

## Case information

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<b>Case ID</b>	300017050		
<b>File Reference</b>	HGH/B/TC/219		
<b>Name of Site</b>	Castle Huntly, North Gates		
<b>Local Authority</b>	Perth and Kinross Council		
<b>National Grid Reference</b>	NO 30436 29580		
<b>Designation No. (if any)</b>	LB12871		
<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

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In our current state of knowledge, the Castle Huntly North Gate continues to meet the criteria for listing. The statutory listing address and the listed building record has been amended.

<b>Statutory address</b>	North Gate, HMP Castle Huntly, Longforgan, near Dundee
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## 2. Designation Background and Development Proposals

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### 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

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### 3.1 Assessment information

The 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..

### 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>*

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# ANNEX A – Assessment Against the Listing Criteria\*

North Gate, HMP Castle Huntly, Longforgan, near Dundee

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## 1. Description

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The Renaissance-style gateway dates to the late 17<sup>th</sup> century and was relocated here in 1783. Built of ashlar, the two large square plan corniced gatepiers have engaged columns and are topped by elongated pyramidal caps set at an angle. There are undulating screen walls to the right and left with round-arched pedestrian openings which terminate in smaller square plan piers with pyramidal caps.

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

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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 Heath 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.

The Statistical Account of Scotland for Longforgan parish written in 1791-99 notes that, ‘The gate is very remarkable ... It was one of six ... built in a straight line, upon the approach between Longforgan and the Castle ... it was taken down about twelve years ago and rebuilt, where it now stands ...’

The North Gate is the only survivor of the six mentioned in the Statistical Account. Gateways as a decorative feature, rather than a defensive one, appear in Scotland in the 17<sup>th</sup> century on large estates often as part of other landscaping work. At that time formal tree lined avenues and approaches were the fashion. A set of six gateways would have been highly fashionable in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century and been an early indication when approaching the Castle of the owner’s taste, wealth, knowledge and ambition. Although the other examples do not survive and this one was moved to its present location in 1783, it remains an important early example of a gateway constructed in expensive, high quality ashlar and in the classical style which at that time was pioneering (Sir William Bruce’s neoclassical Kinross House was built in the

1680s and 90s – Bruce being considered the founder of classical architecture in Scotland).

The gatepiers themselves with their tall pyramidal caps are similar to those at Moray House in Edinburgh, which also date from the late 17<sup>th</sup> century and are similarly listed at category A.

The North Gate is an important early example of classical architecture in Scotland and it is an integral part of the surviving historic structures at Castle Huntly.

## **2.2 Architectural or Historic Interest**

### ***Interior***

N/A

### ***Plan form***

N/A

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

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

A central carriageway entrance and flanking pedestrian entrances with a screen wall is typical for gateways. The design quality here is in relation to the gates being an early example of classical design in Scotland.

### ***Setting***

The immediate setting of the North Gates has been altered by 20<sup>th</sup> century construction, particularly by an avenue of housing formerly associated with the prison. This has had an impact on the character of the gates, however, this does not outweigh the outstanding interest of the gateway as an early example of classical architecture.

### ***Regional variations***

Other than local stone being used in the construction of the Doocot 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 to the Castle. 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)**

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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 North Gate has particular interest under a, b and d.

- a) The North Gate has special value within gateway architecture and as an early example of the classical style of architecture in Scotland.
- b) The interest of this gateway is enhanced by the survival of the castle, dovecot and ice house and the group value here is therefore important in understanding the site and its development.
- d) Although the gate was re-sited in its present location in 1783 and it is the only surviving one out of a set of six, this has not unduly diminished its authenticity and it remains readable as an example of late 17th century classical architecture.

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

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The North Gate is the only survivor of six originally constructed at Castle Huntly in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century. Gateways as a decorative feature, rather than a defensive one, appear in Scotland in the 17<sup>th</sup> century on large estates often as part of other landscaping work. At that time formal tree lined avenues and approaches were the fashion. A set of six gateways would have been highly fashionable in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century and been an early indication when approaching the Castle of the owner's taste, wealth, knowledge and ambition. Although the other examples do not survive and this one was moved to its present location in 1783, it remains an important early example of a gateway constructed in expensive, high quality ashlar and in the classical style which at that time was pioneering. It is an integral part of the surviving historic structures at Castle Huntly.

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

#### **5. Category of Listing**

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**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)

The North Gate is an important, early example of classical architecture in Scotland and it is therefore considered to continue to meet the criteria for listing at category A in view of its national importance.

#### **6. Other Information**

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N/A

## 7. References

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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) *Longforgan – County of Perth*, Vol. 10. pp.409-10.

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

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<b>Date of Assessment</b>	23/07/2015
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\* 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)