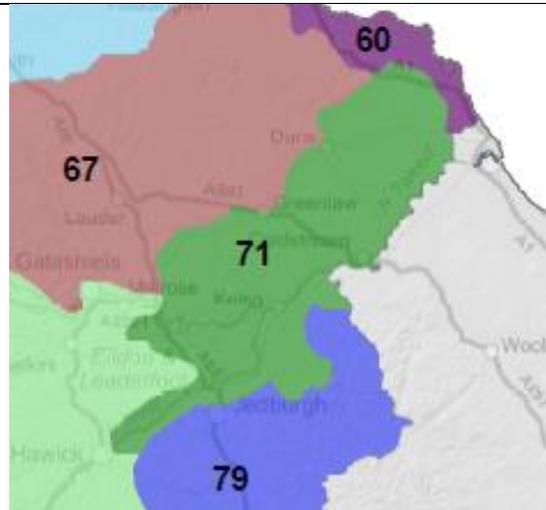


Descriptions 71 - 79			
71	Lower Tweeddale	72	Carrick
73	Galloway Hills	74	Lowther Hills
75	Rhins of Galloway	76	The Machars
77	Stewartry Coast	78	Dumfries Plain
79	Cheviots		

71 Lower Tweeddale



Description

Broad valleys of mixed pasture, arable farmland, woodlands and hedges give this area a fertile and lush appearance. It is mostly rural and pastoral but also contains several mill towns and the cultural legacy of the reivers, expressed most visibly in tower houses and castles. The River Tweed and its tributaries exert a strong influence, and towns, villages, and historic abbeys are concentrated along these rivers, which are also renowned for salmon fishing. A network of major and minor roads, some dating from Roman times, spans the area.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Borders

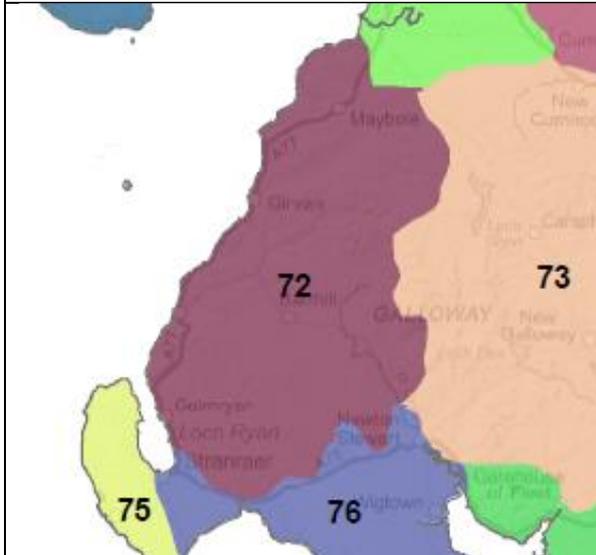
NHF: Eastern Lowlands (16)

HLA: XX

Naismith -
Buildings of the Scottish Countryside
pp 155-161, 161-166

Selected creative associations

72 Carrick



Description

This is a broad, rolling upland area of mainly open hill grazing flanked by some large forestry plantations. Parallel valleys, aligned with the Southern Uplands Fault, are frequently occupied by a series of mansion-houses and their surrounding policies. A trunk road and a few settlements and holiday sites are squeezed into the strip between the rocky coast and the hills. Ruined coastal castles guard the minor roads heading inland. In contrast with the coast, the inland area is largely unpopulated. A minor road crosses the empty core from Barrhill to New Luce.

Key technical information sources

LCA Dumfries and Galloway

NHF: Western Southern Uplands and Inner Solway (19)

HLA: XX

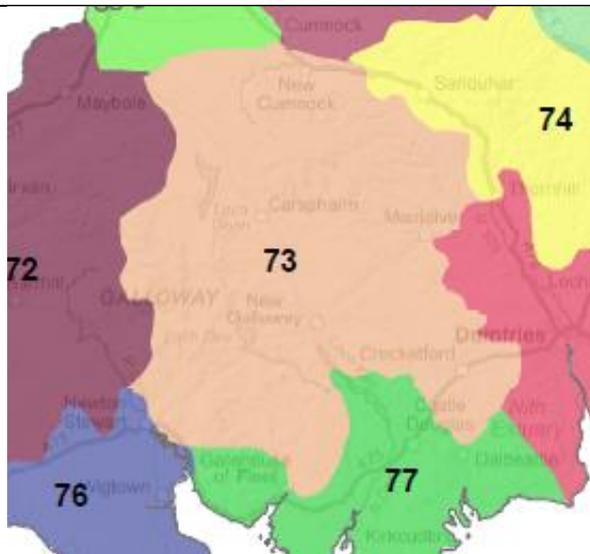
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Buildings of the Scottish Countryside
pp 166-168, 168-171

