



Roslin Glen is patrolled and managed by Midlothian Ranger Service. Please act responsibly and do not damage or remove any plants or animals. Please clean up after your dog and do not drop any litter. Thank you.

Midlothian Ranger Service
Vogie Country Park, Gorebridge,
Midlothian EH23 4NU.
Tel. 01875 821990

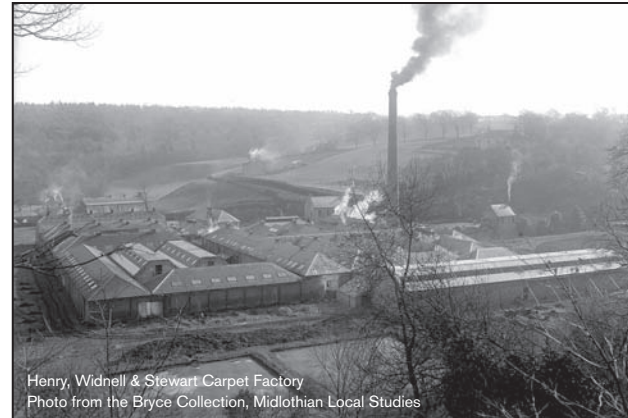
PLEASE REMEMBER

- No Firearms
- No Fires
- No Swimming
- No Litter

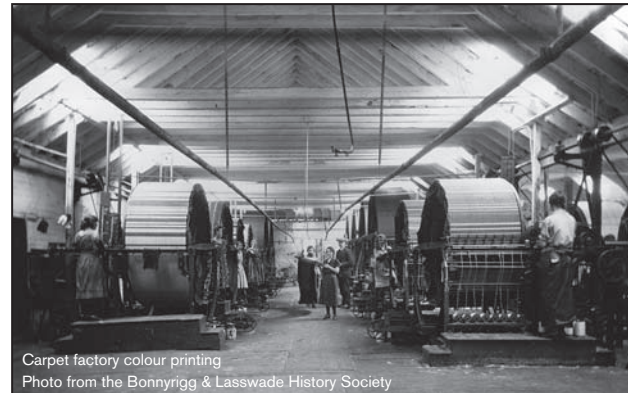


Translations and larger format can be provided on request contact 0131 270 7500

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Henry, Widnell & Stewart Carpet Factory
Photo from the Bryce Collection, Midlothian Local Studies



Carpet factory colour printing
Photo from the Bonnyrigg & Lasswade History Society

Carpet factory

Roslin Glen was home to other industries. Linen worn by Queen Victoria was bleached on its 18th century bleach fields. In 1868 Richard Wytock from Lasswade established a carpet factory, later operated by Henry, Widnell & Stewart. For over 100 years the factory produced world famous tapestry carpets. The factory closed in 1968.

The factory site is now a Country Park. Visitors can enjoy woodland and river walks. Its also a haven for wildlife, a wildflower meadow has been created by the Ranger Service working in partnership with the local community.



Saltpetre and Sulphur refineries Gunpowder Mills
Photo: Roslin Heritage Society



Entrance to Gunpowder Mills, 1920's
Photo: Roslin Heritage Society

Gunpowder mills

In 1804 Messrs Hay and Merrick both gunpowder engineers established a powder mill at Roslin Glen. The Glen was an ideal location with the River North Esk as a source of power to drive the waterwheels during early production. The mill expanded over the decades and was the largest mill in Scotland. After 150 years of business, the mill finally closed in 1954.

Today the former mill complex is now a part of the Country Park. A stroll through this part of the Glen reveals only remnants of the buildings which once stood on this historic site.

