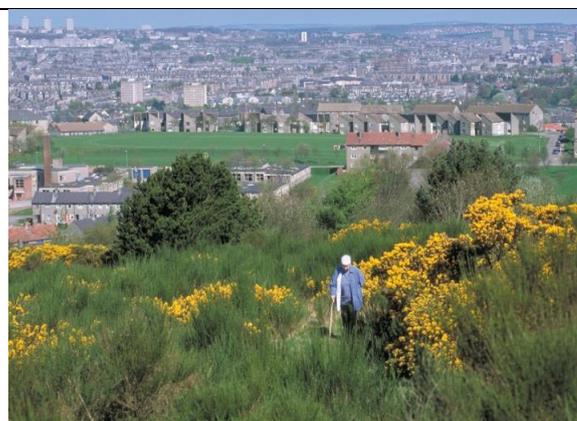
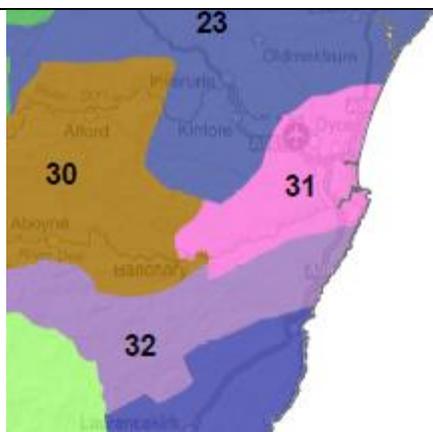


Descriptions 31 - 40			
31	Aberdeen and Lower Deeside	32	Mounth
33	Tiree and Coll	34	Mull
35	Ardgour and Morven	36	Nevis and Glen Coe
37	Rannoch	38	Breadalbane
39	Atholl	40	Angus Glens

## 31 Aberdeen and Lower Deeside



### Description

The 'Granite City' is located at the mouths of two major rivers, within a bowl of low hills. It looks seaward over a sandy beach towards busy shipping lanes. The influence of the sea and harbour stretches into the core of the city, with the inescapable sound of seabirds wheeling overhead. It is an exposed, often windy location, with occasional sea haar, but sunshine makes the granite sparkle. Aberdeen grew rapidly in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, expanding in an orderly pattern from the development of Union Street. The historic towers and spires remain an important presence on the city's skyline. Inland, roads follow the wooded river valleys and open higher ground, linking old villages that have expanded into commuter towns.

### Key technical information sources

LCA: Aberdeen  
South and Central Aberdeen

NHF: North East Coastal Plain

HLA: XX

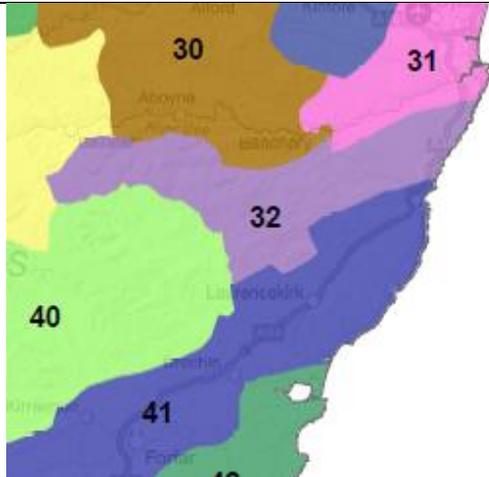
Naismith -  
*Buildings of the Scottish Countryside* pp 186-188

### Selected creative associations

Paintings  
Aberdeen Harbour (James Cassie)

Novels  
Amande's Bed (John Aberdein)

## 32 Mounth



### Description

The Mounth lies at the north end of the Highland Boundary Fault, where the foothills of the Grampian Mountains fall towards the coast. The simple outline of these moorland hills forms the backdrop to the neighbouring river valleys and the coast. Here, stone walls divide fields, wind-clipped groups of birch and rowan follow incised gullies in the moorland, and muirburn patterns are widespread. The elevated relief restricts the number of roads, but there are striking views across the neighbouring lowlands from these routes as they follow passes through the hills. There is only a scattering of dwellings; this and the lack of roads reinforce the relative sense of remoteness.

