

# FOREST PARKS

**Forestry Commission Booklet 6**

HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE Price 3s 6d net





# ENGLAND AND WALES



Snowdonia

The Border

Newcastle  
Carlisle

Cambrian Forests

Liverpool

Flint

Portmadoc

Sorensbury

Birmingham

Glamorgan Forests

Aberystwith

Ross

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Dover

Beddbergum Pinetum

Westonbirt Arboretum

The New Forest

Forest of Dean  
and  
The Wye Valley





*The Log Cabin at Symonds Yat, Wye Valley*

# FOREST PARKS

H. L. EDLIN  
*Forestry Commission*

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## INTRODUCTION

FOREST PARKS have been established by the Forestry Commission in the belief that where mountainsides or other open country have been acquired in connection with the planting of extensive new forests, the whole should be open for public enjoyment. The first such Park, that in Argyll, was opened in 1935, and there are now seven Forest Parks, four being wholly in Scotland, one on the borders of Scotland and England, one in North Wales, and another on the borders of Gloucestershire and Monmouthshire.

Access to the Parks is governed by local by-laws, but virtually all that the visitor need remember is that he should follow the simple rules of the well-known Country Code. The Parks are centres of timber-growing enterprises of great importance to local and national economy, and are also the homes of farmers whose livelihood is drawn from their sheep and cattle. Gates must therefore be closed, and particular care must be taken with fire in any shape or form; indeed, the lighting of fires, even as picnic stoves, is restricted to defined camping grounds.

These Forest Parks are open to the visitor during daylight hours throughout the year. When passing through the woods he is expected to keep to roads, paths, or forest rides, but on the uplands above, or round about, he may take what route he pleases. Though local services are few, most of the Parks can be reached by railway, bus services, or steamers, and all have good access roads, with parking places at suitable points. To encourage those who wish to stay overnight, well-equipped camping grounds have been opened at all the Parks as described later. There are Youth Hostels in or near all the Parks, and most of them have good hotels nearby. Despite this ease of approach, the Parks hold great stretches of wilderness country—moor and mountain, where those who wish to get away from crowds and traffic may roam for hours in the solitudes of forest and hill enjoying some of Britain's grandest scenery.

Included in these pages is an account of the New Forest, which though not a Forest Park provides similar scope for recreation and camping. There are also notes on two famous arboreta and one forest garden, which are open to the public. Illustrated guide books, listed on page 48, are available for most of these places. Here we can only set out their main attractions, say where they lie, and welcome you to some of the finest stretches of our countryside, which yearly draw thousands of appreciative visitors.





*Plate 1. The Wye Gorge at Symonds Yat*

## DEAN FOREST AND WYE VALLEY

THIS FOREST PARK includes the ancient Royal Forest of Dean in Gloucestershire, together with Tidenham Chase and other neighbouring woodlands, and the Tintern and Chepstow Forests along the Monmouthshire side of the beautiful Wye Valley. Established in 1938, it embraces 35,000 acres of woods, common grazings, and small farmsteads, within the triangle formed by Gloucester, Ross-on-Wye, and Chepstow; the lower course of the Wye runs through its heart, and the mighty Severn flows past its southern flank.

Though it can claim no high mountains, the Dean countryside holds countless steep hills rising to viewpoints commanding the Severn Sea, the Vale of Berkeley, and the distant Cotswolds to the south-east, or the rolling plain of Herefordshire on the north. The limestone precipices of the Wye gorges, one close to Chepstow and the other at Symond's Yat, are the finest in Britain. The varied





*Plate 2. Douglas firs in Parkhill Enclosure, near Parkend, Forest of Dean*

rock-beds provide an absorbing study for the geologist, and the Park's varied mineral wealth—coal, limestone, iron ore, and building stones—has been exploited since Roman times. But industry is now well-concealed by the trees, and only occasionally will the visitor encounter one of the Dean Free Miners, exercising his traditional right to open his own small coal working anywhere within the bounds of the Forest.

The plant life of the Dean shows a variety akin to that of the rocks and soils. Within a few miles one can find every sort of habitat, from tidal stream-sides to heaths nearly a thousand feet above sea level. The limestone in the nature reserve at Wyndcliff, near Chepstow, holds traveller's joy, field maple, green hellebore, and some of our few surviving native lime trees; while the Kidnalls woods close to Lydney become a sea of bluebells every spring.

The visitor, if he is lucky, may perhaps glimpse a fallow deer in the Highmeadow Woods or close to Flaxley; but the most obvious feature of animal life, in the Dean Forest itself, is the presence of sheep on the roadsides and unfenced grazings. Together with chickens, geese, sows and piglets, they provide a picturesque and unfamiliar note in the rural scene. Badgers, otters, and foxes are found, but there are no rarities among the four-footed beasts. Bird life includes all the southern species, particularly the migrants that delight to build their nests, and trill their songs, amid the broad-leaved woods and copses every spring.

There are relics of prehistoric life at King Arthur's Cave in Lord's Wood, at Welshbury and at Lancaut. The Romans ran a road from Gloucester (*Glevum*) through Chepstow to Caerwent (*Venta Silures*); they had a villa at Lydney, and they worked the iron ore quarries called The Scowles nearby.

Chepstow was a Saxon trading post on the Welsh side of Offa's Dyke, an earthwork still plainly visible along the English bank of the River Wye. To guard the frontier, the Norman Marcher barons built the great castle at Chepstow, the unique gatehouse on the Monnow Bridge at Monmouth, and St. Briavel's Castle midway between them. More peaceful times saw the building of the great Cistercian Abbey at Tintern, now a magnificent ruin standing on a bend of a tidal river, encircled by steep wooded hills. Chepstow, Monmouth, Ross and Coleford are all pleasing market towns whose Georgian buildings remain unspoilt by commercial developments. The Speech House, between Coleford and Cinderford, completed about 1680, is an imposing and well-proportioned building, now used mainly as an hotel, which includes the court room in which the ancient Court of Verderers still meets to administer Forest Law.

A Royal Forest since the days of the Saxon kings, the Dean has



also been the scene of modern developments in forestry practice. Nearly all the common timber trees, from oaks and beeches to American silver firs and Japanese larches, feature in its plantations. There is a fascinating group of trial forest plots, representing many different kinds, at Abbotswood near Soudley, and an arboretum, with labelled specimen trees, beside the Speech House. Local saw-mills and mines use much of the steady supply of timber drawn from the woods, and a programme of annual replanting makes good the gaps caused by felling.

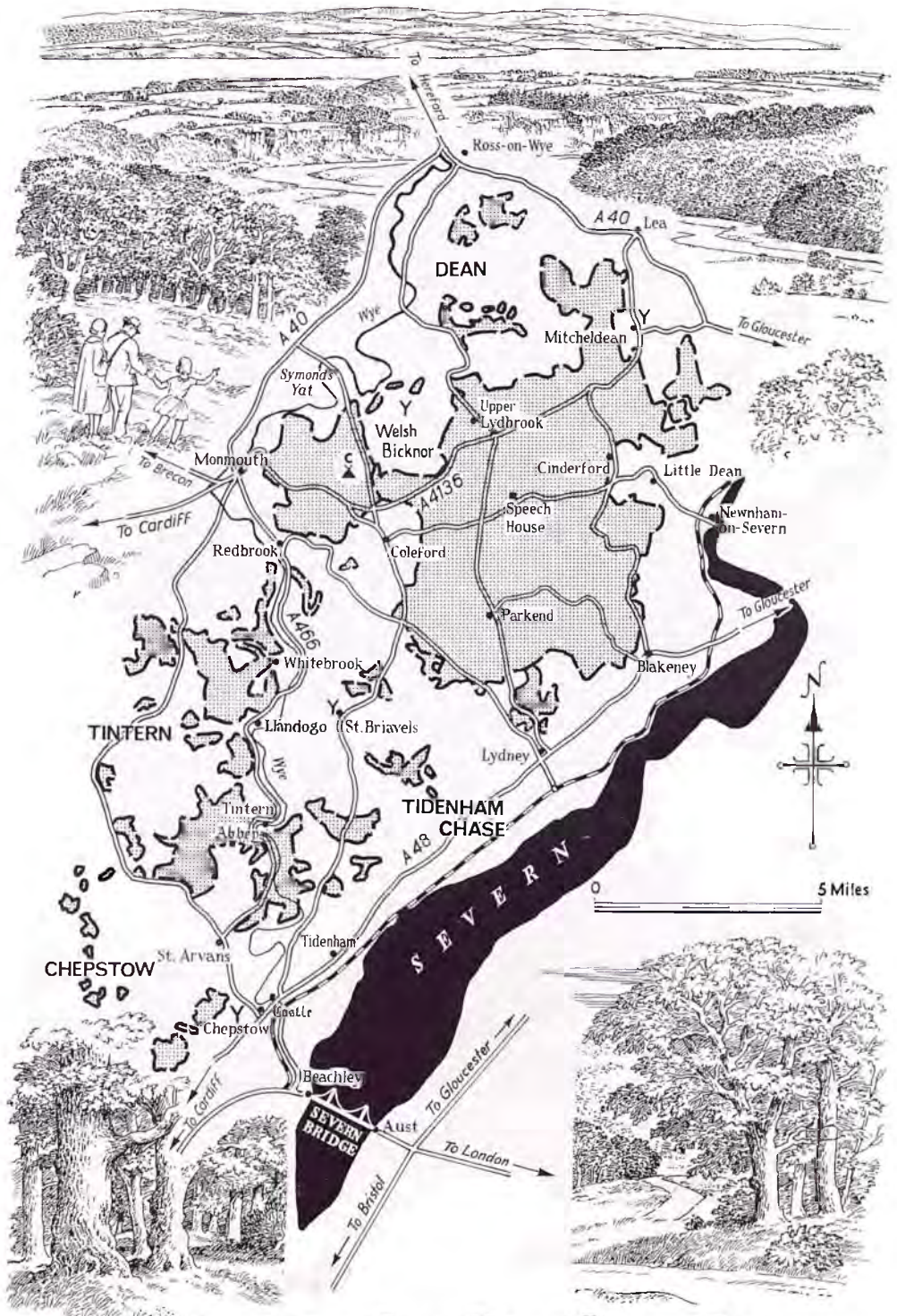
An excellent camping ground has been opened at Berry Hill, near Christchurch, on the by-road (B.4432) leading from Coleford to Symond's Yat. There are Youth Hostels at Mitcheldean, St. Briavels, Chepstow and Welsh Bicknor. Hotel accommodation can be found at Ross, Symond's Yat, Monmouth, Tintern, Chepstow, Lydney, Coleford, Cinderford, Littledean, and Newnham, and there are many smaller villages where bed and breakfast can be obtained.

A network of good main roads, smaller byways winding up wooded vales, and footpaths traversing plantations and open grazing grounds, makes every corner of the Dean Forest Park available to the wanderer.

