Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

Atlas of Scottish History to 1707

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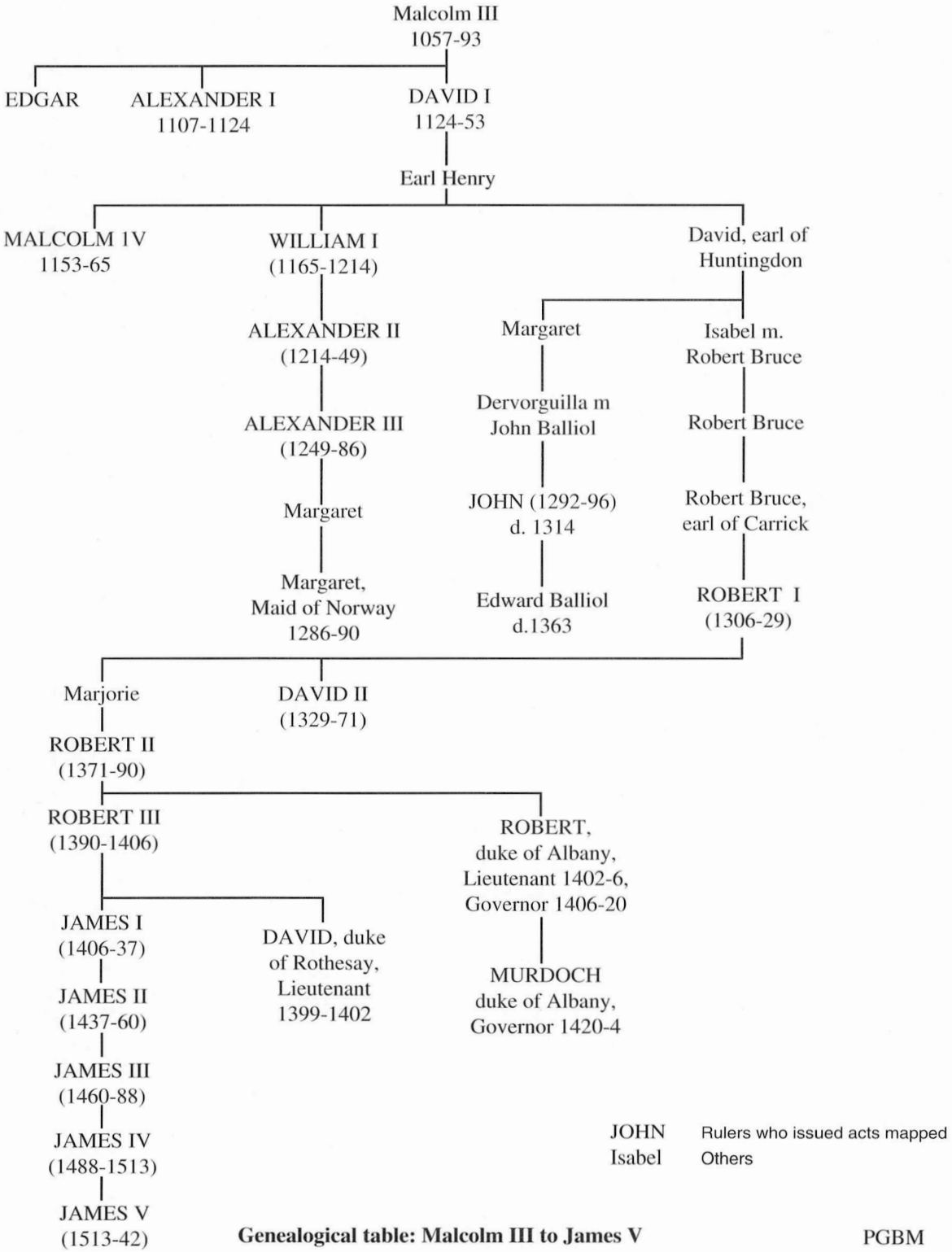
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Administration

Place-dates of royal charters to 1296

The practice of adding a date of place (i.e. 'given, *datum*, at Edinburgh') to written acts or charters authenticated by the king's seal seems to have begun in Scotland early in the twelfth century, possibly as early as the reign of Alexander I (1107-24). By the later years of David I (1124-53) it was unusual to omit the place-date. A date of time, in the form of the day of the month only, was added from 1195, the year being added about 1222. There are occasional examples of time-dates (normally indicating the year only) in royal acts from David I's reign onwards, almost certainly supplied by ecclesiastical beneficiaries who were more conscious of chronology than their lay contemporaries. Clearly, the provision of a place-date gives the historian extremely valuable information about the areas and places where king and court were normally located, although a word of caution is necessary in respect of these maps. Firstly, the mappable place-dates are obviously only those recorded in acts whose texts (whether in original or in copy) happen to survive. Secondly, and particularly in the earlier period, the king would tend to be asked for brieves and charters mainly in those parts of his realm where this kind of documentation was familiar and in regular use.

GWSB



Genealogical table: Malcolm III to James V PGBM

Place-dates of royal charters to 1296

The accident of survival means that the place dates shown form only a small proportion of the places recorded by the royal scribes of the period, as well as reflecting the unbalanced pattern of survival of royal acts as a whole. For example, the loss of record relating to almost all the religious houses of south-western Scotland (except Paisley) is undoubtedly reflected in the noticeable absence of place-dates in this area. Further, if acts were issued only where sought, then the virtual absence of place-dates throughout the Highlands is not safe evidence that the kings never set foot there, although the maps allow a reasonable inference that the court spent more time in the eastern and southern lowlands, especially between Forfar and the Tweed, than in other regions. A few localities in northern England are included to demonstrate the Scottish interest in Northumberland and English Cumbria during the twelfth century. Place-dates -not shown here- also illustrate the lordship of the midland English honour of Huntingdon enjoyed by the Scots kings for much of the period.



Place-dates to 1153

GWSB

Place-dates of royal charters to 1296



Place-dates: Malcolm IV (1153-65) GWSB

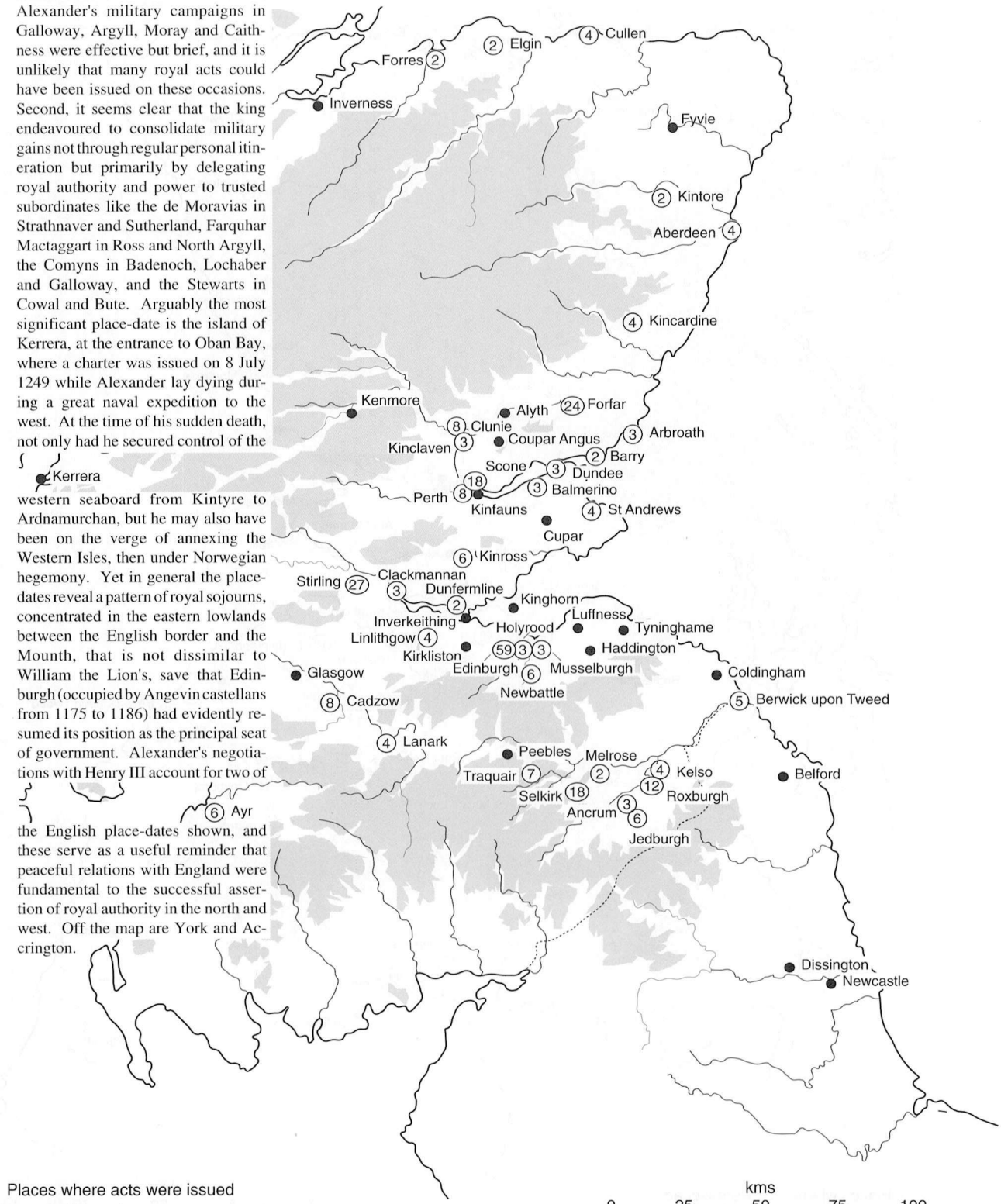
Place-dates of royal charters to 1296



Place-dates: William I (1165-1214) GWSB

Place-dates of royal charters to 1296

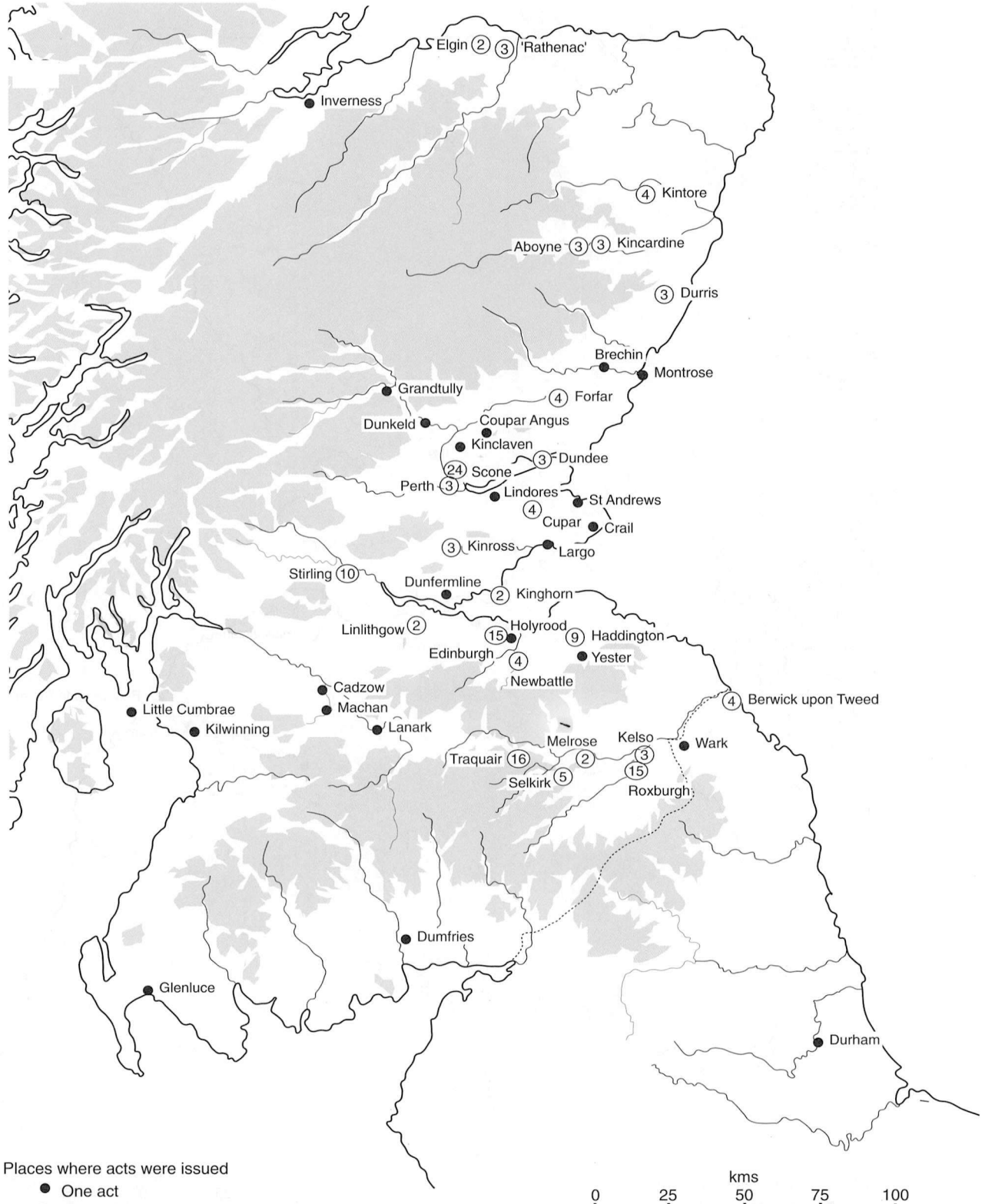
Alexander II directed his attention towards asserting royal authority in the outer reaches of the kingdom more fully than had any of his twelfth-century predecessors. But little of the king's vigorous policy can in fact be recovered simply by mapping the place-dates of his extant written acts. Quite apart from the general limitations of such evidence, there are two specific considerations to bear in mind. First, Alexander's military campaigns in Galloway, Argyll, Moray and Caithness were effective but brief, and it is unlikely that many royal acts could have been issued on these occasions. Second, it seems clear that the king endeavoured to consolidate military gains not through regular personal itineration but primarily by delegating royal authority and power to trusted subordinates like the de Moravias in Strathnaver and Sutherland, Farquhar Mactaggart in Ross and North Argyll, the Comyns in Badenoch, Lochaber and Galloway, and the Stewarts in Cowal and Bute. Arguably the most significant place-date is the island of Kerrera, at the entrance to Oban Bay, where a charter was issued on 8 July 1249 while Alexander lay dying during a great naval expedition to the west. At the time of his sudden death, not only had he secured control of the western seaboard from Kintyre to Ardnamurchan, but he may also have been on the verge of annexing the Western Isles, then under Norwegian hegemony. Yet in general the place-dates reveal a pattern of royal sojourns, concentrated in the eastern lowlands between the English border and the Mounth, that is not dissimilar to William the Lion's, save that Edinburgh (occupied by Angevin castellans from 1175 to 1186) had evidently resumed its position as the principal seat of government. Alexander's negotiations with Henry III account for two of the English place-dates shown, and these serve as a useful reminder that peaceful relations with England were fundamental to the successful assertion of royal authority in the north and west. Off the map are York and Accrington.



Place-dates: Alexander II (1214-49) KJS

Place-dates of royal charters to 1296

It may be significant that, with one exception (Kincardine 1251), no acts survive from the minority years (1249-59) place-dated in the north or south west of the country. In 1260, however, when the king was assuming personal control of government, his single act dated at Inverness appears. Possibly this act, and another close in date from Durris, are the remaining evidence, of a royal progress to assert the young king's authority. Thereafter, northern place-dates are not unusual: the king, although not far-travelled, does appear to have visited the north-east with some regularity. In general the surviving place-date evidence is consistent in its distribution with earlier reigns. The reign was above all a period of consolidation. Relatively few of Alexander's acts are new grants: a high proportion are confirmations. The scarcity of his acts may therefore be an indication of the stable and consolidatory nature of the reign.

