

## Case information

<b>Case ID</b>	300017048		
<b>File Reference</b>	HGH/B/TC/219		
<b>Name of Site</b>	Castle Huntly, including Terraced Garden and Statuary and Boundary Walls, near Dundee		
<b>Local Authority</b>	Perth and Kinross Council		
<b>National Grid Reference</b>	NO 30201 29094 (Castle Huntly), NO 30270 29058 (Terraced Garden and Statues)		
<b>Designation No. (if any)</b>	LB12868		
<b>Designation Type</b>	Listed Building	<b>Current Category of Listing</b>	A
<b>Case Type</b>	Amendment		
<b>Received/Start Date</b>	2014 [Scottish Prison Service Listing Review 2014-15]		
<b>Decision Date</b>	23 October 2015		

## 1. Decision

In our current state of knowledge, Castle Huntly including Garden Terraces and Statues continues to meet the criteria for listing. The statutory listing address and the listed building record have been amended.

<b>Statutory address</b>	HMP Castle Huntly including Garden Terraces and Statues, Longforgan, near Dundee
--------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------

## 2. Designation Background and Development Proposals

### 2.1 Designation Background

Castle Huntly, the North Gate and the Dovecot were all listed on 05/10/1971. The Ice House was listed on 25/02/1993. The buildings are situated within Longforgan Parish which was resurveyed in 1996. No known comprehensive listing review of the buildings has taken place since 1996.

### 2.2 Development Proposals

There are no known development proposals.

## 3. Assessment

### 3.1 Assessment information

HMP Castle Huntly site was visited on 10 December 2014 as part of our partnership project with the Scottish Prison Service where we are carrying out a review of existing listed prisons. The review of HMP Castle Huntly is part of this project. The exterior and interior of Castle Huntly was seen.

### 3.2 Assessment against designation criteria

An assessment against the listing criteria was carried out. See **Annex A**.

*The designation criteria are found in the Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP), pp. 71-85. <http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/shep-dec2011.pdf>*

---

### **Elizabeth McCrone**

Head of Designations  
Heritage Management  
Historic Environment Scotland

<b>Contact</b>	Elizabeth McCrone, Head of Designations Elizabeth.mccrone@scotland.gsi.gov.uk, 0131 668 8760
----------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

## ANNEX A – Assessment Against the Listing Criteria\*

HMP Castle Huntly including Garden Terraces and Statues, Longforgan, near Dundee

---

### 1. Description

---

Castle Huntly has its origins in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. It is set on a flat plain close to the River Tay and it stands on a volcanic mound. Its corbelled and battlemented parapet and angle turrets contribute to its distinctive landscape presence. Constructed in the local pinkish brown stone, there is a strongly vertical L-plan tower house dating to the 15<sup>th</sup> century which is largely 3-storeys with an attic and deep basement. It was remodelled in the 17<sup>th</sup> century (mainly internal alterations and the enclosing of basement vaults to the north-west) and again in 1777-83 when a pair of 2-storey crowstep-gabled castellated wings were added to the east. In 1792-5 John Paterson was employed to build a single storey block between the wings. This was remodelled and recessed in 1937-8.

The stonework is predominantly random rubble to the earlier tower and roughly squared and coursed to the 18<sup>th</sup> century work. There is mostly 12-pane glazing in timber sash and case windows.

The interior was seen in 2014. The entrance lobby leads to a top lit oval saloon of 1793-5 with a decorative cornice and a classical style chimneypiece. There are 6-panel timber doors. There are early vaulted storerooms in the basement, one of which provides access to a pit-prison. Some of the principal rooms have architraved doorcases, corniced ceilings in classical styles and timber shutters. The former dining room has a vine leaf cornice and a moulded stone fireplace of the 1930s. There is a stone staircase with iron barleysugar balusters and a timber handrail.

The Garden Terraces lie to the south and are likely to date from the late 17<sup>th</sup> century. There are two main tall brick walls forming terracing which run west to east and various other surviving sections of walls. Along the upper terrace there are three (now painted white) Renaissance classical statues, one male and two female which are also thought to date from the late 17<sup>th</sup> century.

### 2. Assessment Against the Listing Criteria (SHEP, 2011) pp74-75

---

Criteria for determining whether a building is of 'special architectural or historic interest' for listing under the terms of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997 [[www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1997/9/contents](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1997/9/contents)]

*To be listed, a building need not meet all the listing criteria. The criteria provide a framework within which judgement is exercised in reaching individual decisions.*

#### 2.1 Age and Rarity

Castle Huntly has its origins in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. During the Second World War it was used as a girls' probation school before being bought by the Scottish Home and Health Department in 1946 for use as a Borstal. It was later used as a Young Offenders' Institution and it is now an Open Prison for adults.