*Plate 3. Watering timber-hauling horses at Soudley Pond, near Blakeney, Forest of Dean*

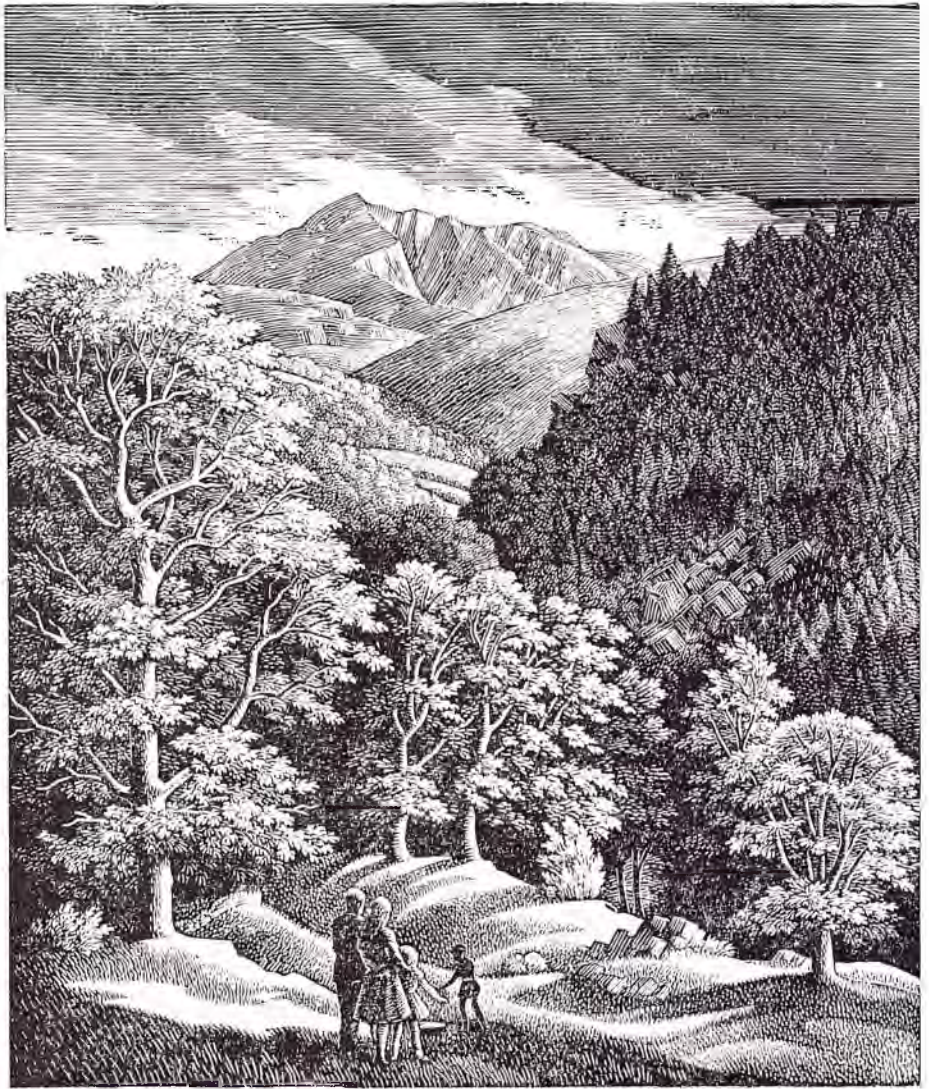






DEAN FOREST AND WYE VALLEY





*Plate 4. Moel Siabod and the Lledr Valley*





*Plate 5. The Swallow Falls on the Llugwy, West of Betws y Coed*

## SNOWDONIA FOREST PARK

THE SNOWDONIA FOREST PARK, established in 1937, embraces four forests amid the foothills of Snowdon, which at 3,561 feet is the highest mountain in England and Wales. The Forest Park holds 23,400 acres, and lies within the larger Snowdonia National Park.

Gwydyrs Lledr, and Machno Forests radiate from the village of Betws y Coed; their woods lie in four valleys and extend across the hills between them. Down the broad vale of the River Conway they reach north to Llanrwst and Trefriw, forming a tapestry of living green along the steep flanks of the western hills. Up the valley of the River Llugwy they border the famous Holyhead road (A.5) as far as Capel Curig, and fringe well-known beauty spots—the Miner's Bridge, the Swallow Falls, and those lovely lakes, the Llynau Mymbyr, from the shores of which the traveller gets his first dramatic view of Snowdon's summit. The Lledr Valley, which carries the road and railway line up to Dolwyddelan and across the hills to Blaenau Ffestiniog, has a more rugged gorge, with oak, pine and larch clinging to the verges of crags above rushing torrents. Further south,





the Machno valley, which leads to Penmachno, presents a kinder aspect of broad fields rising to sweeping expanses of sprucewoods.

Beddgelert Forest, away to the west, has its main portion beside the road from the quaint old village of Beddgelert north towards Caernarvon. It stands at the very foot of Snowdon close to the start of the 'Rhyd Ddu' and 'Beddgelert' tracks to the summit, only three miles away. It has therefore been chosen as the place for the camping ground, which is situated one mile north-west of Beddgelert, close to the Caernarvon Road. Above this, the plantations run up the side of Moel Hebog (2,566 feet), where paths give access to viewpoints commanding the whole Snowdonian range, and the sea-girt lowlands of Anglesey and the Llyn Peninsula. There are smaller, outlying woods beside the waters of Llyn Cwellyn to the north, and near Llyn Gwynant on the picturesque road eastwards to Capel Curig.

Within the Snowdonia Forest Park a good deal of the better ground has been retained as small farms, which form pleasant oases of green pastures amid the trees. There are many small lakes, each with its characteristic calm waterside scenes; and an upper fringe of grazing grounds and heather moors leads on to the rocky summits of the mountains. A maze of old tracks leading to remote farms or to forgotten, abandoned lead mines, winds through this splendid wilderness of woodland, moor, and mountain; some routes are suitable for the adventurous motorist, but most will only attract the walker.

The variety of trees that flourish among these uplands is well shown by the sample plots along the forest road that begins with a sharp left turn just after one crosses the Pont y Pair, or Bridge of the Cauldron, in Betws y Coed. Here you will find spruces and larches from Europe, other spruces, Silver firs, Western hemlocks and Douglas firs from western North America, a larch from Japan, and a pine from Corsica. Alders fringe the streamsides, while oaks and beeches provide delightful scenes at Artist's Wood, close to the Miner's Bridge on the south side of the same valley. Also along the high road from Betws y Coed to Capel Curig there is a fascinating arboretum, or rare tree collection, reached from a car park between Swallow Falls and Ugly House Bridge.

These Snowdonia woods give shelter to a remarkable range of animal and bird life. Birds of the trees include nightjar, woodcock, redstart, woodpecker, several warblers and the pied flycatcher, while the dipper follows the streamsides. Higher up, as the moorlands are neared, you may encounter curlew, ring ouzel, raven and buzzard, and perhaps the rare chough or the peregrine falcon. Though this Park holds no deer, the uplands around it are ranged by wild goats that now know no master, and also by hardy hill ponies.

Polecats and pine martens have been seen in the valley woods. Salmon, sea trout and brown trout swim up the many streams and small lakes. For the botanist there is a wealth of habitats to explore—lakes, streamsides, and peat bogs, meadows and oakwoods, and above them the heather moors reaching up to crag and scree, the homes of rare sub-alpine plants like *Dryas octopetala*, *Lloydia serotina*, and the Welsh poppy, *Meconopsis cambrica*.

Prehistoric peoples have left significant relics in this region, such as the hill forts of Dinas Emrys near Beddgelert and Dinas Mawr close to the Conway Falls. The Romans drove one of their great causeways, Sarn Helen, from Caerhun on the Conway Estuary to Tomen y Mur near Ffestiniog, crossing the Park at Caer Llugwy, near Capel Curig. Dolwyddelan Castle was a stronghold of Llewelyn the Great; Gwedir Castle near Llanrwst was for long the home of the Wynne family, and the little old churches at Llangelynin Llanrhychwyn, and Betws y Coed have each a surprisingly long history.

There are seven Youth Hostels in the Park or on its outskirts. The main hotel centres are Betws y Coed, Llanrwst, Trefriw, Capel Curig and Beddgelert. A railway giving grand scenic views runs from Llandudno Junction (on the main line) to Betws y Coed and Dolwyddelan, and bus services reach most parts of the Park.

*Plate 6. Snowdon seen across Llyn Mymbyr from Capel Curig*







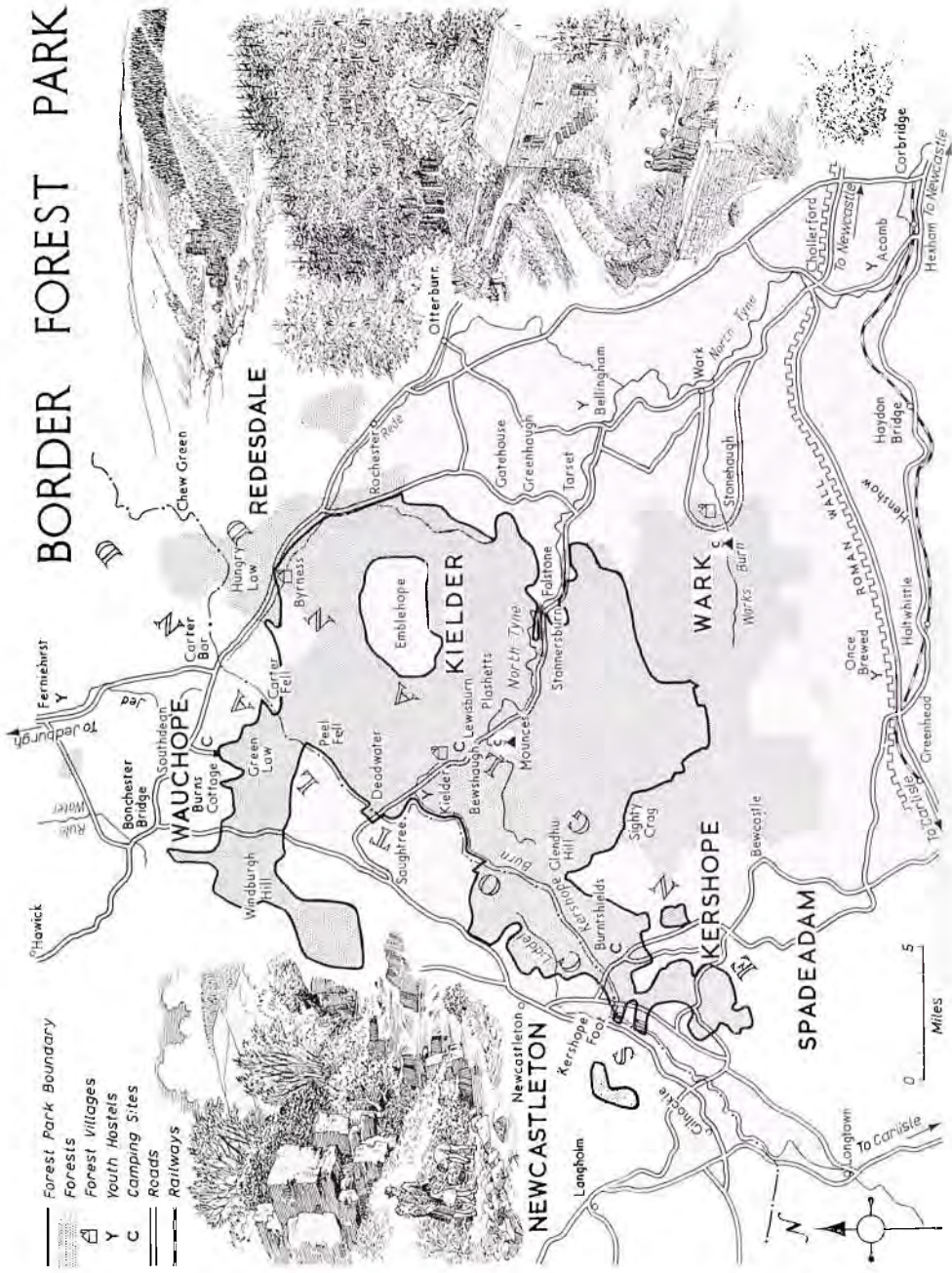
*Plate 7. Camping ground at Kielder Forest in the Borders*

## THE BORDER FOREST PARK

THE BORDER FOREST PARK holds 145,000 acres of forest and fell along the historic borderland of Scotland and England. Neighbouring woodlands owned by the Forestry Commission, including some within the Northumberland National Park, bring the total area of Commission properties in this region up to 182,000 acres, forming the largest expanse of forest in the British Isles. Most of this Forest Park lies in Northumberland, but it also extends into Cumberland, Roxburghshire and Dumfriesshire. It includes three large Forest Villages, and four smaller new settlements. There is a large and well-laid out camping ground in the North Tyne Valley, and an extensive network of forest roads and hill tracks has been signposted to encourage the walker.

