



Completed by the Rural Access Committee of Kinross-shire (TRACKS) in 2014, the Loch Leven Heritage Trail offers walkers and cyclists the opportunity to explore the history, nature and beauty of the lands lying around the loch. This self-guided walk allows you to find out more about place-names in the landscape to the south and east of Loch Leven. The names encountered on the trail are guides also to the languages of the past, which for Kinross-shire are chiefly Gaelic and Scots with some Pictish, together spanning around 1,500 years, with the last names in Gaelic coined 800 years ago.

Trail

The Loch Leven Heritage



Loch Leven Heritage Trail

A self-guided place-name walk from Carsehall to Findatie



Re-connecting people with the hills

Living Heritage



About the route

Loch Leven Heritage Trail is fully signposted and offers spectacular views of Loch Leven and the surrounding hills. The section of the trail from Carsehall to Findatie follows a surfaced pathway through woodland, farmland and wetland landscapes, with access from both Loch Leven's Larder at Channel Farm and Findatie where there is a car park and coffee shop. A short distance beyond Findatie, the trail climbs upwards to RSPB Loch Leven where there is a car park, shop and cafe. You can join the trail at a number of points along the way. If you are travelling by car there are parking places available as shown on the map. Local transport links can be found via www.travelinescotland.com

Like this - want more?

This self-guided walk is one of a series in the area. To find out more go to www.livinglomonds.org.uk

www.outdooraccess-scotland.com

While out enjoying the local countryside please follow the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

Scottish Outdoor Access Code

Please wear sturdy footwear, take suitable clothing and some water and be aware that the weather can quickly change.

Make your walk enjoyable

Find out more

The Living Lomonds Landscape Partnership is an association of organisations in Fife and Perth & Kinross.

Our aim is to re-connect people with the living legacy of the Lomond and Benarty Hills through a range of community based activities, volunteering opportunities and projects.

Visit the Living Lomonds website www.livinglomonds.org.uk to print more copies of this leaflet and other self-guided walks in the area and to access the links detailed below.

Further information

Loch Leven Heritage Trail
www.lochlevenheritagetrail.co.uk

Scottish Place-Name Society www.spns.org.uk

Perth and Kinross Archaeology Month: Place-Name Walk, Loch Leven Heritage Trail, June 2014 www.livinglomonds.org.uk

The Place-Names of Kinross-shire (2016) by Simon Taylor with Peter McNiven and Eila Williamson

Loch Leven and the River Leven: A Landscape Transformed (1994) by David Munro

Loch Leven: The Great Meeting Place and Sanctuary, A Guide to the Loch Leven Heritage Trail (2015) by David Munro

