

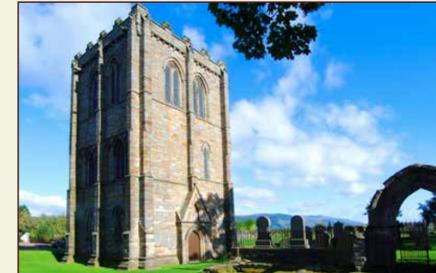
# Cambuskenneth Bridge

## Conservation Village

Over the bridge and across the river, you'll find the charming conservation village of Cambuskenneth. Dominating the village landscape is all that remains of the Abbey, home to an order of Augustinian canons and founded in the twelfth century. In the grounds of the Abbey, you'll find the grave of King James III and his Queen, Margaret of Denmark. James III was killed at the Battle of Sauchieburn in 1488, three miles to the south of here. Cambuskenneth played a key role in the Battle of Bannockburn.

## Crossing the River

The bridge ahead of you was opened on 23rd October 1935, replacing a small ferry service that had existed here since medieval times. Original plans called for a road bridge, but fearing an increase in both traffic and eventually housing, local people successfully had it reduced to a footbridge. The last ferry was designed by Baillie "Captain" Robert Wilson, a local man whose family owned a steamship cargo company. The ferry "Cameo III" was launched in 1928. Cameo I and II were seafaring steamships captained by Messrs Wilson who had the contract to transport ammunition to nearby Forthside.



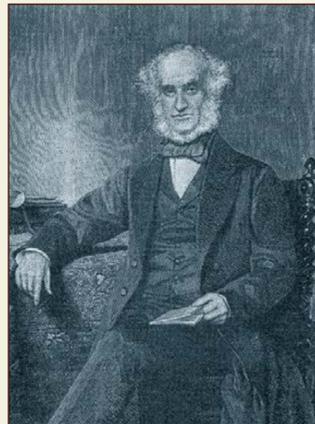
Cambuskenneth Abbey



First sailing of "Cameo III", Cambuskenneth Ferry, 1932. courtesy of C Chesterman



Building of Cambuskenneth bridge, 1935. © Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum



Peter Drummond, courtesy of Stirling Archives

## Logboat

In May 1874 the remains of a boat, constructed out of a single tree, was uncovered in the mud of the banks of the River Forth during a low tide. It was suggested at the time that the boat could be the remains of a ferry which capsized tragically in 1529. However, modern carbon dating suggests the boat was built around 996AD. The remains are preserved within the 13th century Abbey Bell Tower and not normally accessible to the public.

## Sunday Sinners

Cambuskenneth was a popular destination for day trips in the nineteenth century, particularly on Sundays.

