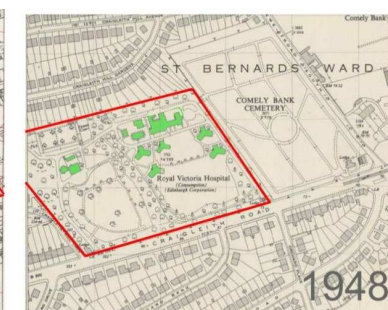
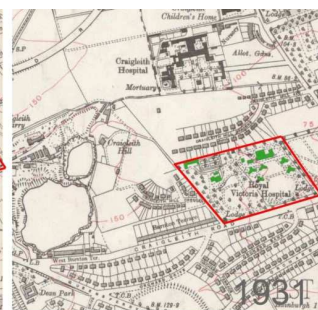
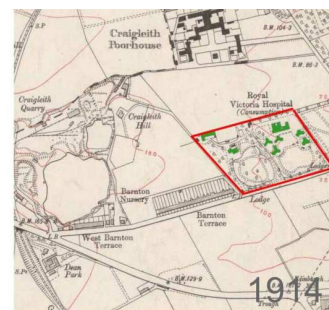
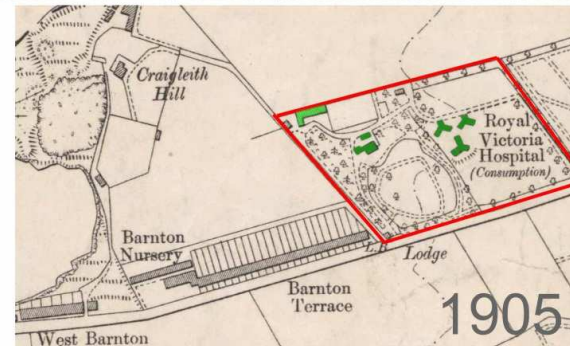
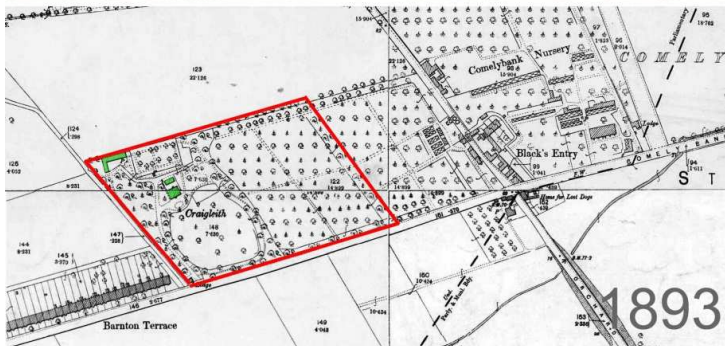
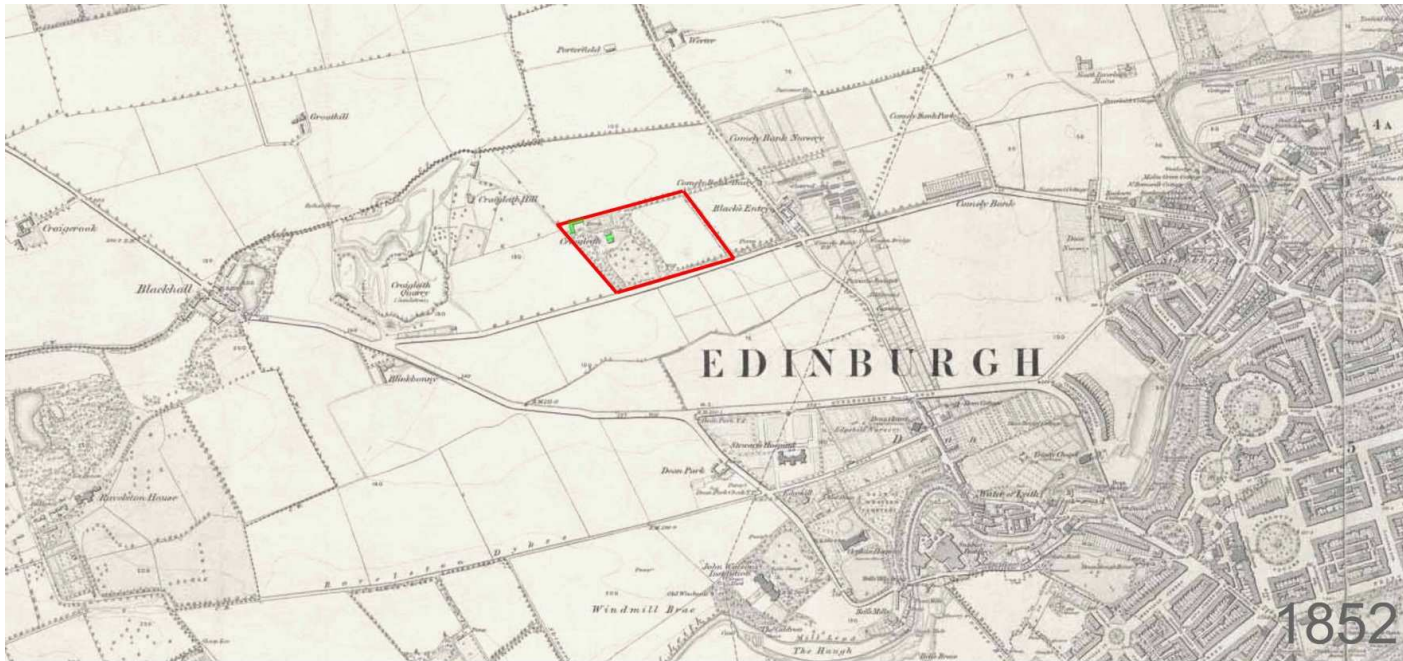


