

The Development of the Gardens and Designed Landscape at Powfoulis Estate

Bothkennar, By Falkirk, Stirlingshire



GLORIOUS GARDENS

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Powfoulis

NGR: NS 91795 85645

Report on the development of the designed landscape

on behalf of

Scotland's Garden & Landscape Heritage

Registered Charity No SC034618

Cover Plate: Powfoulis, now Powfoulis Manor Hotel

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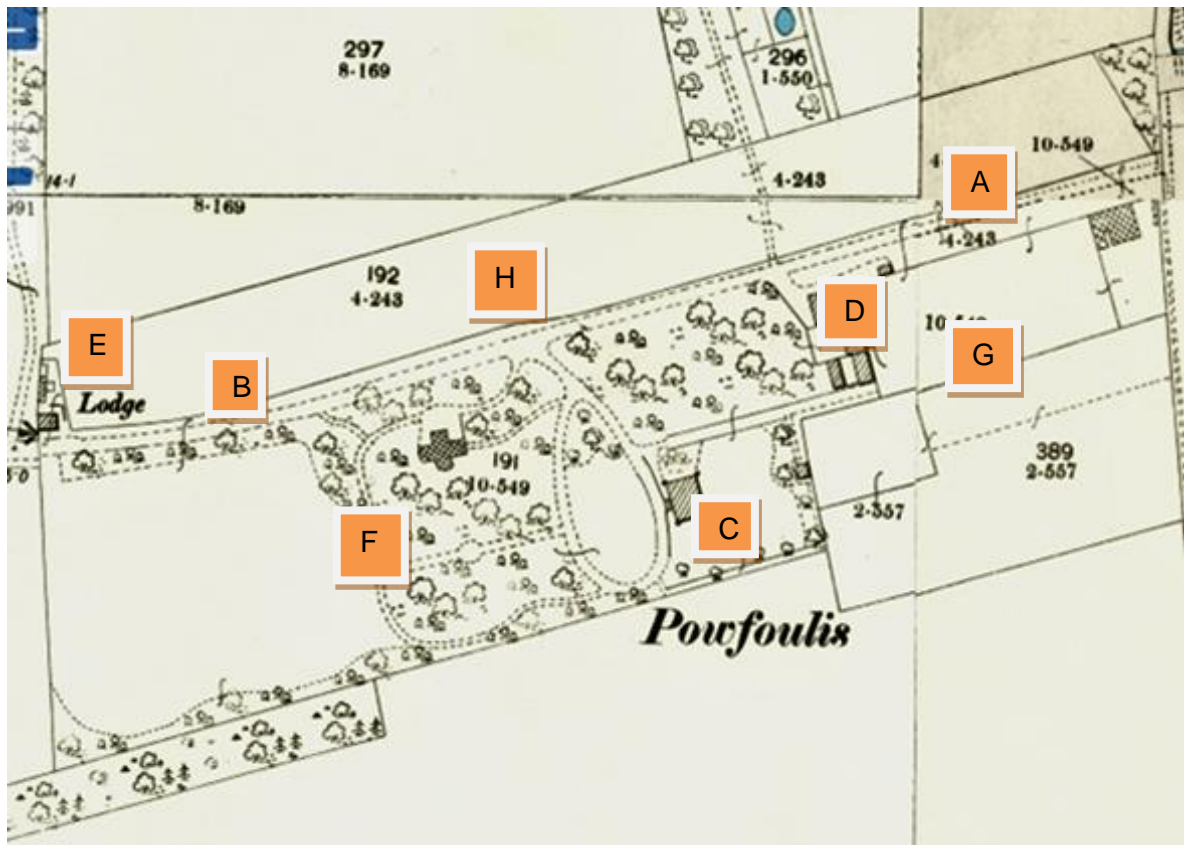
Contents

	List of Illustrations	4
	Location Map	5
1	Introduction to Glorious Gardens	6
2	Introduction to Powfoulis House	6
3	Methodology	7
4	Desk-based research Results	8
	4.1 Historic Maps	8
	4.2 Aerial Photographs	20
5	Timeline for the Designed Landscape of Powfoulis House	21
6	Components of the designed landscape of Powfoulis House	23
	6.1 Approaches	25
	6.2 Residential	25
	6.3 Gardens	28
	6.4 Policy Parkland	31
7	Assessment of Significance	34
	7.1 The Concept of Significance	34
	7.2 The Significance of the Designed Landscape of Powfoulis House	35
8	Sources Consulted	35
	8.1 Historic Maps	35
	8.2 Aerial Photographs	37
	8.3 Other Sources	37
9	Acknowledgements	38
	Appendix: Tree list	39

ILLUSTRATIONS

Illus 1	The Powfoulis estate as shown on the 2nd and later edition Ordnance Survey 25-inch map 1892-49 Stirlingshire n024.08 (includes: Airth; Grangemouth) Publication date: 1915 Revised: 1913 Levelled: 1914, with components identified marked in blue.	5
Illus 2	Pont Maps of Scotland ca. 1582 - 1614	8
Illus 3	Blaeu Atlas of Scotland 1654	9
Illus 4	Roy, Highlands - 1747-52	10
Illus 5	John Thomson's Atlas of Scotland, 1832	11
Illus 6	OS Six-inch 1st edition, 1843-1882	12
Illus 7	OS 25-inch to the mile, 1st edition, 1855-1882	13
Illus 8	OS 6-Inch 1888 – 1913	14
Illus 9	OS 25-Inch, 1892 – 1905	15
Illus 10	OS 6-inch 2nd and later editions, 1892-1960, 1913 revision	16
Illus 11	OS 25-inch 2nd and later editions, 1892-1949	17
Illus 12	OS 6-inch 2nd and later editions 1892-1960	18
Illus 13	Past Map	19
Illus 14	National Collection of Aerial Photography: Date: 10 May 1946 Date known, Location: Powfoulis Manor Hotel; Airth; STIRLINGSHIRE; SCOTLAND Coordinates (lat, lon): 56.051993, -3.748875	20
Illus 15	Site Plan (not to scale)	24
Illus 16	Powfoulis from the west	27
Illus 17	Gatehouse at main entrance, now a private house	28
Illus 18	Plan of Walled Garden	29
Illus 19	Boy holding a ball, north wall of kitchen garden	30
Illus 20	Site of the tree roundels	31
Illus 21	Rear gate which gives access to reclaimed land adjacent to the river Forth	32
Illus 22	Chimney stack with oven / stove adjacent to walled garden	32
Illus 23	Ruined buildings built on to kitchen garden (were accommodation for staff at one point)	33
Illus 24	Building to north of house contains pipework and remains of boiler	33

Illus 1: The Powfoulis estate as shown on the 2nd and later edition Ordnance Survey 25-inch map 1892-49 Stirlingshire n024.08 (includes: Airth; Grangemouth) Publication date: 1915 Revised: 1913 Levelled: 1914.



Landscape Components:

- A East Drive
- B Entrance Avenue (Drive)
- C Mansion House
- D Coachman's House, Coach House and Stables
- E Lodge
- F Pleasure Garden
- G Walled Garden
- H Parkland

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 (GDLs) 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 (HES), studied properties in the Falkirk local authority area while another strand, funded by Historic Environment Scotland and the Heritage Lottery Fund, focused on GDLs in the Clyde & Avon Valley Landscape Partnership (CAVLP) area.