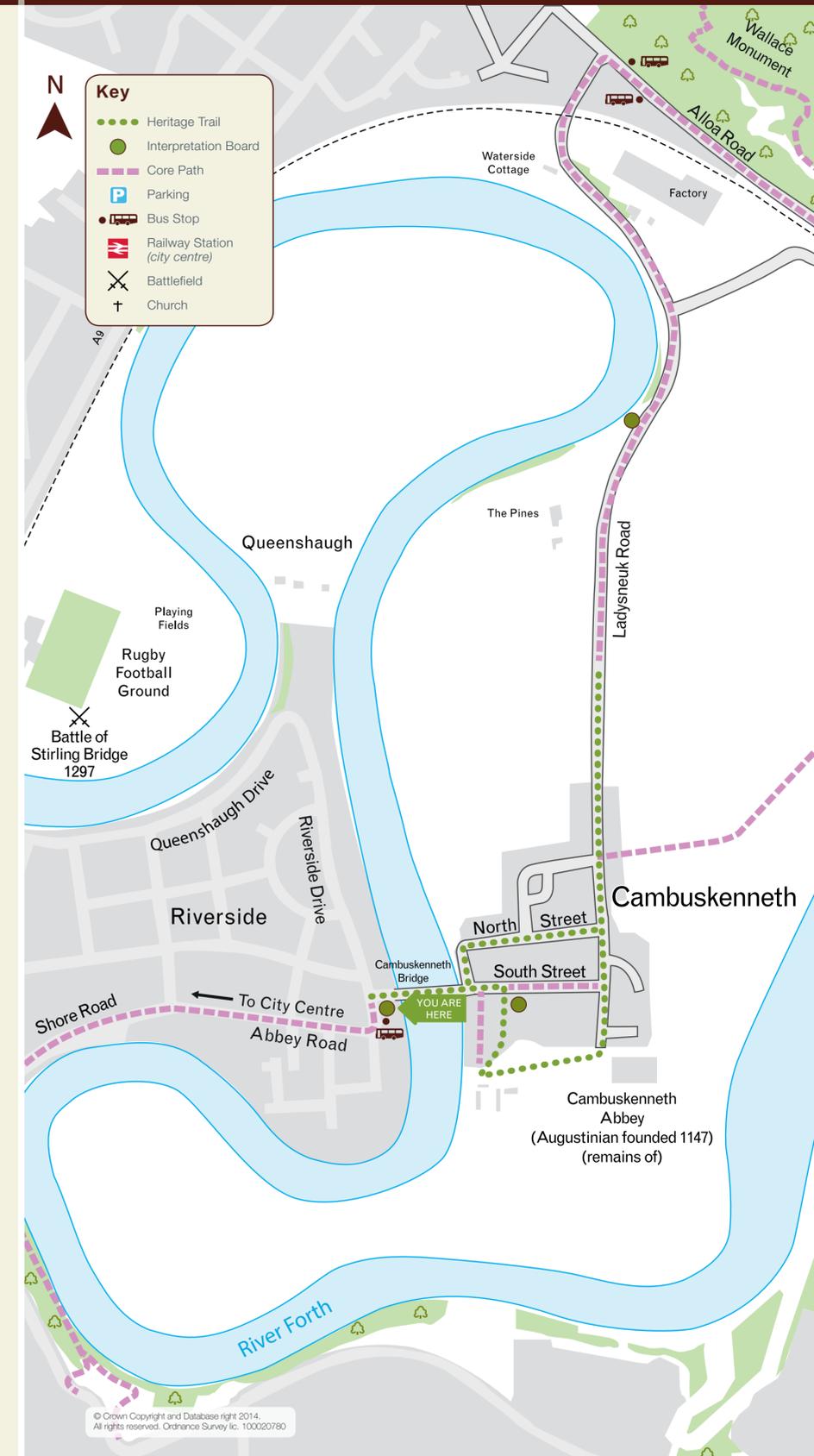
This disregard for the Sabbath so infuriated a local businessman, Peter Drummond, that in 1848 he began printing religious pamphlets and distributing them to the 'Sunday sinners'. This had a marked impact on both the number of people visiting Cambuskenneth and Drummond's business - his pamphlet press lasted for 130 years, producing millions of religious tracts distributed all over the world from Stirling.

## Wallace Monument

You can walk to the Wallace Monument from Cambuskenneth. The monument is built on the Abbey Craig, said to be William Wallace's staging area for the Battle of Stirling Bridge in 1297. Wallace was captured then hung, drawn and quartered by Edward I in 1305. Local folklore has it that his right arm was secretly buried at Cambuskenneth Abbey, pointing towards the Abbey Craig.



Ailsa Morgan, Riverside Primary School, P7



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# Cambuskenneth

## The Village

Welcome to Cambuskenneth. The name means “Field of Kenneth”, after the 9th century Scottish King Kenneth MacAlpine, fought and defeated the Picts in a battle near this area in AD 834. Traditionally this battle has marked the foundation of Scotland and Kenneth MacAlpine the first king. It is a Conservation Village because of the number of important listed buildings, including the famous Cambuskenneth Abbey. Until the 1950s, Cambuskenneth was famous for market gardens, which boasted at least three apple orchards and fields of gooseberries and strawberries, with popular “berry fairs” being held at harvest time. Although the orchards are no more, the village has a good reputation for green fingers, winning the Britain in Bloom “Best Village” award four times over the years. When walking around the village, look out for the old school house which is now the Village Hall, and miners’ row in South Street.



