station for the neighbourhood*'. Whether this was its primary purpose is not clear. It does appear from maps that there was a system of sluices which allowed the level of water in the lake to be controlled.

Today, it is possible to just make out where the lake might have been, but it is now dry and has been mostly filled in with excavated material. There are, however, some remnants of stone and brickwork in the remains of a channel on the east side of the burn which may have been part of the system to control the water level in the lake.



Illus 46: Part of the brickwork in Stonebyres Burn, possibly part the system for controlling the level in the pond.
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7.9 Residential Buildings

Stonebyres House (Illus 47, 48, 49)

The history of the house is documented in Sections 4 and 5.

Little remains of the house. The site is overgrown with grass, scrub and willow. There is a small area about 1m square of white floor tiles in the centre of the site. The main area where there are some remains is in the back of the house along the banks of the burn. There are traces of stone walls, some still tiled, about 0.7m high. They are not in good condition. The most interesting remains are those that escaped demolition because they were below ground level. There are remains of a tiled spiral staircase within the house which leads down to two tiled rooms partially filled with earth and debris. Illustration 48 shows views of the spiral staircase.



Illus 47: Views of the tiled internal spiral case in what remains of Stonebyres House.

There are a series of further underground rooms along the banks of the burn, these are more completely filled with debris. Some appear to be small cubby holes whilst others have large arches and appear to be entrances to larger spaces. The interior walls are tiled (in white and green), plastered or faced with dressed stone. The paths described in section 6.5 ran between these rooms. Illustration 49 shows a selection of the walls and rooms of Stonebyres House visible from the ravine slopes.



Illus 48: Views of the rooms and wall of Stonebyres House visible below ground level along the burn

One other item related to the house which is still present is the coat of arms and associated stones from above the door of the house. Possibly this is the coat of arms noted in section 4 as being defaced by Mrs Ashcroft. This coat of arms does not actually seem to be present above the entrance door in the pictures of the house post 1914. Unless it was replaced by Miss Monteath-Scott after she repurchased the house and after the photographs were taken, this story may be apocryphal. Illustration 50 shows two of the pieces of this stone.



Illus 49: Two pieces of the masonry present in the gardens at Stonebyres supposedly part of the coat of arms over the entrance.

Other old residences

The OS maps from the 1858's onwards show various buildings and records tenant farms which are still present within the Stonebyres estate area: Glen Cottage, to the west of the Serpentine drive near the burn and Holehouse to the east of Black Hill are two examples, both of which are now private houses. These were not visited in this survey, and neither is a listed building.

Smallholdings (Illus 50)

Although not part of the earlier designed landscape, the smallholdings are very much part of the current landscape. When the estate was divided, each smallholding had a house, a barn and an area of land (see section 4 and 5). Illustration 51 shows the typical buildings of a Stonebyres smallholding.



Illus 50: Typical buildings of a Stonebyres smallholding.

7.10 Services

Coach House and stables (Illus 51)

The Coach House first appears on the OS maps of 1858 and was presumably built as part of the major works in the 1840s. It consisted of a building running approx. SSE-NNW with two wings at right angles. The main entrance was from the southward side, through an archway to the courtyard with the stables on the right and the carriage house to the left. Accommodation for the groomsmen was above the carriage house with additional accommodation above the stables. The current resident says that there was also a meeting room and kitchen on the ground floor. There was a field to the south side (the then front entrance). This area is now private gardens. There was also a paddock to the east side which would have been accessed through the archway between the Coach House and Laundry.

The building is category B listed. The HES listing describes it as:

Circa 1850, probably John Baird II, remodelled early 20th century. U-plan range incorporating domestic accommodation, Coach House/motor houses, lofts, meeting room originally for estate workers and cottage linked to main range by arch. Whin rubble with contrasting sand stone

dressings, long and short detail to quoins and windows, corniced stacks, slate roofs. Courtyard contained on NE side by low wall and gate piers; central block with through, round arched pend and 3 swept dormers; some similar details at rear, 2 lower flanking wings; NW range with 4 carriage/motor houses to inside face, NW elevation irregular fenestration and large gabled dormers SE range, stables etc with loft over; gable ends of both side ranges with pairs of tall arched panels set in square frames to lower part, on N gable fenestrated. Cottage to SE, blocked NE facing door (now window) 2 tall multi-pane gabled windows break eaves, modern porch to rear.