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

This report has been written by Marilyn Scott, the volunteer who conducted the research and survey work. The assessment of significance (section 7) was conducted by SGLH based on their findings.

2.0 Introduction to Powfoulis, Bothkennar, Stirlingshire

The origin of the name according to the *Dictionary of the Scots Language* is as follows: Old Scots. poll, 1375, pow, 1481, in placename Powfoulis, 1483, Gaelic. poll, a pit, a pond, mud, mire. The word is very common in placenames, and is cognate with Puil, pool.

The Bruces of Powfoulis, a branch of the family of Bruce of Auchenbowie, possessed the estate from the beginning of the 16th to the beginning of the 18th century. Thereafter the estate was sold, but in 1841 it was in the possession of a family of the same name, the proprietor being James Bruce of Powfoulis.

The estate is located on low lying land adjacent to the south bank of the Forth. The house is now independent of the estate. The original house was probably a tower house built in the 16th century. The present property started life as a Gothic villa ca. 1820, possibly built by James Bruce (Gifford & Walker 2006). Two wings were added in the mid 19th century creating the mansion house. This was further enhanced at the end of the 19th century by an elevated covered porch on the west front, the main entrance possibly having been previously on the east front when the main access was by the river.

Designations

Name	Designation	Grade	ID	Weblink
Powfoulis (Manor Hotel)	Listed building	B	LB2091	http://portal.historicenvironment.scot/designation/LB2091
Powfoulis, stables and dovecot	Listed building	B	LB2092	http://portal.historicenvironment.scot/designation/LB2092

3.0 Methods

The study followed the project methodology, as detailed in the Glorious Gardens Method Statement (see SGLH collection, held on CANMORE). 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 and hosted on a secure server, to ensure a consistent level of recording.

The desk-based research was followed by a systematic walkover survey undertaken in July, August and September 2016 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 available data gathered during the project are available for consultation as part of the SGLH Collection on CANMORE. The sources consulted are listed in section 8. The information gathered has been synthesised to establish a baseline understanding of the development of the designed landscape and its current state, including its overall structure, surviving components and conservation opportunities. A tree survey was undertaken in May 2017.

4.0 Desk-based research results

4.1 Historic maps

Powfoulis (Pofoulls) 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
Cartographer: Timothy Pont
Title: The East Central Lowlands (Stirling, Falkirk & Kilsyth)] - Pont 32
Date: ca. 1583-96



Apparently Powfoulis (Pofoulls) was a three-storey tower house with additional buildings and some trees. The parish record in the Old Statistical Account of 1791 makes reference to the Ancient Tower of Powfoulis. No trace of this building remains except on this map.

Illus: 3 Blaeu Atlas of Scotland, 1654
Cartographer: Pont, Timothy, Pont Maps of Scotland ca. 1582 - 1614
Blaeu, Joan, 1596-1673
Title: Blaeu Atlas Maior, 1662-5
Sheet Sterlinensis praefectura, [vulgo], Sterlin-Shyr / Auct. Timoth. Pont
Date: ca. 1582-1614 and 1662-5



As anticipated from Pont, Powfouls is shown as a tower house with additional buildings and tree planting.

Illus: 4
Cartographer: William Roy
Title: Military Survey of Scotland
Date: 1747-55



This now shows a walled garden at Powfoulis and another similar area enclosed by trees (two compartments), adjacent to a salt marsh. There is a building in the south-west corner of the walled area.

Illus: 5
Cartographer: Thomson, John, 1777- ca. 1840 & Johnson, William, fl. 1806-1840
Title: John Thomson's Atlas of Scotland
Sheet: Stirlingshire.
Date: 1832



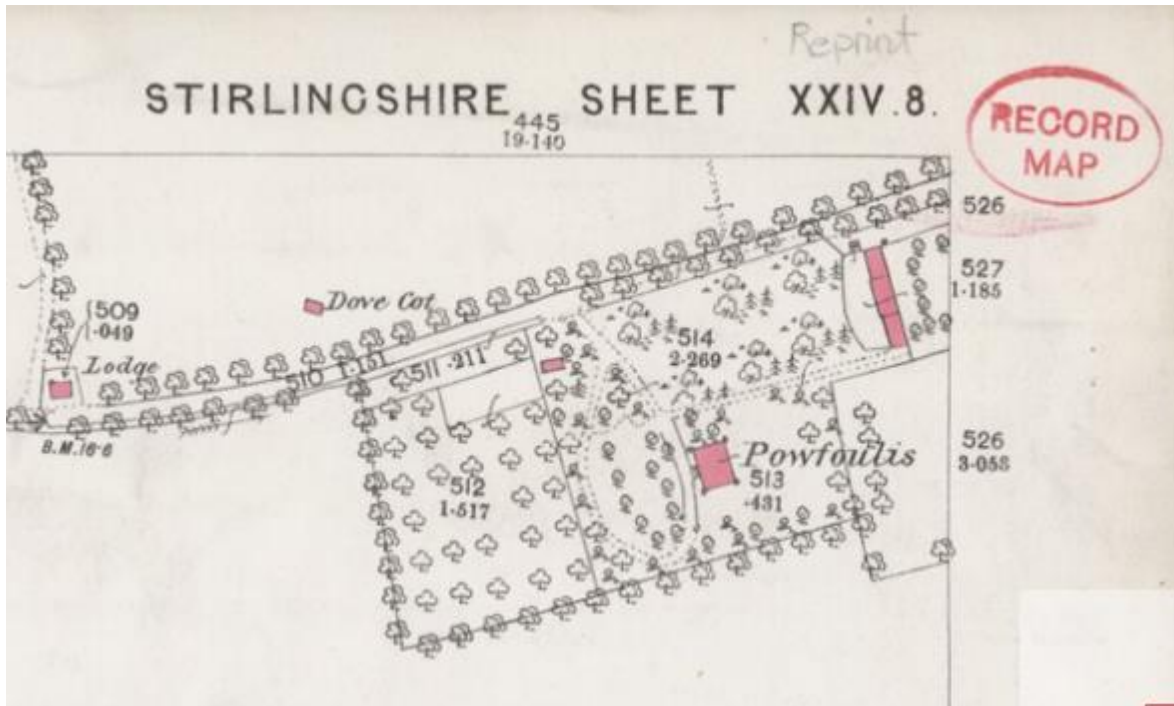
This shows the continued existence of a house on the site. Thomson and Johnson use a solid block to indicate a 'lesser' house or other buildings and the symbol shown at Powfoulis to denote a more important house or castle. The saltmarsh land seems to have been reclaimed. There were said to be Dutch engineers working on land reclamation in the area in the 17th century, but we have found no evidence that any such reclamation projects took place in the parish of Bothkennar.