Village in Bloom, 1991, courtesy of D. Yates



Ruins of Cambuskenneth Abbey, courtesy of D. Balslie



Cowane's Hospital

## Abbey

Cambuskenneth Abbey was founded around 1140 by King David 1 and was originally home to Arrousaian canons. The abbey later became home to Augustinian canons. Established next to a key fording point on the River Forth, the Abbey would have been well known and a welcome sight for travellers and tradesmen travelling between the Highlands and Lowlands of Scotland as well as Europe. The Abbey was disbanded after the Reformation and its stones used to construct other buildings in Stirling, including the Earl of Mar's residence near Stirling Castle. The Campanile, or Bell Tower, along with the western doorway, is all that survive of a structure that dates back to around 1300. The Campanile was extensively restored in 1865.

## John Cowane

In 1633, Stirling merchant John Cowane left a sum of money to be invested in land, to provide an income to build a hospital in Stirling for those who had fallen on hard times. His trust acquired huge areas surrounding Stirling, including much of Cambuskenneth which the Trust still owns today. The Trust also owns the Abbey Craig on which the Wallace Monument is built.

## 1314

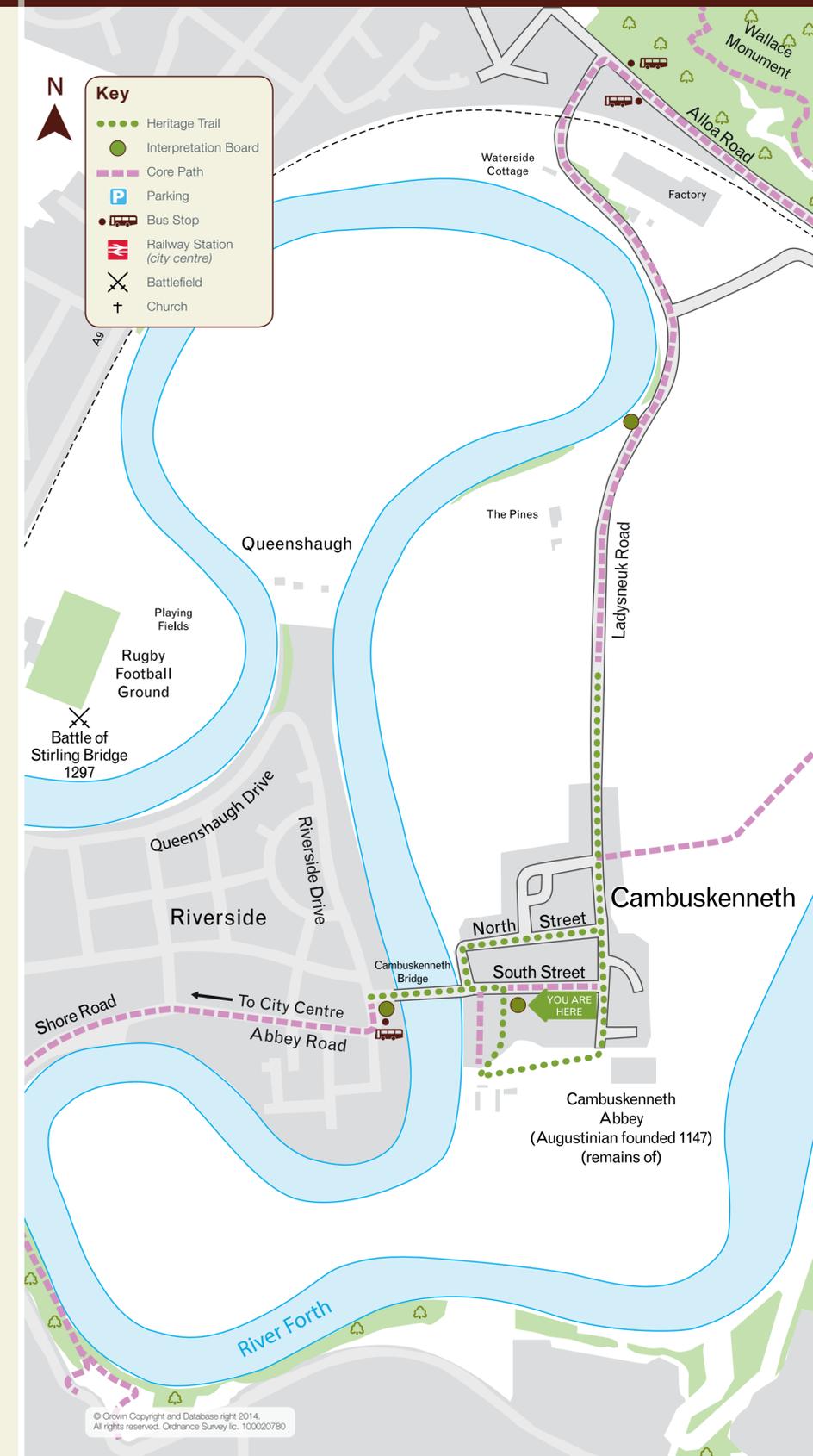
On 23rd June 1314, after the first day of the Battle of Bannockburn, one of Robert the Bruce's allies, the Earl of Atholl, turned traitor. He attacked the Scottish supply depot which was based around Cambuskenneth Abbey. Atholl killed Sir William of Airth, a senior Scottish Knight. Despite the wealth of information relating to the Battle of Bannockburn, this event is the only one we can pinpoint with any accuracy.