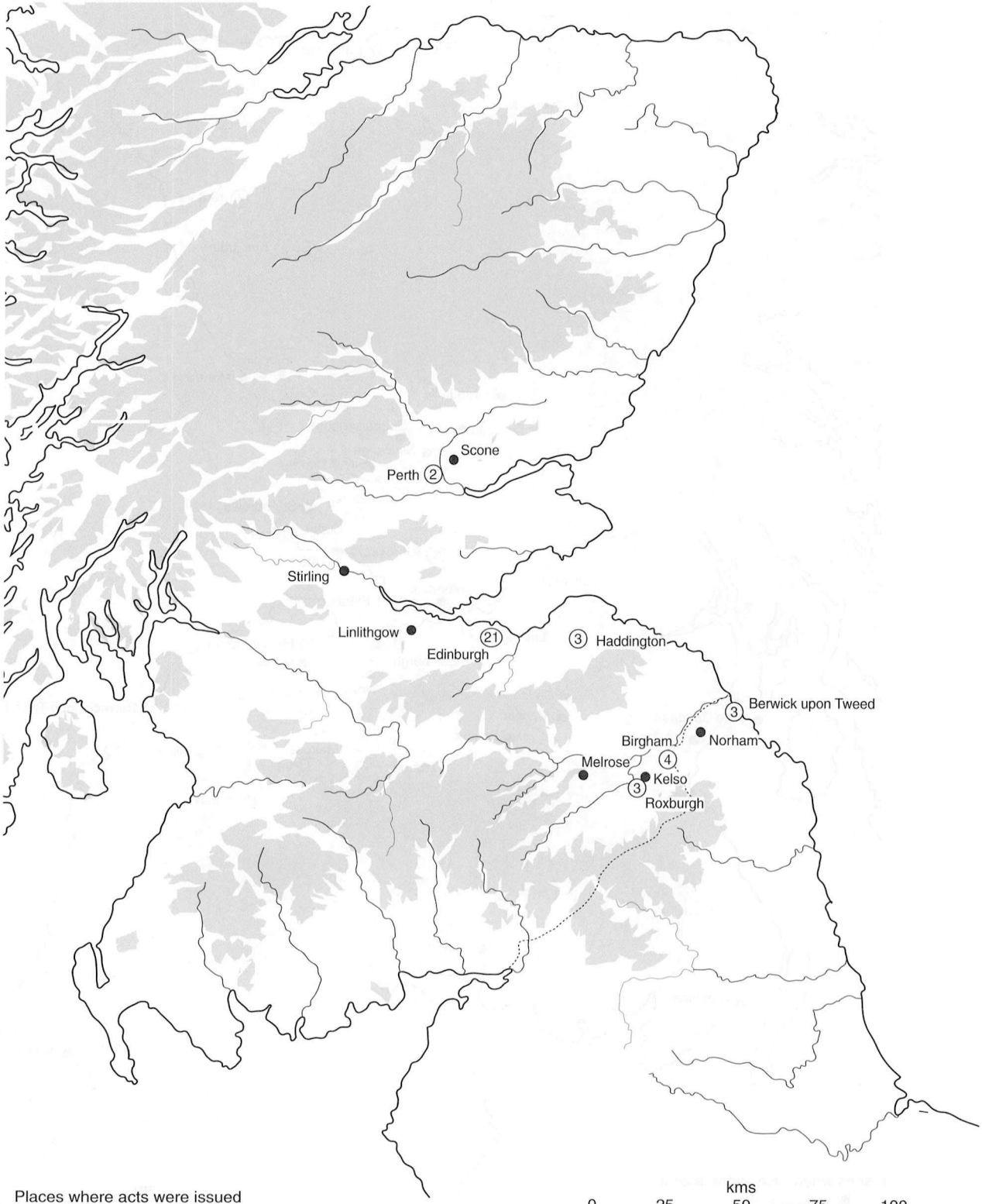


Place-dates: Alexander III (1249-86) NHR

Place-dates of royal charters to 1296

The committee of guardianship which ruled Scotland from 1286 until 1292 had no easy task. To keep the wheels of government turning, whilst refraining from jeopardising the rights of the Crown which they represented cannot have been simple. Their unique and spectacular seal of government is perhaps symbolic of their constitutional difficulty: they had the authority of the nation - a conceptual entity - which was impressive in terms of national identity, but was hardly a strong legal basis for the authority of their dictate. Their acts were thus limited to the strictly necessary. No grants of land survive, and the vast majority of their acts are brieves regarding overdue payments, settlement of disputed and other legal matters, or concern the negotiations aimed at settling Scotland's constitutional problems.

As for the distribution of the acts, half of those which bear place-dates were made in Edinburgh. A few acts specify that only some of the guardians were present, which may indicate that normally the whole group, or at least a majority, met to conduct the business of government in committee on a fairly regular basis, normally in Edinburgh. The group of acts place-dated on the border with England were all made during either the period of negotiation leading to the treaty of Birgham (1290) or the 'Great Cause' (1291-92).



Place-dates: the Guardians 1286 to 1292 NHR

Place-dates of royal charters to 1296

John's short reign (1292-6) has left few acts of government. Although the nature of these acts indicates that he was concerned with all aspects of the realm's administration, their place-date distribution is very limited. He did attempt to exert control over the western seaboard, through the creation of sheriffdoms, but there is no evidence that he went there in person. The single act emanating from the south-west concerns the election to the bishopric of Whithorn, and three of the four documents place-dated to the north of Dundee relate to John's submission to Edward I in 1296; John, then, was not far-travelled in his pursuit of the day-to-day business of government. This was presumably as a result of the brevity of his reign, in the course of which he had little chance to travel widely. Not shown on the map, of course, are several acts place-dated in Newcastle upon Tyne and London, which relate to the king's troubled relationship with Edward I.



Place-dates: John (1292-96) NHR

Place-dates of Robert I (1306-29)

Very few documents were issued by the king in this period when he had little control over Scotland south of the Forth. Some groups of documents, e.g. Scotlandwell 1313, Dundee 1313, probably represent councils or parliaments. Inchture and St Andrews were places where parliaments were held.

Loch Broom not shown



Place-dates: Robert I 1308 to February 1314 AAMD

Place-dates of Robert I (1306-29)

This map covers the period between Bannockburn and the king's departure for Ireland. The Irish invasion was planned at an assembly at Ayr (1315) and in 1316 a parliament was held at Edinburgh, where many charters were issued. There is little trace of the campaigns of war except in the documents issued from the Tweed valley. The king moved round monasteries and other royal centres, never going north of the Mounth. The chancellor was the abbot of Arbroath which probably explains the large number dated there. Probably they do not represent the king's whereabouts.



Place-dates: Robert I November 1314 to February 1317 AAMD

Place-dates of Robert I (1306-29)

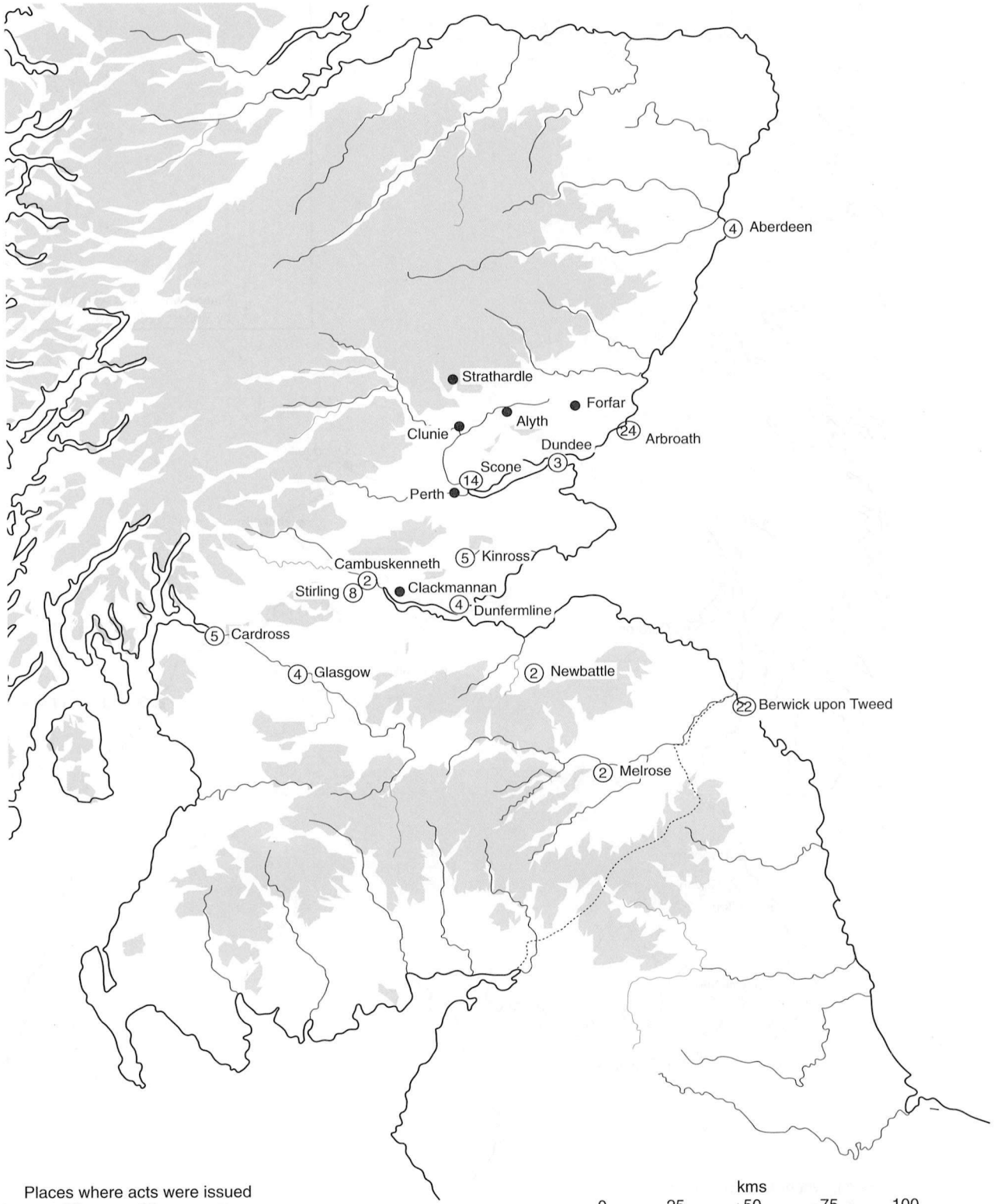
Berwick fell in April 1318 and the king was much concerned with its defence until a two-year truce was made in December 1319. A parliament was held at Scone in December 1318 at which a group of acts is dated, while Arbroath dates probably represent the chancellor's (and not the king's) presence. The number of small places of issue and the scarcity of northern dates remains remarkable.



Place-dates: Robert I 1 March 1317 to 3 August 1323 AAMD

Place-dates of Robert I (1306-29)

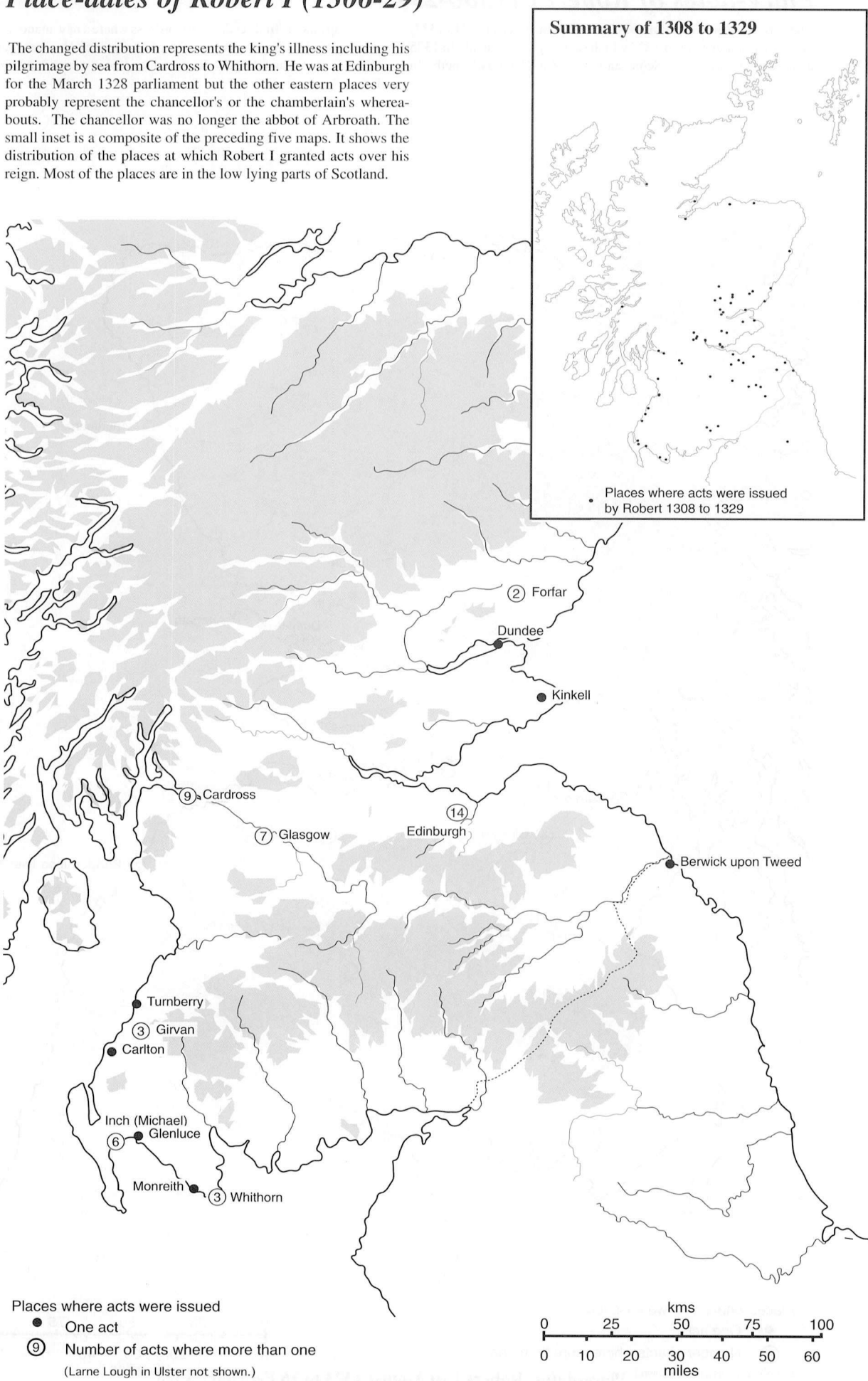
The period covered in this map is the time of the truce (1323 to 1327) and the campaign year of 1327 which scarcely shows at all. In 1325 a parliament was held at Scone and in 1326 at Cambuskenneth. In 1325 appears the first act dated at Cardross where a new manor house was built; when the king stayed there, some financial business seems to have centred on Glasgow. The smaller places were often hunting lodges.



Place-dates: Robert I 10 August 1323 to 16 February 1328

Place-dates of Robert I (1306-29)

The changed distribution represents the king's illness including his pilgrimage by sea from Cardross to Whithorn. He was at Edinburgh for the March 1328 parliament but the other eastern places very probably represent the chancellor's or the chamberlain's whereabouts. The chancellor was no longer the abbot of Arbroath. The small inset is a composite of the preceding five maps. It shows the distribution of the places at which Robert I granted acts over his reign. Most of the places are in the low lying parts of Scotland.



Place-dates: Robert I 1328 to 1329 AAMD

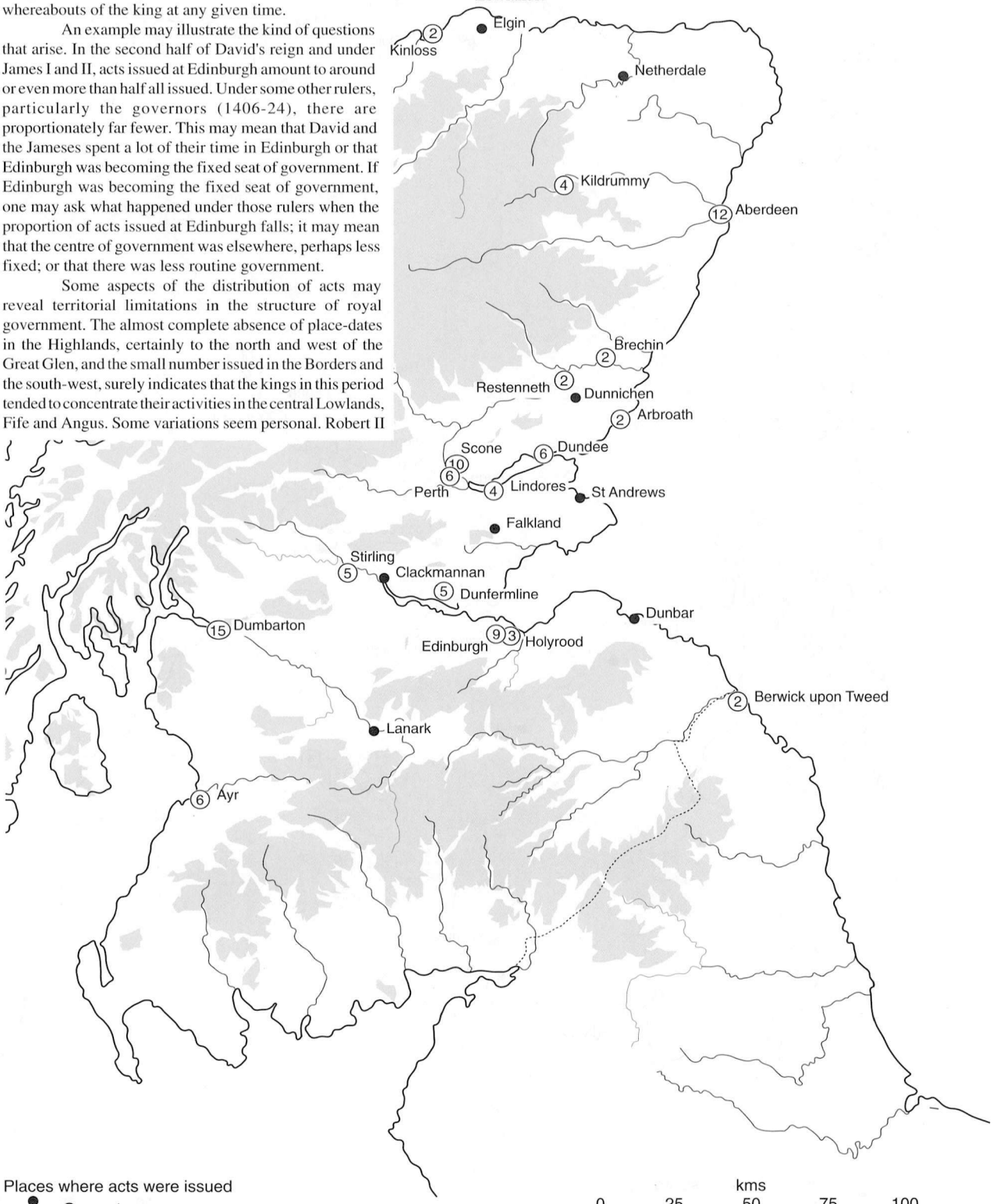
Place-dates: David II to James V

It is obvious that the patterns in this series of maps differ from each other. It is not so easy to be sure what these differences mean. An act was sealed by the king's clerks, but the date in the text may not be when and where this was actually done. Sometimes charters were issued under a warrant from the king. If so, it seems that they would normally bear the date of the warrant, which was probably when and where the king actually ordered the grant. Most royal grants, however, were formal, for example, confirmations of land transfers, which often did not involve the king at all. Such routine documents may well bear the actual date of issue; and it follows that their dates tell us nothing of the king's movements. Thus, the maps may reflect quite complex relationships between rulers and clerks, rather than the whereabouts of the king at any given time.