The site has been redeveloped in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries and there are a number of later buildings on the site related to the Open Prison which are not of interest in listing terms.

In 1452 Andrew, first Lord Gray was granted a royal licence to build a castle and it is likely that construction of Castle Huntly began not long after this. Patrick, first Earl of Kinghorne bought the estate in 1613 and his son, John remodelled the house, renaming it Castle Lyon, in the 1630s as his summer seat. It was inherited by Patrick, third Earl of Kinghorne (and later first Earl of Strathmore) around 1660 and he lived there until 1670 and remodelled the interior of the house and laid out the gardens and parkland before moving on to carry out work at Glamis Castle. In 1777 the estate was sold to George Paterson who enlarged and remodelled the house in two phases in 1777-83 (Buildings of Scotland notes that the architect for this work was apparently James Playfair) and 1792-5 (see summary description above). The estate remained in the Paterson family until after the death of Colonel Adrian Paterson in 1940.

Castle Huntly appears on early maps, such as John Adair's map of 1683 where it appears under its former name of Castle Lyon. Its footprint appears largely as it is now on the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey map, which was surveyed in 1861 and published in 1867. The three Renaissance statues which are now located on the garden terrace to the south are shown on this map laid in a different arrangement to the east of the Castle.

The Statistical Account of Scotland for Longforgan parish written in 1791-99 describes the work that Patrick, third Earl of Kinghorne carried out '... and the whole grounds were dressed up in the all the grandeur of summer houses, statues, avenues, gates, ornamented with various orders of architecture ... agreeable to the taste of the times.'

The Statistical Account of 1791-99 also explains the changes which Paterson made after acquiring the castle in 1777, 'The castle also, although completely modernised within, has assumed even a more castellated appearance outwardly than formerly. The wings, embattled walls, round tower, and corner turrets, have been given it by the present proprietor; who has restored the ancient name of Huntly, by which it was so long known while in possession of the family of Gray.'

In terms of age and rarity, Castle Huntly, with its origins in the 15<sup>th</sup> century, is an outstanding early example of tower house architecture. Stone buildings from this period which survive largely intact are highly significant and rare. Castle Huntly is tangible evidence of over 500 years of Scottish social and architectural history. The earlier tower house remains readable against the 18<sup>th</sup> century alterations which add to its interest and together they represent the changing fashions of these times.

The garden terraces and statues have particular interest under age and rarity. The idea of creating terraced gardens with classical features was highly fashionable in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century with Balcaskie in Fife by Sir William Bruce of around the same date being a rare and excellent surviving example which is listed at category A and included on the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes. As landscaping fashions changed many early examples were lost and this increases the interest of the surviving garden terraces at Castle Huntly. An understanding and appreciation of classical art and architecture was a sign of sophistication for a 17<sup>th</sup> century nobleman and the creation at Castle Huntly of a terraced garden with classical statues is tangible evidence of this aspect of aristocratic life in Scotland at this period.

## **2.2 Architectural or Historic Interest**

### ***Interior***

Castle Huntly does not have an exceptional surviving interior scheme. While there are elements of interest in the vaulted cellars, the pit-prison, the oval saloon and some late 18<sup>th</sup> century cornice and timberwork, there is not an overall coherent scheme or individual exceptional features.

### ***Plan form***

The plan form of the Castle is of interest in understanding the evolution of Scottish architecture. The L-plan tower house, with its emphasis on verticality, is an important example of Scottish tower house architecture.

The garden terraces themselves also have interest in that they are a tangible reminder of the fashion for Renaissance style gardens with terraces in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century in Scotland.

### ***Technological excellence or innovation, material or design quality***

See *age and rarity* above for further information relating to this section

While the tower house itself at Castle Huntly has clear interest under age and rarity, it is arguably the late 18<sup>th</sup> century wings which have particular interest under this section.

The Statistical Account of 1791-99 (quoted above) noted that the Castle appeared more castellated than formerly with the addition of the two wings and corner turrets etc. This late 18<sup>th</sup> work at the Castle is very much in tune with the fashion of the time when 'old' was becoming more interesting and castellated architecture was beginning to be popular. Thus, an already defensive building type, the tower house at Huntly could be 'improved' by giving it an even more castellated appearance. This has particular interest under design quality as an example of the fashion for castellated architecture in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century.

The design quality of the late 17<sup>th</sup> century statues and garden terraces is also worthy of mention as examples of Renaissance garden design in Scotland during this period.

### ***Setting***

The immediate setting has been altered by the construction of a range of buildings, predominantly to the north and west but also to the south and east, in the 20<sup>th</sup> century associated with its use as a prison. However, the Castle's character as a

significant vertical feature in the flat landscape remains readable and it is a major landscape feature.

