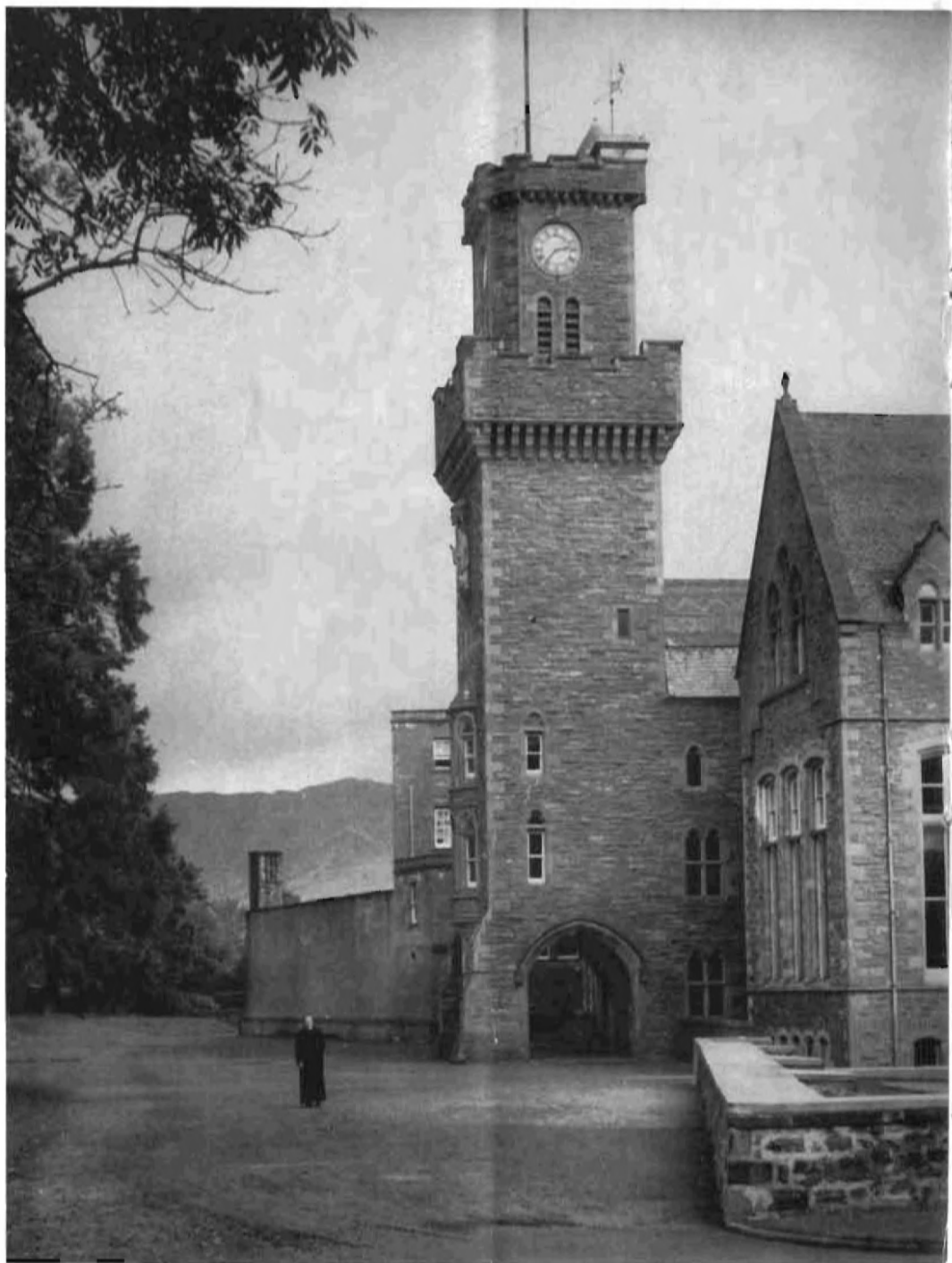


# FORT AUGUSTUS ABBAY SCHOOL





School Tower

# FORT AUGUSTUS ABBAY SCHOOL

## HISTORY AND SETTING

For fourteen centuries Benedictine monks have been concerned with the education of boys, and hold an honoured place in the history of academic achievement. The monks of Fort Augustus Abbey, who have undertaken the same work, thus have a long tradition behind them. The Abbey was founded in 1876 at Fort Augustus as the continuation and successor of two older monasteries: the ancient Abbey of St. James of the Scots in Ratisbon, founded about 1100, and the English Abbey of Sts. Adrian and Denys in Lamspring, founded in 1645. The School, opened at Fort Augustus in 1878, inherits the tradition of the college for Scots boys founded at Ratisbon in 1713, which gave many notable men to the Scottish Church during the penal days.