The heart of the Border Forest Park is the North Tyne Valley, holding the two great forests of Kielder and Wark; it is usually approached from Hexham. Beyond the little grey stone town of

# BORDER FOREST PARK





Bellingham the valley closes in, and the only road through it winds through spruce woods, passing only an occasional farmstead, for twenty miles to the Scottish border. At Lewisburn, fifteen miles from Bellingham, the road passes the principal camping ground, set on level ground safely above the flood level of the River North Tyne, which runs beside it. Two miles farther on, a by-road on the right leads to Kielder Forest Village, built to house the men who tend the trees in this remote dale. The main road continues over into Liddesdale, on the Scottish side.

Another aspect of this vast Forest Park is seen in Redesdale where the main road (A.696 and A.68) from Newcastle through Otterburn and over the Carter Bar to Jedburgh and Hawick (A.6088) runs for five miles through the spruce woods of Redesdale Forest, and passes the new forest village called Byrness. From Bonchester Bridge, eight miles south-east of Hawick, a secondary road (B.6357), runs up the headwaters of the Rule Water, a tributary of Teviot and Tweed, through the thriving plantations of Wauchope Forest. Crossing the Note o' the Gate pass, it drops down into Liddesdale, past Newcastleton Forest, to Kershopefoot, whence a by-road on the east runs through Kershope Forest in Cumberland.

Between and beyond the few main roads that give access to this far-spreading Park, stand high hill ranges that attract the keen rambler, unafraid of a long tramp. The forest roads, open to all who come on foot, lead to hill tracks linking the dales. Northwards from the Lewisburn camp site you may cross over into Redesdale, and perhaps go on into Scotland over the Roman Road past Chew Green Fort, high on a spur of the Cheviots; or else take the old raiders' route past the Kielder Stone to Carter Fell and Bonchester Bridge on the Scottish side. Westwards you may follow the Bloody Bush road over into Liddesdale, while to the south tracks run across the Christianbury Crags into Cumberland. Peel Fell, which at 1,975 feet is the highest point in the Park, stands right on the Border, seven miles from the camp site, and gives wonderful views across northern England and southern Scotland—from the North Sea to the Solway Firth.

History is writ large on the landscape of this Forest Park. Hut circles and hill forts of prehistoric man are frequent. Hadrian's Wall marches across the country within sight of the Park, a few miles to the south, and there are a Roman road and three encampments—Rochester, Chew Green, and Otterburn, on the Park's north-eastern fringes. The centuries of unrest or open warfare between Scotland and England are perpetuated by the ruins of strong castles—Hermitage Castle in Liddesdale, Bewcastle in Cumberland, and Dally Castle in Tynedale. The smaller peel towers of the Border

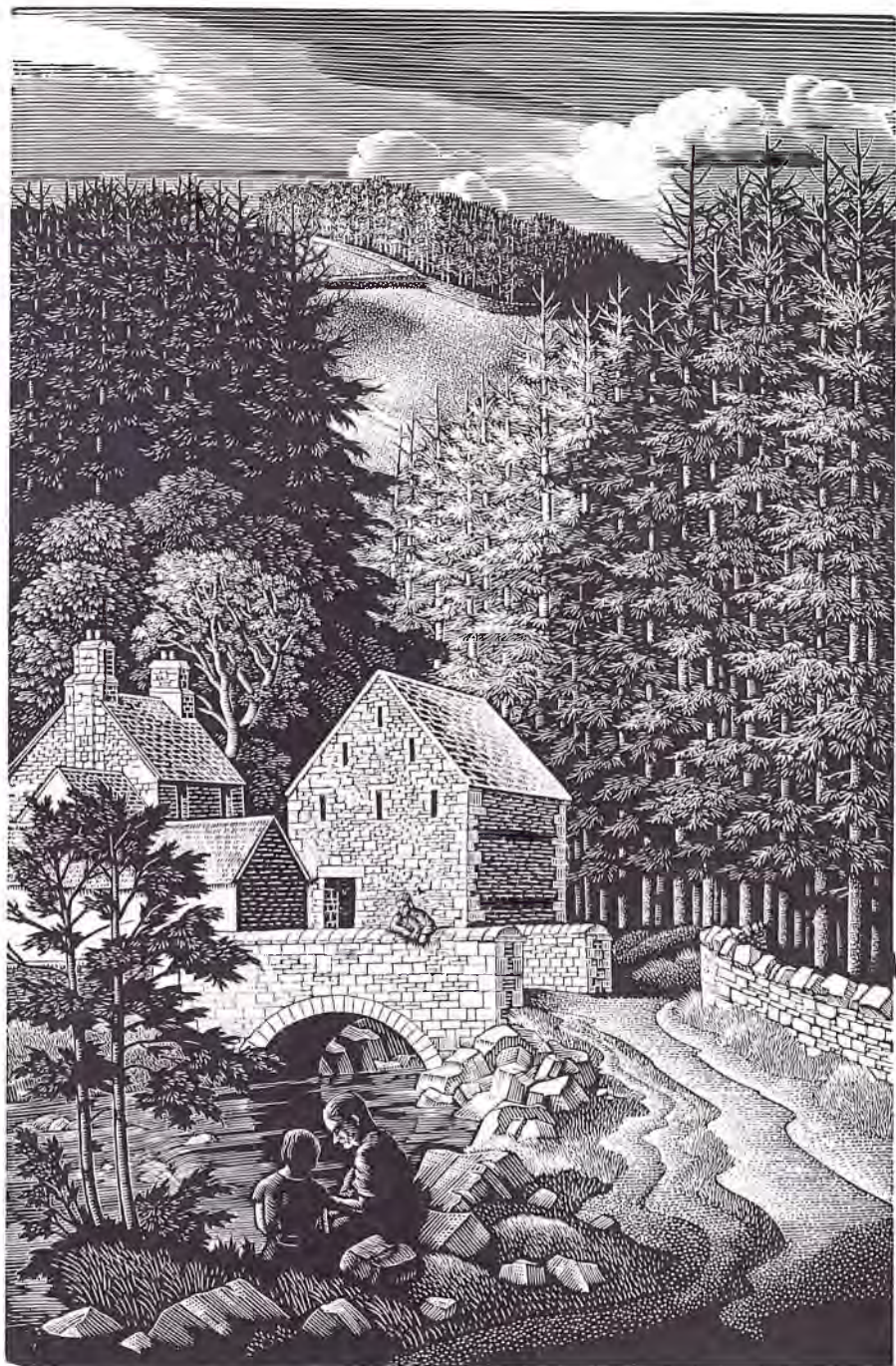
farmers—and Border raiders, are frequent, and some of their old fortified farmsteads are still occupied today.

The wild life of the Park is that of the moors and spruce woods. Though the botanist will find no great rarities, he can range from stream-sides over fields and fells to the peat bogs of the summits. Characteristic birds are the whaup or curlew, and the lapwing, while gulls nest beside some of the tarns. Both red grouse and black grouse may be found, and pheasants have colonised some of the new plantations. Roe deer have found a haven in the young plantations, and a few groups of wild goats range the remoter crags.

Two similar kinds of tree, the Norway spruce and the Sitka spruce, account for most of this Park's woodlands; Japanese larch and lodgepole pine are grown on a smaller scale. The spruces have proved thoroughly at home on the peaty moors, which are drained by huge ploughs prior to planting. There is now a vast yearly growth of timber, which is harvested by thinning each plantation every few years, once it has reached the age of twenty years or so. This timber is in keen demand for varied uses; much is cut into pit props for coal mines, some is manufactured into chipboard at factories in Annan and Hexham and some goes to pulp works to emerge as paper or as food cartons. Visitors will see the felling, trimming and transport operations which put the produce of the Border's spreading mantle of green forest to profitable use.

*Plate 8. Border sprucewoods in snow*





*Plate 9. Border Farmstead*





*Plate 10. Loch Doon and The Merrick*



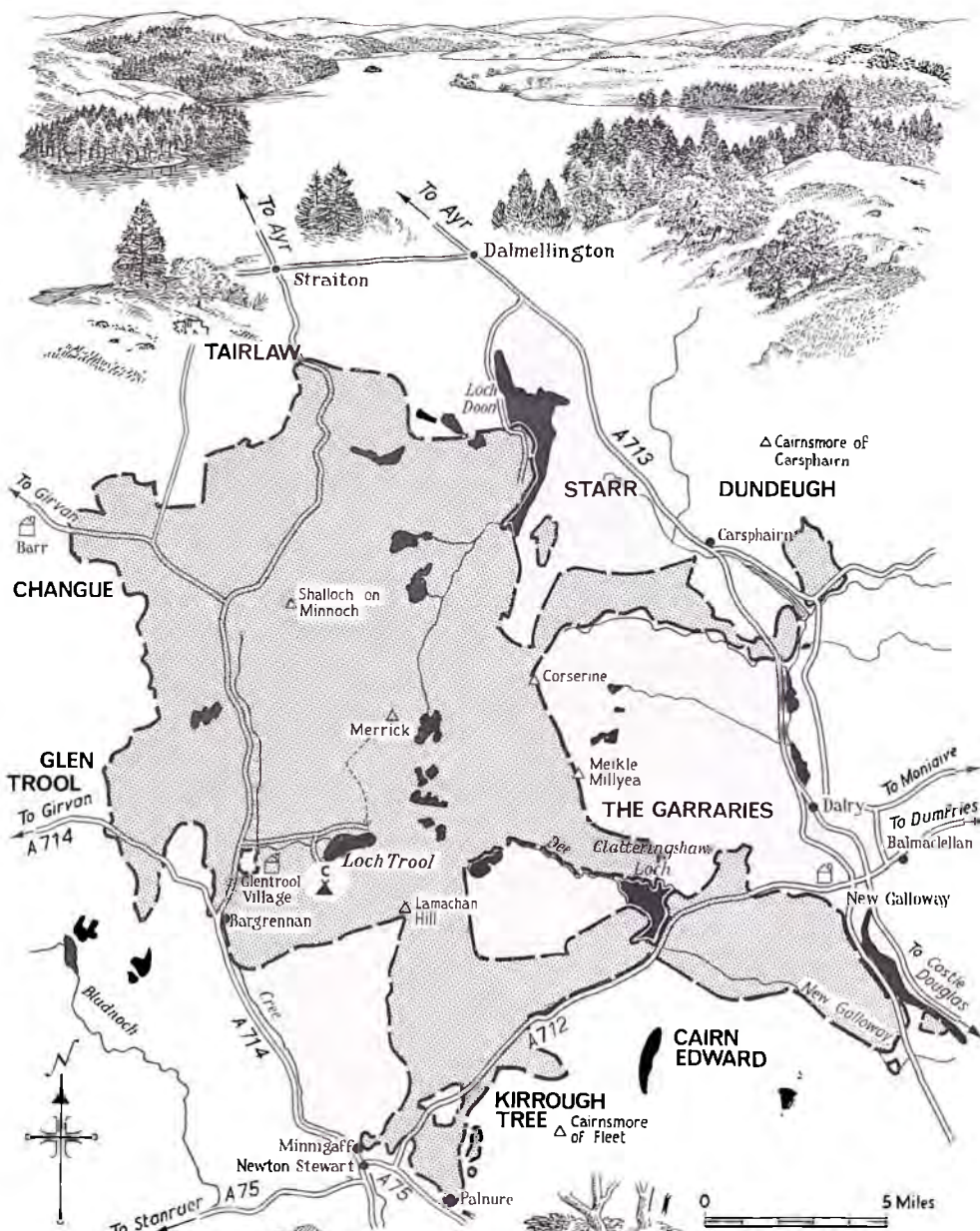
*Plate 11. Loch Trool—the westward view*

## GLEN TROOL FOREST PARK

SITUATED IN the heart of Galloway, Scotland's south-western province, this Forest Park holds the best of that region's magnificent scenery of crag, fell, torrent, and loch. Its central feature is lovely Loch Trool, which winds through hills recalling the Highlands; while its dominating summit, The Merrick, 2,764 feet, is famous as the highest point in the south of Scotland. Lying within the counties of Ayr and Kirkcudbright, this Park is of great extent, holding no less than 150,000 acres in one continuous expanse. Its component forests are Glen Trool; Carrick; Changue; Starr; Tairlaw; Kirroughtree; Dundough; The Garraries; Bennan (formerly Cairn Edward); and Clatteringshaws to the west thereof.

