

Appendix 10.5
SSSI Citations
SNH Consultation



Please quote our reference number on all correspondence

Young Associates (Environmental
Consultants) Ltd.
The Long Barn
Chester Road
Tattenhall
Chester
CH3 9AH

Your Ref: UM/B4400/ANI

Our Ref: CNS/MOT/M73-M74/24337

Date: 14 April 2005

For the Attention of Caroline Mellor

Dear Madam

**RE: M8 BAILLIESTON – NEWHOUSE UPGRADE AND ASSOCIATED IMPROVEMENTS
IMPROVEMENTS TO ADJACENT NETWORK OF THE M73 AND M74
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT - CONSULTATION**

Thank you for your letter dated 04th April 2005 informing Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) of the above road improvements.

SNH have previously been consulted over various sections of the Baillieston to Newhouse upgrade and are pleased to be involved within this process again. Within your letter you highlighted several areas in which you require information and these specific requests have been dealt with in order below.

Unfortunately SNH does not hold significant amounts of systematically gathered species data for the wider Lanarkshire countryside and any information we do hold is for the most part greater than 5 years old. It would therefore be advisable to undertake a species survey within the site of interest, to determine the presence or absence of such animals. However, if you wish to view any paper records we do hold, this can be arranged by contacting the Lanark Office.

1. Statutory and non-statutory site boundaries;
 - Enclosed maps show boundaries of a variety of designated sites and habitats.
 - Enclosed citations and boundary maps for designated sites e.g. Hamilton Low Parks SSSI.
 - Further details on the peatland inventory can be found on the SNH web site (<http://www.snh.org.uk/Peatlands/wc-peatlands.htm>) or in paper format, with written target notes, in the Lanark office by prior arrangement.
2. Ancient woodlands;
 - Further details on the woodland inventory can be found in paper format in the Lanark Office by prior arrangement. However the Forestry Commission hold far



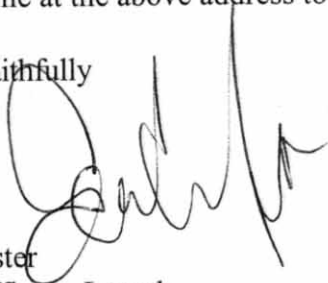
greater detail on the various woodland designations in Scotland and it would be advisable to contact them for further information.

3. Locally important species;
 - Enclosed is a list of priority species from Local Biodiversity Actions Plans for Glasgow, North Lanarkshire and South Lanarkshire, further details can be obtained from the respective LBAP Officers (*see Annex 4 for details*).
4. Watercourse information;
 - SNH have limited information on aquatic survey data, but these paper records are available for consultation. Further details in this specialised area may be obtained from SEPA or Dr Willie Yeomans of the Clyde River Foundation (*See Annex 2 for details*).
5. Riparian corridor;
 - SNH have paper copies of the Clyde Calders Project, undertaken several years ago, and again these documents can be viewed by prior arrangement. These detail a variety of riparian habitats along some of the major watercourses and tributaries in the Lanarkshire area including the River Clyde and the Calder waters.
6. Contact details;
 - See Annex 2 for further information.

I have also enclosed some detailed comments on possible issues, which may occur while completing the proposed upgrade; these issues are likely to be of concern to Scottish Natural Heritage (*See Annex 1 for details*).

I hope this information is of use to you in the first instance. However, SNH request to be consulted on the Environmental Statement when it is submitted and reserve the right to request further information at this stage when further details of the proposal are available. In the meantime if you have any further queries or wish to view any of our paper records please contact me at the above address to organise a time that is convenient.

Yours faithfully



Gail Foster
Area Officer - Lanark

Enc.

Annex 3: Protected Species Legislation

Badgers

Badgers are widely distributed in Lanarkshire and although we hold sett records for much of Lanarkshire, these are at least five years old. It is therefore likely that some of these setts will now be disused, with the badgers having excavated new setts in adjacent areas. Given the age of our records, I have not included them with this response. However, if you require these, please contact me by telephone at the above office or via email (Gail.Foster@snh.gov.uk).

As I am sure you are aware, badgers are protected by law (*primarily the Protection of Badgers Act 1992*). Under this legislation it is an offence to:

- Wilfully kill, injure, take, possess or cruelly ill-treat a badger, or attempt to do so.
- Interfere with a sett by damaging or destroying it.
- Obstruct access to, or entrance of, a badger sett.
- Disturb a badger when it is occupying a sett.

