



DISCOVER HOW THIS TRADITIONAL MARKET TOWN BUILT ITS SUCCESS OVER CENTURIES OF POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHANGE.



The ancient settlement of Alyth lies at the southern edge of the CATERAN Ecomuseum not far from Dundee and Perth. In 1488 it was created a Burgh of Barony by King James III with the right to hold fairs and markets, which enabled the town to grow.

ALYTH AULD TOWN

Explore this picturesque market town with its beautiful burnside, wander through some of its ancient sites and find out about its links to remarkable people and key events in a history that stretches back over 1,000 years.



Learn about the most intriguing aspects of its long history from the Picts to the drovers and the background to some of the notable characters who called it their home.



The name Alyth is thought to be Pictish, confirming the longevity of settlement in the town, perhaps reaching back to the sixth century or earlier. The area is studded with prehistoric sites, notably the Iron Age fort on Barry Hill and the first Christian church to be established in the 6th century is ascribed to the Irish missionary St Moluag, known as the Apostle of the Picts.

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A MUSEUM WITHOUT WALLS



The CATERAN Ecomuseum is a museum without walls, all our sites are outside. Designed to reveal the hidden history of CATERAN Country by the community who live here, it tells the story of its people, places and landscapes from pre-history to the present day.

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You can discover the history of Scotland's Berry Capital, Blairgowrie, and visit the site of its Victorian Textile Mills, walk a part of the Highland Boundary Fault in Alyth and enjoy its well preserved old town centre. A hike along the CATERAN Trail, one of Scotland's great long distance footpaths will take you across magical GLENSHEE to the small villages of Kirkmichael and Glenisla, offering you spectacular views through huge landscapes sculpted by glaciation and traversed by old drove roads and ancient rights of way.



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The CATERAN Ecomuseum is a social enterprise whose vision is to enable holistic, democratic and sustainable involvement with culture, history and heritage.

Situated on the 500-million-year-old Highland Boundary Fault – the great geological feature that divides the Scottish Highlands from the Lowlands – the CATERAN Ecomuseum's human history stretches back through millennia with sites identified from Neolithic times.



Enjoy Scotland's outdoors responsibly

- Take responsibility for your own actions
- Respect the interests of other people
- Care for the environment



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There are Pictish Stones to excite your curiosity, unknown stories from the legends of King Arthur and the Irish Giant Finn mac Cumhaill, contemporary histories of the Scottish Traveller Community, important events linked to the great Jacobite rebellions and fables of the CATERANS themselves, the Highland clan warriors who came to be associated with cattle raiding.

This leaflet should be used in conjunction with the CATERAN Ecomuseum website which offers more detail on each itinerary and points of interest.

Visit: www.cateranecomuseum.co.uk

Our Funders



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1. James Sandy

The inventor of the Invisible Hinge. Crippled in both legs as a result of accident, James Sandy became known as 'the Alyth Genius' for his remarkable creativity and ingenuity.



2. Alyth Museum

The only building based museum outside Perth City in Perth & Kinross. Open seasonally from May to September, the area's rich farming heritage is the inspiration for the displays in this lovely, small museum.



3. Pack Bridge

One of the oldest masonry bridges in Scotland. Alyth's Pack Bridge (intended to carry packhorses loaded with sidebags or panniers across the burn) is shown on maps as far back as 1600.



4. Toutie Street

A permanent reminder of a bygone custom. This street name immortalises the bygone custom of the herdsman tooting his horn, alerting the townsfolk to bring out their beasts to be herded up Alyth Hill.



