



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Architectural landscape and wildlife at the Scottish Parliament

Cruth-tìre agus fiadh-bheatha ann am Pàrlamaid na h-Alba



Eric Miralles, the lead designer of the Scottish Parliament said:

“The Parliament sits in the land because it belongs to the Scottish land...The building should originate from the sloping base of Arthur’s seat and arrive into the city almost out of the rock.”

Zone 1

Eric Miralles wanted the new landscaping to echo the natural landscape and geology of Holyrood Park. The ponds represent the lochs within the park and throughout the Scottish landscape. The shape of the ponds resembles the outline of the Parliament’s towers and roofs when viewed from above.

The oak and lime trees mirror the older trees along the perimeter of Holyrood Palace grounds opposite.

Bha Eric Miralles ag iarraidh gum biodh an cruth-tìre ùr aig a' Phàrlamaid na mhac-talla air a' chruith-tìre is geòlas aig Pàirc an Ròid fhèin. Tha na lochain nan riochd de na lochan an dà chuid anns a' phàirc agus air feadh na h-Alba. Tha cumadh nan lochan coltach ri riochd nan tùr agus nam mullaichean anns a' Phàrlamaid nuair a sheallar a-nuas orra.

Tha na craobhan daraich agus teile nan sgàthan air na craobhan as sine air feadh iomall fearann na Lùchairt thall.



Goldfinch
Deargan fraoich



Knapweed
Cnapan dubh

Zone 2

Cut turf lawns contrast with more natural raised areas of wild grasses and plants. Miralles liked the idea of planting indigenous Scottish wild flowers, trees and shrubs. He specified the use of wild grasses and trees already found in the area as well as trees representing those found across Scotland.

Of the trees planted in the landscaped grounds, there are five commemorative pine trees planted by children from St Jude’s Primary School in Glasgow. Rowan trees, traditionally associated with good luck, have been planted in various locations around the Parliament.

Tha am feur air a bhearradh gu math eadar-dhealaichte bho na rointean nas àirde de dh'fheur agus de lusan fiadhaich. Chur Miralles flùraichean, craobhan is lusan fiadhaich Albannach. Shònraich e gun rachadh feum a chur air feur agus craobhan fiadhaich a bha san sgìre mar-thà a bharrachd air feadhainn a chithear ann an àiteachan eile an Alba. A-mach às na craobhan seo, tha còig craobhan-giuthais ann a chur clann à Bun-sgoil an Naoimh Iùdais, Glaschu. Thathar air caorainn, a tha san dualchas mar samhlaidhean air deagh fhortan, a chur an caochladh àiteachan mun Phàrlamaid.



Burnet moth
Leòmann burnaid



Rowan berries
Deargan caorainn

Zone 3

The wild grass and flower “tails” draw the backdrop of Arthur’s seat into the Parliament grounds. The “tails” create a habitat which encourages biodiversity as part of our environmental management strategy.

Boulders of ancient rock from nearby Traprain quarry sit among plants such as yarrow, knapweed, gorse and thistle.

The area attracts a variety of birds such as goldfinches and chaffinches, as well as insects including small copper and common blue butterflies, cardinal beetles, ladybirds and bees. In the autumn, plants are left to go to seed to regenerate for the following year.

Tha “na h-earabail” de dh'fheur is de fhùraichean fiadhaich a' tarraing Suidhe Artair a-steach ann am fearann na Pàrlamaid. Tha “na h-earabail” a' cruthachadh àrainn a tha tarraing bith-iomadachd mar phàirt den dòigh-rianachd àrainneachd againn.

Tha ulbhagan de chreig à cuaraidh Traprain faisg air làmh nan suidhe am measg lusan mar eàrr-thalmhainn, chnapan dubh, chonasg is chluaran.

Bidh an t-àite a' tarraing farsaingeachd de dh'eòin mar an deargan fraoich is am breacan beithe a bharrachd air biastagan leithid dealan-dè an t-umhach beag, an gorman, ceardan craog, daolag-bhreach is seilleanan. As t-fhoghar, fàgar na lusan ach an tèid iad gu sìol gus an t-àite ùrachadh.



Small copper butterfly
An t-Umhach beag



Cardinal beetle
Ceardan craog

Alternative language versions can be viewed at www.scottish.parliament.uk