Taking the above into consideration it is therefore recommended that a survey for this species is undertaken. Various publications describing suitable survey methodologies are available, one these is "Badgers on site: A guide for developers and planners" (*Cox, P.R. (1993) for Berkshire County Council/English Nature*). Where the above are likely to occur, there is provision for some activities to be carried out under licence. SNH and the Scottish Executive share the responsibilities of licensing.

Bats

It is possible that bats and/or their roosts will be found in suitable trees, buildings or bridge structures near the site of interest. Bats are protected through the *Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)* and the *Conservation (Natural Habitats, & c.) Regulations 1994 and the Conservation (Natural Habitats, & c.) Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2004*. Among other things, the Act and Regulations make it an offence to:

- Intentionally or deliberately kill, injure or take bats.
- Deliberately disturb bats, whether in a roost or not.
- Damage, destroy or obstruct access to a bat roost.

As bats return to the same place year after year, a bat roost is protected even if no bats are present at the time and therefore it is advisable to undertake a survey for this species if there is any possibility of a roost being present.

Great Crested Newt

Great Crested Newts are protected through the *Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)* and the *Conservation (Natural Habitats, & c.) Regulations 1994 and the Conservation (Natural Habitats, & c.) Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2004*. Among other things, the Act and Regulations make it an offence to:

- Intentionally or recklessly, take, possess, disturb, injure, kill or trade in the species.
- Damage or destroy places of shelter or protection, including breeding sites.

It is therefore useful to check any likely water bodies for amphibians, especially Great Crested Newt. Surveys for amphibians should be carried out in accordance with the *J.N.C.C Herpetofauna Workers' Manual 1998 (Eds.: Gent, T. & Gibson)*. Attention should be paid to

the timing of the survey in relation to the life cycle of the target species. If protected species are present, and the above cannot be avoided, there is provision for some activities to be carried out under licence. SNH and the Scottish Executive share the responsibilities of licensing.

Otters

SNH are aware of the presence of otters along some watercourses in Lanarkshire, although we do not hold detailed distribution data. Otter populations in the Strathclyde show the highest rise in numbers nationally over a larger area since the first survey was undertaken in 1977-79 (*Vincent Wildlife Trust*). The primary legislation affecting otters is the *Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981* (as amended) which makes it an offence to damage, destroy or obstruct access to any place used for shelter or breeding. They are also listed in Annex II of the *EC Habitats Directive 1993* (*Council Directive 92/43/EEC*), which extends otter protection from their place of shelter to anywhere that they use.

Water voles

It is possible that water voles will also be present in suitable watercourses near the site of interest. Due to their recent decline, water voles are now included on Schedule 5 of the *Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981* (as amended) in respect of Section 9(4) only. This protects the water vole's places of shelter, although not the water voles themselves in recognition of the fact their decline is more the results of habitat loss than direct persecution.

Lampreys

SNH are aware of the presence of lampreys within many of the watercourses in Lanarkshire, although as yet we do not hold detailed distribution data (*Contact Willie Yeomans of The Clyde River Foundation for further details*). These animals are protected through Annex II of the *EC Habitats Directive 1993* (*Council Directive 92/43/EEC*).

Others

It is possible that red squirrels, various amphibians, dragonflies and dead wood insects will also be present in suitable wooded areas near the sites of interest. These are all protected in *Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981* (as amended), Schedule 5.

BOTHWELL CASTLE GROUNDS SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST

STRATHCLYDE REGION

HAMILTON DISTRICT

File reference 106

PLANNING AUTHORITY: Hamilton District Council

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: NS 686 594

OS 1:50,000 SHEET NO: 64
1:25,000 SHEET NO: NS 65, NS 75
1:10,000 SHEET NO: NS 65NE, NS 66SE

AREA: 73.0 ha/180.4 acres

DESCRIPTION: Biological : Habitat : Woodland
Biological : Species : Invertebrates
Biological : Species : Vascular Plants

The woodland areas are mainly semi-natural with a mixture of oak, and ash and rowan dominated areas on the drier parts, with an alder and ash mixture on some of the flushed areas. Elm and birch also form important components of the canopy as do sycamore and beech. The shrub layer is provided by grey willow, goat willow, hazel, bird cherry, elder and hawthorn.

