

Some comments were offered on the boundaries of a Conservation Area.

"What's wrong with Causewayside and Ratcliffe Terrace – the outline shows an odd inverted bump."

In fact the Causewayside feus have not been part of The Grange since the eighteenth century.

Others suggested that the proposed boundaries should be tightened up.

"If it would make it more possible to have Grange made a Conservation Area, I suggest the boundaries could be narrowed."

A Grange Walk in the spring was proposed.

"How about a "Grange Walk" one Sunday afternoon in the spring, led by an authority on the area?"

This idea was in fact taken up by The Grange Association, and a Grange Walk was successfully carried out in June 1981.

All of the remaining comments were congratulations, good wishes, or requests to join The Grange Association.

"I wish you every success." "I hope you are successful in preserving this beautiful area, keep up the good work." "Excellent – most worthwhile exhibition!"

APPENDIX VIII

THE GRIFFINS, WYVERNS AND STONES FROM ST. ROQUE'S CHAPEL

When Grange House was demolished in 1936, two of the more substantial objects to survive were a pair of ornamented stone pillars, surmounted by finely sculpted heraldic beasts. These interesting relics stand today on the north side of Grange Loan, between Lauder Road and Lovers' Loan, and are popularly referred to as "the Lauder Griffins": the name is inspired by the fact that the mythical griffin appears in the coat-of-arms of the ancient Lauder family. For many who pass by, these heraldic beasts on their pedestals are an impressive memento, an enduring fragment of a society and way of life in the neighbourhood now gone for ever.

These heraldic beasts have been knocked about a bit by time, but enough remains to show clearly that they are, in fact, not griffins at all but wyverns. Griffins had the forepart of an eagle, with beaks, wings and forelegs bearing claws, and the hindquarters of a lion. Wyverns, on the other hand, were declared to have the head of a dragon, issuing fire, wings, and the barbed tail of a serpent (as illustrated on the front cover of this report). The carvings in Grange Loan have suffered damage to the wings, tails, and the flames from their mouths, but they are clearly wyverns. A few years ago the wyvern at Lovers' Loan fell off its plinth: a public-spirited local resident stored the pieces, and The Grange Association raised the necessary funds to have it repaired and restored to its pedestal in 1981.

Where did these ornaments stand in the days of Grange House, and what was their connection with the Dick Lauders? A photograph in Jane Stewart Smith's book, "The Grange of St. Giles" (p. 88) shows that, at least at one time, the wyverns and their distinctive pillars were situated within the garden of Grange House. The photograph suggests that at that time they were ornamenting a sort of arbour, or rustic retreat of some kind. A second photograph depicts the Griffin gateway, which was situated to the north of the mansion, astride the driveway to the main entrance.

There is at the present time a pair of griffin sculptures in the front garden of a house in Dick Place, but it is not known if these are a remnant of the Griffin gateway.

It would be interesting to know exactly which heraldic beasts were touched by Sir Walter Scott on a visit to Grange House as a boy. He wanted to discover whether the "rampant griffins' outstretched tongues were veritable paint or veritable flame."

The south entrance to the grounds, from Grange Loan, had an arched gateway bearing a coat-of-arms, and this is shown in a photograph in Charles J. Smith's "Historic South Edinburgh" (p. 38).

The presence of the wyverns in The Grange probably derives from the Dick Lauders' connection through marriage with the Seton family. Hugh, 2nd Earl of Eglinton, had married in 1530 Mariota Seton, Mistress of Borthwick, and their descendant, Margaret, married in 1582 Robert, Baron Seton, 1st Earl of Winton.

George, Lord Seton owned the first baronial Castle of Winton, near Pencaitland, and was connected by marriage to the Lauder family. Before 1707, the parish church was the ancient burial place of the Lauders of Fountainhall, which lies in the parish of Pencaitland.

In 1696, Sir John Lauder, 3rd Baronet of Fountainhall, had married Margaret Seton, daughter of Sir Alexander Seton of Pitmedden, Baronet (a Senator of the College of Justice with the title of Lord Pitmedden). Their second son, Andrew, 5th Baronet, married Isobel Dick, daughter of the 3rd Baron of Grange, and she in turn became heiress of The Grange. But Isobel Dick's mother was

also a Seton, being Anne, 3rd daughter of Sir Alexander of Pitmedden. Thus the son of Sir Andrew Lauder and Isobel Dick became Sir Andrew Lauder-Dick, 6th Baronet of Fountainhall and 4th Baron of Grange.