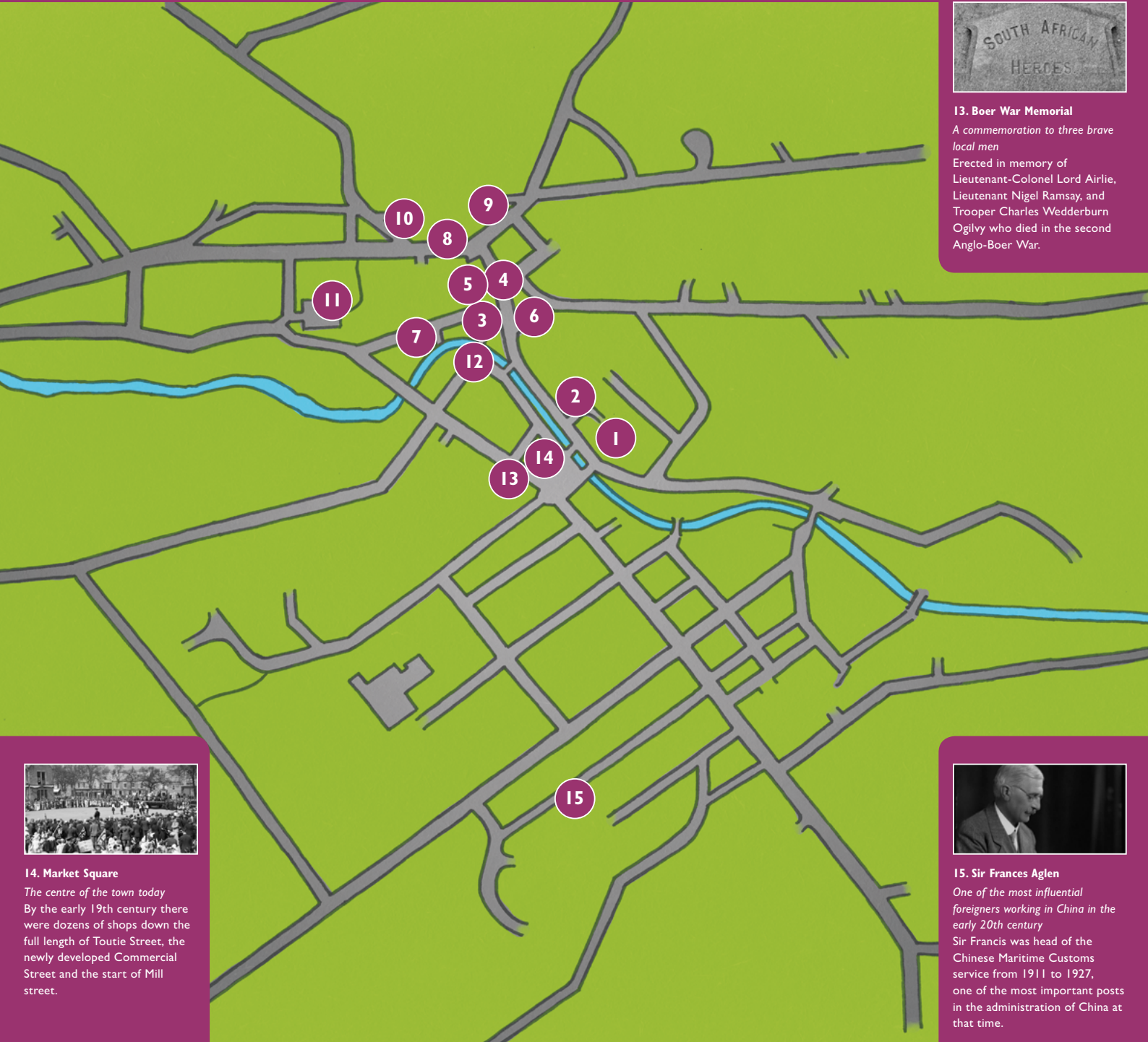
5. William Lyon Mackenzie

One of the most famous figures in Canadian History. William Lyon Mackenzie (1795-1861), an important figure in Canadian history, lived and worked here on Toutie Street in Alyth from 1814 to 1817.



6. Lossett Inn

One of Scotland's oldest inns. The Lossett Inn has been a Drover's Inn since 1760. At that time, Alyth had nine fairs a year, so the Lossett would have been a busy place.



13. Boer War Memorial

A commemoration to three brave local men. Erected in memory of Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Airlie, Lieutenant Nigel Ramsay, and Trooper Charles Wedderburn Ogilvy who died in the second Anglo-Boer War.



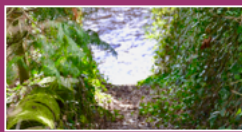
14. Market Square

The centre of the town today. By the early 19th century there were dozens of shops down the full length of Toutie Street, the newly developed Commercial Street and the start of Mill street.



15. Sir Frances Aglen

One of the most influential foreigners working in China in the early 20th century. Sir Francis was head of the Chinese Maritime Customs service from 1911 to 1927, one of the most important posts in the administration of China at that time.



7. Monks Wynd

An ancient path. The first missionaries who came to found the church in Alyth were monks from the early Celtic Church, this short path is a reminder of these men.



8. Alyth Arches

The site of Alyth's oldest Christian church. These three imposing old stone arches formed part of the old parish church, which itself was probably built over the first Christian Church in Alyth, dedicated to St Moluag.



9. Market Cross

A monument from Alyth's ancient trading history. The erection of a Market Cross or 'Mercat Cross' in Scotland served as a symbolic representation of the right to hold a regular market or fair.



10. Wool Market

The site of livestock fairs. Livestock fairs took place here and as in all burgh market places, there was a custom house where the tron or weighing beam was kept.



11. Alyth Parish Church

Designed by Thomas Hamilton. This church was completed in 1839 to a design by Thomas Hamilton, an Edinburgh architect who designed many of that city's prominent buildings.



12. Textile Mills

The site of former linen mills. In the 18th century Alyth became heavily involved in flax processing for linen, and spinning and hand-loom weaving dominated local employment.