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Designation Consultation

This designation consultation is open for comment until 19/06/2025

Give us your comments

Historic Environment Scotland consult with those who are directly affected by designation proposals – including owners, occupiers and tenants – and with the planning authority.

We also welcome comments from interested persons or groups.

When we consult about a designation case we will have carried out research and set this out in a **report of handling**. This report is an assessment produced for consultation and it sets out our view, including a proposed decision. The assessment is not intended to be a definitive account or description of the site or place. We consider the comments received before we take a final decision.

We consider comments and representations which are material to our decision-making, such as:

- Your understanding of the cultural significance of the site or place.
- Whether sites or places meet the criteria for designation.
- The purpose and implications of designating the site or place. We consider whether these are relevant to the case.
- Development proposals related to the site or place. Where there are development proposals, we consider whether to proceed with designation in line with our designation policy.
- The accuracy of our information.

You can find more guidance on providing comments and how we handle your information on our [website](#).

Information on how we treat your personal data is available on our [Privacy Notice](#).

How to make a comment

Please send your comments to designationconsultations@hes.scot and provide us with the case reference. You can also make comments through our [portal](#) by clicking on the link 'email your comments about this case'.

If you are the owner, occupier or tenant or the planning authority please email us at: designations@hes.scot.

If you are unable to email your comments please phone us on 0131 668 8914.



Case information

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|--------------------------------|---|
| Case ID | 300075529 |
| Name of Site | New Cathkin Park, Former Football Ground, Cathkin Park, Glasgow |
| Local Authority | Glasgow City Council |
| National Grid Reference | NS 58964 61933 |
| Designation Type | Scheduled Monument |
| Designation No. | N/A |
| Case Type | Designation |
| Received/Start Date | 29/07/2024 |
| Decision Date | Pending |

1. Proposed decision

| Scheduled monument name (including designation number) | Proposed action |
|---|--|
| New Cathkin Park, Former Football Ground, Cathkin Park, Glasgow (SM13799) | Add to the schedule of monuments (designate) |

2. Designation Background and Development Proposals

2.1 Designation Background

The monument was proposed for designation on 29/07/2024. The monument has no previous designation record and is recorded on Canmore (Canmore ID 295563).

2.2 Development Proposals

There are two development proposals related to this site:

1. 23/01268/FUL – Erection of boundary fence/gate to sports pitch. Status – Pending Decision.

Following Glasgow City Council decision to grant planning permission for this application, a Judicial Review was heard at the Court of Session –



Judicial review of a decision by Glasgow City Council to grant full planning permission for the erection of a boundary fence to the sports pitch at Jimmy Johnstone Academy of Football, 835 Cathcart Road, Glasgow. Court ref: P234/24. Decision by Lord Sandison, 6th August 2024 – <https://www.scotcourts.gov.uk/media/d32lvmch/2024csoh76-petition-of-gregory-brown-for-judicial-review.pdf>.

The judicial review accepted one of three arguments submitted by the Petitioner and decided that the challenge to grant permission should succeed.

2. 24/00851/PLU – Erection of security fencing around sports pitch. Status – Decision – Use is Lawful (28/05/2024).

Following Glasgow City Council decision to grant certificate of lawful proposed use, a Judicial Review was heard at the Court of Session –

Judicial review of a decision by Glasgow City Council to grant a certificate of lawful proposed use or development for the erection of a boundary fence to the sports pitch at Jimmy Johnstone Academy of Football, 835 Cathcart Road, Glasgow. Court ref: P729/24. Decision by Lord Sandison, 10 January 2025. <https://www.scotcourts.gov.uk/media/utool5nr/2025csoh4-petition-of-gregory-brown-for-judicial-reviewpdf.pdf>.

The judicial review found the petitioner's challenge to the issuing of the certificate failed.

3. Assessment

3.1 Assessment information

We received a proposal to designate this site on 29/07/2024.

We visited the site on 20/09/2024.

3.2 Assessment of national importance/special architectural and historical Interest

We carried out an assessment using the selection guidance to decide whether a site or place is of national importance (see Annex A). We found that the site meets the criterion of national importance.

