The power of water Cymhachd uisge

Pronounced: Coo-achd ooshkia

SLIGHEAN A' GHLINN MHÓIR

Did you know...?

During construction of the canal, between 1804 and 1822, landowners along the Great Glen sold huge amounts of timber to the canal builders. In one year alone (1806), Alasdair MacDonell Alasdair MacDhòmhnaill of Glengarry supplied timber costing £1,792 - the equivalent of over £60,000 today!

Here at Strone An t-Sròn, it was a hub of activity in the early days of building the Caledonian Canal. Timber was cut by a sawmill, which was powered by water from the River Loy Abhainn Laoigh. Beside it was a carpenter's shop and timber yard. The canal builders needed huge amounts of wood for battens, trestles, tools, wagons and barrows.

About 200 metres (218 yards) from here, you can see the Glen Loy aqueduct, which was completed in 1806. It is the biggest aqueduct on the Caledonian Canal with a central arch of 7.6 metres (25 feet). Two side arches, each three metres (10 feet) wide, were built for farm traffic.

The aqueduct was needed to allow the River Loy to pass safely under the canal - otherwise there would have been a high risk of the canal flooding. The central arch is wide enough to let the river pass safely underneath even when it is in spate.

Why not take a short walk down the farm road on your left and see the aqueduct for yourself?