Lily Macbeth, Cambusbarron Primary School, P6



Scarlett, Cambusbarron Primary School, P3



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# Ladysneuk Road

## Abbey Craig

The Wallace Monument sits on top of the Abbey Craig. The Abbey Craig takes its name from the nearby Cambuskenneth Abbey. The Craig is a geological feature known as a “Crag and Tail”; these were formed during the last ice age when this area would have been covered by a glacier. As the glacier moved forward, the hard quartz dolerite rock it encountered didn’t move. The Abbey is one of three Crag and Tail features in the local landscape; the second is the rock on which Stirling Castle is built and the third is beyond the castle and further along the River Forth at “Craigforth”.



Euan Pirry, Cambusbarren Primary School, P2

## Wallace Monument

The Abbey Craig is said to be the place from where William Wallace commanded Scottish forces during the Battle of Stirling Bridge in 1297. In the 19th century, the exploits of Wallace again captured the public’s imagination and in 1859 a competition was held to find a design for a permanent memorial. Seventy six entries were received and, eventually, the designs of architect John Thomas Rothead were chosen, and the foundation stone was laid on the 24th June 1861 by the Duke of Atholl. Eight years later, in 1869, at a cost of £18,000 (more than double the original estimate) the 67metre National Wallace Monument opened to the public.

## Queenshaugh

The land on the other side of the river is known as “Queenshaugh” and is a small farm surrounded almost entirely by the River Forth, aside from a small entrance strip in Riverside. Historically this was a farm under the control of the Queens of Scotland and would be visible from their residence at Stirling Castle.

## Glasgow Boys

During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Cambuskenneth was a popular destination for artists. The orchards, tree lined river banks, ruined Abbey and whitewashed cottages with red tile roofs provided ample inspiration for their pallets and imaginations. A number of the famous “Glasgow Boys” came to Cambuskenneth, including Joseph Crawhall, Edward Arthur Walton, James Guthrie, William Kennedy and George Henry. The Glasgow Boys were prominent from 1890 - 1910. They often retreated from the harsh industrial landscapes of Glasgow to paint nostalgic, rural scenes. Their paintings of Cambuskenneth include James Guthrie’s “The Ropeworks” and William Kennedy’s “Harvest Moon”.

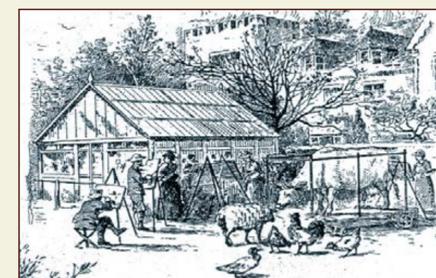
The Victorian artist Joseph Denovan Adam, famed for his images of Highland cattle, had a teaching studio at the nearby Craigmill House, from 1887 to 1895. There were at least two other artists’ studios in Cambuskenneth at a similar time; one belonging to EA Walton and the other Arthur Melville.