Fort Augustus is situated at the south end of Loch Ness, in the heart of the Great Glen of Scotland and midway between Inverness and Fort William. A frequent bus service to these towns links Fort Augustus with the railway lines to the south, the nearest station being Spean Bridge, on the Glasgow-Fort William line. The School is also easily accessible from the south by road.

The School lies in the midst of magnificent Highland scenery. Part of the old Fort, from which the village takes its present name and which played a part in the history of the Jacobite risings, is incorporated into the School buildings.

A new wing has recently been added to the School. It provides added accommodation, a large hall and stage, an up-to-date laboratory, and private studies for senior boys.

Private Study  
for Senior  
Boys



## AIMS AND ORGANISATION

The principal aim of the School is to train the character of the boys so that they will be devoted and firm in their belief and practice as educated Catholics. The studies and school routine are therefore given meaning and direction by assistance at daily Mass and by careful moral and religious instruction.

The whole School learns the Gregorian chant and takes active part in the services in the Abbey church. All boys are taught to serve Mass; selected servers are trained for High Mass and pontifical ceremonies.

The direction of the School and the care of the boys are in the hands of the monks, while the teaching staff consists of qualified monks and laymen. The organisation is that of a public school and includes the House system. The health and diet of the boys are naturally considered of prime importance, and the Matron is a trained nurse.

The holidays consist of approximately  $3\frac{1}{2}$  weeks at Christmas, the same at Easter, and 8 weeks in the summer. There is an

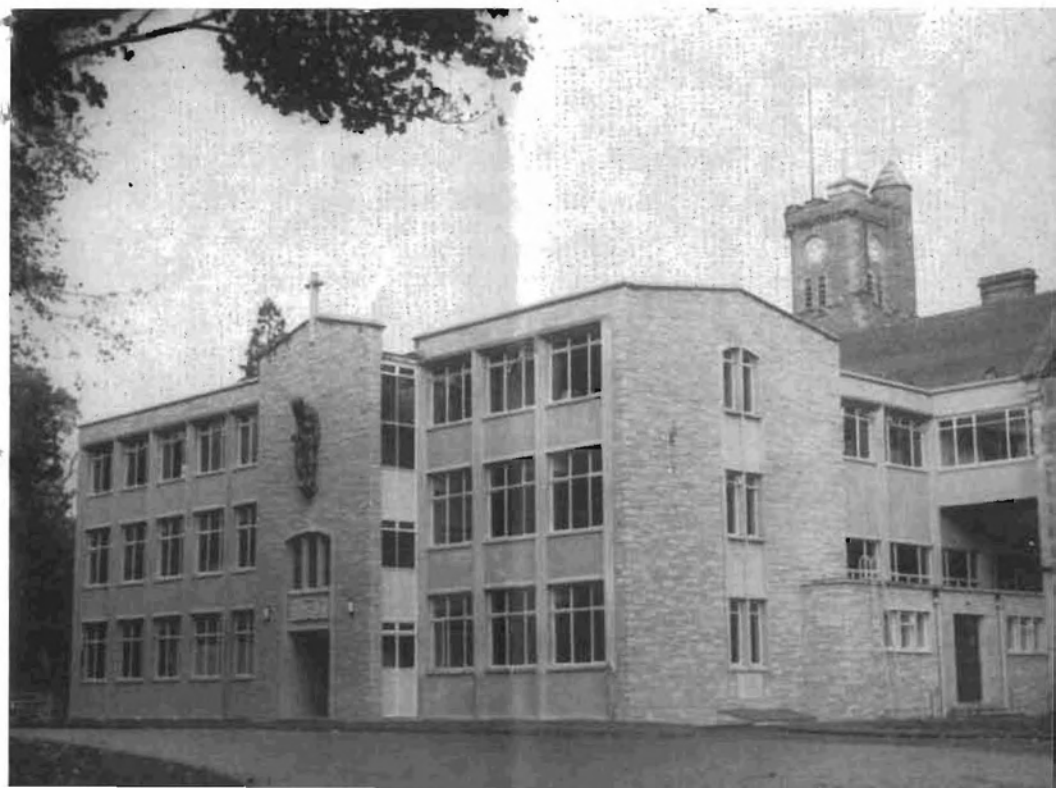
opportunity each mid-term for parents to visit their sons. Leave of absence is given only in exceptional circumstances; the same is true of permission to arrive after term begins or to leave before it ends.