An example may illustrate the kind of questions that arise. In the second half of David's reign and under James I and II, acts issued at Edinburgh amount to around or even more than half all issued. Under some other rulers, particularly the governors (1406-24), there are proportionately far fewer. This may mean that David and the Jameses spent a lot of their time in Edinburgh or that Edinburgh was becoming the fixed seat of government. If Edinburgh was becoming the fixed seat of government, one may ask what happened under those rulers when the proportion of acts issued at Edinburgh falls; it may mean that the centre of government was elsewhere, perhaps less fixed; or that there was less routine government.

Some aspects of the distribution of acts may reveal territorial limitations in the structure of royal government. The almost complete absence of place-dates in the Highlands, certainly to the north and west of the Great Glen, and the small number issued in the Borders and the south-west, surely indicates that the kings in this period tended to concentrate their activities in the central Lowlands, Fife and Angus. Some variations seem personal. Robert II (1371-90) and Robert III (1390-1406) issued more acts than anyone else in Renfrewshire and Ayrshire. The governors' acts bunch more in Fife. In both cases the distribution follows the ruler's personal lands. The Stewarts' territories were in Renfrewshire and Ayrshire; and the dukes of Albany had their main base in Fife.

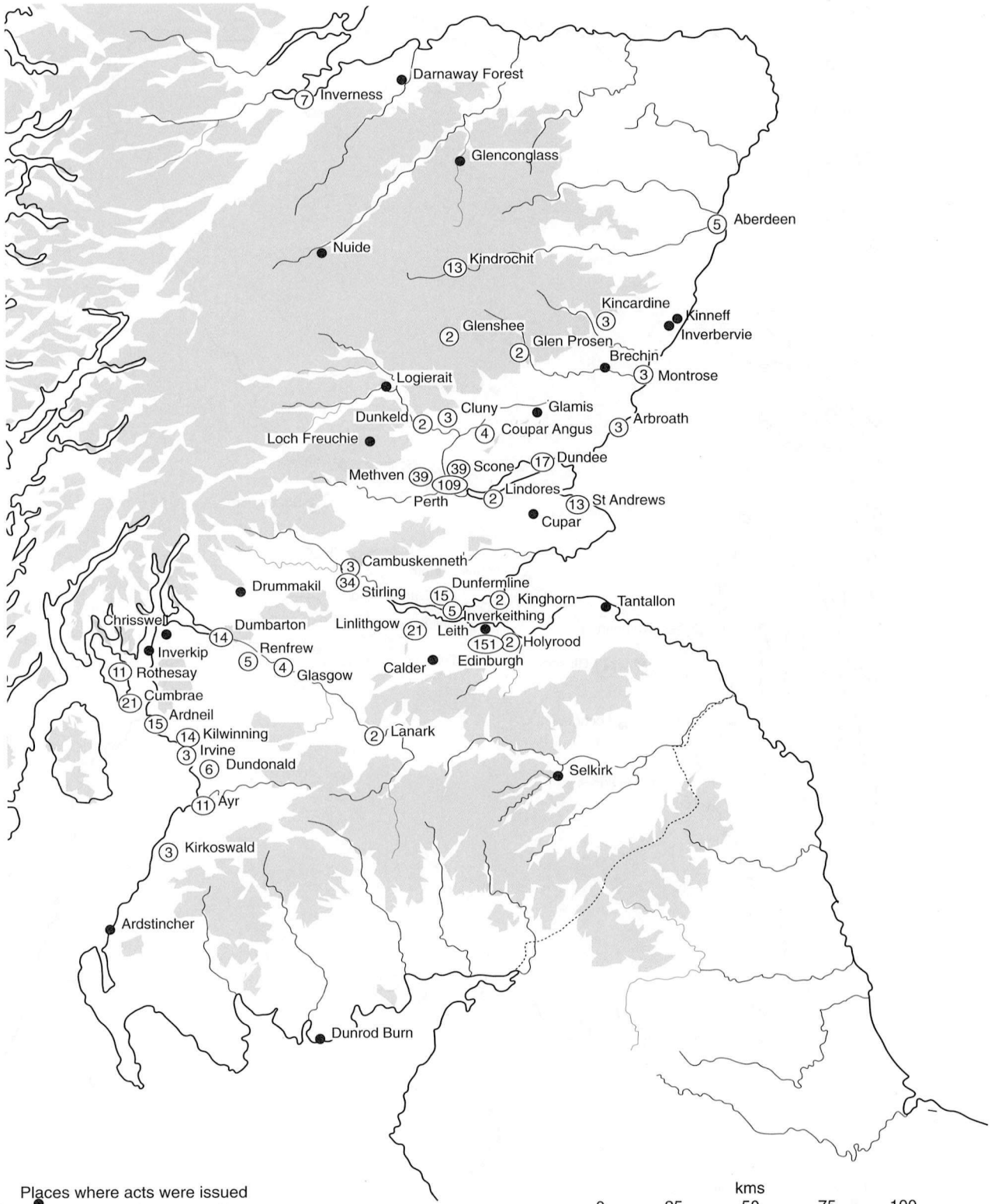
But we must be cautious. Kings may go where they do not issue charters: James I certainly penetrated the Highlands though he issued no acts there, and the king's authority may be recognised well outside areas that he visits. Landowners in the Highlands and the Borders sometimes sought royal charters to support their titles, even if those charters were issued at Edinburgh or elsewhere in the Lowlands.



Place-dates: David II 1329 to 1346 BW



Place-dates: David II 1357 to 1371 BW



Place-dates: Robert II (1371 - 90)



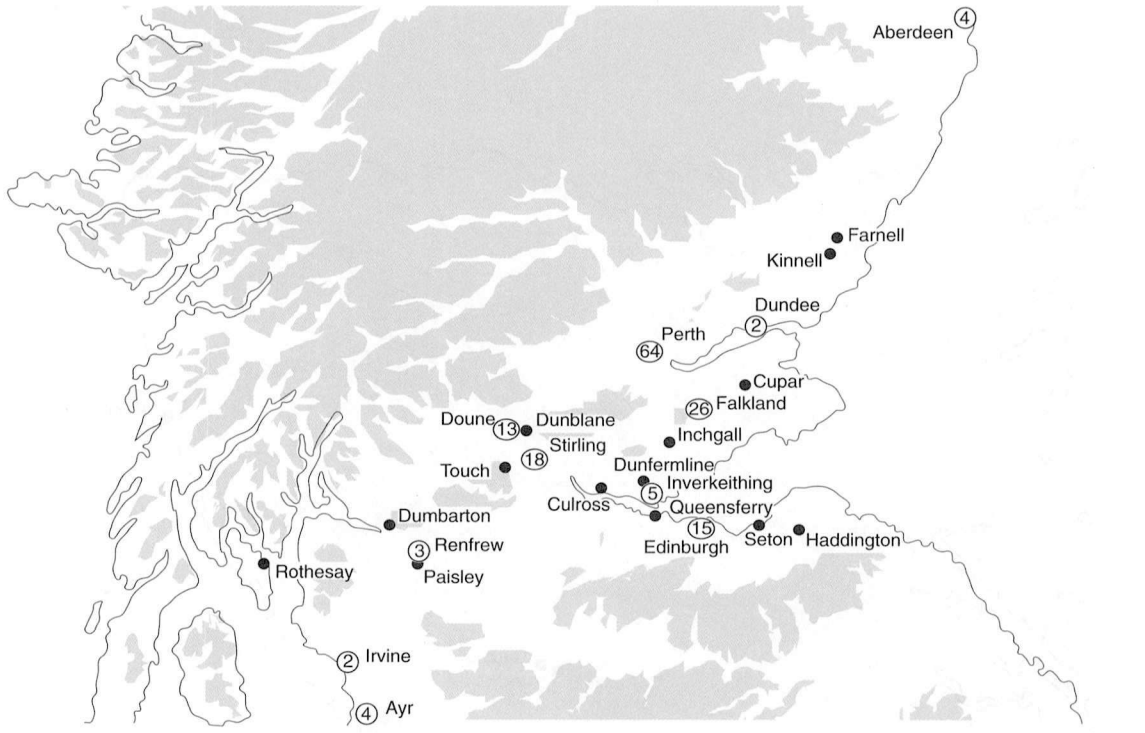
Place-dates: Robert III April 1390 to April 1398 ALM



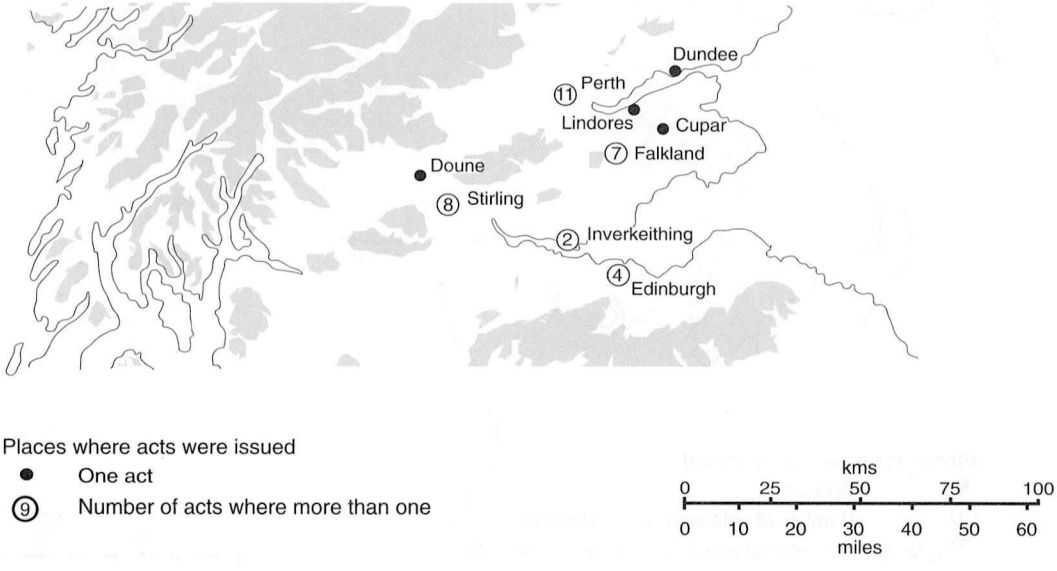
Place-dates: Robert III April 1398 to 1406

Place-dates: David II to James V

While James I was a captive in England from 1406 to 1424, the kingdom was ruled by governors who were the next in succession to the throne. As with the previous guardians between 1292 and 1296, the governors issued charters as a part of their administration of the realm. These acts are shown in the following maps.



Place-dates: Robert, duke of Albany, governor (1406-20)