The ground flora has typical woodland species such as, bluebell (Hyacinthoides non-scripta), dog's mercury (Mercurialis perennis), ramsons (Allium ursinum), wood-sedge (Carex sylvatica) and common enchanter's-nightshade (Circaea lutetiana). Some of the species present such as pendulous sedge (Carex pendula) and tuberous comfrey (Symphytum tuberosum) have limited distribution and there is also an interesting range of helleborine (Epipactis) species.

The invertebrate interest of the area is high. Much of the known interest involves beetles that live in old or dead wood or the fungi that grow on this. These include the nationally-rare species Enicmus rugosus and notable species such as Cerylon fagi and Pentharthrum huttoni. Some of the adult forms of these species feed in the flower-rich grassland areas within the site, eg Hallomenus binotatus and Urchesia undulata. Others, such as Coeliodes ruber, will also make use of the regenerating woodland areas.

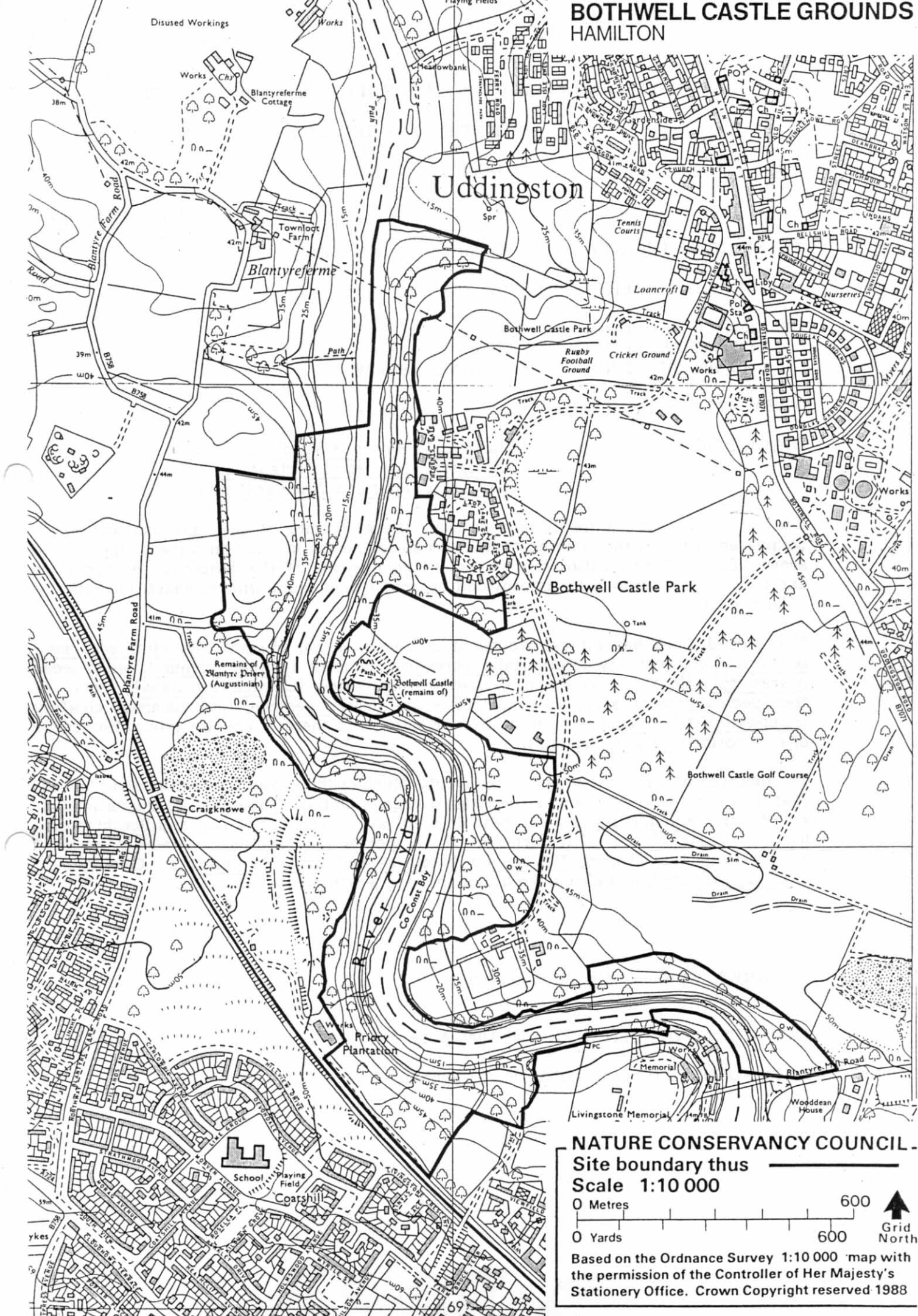
REMARKS: Small net reduction in area

PREVIOUS NOTIFICATIONS (Under 1949 Act): 1953, 1971

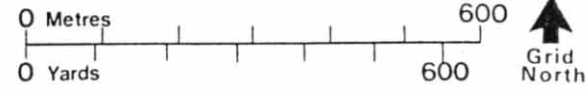
DATE NOTIFIED (Under 1981 Act): 23 February 1989

BOTHWELL CASTLE GROUNDS HAMILTON

Uddington



NATURE CONSERVANCY COUNCIL
Site boundary thus ————
Scale 1:10 000



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BISHOP LOCH SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST

STRATHCLYDE REGION

CITY OF GLASGOW DISTRICT

File reference 663

PLANNING AUTHORITY: City of Glasgow District Council

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: NS 688668

OS 1:50,000 SHEET NO: NS 64
1:25,000 SHEET NO: NS 66
1:10,000 SHEET NO: NS 66NE

AREA: 76.9 hectares/190 acres

DESCRIPTION: Biological : Habitat : Open Water & Marsh