Newton Stewart, a pleasant market town, is the only considerable place on the Park's fringes; it lies on the high road and bus route from Dumfries to Stranraer. From Newton Stewart the main road (A.714) to Girvan, with a bus service, runs through Bargrennan, where a turning to the right brings one to Glentrool Forest Village. Farther on, another turning to the right leads both to the camp site





GLEN TROOL

at Caldons (down a further right-hand turning signposted 'Caldons Camping and Caravan Site'), and to the shores of Loch Trool. This road ends at a view-point where an impressive memorial stone records the victory of Robert the Bruce over the English in the Battle of Glen Trool (A.D. 1307). Beside the camp site, a humbler stone commemorates six Covenanters, who were surprised at prayer and martyred for their faith in 1685.

All around stand the great hills, with romantic names derived from the Gaelic or Norse tongues now vanished from the Galloway scene. Benyellary, Mullwharchar, and the Rig o' the Jarkness are examples. The hill walker who takes one of the tracks to the open braes above the plantations can climb The Merrick, visit remote Loch Enoch with its lochan on an islet, or cross the wastes to the headwaters of any of six famous rivers—the Stinchar, the Water of Girvan, the Doon, the Galloway Dee, the Water of Fleet, and the Cree. But he must go well prepared, for there are long miles of roadless rock and peat hag in this loch-studded wilderness.

For those who keep to the roads, there is a fine run north from Glentool village through the vast sprucewoods and over the hills to Straiton. An alternative route, diverging at Rowantree, leads over the Nick o' the Balloch pass towards Barr, and on to Girvan.

Another fine stretch of the Park lies along the main road from Newton Stewart to New Galloway. The way lies beside the larchwoods below the Craggs of Talnotry to the Grey Mare's Tail waterfall. Thence it traverses easier country, though still wild and remote, to the Clatteringshaws Reservoir, where a stone recalls another of Bruce's victories, the Battle of Rapploch Moss (1307). Cairn Edward, a grand sweep of tree-covered hillside, now rises to the south, and soon the road drops steeply to the little township of New Galloway. Here a right-hand turn leads past old Kenmure Castle to a grand scenic route down the shores of Loch Ken, with forests rising above, for five miles to the former New Galloway station.

Alternatively a long run north-west from New Galloway, past Dundeugh Forest and the impressive reservoirs, dams, and power stations of the Galloway Hydro-Electric scheme, leads to another approach to the woods and moors. A turning to the west, two miles south of Dalmellington, leads to Loch Doon, beside which stands the ancient keep once held by John Balliol, who contended with Bruce for the Scottish Crown.

Yet another aspect of this vast Park is seen at Kirroughtree Nursery, close to Palmure on the estuary of the River Cree, south-east of Newton Stewart. Here the millions of young trees needed, each year, for planting within the Park and at neighbouring forests, are raised in trim seedbeds and transplant lines.



The principal trees planted at Glen Trool are the Norway and Sitka spruces, well suited to peaty grasslands, while Japanese larch, Douglas fir, and Scots and Lodgepole pines add their differing hues to the scene, on ground of varying character. On some sections of the forests the visitor will see the work of preparing the land by ploughing, draining, and fencing, and the planting of the young trees still in full swing. Elsewhere he will traverse miles of thriving young crops planted a few years ago, or see the taller woods that are now being thinned out to yield pit props and the raw material for wallboard.

For the naturalist there is wide scope and much variety. The geologist will be impressed by granite outcrops and the rugged glaciated landscape of the Merrick hinterlands. The botanist can find flowers of woodland and moorland, while the plants of the peat bogs are specially preserved in a Nature Reserve at the Silver Flow. Animals include red deer and roe deer, and a few herds of wild goats. Above all, this Park is rich in bird life, from the gulls of the Cree estuary, and the swans, geese, and ducks that visit the numerous lochs and rivers, to the whaups, grouse, and buzzards of the lonely moorlands. It is a grand place to wander, with a fresh delightful view awaiting you round every turn.

*Plate 12. Loch Trool—view east from The Bruce's Stone towards Curleywee Hill*





*Plate 13. Pony trekkers near Aberfoyle, Queen Elizabeth Forest Park*

## THE QUEEN ELIZABETH FOREST PARK

QUEEN ELIZABETH FOREST PARK, established in 1953 to honour Her Majesty's Coronation, consists of three adjoining forests, Rowardennan, Achray, and Loch Ard, set on the slopes of Ben Lomond and Ben Venue, on the romantic southern fringe of the Highlands. It extends from the shore of Loch Lomond across the hills to the Trossachs, and touches on Loch Katrine and Loch Achray. Lying partly in Perthshire and partly in Stirlingshire, it holds 28,000 acres of forest land and 18,000 acres of moor and mountainside, making 46,000 acres in all.

Aberfoyle, a little township on the headwaters of the Forth, is the usual centre for exploring this Park. It may be reached from Stirling by the main road below the forest-clad Menteith Hills, or from Glasgow by way of Drymen; both roads carry bus services. Westwards from Aberfoyle a secondary road (B.829) winds past





Loch Ard and on through the forest to Loch Chon; emerging on to moorlands above Loch Katrine it passes Loch Arklet and descends, at Inversnaid, to Loch Lomond. In summer a tourist steamer links Inversnaid with Tarbet and Balloch.

North of Aberfoyle, the famous 'Duke's Road' winds up the hill called Craigmore, where a shelter, called the David Marshall Lodge, has recently been built by the Carnegie Trust so that all may enjoy the magnificent view across the woodlands towards the Campsie Fells. Then the road drops down to the Trossachs, and a turning to the left leads to the pier on Loch Katrine; the right-hand road passes further plantations and skirts the shores of Loch Achray and Loch Venachar on its way to Callander.

The camping ground on Loch Lomondside can only be reached by road through the village of Balmaha, which is served by buses from Glasgow. The road to the camp follows the picturesque eastern shore of the loch to Rowardennan, for three miles from the bus terminus. Another camp site is at Cobleland,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles south of Aberfoyle on the main Glasgow road (bus route).

Three groups of mountains dominate this Forest Park's rugged scenery. Ben Lomond, 3,192 feet, commands both the shores of Loch Lomond and the headwaters of the Forth around Aberfoyle; it is usually climbed from Rowardennan, by a well marked and popular path. Ben Venue, 2,393 feet, situated between Aberfoyle and the Trossachs, is seen at its best across the still waters of Loch Achray, as one approaches from Callander; it is also prominently in view from the steamer that plies on Loch Katrine. The Menteith Hills, between Aberfoyle and Callander, rise steeply above the levels of Flanders Moss, and may be crossed by a grand hill walk.

The summits of these ranges are too high for tree planting, but a marvellous mantle of young woods now enfolds their lower slopes. Because of frequent changes in the character of the ground, the kinds of trees used have been varied at frequent intervals. The rich greens of the spruces contrast with the darker blue-greens of the pines, while the Japanese larches appear bright green in spring but russet red in autumn after their leaves fall. Though planting began as recently as 1930, the Loch Ard woods are already very productive, sending pit props to Scottish coalfields and pulpwood to paper mills. The two forests provide much local employment, and houses have been built specially for forest workers at Braeval and Kinlochard, both near Aberfoyle, and also near Rowardennan.

The plant life of the Queen Elizabeth Forest Park is surprisingly varied. It includes water lilies and other aquatic plants in the lochs and streams, lowland flowers in the meadows and oakwoods, heather and moorland grasses and the sub-alpine rarities of the hilltops. The



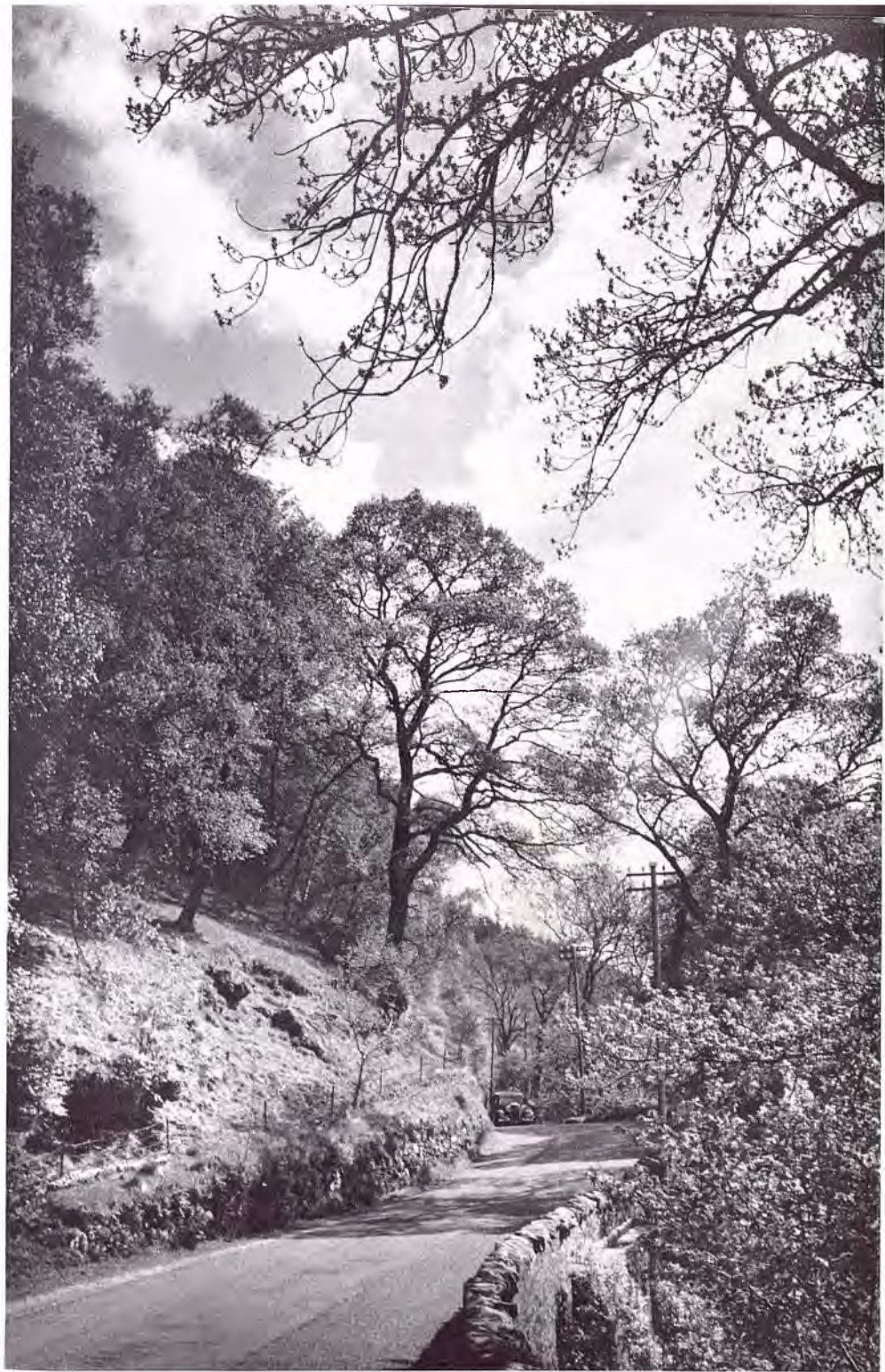
animals include both red and roe deer, a few wild goats, fox, otter and badger, and the unwelcome alien grey squirrel. Birds of water-side and moorland thickets meet here in an unusual association; Loch Lomond is the haunt both of black-headed gulls, and of the capercaillie, a large grouse-like bird that nests on the islands. The lochs abound with fish, including the rare powan (*Coregonus clupeoides*) found only in Loch Lomond and Loch Eck nearby.

Sir Walter Scott, who knew this countryside well, made it the scene of his famous romantic poem *The Lady of the Lake* and also of his well-known historical novel *Rob Roy*. This is the land of the MacGregor outlaws, who lived partly by raiding the richer lowlands to the south, and partly by serving as irregular soldiers in one or another of the political affrays of the eighteenth century. Their power was such that the Government established a garrison in the barracks at Inversnaid, to maintain law and order; but Rob and his formidable wife Helen survived many affrays and now sleep peacefully in the churchyard of Balquhidder, below tombstones bearing their clan badges, a Scots pine torn up by the roots, and a crown pierced by a sword.

