

## Case information

<b>Case ID</b>	300017406		
<b>File Reference</b>	HGH/B/SL/251		
<b>Name of Site</b>	Linn Park Bridge, Cathcart, Glasgow		
<b>Local Authority</b>	Glasgow City Council		
<b>National Grid Reference</b>	NS 58094 59244		
<b>Designation No. (if any)</b>	LB33333		
<b>Designation Type</b>	Listed Building	<b>Current Category of Listing</b>	B
<b>Case Type</b>	Designation Amendment		
<b>Received/Start Date</b>	April 2014		
<b>Decision Date</b>	19/05/2016		

## 1. Decision

In our current state of knowledge, Linn Park Bridge continues to meet the criteria for listing at category B. The statutory listing address and the listed building record has been amended.

<b>Previous statutory listing Address</b>	Linn Park, Iron Bridge
<b>Amended statutory listing address</b>	Linn Park Bridge, Linn Park, Cathcart, Glasgow

## 2. Designation Background and Development Proposals

### 2.1 Designation Background

This building was listed at category B on 12/10/1989.

The bridge is located within the grounds of Linn Park House (LB 33334).

The bridge was scheduled on 07/11/1980. It was descheduled on 13/02/2015. Listing was found to be the most appropriate designation for this structure.

## 2.2 Development Proposals

Like for like replacement of the southwest bridge abutment was carried out in January 2016.

## 3. Assessment

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### 3.1 Assessment information

The bridge at Linn Park was considered for review as part of the Scheduling Area Review (West) in 2014. The bridge at Linn Park was visited on 16/05/2014.

### 3.2 Assessment against designation criteria

The building was found to meet the criteria for listing.

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

*The designation criteria are found in the Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP), pp71-85. <http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/shep-dec2011.pdf>*

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# ANNEX A – Assessment Against the Listing Criteria\*

## Linn Park Bridge, Linn Park, Cathcart, Glasgow

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### 1. Description

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Circa 1811-1820. Single-span, cast iron bridge with ornamental pierced ironwork spandrels and roundels to the outer ribs, crossing the White Cart Water at Linn Park, Glasgow.

The bridge is 13.12 metres (43 feet) long and 3.66 metres (12 feet) wide with a semi-elliptical depressed arch formed from four ribs spaced 1.22 metres (4 feet) apart and braced by rectangular frames held by bolts with square nuts.

The bridge has sandstone abutments and simple parapet handrails, also of cast iron. A concrete deck was installed in the 1950s, replacing the 19<sup>th</sup> century timber deck. The abutments were extended in the 1960s. The southwest abutment was replaced and the bridge restricted to pedestrian use in 2016.

### 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

This former estate bridge, known variously as Linn Park Bridge, the White Bridge or the Ha’penny Bridge, was probably built during the second decade of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The bridge is located on the main drive to Linn Park House (see separate listing) over the river White Cart. Linn Park House and its surrounding estate was in the ownership of the Rev. James Hall from 1811 and sold in 1820. The sale notice of 16 March 1820 refers to an ‘elegant cast iron bridge’ on the estate, so the bridge was most likely to have been constructed between 1811 and 1820. The bridge is shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey map, surveyed in 1858.

Linn Park is situated to the south of Glasgow, near the border of the county of East Renfrewshire. It was formerly associated with Hagtonhill which was owned by local landowners based at Pollok House, owned by the Maxwell family. The park was acquired by the Glasgow Corporation in 1919 and incorporated into the city boundaries in 1938. It is the second largest park in Glasgow, Pollok Park being the largest. The lower part of the Linn Park estate was opened to the public in 1927. A further 4 acres were added in 1933 with the addition of the area known as Court Knowe. Linn Park presently comprises 207 acres. The house is used as a visitor centre (2015).

The first cast iron bridge in the world was the 1779 bridge by Thomas Farnolls Pritchard at Coalbrookdale over the Severn Gorge, Shropshire. The earliest firmly dated example of a segmental cast iron bridge in Scotland is the Duchess Bridge (see separate listing) of 1813 at Langholm over the River Esk. It was cast in Workington, Cumbria. The second known single-span cast iron bridge in Scotland is Craigellachie Bridge in Aberlour, dating from 1814, a twin to the demolished Bonar Bridge, both of which were cast in Wales and transferred in parts by sea.

Among estate parkland bridges constructed in cast iron, the bridge at Hafton House (see separate listing) near Dunoon, probably erected circa 1815-1820, may be the earliest surviving example (a now missing example is documented as having existed in Islay). The Naughton Estate has one of Scotland's earliest surviving cast iron estate footbridges (see separate listing). It was cast in 1818 and erected by Henry Balfour & Co, Durie Foundry of Leven in Fife. There are similar but smaller bridges on the Cambo Estate in Fife, perhaps from the same Durie foundry in Leven. Possibly even earlier is Linlathen East Bridge, Dundee, but that is primarily wrought-iron rather than cast.