Roslin Glen



Country Park



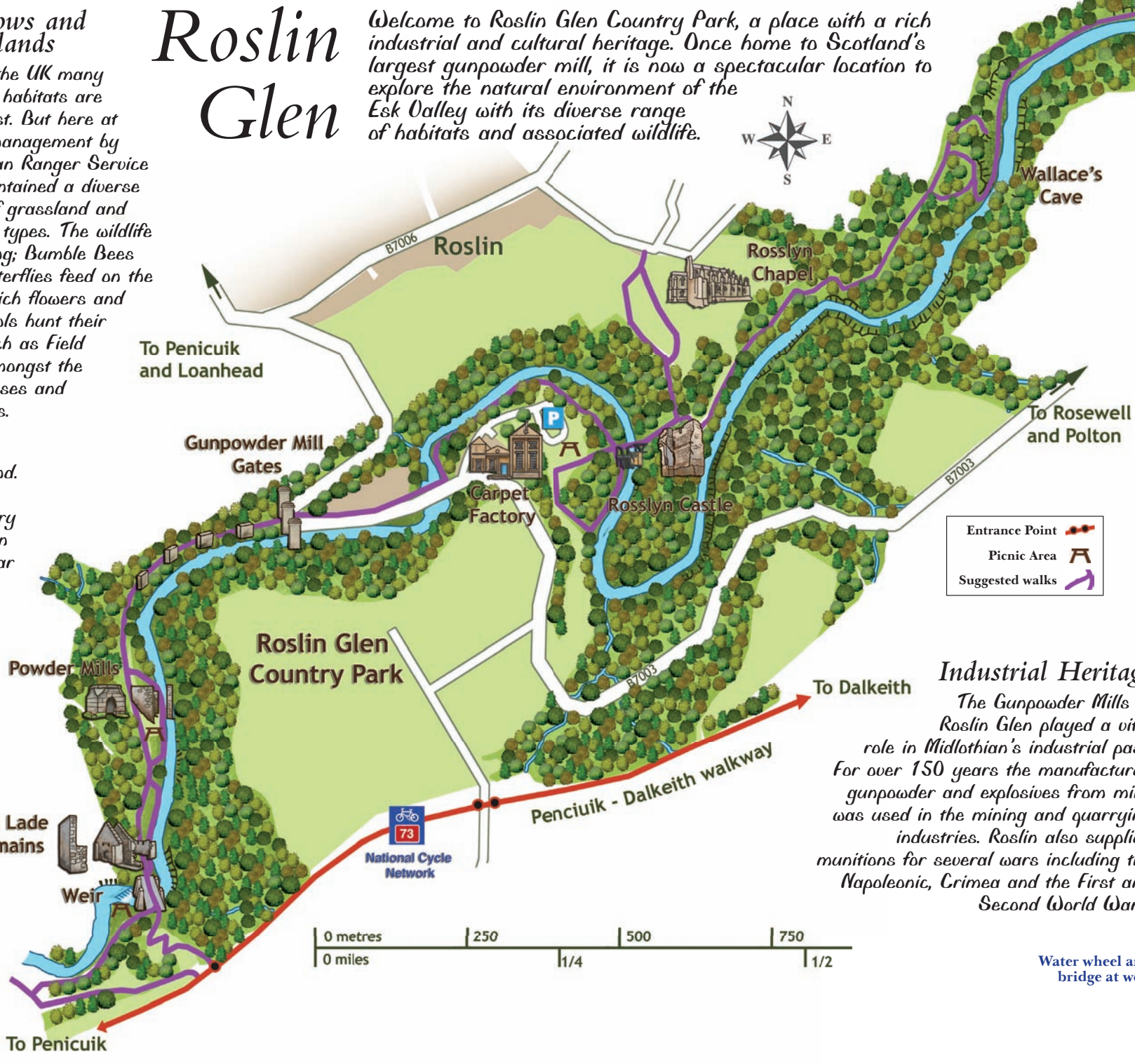


Meadows and Grasslands

Across the UK many of these habitats are being lost. But here at Roslin management by Midlothian Ranger Service has maintained a diverse range of grassland and meadow types. The wildlife is thriving; Bumble Bees and Butterflies feed on the nectar rich flowers and Barn Owls hunt their prey such as Field Voles amongst the tall grasses and Foxgloves.

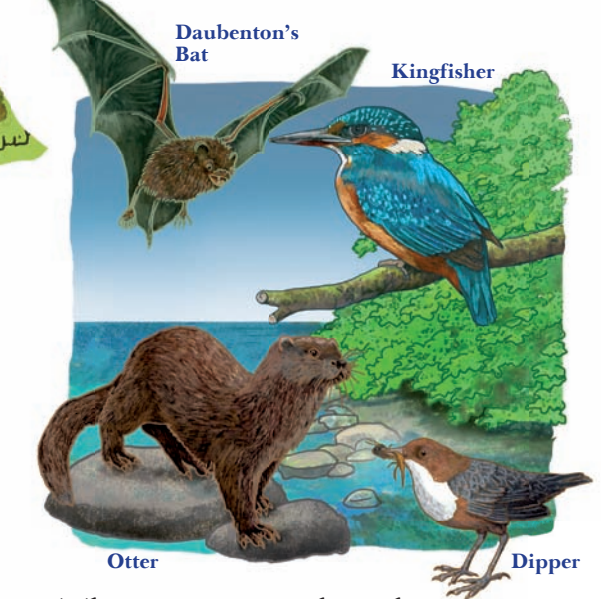
Gorge Woodlands

Midlothian is covered in 270 hectares of Gorge Woodland. This ancient semi-natural habitat is rich in biodiversity and the upland Oak-Birch woodlands found in the Country Park support a wide variety of plants and animals. Green Woodpeckers breed within the tree canopy; Buzzards soar above the steep sandstone cliffs and Badgers forage amongst the Bluebell covered woodland floor.



Industrial Heritage

The Gunpowder Mills of Roslin Glen played a vital role in Midlothian's industrial past. For over 150 years the manufactured gunpowder and explosives from mills was used in the mining and quarrying industries. Roslin also supplied munitions for several wars including the Napoleonic, Crimea and the First and Second World Wars.



The River North Esk

With its source in the Pentlands Hills, the river meanders through the Esk Valley. At one time polluted by the mills, the wildlife has now returned. Dippers can be seen bobbing up and down and diving for aquatic invertebrates. Kingfishers perch above deep pools and the shy Otter has made its home along the river banks.



Water wheel and bridge at weir