

Gorbals Gravitation Water Company

Imagine what the country park would be like without the Barrhead dams? Travel back in time to the early 1840s and all that you would see is farmland. At this time the population of Glasgow was increasing rapidly south of the River Clyde. In 1845 the grandly named Gorbals Gravitation Water Company was established to provide clean water for this growing population.

The sandstone towers which stand on the banks of Balgray and Waulkmill Glen reservoirs are local landmarks.

They have even been used in the country park logo. The two draw-off towers are used to control water flow and allow the reservoirs to be drained if necessary. The Waulkmill Glen structure is thought to be the oldest draw-off tower in Scotland.

Although the Barrhead dams no longer supply drinking water they could still be used if needed. Waulkmill Glen Reservoir alone holds over 700 million litres of water, enough to fill more than five million baths!



Dams to Darnley COUNTRY PARK