*Plate 14. Loch Lomond and Rowardennan Forest, with snow-capped Ben Lomond beyond. Queen Elizabeth Forest Park*





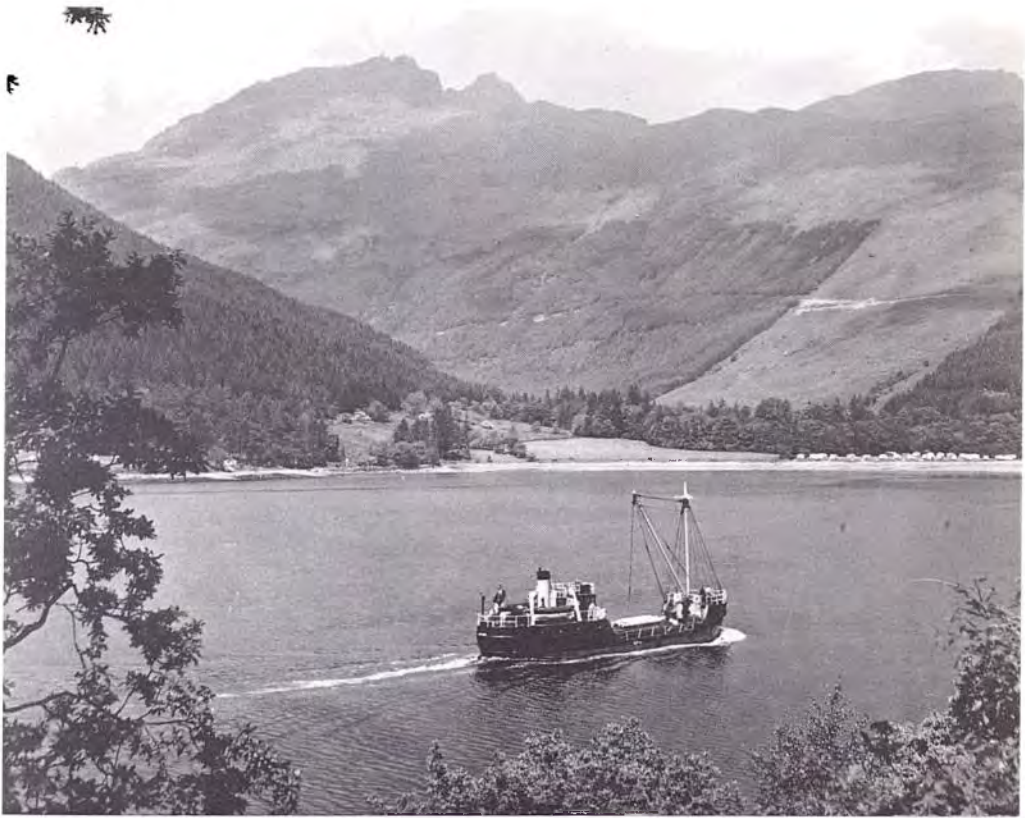


*Plate 15. Sunlight in the Trossachs*





*Plate 16. Ramblers above Loch Long, Argyll Forest Park*



*Plate 17. Coasting steamer approaching Arrochar, beside The Cobbler and the Camp Site at the head of Loch Long, Argyll*

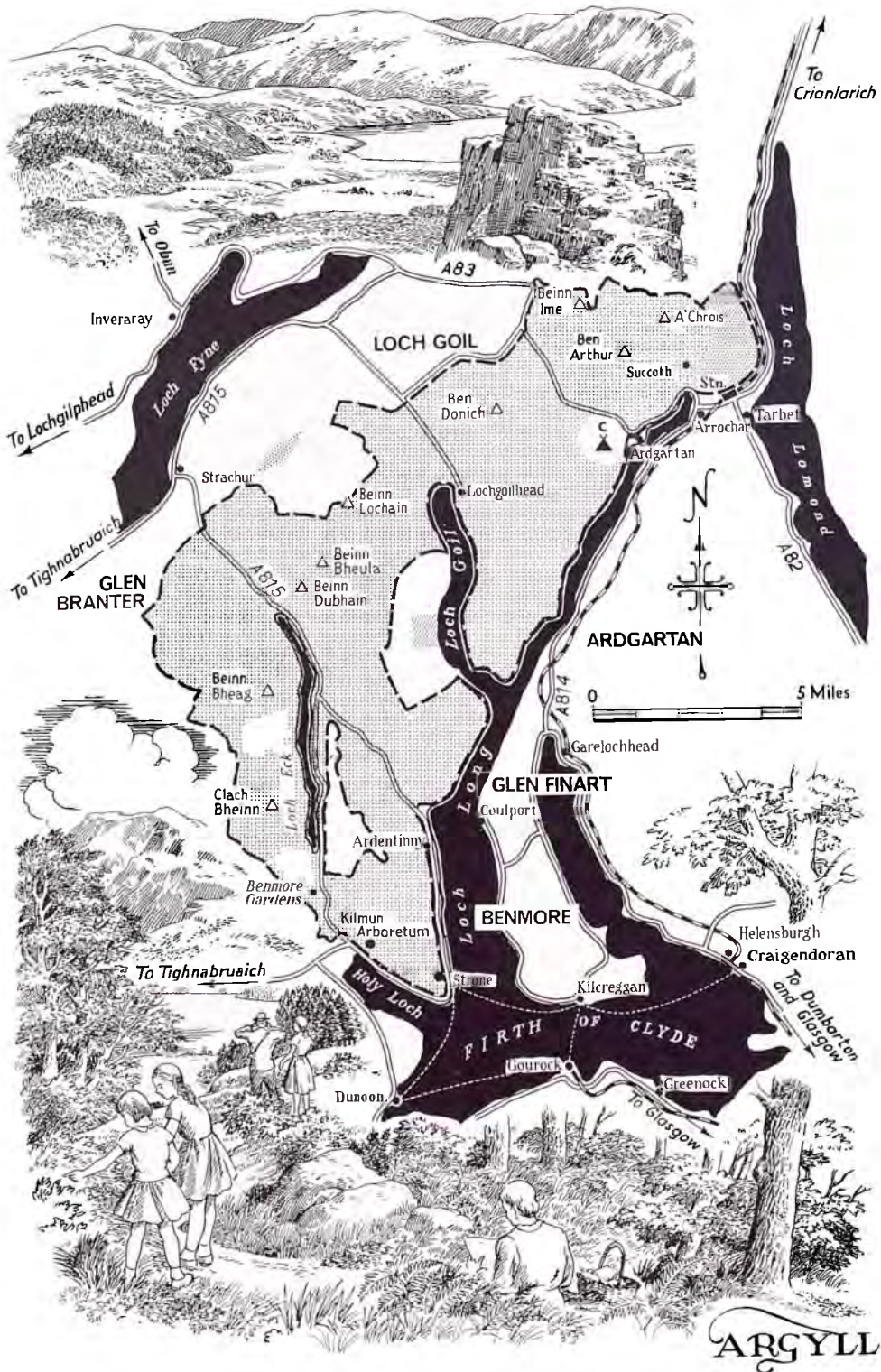
## ARGYLL FOREST PARK

THE ARGYLL FOREST PARK lies on the Cowal Peninsula, between Loch Long and Loch Fyne. Though it is close to the industrial zone along the Firth of Clyde, it is a region altogether different in character and scenery. Here rugged bens, their foothills clad in green woods of spruce and pine, soar from the shores of sea lochs to heights above 3,000 feet. Its lower levels carry a few good roads and several fascinating footpaths; its summits attract the rock climber.

This Park is of great extent, holding 66,000 acres of the six forests of Ardgartan, Glenbranter, Loch Eck, Glenfinart, Benmore, and Loch Goil; it measures eighteen miles from north to south. It is so broken up by peaks and lochs that it can only be approached by one of two routes; these are linked by a good road, but not by any through public transport service.

The *northern approach* to the Park from Glasgow follows the





To Crianlarich

Inveraray

LOCH GOIL

Beinn Ime

Ben Arthur

Succoth

Stn.

Arrochar

Loch Lomond

A82

Tarbet

Ardgartan

Ben Donich

Lochgoilhead

Beinn Lochain

Beinn Bheula

Beinn Dubhain

Beinn Bheag

Clach Bheinn

Ardentinn

Benmore Gartens

Kilmun Arboretum

GLEN FINART

Coulport

BENMORE

Garelochhead

Helensburgh

Craigendoran

To Tighnabruach

Strone

Kilcreggan

FIRTH OF CLYDE

Gourock

Greenock

Dunoon

To Glasgow

To Dumbarton and Glasgow

ARGYLL

shores of the Clyde through Helensburgh, and on up the Gare Loch to Loch Long. At Whistlefield, the plantations of Ardgail and Ardgartan come plainly into view across Loch Long, and at Arrochar the road winds round the head of that loch to enter the Park. Two miles farther on, at Ardgartan, is the main camping site, well-placed on a promontory jutting out into the salt water. Above it rise the well-known climbing grounds of the Cobbler (2,891 feet) and the even higher neighbouring peaks of Beinn Narnain (3,036 feet) and Beinn Ime (3,318 feet). Not far away stand the Camping Club's Ardgartan site, and the Ardgartan Youth Hostel.

Beyond Ardgartan the main road climbs the famous Rest-and-be-Thankful pass, from the summit of which a by-road runs down to Lochgoilhead and the peaceful, wooded shores of Loch Goil. The main road continues downhill to Cairndow near the head of Loch Fyne, where one can bear right for the old town of Inveraray, stronghold of the Dukes of Argyll. A left-hand fork a mile before Cairndow leads to Strachur and the southern portion of the Park, described below.

The *southern approach* to the Park is by the ferry service from Gourock across the Firth of Clyde to Dunoon, a well-known seaside resort; certain steamers ferry cars as well as people. From Dunoon the main road to Strachur and Inveraray follows the shore of the Holy Loch and gives a grand view of plantations on the further side. At Benmore there are several attractions for visitors: the delightful Younger Botanic Gardens, run by the Younger (Benmore) Trust, are open to visitors at a small fee, and have a tea-room. Close by there is a public path up a deep cleft in the hills, known as Puck's Glen, which follows a waterfall past rocks embowered in mosses and filmy ferns to a viewpoint with a shelter hut. On the east side of the Holy Loch, close to Kilmun Church, the Kilmun Forest Garden, holding plots of many unusual trees, is open to the public, with a good car park and a printed guide available.

A mile beyond Benmore the road strikes the shores of lovely Loch Eck, which it follows between mountain and forest for seven miles. At Whistlefield, four miles up the shore, a side road on the east winds up a pass to descend through the woods of Glen Finart Forest to Ardentinny, a sylvan hamlet on the shores of Loch Long; and this way provides a scenic return route, via Strone Point, to Dunoon. A forest nursery may be seen beside the main road near Ardentinny.