The Coach House today is in excellent condition and has been split into three dwellings. The archway now has doors at either end and is the hall of one of the dwellings. The flagstones in the archway are not original but were laid by the present owner. The owner of the central dwelling informed us that the sash windows and roof are original, as are the carriage house doors.

The walls to the rear (which is now the front of the house) are in good condition, the gate piers less so. The original gate has been replaced by a wooden gate. A resident believes the gate piers originally had balls on top, but they are no longer in position. Old ironwork is still visible in the walls.



Illus 51: The Coach House: Left: The archway through the stables; right: the carriage house.

Laundry

The stone-built building known as the Laundry is connected to the Coach House and stables by an archway. It is a listed building. The evidence that it was once a Laundry comes from a 1938 plan stored in Lanark Library entitled 'Stonebyres S. H. Scheme Lanarkshire, Adaptions to Laundry for New Hall' which refers to this building.

The building is in a good state of repair. The house has been extended to the west. The original outer westerly wall is now an interior wall in the house. Replacement slates in the roof were sourced to match the original from Aberfoyle.

Gasworks

There is still a building where the gasworks was marked on maps from 1858. It is now in private ownership. As it was not surveyed, how much remains of the original is unknown.

Ice House (Illus 52)

In the woods to the north-east is a structure known locally as an ice house. It has a north facing stone built entrance. As it is filled with sand, it is not possible to establish the size from the interior. From above it looks like a mound in the slope of the wooded hill. Tree roots growing through the roof and badger setts in the area mean that the structure is not in a stable condition. Illustration 53 shows the entrance to the ice house.



Illus 52: The entrance to the ice house

Water tank 1 (Illus 53)

There are a number of stone tanks and cisterns on the estate connected with the water supply.

The earliest of these, which is shown on the 1858 OS map, lies on the spring line below Black Hill in a shelter belt. We were told by the owner of the current Mains farm that the tank was once used to supply Stonebyres House. The structure is in two parts separated by a small gully. The upper part consists of a stone-built barrel vault type structure. It is not clear what its length was as it runs back into the hill. There is clear water inside the structure lying on fine sediment. The entrance to this part of the structure has partially collapsed. The downstream structure has collapsed on the downstream side. The upstream side of the lower structure has a square entrance –presumably at one time connected to the upper tank. Parts of the lower structure have collapsed, and there are fairly large trees growing through it. Possibly, the upper chamber collected the water and was designed to remove sediment and to clear the water, but the function of the lower structure is not obvious. Illustration 54 shows the interior and state of both structures.



Illus 53: Water tank 1: Left the interior of the upper structure. Right: The interior of the lower structure

Water tank 2 (Illus 54)

Water tank 2 is first shown on the 1897 OS map. Unlike water tank 1, it is a single structure and is brick built rather than stone built. It is approximately 3m by 3m and is in fairly good condition, although there are some trees growing on top of it. As with tank 1, it seems to be acting as a settling tank. Illustration 55 shows the interior and exterior of the tank.



Illus 54: Water Tank 2: Left: Exterior view; Right: Interior

Water Tank 3

Water tank 3 is a brick structure with a concrete and girder top in the woods around the Serpentine Drive. It is marked on maps from 1911. It is approximately 3.5 by 5.5m, depth unknown. There seems to be water within it, although whether it is still performing its original function is unknown.

Smithy

The Smithy marked on the 1858 map at the old south-east entrance no longer exists although there is evidence that there was a building in the field at the point where the smithy would have been. Since the survey, new houses have been built in this field. On the 1898 map a Smithy is marked near the original Mains farm, but no traces remain.

Mains Farm

The Mains farm was originally near the south end of the **service drive**. There is now a private residence at the location, and evidence of the farm has now gone.

The current Stonebyres Mains Farm is in a different location, further along the service drive. The farm was bought by the Comrie family in 1983. The owned area extends to 160 acres with additional fields rented around the estate from the smallholders. The farmed ground is in good heart and well managed.

8.0 Assessment of significance

8.1 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

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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.

Quality:	Outstanding	Range:	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.

