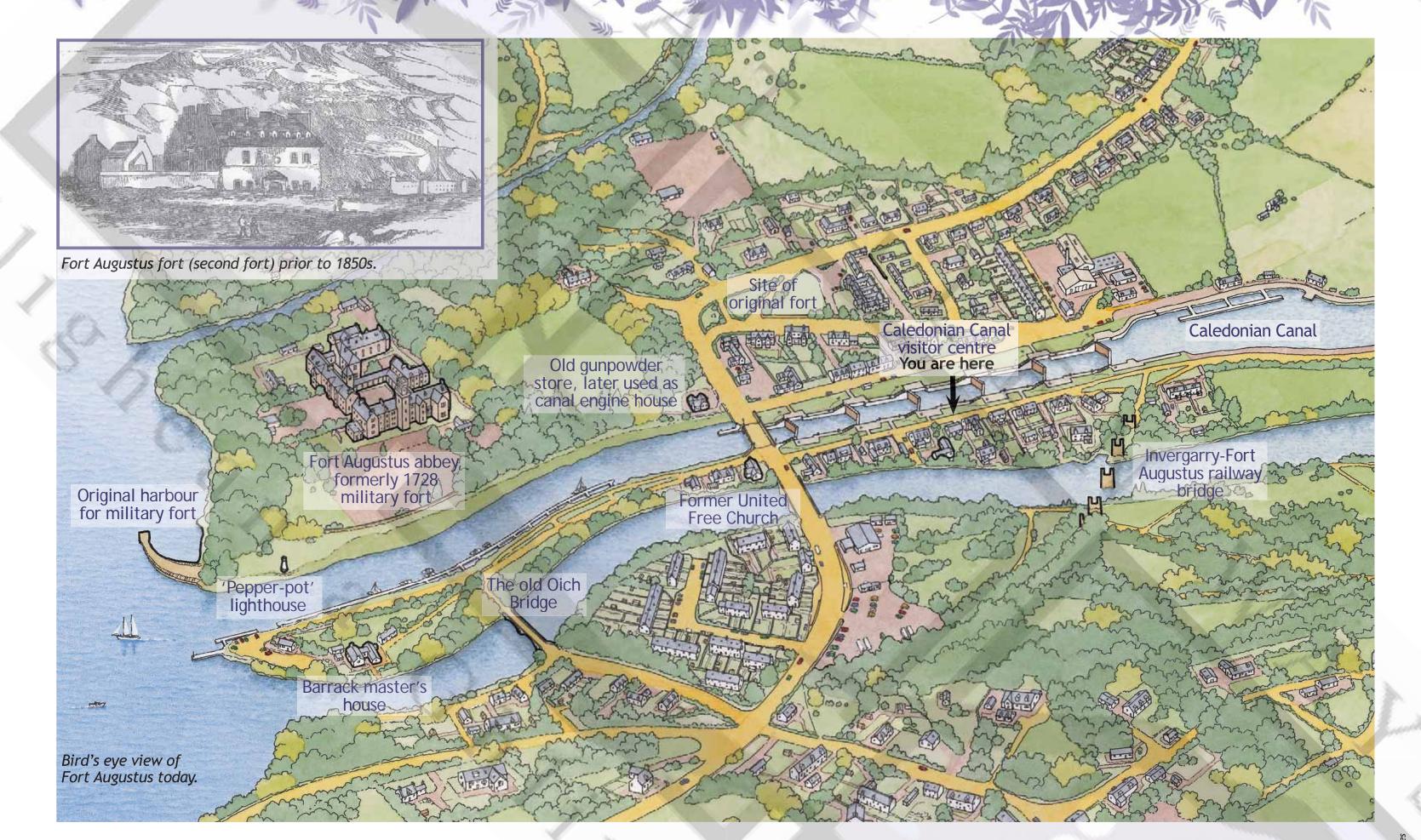


Changing names, changing times? Ainmean eile, latha eile?

Pronounced: Enemen ayla, la-a ayla



Although there has been a settlement here for at least 1,500 years, the name "Fort Augustus" dates back only around 300 years.

The village was originally called "Cill Chuimein", after the church (Gaelic "cill") which Cummein, the Abbot of Iona, set up here in the 6th Century.

After the 1715 Jacobite Seumasaich rebellion the government built a fort here, anglicising its name to "Killiwhymen". It was part of a military network designed to keep the Highlanders under control. You can still see part of the fort beside the Lovat Arms Hotel.

Because of the lack of defence the first fort was abandoned in 1729 and a formidable fortress was built having direct access to the Loch. It was named Fort Augustus after the second son of King George II: William Augustus - the Duke of Cumberland. In early 1746 it was blown up by the Jacobites. Although rebuilt, it gradually fell into disuse until purchased by Lord Lovat - whose successor donated it to the Benedictine monks.

In 1822 the Caledonian Canal was built through the village. Today, Fort Augustus is still an important centre for canal traffic and visitors. The former Abbey now has a new future as luxury accommodation.

Did you know...?

Prince William Augustus, the Duke of Cumberland, was later known by Highlanders as "Butcher Cumberland" "Buidsear Chumberland" because of his cruel treatment of Jacobites after the Battle of Culloden in 1746.