Selected creative associations

Paintings

Culzean Castle, Ayrshire (Alexander Nasmyth)
Penwhapple Stream near Penkill Castle (William Bell Scott)

73 Galloway Hills



Description

An extensive upland area that is dominated by high, bare, skyline ridges. Large forestry plantations cover much of the foothills and wide glens. Several large lochs and bogs occur throughout, but are often hidden from view. The area also contains one of Scotland's earliest hydro-electric schemes. It is largely unpopulated area, with dark night skies, and feels remote and relatively wild. Memorable place names, such as the Rhinns of Kells, add to the sense of distinctiveness. Galloway Forest Park provides a focus for recreation, for which the area is becoming known.

Key technical information sources

LCA Dumfries and Galloway

NHF: Western Southern Uplands and Inner Solway (19)

HLA: XX

Naismith -
Buildings of the Scottish Countryside
pp 166-168, 168-171

Selected creative associations

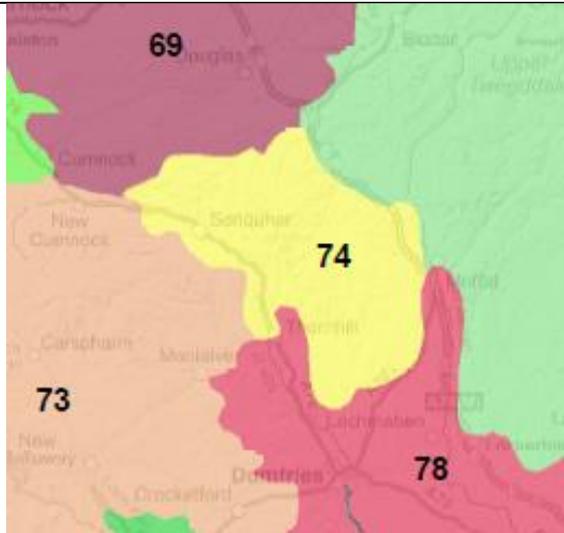
Paintings

Autumn in Glencairn, Moniaive (James Patterson)

Music

Grey Galloway (John Blackwood McEwen)

74 Lowther Hills



Description

A small but dramatic range of smoothly domed hills, incised by deep glens. The steep slopes interweave to enclose narrow passes, which run north-east to south-west following the grain of the land. There are some forestry plantations, although the hills are largely bare of trees. Hill farming is mostly limited to sheep grazing. Old mines - some dating from very early times - and spoil heaps have left traces of past settlement and industrial use. These include some prehistoric and Roman remains in the uplands. Small towns and villages are located in the glens along the roads, except for the distinctive mining villages of Leadhills and Wanlockhead, which are at higher elevation.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Dumfries and Galloway, Glasgow and Clyde valley

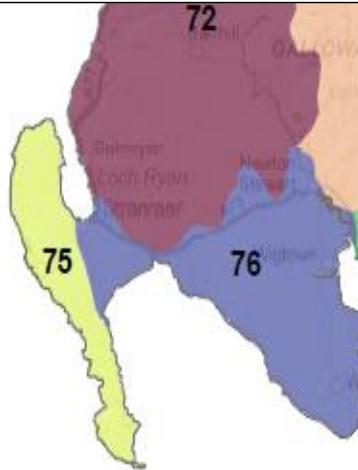
NHF: Western Southern Uplands and Inner Solway (19)

HLA: XX

Naismith -
Buildings of the Scottish Countryside
pp 166-168, 171-176

Selected creative associations

75 Rhins of Galloway



Description

A long, narrow, low-lying peninsula, butting out defiantly into the Irish Sea. Nearly cut off from the mainland by Luce Bay and Loch Ryan, it has a strong island character. Cliffs populated by seabirds fringe the coast, notably at the exposed southern mull, which is like the Rhins in miniature, attached only by a narrow line of land. The Mull of Galloway, with its Stevenson lighthouse, is an important navigational feature. Well-defined, rolling drumlins are a distinctive feature of the landform, their curves emphasised by drystone walls enclosing the geometric fields of lush green cattle pasture. The towns of Portpatrick and Stranraer developed as ports for Ireland ferries and cattle transport. The few other settlements and estates also hug the coast, but there are many inland farms.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Dumfries and Galloway