If you hold to the main road you will reach, beyond Loch Eck, the village of Glen Branter, where picturesque timber houses have been built for forest workers. Nearby, at Strachur, is the Cowal-Ari sawmill, a modern plant of Swedish design which converts the logs from forest thinnings into sawn and seasoned planks for industry and



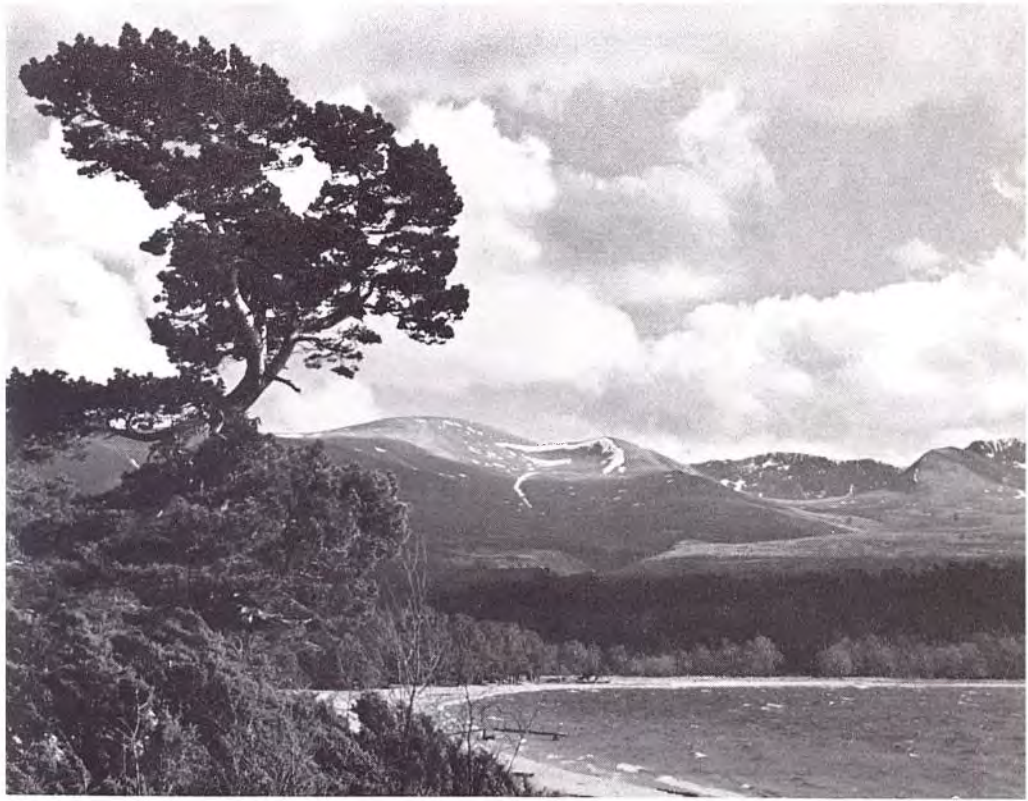
the building trade. A little farther on the road emerges from the hills to wind north-east along the shores of Loch Fyne, towards Inveraray or Arrochar.

Sprucewoods, seashores, and rugged hill ranges are the prevailing features of this fascinating Park, yet within its bounds you can encounter a richer variety of plant and animal life than anywhere else in the kingdom. From the palms and eucalyptus trees of Benmore you can range to the summits of Beinn Ime, where only hardy alpinists like the purple saxifrage and the rare moss campion can survive. Up amid the crags you may encounter wild cat, polecat, peregrine falcon or golden eagle, while the shorelines are visited by gannets, divers, and rare wading birds. Though this Park holds few noteworthy relics of the past, it is famous in Gaelic song and poetry as the haunt of Deirdre and Naoise, romantic royal lovers of a half-legendary past; and in history as a stronghold of the great Clan Campbell whose leaders, the Dukes of Argyll, so often played a leading part in moulding Scotland's destiny.

The Ardgartan camp site is four miles from Arrochar and Tarbet station on the West Highland Line of British Railways, and directly beside the long-distance bus route from Glasgow to Campbeltown. Local bus services from Dunoon run to Benmore, Kilmun, and Ardentinny. Steamers from Gourock call at Dunoon and Blairmore. There are Youth Hostels at Ardgartan and at Strone Point.

*Plate 18. Stately Scots pines beside Loch Eck, north of Dunoon, Argyll*





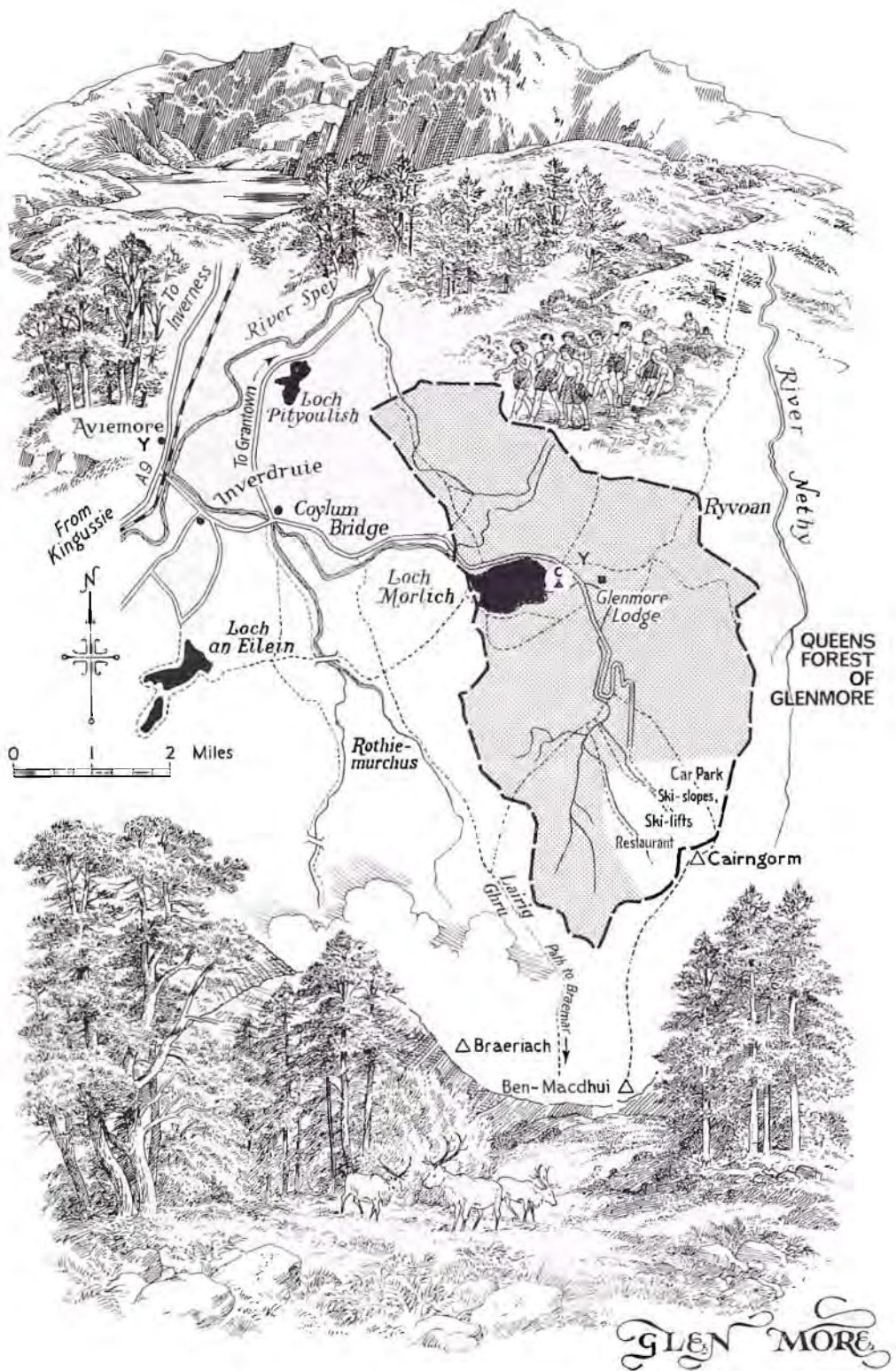
*Plate 19. Rugged Caledonian pines fringe Loch Morlich's sandy beach, below the snow-wreathed Cairngorm, Glen More*

## GLEN MORE, CAIRNGORMS

THE GLEN MORE FOREST PARK, opened in 1948, holds 3,400 acres of pine and spruce woods, and 9,100 acres of mountainside, on the north-western slopes of the high Cairngorm Mountains of Inverness-shire. At its heart lies Loch Morlich, a beautiful expanse of clear fresh water, whose sandy beaches are fringed with gaunt old Caledonian pines. All around rise the crags and rounded summits of the bens, which reach 4,084 feet above sea level on the summit of Cairngorm itself. At these heights the winters are severe, and from December to Easter the Park attracts winter sports enthusiasts, skiers and skaters, rather than the ramblers, swimmers and dinghy sailors who frequent it in summer.

Glen More is usually approached from Aviemore, a rail and road junction on the main routes from Perth to Inverness and the North, Thence the road, well signposted, runs east to Coylumbridge, to wind through the pines and heather of the great Rothiemurchus





QUEENS FOREST OF GLENMORE

GLEN MORE

Forest to Loch Morlich, 1,000 feet above sea level. After skirting the shores of the loch, the road reaches a broad hollow of open ground, on or around which are situated the public camping ground, Loch Morlich Youth Hostel, a shop and a telephone box, and the Forester's office. The bathing beach is nearby, and there are facilities for sailing light craft on the loch.

Beyond the camp site the road forks, the left hand branch continuing to Glen More Lodge, the newly-built and well-equipped residential centre of the Scottish Council for Physical Recreation; it continues, as a track for walkers only, over the Pass of Ryvoan towards Abernethy. The right hand fork, called the 'Ski Road' climbs the steep slopes of the Cairngorm, rising 1,500 feet in  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles, to end at the foot of the new chair lift. This road reaches 2,500 feet above sea level, and beyond it a hill track climbs steadily for another 2,000 feet to the Cairngorm summit  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles farther on.

The southern edge of the Park is fringed with high ridges, around 3,500 feet high, and steep corries. This is mountaineer's country, which beckons the hardy hill walker during the long fair days of summer, but needs arctic equipment when the winter blizzards sweep in. Nobody, however experienced, should venture over these hills without leaving a note outlining the route they intend to take. The lower slopes, and the low range of the Kincardine Hills on the north, provide less strenuous rambling in summer and some excellent ski runs in early spring. The pinewoods nearer the loch are threaded with pleasant roads and paths.

Rothiemurchus Forest, which adjoins Glen More on the east, forms parts of the great Cairngorms Nature Reserve of the Nature Conservancy, which reaches far up into the hills around Ben Macdhui (4,296 feet), the second highest peak in Britain.

Glen More itself lies too far into the hills to hold any remarkable antiquities or have any noteworthy history. It has held pinewoods from time immemorial, although there were heavy fellings in the eighteenth century—when the logs were floated down the Spey—and again in the two recent world wars. The forest was once held by the Grants, but latterly became a deer preserve of the Dukes of Gordon, from whom, in 1923, the Forestry Commission acquired it. The district's most interesting relic of the past is Loch an Eilein Castle, built on a tiny islet in a pine-fringed loch, which can be reached by a six-mile walk through the forests; it was held successively by the Mackintoshes and the Gordons, and is now owned by the Grants.

The granite rocks of Glen More attract both the rock climber and the geologist, and hold evidence of the past activities of glaciers. Loch Morlich itself was scooped out by a great ice sheet and the





*Plate 20. Looking across Loch Morlich to the Cairngorm ski slopes, 4,000 feet above sea level, Glen More Forest Park*

remote lochan of the Coire an Lochan is dammed by a glacial moraine. The upper reaches of the Park support an alpine vegetation including moss campion and creeping rhododendron while within reach of the ordinary visitor there is a wealth of moorland plants—blaeberry, cowberry, and cranberry, with thickets of birch and juniper fringing the grand old pines of the native Caledonian forests.

Red deer roam the hills, roe deer haunt the thickets, and the Park is the home of a remarkable experiment in the re-introduction of reindeer—in the form of a domesticated herd, to Scotland. Mountain hares, which turn white in winter to match the snows, are another unusual feature. The birds include some notable rarities, such as the crested tit of the pinewoods, and the snow bunting and dotterel which sometimes nest on the summits. The characteristic game bird of the tops is the ptarmigan, while black and red grouse, and also capercaillie, may be encountered lower down. The crossbill frequents the pinewoods to extract the seed from the cones.

Roads and paths through the plantations are open to the walker, who can see progressing the work of planting, tending, and thinning out the young trees.

In winter the upper slopes become a skier's paradise, with car parks, a restaurant, a chair-lift and ski-tours all well organised.