### Key technical information sources:

LCA: South and Central Aberdeenshire  
Tayside

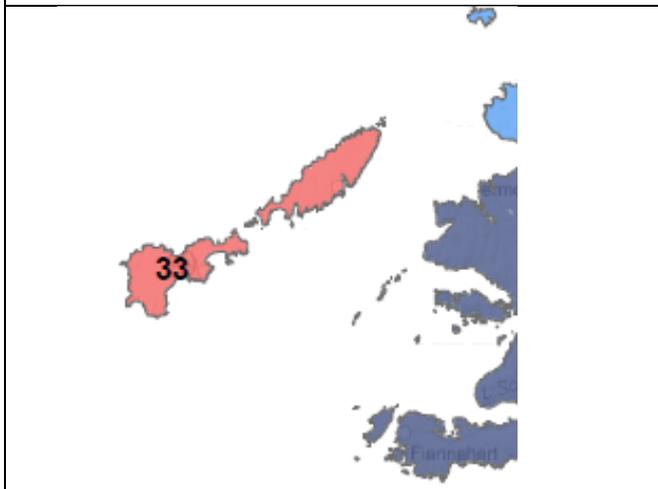
NHF: North East Coastal Plain (9)  
North East Glens  
Cairngorms Massif

HLA: XX

Naismith -  
*Buildings of the Scottish Countryside* pp 186-188

### Selected creative associations

## 33 Tiree and Coll



### Description

These small, low-lying islands are known for their sandy beaches, windsurfing and sunny climate. On the south-west tip of Coll, and more extensively on Tiree, sand dunes and machair are important for their birds and rare flora. The coastal landscape is varied, with broad beaches, low cliffs, rocky outcrops, offshore islands and narrow bays of sand or shingle at the mouth of water courses. Tiree is more fertile, with extensive crofting. Both islands have a distinctive cultural identity, clearly visible in the pattern of settlement and built structures. Compared to many other islands they are well populated, yet the coastal edges are mostly undeveloped. The islands can feel very remote, especially when stormy weather cuts them off from the mainland.

### Key technical information sources

LCA: Argyll and the Firth of Clyde

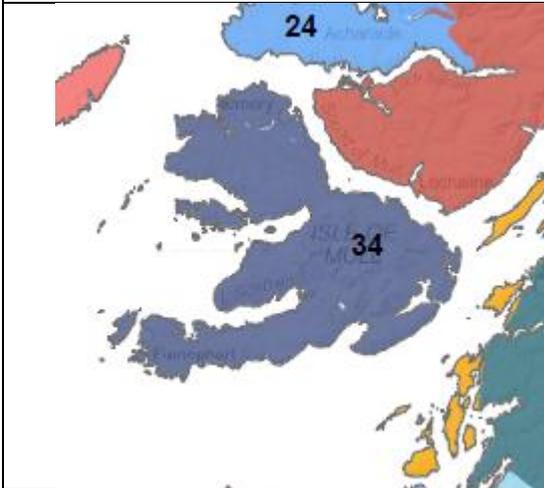
NHF: Coll, Tiree and The Western Isles (3)

HLA: XX

Naismith -  
*Buildings of the Scottish Countryside* pp 208-212

### Selected creative associations

## 34 Mull



### Description

The varied island of Mull is separated from the mainland by narrow straits and firths. The island is well-vegetated and even lush in places. Rugged mountains occupy the interior, clothed in the north by large forestry plantations. Colourful settlements hug the coastal edge, lying within sheltered inlets and bays. In contrast, the west part of the island - where the coastal edge provides stunning seaward views towards the remote Treshnish Islands - is undeveloped. Mull was an important centre of Celtic religion and early Christianity. Numerous standing stones and castles provide visible evidence of the past and the strategic position which made Mull important in the Lordship of the Isles.

### Key technical information sources

LCA: Argyll and the Firth of Clyde

NHF: Western Seaboard (6)

HLA: XX

Naismith -  
*Buildings of the Scottish Countryside* pp 208-212

### Selected creative associations

#### Poetry

Lord Ullin's Daughter (Thomas Campbell)

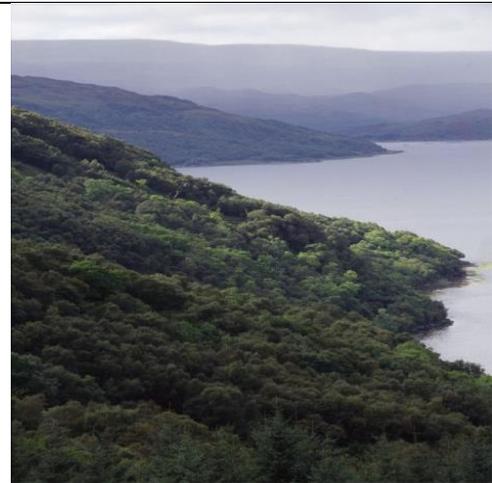
#### Paintings

Iona Landscape: Rocks (Samuel John Peploe)

#### Music

Hebrides Overture (Felix Mendelssohn)

## 35 Ardgour and Morven



### Description

This is a remote, mainland area of mountains rising from, and virtually surrounded by, the sea and elongated lochs. Although it is accessible by road, the short ferry journey across Loch Linnhe is well-used, giving the impression that this area is an island. The mountains are dissected by glens which shelter deciduous woodlands, including some of the best surviving remnants of ancient temperate Atlantic oak forest in the UK. Thick woodlands tend to clothe the steep slopes down to the water's edge. Sparsely populated, the few small settlements are strung out along the minor roads, generally hugging the coast and the few accessible glens.