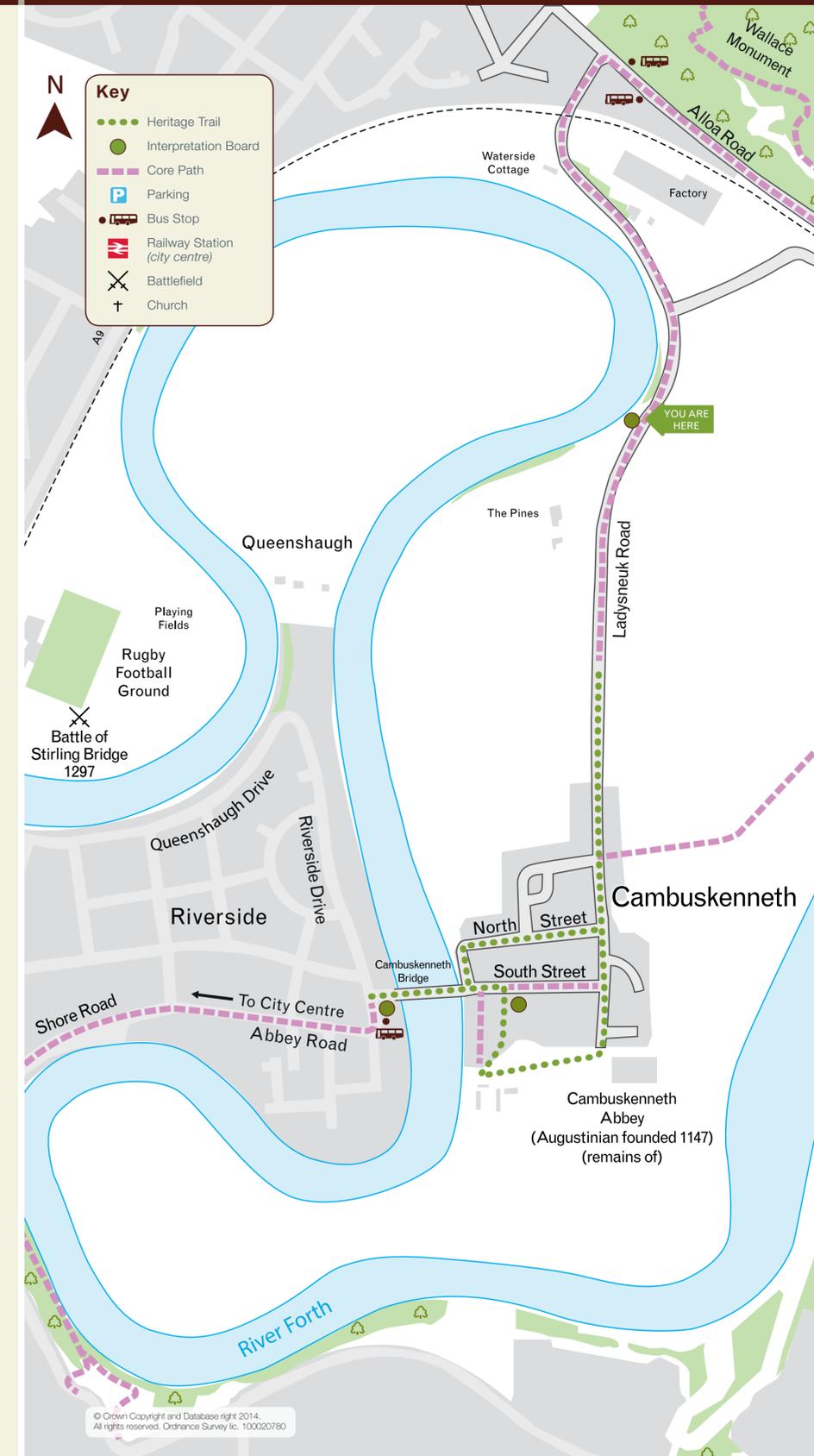
"Harvest Moon", William Kennedy, © Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum



Queenshaugh from Abbey Craig, circa 1950, courtesy of Stirling Council Archives



Line drawing of Craigmill, 1889, © Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum



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