*Plate 21. Cairngorm scene: crag, loch, pinewood, capercaillie and roe deer*





*Plate 22. Fallow deer, New Forest*



*Plate 23. Ponies at Bolton's Bench, Lyndhurst*

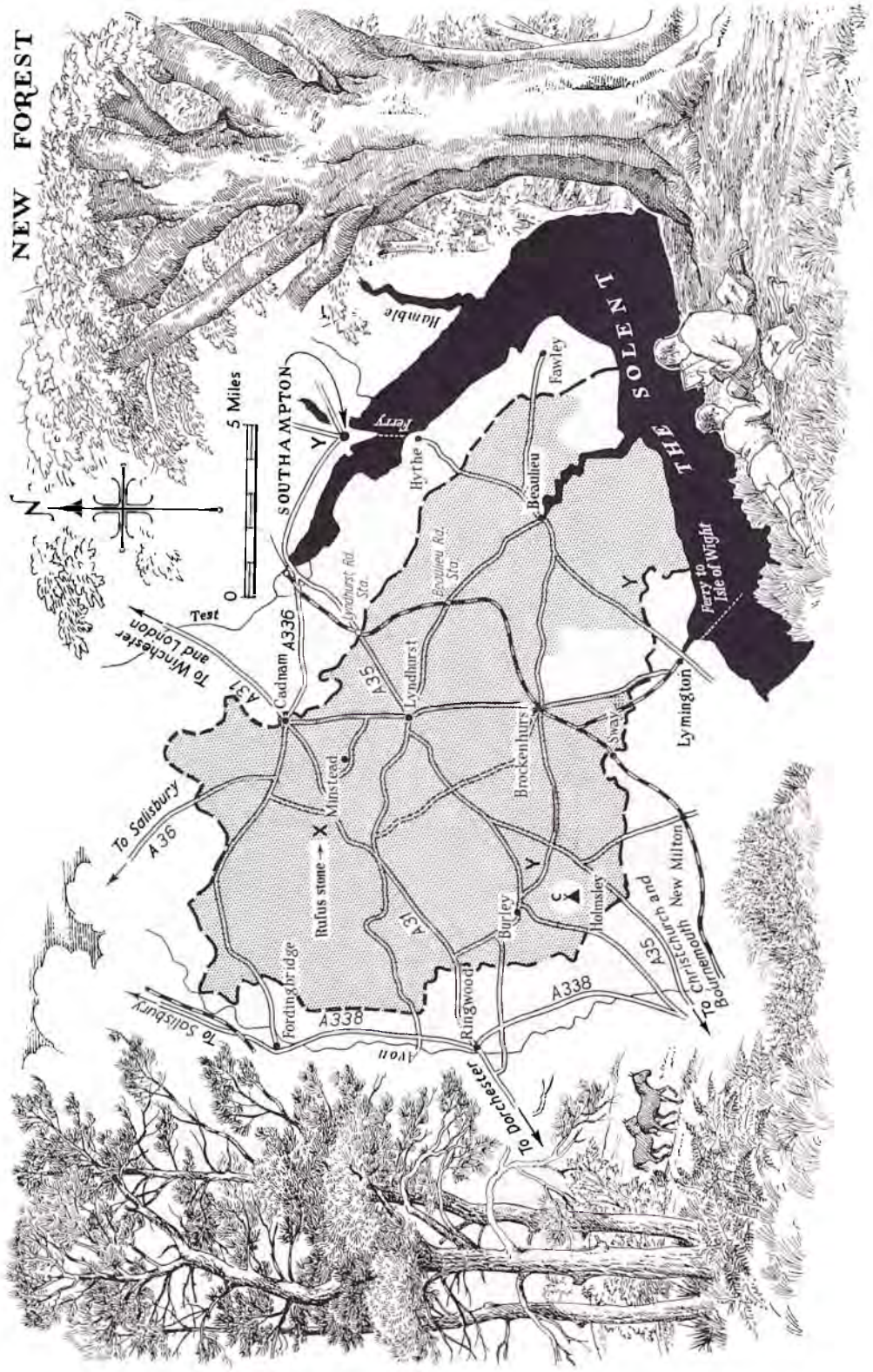
## THE NEW FOREST

MOST FAMOUS of the Royal Forests of the Norman kings, the New Forest was established by William the Conqueror in A.D. 1087 and then occupied most of south-west Hampshire, from the River Avon at Christchurch to the River Test and Southampton Water. Despite the changes of the centuries, 92,365 acres still lie within the legal boundary of the Forest, and 67,000 acres (or roughly 105 square miles), are controlled by the Forestry Commission. Although the New Forest is not a Forest Park, being administered under special Acts of Parliament which define the rights of the Commoners and the powers of the ancient Verderers Court, it has been included here because it provides ample scope for the visitor to enjoy an open countryside rich in scenic attractions and wild life.

Roughly two-fifths of the Crown land is wooded, the other three-fifths being open heath and grassland, grazed by the herds of cattle and ponies owned by the Commoners whose small farms lie either within the Forest or on its verges. The land rises from sea



# NEW FOREST



0 5 Miles

To Winchester and London  
A37

To Salisbury  
A36

To Salisbury

To Dorchester

To Christchurch and Bournemouth  
A35

Test

SOUTHAMPTON

Cadnam A336

Lyndhurst

Brockenhurst

Ringwood

New Milton

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level near Lymington through broad plateaux to a height, on Longcross Plain, of 414 feet; there are no steep hills, but the low heights command broad views across expanses of heather or treetops, with distant glimpses of the Dorset hills and the Isle of Wight. It is a countryside devoid of rock, where small rivers wind over beds of gravel, clay, or sand, their banks fringed with reeds and alders.

Two kinds of woodland, each managed on a different plan, are pleasantly interwoven in the New Forest scene. Old natural woods of oak, beech, birch, yew and holly survive in many places, and are being renewed by natural regeneration, or, where that is not possible, by replanting in small groups. Plantations designed for timber production have been made, felled, and replanted, since Tudor times, and now include every tree important in British forestry, as well as examples of several methods of management. Here you may find oakwoods 150 years old and Douglas firs 145 feet tall, or roam through great pinewoods renewed by the process of natural seeding. A notable collection of named specimen trees, including many rarities, can be found along the Ornamental Drive, which runs south from the Lyndhurst—Bournemouth road  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles out of Lyndhurst. Directly opposite this, another forest road, also open to cars, runs north past the great Knightwood Oak, which is twenty-three feet round and the stoutest tree in the forest, to the Nature Conservancy's reserve at Mark Ash Wood, and on to the Bolderwood Arboretum, another collection of rare trees.

The prevailing plants of the New Forest are those of the heaths—not only the heather tribe but dwarf gorse and petty whin (*Genista anglica*) with here and there the beautiful deep blue marsh gentian (*Gentiana pneumonanthe*); here too grows the rare native gladiolus (*Gladiolus illyricus*). In the shallow valleys the peat bogs and streamsides hold their characteristic flora, including the sweet-scented bog myrtle, sphagnum mosses, rushes, reeds, and the delicate bog pimpernel. The deep woods have again their peculiar group of plants, such as butcher's broom, whortleberry and enchanter's nightshade.

To the visitor the characteristic feature of the forest is its herds of 'wild' ponies which, though actually the property of the Commoners, feed and breed untended on the unfenced land. Most of them are wary, but a few have become so tame that the feeding of them along the main roads has had to be made illegal, because of the risks to traffic. Cattle also roam the heaths, while in autumn young pigs search the woods for acorns. Truly wild beasts include four species of deer—red, roe, fallow, and Japanese Sika, and also fox, badger, and otter. All the common wood and garden birds of southern




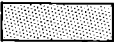



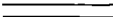



England can be found; buzzard, heron, butcher bird, and the Dartford warbler are unusual ones of special interest.

On the hilltops, round burrows or tumuli stand as relics of a remote past, but the Forest itself, having been retained for so long as a hunting ground, holds few notable old buildings. The villages of Minstead and Brockenhurst possess interesting old parish churches, and the Queen's House in Lyndhurst, which holds both the Verderers Hall and the Offices of the Deputy Surveyor, is a good example of architecture from the days of Charles II. Beaulieu Abbey, built by Cistercian monks from Normandy about A.D. 1205, but now largely in ruins, is the Forest's finest mediaeval building.

The New Forest is exceptionally accessible. Three main roads run across it—one from Southampton through Lyndhurst to Bournemouth (A.35) another from Winchester through Cadnam to Ringwood and the west (A.31), and a third from Cadnam through Lyndhurst and Brockenhurst to Lymington (A.337). These are linked by several secondary roads, and the whole district is served by buses (Hants and Dorset) from Southampton, Bournemouth, and Lymington. There are several stations on the main railway line from London to Bournemouth, and most expresses stop at Brockenhurst. Despite this ease of approach, it is easy to wander into quiet roadless wastes, and even to get lost in the remoter reaches of the Forest.

There is a main camp site at Holmsley in the south-west, and permits are also issued for small parties to camp at sites which the campers may, within certain limits, select themselves. The current charges are 3s. per night (18s. per week) for a tent, and 7s. 6d. per night (45s. per week) for a car and tent or caravan. Application should be made, well in advance of the intended stay, to the Deputy Surveyor of the New Forest, The Queen's House, High Street, Lyndhurst, Hants. The camping season is from mid-March to mid-October, only.

## LEGEND

Forest Park Boundary .....		Forests .....	
Mountain Peaks .....		Forest Villages .....	
Youth Hostels .....	<b>Y</b>	Camp Sites .....	
Roads .....		Railways .....	
Paths .....		Forest Names .....	<b>DEAN</b>
Lakes, Lochs and Estuaries ....			

Symbols Used on Maps

# ARBORETA AND FOREST PLOTS

IN ADDITION to the arboreta, or collections of specimen trees, within the Forest Parks, the Forestry Commission administers three notable collections of forest trees which are open to the public.

## BEDGEBURY, KENT

The National Pinetum at Bedgebury, built up with the invaluable help of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, was established in 1924. It is situated two miles north of the main London—Hastings Road (A.21), near the village of Flimwell, some fifteen miles beyond Tonbridge. At Flimwell Farm, a road turning northwards (B.2079) brings one to the car park. For 1970 parking fees are: Cars, 4s.; motor cycles, 2s.; pedal cycles, 6d.; coaches, 20s. The bus service (Maidstone and District No. 80) from Tunbridge Wells (nearest useful station) to Hawkhurst passes Flimwell Farm; there is a Youth Hostel (Goudhurst) nearby, and hotel accommodation at Goudhurst, Cranbrook and Hawkhurst, each a few miles distant.

The Pinetum, which is open free of charge during daylight hours, consists of sixty-four acres of undulating land, studded with specimen trees of conifers representing all the genera and most of the species and varieties hardy in the temperate zone. There are many pleasant paths amid them, and an ornamental lake surrounded by rhododendrons; while tall broadleaved trees add their shelter.

Adjacent to the Pinetum, a series of 110 Forest Plots, maintained by the Forestry Commission Research Branch on an area of forty acres, is also open to visitors. This is a trial ground for broadleaved and coniferous trees of many species, some of them being rarely cultivated in British woodlands.

## WESTONBIRT, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Westonbirt Arboretum, founded by Robert Stayner Holford in 1829, has been in the care of the Forestry Commission since 1956. It covers 116 acres and is situated three miles south-west of Tetbury, on the A.433 road to Bath,  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile past the Hare and Hounds Hotel. Bus services (Bristol Omnibus Co.), which pass close by are No. 32, Bristol—Cirencester, and No. 470, Gloucester—Malmesbury; the nearest station is at Tetbury. The Arboretum is open to the public free of charge all the year round from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m. (or dusk,



if earlier). Current (1969) charges for parking vehicles are : Cars 2s. ; motor cycles, 1s. ; pedal cycles, 3d. ; and coaches, 10s.

This arboretum holds a unique collection of broadleaved and coniferous trees from every country in the temperate regions. There is also a great variety of shrubs with ornamental flowers, fruits, and foliage ; the massed plantations of rhododendrons include rare species and hybrids, and the display of autumn colouring on the maples is one of the finest in the country.