## STUDIES

The boys are prepared for entrance to the universities, the Services and professions by means of the Scottish Certificate of Education, which is accepted outside Scotland. Boys may be prepared for other examinations as required. A high academic standard is aimed at, and the studies are under the constant supervision of the Headmaster.

Subjects include English, Mathematics, Latin, French, Science,

New Wing



History and Geography. There is no early specialisation, and as many as six of these subjects can be taken simultaneously on the Higher Grade of the Scottish Certificate of Education. Sixth Form and Scholarship work beyond this standard is encouraged and provided for. Stress is laid on the importance of senior boys learning to work by themselves as a preparation for university.

The "set" system in the middle and upper school allows a boy to be placed for each subject in the group most suitable for him. Classes are small, so that individual attention can be given to each boy. Boys are also given individual guidance in the choice of a career.

### OTHER ACTIVITIES

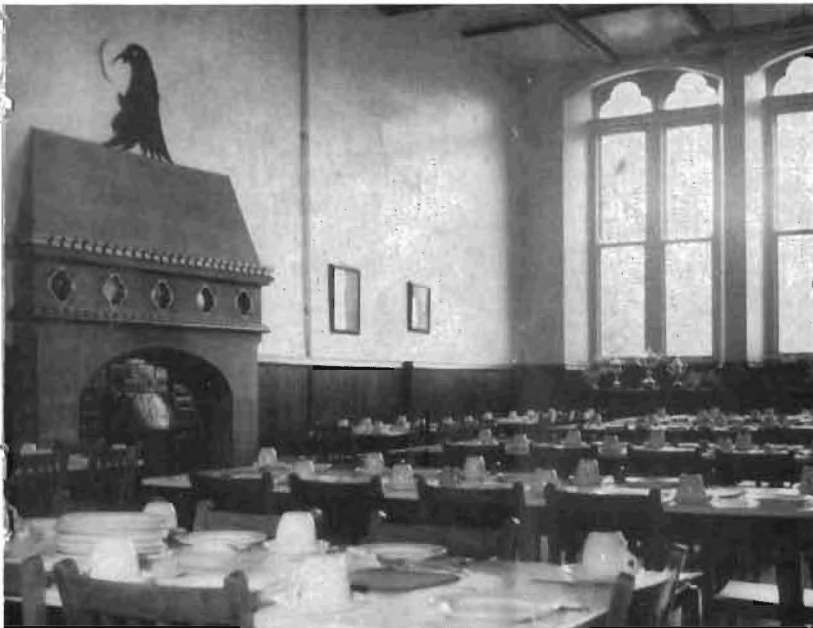
The principal games are rugby football, hockey and cricket. Other games and sports include tennis, swimming (in the School pool), golf and athletics, while Loch Ness provides facilities for rowing and sailing. The School has two pulling boats, a 26-foot sailing cutter and four racing dinghies. Approximately once every three weeks there is a school holiday to allow expeditions into the hills and countryside.

The usual societies and activities play their part in the life of the School. Boys are encouraged to use their free time in a constructive way. At least one major play, to which parents are invited, is produced each year, while there are lesser productions throughout the year. Various clubs and amenities cater for hobbies and cultural interests; they include debating societies, musical and literary groups, a carpentry shop, and a dark-room for photography. A weekly cinema show is given during the autumn and spring terms.

There is an Army Cadet Force unit which boys are expected to join on attaining a certain seniority in age and form unless there is some good reason for their not doing so.



Assembly Hall



Refectory



Library

## ENTRY

Only Catholic boys are accepted. Boys are admitted either at age 11-12 after sitting the Fort Augustus entrance examination, in which case no previous knowledge of Latin, French, Algebra or Geometry is demanded, or at age 13 plus after sitting the Common Entrance examination in the above as well as general subjects. Admission is dependent on reports from previous schools, performance in entrance examinations and state of health being satisfactory.

A term's notice (or fees) is required before withdrawal of a boy from the School. Admission is at the discretion of the Headmaster, who also reserves the right of resigning the charge of any boy if in his opinion the interests of the School or the boy demand it.

Boys are accepted on the condition that they remain at Fort

Augustus until the end of their school career unless another arrangement has been agreed to at the beginning by the Headmaster.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are awarded annually. They are available both to boys entering by means of the Fort Augustus entrance examination and to those entering by means of the Common Entrance examination. Particulars may be obtained from the Headmaster.