Illus: 6
Cartographer: Ordnance Survey
Title: OS 6-Inch 1843 – 1882, 1st Edition
Sheet No: Stirlingshire Sheet XXIV.8 and Stirlingshire Sheet XXV
Date: Surveyed 1843-82, published 1865



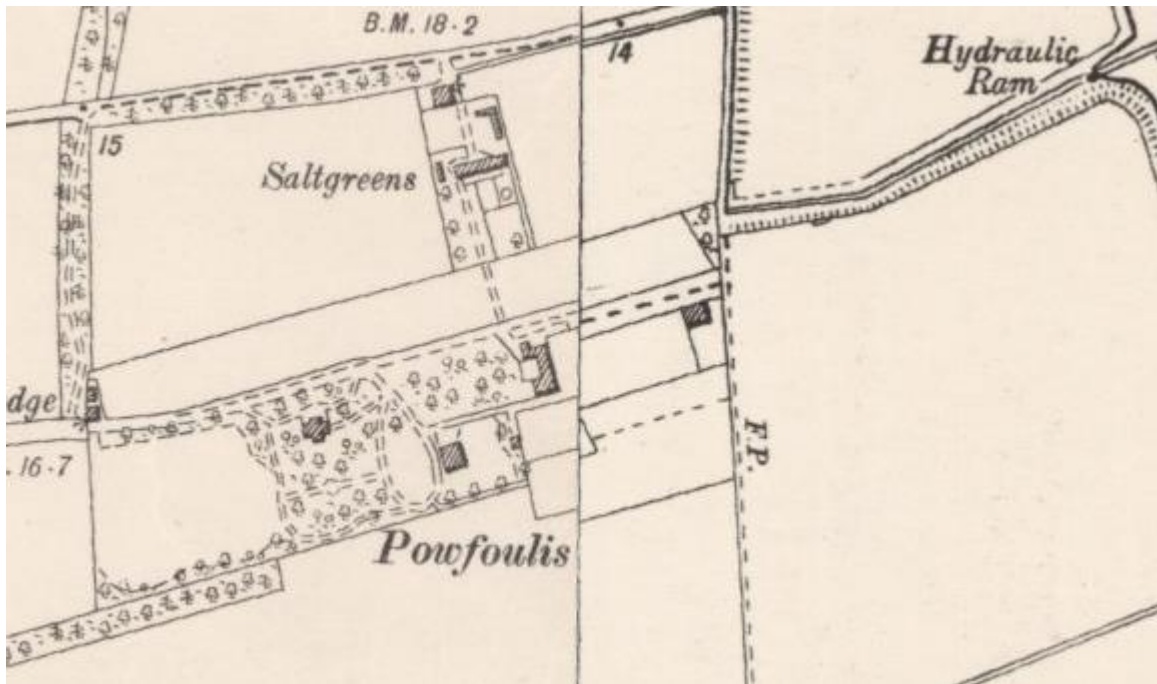
In addition to the main house, this extract shows the addition of a lodge and secondary building, a dovecot (doo'cot), the water tower north-west of the house and the kitchen garden behind the stables. The latter is a raised area in the current walled garden. At this stage there is no boundary wall extending south from the lodge gates. The oval carriage sweep is clearly marked.

Illus: 7
Cartographer: Ordnance Survey
Title: 25-inch to the mile, 1st edition, 1855-1882
Sheet No: Sheet XXIV.8 (Combined)
Date: Surveyed 1861, published 1865



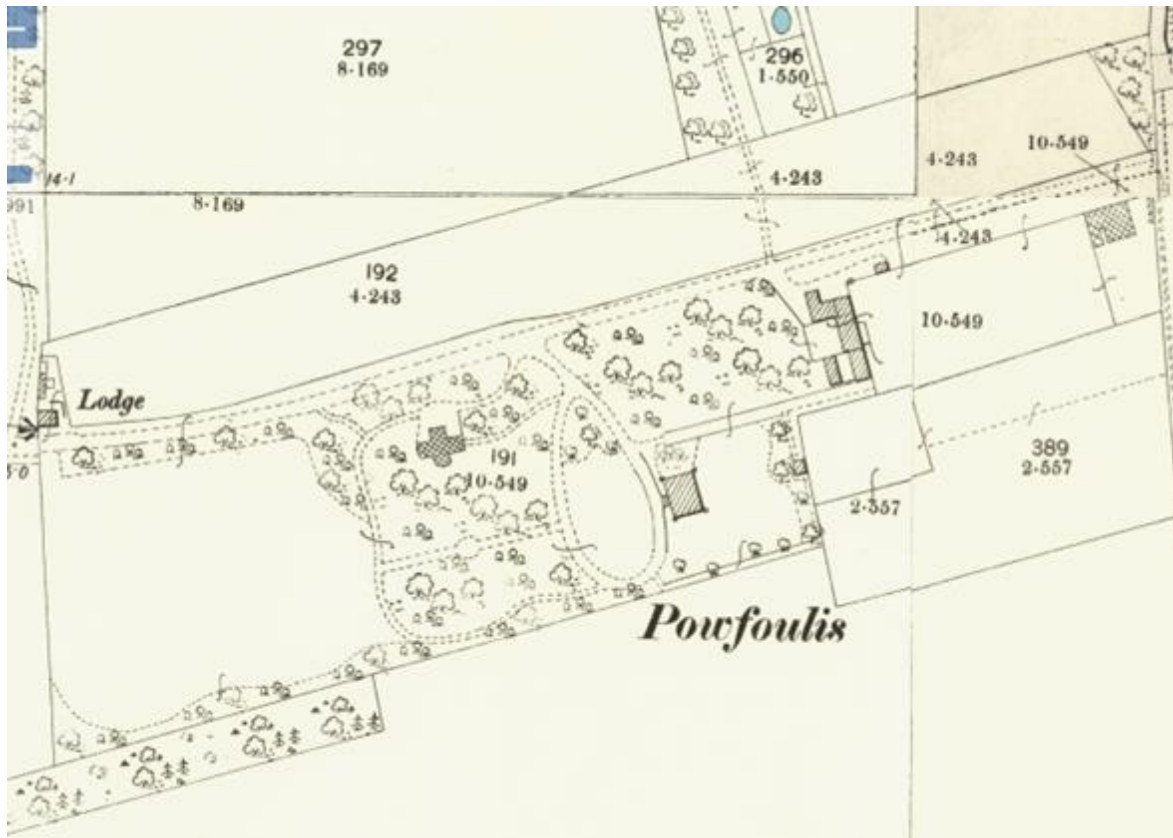
Given the increased scale of this map, more details of the house and its setting are visible. The turrets of the house can now be discerned. There is a better idea of the planting layout with what appears to be an orchard (regularly aligned trees) to the west of the house and mixed woodland to the north. The entrance avenue/service road is treelined, as is the perimeter of the site to the south and west.

Illus: 8
Cartographer: Ordnance Survey
Title: OS 6-Inch, 2nd edition
Sheet Number: Stirlingshire XXIV NE and XXV
Date: 1888 – 1913