From Burke's Peerage, Baronetage and Knightage, 1970, it is clear that in the coat-of-arms of the Earl of Eglinton and Winton, which includes a quartering for Seton, the supporters are "two wyverns vert, vomiting fire", and of the two crests surmounting the coat-of-arms, the description of the second is "on a ducal coronet or, a wyvern, wings elevated vert, and vomiting fire", which is a clear description of the beasts now in Grange Loan.

A further connection of the Seton family with the Grange area is that Jane (widow of George, 3rd Lord Seton, who fell at Flodden in 1513), bore the expense of the building of the Convent of St. Catherine of Siena, and there she died in 1558. Her granddaughter Katherine became a nun there and is buried in the convent graveyard.

Other monumental masonry in the neighbourhood which poses intriguing questions is a number of sculptured stones in the grounds of Astley Ainslie Hospital. Their history has become obscure, and there is evidence both for and against the stones having been at one time part of St. Roque's Chapel, which stood on this site. The Book of the Old Edinburgh Club (Vol. XXIV, pp. 98-99) describes sculptured stones "which lay for many years in a yard attached to Bloomsberry House (formerly a laundry) at the corner of Canaan Lane and Grange Loan. They were believed to have been removed to this place many years ago from the grounds of St. Roque, a mansion a little to the east, and a legend grew up around them that they were the remains of the chapel erected by the Town Council on the Burgh Muir between 1501 and 1504 and dedicated to St. Roque (Roche, born at Montpellier 1295) whose intercessions were sought by the many victims of the oft-recurring plague. The properties at that corner, including the yard, have now been practically all acquired by the Astley Ainslie Institution and the interesting monumental relics have been added to the appointments of the gardens there. They are richly carved and decorated with tracery and emblematical figures. Reference to Dr. Moir Bryce's reproduction of an engraving of 1789 from Grose's "Antiquities" (Book of the Club, X, p. 176) shows the old chapel to have been of very unpretentious architecture, and the conclusion has been arrived at that they may have come from the fifteenth century Trinity College Church, taken down in 1848 to make room for the Waverley Station."

APPENDIX IX

BOOKS FOR FURTHER READING

(1) Books which refer in particular to The Grange

The Book of the Old Edinburgh Club, Of the 34 volumes the following are of special interest:

Vol X. Detailed study of Burgh Muir, Grange and environs, by Dr. W. Moir Bryce.

Vol XII. Maps of Edinburgh to 1851.

Vol XVI. Sir John Lauder of Fountainhall.

Vol XXIV. The Grange.

Vol XXX. A 'hut', Sylvan Place.

The Royal Commission on the Ancient Monuments of Scotland, *The City of Edinburgh*. HM Stationery Office, 1951.

Grant, James, *Old and New Edinburgh*. 3 vols. Cassell, 1880-83. The third volume deals in some detail with The Grange.

Gray, John G. (ed). *The South Side Story*, Knox.

Maxwell, Thomas, *St. Catherine's in Grange Church: A Centenary History*. Bishop & Son.

Moffat, J.A.R. (ed.) *Mayfield 100*. Mayfield Church, 1975. A centenary history of Mayfield and Fountainhall Churches. Interesting maps.

Seton, George, *The Convent of St. Catherine of Sienna near Edinburgh*. Edinburgh. Privately printed, 1871.

Smith, Charles J. *Historic South Edinburgh* 2 vols. Skilton, 1978, 1979. An invaluable work.

Smith, Jane Stewart, Mrs. *The Grange of St. Giles*. Edinburgh, Constable, 1898. Written with affection, and very informative about Grange House.

Walker, Joseph J. *Fountainhall Road Church. History. 1828-1928*. Edinburgh. Oliver & Boyd 1929.

(2) Books about Edinburgh of more general interest

Anderson, W. Pitcairn. *Silences that Speak*. Edinburgh, Brunton, 1931. This book, on the graveyards of Edinburgh, describes the Jewish burial ground and, in Appendix B, lists some well-known people buried in Grange Cemetery.