Biological : Habitat : Woodland

Bishop Loch is a base rich water body, and the best example for fresh water invertebrate chosen from series of Lochs on the northern fringe of Glasgow. The transition from open water to fen, marsh, grassland and woodland in a relatively small area gives the site a wide diversity of biological interest.


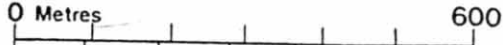

The fresh water invertebrate interest includes 14 species of water shrimps (Ostracoda), and 13 species of water snails (Gastropoda). The fringing swamp vegetation includes, stands of reedmace (Typha latifolia) and bottle sedge (Carex rostrata) which acts as a barrier against disturbance for a wide range of wintering wildfowl.

REMARKS: Net reduction in area

PREVIOUS NOTIFICATION (Under 1949 Act): 1971

DATE NOTIFIED (Under 1981 Act): **28.FEB 1986**



NATURE CONSERVANCY COUNCIL
Site boundary thus 
Scale 1:10 000
0 Metres  600
0 Yards  600
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WOODEND LOCH SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST
STRATHCLYDE REGION

File reference 596

PLANNING AUTHORITY: Monklands District Council
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: NS 705667
OS 1:50,000 SHEET No: 64
1:25,000 SHEET No: NS 76
1:10,000 SHEET No: NS 76 NW
AREA: 28.98 hectares
DESCRIPTION: Biological:Habitat:Standing Water

This is one of a group of base-rich lochs to the north-east of Glasgow and is the best example in the area. It is rich in freshwater invertebrates and, as a result, is frequented by a large number of wildfowl, particularly mallard, tufted duck and pochard, during the winter months. The marginal wetland plant communities and wet birch woodland to the north-east of the loch provide additional interest.