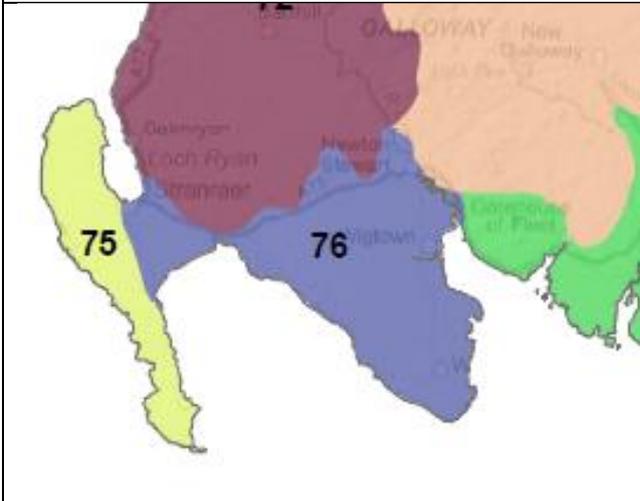
NHF: Wigtown Machars and Outer Solway (18)

HLA: XX

Naismith -
Buildings of the Scottish Countryside
pp 166-168

Selected creative associations

76 The Machars



Description

A coastal area of open, rolling low pastoral land, where a large tidal range exposes wide mudflats between the small, craggy coastal peninsulas. Smooth drumlins add variety to the landform, with woodland generally restricted to the sides of minor burns. Lace-like drystone dykes form distinctive field boundaries. The sparkle of secluded lochans adds interest. The few settlements, often of ancient origin, old chapels and other historic remnants tend to follow the coastal edge. The major monastic centre at Whithorn dominated the history of the area. More recently, sections of coastline were used in WWII in preparation for the D-day landings.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Dumfries and Galloway

NHF: Wigtown Machars and outer Solway (18)
Western Southern Uplands and Inner Solway (19)

HLA: XX

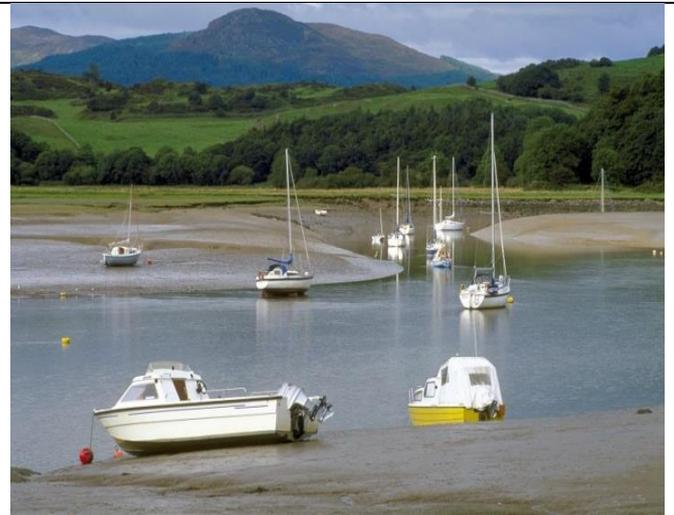
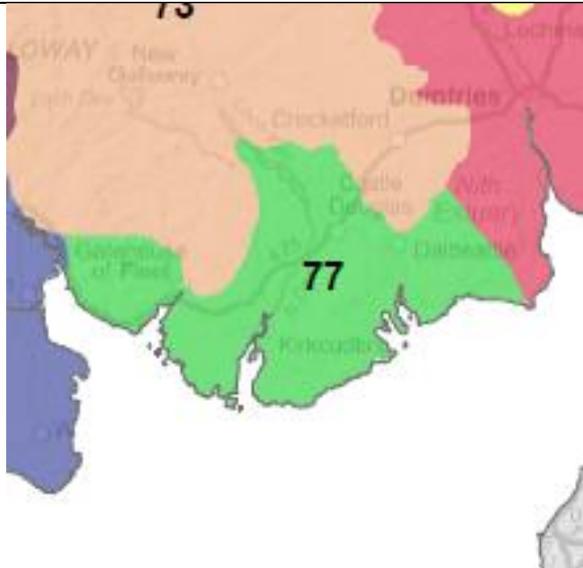
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Buildings of the Scottish Countryside
pp 166-168

Selected creative associations

Paintings

The Wigtown Coast (Sir William MacTaggart)

77 Stewartry Coast



Description

This indented coastline of bays with islands looks south over the Solway Firth. Wide, muddy shorelines are exposed at low tide, creating marked daily contrasts for the many holidaymakers who come to the area. Entwined hills form the backdrop to an attractive, intimate varied landscape of woodlands, rivers, pasture and hedges. Centred around the towns of Castle Douglas, Dalbeattie and Kirkcudbright, there is a long history of settlement, exploiting the rich coastal plain. The towns have long histories of development and the area is also rich in fortified dwellings from tower houses to early castles and monasteries.