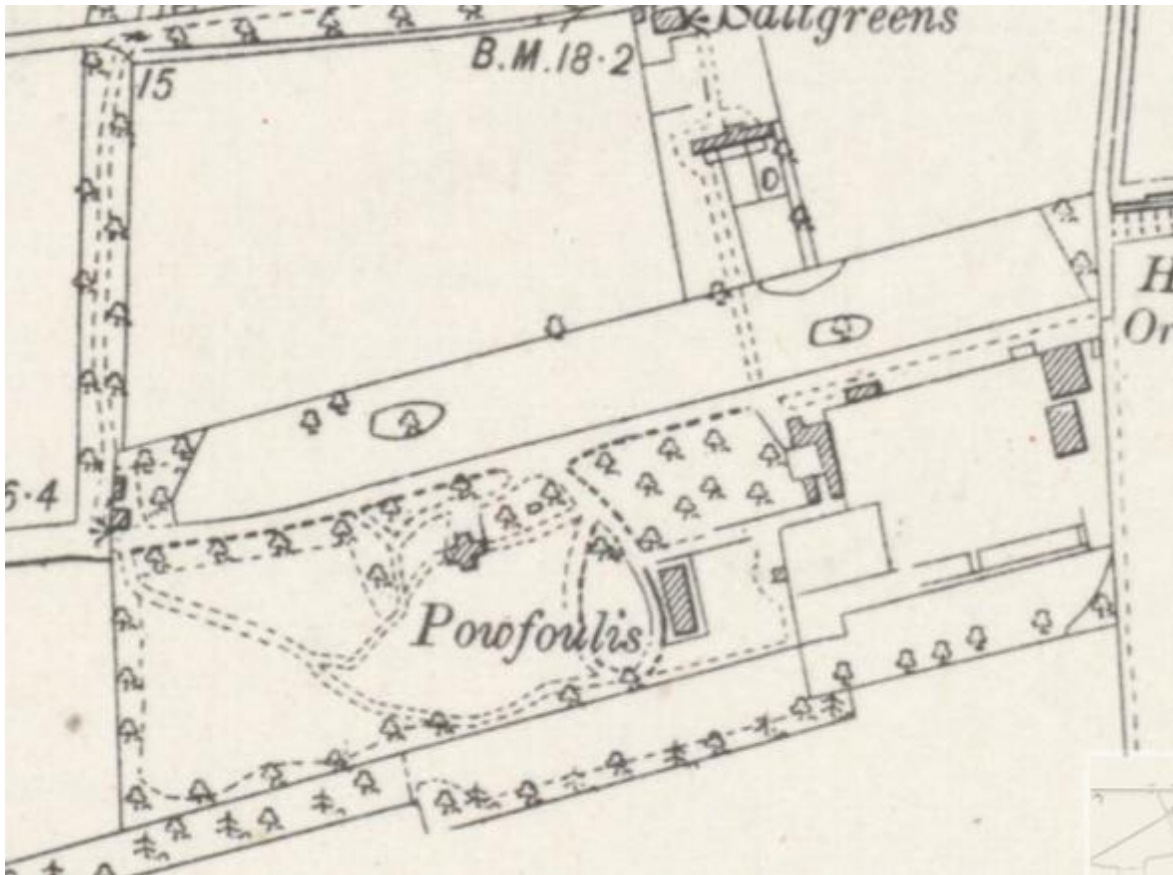
A boundary wall now extends south from the lodge gates. There is a cruciform building in the parkland west of the house near the drive and a building near the rear gate in the walled kitchen garden which is shown to be a glasshouse on the 25-inch map. The hydraulic ram (used for field drainage) north-east of the rear gate is illustrated. The dove cot, as shown in the 6-inch 1st edition is now gone.

Illus: 9
Cartographer: Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition
Title: OS 25-inch, 1892 - 1905
Date: Surveyed 19XX, published 19XX



With the help of the larger scale, the hatching on the cruciform building in the parkland indicates that it is a conservatory possibly to provide fruit and vegetables out of season and to grow exotic plants. The building in the walled garden is also confirmed as a glasshouse. The orchard shown in Illus 7 appears to have been grubbed up and the area replanted with hardwood trees and shrubs. It is also now crossed by a path aligned with the front entrance of the house.

Illus: 10
Cartographer: Ordnance Survey
Title: Six-inch 2nd and later editions, 1892-1960
Sheet: Stirlingshire Sheet nXXIV.NE (includes: Airth; Dunipace; Falkirk; Grangemouth; Larbert; St Ninians)
Date: Revised 1913, published 1921



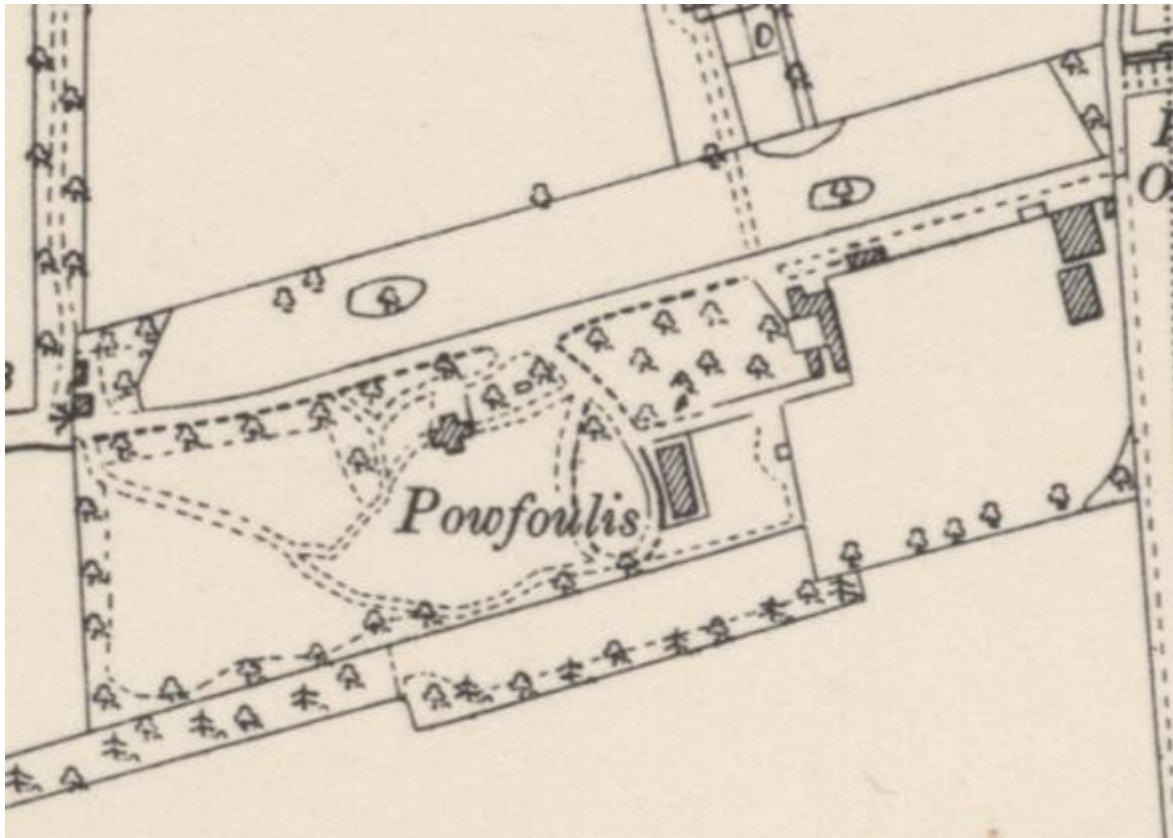
The path network has been extended to the lodge, a second greenhouse appears to have been built alongside the earlier one at the eastern end of the kitchen garden. There is an additional small building directly opposite the house abutting the walled garden wall. The regular planting in the area in front of the stables suggests that this is now the orchard. Oval clumps of trees or roundels appear in the parkland to the north of the drive. There is another structure added to the north-east exterior wall of the kitchen garden and one in the interior corner. The hardwood planting and shrubbery in front of the house have been removed and the area given over to lawn. The straight path lined up with the front entrance of the house has also been removed.

Illus: 11
Cartographer: Ordnance Survey
Title: 25-inch 2nd and later editions, Scotland, 1892-1949
Sheet: Stirlingshire n024.08 (includes: Airth; Grangemouth)
Date: Revised 1913, published 1915



There are now multiple glass houses at the east end of the kitchen garden. As noted in the 6-inch map the trees and shrubs have been cleared from the area in front of the house and around part of the conservatory. The newly built porch at the front entrance to the house is shown. There are now winding paths in the area to the west of the house which was previously cut through by an axial path aligned to the front entrance.