We also considered the potential for listing as part of this current proposal to designate the site. Football stadia are not an uncommon building type and examples can be seen across Scotland. Although this example played an important role in the history of Scottish football, much of the above ground structure has been removed



and it is currently characterised by the remains of terracing and buried archaeological deposits. We therefore consider that it is more appropriate to consider its significance as a monument, using the scheduling criteria.

The designation selection guidance for scheduling is published in the Historic Environment Scotland Designations Policy and Selection Guidance 2019, Annex 1, pp 9-10, <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/designation-policy>.

3.3 Policy considerations

As set out on page 7 of the Designation Policy and Selection Guidance, we normally avoid intervening unnecessarily in the planning process or other regulatory processes where there are development proposals by adding a new designation. This may also extend to reviewing existing designations

We consider the individual circumstances of each case. In deciding whether to designate a site or place or amend an existing designation while there are ongoing development proposals, we will consider:

- the implications of designation on development proposals;
- the effect of the proposed development on the significance of the site or place; and
- the extent to which plans have been developed for the site or place; where these are particularly advanced, we will not normally list or schedule.

We apply our judgement in our consideration of these factors, informed by evidence and opinion gathered through the consultation process.

We consider that the development proposals for the erection of a fence (outlined in section 2.2 above) are advanced; a planning application has been submitted and is being considered by the planning authority. However, the fence would not directly impact on the area proposed for designation and in our view would not affect the overall national importance of the site. If the site is designated, the application for the fence would be a development in the vicinity of a scheduled monument. It would be a consideration in the determination of the planning application. However, at this stage, we think that the proposed fencing would have a relatively minor impact on the monument's setting, and the impact on the planning process would not be such that we should not proceed. As permitted development, the proposal for a smaller proposed fence would not be affected by the designation of the site.

While we have not made a decision about this, we think that the proposed designation is unlikely to have significant implications for the current planning situation. We are therefore proceeding to consult on the proposal to designate on that basis and welcome comments on this issue and our reasoning.

The proposed scheduled monument covers the terracing, related embankment and ground where remains of the grandstand and pavilion are located. The pitch is not included in the proposed scheduled area. Archaeological geophysical survey work from 2017-18 (Pringle, 2018) shows the likely goal post locations and pitch alignment



from before 1903 (when the pitch was moved and realigned) The location of the goal post sockets can be detected because of differences in soil composition and in magnetic readings. The alignment of the pre-1903 pitch may be detectable from the use of lead-based paints for line painting, affecting magnetic values. Soil compaction can also show in such magnetic readings. We therefore can only infer the archaeological potential of these remains but given their likely formation processes, they are likely to be ephemeral.

While we recognise the contribution this area makes to the understanding of the site, given the limited physical remains and archaeological potential of the pitch area, and the continued use of this space as a football pitch, we have decided to exclude it from the scheduled area.

It is our established practice for the scheduling process to exclude areas or features which are not themselves of National Importance and which do not contribute to the overall National Importance of a site. Common examples of exclusions include areas of disturbance or modern development, and modern infrastructure such as roads and boundaries. Exclusions ensure that scheduled monument controls do not apply, and therefore exclusions can facilitate maintenance and the continued use of areas for their existing purposes. Exclusions can be set in text within the scheduling description, or by excluding specific areas in the scheduling map. In this case, the scheduled area has been mapped to exclude the modern pitch.

4. Consultation

4.1 Consultation information

Consultation period: 29/05/2025 to 19/06/2025.

The consultation report of handling is published on our portal for comment. We consult directly with the owner, occupier and/or tenant and the planning authority.

4.2 Designation Consultations

Comments we consider

We will consider comments and representations which are material to our decision-making, such as:

- Your understanding of the cultural significance of the site or place and whether it meets the criteria for designation.
- The purpose and implications of designating the site or place.
- Development proposals related to the site or place. Where there are development proposals, we consider whether to proceed with designation in line with our designation policy.
- The accuracy of our information.



Comments we don't consider

We do not consider comments and representations on non-relevant/non-material issues, such as:

- Economic considerations
- Abusive or offensive remarks
- Whether you personally like, or do not like, a proposal

Our video about consultations explains how you can comment on our designations decisions, and what we can and can't take into account when considering your views <https://www.youtube.com/designations>.

