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Atlas of Scottish History to 1707

Peter G B McNeill and Hector L MacQueen

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Edited by

Peter G B McNeill

and

Hector L MacQueen

Cartographer: Anona May Lyons

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Introduction

This atlas appears under the joint names of the Scottish Medievalists and the Department of Geography of the University of Edinburgh.

The atlas replaces an earlier atlas, entitled *An Historical Atlas of Scotland c. 400 to c. 1600.* It was published in 1975. The present atlas has been about fifteen years in the making. An account of the making of *Atlas II* would amount to a substantial monograph: I propose to limit myself here to indicating what I have attempted to achieve in this atlas. I hope that the final maps have, within the limits of black and white, done justice to the draft maps which the various experts had submitted.

The earlier atlas was in two parts: one part contained the texts and the other the maps; and each part had a separate editor. In the present atlas, the texts and maps have been kept together, and, because of their greater bulk, the topics in the atlas have been divided into nine sections, according to subject, with the load being spread between each of the sectional editors, but with an overall general editor who was the liaison between the sectional editors and the cartographer.

The first section is an introductory one which, among other things, sets the physical and geographical basis of the maps which follow in the succeeding sections. The next three sections are chronological, covering the period from the beginning to 1707. The remaining five sections deal with important aspects of Scottish history. The classification is not wholly satisfactory and there is an element of cross-reference. The names of the editors appear in the list of over 80 contributors (there were 30 or so contributors in the earlier atlas).

As before, the elaboration of the maps is governed by the absence of colour and the need to keep the cost of production down to be within the purse of students.

The present atlas has about four or five times more maps than were in the first atlas. Also, the structure of the two atlases is different. The fairly substantial texts of the first atlas together with the linking passages amounted to a short history of Scotland for the period covered by the maps; whereas the present atlas has concentrated on the maps: it was the agreed policy that the associated texts would be briefer and have a different function. The texts are intended to indicate the principle on which the map or diagram is constructed and the lessons which can be drawn from it. As a result, most maps together with their texts make a self-contained unit of one or more pages. Where possible, the atlas attempts to have one map for one idea: this is the case in the distribution maps, such as the map showing the distribution of Pictish names. On the other hand, some maps are inventory maps, such as the map of Lowland schools, where listing of the schools by name is as important as their distribution.

I have tried for a degree of consistency in lay-out of each page or fascicle of pages. In most cases I have used the same map of Scotland so as to make it easier to compare like with like; and in most of the maps of Scotland, I have inserted in a light stipple the 800' (about 244 m) contour layer: most items of mappable interest appear below that height. Throughout, where weights and measures are mentioned, I have shown imperial and metric equivalents. Most of the readers of the atlas will no longer understand the former imperial coinage: accordingly I have made a table of imperial and metrical equivalents.

I have standardised the use of different type faces and type sizes to represent different features on the maps: these are shown in the general key.

The spelling of British place-names generally follows that shown in the 1:50,000 ordnance survey maps; and for foreign names, I have followed the spelling in *The Times Atlas of the World*

As general editor, I wish to acknowledge the forbearance of the atlas trustees, the contributors and the sectional editors during the delays which were never anticipated by me - or anyone else. Special mention must be made of the indispensable work of Professor D E R Watt. Professor Watt has been our business manager and convenor of the atlas trustees. As with the first atlas, so with this one, he was the driving force in the planning of the undertaking; he husbanded the resources created by the sales of the first atlas and acquired further large resources in cash and in kind from a variety of benefactors; and he has dealt with every aspect of the commercial production of the atlas. As a result, in the words of the preface to the first atlas, he has been able 'to keep the selling price to as low a figure as possible so that virtually no-one who has an interest in Scottish history may be debarred from obtaining a copy'.

I also wish to acknowledge the help and assistance which I have received in a variety of ways from Mr Douglas Watt, the staffs of the National Library of Scotland (including the Map Building), Historic Scotland and the Scottish Record Office. Thanks are especially due to the academic and technical staff of the Department of Geography of the University of Edinburgh who undertook the cartographic work, including Mr Ray Harris, Dr David Munro, Dr David A Gray and Anona Lyons. Over the years, there have been different hands involved on the cartographic side; but by far the largest part has been the work of

the cartographer, Anona Lyons. Ms Lyons has produced all proof maps and texts which are the basis of the atlas.

Individual mention must be made of the great assistance and encouragement which I received from Sheriff D B Smith over a decade and a half: he probably does not realise the value of his help.

Lastly I would like to dedicate this edition to my wife whose help, support and patience over the years made my 'second job' possible.

Shortly after I had drafted this introduction, I decided that, for several reasons, I had to give up editing the atlas. Thereafter, the editorial work has been continued by other hands.