Key technical information sources:

LCA: Dumfries and Galloway

NHF: Wigtown Machars and outer Solway (18)
Western Southern Uplands and Inner Solway (19)

HLA: XX

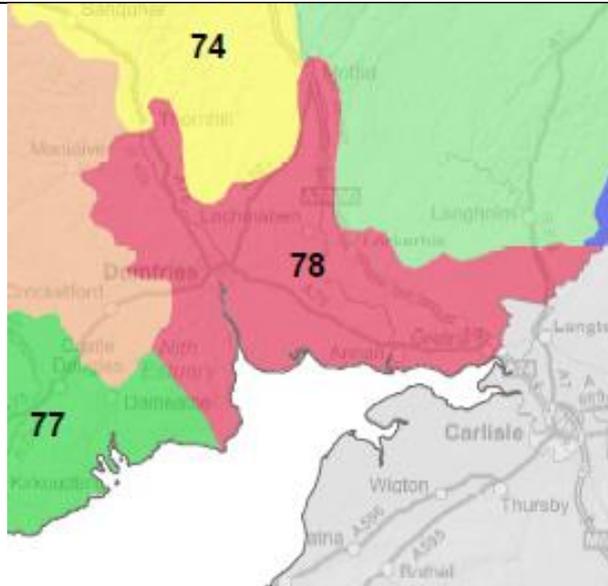
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Buildings of the Scottish Countryside
pp 166-168

Selected creative associations

Paintings

Five Red Herrings (Dorothy L Sayers)

78 Dumfries Plain



Description

A populated lowland area of small farms and woodland contained by higher hills. It is bordered to the south by extensive coastal flats and has views to the distant Lake District hills. Iconic Criffel forms a landmark to the west. There are many towns and upland and coastal villages. The local vernacular is still prevalent: red sandstone or whitewashed buildings often have doors and windows with black borders. Dumfries, the regional capital, is mediaeval in origin and its 15th century bridge over the Nith is still standing. The coast was heavily fortified, for example at Caerlaverock, while inland, in contrast, lie abbeys such as Sweetheart. Occasional industrial structures interrupt the expanse of sky along the trunk road corridors. There are frequent hedgerows and small patches of woodland.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Dumfries and Galloway

NHF: Western Southern Uplands and Inner Solway (19)

HLA: XX

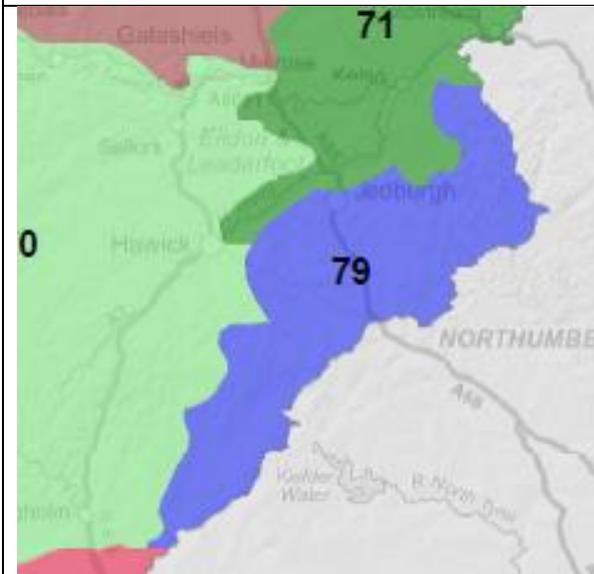
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pp 166-168

Selected creative associations

Poetry

The Banks o'Nith (Robert Burns)

79 Cheviots



Description

An extensive upland massif of bare, rolling, hills and moorland, broken by steep-sided valleys and passes which form important route corridors. The landscape has been shaped by glaciation and deposition. There are some forestry plantations, but the area consists mostly of extensive sheep grazing. It is relatively wild and remote, still redolent with tales of the reivers. There is a network of routes inherited from ancient cattle drovers and archaeological remains hint at this busier past.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Borders

NHF: Border Hills

HLA: XX

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pp 161-166

Selected creative associations

Paintings

The Village of Jedburgh (Thomas Girtin)