Designations Service

Heritage Directorate
Historic Environment Scotland

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| Contact | designations@hes.scot , 0131 668 8914. |
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ANNEX A – Assessment of national importance

New Cathkin Park, Former Football Ground, Cathkin Park, Glasgow

1 Description

The monument comprises elements of a football ground first constructed in 1883 for Queens Park FC, then the home of Third Lanark Athletic Club from 1903 until its abandonment in 1967. It survives as a set of earthwork embankments with concrete terracing, barrier walls and the buried remains of related structures. The monument is located in a municipal park in the Mount Florida suburb of Glasgow.

The monument consists of an embankment with sections of concrete terracing, concrete barrier walls and the buried archaeological remains of a pavilion and grandstand. The substantial embankment and its terracing form a continuous feature along the east, south and west sides of the adjacent pitch. The embankment measures between approximately 20m to 30m across from the pitch-side concrete barrier outwards to the highest contour of the embankment. There are at least five sections of surviving concrete terracing visible at intervals along the embankment; the largest section is on the south and measures approximately 45m by 20m. The terracing is formed by lengths of shallow concrete steps. There are later metal crush barriers on some sections of the terracing. The terracing in the other areas of embankment is believed to have been removed and is planted with trees. At the base of the terracing, along much of the embankment, is a concrete barrier wall used to separate spectators from the pitch. The north side of the ground is predominantly visible as level grass where archaeological investigations in 2017 and 2022 found buried evidence for the remains of the pavilion and grandstand. Investigation of the pavilion area, in the northeast section yielded brick foundations and an assemblage of related finds. The adjacent grandstand is evidenced from excavated demolition debris and a concrete base with metalwork.

The scheduled area is irregular and includes the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment is expected to survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map. The scheduling specifically excludes all gates, fences, benches, wastebins, signage, and concrete stairways constructed after 1967 (located at the extreme east and southeast of the site) and the top 30cm of all tarmac formed pathways.

2 Statement of National Importance

The national importance of the monument is demonstrated in the following way(s) (see Designations Policy and Selection Guidance, Annex 1, para 17):



- a. The monument is of national importance because it makes a significant contribution to our understanding of the past as the remains of an early to mid-20th century football stadium with late 19th century origins. In particular, it adds to our understanding of the development of the modern football ground and the sport's history in Scotland. It can help us understand the chronology of this site and the development of early football grounds across the country.
- b. The monument retains structural and other physical attributes which makes a significant contribution to our understanding of the past. The overall plan form is clear and several elements of the infrastructure survive as upstanding remains. There is potential for the survival of buried archaeological deposits within and beneath the surviving elements.
- c. The monument is a rare example of an early 20th century football stadium with its origins in the late 19th century, with evidence of later development and use. The embankments and terracing are a rare survivor.
- f. The monument makes a significant contribution to our understanding of the historic landscape by its placement in an urban setting, its association with other football grounds in the area and by its proximity to supporting communities. It is part of a network of urban and semi-urban football grounds of earlier and later date. Glasgow and its football clubs are recognised globally, as a centre for the professional development of the game. The relative density of such grounds in the Glasgow area is a reflection of the game's popularity and this example is characteristic of the successful growth of such clubs in the early and mid-20th century.
- g. The monument has significant associations with historical, traditional, social or artistic figures, events or movements. It was the site of the ground for Queens Park club (known as Hampden Park) between 1883 and 1903. It became home for Third Lanark Athletic Club, one of the founding members of the Scottish Football Association and one of the earliest professional clubs in Scotland, from 1903 onwards. The club, which closed in 1967, has legendary status in the history of Scottish football. New Cathkin Park survives as a monument to one of Scotland's earliest football teams that helped shape the modern game.