Illus: 12
Cartographer: Ordnance Survey
Title: 6-inch 2nd and later editions 1892-1960
Sheet: Stirlingshire Sheet nXXIV.NE (includes: Airth; Grangemouth)
Date: Revised 1946, published 1951



The raised section of the walled garden now appears to be level with the southern portion.
By 1951 several of the glasshouses in the walled garden have been taken down.

Illus 13
Cartographer: Pastmap RCAHMS (Now HES)
Date: 2016



The lodge is now an L-shaped building listed on Canmore, as is the hotel, coach house and coachman's accommodation and walled garden.

The Nissen hut and 1960s block of letting rooms appear on the north side of the main house.

A chimney is illustrated near the potting shed (or staff accommodation unit) at the east end of the walled garden and the small retaining walls or footings of earlier structures presumed to be greenhouses are illustrated. Presumably the chimney was for the boiler used to heat greenhouses.

The main blocks of trees are shown adjacent to the walls and drive.

The small water tower is not shown.

4.2 Aerial Photographs



Illus 14: National Collection of Aerial Photography: Date: 10 May 1946 Date known, Location: Powfoulis Manor Hotel; Airth; STIRLINGSHIRE; SCOTLAND. Coordinates (lat, lon): 56.051993, -3.748875

Powfoulis is shown on the right-hand side of the image, set within a patchwork of largely arable fields.

5.0 Timeline for the Development of the Powfoulis Designed Landscape

Date/Period	Event/Phase of Development
14 th century	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edward, second son of Robert de Bruis of Clackmannan, married Agnes, one of the three daughters of William de Airth and thereby got possession of the lands of Airth, Powfoulis, Kinnaird, Stanehus, &c. in Stirlingshire ca. 1380 or 1390.
15 th century	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 1451 Alexander Bruce became the 1st of Stenhouse and Airth by Royal Charter of King James III.
16 th Century	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 1512 Alexander's grandson, Andrew Bruce, received land charters to Powfoulis Estates and became the 1st of Powfoulis. Andrew, 1st of Powfoulis, married Janet daughter of Alexander Napier about 1531. They had three sons, Andrew, Archibald, Ninian. The Powfoulis estates remained in the hands of the Bruce Family for 10 generations. Archibald Bruce, 2nd of Powfoulis, first married Jayne Gib and secondly c.1570 Marjorie (or Marion) Napier. They had two sons James and Robert. 1550 James Bruce, 3rd of Powfoulis, married Margaret Rollox of Duncrib about 1608, 1580 Archibald Bruce, son of James and 4th of Powfoulis inherited the estate. In September 1599, Robert Bruce, son of Archibald, married Christian Arnot. They had a son, Archibald. Archibald Bruce, 4th of Powfoulis, married Katherine Anderson in about 1626. In the following century several stages of building and development occurred in successive generations. It is probable that the earlier house of Powfoulis was built around 1600 by Sir James Bruce the 3rd of Powfoulis and his wife Dame Margaret Rollox of Duncrib whose initials appear on the Bruce Aisle of the Old Airth Church.
17 th century	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> James Bruce, 5th of Powfoulis, was killed about 1650 in the Battle of Dunbar against Oliver Cromwell. He had a son James. James was succeeded by his son, also James, 6th of Powfoulis. He married Janet? and had a son David. James carried out further building work, evidence of which can be seen in the pair of gate posts at the North-East corner of the kitchen garden. The North post bears the date 1688, whilst the South post bears the Heraldic Arms of the Bruce Family and the word "Faithful", possibly the first part of the Bruce Motto "Faithful in Adversity".

18 th century	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1710 David Bruce, 7th of Powfoulis, married and had two sons, one being James. • 1770 James Bruce succeeded his father David and became 8th of Powfoulis
19 th century	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the New Statistical Account of Scotland, Revised April 1841, Powfoulis is said by James Bruce of Powfoulis to be a modern building. This is likely since the Gothic villa was built c. 1820. • William Dawson purchased Powfoulis from James Bruce 10th of Powfoulis in 1855. A survey of the estate was undertaken in that year, either prior to or after the sale. The layout of the setting of the house is in four parts. The most westerly section is shown as an orchard with a wall separating it from the second area. This is the location of the house and oval carriage sweep. To the south-east is what appears to be a tree-lined paddock. This is adjacent to the offices including behind which there are two walled gardens. There is a sketch of the house and its immediate surroundings in the top left-hand corner of the plan which included a well-established shrubbery. • The two wings were constructed in the mid-nineteenth century, probably by William Dawson. • The present stables and coachman's house were built c. 1860 (Gifford 2006).
20 th Century	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The porch at the main entrance was built c. 1900. • 1935 Alterations to entrance lodge in Powfoulis were undertaken for the trustees of William Dawson, a previous owner of the house. • In 1941 the house had become a retirement home managed by the Church of Scotland. • In 1952 the Manor House and its immediate grounds was purchased from the Trust by the late James McAvoy who converted it into the present Hotel. In 1972 the Hotel changed hands within the Family and was run by Jack Barrie and his late wife Patricia until 1997 when Ann and Paul were brought into the partnership and currently run the Hotel.

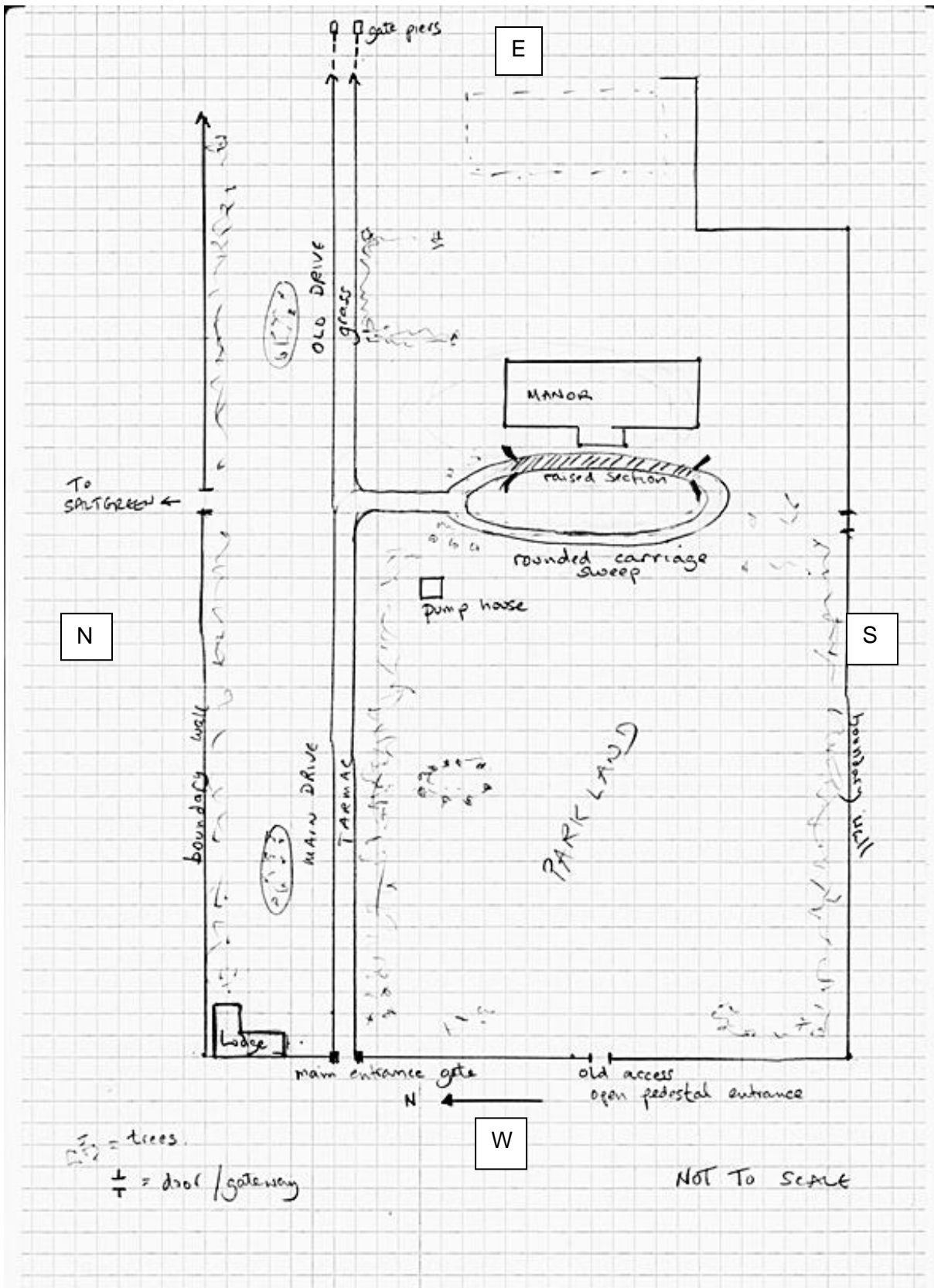
6.0 Components of the Designed Landscape