## FEES

There is a registration fee of 2 guineas, to be sent with the Application Form when a boy's name is placed on the files. An entrance fee of 3 guineas is due when a boy is definitely accepted for admission.

The fees for board and tuition are ~~£120~~<sup>140</sup> per term. These include also normal expenses such as laundry. They do not cover additional or optional items. Text-books are charged, but these are bought back by the school, if they are in good condition, when boys have finished with them. The games fee is 3 guineas a term. Private music lessons may be had for 4 guineas a term.

In the case of brothers, full fees are charged for the eldest, and ~~£120~~<sup>130</sup> for each of the others as long as an elder brother remains at the School.

Fees cannot be remitted when a boy is withdrawn or is absent without notice, whether through sickness or any other reason, but an Insurance Scheme to cover absence through illness is in operation. Information about this and other insurance schemes can be obtained from the Headmaster. Fees are kept as low as possible, but rising costs have made it necessary to raise them from time to time. Any notable increase in normal expenses, as, for instance, salaries or provisions, will have to be reflected in the fees.

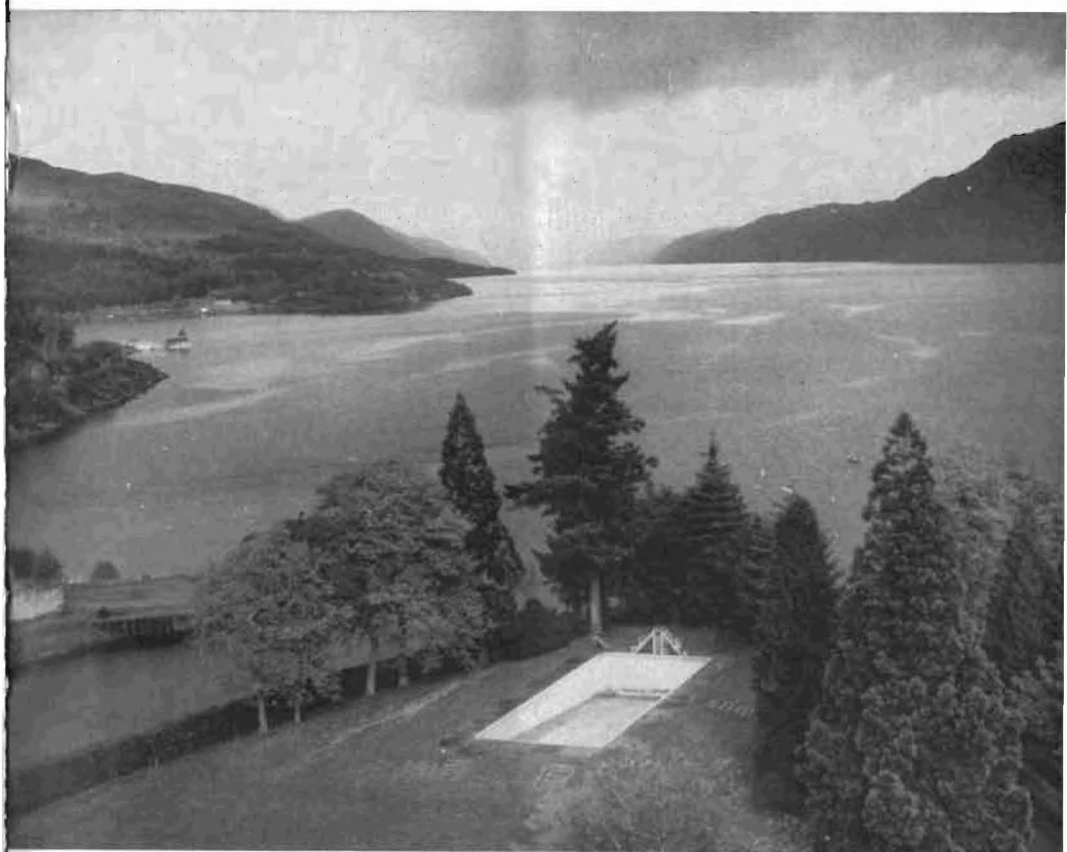
All communications should be addressed to:

THE HEADMASTER, (Tel.: Fort Augustus 232.)  
FORT AUGUSTUS ABBEY SCHOOL,  
FORT AUGUSTUS,  
INVERNESS-SHIRE.

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There is a preparatory school for Fort Augustus, organised and staffed by monks of Fort Augustus Abbey. The postal address is:

CARLEKEMP PRIORY SCHOOL, (Tel.: North Berwick 2917.)  
NORTH BERWICK,  
EAST LoTHIAN.



Loch Ness from School Tower

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