Place-dates: Murdoch, duke of Albany, governor (1420-24) ALM



Place-dates: James I 1424 to 1437 WWS



Place-dates: James II 1437 to 1449

AB



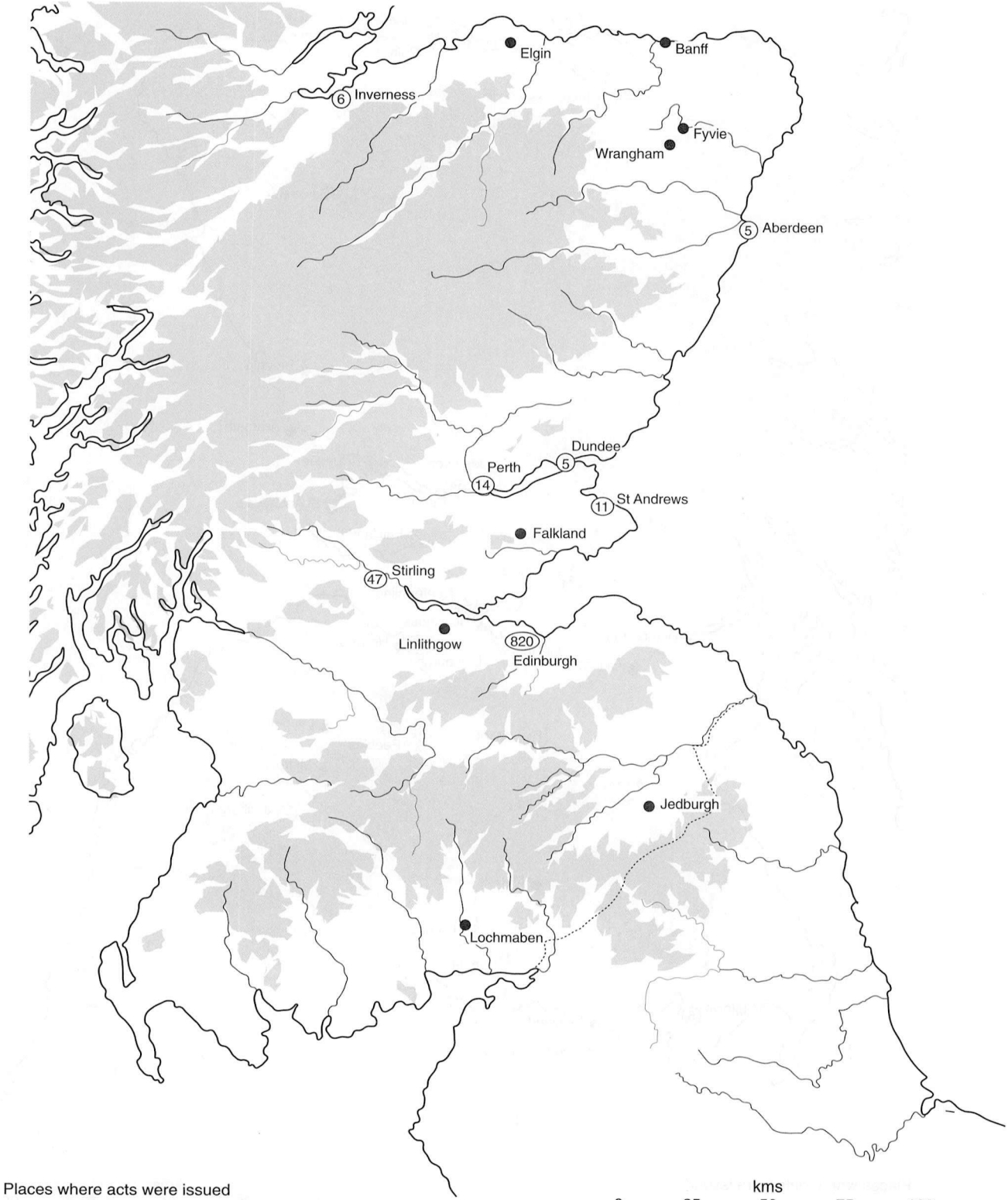
Place-dates: James II 1450 to 1460 AB

Place-dates: David II to James V

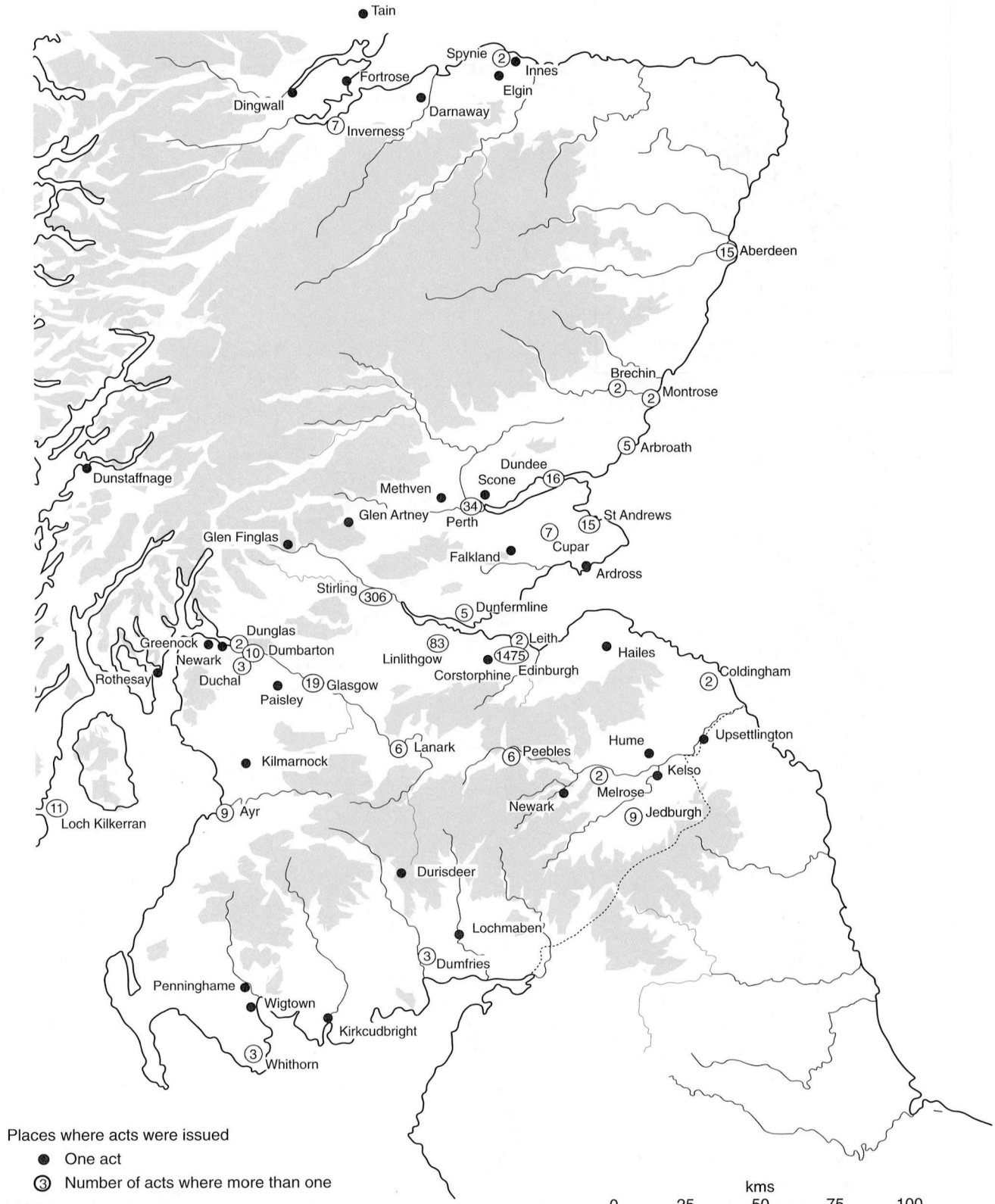
The last three place-date maps cover the reigns of James III (1460-88), James IV (1488-1513) and James V (1513-42). The maps show respectively 12, 57 and 46 places where acts were issued: the durations of the reigns were about 28, 25 and 29 years. The frequency of the extant acts confirms the overwhelming preponderance of Edinburgh as the place of issue: these represent 98% of over 900 acts, 70% of over 2000 acts and 50% of nearly 3000 acts.

A striking fact is that during the period of James III's adult rule (November 1469 to May 1488), out of a total of 712 great seal documents which bear a place of issue, all but five emanate from Edinburgh. This static royal administration differs markedly from the much wider distribution of acts in the next two reigns. In all three reigns, the place where the biggest number of acts were granted was Stirling - respectively, 5%, 14% and 15%: in James V's reign the Falkland number reached 6.7%, and Linlithgow and St. Andrews had 4% but the number of acts issued in other places was minute in all three reigns.

(The map of the place-dates for James IV does not attempt to plot the detail of his Highland campaigns in the 1490s: and the English campaign of 1496 is the subject of an earlier map.)

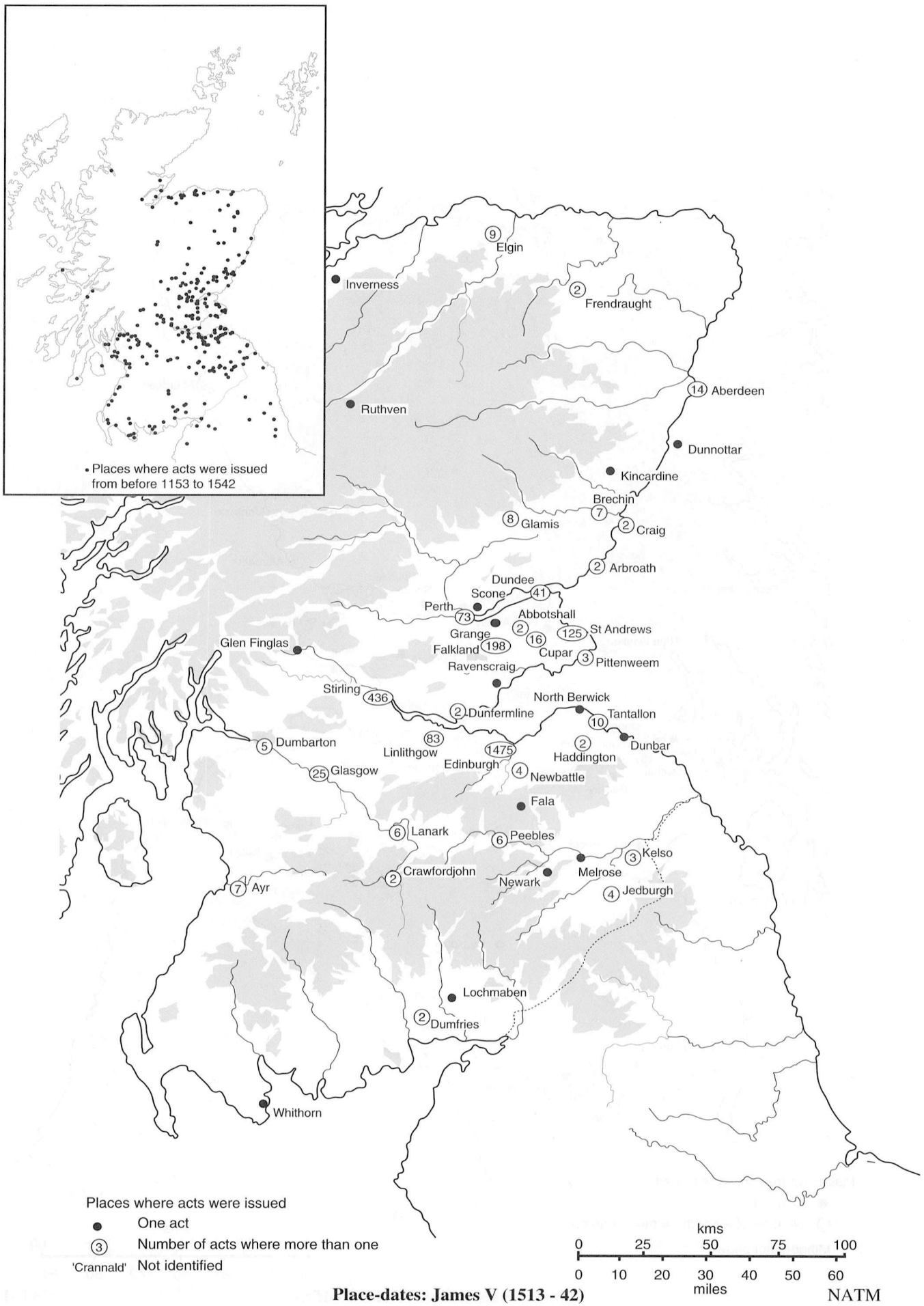


Place-dates: James III (1460 - 88) NATM



Place-dates: James IV (1488 - 1513)

Place-dates: David II to James V



Place-dates: James V (1513 - 42)

Earldoms and 'provincial lordships' 1124 to 1286

The first map is intended to indicate the maximum territorial extents of earldoms before 1286. It must be stressed that the territorial power and public authority enjoyed by earls were not invariably conterminous. Furthermore, with few exceptions (e.g. Atholl, Buchan, Lennox) the whole subject still requires detailed investigation; there is often a dearth of evidence contemporary with the period 1124-1286; and since the medieval earldoms both lost and gained territories, the territorial rights or claims recorded after 1286 may be misleading guides to earlier conditions. This map is therefore only a preliminary statement and by no means definitive. It excludes remoter lands (e.g. North Argyll held by the earls of Ross) that may or may not have been regarded as parts of earldoms. No attempt has been made to map Gowrie or Moray. Gowrie, called an earldom in twelfth-century sources, was held by the crown; Moray lapsed shortly after 1130 and was not revived until 1312. Where later records have been used, e.g. an extent of Fife (1293-4) and account rolls of Strathearn (1379-80, 1442-6) and Dunbar or March (1450-4), this is subject to the reservation noted above.

There were thirteen Scottish earldoms in 1286. Most had developed from the mormaerships (provincial governorships) of pre-feudal Scotland north of the Forth-Clyde line. Eight of the thirteen certainly existed by about 1150: Fife, Strathearn, Angus, Atholl, Mar, Buchan and Caithness in Scotland proper, and Dunbar in Lothian. The earldoms of Carrick, Lennox, Menteith and Ross are also mentioned before 1200. The only new earldom created in the thirteenth century was Sutherland (about 1235). Ross, suppressed in 1168, was revived in c. 1215.

Although royal control over the earldoms intensified, they retained importance as provincial governorships until the fourteenth century. But the strength of the earldom-province relationship must not be overstated. Pockets of Crown demesne, even seats of royal sheriffdoms, existed within earldoms. The earls of Fife clearly built up their earldom lands in stages, largely through royal favour from about 1150, and were never in fact allowed to possess the whole of Fife. Dunbar, strictly a 'non-provincial' earldom, included much but scarcely all of the Merse, and there is the especially striking case of Angus, whose territory was from early on fragmented and limited. Moreover, in the thirteenth century Mar (about 1225), Caithness (about 1240), and Menteith (1285) were all partitioned: in Caithness and Menteith, each earl's territory was reduced to half the original earldom lands. Even before 1286, therefore, some earldoms were evidently less impressive as administrative and territorial dignities than others.

In the twelfth century only native magnates had the rank of earls, but five earldoms were by 1286 in the hands of families of Anglo-continental descent. Buchan had passed by marriage to a junior branch of the Comyns, Menteith to a junior branch of the Stewarts, Angus to the Umfravilles, and Carrick to the Bruces. Sutherland remained under the lordship of the Flemish de Moravias (Murrays).

'Provincial lordships' is a modern term for large estates, similar to the earldoms, which were more or less coextensive with provinces or districts of the kingdom. Their lords, some of whom held earldoms as well, belonged to the uppermost reaches of noble society. But, as can be seen from the second map, 'provincial lordships' were not all of like dimensions, and a few appear to have been roughly the same size as, or even smaller than, certain self-contained estates usually regarded as 'sub-provincial': e.g. Lauderdale bears comparison with Bothwell, Carnwath and Douglasdale, all within the wider division of Clydesdale. The assignment of estates to one category or the other can in fact be problematic. While efforts have been made to illustrate the extents of 'provincial lordships' as accurately as possible, those of a fair number are highly conjectural due to lack of full or easily accessible evidence. No attempt has been made to map Assynt, Glen Dochart or other units which ought to be considered, but about which information is virtually a complete blank before 1286.

From 1124 feudal colonisation helped to forge nineteen 'provincial lordships', at least some of which were actually ancient districts or lordships taken over and adapted as feudal holdings. All save Lauderdale lay in the 'outer zone' of the kingdom, where local administration based on sheriffdoms remained relatively undeveloped and the granting to trusted vassals of big tracts of territory, interspersed between the earldoms and other great lordships, was a key means of advancing royal power. By 1165 Anglo-continental families held seven provincial fiefs: Strathgryfe with Renfrew and Mearns (Stewart), Cunningham with Largs (Morville), Kyle Stewart or North Kyle, Annandale (Brus), Upper Eskdale with Ewesdale (Avenel), Liddesdale (Soules), and Lauderdale (Morville). North of the Forth, between about 1180 and about 1250 incoming lords acquired Garioch (earl of Huntingdon), Strathbogie (David son of Earl Duncan II of Fife), Strath Avon or Stratha'an (earl of Fife), Badenoch and Lochaber (Comyn), the Aird with Strathglass (Bisset), Sutherland (Murray), and Strathnaver (Murray of Duffus). The Stewarts, having secured Bute by c. 1200, controlled Cowal by the 1250s, and a junior branch of the family asserted dominance over Arran and Knapdale in the 1260s. Before 1286 Cunningham (1234), Lauderdale (1234), Garioch (1237), the Aird (about 1260), and Strathnaver (about. 1260) were all partitioned among coheiresses and began to play less important roles. Sutherland was erected into an earldom in about 1235.

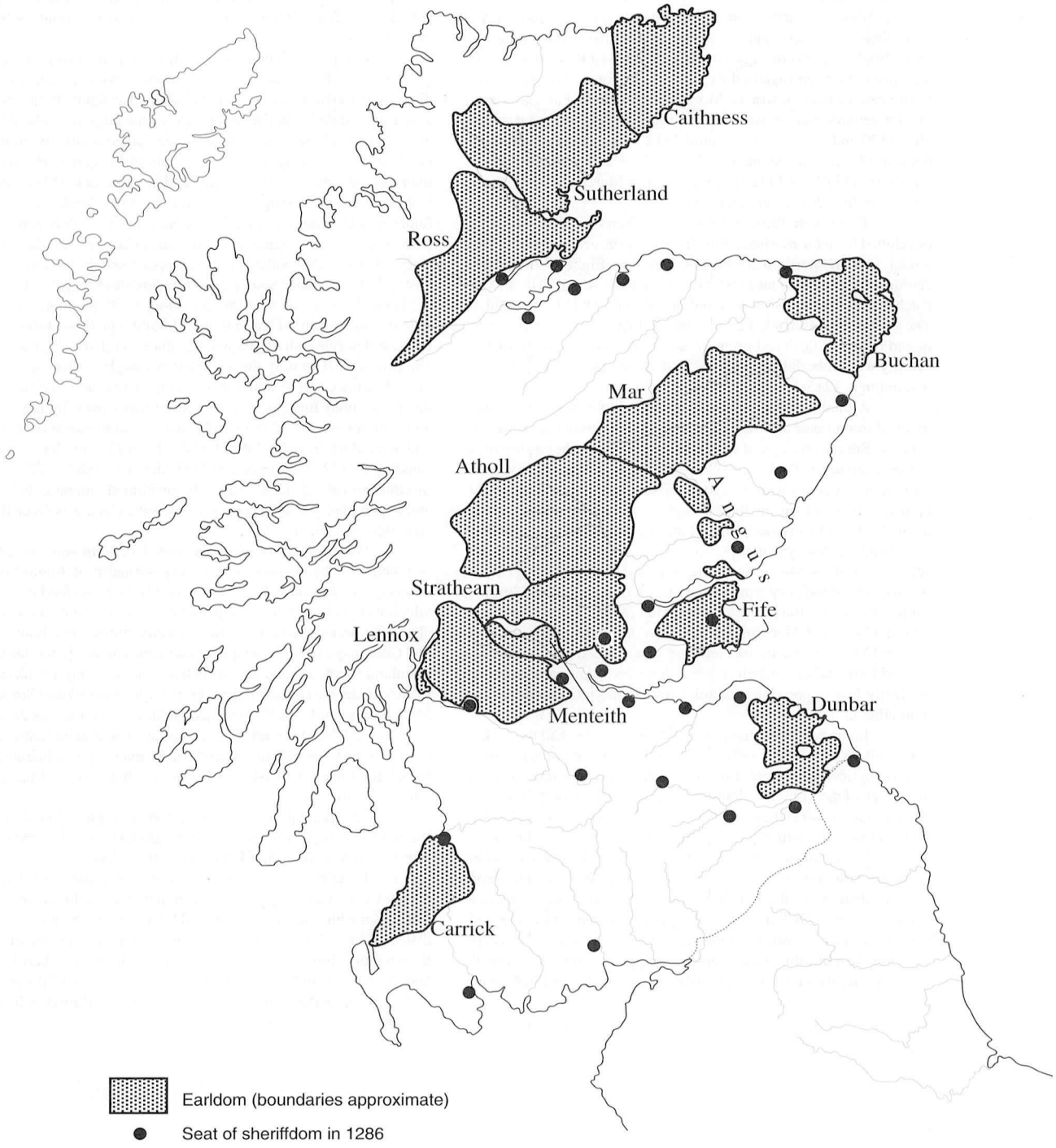
Whereas each of these 'provincial lordship' was created for, or taken over by, a colonising family normally of Anglo-French descent, the map includes five others, all with pre-feudal origins, which were held by semi-independent native dynasties who gradually came under stronger central authority. Nithsdale (about 1185) and Galloway (1234-5) were ultimately broken up. In the far west, mainland (Scottish) and island (Norwegian to 1266) territories remained under the control of three families descended from Somerled Macgillebrigte (d. 1164): the Macdonalds of Islay, the Macdougalls of Lorn, and the Macruaries of Garmoran. The precise distribution of territories among them is uncertain. Morvern and Ardnamurchan have been linked with Islay or Garmoran, but may well have pertained to Lorn.

The map thus shows twenty-four 'provincial lordships', although Bute and Cowal can readily be associated with Strathgryfe, Arran with Knapdale, and Lochaber with Badenoch.

By combining the two previous maps, the third map underlines the formidably wide predominance of earldoms and 'provincial lordships' in earlier medieval Scotland. Study of the relative distribution of these great territorial units, detailed consideration of their relationship with the expanding network of royal sheriffdoms, and systematic study of the fluctuating composition of the aristocracy they supported, are all invaluable ways of throwing light on the making of the medieval kingdom.