This section summarises the historical development of each component and describes its current character and condition.

Powfoulis apparently started as a tower house or small settlement with some trees. Added subsequently over time, there was a walled garden surrounded by trees, a lodge house, a dove cot (no longer there), a pleasure garden, an orchard, a small area of parkland and a water tower. The existing house was built c. 1820 in the Gothic style. Two wings were added in the mid-nineteenth century when the stables and Coachman's house were built in Scottish baronial style to contrast with the house.

The following designed landscape components still exist at Powfoulis:

Approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• East Drive• Avenue (Drive)
Residential	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mansion House• Coachman's House and Coach House• Lodge• Stables
Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pleasure Garden• Walled Garden
Parkland	



Illus 15: Site plan (not to scale)

6.1 Approaches

6.1.1 East drive

This is the NE (original?) entrance to Powfoulis Manor from the old road (from Linlithgow?) and the river Forth.

There are two gate piers of cut sandstone – square blocks approx. 2.5 – 3 m high. These abut a rougher long wall around the property (slag mix topping). An inscription on the interior side (turned around by owners) depicts a family crest and date 1688 (?). The current gate is of modern non-decorative metal swing type. The drive as it exists now is a grass track which passes on the north side of the walled garden. A chimney stack is between this track and the wall. The track links up with the currently used drive before it swings to the south.

The second approach came from the old road to Airth and the river before entering the manor grounds. It possibly became a service entrance when the Avenue on the west side became more commonly used. It extends east-west linking and passing the drive to the coachman's house and continues on towards the house. It is likely that the front façade of the property was originally on east elevation until roads became more convenient than waterways. It would then have been moved to its present location on the west elevation.

The 'drive' is grass but not solid underfoot and is moderately churned up. It is unclear where the western end is. It would almost be lost if not for the gateway.

6.1.2 The Avenue (Drive)

This is the main tarmac entrance to the property. It is tree-lined with oak, lime, ash, sycamore, acer, chestnut and copper beech. There are blonde sandstone gate pillars near the lodge but with replacement gates. The lodge is built into a buttressed wall and was originally two buildings. The lodge wall and (newer) stone-built coped wall are all tied together. Modern lights top the gate piers. A reasonably old conference pear tree grows in the lodge grounds.

The avenue runs north-west/south-east with a left sweep and bend to the right towards the raised carriage sweep.

Sharp shard waste from the production of iron was applied to the boundary walls of the walled garden and the south side of the house, but there are lovely copes along the front (west) wall. Speed bumps have been created in the tarmac drive.

After turning south to the carriage sweep, the avenue returns at a lower level. There are electric lamps atop the carriage sweep piers.

6.2 Residential

6.2.1 The Mansion House

The Gothic mansion of Powfoulis has been converted into a hotel, the Powfoulis Manor Hotel. The building consists of a central block, probably built c. 1820 with lateral wings which were added in the mid-19th century. The porch was added in c. 1900.

The central block measures 56 ft. 2 in. by 40 ft. 8 in. over walls 2 ft. 6 in. thick. It is built of grey freestone ashlar, droved and comprises three storeys and an attic, but the lowest storey on the W front is masked, and thus virtually converted into a basement, by a doubly ramped carriage-way, with a parapet, which gives access to the principal floor. On the east front, however, all three storeys can be seen. The central portion of the west front is advanced, and is flanked by shallow pilasters which finish in crocketed pinnacles; at each corner rises a thin, false turret decorated with narrow dummy lancets and finishing in a crocketed finial higher than those on the pilasters. The floors are defined by string courses at the levels of the window-sills, and the wall-head is topped by a pierced parapet designed to give emphasis to the central portion of the facade. The roof is hipped and slated.

The approach from the carriage-way to the front door, now covered by a wooden porch which is evidently an addition, is carried over the intervening space on a barrel-vaulted bridge below which access is obtained from the basement to cellarage under the carriage-way. The front door has a four-centred arch above a transom, and is set within an elaborately moulded recess of the same shape. On either side are mullioned windows with a transom and a square hood-mould. On the floor above, the central window contains three round-headed lights, and there is a narrow round-headed light in each of the pilasters; to right and left there is a square-headed two-light window. Three large dormers appear behind the parapet, but these are likely insertions. The east facade is generally similar but simpler; it shows the same false turrets at the corners, the same advanced central portion, although without pilasters, and the same string courses and parapet. There are three windows on each floor, symmetrically spaced. Apart from the inserted bay windows, which appear to right and left on the two lower floors, the windows are square-headed and of two lights. The upper two windows in the central portion have hood-moulds, and the first-floor window a transom as well. The N and S ends of the original house are completely hidden by the later additions.

The elevated carriage sweep is revetted with ashlar walls, and its central stretch is supported on the west by two splayed buttresses which correspond with the advanced central portion of the house-front. Its parapets are also pierced with pointed openings, and end in short, stout piers which are decorated, like the false turrets on the house, with dummy lancets. Beneath are three cellars, entered from the basement. The central cellar is lighted by a small pointed opening set between the buttresses.

A contemporary block of additional letting rooms is adjacent to the main house, and a Nissen hut is used as a laundry.



Illus 16: Powfoulis from the west

6.2.2 The Coach House, Coachman's House and Stables

Built in the Scottish Baronial style in the mid-nineteenth century, the coach house is now a private residence. A doocot turret on the south side of the coach house is no longer used but integral to the structure. Both drive and courtyard are paved with paviers. The building is of ashlar block sandstone construction, two-storey with crow-step gable window detail. It is built into the wall of the walled garden on the north. A door through the wall adjacent to the coach house has a cherub holding a ball over the lintel. It is generally well maintained.