### Key technical information sources

LCA: Lochaber

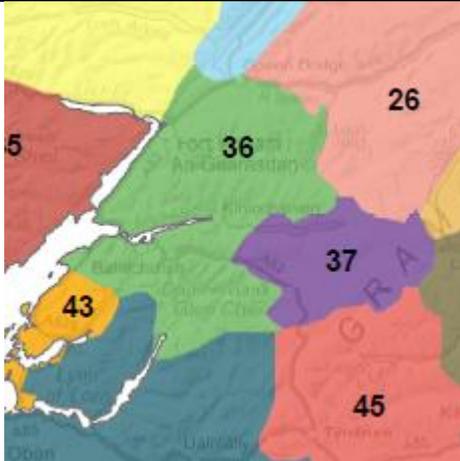
NHF: Western Highlands (8)  
Western Seaboard (6)

HLA: XX

Naismith -  
*Buildings of the Scottish Countryside* pp 191-195

### Selected creative associations

## 36 Nevis and Glen Coe



### Description

An area of soaring peaks and strikingly massive craggy mountains separated by deep, glaciated glens. Grass, heather and a few forestry plantations clothe the distinctive slopes. The main road winds through the notorious Glen Coe, below a serrated summit ridge on the one hand and serried bluffs of atmospheric mountains on the other. To the west the glen widens into a more populated flood plain by a sea loch. A cantilevered road bridge crosses the loch, which is dotted with yachts and small boats. In the midst of this area the UK's highest mountain rises straight out of Loch Linnhe. The summits of Ben Nevis and its neighbouring mountains tower above the garrison town of Fort William, often shrouded by clouds.

### Key technical information sources

LCA: Lochaber

NHF: East Lochaber (13)  
 [Northern Highlands (7)small part]

HLA: XX

Naismith -  
*Buildings of the Scottish Countryside* pp 191-195

### Selected creative associations

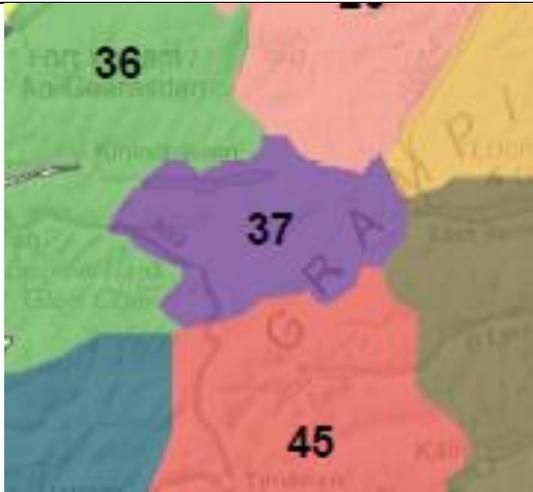
#### Paintings

Glencoe (Horatio McCulloch)

#### Poetry

Lochaber for Ever (Alice Macdonnel of Keppoch)

## 37 Rannoch



### Description

An expansive, seemingly endless plateau of bare and wild moorland. The many lochs and lochans reflect the sky and surrounding mountains. The somewhat eerie expanse of moor and water is dotted with tree-clad islands, patches of bog cotton and sweet-smelling bog myrtle. There are occasional forestry plantations and single trees, distorted by the wind. There is no habitation and the interior of the moor is accessible only on foot or by off-road vehicle across rough tracks. The main road to the south-west and a railway to the east fringe the plateau and offer views across the moor.

### Key technical information sources

LCA: Tayside, Lochaber

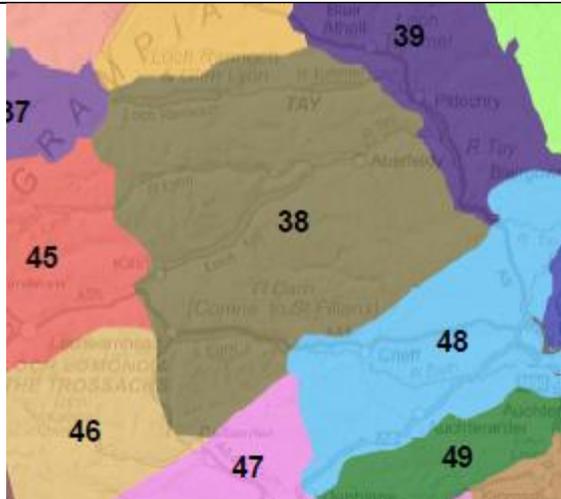
NHF: Lochaber (13)