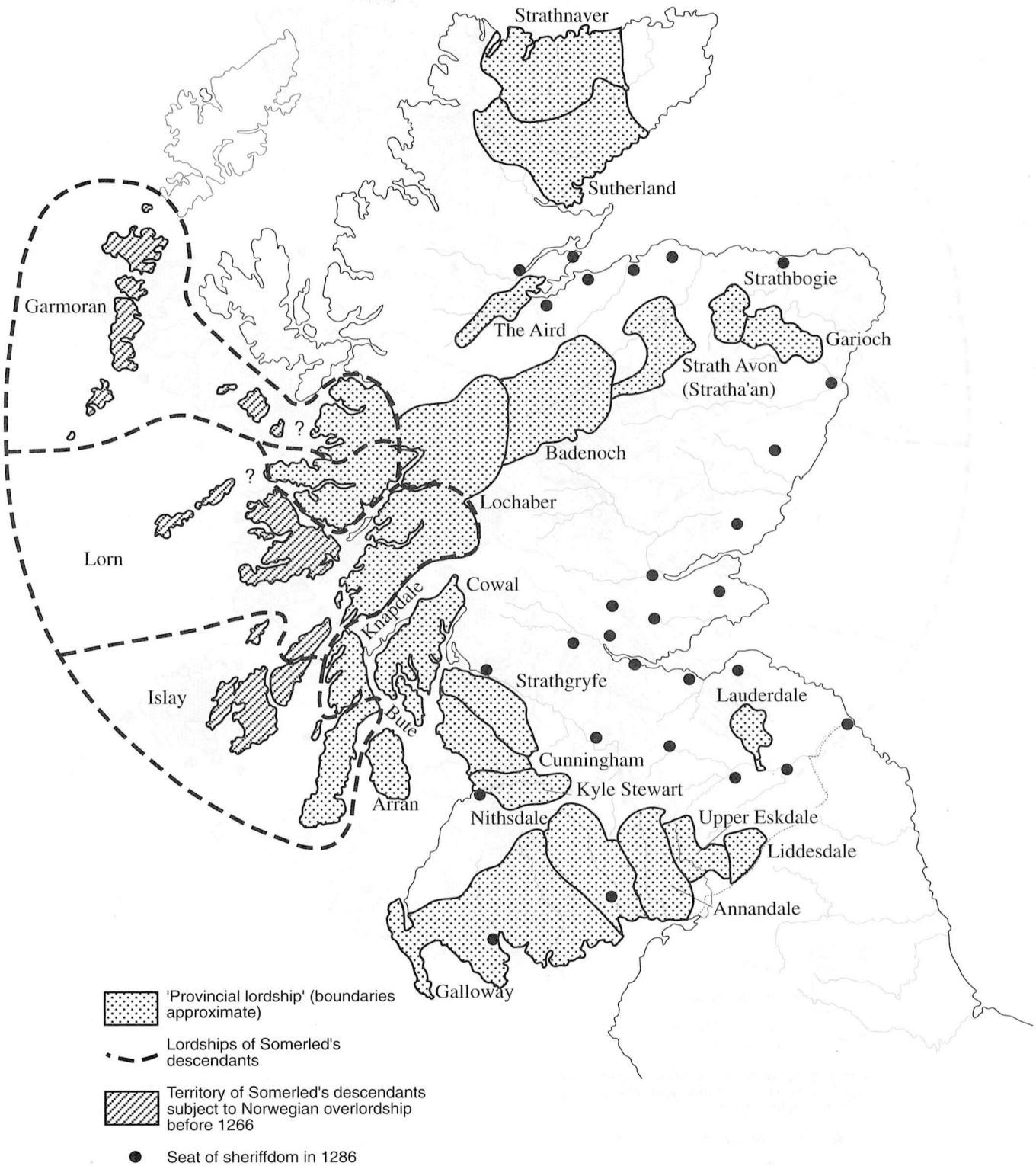
KJS

Earldoms and 'provincial lordships' 1124 to 1286



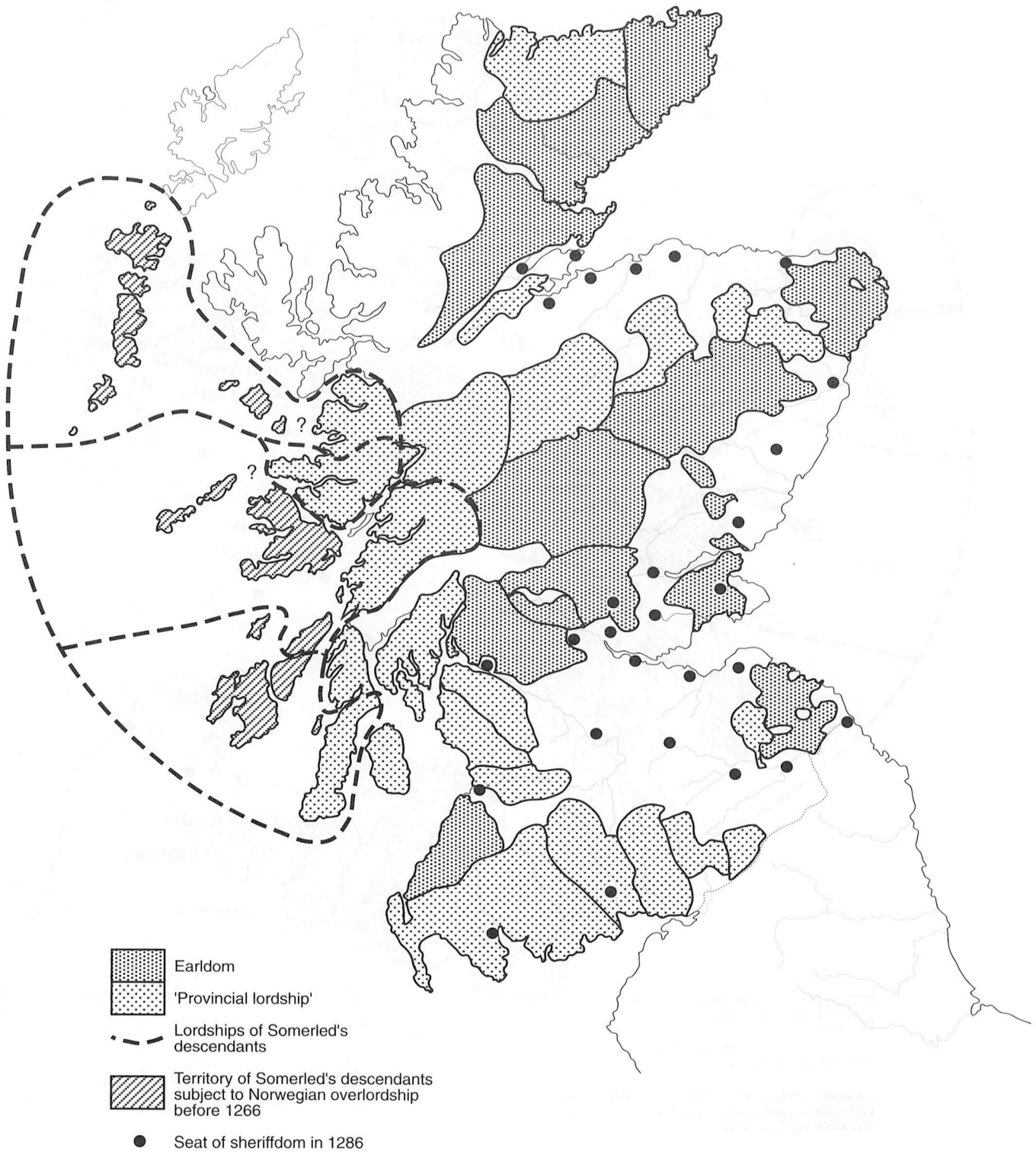
Earldoms 1124 to 1286 KJS

Earldoms and 'provincial lordships' 1124 to 1286



'Provincial lordships' 1124 to 1286 KJS

Earldoms and 'provincial lordships' 1124 to 1286



Earldoms and 'provincial lordships' 1124 to 1286 KJS

Shires and thanages

This and the next map show, respectively, the location of portions of royal and magnatial demesne to which record applied the descriptive or defining term 'shire' in the period from about 1100 to about 1350, and places associated in the same period with officers styled 'thanes' (***teinus, thaynus, toisech***, in some cases 'sheriff', ***minister*** or ***prepositus)***, most commonly by being called 'thanages' or 'thanedoms' (***teinagium, thanagium***). It will be seen that there is a considerable degree of correlation between the two. The key to an understanding of the two phenomena is the lordship enjoyed and exercised by the kings almost certainly to be traced back into prehistoric times. This lordship was exercised over districts conveniently controlled and administered from some principal centre of kingly authority (often originally a fortified centre, hill-fort, promontory-fort or the like), and it was realised in the form of renders in kind, cereals, animals and other foodstuffs, certain labour services (often of a specialised sort such as assistance with the lord's hunting), occasionally some money rents, and a variety of semi-predial, semi-administrative functions and services. Such lordship may be described as 'extensive', because very little land was retained to be exploited directly by the lord and very little use was made of year-round, servile or 'manorial' labour. Instead the population dwelled in dispersed settlements at varying distances from the centre, each settlement constituting an agrarian unit, pastoral or crop-growing or a mixture of the two, and some at least of the settlements specializing in a particular product such as oats, barley, cheese, geese, fish, honey, etc. On the other hand, an estate so organised would be limited to an area within which foodstuffs could be conveniently transported and tenants could travel - mostly, perhaps, on foot - to perform the necessary services. The Old English and Middle English term ***scir, scire (shire),*** literally 'division', was used to describe or identify such estates in much of southern and eastern Scotland (as indeed in northern and midland England). It is not certain what earlier vernacular term was used in any of the Celtic languages, but it seems likely that some form of the word ***cathair*** or ***caer*** (loans from Latin ***castrum, castra***)was applied to shires in early times.



● Shires before about 1350

Alvie and Cromdale are off map

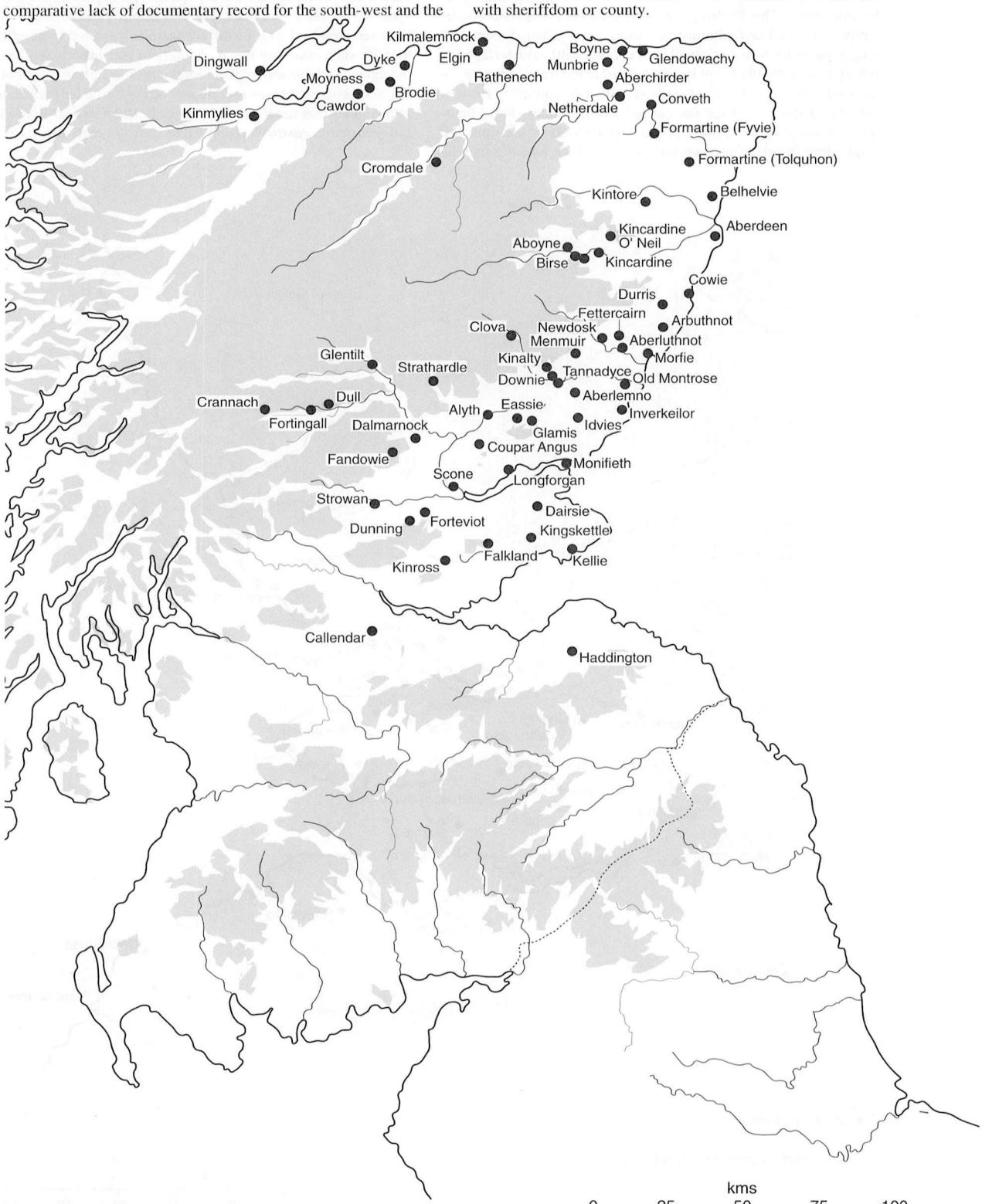
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Shires before about 1350 GWSB

Shires and thanages

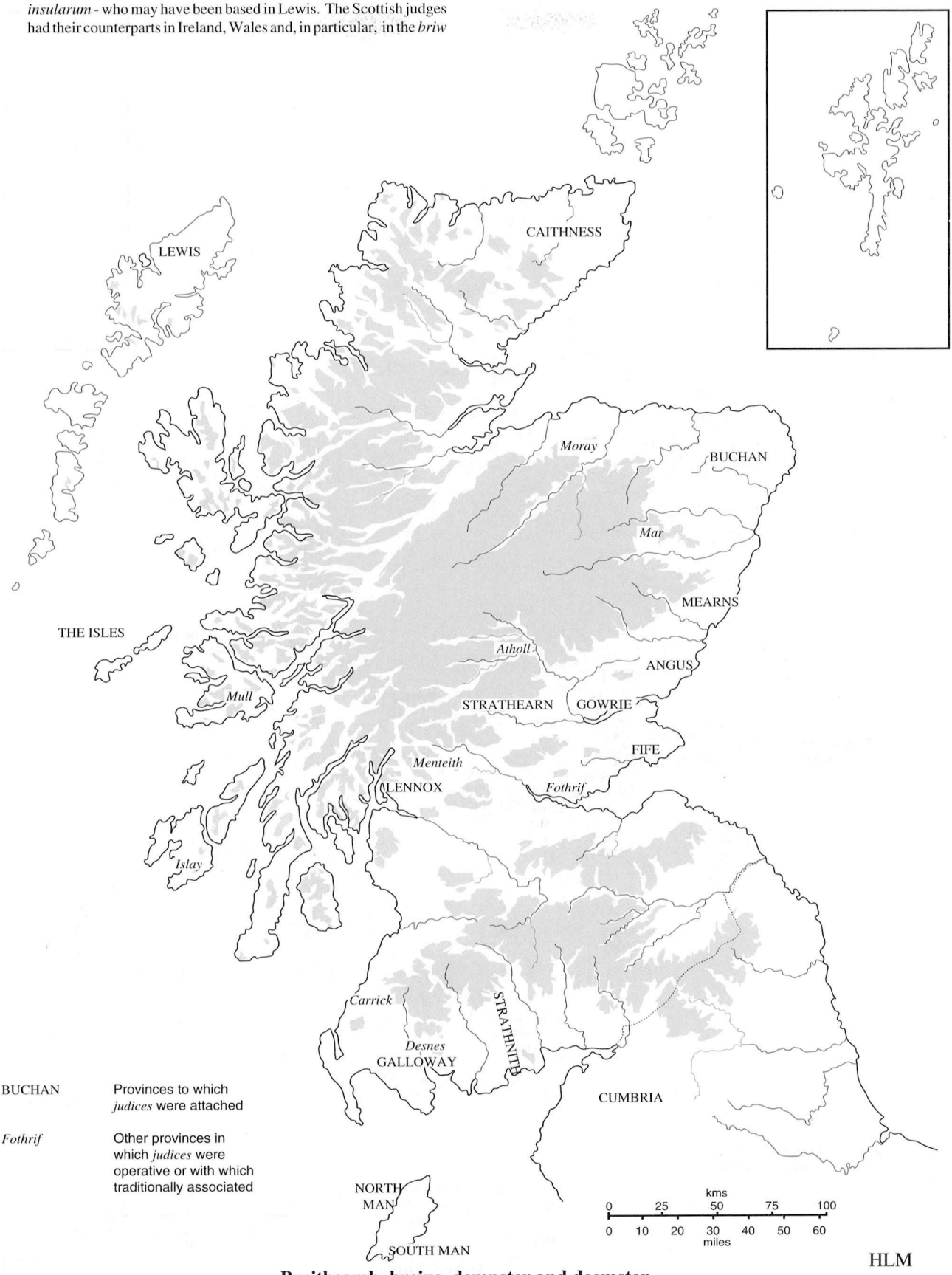
The characteristic officer responsible for administering the shire on behalf of kings, earls or bishops was known as a thane (Old English *þegn* 'one who serves').In Tweedale, Teviotdale, Lothian and the Merse it appears that the typical ministerial class in the earlier twelfth century, intervening between the king and the greatest magnates on the one hand and the mass of the population on the other, was composed of thanes and then slightly less substantial and powerful companion officials known by the Scandinavian loan-word, drengs. In the south-eastern region references to individual thanes and thanages are rare, whereas in Scotland north of Forth it is commoner to find individual references than to thanes as a class. Owing to the comparative lack of documentary record for the south-west and the western highlands it would be rash to say positively that shire organisation and thanes or their equivalent were not normal features of those areas. Nevertheless, sufficient record material survives for the west from the period before 1350 to suggest that if royal lordship was organised there in a comparable way to that found in the east, then a somewhat different vocabulary was employed by which its details were habitually described. 'Shires' remained a living word in Scotland in the later middle ages. It could still be used in the old sense of a portion of a larger estate, as in Herbertshire, Machanshire and Bishopshire; but from the sixteenth century the word came increasingly to be used - as it had long been used in England - as synonymous with sheriffdom or county.



