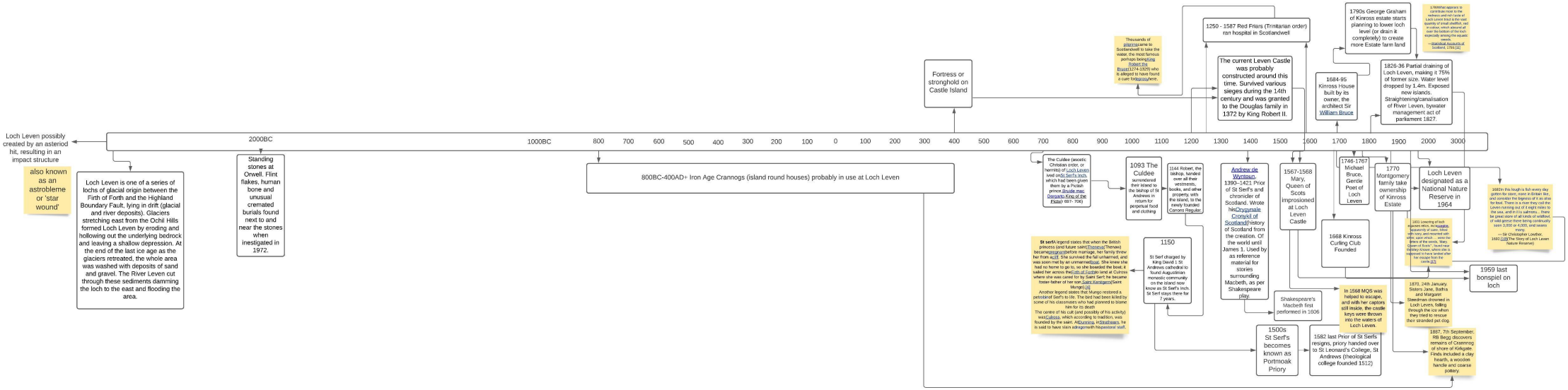
Loch Leven possibly created by an asteriod hit, resulting in an impact structure
also known as an astrobleme or 'star wound'
Loch Leven is one of a series of lochs of glacial origin between the Firth of Forth and the Highland Boundary Fault, lying in drift (glacial and river deposits). Glaciers stretching east from the Ochil Hills formed Loch Leven by eroding and hollowing out the underlying bedrock and leaving a shallow depression. At the end of the last ice age as the glaciers retreated, the whole area was washed with deposits of sand and gravel. The River Leven cut through these sediments damming the loch to the east and flooding the area.
2000BC
Standing stones at Orwell. Flint flakes, human bone and unusual cremated burials found next to and near the stones when inestigated in 1972.
1000BC
800
700
600
500
400
300
200
100
0
100
200
300
400
500
600
700
800
900
1000
1100
1200
1300
1400
1500
1600
1700
1800
1900
2000
3000
800BC-400AD+ Iron Age Crannogs (island round houses) probably in use at Loch Leven
Fortress or stronghold on Castle Island
Thousands of pilgrimscame to Scotlandwell to take the water, the most famous perhaps beingKing Robert the Bruce(1274-1329) who is alleged to have found a cure forscurvyhere.
1250 - 1587 Red Friars (Trinitarian order) ran hospital in Scotlandwell
The current Leven Castle was probably constructed around this time. Survived various sieges during the 14th century and was granted to the Douglas family in 1372 by King Robert II.
1790s George Graham of Kinross estate starts planning to lower loch level (or drain it completely) to create more Estate farm land
1799What appears to contribute most to the unwholesomeness of the Loch Leven trout is the vast quantity of small shellfish, and in-sect, which abound all over the bottom of the loch especially among the aquatic plants.
—Statistical Accounts of Scotland, 1799 [16]
1684-95 Kinross House built by its owner, the architect Sir William Bruce
1826-36 Partial draining of Loch Leven, making it 75% of former size. Water level dropped by 1.4m. Exposed new islands. Straightening/canalisation of River Leven, bywater management act of parliament 1827.
The Culdee (ascetic Christian order, or hermits) of Loch Leven lived onSt Serf's Inch, which had been given them by a Pictish prince,Bridei mac Dargarto,King of the Picts(r 697- 706)
1093 The Culdee surrendered their island to the bishop of St Andrews in return for perpetual food and clothing
1144 Robert, the bishop, handed over all their vestments, books, and other property, with the island, to the newly founded Canons Regular.
Andrew de Wyntoun, 1390–1421 Prior of St Serf's and chronicler of Scotland. Wrote hisOrygynale Cronykil of Scotland(history of Scotland from the creation. Of the world until James 1. Used by as reference material for stories surrounding Macbeth, as per Shakespeare play.
1567-1568 Mary, Queen of Scots imprisioned at Loch Leven Castle
1746-1767 Michael Bruce, Gentle Poet of Loch Leven
1770 Montgomery family take ownership of Kinross Estate
Loch Leven designated as a National Nature Reserve in 1964
1692In this lough is fish every day gotten for store, more in Britain like, and consider the bigness of it so also fowls, for there are more kinds of fowls in Leven running out of it eight miles to the sea, and in it is salmons... there be great store of all kinds of wildfowl, of wild geese there being continually seen 3,000 or 4,000, and swans many.
— Sir Christopher Lowther, 1692 [18]The Story of Loch Leven Nature Reserve)
St serfA legend states that when the British princess (and future saint)Thenew(w)(Teneaw) becamepregnantbefore marriage, her family threw her from a cliff. She survived the fall unharmed, and was soon met by an unnamedangel. She knew she had no home to go to, so she boarded the boat, it sailed her across theFirth of Forthto land at Culross where she was cared for by Saint Serf; he became foster-father of her son Saint Kentigern(Saint Mungo).[4]
Another legend states that Mungo restored a petrolsof Serf's to life. The bird had been killed by some of his classmates who had planned to blame him for its death
The centre of his cult (and possibly of his activity) wasCulross, which according to tradition, was founded by the saint. AtDunning, inStrathearn, he is said to have slain adragonwith hispastoral staff.
1150
St Serf charged by King David 1 St Andrews cathedral to found Augustinian monastic community on the island now know as St Serf's Inch. St Serf stays there for 7 years.
1500s St Serf's becomes known as Portmoak Priory
1582 last Prior of St Serfs resigns, priory handed over to St Leonard's College, St Andrews (theological college founded 1512)
Shakespeare's Macbeth first performed in 1606
1668 Kinross Curling Club Founded
1691 Lowering of loch statutes refers, in a register, to quarterly of coins, billed with ivory, and mounted with the coat of the arms... Many are said to be scarce... Mary, Queen of Scots", found near the Kirkey Knowe, where she is supposed to have landed after her escape from the castle.[17]
In 1568 MQS was helped to escape, and with her captors still inside, the castle keys were thrown into the waters of Loch Leven.
1670, 24th January. Sisters Jane, Bathia and Margaret Steedman drowned in Loch Levens, falling through the ice when they tried to rescue their stranded pet dog.
1887, 7th September. RB Begg discovers remains of Crannog of shore of Kirkgate. Finds included a clay hearth, a wooden handle and coarse pottery.
1959 last bonspiel on loch