HLA: XX

Naismith -  
*Buildings of the Scottish Countryside* pp 191-195

### Selected creative associations

## 38 Breadalbane



### Description

The 'high country' is an area of wide glaciated straths and intervening mountain ranges that contain Ben Lawers and the conical Schiehallion. The upper waters and tributaries of the River Tay flow eastwards along these straths. Roads are aligned along the floors of the main valleys, linking the compact towns and villages that are often located at the head of the lochs. The settlements contain some distinctive buildings, typical of highland estates. The area has been popular for holidays since Victorian times and visitor accommodation – hotels, converted steadings and occasional villas - are located throughout. Deserted shielings are scattered across the mountain hillsides; more recently the hydro power schemes have created newer features in the landscape.

### Key technical information sources

LCA: Tayside

NHF: Loch Lomond, The Trossachs and Breadalbane (15)

HLA: XX

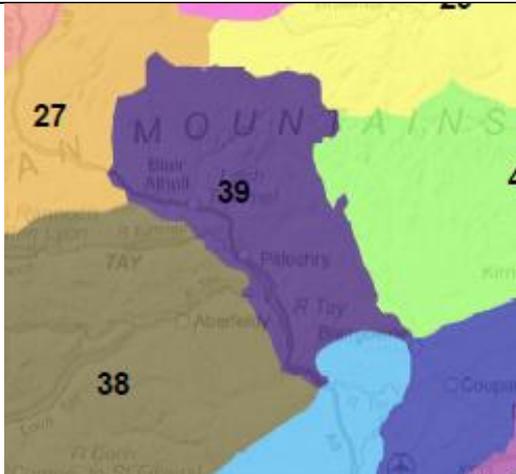
Naismith -  
*Buildings of the Scottish Countryside* pp 191-195

### Selected creative associations

poetry

The Birks of Aberfeldy (Robert Burns)

## 39 Atholl



### Description

An upland area, with rolling hills and moorland to the south and more mountainous and remote deer forests in the north. A series of steeply sided, glens runs from south to north; the A9 and railway follow the main valley. The strath floors are flat and the land is fertile. Plantation and policy woodlands clad the steep sides of the straths, and the majestic trees give the area its reputation as 'big tree country'. A string of settlements runs along the straths, including several larger Victorian resorts such as Pitlochry. Estate houses and cottages are common. At Blair Atholl, a planned settlement sits near the imposing white castle and policies of the Atholl Estate. Despite the transport infrastructure and some hydro-electric developments, notably at Pitlochry, the straths retain a strong natural feel.

### Key technical information sources:

LCA: Tayside, Cairngorms

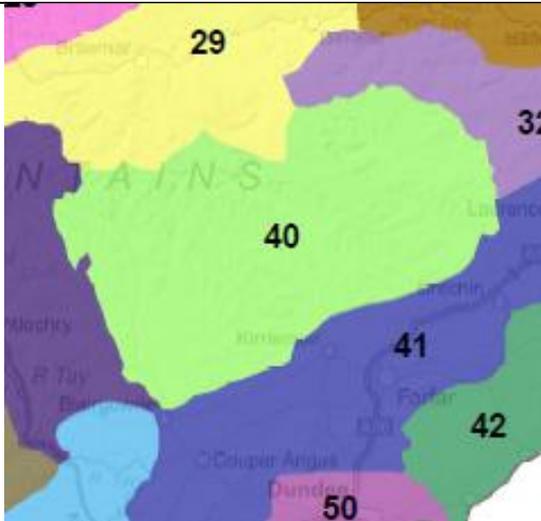
NHF: Cairngorms Massif (11)  
North East Glens (12)

HLA: XX

Naismith -  
*Buildings of the Scottish Countryside* pp 191-195

### Selected creative associations

## 40 Angus Glens



### Description

An area of grassy moorland hills, separated by a series of long, varied, steep-sided glens. The Angus Glens connect the bare heather moorland hills and corries of the Cairngorm foothills with the rolling pasture and arable land of the Mearns. The upper glens are relatively remote, with waterfalls, rapids and gorges. Oak and birch woodland is common, and commercial forestry plantation occupies the upper part of some glens. Settlement is sparse, with hamlets or small groups of dwellings on the break in slope by the glen floors, linked by the glen roads. Many of these buildings are in the 'estate' style. A wealth of castles and iron age forts mark the strategic importance of the area in the past. The old drove roads, tracks and rights of way are now popular for recreational use.

### Key technical information sources

LCA: Tayside, Cairngorms, South and Central Aberdeenshire

NHF: Cairngorms Massif (11)  
North East Glens (12)

HLA: XX

Naismith -  
*Buildings of the Scottish Countryside* pp 182-186,  
191-195

### Selected creative associations