# PROJECT Description

# SITE HISTORY



## Context Description:

The site was originally the location of Craigleith House located to the North West of Edinburgh city centre adjacent to Craigleith Quarry and directly to the East of Craigleith Hill. The house was situated to the top left of the site at the high point offering views to the city centre and Arthur's Seat beyond, the remainder of the grounds were given over the orchard and formal Victorian gardens surrounded by a dense wall of trees. The site was accessed from Craigleith Road via a lodge house the western edge of the boundary wall.

The present Royal Victoria Hospital originally started with the renting of Craigleith House, Craigleith Road, Edinburgh in 1894 by Dr Robert William Philip who was a pioneer in the treatment of tuberculosis. The house was converted to a sanatorium containing 12 beds with male and female wards split across ground and first floor. By this point Barnton terrace was now constructed to form a clear edge to Craigleith Road.

In 1899 the house and grounds were bought by Dr Philip and work began on five small sun houses built in the grounds. These were known as butterfly wards because of their shape as seen on the adjacent plan.

By 1914 further sun houses were added to cope with the ever increasing demand and a new administration block was constructed to the rear of the site. The administration block (now B Listed) was designed in a Scottish Baronial style including a dining hall and chapel with bell tower. Above the entrance is a very large and ornate Royal Coat of arms with the words inscribed 'God and My Right' 'Who shall separate us' and 'No One Harms Me With Impunity'. At this time a new gatehouse was built at the east entrance, this unusual gateway building with lodge above is also B listed and acts as the current primary entrance to the hospital.

By 1931 the surrounding environs were beginning to develop as the need for suburban housing stock grew between the wars. The site remained largely unchanged during this period.

By 1960 the converted house was no longer fit for purpose and was demolished, and a modern hospital was built on the site. As the treatment of tuberculosis developed the butterfly wards were no longer suitable for elderly patients and were eventually demolished in the early eighties and the hospital was extended across the entire site with only the admin, gatehouse and stable buildings retained.

By the late eighties a further single storey 30 bed ward was built to the green space along the south west of the site. This was subsequently demolished following a storm damage in the nineties and the site has remained unchanged since.