8.2 The significance of the designed landscape at Stonebyres

Intrinsic value

Although the massive Stonebyres House - with its medieval core, Scottish Baronial extensions and extravagant, barely used early 20th-century renovations - has been demolished, many components of the designed landscape survive, and it has at least some intrinsic value. The sequence of its development as an extensive working estate from the medieval through to the early modern and Victorian periods is clearly legible through historic maps, documentary and pictorial sources. The surviving components retain much of their character, although their condition is variable. The various lodges and approaches are extant, including the rather overgrown Serpentine Approach, which meandered up the valley slope through woodland and crossed the ravine to the house over an ornamental bridge. The remains of the house, scant in comparison to the vastness of the standing building, indicate the range of the downstairs service areas. The Ravine Paths still lead along the wooded ravine, and the Curling Pond attests to the leisure pursuits of family and visitors. The Walled Garden, B-listed Coach House, C-listed Stables and the Laundry are all in good condition. Traces of the water management system, gasworks and ice house illustrate the estate's elaborate infrastructure. The fragmentation of this complex, sprawling designed landscape into smallholdings in the late 1930s does not appear to have greatly damaged its intrinsic value.

Contextual value

Stonebyres has high contextual value. The house was set along the valley side with views across and along it, lands stretching down to the river encompassing hills, woods and pastures. It was perched originally along the main east-west Clyde Valley routeway. It has links, both historical and geographical, to other designed landscapes along the valley, including Mauldslie, Dalserf, Carfin and Waygateshaw. The areas of parkland, woodland, orchards and Black Hill make significant contributions to the landscape character of the Clyde Valley.

Associative value

Stonebyres has high associative value. It has associations with the Clyde Valley's rich prehistoric archaeological heritage through the funerary and settlement remains on Black Hill, a scheduled monument. It is also associated with the locally prominent Weir (Vere) family, who also owned Waygateshaw for a time, with architects John Baird and Walter Crum Watson, and with Glasgow port merchant James Noble Graham, owner of Carfin. Its more recent associations are with experimental small-scale agriculture.

Cultural significance

The designed landscape at Stonebyres narrates the development of a sprawling working estate with medieval origins through to the early modern and Victorian periods. The intrinsic value of many of its components, the contributions it makes to landscape character and its associations with the Weirs and Grahams and with architects John Baird and Walter Crum Watson together give the designed landscape regional significance.

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		3rd edition twenty-five-inch	Lanarkshire 025.13
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Source: <http://maps.nls.uk>

9.2 Aerial photographs

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Appendix 1

Memories of Stonebyres

Transcription of handwritten notes by John Martin, gamekeeper's son. Bonnington Avenue, November 2003

(The original is held by the Lanark Museum Trust.)

STONEBYRES - LANARK

Stonebyres was a fairly large estate established between Kirkfieldbank, Crossford & Lesmahagow with much of its boundaries lying between the Clyde and Nethan Waters. It is possible that what I write about now may not be accurate but it is within my memories as I can recollect.

Away back, it belonged to a Mr Graham, late of Carfin Estate, over the Clyde from Crossford. I believe his brother was Clive Graham, a world-renowned Racing Journalist in the field of sport (even in my time). His wealth was in shipping which eventually lost out in the first world war (submarine sinking etc.) and the Estate came on the market about 1918/20. The purchaser was a Lady (spinster) Monteith Scott who also had property in the Borders - Ancrum House, Ancrum, Roxburghshire, which exists today, as well as a Town House in Edinburgh. This Lady lived intermittently at Stonebyres House, dividing her stay between both houses.

Stonebyres was a huge mansion house - 3 stories high - with endless rooms and windows and with commodious dwellings etc., for the serving classes. There was the usual household staff in residence, with outdoor employees - including my Dad as gamekeeper - a gardener, forester, fencers, woodmen and electricians, and a host of other maintenance itinerants on the Estate - some of whom were housed on the Estate. The Estate boasted of making its own electricity with high dynamo machinery together with its own gasworks on outdoor houses.

There were considerable woodlands as well as many fields, grasslands etc. which were let out for grazing etc. Dad was originally the Gamekeeper, with wild life in abundance - pheasants, grouse, deer etc., and he did take care of the domestic animals in the grazing land. The local Stonebyres burn did have trout in the

pools with a homemade loch with swans/geese and other birds, as many other estates possessed at that time.

The Loch was used as a Curling Station for the neighbourhood. At that time, it was a beautiful estate with larch / spruce, Rhodies, flowers of every description in the walled garden at the front of the House and Avenue. Nearby there was a host of outhouses which accommodated the Chauffeur and family as well as other paid staff.