3 Assessment of Cultural Significance

This statement of national importance has been informed by the following assessment of cultural significance:

- **Intrinsic characteristics** (how the remains of a site or place contribute to our knowledge of the past)

The monument comprises the elements of a football club ground, located in a modern public park in the Mount Florida area, around four kilometres south of



Glasgow City centre. It survives as the upstanding remains of earthen embankments and sections of concrete terracing and barrier walling, representing the remains of terraced stands. The terracing is formed by sections of multiple shallow steps with narrow sunken ramped walkways, running from top to bottom. The overall plan of the monument is clear and the buried remains of a grandstand and pavilion, located along the north side of the playing pitch are of high archaeological potential. The site includes structural elements of former club grounds dismantled and transported to this location. The remains at Cathkin Park represent a major sports stadium which has its origins in the late 19th century. The site was first used as a football ground in 1883-4 when Queen's Park Football Club constructed a stadium here.

By 1903, the football ground became the new home of Third Lanark. This club originally formed in 1872 from the Third Lanark Rifle Volunteers and move here from their previous ground (also known as Cathkin Park, to the north of this site). Prior to the arrival of Third Lanark, Queen's Park's ground was dismantled including the removal of the original embankments, the pavilion and grandstand. An entirely new stadium was then built for Third Lanark which was smaller and offset to the south of its predecessor. A pavilion and grandstand were dismantled from Third Lanark's previous ground and re-erected in this new location.

This development sequence can be understood from mapping produced at the time. The ground is first depicted on early Ordnance Survey mapping (1895) when it was Queen's Park's ground. It is labelled 'Hampden Park' and shows an enclosed sub-rectangular area with an oval pitch and embankments on the eastern and western sides, a grandstand and pavilion, a bicycle track with a lawn tennis ground at the south-eastern end. The 3rd edition OS map shows the Third Lanark ground and is labelled 'Cathkin Park' and depicts the change in layout with the creation of new embankments and relocated pavilion and grandstand. The 1936 map edition indicates further change - the site expands to the east and additions are made to the western embankment. Stepped terracing is depicted surrounding the pitch on the embankments and in front of the grandstand.

Further changes to the ground took place after the Second World War including additional terracing and a more oval plan to the pitch, also documented in a 1949 historic match programme (Litster, 2010). The eastern embankment was substantially increased in size and the slope of the southern terrace was steepened. Records show a total of 60 concrete formed steps with concrete crush barriers surrounded the pitch. The ground underwent further development during the late 1950s to early 1960s and thereafter – including rebuilding of the grandstand and a covered terrace on the southern embanked terracing. After Third Lanark's demise in 1967, Glasgow District Council purchased the ground (1972) and the stadium remained largely intact but in a deteriorating state. By the 1980s, New Cathkin Park had become a public recreation ground.

There is significant potential for the survival of archaeological features and deposits, including structural remains of the pavilion and grandstand and its related assemblage, as indicated in the results of recent archaeological investigations. The



monument therefore has potential to add to our understanding of the development and use of 20th century football grounds, including construction materials and methods and the sequence of changes since its first construction.

- **Contextual characteristics** (how a site or place relates to its surroundings and/or to our existing knowledge of the past)

New Cathkin Park has significant contextual character when related to football sites within a small area of this part of Glasgow. The site is linked to the development of Queen's Park and Third Lanark clubs. During the mid-nineteenth century both clubs established their first dedicated grounds. Queen's Park football club first developed Queen's Park recreation ground (NGR NS 58337 61807) with an equipment store at a Deaf and Dumb Institute Lodge (Canmore ID 245307). The club then moved to Hampden 1 (NGR NS 58776 61991) in 1873 before moving to the present site in 1883/4.

The first ground for Third Lanark Rifle Volunteers club was at the Third Lanark Drill Ground from 1872 (NGR NS 58220 62960). Linked to this is the Third Lanark Drill Hall (now a listed building LB33688, Canmore ID 172565). The site of Third Lanark's second playing pitch, Cathkin Park 1, was built in 1875, to the North of the New Cathkin Park (NGR NS 59001 62540).

New Cathkin Park was originally known as 'Hampden Park' (1883/4 – 1903) for Queen's Park and then 'Cathkin Park' for Third Lanark (1903-67), subsequently changed to New Cathkin Park after Third Lanark ceased playing. In 1903, Queen's Park moved to what is now known as Hampden Park (later developed into the national stadium known of today - Canmore ID 44242). This sequencing highlights the central importance of New Cathkin Park in the context of major football grounds in Glasgow.