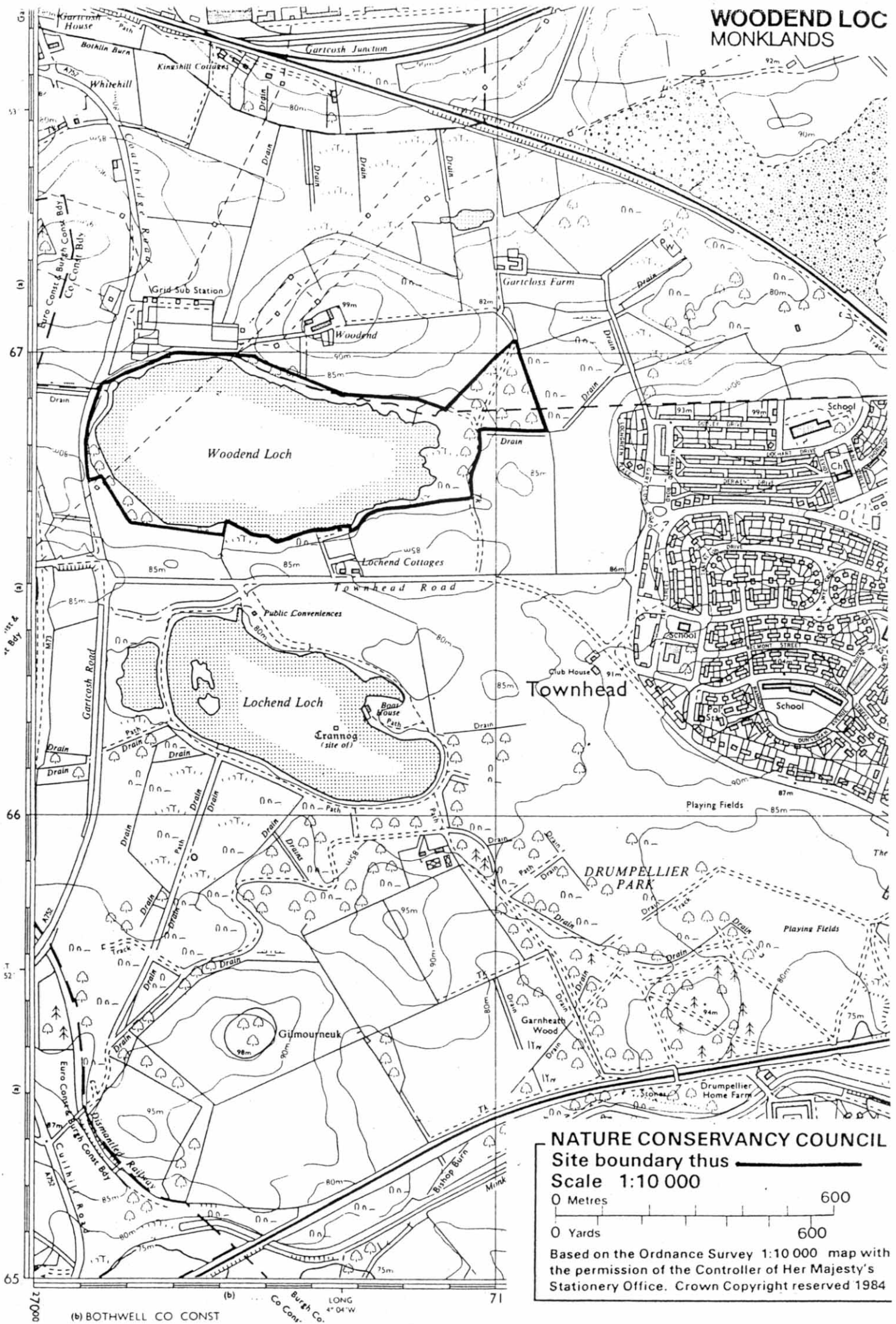
REMARKS:

PREVIOUS NOTIFICATIONS: 1971, 1979

DATE: 1 March 1985

C1 8.83

WOODEND LOC MONKLANDS



NATURE CONSERVANCY COUNCIL
 Site boundary thus **—————**
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 0 Metres 600
 0 Yards 600
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HAMILTON LOW PARKS
SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST

STRATHCLYDE REGION

Hamilton District

Midas Reference: 761

PLANNING AUTHORITY: Hamilton District Council

DATE NOTIFIED UNDER 1949 ACT: 1 January 1956

DATE NOTIFIED UNDER 1981 ACT: 31 January 1986

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: NS 718575, NS 727567

OS 1:50,000 SHEET NO: 64
1:25,000 SHEET NO: NS 75

AREA: 107.6 Ha

DESCRIPTION:

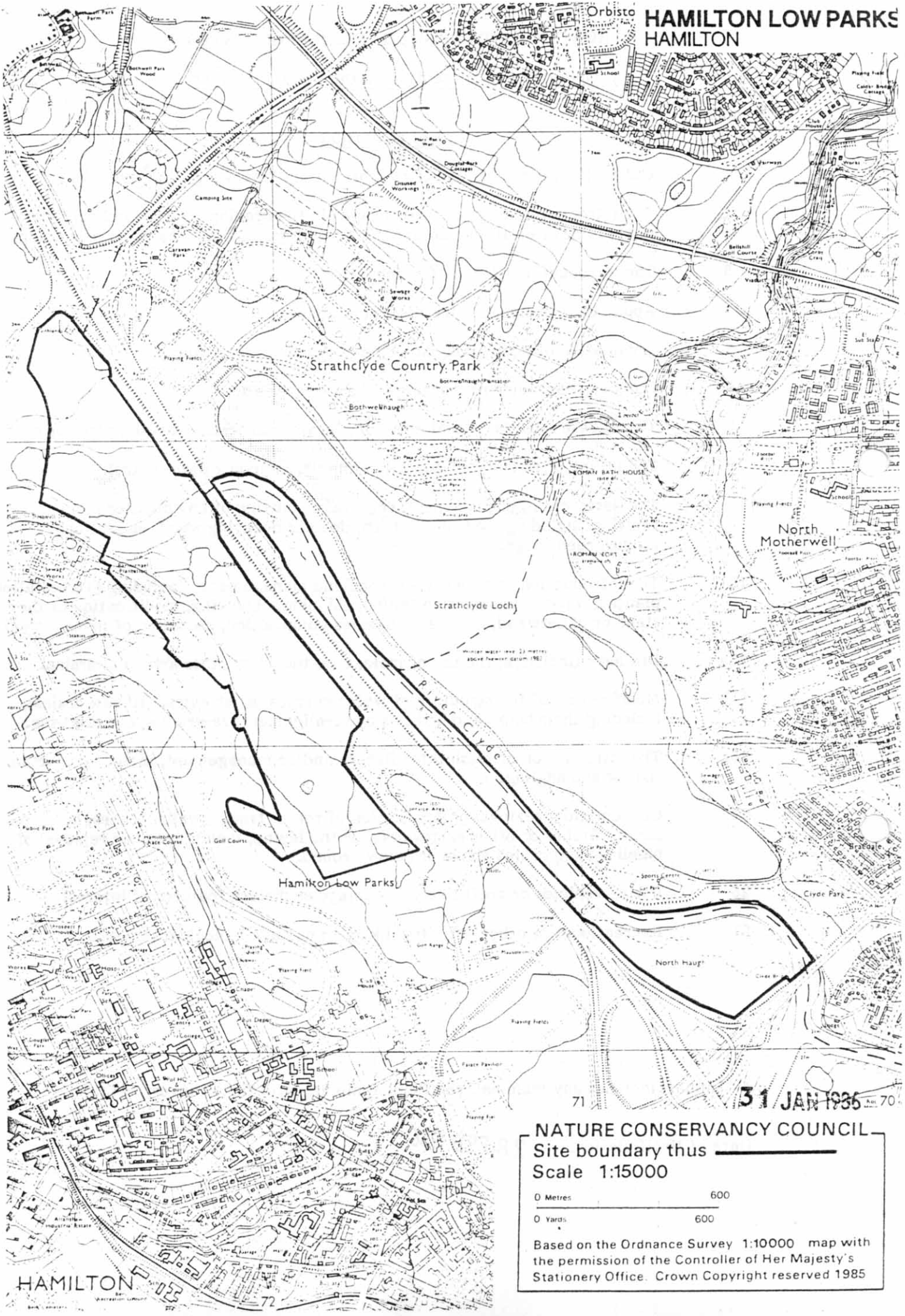
Biological: Species: Ornithological

This is an area of very wet grassland and open pools in close association with deciduous woodland. The site is adjacent to the River Clyde and subject to regular flooding. There is an exceptional breeding bird community in both the woodland and open water/grassland habitats, including such species as water rail *Rallus aquaticus*, snipe *Gallinago gallinago*, sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*, and green woodpecker *Picus viridis*. The woodland is also the site of what is at present the largest heronry in Scotland. The site also attracts significant numbers of wintering wildfowl.

REMARKS

The site, in part, is covered by The Wild Birds (Low Parks Sanctuary, Hamilton) Order, 1956.

HAMILTON LOW PARKS HAMILTON



NATURE CONSERVANCY COUNCIL
Site boundary thus **—————**
Scale 1:15000

0 Metres 600
0 Yards 600

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HAMILTON
Vacation Centre