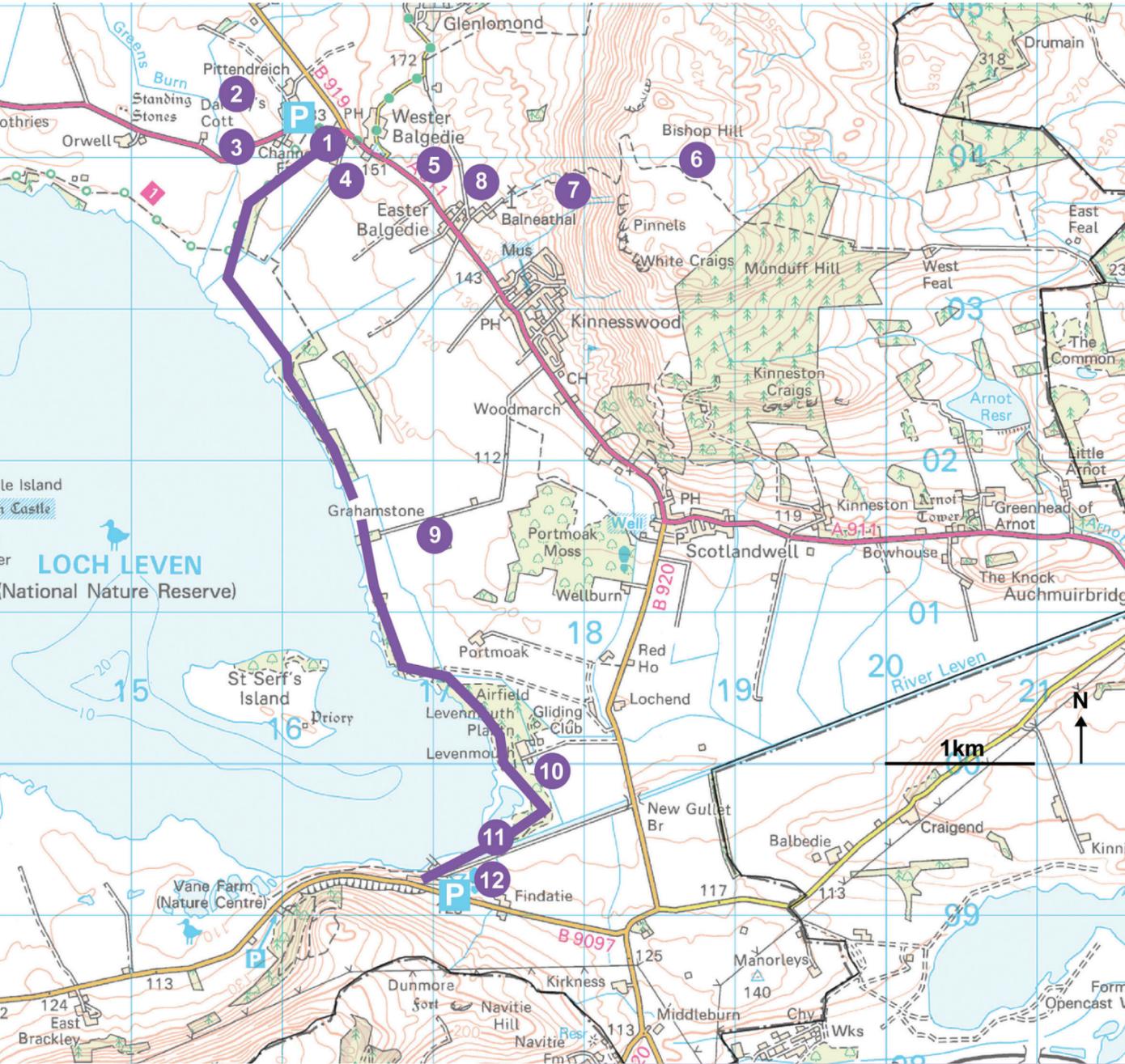
With thanks to

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Arts & Humanities Research Council



Description

A linear walk between two of the main access points on the Loch Leven Heritage Trail, following the east side of Loch Leven, initially through farmland, then mostly mixed woodland.

Terrain

Well-made level tracks throughout. Double gate 1km from Carsehall and one bridge near Findatie. A chicane gate and a short steeper section at the Findatie end can both be avoided by continuing to the next trail exit.



easy

4 miles/6.4 km
Allow 2 hours

1&2 Channel Farm and Pittendreich

The walk begins at Loch Leven's Larder which is situated at Channel Farm. Look out for the channel or drainage ditch from which the farm takes its name. Styled *Channel of Pittendreich* in 1861, the farm was linked for many years to Pittendreich (*Pettindreich* 1544) which lies to the north. This name comprises the Gaelic words *pett* meaning 'farm or estate' and *an dreach*, 'the good aspect or gentle slope'.



Powmill

3 Powmill

Fed by the Pow Burn, the old mill of Powmill (*Polmyln* 1546) can be seen to the right as you walk down towards the Heritage Trail from Loch Leven's Larder. The Scots word *pow* and its earlier form *poll* describe 'a slow-moving, sluggish, ditch-like stream flowing through carse-land'. The Scots word *burn* was added to the name of the stream later when the meaning of *pow* was no longer understood.

4 Carsehall

Heading down the east side of the loch, the trail passes between Carsehall Bog and the farm of Carsehall. The Scots word *carse* describes 'a low land adjacent to a river or loch', originally boggy, but when drained usually fertile. *Hall*, also a Scots word, suggests 'a hall or high-status house', probably being used ironically here. As you follow the trail landmark numbers 5-8 are visible on the hillside.

5 Easter and Wester Balgedie

These old fermtoun settlements lie a half-mile apart at the foot of the Bishop Hill, above the low-lying boggy margins of the loch. Known as *Eister* and *Wester Balgeddie* in 1544 but later in 1753 as *Little* and *Meickle Bilgedy*, the name Balgedie includes two Gaelic elements, *baile*, 'a farm', and *gead*, 'a small piece or strip of arable land'.

6 Bishop Hill

Much of the land to the east and south of Loch Leven lies in the Bishopshire, a unit of land which once belonged to the Bishop of St Andrews. This has also given rise to the name Bishop Hill which was styled *BischoPhillis* in 1539 but was also called *W. Lawmond* on a map of 1755, while West Lomond was called *Mid Lawmond*.

7 Kinnesswood Row

The glacial meltwater channels on the face of the Bishop Hill are known locally as *rows*, a Scots word meaning 'roll'. One is known as the Kinnesswood Row. In the past, limestone from quarries high up on the hill was rolled down these hollows to limekilns below.

8 Balneathal or Balnethill

Known variously as *Banathile* (1544), *Bannettill* (1583), *Beneath hill* (1753) in the past, the farm of Balnethill has a Gaelic element in *baile*, 'a farm' with an unknown second element.

9 Grahamstone

Emerging from the Black Wood, the trail skirts the lands of Grahamstone - 'Graham's toum or farm' - established on land drained when the water-level of Loch Leven was



Grahamstone

lowered in 1832. This new farm, originally *Grahamston* (1839), was named after Sir Graham Montgomery, owner of the loch and adjacent lands.

10 Levenmouth

Beyond the lands of the Scottish Gliding Centre, the trail penetrates pine and birch woodland. Through the trees it is possible to see the farm of Levenmouth, also a creation of the 1832 lowering of Loch Leven. First named *Johnstown* - 'John's toum or farm' - after a member of the Graham Montgomery family, then owners of Loch Leven and adjacent lands, it was renamed Levenmouth by the 1850s, although it is unusual for the source of a river to be called 'mouth'.



Sluice House

11 River Leven

A bridge crosses the River Leven east of the sluice house that controls the outflow of water from Loch Leven down the New Cut created in 1830-32. The name Leven (*leuine* c.1050), originally applied to the old course of the river, is most likely derived from a Celtic word meaning 'smooth' in the sense of smooth- or slow-flowing.

12 Findatie

The farm of Findatie overlooking the River Leven was styled *Findathin* (1251), *Fyndawchty* (c.1400) and *Findautie* (1576). The first element of the name is Gaelic *fionn* 'white'; the second element probably Gaelic *dabhach*, 'a davoch, a large land-unit'.