As a contrast with the Gothic Revival style exemplified by the mansion, the former coachman's house, with its corbelled dovecot tower and crow-stepped gables is a small but pleasing example of the Scottish Baronial style. It is built of ashlar block sandstone construction, into the wall of the walled garden on the north. A door through the wall adjacent to the coach house has a cherub holding a ball over the lintel. It is possible that the independent dovecot included in the OS 6-inch 1st edition map was taken down when the dovecot tower was built.

Into the north gable of this house there has been inserted a small 17th-century dormer pediment, inscribed in raised letters on sunk fields, D / M R / TO GOD, probably the sinister member of a pair, with a dexter neighbour bearing a corresponding inscription S / J B / GLORIE. The two together would then have commemorated, with the text "Glory to God", Sir James Bruce of Powfoulis and his wife Dame Margaret Rollox of Duncrub, whose initials also appear on the Bruce Aisle at the old church of Airth. It is to be inferred that Sir James Bruce built the earlier house at Powfoulis, presumably in the first or second decade of the 17th century and that the dormer pediment has been reset, having once been built into the 17th century house.

6.2.3 The Lodge

We did not have permission to visit the lodge. Any comments about it are made within the body of the text.



Illus 17: Gatehouse/Lodge at main entrance; now a private house

6.3 Gardens

6.3.1 Pleasure Garden

This area is to the front of the west side of the house and is in fair condition. It is a lawned expanse with shrubs and trees in the immediate area of the carriage round. Trees also line the boundary wall and main drive enclosing the house and designed landscape as a whole. Those at the midline may mark the original extent of the boundary wall prior to the area of the enclosure being increased (see OS maps). The south wall shows the join where the wall has been extended. The newer wall is not as high and has coping stones on the west end. There is an opening to the exterior in the middle of the wall which bounds the whole property. There are no pathways through the gardens other than the carriage sweep and driveway, but OS maps indicate there were some in the past. There was once a conservatory and path network. The boundary wall has been extended W since the time of the 1st Ed OS. Originally an orchard was shown at the western end and mentioned as being present in the later years of the 19th century. An opening at the west entrance in the wall lines up with the main door of the house. The garden frames the view to and from the house.

There are entrances at the west end and from the main driveway. Trees line the boundary wall on the south side and the drive on the N side.

The drive marks the edge of the pleasure gardens. The area in front of the house now consists of managed lawns with trees. In the past there were some occasional pathways. Views from the garden to the exterior were restricted by the high wall. The drive lies to the N of this component and rounds the bend to the east and south to the carriage sweep. This open landscape is low lying which adds to the grandeur of the house as it appears raised by the built-up carriage sweep. The conservatory would have been an attraction in the nineteenth century.

enter through relatively new but dilapidated and dangerous potting sheds on the north side of the garden wall. Anecdotally these housed three men (? gardeners). Currently the whole area is used as a horse paddock.

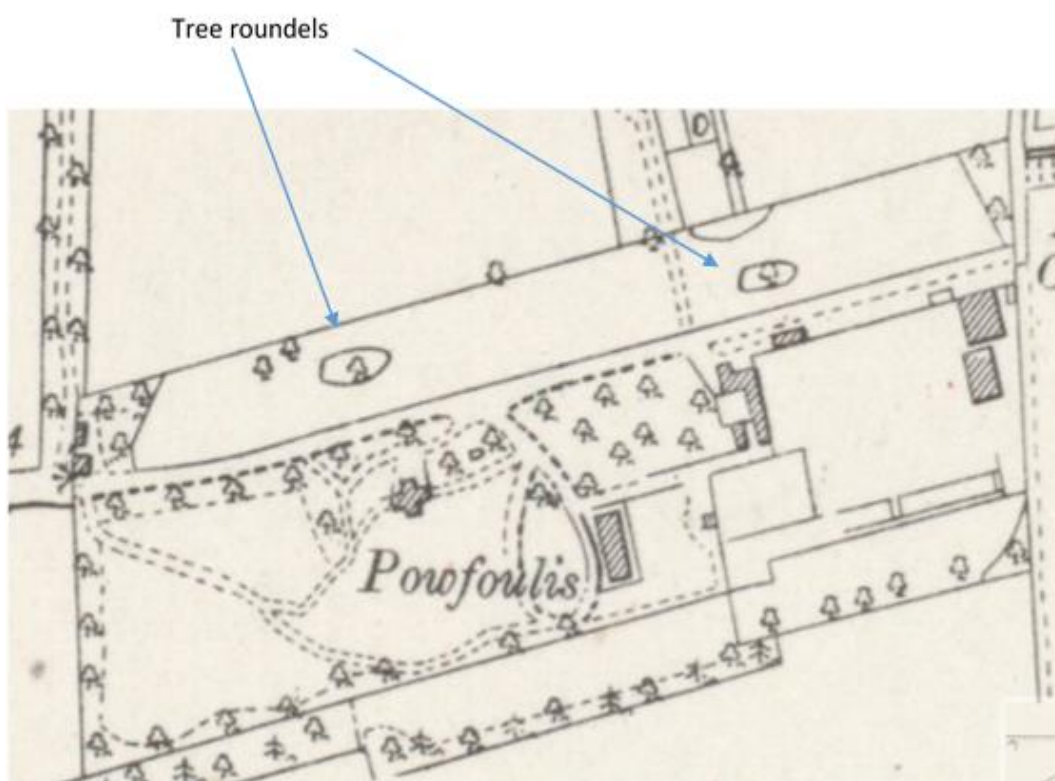
Just outside the NE corner of the kitchen garden, there is a pair of gateposts of freestone showing V- channelled points and moulded capitals. The north gate post bears on its E face a shield on which the date 1688 appears in figures which are certainly of the period; the S post bears a shield dividing the word FAITHFULL and charged, for Bruce: A saltire and chief. The lettering seems to have been recut, and it is possible that the gate posts may have been rebuilt. The walls of the kitchen garden seem to contain masonry of more than one period, and the inner face of the N wall is lined with brick. Reset in the N face of this wall, near the W end, there is part of a large stone figure of Renaissance type portraying a boy holding a ball.



Illus 19: Boy holding a ball, north wall of kitchen garden

6.4 Parkland to the north of house

This runs to the full length of the north side of the avenue and of the old rear east drives. It is very flat, low lying ground with little detail. It includes two roundels composed of sycamore, ash, horse chestnut (Appendix: tree list). A doocot present on old maps is now missing. The boundary wall is marked by shards of waste from the iron works. The old entrance to Saltgreen exists but is narrowed (in dressed stone with finished copes) to footpath width, no longer wide enough for a cart, and there is no longer a track from the stable.



Illus 20: Site of the roundels



Illus 21: Rear gate which gives access to reclaimed land adjacent to the river Forth



Illus 22: Chimney stack with oven / stove adjacent to walled garden



Illus 23: Ruined buildings built on to kitchen garden (were accommodation for staff at one point)



Illus 24: Building to north of house contains pipework and remains of boiler

7. Assessment of Significance

7.1 The Concept of Significance

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

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

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

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

The grading of significance here is based on a ranking system developed from Kerr (1996) 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.

7.2 The Significance of the Designed Landscape of Powfoulis

Intrinsic

Sadly the legibility of the development of the setting at Powfoulis is not great, not least because we did not find many records on which to base further research. The house, however, is in good condition and despite its expansion from villa to mansion, it retains many of the features of an early 19th century villa. The layout of the site also suggests the change of entrance façade with the switch from river to road transport.