Peter G B McNeill

Although I had been long involved with this atlas as one of its sectional editors, my more general activities in relation to it began in the summer of 1995 when Peter McNeill felt compelled to give up sole responsibility. It must be said immediately that the atlas now presented remains in all essential points the concept described above by Dr McNeill, and that my role has been entirely one of bringing it to fruition, happily with his continuing involvement and support in the work. Without him, there would be no atlas. In the role of carrying the project to completion I was also greatly assisted by Professor Michael Lynch and Geoffrey Stell, who gave freely of advice, time and support at a critical moment when the future of the atlas hung in the balance. Professor Donald Watt continued as a tower of strength throughout, mixing cajolery, encouragement and participation in the task in hand in equal and generous measures. Professor Charles Withers of the Department of Geography at the University of Edinburgh showed extraordinary patience with a troublesome lawyer let loose in his department as well as much good will and enthusiasm for the whole atlas project. Much invaluable work of photocopying, posting and liaison was efficiently handled by Nicola Graham and Isabel Reid, and I am also grateful for the facilities afforded me by the Faculty of Law and the Department of Scottish History in the University of Edinburgh. The sectional editors and individual contributors all showed good grace and efficiency in complying with my importunate and persistent requests, and I apologise for any difficulties which attention to my demands may have caused them. I also express my personal appreciation of the cartographic labours of Anona Lyons, who responded with patience, determination and good humour to the very heavy demands of a project which turned out to be far bigger and more onerous than any of those involved had ever anticipated or realised. Lastly, I thank my wife Frances, who once again has found herself drawn into the projects of her spouse and has willingly helped with proofs and other essential checking.

Hector L MacQueen

We both wish to acknowledge here the support of The Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland, and of the Russell Trust, without which publication of the atlas would not have been possible.

PGBM, HLM

Key to initials of contributors

Initials	Contributor
MA	† Marinell Ash
PA	Patrick Ashmore
JWMB	J W M Bannerman
IB	Ishbel Barnes
GWSB	**G W S Barrow**
SB	Stephen Boardman
AB	Alan Borthwick
DJB	David J Breeze
JB	James Brown
DHC	D H Caldwell
JSC	† J S Cameron
EC	Ewan Campbell
RGC	R G Cant
TMC	T M Chalmers
PC	Peter Corser
IBC	† I B Cowan
BEC	B E Crawford
EPD	E P Dennison
HD	Helen Dingwall
DDi	**David Ditchburn**
PD	Philip Dixon
DDo	David Dobson
RAD	R A Dodgshon
JGD	J G Dunbar
AAMD	A A M Duncan
JD	John Durkan
AE	Alexis Easson
WKE	W K Emond
EE	Elizabeth Ewan
RF	Richard Fawcett
EF	Elaine Finnie
IF	Ian Fisher
JDG	J D Galbraith
AGi	Alexander Gibson
JMG	John M Gilbert
AGr	Alexander Grant
WSH	W S Hanson
CH	Caroline Hardie
IBH	I B Henderson
LJFK	L J F Keppie
JK	James Kirk
JFL	J F Lydon
ML	**Michael Lynch**
NATM	**N A T Macdougall**
CAM	C A McGladdery
LJM	L J MacGregor
AIM	A I Macinnes
PGBM	**Peter G B McNeill**
AM	Alan Macquarrie
HLM	**Hector L MacQueen**
GSM	G S Maxwell
MM	Maureen Meikle
MHM	Marcus H Merriman
RM	Rosiland Mitchison
IAM	**Ian A Morrison**
JM	Jean Munro
RWM	R W Munro

ALM	Athol Murray
WFHN	W F H Nicolaisen
RO	Richard Oram
TIR	† T I Rae
NHR	N H Reid
AR	Anna Ritchie
NHRo	Niall H Robertson
MHBS	Margaret H B Sanderson
WWS	W W Scott
WDHS	W D H Sellar
NFS	**Norman F Shead**
GGS	G G Simpson
MAS	M A Simpson
ASm	Allan Small
DBS	David B Smith
RMS	R M Spearman
MS	Margaret Steele
GS	**Geoffrey Stell**
ASt	Alexander Stevenson
DS	David Stevenson
AStr	Alastair Strang
KJS	K J Stringer
LMT	**Lisbeth M Thoms**
AT	Anthony Tuck
DJT	D J Turner
DERW	**D E R Watt**
BW	B Webster
IDW	I D Whyte
CWJW	C W J Withers
AY	Alan Young

† Deceased contributor

Editors are shown in **bold**

Key to lettering

Civil divisions

ENGLAND	Kingdoms, modern states
GALLOWAY	Provinces
DARIEN	Imperial provinces, continents
TAYSIDE	Regions 1975
SHETLAND	Islands areas 1975
Fife	Lesser provinces, earldoms, counties, sheriffdoms, bailieries of Ayrshire, stewartries of Perthshire, modern districts (1975), economic regions, quarters of burghs

Ecclesiastical divisions

GLASGOW	Province
Glasgow	Diocese, synod, presbytery
Glasgow	Archdeaconry
Glasgow	Cathedral city, abbey
Glasgow	Deanery

Geographical features

North Sea	Firths, bays, rivers, islands, seas, lochs, capes, points, glens
DRUIMALBAN	Mountains
LEITHEN	Forests
HADRIAN'S WALL	Roman walls
Aberdeen	Towns, castles, forts, camps, parish churches and similar places

Other features

CALEDONII	Tribes
CRAWFORD	Families
Margaret Erskine	Persons
BC	Before Christ, chronological dating
bc	Before Christ, carbon dating