Queen's Park is recognised as the oldest association football club in Scotland, founded in 1867, shaping club football at Cathkin Park (Hampden 2) from 1883 onwards. Later, from 1903 onwards Third Lanark developed this when they adopted the site as their home ground. They remodelled the ground into a modern football stadium. Many similar sites dating to the same period have subsequently been developed to make way for modern facilities or for other land uses.

New Cathkin Park is therefore a rare survivor of a late 19th / 20th century football ground, much of it dating from the 'golden era' of Scottish football, following growth in the economy and population after the Second World War and with an increase in football attendance. No other major football ground from the period survives in as complete a form. Those grounds which survive and continue as playing stadia today have undergone significant changes and do not display as much contextual character. Safety improvements in the 1980s have introduced, for example, all seated stands. The considerable loss of life at Ibrox in 1971 (66 lives lost from crushing in an exit stairway) was a key event driving this change in stadia design. The stadium at New Cathkin Park was abandoned in 1967 and has not undergone



the improvements seen in other grounds and stadia. It is physical reminder of a period when 10,000s of supporters could be seen standing in terraces.

There is the potential to study New Cathkin Park with contemporary sites and modern grounds to understand their layout, structure, development and phasing. It is part of an original, regional cluster of grounds in and around Glasgow. Contemporary surviving grounds which are still in use have necessarily changed beyond the final phase at New Cathkin Park because of modernisation and safety constraints. There is additional research potential here to focus on the study of how the football grounds of Glasgow are related, why their forms are so different and how that is related to a specific club history or date.

The football ground today forms the majority of the public park within which it sits. The monument is a focal point in the local urban landscape of this area of Glasgow. It was a centre for the football community when in use as a professional stadium and still has a community focus as a municipal park and the historic home of a former professional football club.

- **Associative characteristics** (how a site or place relates to people, events, and/or historic and social movements)

Football is recognised as the national sport in Scotland, with its origins in the medieval period. This monument represents the recognised home of one of Scotland's most historically important football clubs, in a country recognised as the home of the modern game of football and a pioneering nation in the development of the sport.

The development of association football took place in the early 1860s in and around London. Association football had set rules agreed upon and adhered to by clubs. This developed in Scotland towards the end of the 1860s / early 1870s particularly in the west of the country. Queen's Park is the oldest club in Scotland and the second oldest surviving club in the world. New Cathkin Park was the site of their home ground (Hampden 2) from 1883-1903. In 1872, Third Lanark Athletic Club was founded as an offshoot of the 3rd Lanarkshire Rifle Volunteers, making them one of the earliest established clubs in the country, using the site from 1903 and renaming it Cathkin Park.

In 1873 the Scottish Football Association (SFA) was formed and the Scottish Cup established. The SFA is the second oldest national football association in the world and the Cup is the second oldest association football competition. Third Lanark were a founding member of the SFA, along with seven other clubs: Queen's Park, Clydesdale, Vale of Leven, Dumbreck, Eastern, Granville and Kilmarnock. Only Queen's Park and Kilmarnock survive today as clubs, playing in professional leagues. In 1890, the Scottish Football League (SFL) was formed with eleven clubs: Third Lanark, Abercorn, Cambuslang, Celtic, Cowlares, Dumbarton, Heart of Midlothian, Rangers, Renton, St Mirren and Vale of Leven. In 1893 the League



expanded with sufficient further clubs to form a second division – the origins of the organisation of modern Scottish Football.

As founding members of the SFA and SFL, Third Lanark played a central role in the development of Scottish Football. It also has one of the longest histories as most founding members went bust, or ceased running in a professional capacity, long before the demise of Third Lanark in 1967. New Cathkin Park is therefore significant through its association with Third Lanark and in the role it has played in the modern game.

Football is recognised as the national sport of Scotland and continues to hold deep connections within and across communities. New Cathkin Park is a link to the early days of Association football and its importance to and impact on communities. It is a monument to the national game and to the clubs that used it as their home ground.

4 References

Historic Environment Scotland <http://www.canmore.org.uk> reference number CANMORE ID 295563 (accessed on 22/11/2024).

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