The Estate boasted of a high walled garden with gardeners in attendance. It grew everything, vegetables, fruits, etc. in abundance, with lean-to glasshouses on the walls for all sorts of tropical fruits and for the gentry residents. Many a beautiful visit I paid there as a young boy to enjoy the fruits of grapes – tangerines – plums- currants, pears/oranges (under glass) apples etc.

The Estate was well kept and managed by a loyal staff. Alas, the Lady died and with death duties etc., the owner had to sell out Stonebyres - retaining her other property in Roxburghshire. Staff were paid off with my dad being retained with a small gratuity as Estate overseer pending the sale of the land. The demolishers from Edinburgh dismantled the Big House, disposing of whatever was saleable including the Electric Lift and countless fittings etc. leaving the 'Castle' with nothing less than a shell, and there it remained for a long time until it depreciated to nothing other than the 4 walls.

The forest / trees and anything worth anything on the land was taken by woodcutters to clear up the expansive pines/ firs, beeches/ plain (sic) trees /larch to be sold off for shipping purposes. The Ground was ultimately taken over by the Dept. of Agriculture as an experimental scheme for Smallholdings to offer land to be cultivated by the public interested in an unemployed occupation at reasonable terms. House/Sheds / Byres etc., were built giving some 15/30 acres of ground for cultivation by smallholders willing to work and produce crops and yet be subsidised as a venture project for unemployed people. This was one of the first smallholdings in Scotland as a sustainable project to families willing to give their talents on the land - Ravenstruther in Lanark was a similar, yet smaller scheme at that time - that time comes forward to the year after 1934/35, and Stonebyres is there today, despite all the changes in the intervening years.

Saturday, it's now midnight and I'll leave some more of this when I can think straight tomorrow.

THE HOUSE

It is sad to recall what this 'Castle' looked like in former years. Tall, stately, with endless features of beauty. A good picture of it can tell you of its skillful erection by someone by the name of Gracie from Crossford. It contains a fine entrance at the front, overlooking a large driveway with a walled garden in front view. At the rear (tradesmen's entrance) there was a large conservatory with tiled floor and surrounds and supporting annex rooms for kitchen staff. There was plenty of accommodation for the residents - bedrooms, powder rooms with supporting areas required by female occupants. There are rest rooms, smokers' areas and other areas for leisure or sport. If you can find photos of the internal features of the house you will get the picture.

OUTBUILDINGS

Many of them, some half mile up the burn area - the power house -the gas works - garage, chauffeur's rooms - workshop and other self-contained accommodation for the working staff, all provided in a walled area and square entrance for vehicles. All well provided for the well-being of its users. Nothing left to

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chance with much thought being planned by builders etc. with a much modern provision in these early years where landlords etc., had the capital and cheap labour to meet the demands of the wealthy. We were the less menials at the working-class level.

THE LAND

Predominately agricultural and woodland which you can readily picture.

RESIDENTS SLEEPING QUARTERS

Consisted of Lodges (ours was at East Lodge) standing at the four corners of the Estate (three of which still remain) with vehicle entrances to all of them and with maintained avenues leading to the big house. A few other houses held estate workers etc. scattered about the Estate.

SERVICES

The usual requirements - baker, fish, grocer, mail and other callers necessary out in the isolated area of Stonebyres. In fact, the Estate was well catered for despite being some 3-4 miles from the town of Lanark.

POWER

Supplied by its own electrical supply - similarly with gas, water being in abundance locally. Effluent disposal caused no problem with septic tanks and a fast running burn nearby.

ACCESS TO THE ESTATE

Near to the Lanark / Hamilton road with other roads to Lesmahagow, Auchenheath etc., with leads to Hamilton, Strathaven, Glasgow etc. There once was a busy railway and goods station at Auchenheath with leads to Hamilton / Strathaven /Glasgow etc. Therefore it was not so isolated as one would think of nowadays, although at that time the horse and cart conveyances were the main source of movement and transport.

PS. - I cannot think of much more to say and much of which I can only recall from memory and age. In the Victorian era and years later it was a haven to live in such a beautiful area on the Clydeside, which to this day, would be the envy of many towns people. It remains popular with easy access to Glasgow and Edinburgh, and after all Lanark is next door.'