Thanages about 1350 GWSB

Breitheamh, breive, dempster and deemster

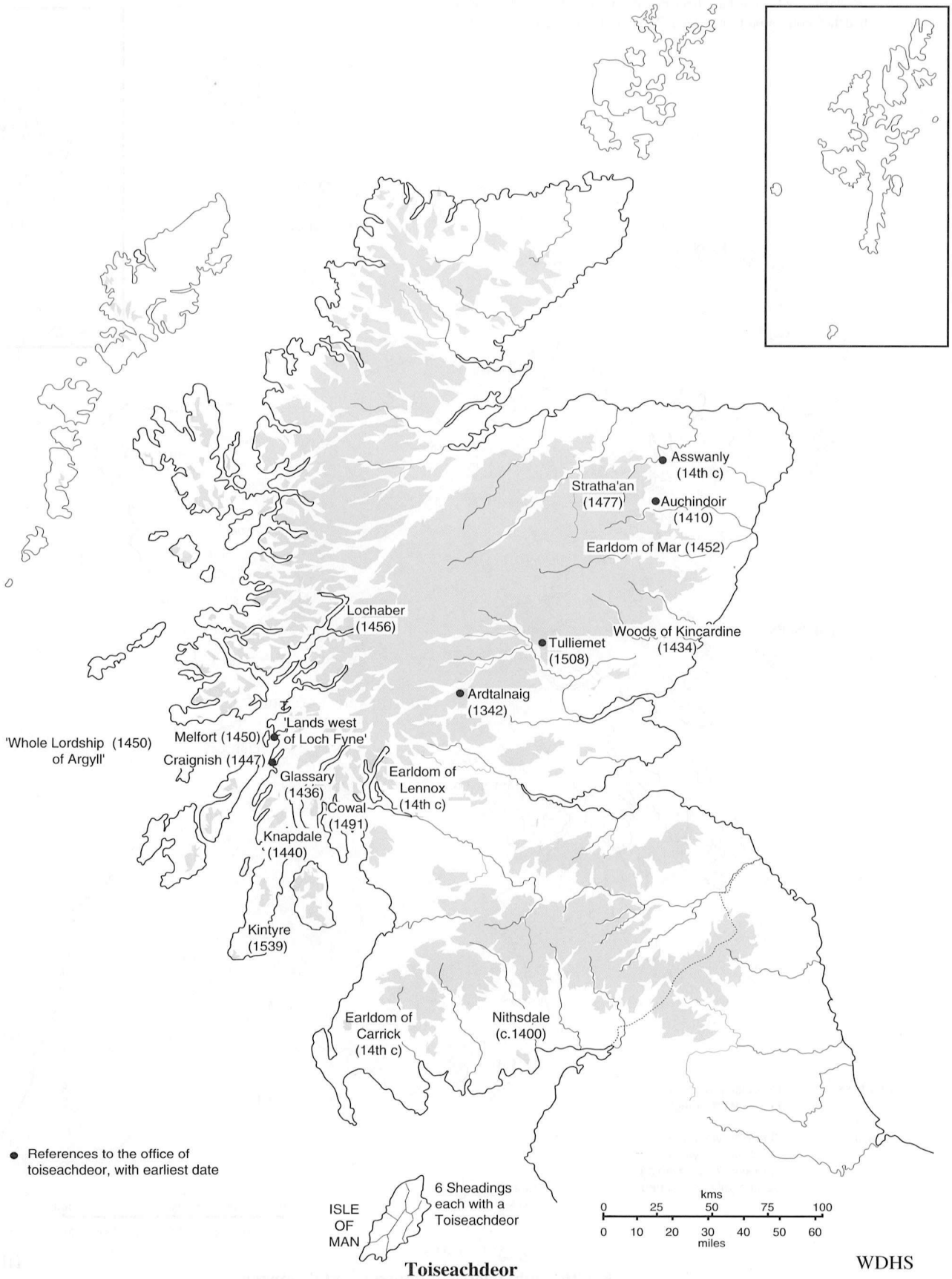
An important judicial officer in Celtic Scotland was the *breitheamh*, a Gaelic word meaning judge, Scotticised as 'breive' or 'dempster'. In Latin documents between about 1100 and about 1300 these officers are designated 'judex'. The map is based first on Professor G.W.S. Barrow's list of these Scottish *judices*, which suggests that they had a provincial jurisdiction. Further, however, tradition and documentary evidence from after 1400 tell how each of the islands within the Lordship of the Isles had its own judge under a chief judge - *the judex insularum* - who may have been based in Lewis. The Scottish judges had their counterparts in Ireland, Wales and, in particular, in the *briw* or deemster of Man, as the repositories of traditional law and custom. The map indicates those provinces to which documentary evidence shows *judices* were attached, indicating such provinces with capital lettering. Also shown (in italic lettering) are those other provinces within which *judices* were operative or with which they were traditionally associated. It should be noted that there is a close parallel with the geographical distribution of the toiseachdeor.



Breitheamh, breive, dempster and deemster

Toiseachdeor

The toiseachdeor was an important officer of the law in Celtic times, although his precise function is unclear, as indeed is the etymology of his name. Like the *breitheamh* ('judex') and the mair, the toiseachdeor survived into the Middle Ages and beyond. He was often equated with the coroner, and in a number of cases there is clear continuity between earlier toiseachdeor and later coroner. The map plots references to the office, indicating the earliest date at which a particular toiseachdeor appears on the record. In every case, however, the office must have existed for many years - and probably many centuries - previous to the earliest surviving mention.

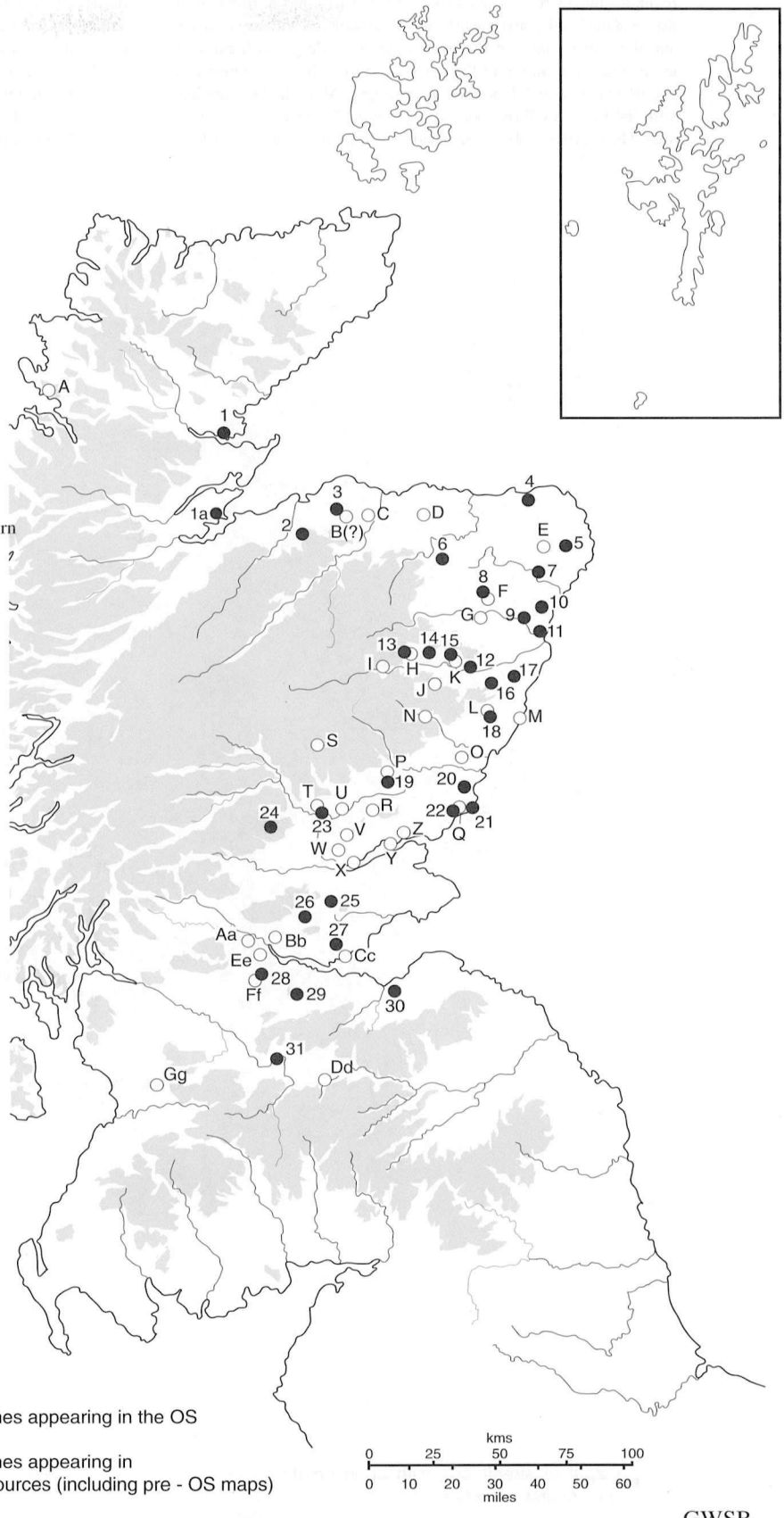


Comhdhail: 'popular' courts

The Gaelic word *comhdhail* (Old Irish *Comdal*), meaning 'assembly' or 'tryst', was evidently applied to popular courts of a local nature. In this sense it is recorded in the fourteenth century in the form *conthal* or *couthal*, referring to Angus and Mearns. It seems possible that this word is embodied in a number of place-names, some surviving, some obsolete, occurring chiefly in north and eastern Scotland; and in some at least of these instances the name indicates a place where such local popular courts customarily met. A high proportion of these place-names, usually having the form Cothil, Cuthel, Cuttle, etc, are located in the vicinity of prehistoric cairns, tumuli and stone circles, i.e. the kind of site at which medieval courts are known from other evidence to have met.

1 Cuthill
1a Cuthil
2 Cothall
3 Cothall
4 Glenquithle
5 Cuttyhill
6 Cuttlehill, Upper and Nether
7 Candle Stone
8 Cuttlecraigs
9 Cothill, Cothal
10 Cothill
11 Cothill
12 Cothill
13 Coldstone
14 Cuttieshillock
15 Quittlehead
16 Cuttieshillock, Cuttieswood, Ord of Cuttieshillock
17 Quithelhead
18 Quithel
19 Cothelhill
20 Cothill
21 Cuthile Harbour
22 Cuthlie
23 Culthill
24 Innercochill, Glen Cochill, Cochill Burn
25 Cuthil, Cuthilmuir
26 Coldrain
27 Cuttlehill
28 Cuthelton
29 Cuthill
30 Cuthill
31 Couthalley, Couthally, Cowthally

A *Clach na Comhalaich*
B *Cuthilfield*
C *Cuthilbyrnie Hill*
D *Cuttlebrae*
E *Cuthill, Cothill*
F *Candlehill*
G *Cothiemuir Hill, The Cothiemuir*
H *Cottilstane, Cot Hillock*
I *Colsten Burn, Glen Colsten*
J *Quitelhead*
K *Cowthill*
L *Cotthill, common moor of Cot Hill*
M *Login Cuthel*
N *Coledunes*
O *Cuthill Furd*
P *Candle Hill*
Q *Cowthill, Cowill, Cuthley, Cuthill*
R *Cothill*
S *Cuttleburn*
T *Cothil of Keithick*
U *Cuthill wood of Craigmakerran*
V *Cuthillsydes*
W *Cutles, Easter & Wester*
X *Cuthel, Cuthilmyre*
Y *Cuthill*
Z *Cutilhill, Cuidthilhill, Cuttlehill*
Aa *Cuithilhall, Cuttlehall*
Bb *Lie Cuthil*
Cc *Cuthill, Cuthil Brae*
Dd *Cuthil Brae*
Ee *Cothill*
Ff *Cuthill*
Gg *Cothill*

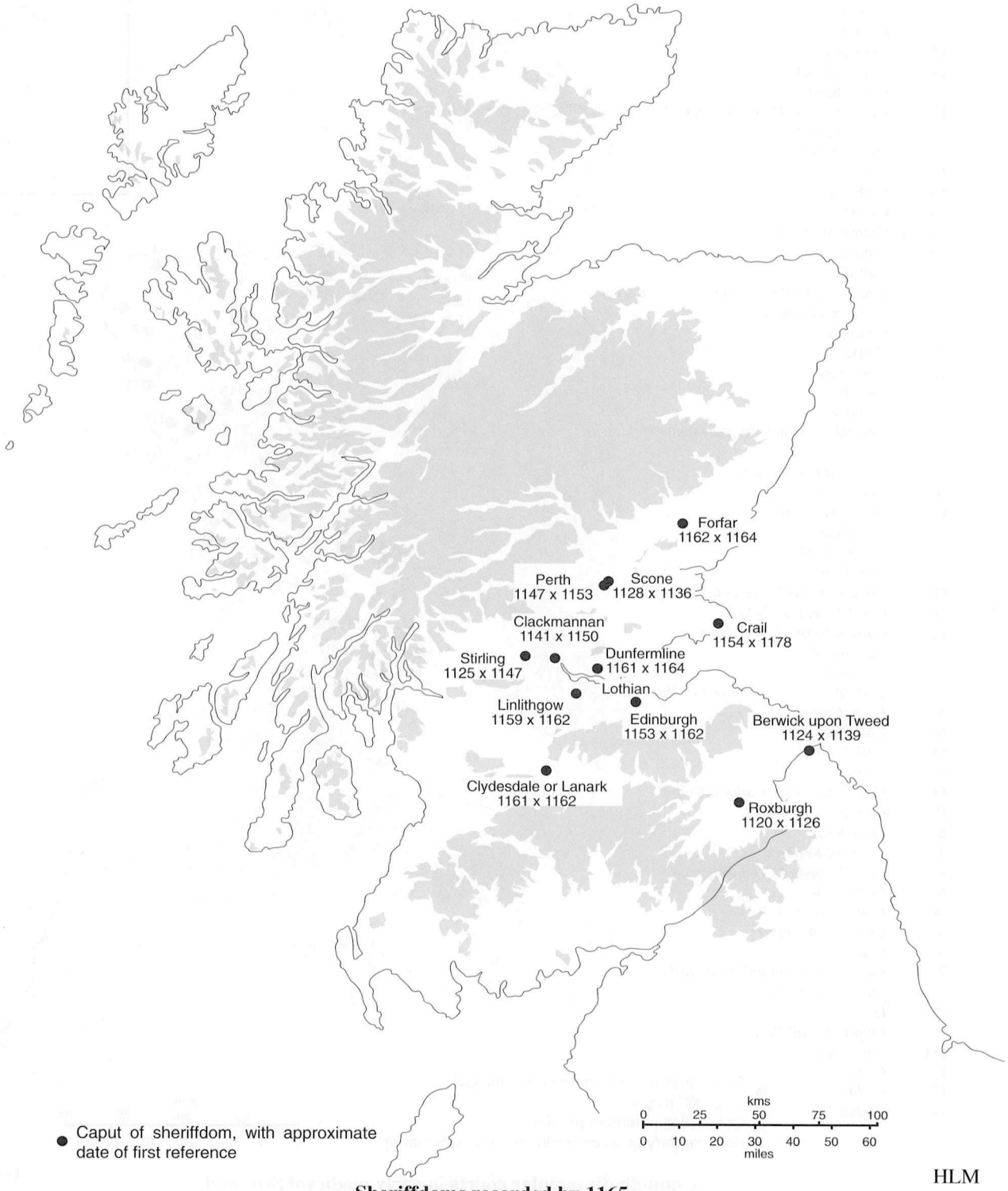


Comhdhail: popular courts in early medieval Scotland

GWSB

Sheriffdoms

The map shows those sheriffs and sheriffdoms for which there is documentary evidence before 1165, together with the approximate date of the earliest reference to them. There was a sheriff, probably connected with Roxburgh, before the accession of David I (1124-53). In his reign and that of Malcolm IV (1153-65) sheriffs were established at royal demesne centres in the south and east of Scotland. Their functions included the collection and distribution of revenues but there is no evidence of a sheriff court at this period. South of the Forth some sheriffs may be associated with royal castles and the enforcement of the obligation of castle-guard incumbent upon those holding land for knight service. The appearance of a sheriff of Lanark or Clydesdale in the reign of Malcolm IV coincides with the king's establishment of a group of Flemish settlers in the area. The sheriffs probably also had functions in connection with the king's burghs, especially north of the Forth at Perth, Crail, Dunfermline and perhaps Forfar. Although thus apparently linked with other twelfth-century developments, there are signs of continuity with the established institutions of the shire and thane. South of the Forth some early sheriffs had Anglian names and were connected with shires. The sheriff of Lothian who existed in the reign of David I may have been set over the shires of that province, with the emergence of sheriffs of Linlithgow, Edinburgh and possibly Haddington being perhaps later events. In the north, except at Perth and Crail, early sheriffs had Celtic names and at Scone and Forfar local thanes may have been elevated to the status of sheriff to compensate for the lack of comital authority in the provinces of Gowrie and Angus. Finally the absence of sheriffs from the earldoms and lordships of the north and west should be noted.