Contextual

William Dawson, owner of Powfoulis in the mid-19th century, was the co-owner of the very important Carron Iron Works. It was he who first suggested a modernisation programme at Carron. New furnaces were built in 1870 and between 1875 and 1883, old buildings were torn down and new ones appeared. The family continued to play an important part in local affairs, particularly as benefactors, until the Dawson Trust sold out to the family that turned the house into a hotel which members of the same family run today.

Associative

We have not found much by way of interesting associations. The architect of the villa is not known, nor the designer of the two later wings. Both the house and the coach house, however, merit inclusion in the Gifford and Walker's *Stirling and Central Scotland* 2006, one of the Pevsner Architectural Guides in the Buildings of Scotland Series.

Cultural Significance

Given the comments above, we have concluded that the site is locally significant, particularly with regard to the role of the Dawson family in the industrial affairs of the area. If more document sources become available, that assessment might change.

8.0 Sources consulted

8.1 Historic maps

<i>Title</i>	<i>Sheet</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Cartographer</i>
Pont Maps of Scotland	The East Central Lowlands (Stirling, Falkirk & Kilsyth)] - Pont 32	1593-96	Timothy Pont
Sterlinensis praefectura, [vulgo], Sterlin-Shyr / Auct. Timoth. Pont		1654	Blaeu, Joan from an earlier draft by Pont, Timothy

Military Survey of Scotland	Highlands - 1747-52	1747-55	General William Roy
John Thomson's Atlas of Scotland, 1832	Stirlingshire	1832	Thomson, John, 1777- ca. 1840 Johnson, William, fl. 1806-1840
6-inch to the mile, first edition	Stirlingshire Sheet XXIV	Surveyed 1864 published 1865	Ordnance Survey
25-inch to the mile, 1st edition, 1855-1882	Stirlingshire Sheet XXIV.8 (Combined)	Surveyed 1861 Published 1865	Ordnance Survey
6-Inch to the mile, 2 nd edition	Stirlingshire XXIV NE	Revised 1896 Published 1899	Ordnance Survey
25-inch to the mile, 2 nd edition	Stirlingshire 024.8		Ordnance Survey
6-inch 2nd and later editions, 1892-1960, 1913 revision	Stirlingshire Sheet nXXIV.NE (includes: Airth; Dunipace; Falkirk; Grangemouth; Larbert; St Ninians)	Revised 1913 Published 1921	Ordnance Survey
25-inch 2nd and later edition	Stirlingshire n024.08 (includes: Airth; Grangemouth) Publication date: 1915 Revised: 1913 survey	Revised 1913 Levelled 1914 Published 1915	Ordnance Survey
Six-inch 2 nd and later editions	Stirlingshire Sheet nXXIV.NE (includes: Airth; Grangemouth)	Revised 1946 Published 1951	Ordnance Survey
OS 1:25,000 maps of Great Britain		1937-1961	Ordnance Survey

Past Map	http://pastmap.org.uk/	2016	RCAHMS
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Source: <http://maps.nls.uk>

8.2 Aerial photographs

National Collection of Aerial Photography: Date: 10 May 1946 Date known, Location: Powfoulis Manor Hotel; Airth; STIRLINGSHIRE; SCOTLAND Coordinates (lat, lon): 56.051993, -3.748875

<http://ncap.org.uk/frame/8-1-2-2-13-744?search=keywords/Powfoulis&free-text=yes>

Source: www.ncap.org.uk

8.3 Other sources

8.3.1 Websites

<http://www.pastmap.org.uk/>

<http://www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/>

<http://www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/digital-volumes/historical-tax-rolls/land-tax-rolls-1645-1831/land-tax-rolls-stirlingshire-volume-05/3#zoom=2&lat=1429.5&lon=1205&layers=B>

<http://www.scottisharchitects.org.uk/>

<http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk>

http://www.dsl.ac.uk/entry/snd/pow_n2 Dictionary of the Scots Language

<http://www.maps.nls.uk>

<http://tompaterson.co.uk/places/AMS304airth.htm>

Powfoulis Manor hotel web site http://www.Powfoulis.co.uk/history_historical_information.htm

<http://www.thepeerage.com/p23319.htm>

http://www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org/heritage/archives/finding-aids/docs/stirlingshire/Building_Warrants.pdf

<https://www.geni.com/people/Marion-Napier/6000000017304381513>

<https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=Fb8NAAAAQAAJ> (did not read)

<http://universitystory.gla.ac.uk/ww1-biography/?id=2119>

8.3.2 Books, articles and grey literature

Gifford, John & Walker, John Arneil *Stirling and Central Scotland* Yale university Press in association with the National Trust for Scotland

LUC 2013 *Mauldslie Castle Estate Conservation Management Plan*. September 2013

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The National Library of Scotland Map Library

Appendix: Tree List

Powfoulis Manor Hotel

List of (older) trees of interest

Drive

Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanoides*
Ash *Fraxinus sp.*
Horse Chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum*
Rhododendron (young)
Yew (young) *Taxus baccata*
Portuguese laurel (young) *Prunus lusitanica*
Sweet chestnut *Castania sativa*

Walls

Ash round walls *Fraxinus sp.*
Holly near lodge *Ilex sp.*
Pear near lodge *Pyrus communis*

Rear of house not within kitchen garden

One old pear tree *Pyrus communis* 'Conference' approx. 50 yrs old

South side of main garden

Prunus cerasifera purple leaves
Cut leaf beech *Fagus sylvatica* 'Laciniata', synonym *Fagus sylvatica* 'Asplenifolia'
Beech cultivar *Fagus sylvatica* f. *latifolia* its synonym appears to be *Fagus sylvatica* 'Prince George of Crete'

2x Acers with very orange leaves
Sycamore *Acer sp.*
Ash *Fraxinus sp.*
Apple *Malus sp.* very old and hollow
Cedar *Cedrus atlantica* (not glauca)
Western red cedar *Thuja plicata*
Yews *Taxus sp.*
Holly variegated possibly *Ilex aquifolium* 'Argentea Variegata', *Ilex x altaclerensis* 'Variegata'
Portuguese laurel (large) *Prunus lusitanica*
Holly possibly *Ilex x altaclerensis*
Prunus – red with ½ reverted to green, flowering cherry, approx. planting 1900
Prunus with large leaves
Cedar *Cedrus atlantica glauca* (1815) with blue leaves
Beech *Fagus sylvatica*
Lawsons Cypress (both old & young) *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*

Cedar *Cedrus deodara*

Hollies *Ilex aquifolium*

North side of drive

Lime x 2 *Tilia sp.*

Sycamore x 3 *Acer sp.*

Birch *Betula sp.*

Oak *Quercus robur*

Beech very old x 1 *Fagus sp.*

Roundels of trees (appeared approx. 1913)

Western

Oak *Quercus sp.*

Horse chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum*

Lime *Tilia sp.*

Birch (very large) *Betula pubescens* (Downy birch)

Sycamore x 2 *Acer sp.*

Eastern

Buttery yellow Acers: *Acer platanoides*, Norway maple 60-70 yrs old

Acer with very big leaves ID unknown

Acer with smaller leaves probably also *Acer platanoides* approx. 100 yrs old

Garden ground on the south as one approaches the coach house

Pear – *Pyrus communis* conference but appears relatively young