The bridge at Linn Park was erected within this early phase of cast iron bridge building. It is not as ornate as some of the similar examples of cast iron bridges mentioned above or illustrated in Paxman and Shipway's *Civil Engineering Heritage*. It does however combine contemporary decorative motifs including a Greek frieze with gothic spandrels, saltire lattice-work (known to be favoured by Thomas Telford) and 'ha'penny' roundels. The result is a notable mix of gothic and classical styles. The elliptical shape is relatively unusual in a cast iron bridge, permitting the load to bear down vertically and laterally onto stone abutments – whereas, for example, Linlathen Bridge has angled abutments to receive the thrust of the arch. The ellipse is known to have been used in parkland settings in England and Germany, as well as in Russian and the USA (examples are known to be located in St Petersburg and New York Central Park which has two of only three cast iron bridges in the USA).

From the 1820s, cast iron was increasingly used for bridge-building. The material was not only used for its flexibility, practicality and durability, but also for its ability to be manipulated for decorative effect. The material gained popularity in Scotland in the 1820s and through to the 1850s and 1860s, when it was supplanted by wrought iron and then steel. Scotland has few surviving examples of iron bridges. Scotland pioneered iron construction in many ways, and surviving examples which retain their original fabric are considered to be of interest in listing terms, as they add to knowledge of engineering and to understanding of this type of bridge construction.

The estate bridge at Linn Park is an early and rare example of a single-span cast iron structure in Scotland, and is the oldest complete iron bridge in Glasgow. The second oldest is the arch carrying London Road over Molendinar Buen at Schipka Pass (1826).

## **2.2 Architectural or Historic Interest**

### ***Interior***

N/A

### **Plan form**

The bridge is rectangular in plan form, and this is not uncommon for a building of this type.

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

The design of the bridge is visually distinctive with four ribs with ornamental pierced spans, cast in large sections. The decorative cast iron spandrels, using a number of architectural stylistic motifs including Greek and gothic, run the length of each rib. The pierced iron work motifs give the structure a light and elegant appearance, appropriate to its former parkland estate setting.

No maker's marks are evident on the Linn Park Bridge. While a designer or builder's name is not currently associated with this bridge, the decorative quality and construction suggest that a renowned architect, engineer, or foundry may have been responsible.

### **Setting**

The bridge at Linn Park is located near Linn Park House (listed at category B) and forms part of the setting of the house and the designed landscape of the estate. It is located on the former drive to the house, over the river White Cart. The secluded and picturesque setting of the bridge has changed little since the 19<sup>th</sup> century. It is now part of a publically accessible network of pedestrian routes through the park (2016).

### **Regional variations**

There are no known regional variations.

## **2.3 Close Historical Associations**

There are no known nationally significant historical associations at present.

There is a local historical connection with Colin Campbell, who purchased the land in 1820, and named the estate The Lynn, after a waterfall there. Campbell was an officer in the British Army who became famous for his campaigns in Crimea and India, and is known to have successfully ended the Mutiny there. He was created 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Clyde, and made a Field Marshall on his return to Scotland.

## **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 Linn Park Bridge has particular interest under a, b and d;

- a. The bridge is a notable early example of ornamental cast iron bridge engineering in Scotland.

- b. The bridge forms a part of the setting of Linn Park House, a category B listed building.
- d. The bridge has been moderately altered but largely retains its early 19<sup>th</sup> century form and cast iron fabric, with each decorative spandrel cast in large sections.

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

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The estate bridge at Linn Park is an early and distinctive example of a single-span cast iron bridge. The decorative pierced iron work, using a number of stylistic motifs including Greek and gothic, give the structure a light and elegant appearance appropriate to its former parkland estate setting.

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)

In view of the relatively early date of the bridge within the timeline of cast iron bridge construction in Scotland, the quality of its pierced, ornamental frame and large mould casting, the bridge is considered to be of more than local significance. When comparing it to contemporary examples of its type, it is not among the most ornate or elaborate in design terms. Some incremental change and alterations to the bridge have also had an impact on the integrity of the original design. Category B denoting regional significance, is therefore considered the most appropriate category of listing.

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

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N/A

#### **7. References**

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Canmore: <http://canmore.org.uk/> CANMORE ID: 43840

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Trinder, B. (1997) *The First Iron Bridges* in R.J.M. Sutherland (ed) *Studies in the History of Civil Engineering*, Vol. 9: Structural Iron, 1750-1850. Aldershot: Ashgate Publishing Limited. pp 247-256.

Roland Paxton and Jim Shipway: *Civil Engineering Heritage of Scotland: Lowlands and Borders* (2007) pp227-228, 232, 334, 369

Small, S. (2008) *Greater Glasgow: An Illustrated Architectural Guide*. Edinburgh: Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland. pp142, 146.

Sale Notice for Linn House, dated 16th March 1820

<http://www.scotcities.com/cathcart/whitecartwalk.htm> [accessed 01.02.2016]

Schipka Pass Bridge (1826) <https://canmore.org.uk/site/44350/glasgow-london-road-schipka-pass-bridge> [accessed 01.02.2016]

Friends of Linn Park. [www.linnpark.org.uk](http://www.linnpark.org.uk) [accessed 01.02.2016]

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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)