HLM

Sheriffdoms recorded by 1165

Sheriffdoms

This map shows the expansion of the sheriffs in line with the development of the feudal settlement under William I (1165-1214). Early in his reign we find a sheriff of the province of Moray which by the beginning of the thirteenth century had apparently been divided into the sheriffdoms of Inverness and Invernairn. Probably by then, there were also sheriffs of Forres, Elgin, Banff and Aberdeen but no good documentary evidence of this survives. A single document refers to the sheriffs and bailies of Carrick, Galloway and Lennox in the 1190s and it is possible that there was a sheriff of Dumfries by this period. The sheriffs of Selkirk, Traquair and Mearns were all connected principally with areas of royal forest, the sheriff of Ayr with a new castle and burgh. Some sheriffdoms disappeared: Dunfermline (where the king's burgh was also abandoned) and Crail (in the possession of the king's mother until 1178) were both subsumed in the new sheriffdom of Fife by 1214. Lauder represents a baronial sheriffdom. The functions of the royal sheriff now clearly went beyond the administration of the king's affairs to the protection of the king's subjects - for example, by the recovery of fugitive serfs or the enforcement of teinds. There is evidence of a sheriff court. More and more the sheriffs were drawn from baronial families with Anglo-French origins who were major landowners in the sheriffdom. But the office was not yet hereditary in nature; the only sheriffship certainly heritable at this period was that of Selkirk, in the family of Sinton.

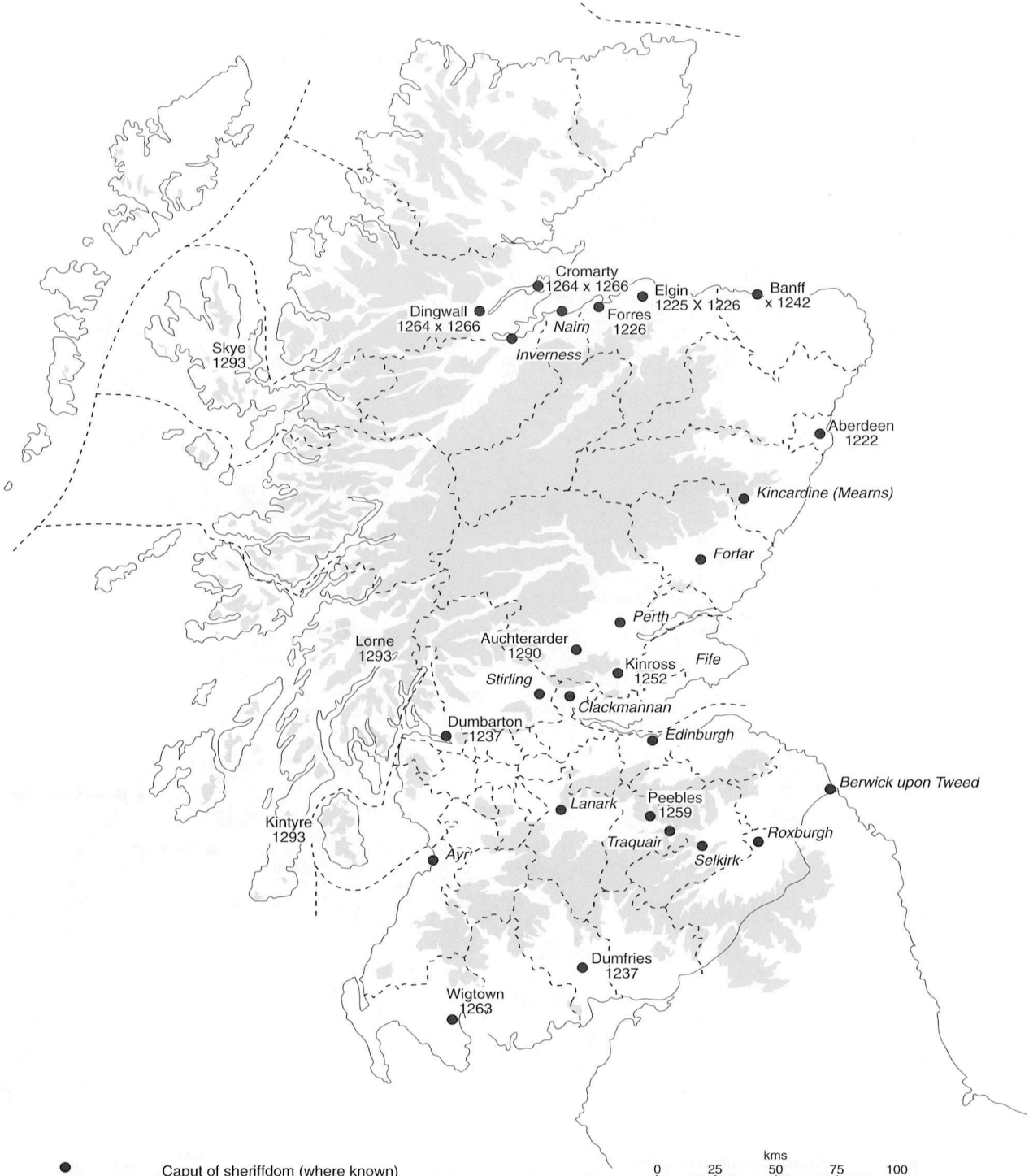


Sheriffdoms recorded by 1214

HLM

Sheriffdoms

Since it is likely that most if not all of the sheriffdoms of Dumfries, Aberdeen, Banff, Elgin and Forres were established before 1214, the map may give a misleading impression of expansion in the thirteenth century. Peebles was a development of the sheriffdom of Traquair, while Dumbarton may have evolved from the earlier sheriffdom of Lennox in association with the burgh established in 1222. Mearns became the sheriffdom of Kincardine with the erection of a royal castle there, probably by Alexander II (1214-49). Dumfries may have expanded to incorporate Galloway east of the Cree following the partition of the province in 1234, Wigtown being set up with castle and burgh at about the same time. Four new sheriffdoms - Auchterarder, Cromarty, Dingwall and Kinross - may have been elevated thanages. The sheriffdoms of Skye, Lorne and Kintyre were created by act of parliament in 1293, perhaps taking over from an earlier wardenship of the whole area.



Sheriffdoms recorded by 1300

HLM

Justice ayres in the thirteenth century

The justice or justiciar first appears in the twelfth century as a royal officer carrying out judicial and other functions. Normally there was more than one at a time; and each seems to have been asssigned a particular area of the kingdom in which to perform his duties. By early in the thirteenth century a twofold division of the justiciarship was established: Scotia in the north and Lothian in the south. There may also have been a justiciarship of Galloway in the late twelfth century, which was re-established in the mid-thirteenth century. By this period the administration of the justiciary was well settled.

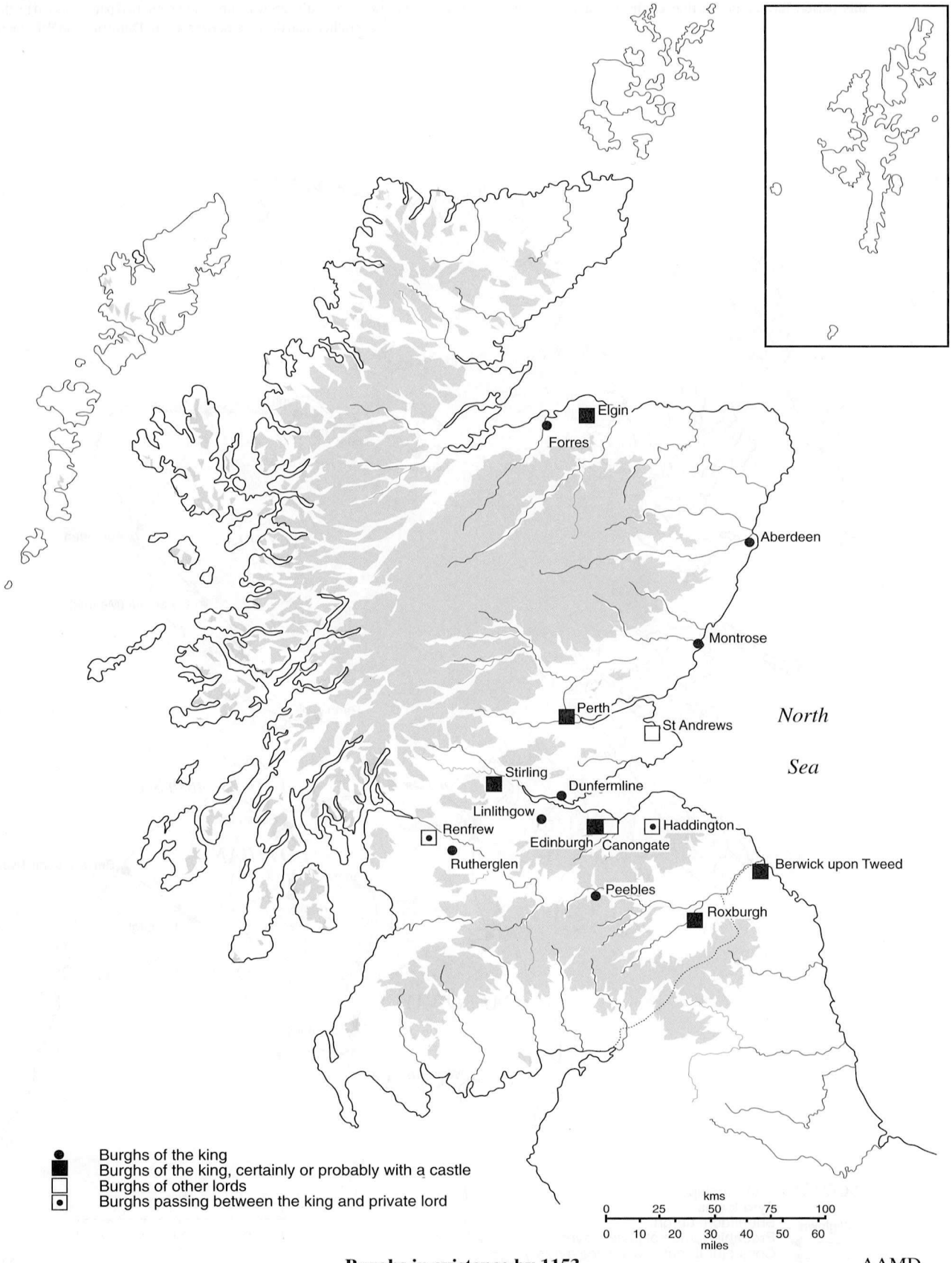
Twice a year, in the spring and winter, the justiciar (normally a high-ranking layman) went on circuit or ayre through the sheriffdoms of his region, holding courts at the head burgh of each one. These courts exercised a wide jurisdiction and the income produced from the fines and other payments consequent upon this was accounted for to the exchequer by the sheriffs. From some surviving accounts of the 1260s it is possible to reconstruct the probable routes followed by the ayres of Scotia and Lothian and this is shown on the map. In Galloway the justiciary was subdivided into two parts defined by the River Urr rather than the two sheriffdoms of Dumfries and Wigtown.



Justice ayres in the thirteenth century

Burghs to 1300

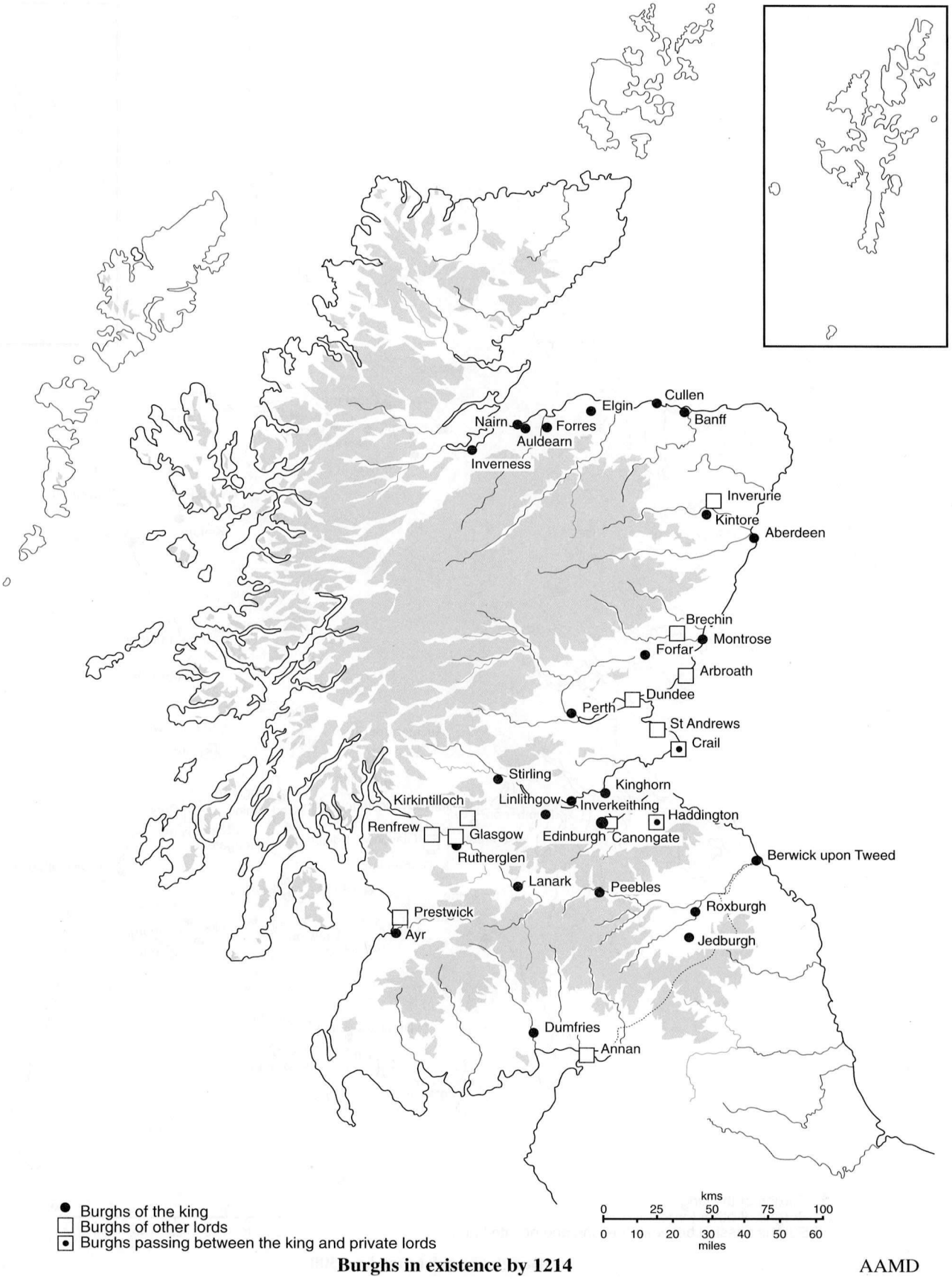
The preponderance of burghs in the east reflects the more rapid economic development of regions which had access by sea to the North Sea trading area. Towns grew up on overland livestock routes (Rutherglen, Peebles, Roxburgh), at important intersections of land and water-borne routes (Stirling, Perth), or at good river-mouth harbours (Berwick, Montrose, Aberdeen). A few places were given burgh privileges because they were important royal strongholds (Edinburgh, Stirling) or cult centre (Dunfermline). The two burghs in Moray are those most likely to represent a 'plantation' with castle to hold down a newly subdued province.



Burghs in existence by 1153 AAMD

Burghs to 1300

The most striking extension of burgh settlements is in Moray, where the town plans point to enclosed, fortified settlements with royal castles attached; Auldearn was destroyed by rebels and Nairn founded in its place. Berwick too was enclosed (because it was close to England) but only Perth had a town wall, and many burghs had only the flimsiest of enclosure for security at night. Inverness (unless it is older than we know) and Ayr are the only new ports of significance. The additional towns are for the most part regional trading centres, supplying the surrounding country with specialist trades and goods.