#### CRARAE, ARGYLL

The attractive forest garden at Crarae, Argyll, which was gifted to the Forestry Commission in 1955 by Sir George Campbell of Succoth, Bart., is open to the public during daylight hours throughout the year. It is situated along both banks of the Crarae Burn, and access to it is obtained beside (or through) the gardens of Crarae House, one mile north of Minard on the main road (A.83) along the shore of Loch Fyne from Inveraray (12 miles distant) to Lochgilphead. Covering thirty-three acres, the garden comprises a collection of 107 plots of conifers, principally spruces, firs and hemlocks, and specimen trees of many rare or unusual species, both coniferous and broadleaved, planted since 1933. The Glasgow—Campbeltown bus passes Crarae.

## CAMPING

PUBLIC CAMPING GROUNDS have been opened at all the Forest Parks, and in general all camping is restricted to these sites. They are provided with good access roads and hard standings for cars or caravans, piped water supplies, and adequate covered washing rooms and sanitary facilities. There is also a large shelter hut for wet weather. Most camps have a small shop, either on the site or nearby, and travelling shop vans also call at many of them ; but no camping equipment is available for hire. The camps are normally open from April 1st (or Easter if earlier) until Autumn, usually to September 30th, and while there is no fixed length of stay, they are intended for the ordinary holiday visitor. Residential 'camping' is not permitted. The Glen More site is open over the whole year.

A resident warden has general charge at each camp, and on arrival all campers book in (or confirm previous booking) at his office. Advance booking is not essential, but at busy holiday times it is advisable, as the camps are sometimes filled to capacity. Details of the exact situation of each camp, addresses for booking, etc. are given in the pamphlet *Forestry Commission Camp Sites*, obtainable free

of charge from the Forestry Commission, 25 Savile Row, London, W.1.

Representative charges, which are of course subject to variation both locally and from time to time, are moderate, being currently (1969):

- (a) Car and Tent or Caravan, irrespective of number of persons, 7s. 6d. per night or 45s. per week.
- (b) Motor cycle (solo or combination) and tent, 5s. per night or 30s. per week.
- (c) Tent alone, 3s. per night or 18s. per week.

The Border Forest Park has, in addition to its main site at Lewisburn, near Kielder Village, a smaller site at Stonehaugh, five miles west of Wark village.

The New Forest has a central camp site and arrangements, outlined on page 42, can also be made for individual camping there.

Organised camps for youth organisations, at moderate charges, can usually be arranged at the Forest Parks, provided ample notice is given. Enquiries should be directed to the Conservator of Forests for the Park concerned (or to the Deputy Surveyor of the New Forest).

*Addresses for Reference are :*

Forest of Dean: Forestry Commission, 'Camping,' Crown Office, Coleford, Glos.

New Forest: The Deputy Surveyor, The Queen's House, High Street, Lyndhurst, Hants.

Snowdonia: The Conservator of Forests for North Wales, Victoria House, Victoria Terrace, Aberystwyth.

Border Forest Park: The Conservator of Forests for North-East England, Briar House, Fulford Road, York.

Glen Trool: The Conservator of Forests for South Scotland, Greystone Park, Moffat Road, Dumfries.

The Queen Elizabeth Forest Park and Argyll Forest Park: The Conservator of Forests for West Scotland, 20 Renfrew Street, Glasgow, C.2.

Glen More: The Conservator of Forests for North Scotland, 60 Church Street, Inverness.



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

### ART WORK

The cover picture shows pony trekkers and ramblers in Glen More Forest Park, from a painting by Charles Tunnicliffe, R.A. Plate 22, Fallow deer, which is a monochrome reproduction of an original colour picture, is also by Mr. Tunnicliffe.

The title page drawing shows the Log Cabin refreshment hut at Symond's Yat, Dean Forest Park, and is by Mr. E. J. Rice. Plates 4, 9, and 10 are from engravings on boxwood by George Mackley. Plate 16 is a black-and-white drawing by G. W. L. Paterson. Plate 21 is a scraperboard picture by Charles McKenna, and Plate 25, also scraperboard, is by Norman Wilson. Text maps were drawn by Marc Sale and decorated with drawings by George Mackley. End-paper maps are the work of Charles Howarth.

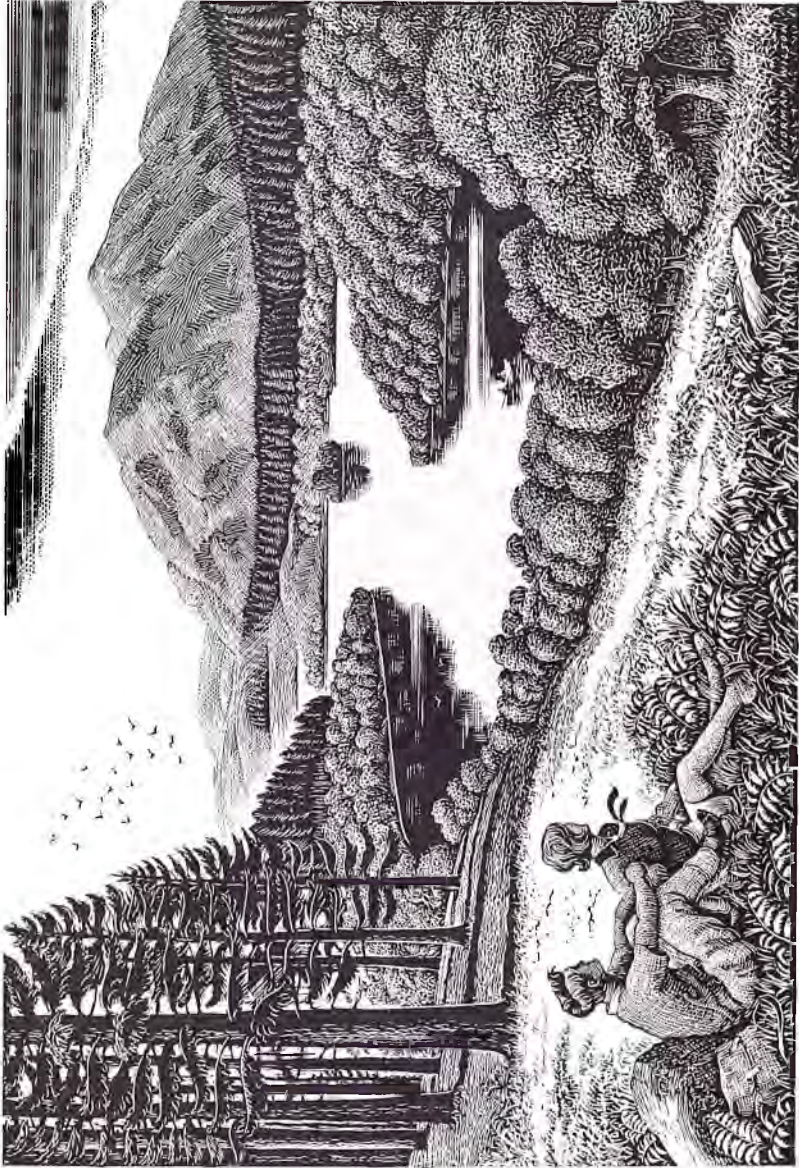
### PHOTOGRAPHS

The Forestry Commission's photographic staff, led by I. A. Anderson, provided Plates 1, 2, 7, 12, and 13.

Plate 3 is from Kemsley Picture Service; Plate 5 by H. D. Keilor; Plate 6 by Leonard and Marjorie Gayton; Plate 8 by Valdemars Blankenburgs; Plate 11 by K. M. Andrew; Plate 14 by K. Taylor; Plate 15 by David Innes; Plate 17 from the Scottish Tourist Board; Plate 18 by Fred G. Sykes; Plate 19 by W. A. Poucher; Plate 20 by W. S. Thomson; Plate 23 from *The Times*; and Plate 24 from the Central Office of Information.

*Plate 24. The Rufus Stone in Canterton Glen, near Minstead, New Forest*





*Plate 25. Loch Achray and Ben Venue, near Brig o' Turk in the Queen Elizabeth Forest Park*

## FORESTRY COMMISSION GUIDES

Guide Books to the Forest Parks, Arboreta, and other places of forest interest are published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office at the prices set out below (prices in brackets include postage). Each includes illustrations and a map. All are obtainable direct from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 49 High Holborn, London, W.C.1, and 13a Castle Street, Edinburgh 2, or through any bookseller.

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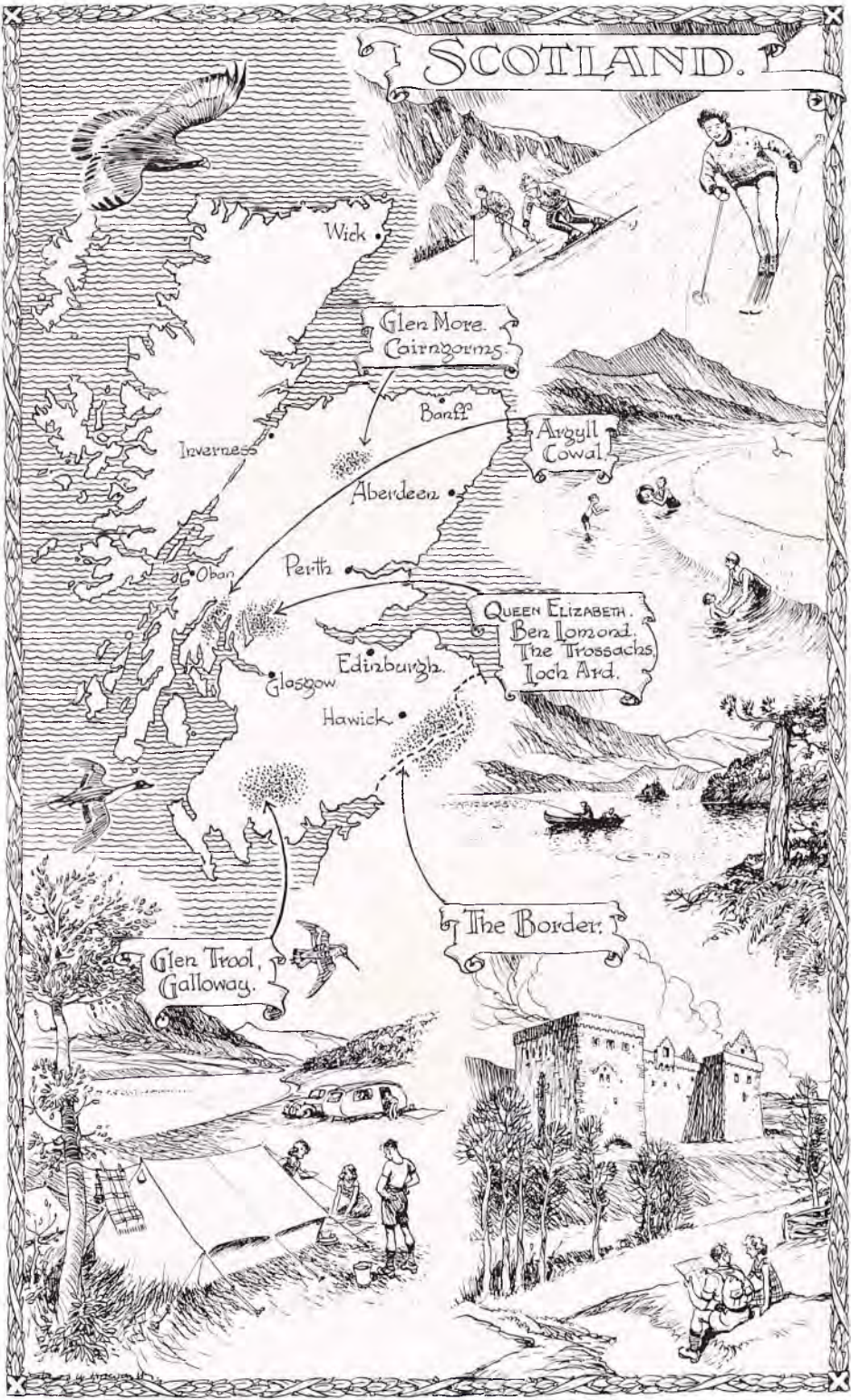
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