

Roll: **19760828-6432**  
Camera: **Zorki 4:ZO4**  
Film: **Kodak Tri-X**

**Subject:**

Caledonia Trip

**People:**

Maggie Hughes, Clifford W Fulford

**Notes:**

Ours was a brilliant, privileged generation. We camped wild by the sparkling river in Glen Nevis. There was no one else around. We bathed naked in the river and drank from it too. Ten years later that was no longer possible. I went back in a haze of despair after we broke up. There were tarmac roads, car parks, campsites and lots of people. The sheer joy of those two weeks, among the very best of my life, could never be repeated.

We returned from our "Road to the Isles" drive to Mallaeg on Wednesday 25th August. The spot had been so idyllic and happily this time I took photographs, many of them of the water nymph Maggie against the stunning back drop of the River Nevis.

Then we set off for Thurso travelling initially along the side of Loch Ness. I do have memories of visiting John O'Groats too and looking for the blacksmiths but oddly nothing is mentioned in either my own or Maggie's diary of this section of a long drive. Maggie does remember the Cairngorms as being gentler and more beautiful than the western end of the Grampians which might suggest we travelled East early than I think. I cannot imagine that I would not have been obsessed with the desire to see Thurso, get a glimpse of the Northern Lights and watch bowls played at midnight.

The odd dark little blurs in the sky on the picture over Loch Ness are I think military aircraft. I think this happened once in the Peaks too when out walking. A sudden deafening noise almost rattling the scenery and then a dozen or more military aircraft bursting into view as they crested a mountain ridge.

Unfortunately the shutter screen on the Zorki had developed a pin hole which I was not aware of until we were back in London and I developed the film. The bright burnout ruined dozens of shots. Not that we printed more than one or two anyway as then I found it too expensive. The miracle of digital processing has changed all that. After making high resolution scans of the negatives I can in most cases, in just a few minutes retouch the image to a state where the damage is barely noticeable.

Much harder to restore are those like picture of The Citadel.

There are numerous sites advertising what was the Citadel as the "Hansen Residence", "luxury holiday apartments in a centuries old setting" but actually it was purpose built by the Sally Ann in 1896 as the flagship Salvation Army doss house in tribute to William Booth.

The building was taken over as the Hansen Residence in 2017 with the Directors Jennifer and Matthew Hansen. The comments on Tripadvisor (2021) seem pretty consistently to complain that it was dirty, ill run and very noisy at night.

The "Hansen Residence" was liquidated in 2018 to be reborn as "Aberdeen Apart-Hotel Ltd." with Cameron James Mayo the manager becoming the sole director but again went into voluntary liquidation in February 2020.

The architect of the Citadel was James Soutter and it is considered by some to be his finest work. Interesting what you photograph ain't it. Any road

explains the "Christ Is Born" legend on the tower (which seems now to have gone) and maintains the curious threads that run through my life linking me to William Booth.

The structure to the foreground is the Mercat Cross built of sandstone by John Montgomery in 1686. It has a staircase to the top from where new monarchs were proclaimed.

The area in front of the Citadel appears to be a central bus terminus which explains the Ladies lavatory and it appears that the walled flower bed in front of the Mercat Cross was used as a rest area by drivers, conductors and inspectors for the buses.

The head office of the North of Scotland Bank was built in 1844 at 5 Castle Street by Archibald Simpson. Simpson was, together with his rival John Smith, largely responsible for the development of Aberdeen's characteristic granite structures. Some (possibly only those in the Wetherspoon's marketing team) regard the Bank of North Scotland as his finest work. It is now a Wetherspoon's pub fittingly called "The Archibald Simpson".

**Dates:**

Confirmed by Maggie's diary.

19760824-6430 (1)



## 19760824-6430 (2)



### Frames:

ZO4-A0041	19760826	06:00:00	Trees.
ZO4-A0042	19760826	06:01:00	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-A0043	19760826	06:02:00	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA000	19760826	06:03:00	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA001	19760826	06:04:00	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA002	19760826	06:05:00	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA003	19760826	06:06:00	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA004	19760826	06:10:00	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA005	19760826	06:11:00	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA006	19760826	06:12:00	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA007	19760826	06:13:00	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA008	19760826	06:14:00	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA009	19760826	06:15:00	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA010	19760826	06:16:00	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA011	19760826	06:17:00	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA012	19760826	06:18:00	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA013	19760826	06:18:10	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA014	19760826	06:20:00	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA015	19760826	06:22:00	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA016	19760826	06:23:00	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA017	19760826	06:25:00	Camping Wild - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA018	19760826	06:26:00	Maggie - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA019	19760826	06:28:00	Camping Wild - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA021	19760826	06:30:00	Bridge - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA022	19760826	06:35:00	Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA023	19760826	06:38:00	Clifford - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA024	19760826	06:39:00	Clifford - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA025	19760826	06:40:00	Clifford - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA026	19760826	06:41:00	Clifford - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA027	19760826	06:42:00	Drinking from a Spring - Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA028	19760826	06:43:00	Glen Nevis.
ZO4-AA029	19760826	08:00:00	Urquhart Castle - Loch Ness.

Z04-AA030 19760828 11:00:00 The Salvation Army Citadel - Aberdeen.  
Z04-AA031 19760828 11:10:00 North of Scotland Bank - Head Office.