### ***Regional variations***

Other than local stone being used in the construction of the Castle there is no significant regional variation here.

## **2.3 Close Historical Associations**

Due to its age and status many people of note throughout the centuries have been associated with Castle Huntly. In an architectural context perhaps the most significant was Patrick, third Earl of Kinghorne who carried out the late 17<sup>th</sup> century work described above. He also carried out the rebuilding of Glamis Castle in 1670-9 which he designed himself. He reorientated and extended Glamis into a symmetrical splay plan and made a range of other innovative alterations. Kinghorne made an important contribution to Scottish architectural and landscape history.

## **3. Working with the Principles of Listing** (SHEP 2011, p76)

---

In choosing buildings within the above broad headings particular attention is paid to:

- a. special value within building types*
- b. contribution to an architecturally or historically interesting group*
- c. the impact of vernacular buildings*
- d. authenticity*

When working with the principles of listing Castle Huntly has particular interest under a, b and d.

a) Castle Huntly has special value within tower house architecture as it is an excellent surviving example of its type. It has further interest for the castellated wings and other work carried out in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century which are good examples of the fashion for castellated architecture in this period.

The garden terraces and statues are important for our understanding of late 17<sup>th</sup> century Scottish landscapes.

b) The interest of the castle is enhanced by the survival of its ancillary structures (Dovecot, Ice House and North Gate) and the group value here is therefore important in understanding the site and its development.

d) Castle Huntly remains readable as an early tower house and the later wings also retain their late 18<sup>th</sup> century character.

## **4. Summary of Assessment Against the Listing Criteria\*\***

---

Castle Huntly, with its origins in the 15<sup>th</sup> century, is an outstanding early example of tower house architecture. Stone buildings from this period which survive largely intact are highly significant and rare. Castle Huntly is tangible evidence of over 500 years of Scottish social and architectural history. The earlier tower house remains

readable against the 18<sup>th</sup> century alterations which also add to its interest and represent the changing fashions of the times.

The Garden Terraces and Statues also have particular interest. The idea of creating terraced gardens with classical features was highly fashionable in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century. As landscaping fashions changed many early examples were lost and this increases the interest of the surviving garden terraces at Castle Huntly. An understanding and appreciation of classical art and architecture was a sign of sophistication for a 17<sup>th</sup> century nobleman and the creation at Castle Huntly of a terraced garden with classical statues is tangible evidence of this aspect of aristocratic life in Scotland at this period.

In our current state of knowledge it continues to meet the criteria for listing.

## 5. Category of Listing

---

**Categories of listing are non-statutory and buildings are assigned a category (A, B or C) according** to their relative importance following the assessment against the criteria for listing.

Category definitions are found at: [www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/heritage/historicandlistedbuildings/listing](http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/heritage/historicandlistedbuildings/listing)

In terms of the age and rarity of this building type in Scotland, this building is of exceptional interest and is therefore considered to continue to meet the criteria for listing at category A in view of its national importance.

## 6. Other Information

---

The previous listed building record included the boundary walls in the statutory address. There are extensive rubble policy walls to the east and south which were largely rebuilt in the later 20<sup>th</sup> century and they are not considered of sufficient special interest to merit continued inclusion in the statutory address.

## 7. References

---

Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland:

<http://www.rcahms.gov.uk/canmore.html> CANMORE ID 31728

John Adair (1683) *The Mappe of Straithern, Stormont, and Cars of Gowrie with the rivers Tay and Ern* at <http://maps.nls.uk/view/00001006>

Ordnance Survey (surveyed 1861, published 1867) Perthshire LXXXVIII. 6 inches to 1 mile 1<sup>st</sup> Edition. London: Ordnance Survey.

John Gifford (2007) *Perth and Kinross: The Buildings of Scotland*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press. p.259-62.

Statistical Account (1791-99) *Longforgan – County of Perth*, Vol. 19. pp.468, 474-479.

New Statistical Account (1834-45) *Longforgran – County of Perth*, Vol. 10. pp.409-10.

Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. Session 1959-60, Vol. 93.  
pp.202-16.

---

<b>Date of Assessment</b>	23/07/2015
---------------------------	------------

\* This assessment is based on our current state of knowledge and has been prepared for the purpose of consultation or to provide a view on the special interest of a building. This assessment is a consultation document and will form the basis of any new or updated listed building record should the structure be listed. The content of this assessment may change to take into account further information received as a result of the consultation process.

\*\* A building may be found to meet the listing criteria but in some circumstances may not be added to the list. See 'When might Historic Environment Scotland list a building' at [www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/historicandlistedbuildings/whatwelist](http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/historicandlistedbuildings/whatwelist)