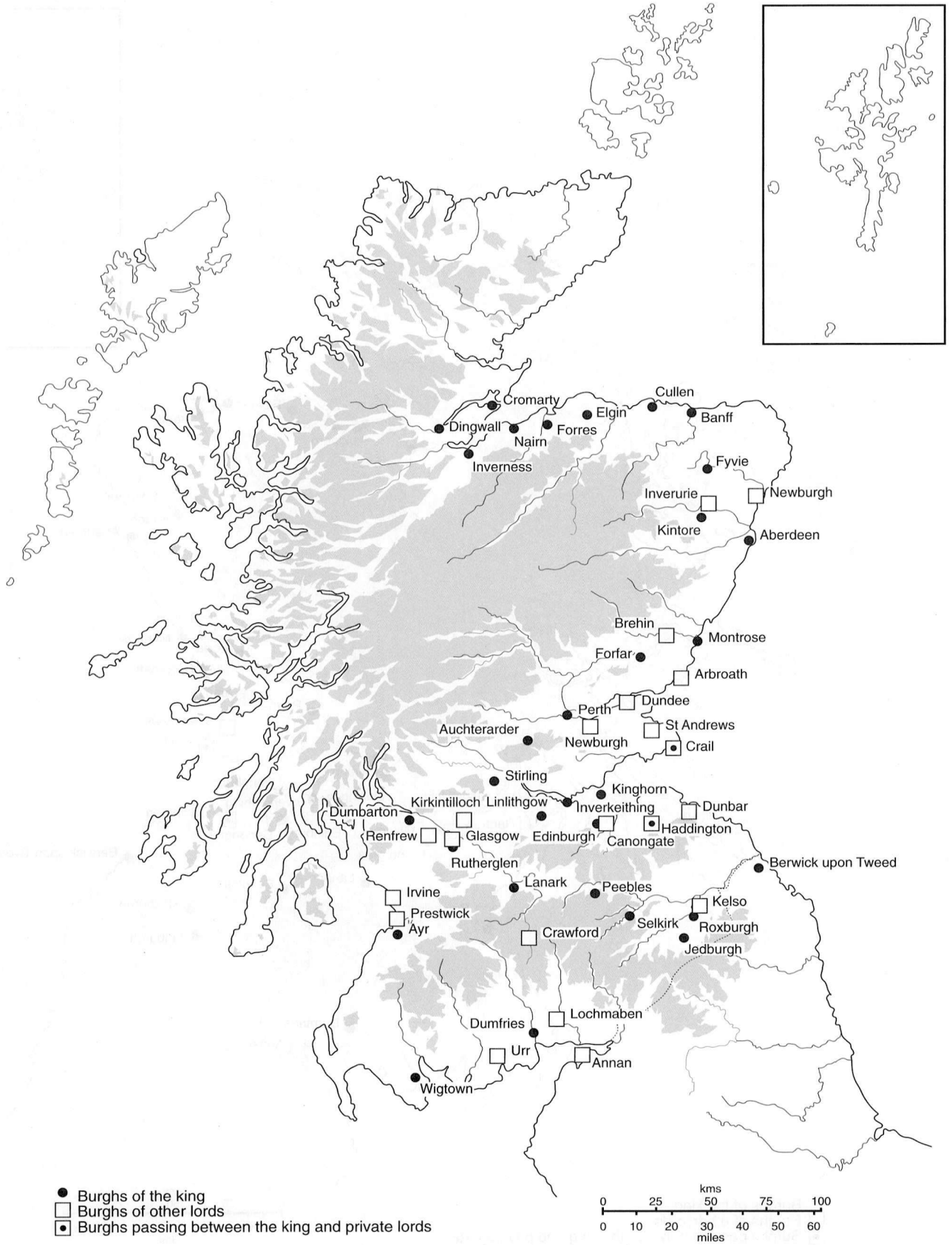


Burghs in existence by 1214

AAMD

Burghs to 1300

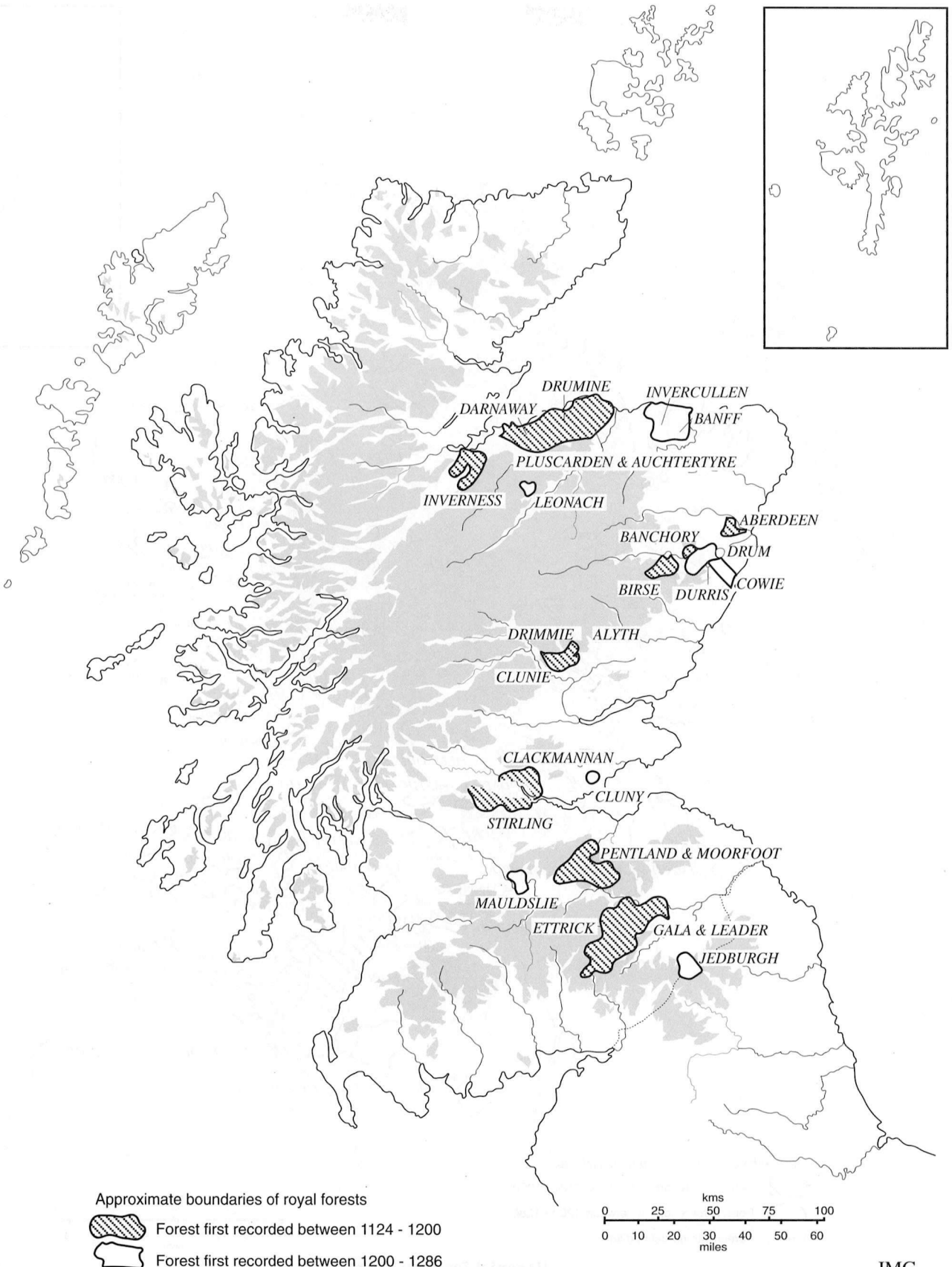
It is likely that Cromarty was established before 1214 ; Dingwall represents fairer control of Ross and Wigtown of Galloway, a lordship which was partitioned in 1235. In general the scarcity of new foundations in the thirteenth century is very remarkable, for while existing major ports (for example, Berwick) undoubtedly grew in size, the infrastructure of 'market towns' diffusing specialist wares through the country, did not increase in size, and places like, Girvan, Duns, Dalkeith, Kinross, had, it seems, no mercantile privileges.



Burghs in existence by 1300 AAMD

Forests 1124 to 1286

A royal forest was a hunting reserve in which no-one could hunt without the king's permission. David I (1124-53) introduced royal forests to Scotland, having become acquainted with the idea in England as earl of Huntingdon. The first royal forests appear to have been created in the 1130s. Most of the royal forests on the map (which shows forests first recorded between 1121 and 1286) were established by David: Ettrick (or Selkirk, as it was known to c.1300), Gala and Leader, Stirling and Clackmannan, Clunie, Birse, Banchory and Elgin, Forres and Inverness. These reserves covered large tracts of ground and in the ensuing centuries were gradually reduced in size. The boundaries of the forests shown on the map are approximate.



Royal forests 1124 to 1286

Forests 1124 to 1286

David I (1124-53) also initiated the forest grant which gave a baron forest rights enabling the beneficiary to have hunting reserves on his land and to hunt there without royal licence. In his forests the baron could exercise the same rights as the king in a royal forest. When such grants were made to ecclesiastical foundations, it was probably to ensure that their flocks of sheep were not disturbed by baronial hunting parties. In the early twelfth century several of these reserves were very large: Annandale, Eskdale, Renfrew and Cunninghame. By the thirteenth century forests created by royal grant were smaller and mainly in the north. The baron could grant concessions to his tenants or the church and had to face the problem of pressure on the other resources of the reserve. The map shows the baronial forests which were first recorded between 1124 and 1286. The boundaries shown are approximate.



Baronial forests 1124 to 1286 JMG

Baronies, lordships and earldoms in the early 15th century

The following six maps deal with Scottish baronies at the beginning of the fifteenth century (but only *lay* ones; ecclesiastical estates, which were usually held as baronies, are *not* included). 'Barony' did not then have its normal modern meaning of the lowest rank of the peerage (that derives from a different, English, usage). Instead, it was an estate held *in liberam baroniam*, with special 'baronial' powers exercised in the barony court; this disciplined the tenants, settled their disputes, heard such criminal cases as assault, theft, and accidental homicide (with convicted thieves being put to death), and enforced various kinds of national legislation. Baronies were thus significant local administrative units. Lords exercising baronial powers were known as barons. In twelfth- and thirteenth-century Scotland the terminology had been employed loosely: all tenants-in-chief of single knight's feus probably counted as barons, and their estates as baronies, which were seen as subdivisions of the sheriffdoms. But late medieval usage was more precise: from Robert I's reign on, baronies needed either specific creation or crown ratification of their existence (which was not automatic; a number of earlier 'baronies' lapsed). Now, when an estate was erected into or recognised as a 'free barony', it gained a more permanent status, and could survive as a geographical concept even if the baronial powers were not exercised, or if its lands had been divided or had escheated to the crown. A number of the baronies shown here were actually 'in abeyance', so to speak, in the early fifteenth century.

When exercised, baronial authority gave the lord considerable social status, plus considerable income from fines and forfeitures. Thus grants 'in free barony' became a significant feature of royal patronage (and not only royal: great magnates and ecclesiastical institutions also occasionally granted land *in liberam baroniam*). As a result, late medieval baronies proliferated, from some 2-300 in Robert I's reign to at least 400 by the early fifteenth century; and there were probably well over a thousand by the seventeenth century. Those seventeenth-century baronies, however, would be impossible to map: many were tiny individual pieces of land, many others combined properties scattered across numerous sheriffdoms. But that was the result of a trend beginning in the mid-fifteenth century, and around 1400 the territorial pattern is much clearer. Then, baronies did *not* contain lands in more than one sheriffdom. Also, in most cases they probably consisted of fairly compact and coherent blocks of land. Furthermore, many had the same names as parishes, and appear often to have covered much the same territory. Admittedly, baronies often contained lands in more than one parish, and parishes often contained several baronies. Nevertheless, by taking careful account of the relevant parish boundaries together with the location of the *caput*, an idea of the likely extent of each early fifteenth-century barony can be gained; this is done in in the first four maps.

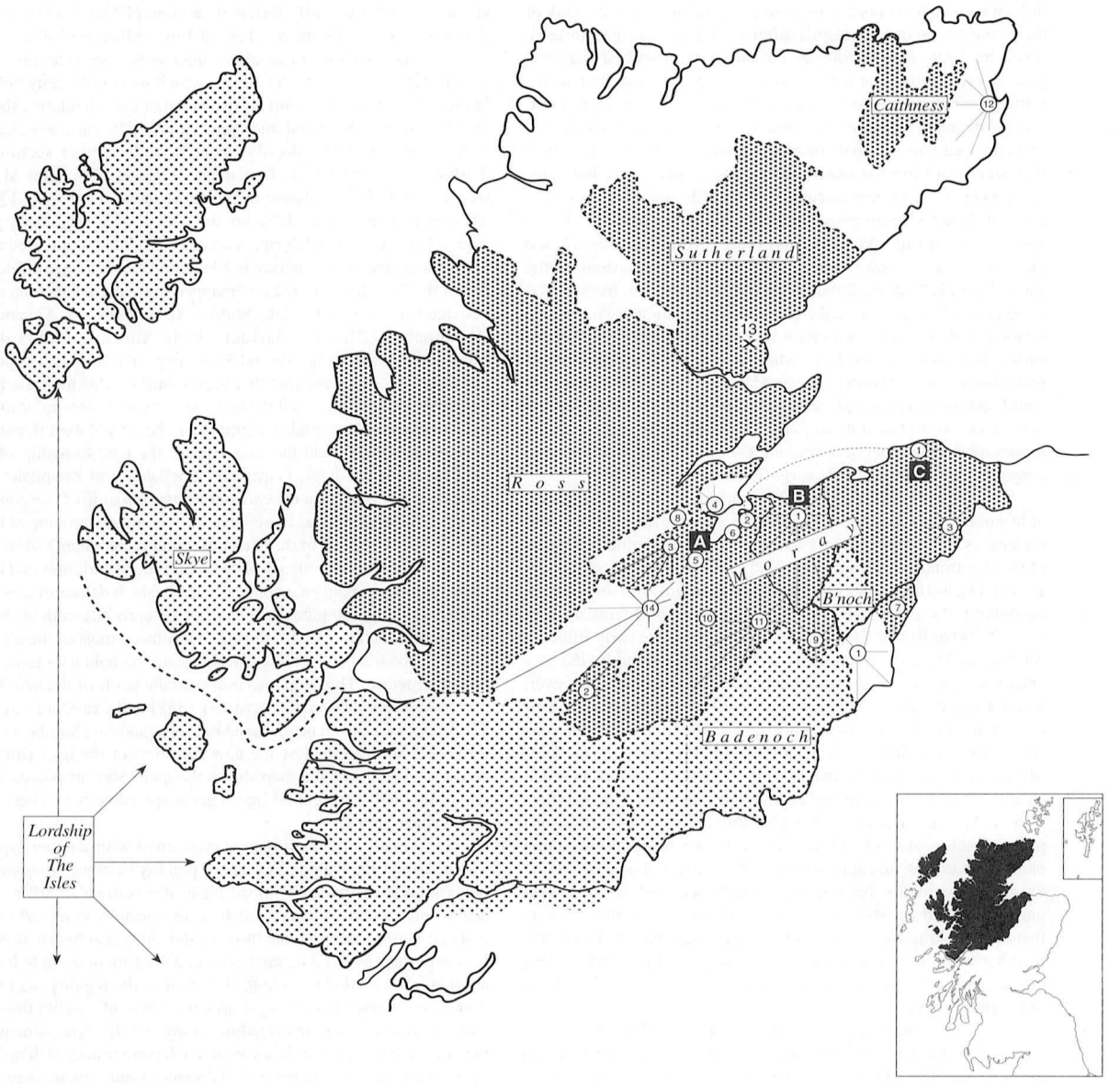
The baronies are mapped by sheriffdoms. Each barony's *caput* is normally indicated by a circle, with a number referring to the numbered lists of baronies ②. Often, lines radiate outwards from the circles [⑦], to give a rough impression of the larger baronies' lands. Where there were two separate blocks in a barony, these are linked by a dotted line; where a barony consisted of more, scattered, portions, this has been shown by locating its *caput* with a cross [✕]; neither case is common. In the lists, each barony's name is accompanied by the name (in italics) of the medieval parish containing its *caput*, and if a barony included land in two or more parishes, this is indicated by + or ++; that helps to elucidate barony-parish relationships. An asterisk [*] before a barony's name shows that it was held of an earldom or provincial lordship. With baronies in Berwickshire, however, account has been taken of the 1401 enactment that if an earldom came into crown hands, all baronies in it were to be detached and held directly of the crown; that was applied at once to the temporarily forfeited earldom of March. (This is one reason why the maps are dated about 1405, not about 1400.)

The first four maps also depict some 'superbaronies', the 'provincial' earldoms and lordships, which were invariably held *in liberam baroniam*. It should be stressed that the boundaries shown are often only conjectural and approximate. The earldoms are the thirteen old earldoms already mapped in the earlier section on 'Earldoms and "Provincial Lordships", 1124 to 1286', plus Moray (revived in 1312 and dating in the form shown here from 1372). The main changes since 1286 are the revival of Moray, the expansion of Ross, the virtual disappearance of Buchan (suppressed after 1308, but revived in token form in 1382), and the shrinkage of March. As for the "provincial lordships" mapped in the earlier section, most belonged to earls in the late Middle Ages, and ten - Annandale, Badenoch, Galloway, Garioch, Kyle Stewart, Lauderdale, Liddesdale, Lorn, Nithsdale and Skye - appear to have had a special status, indicated by the fact that their owners' titles took the form 'earl of A and lord of B' . Of the rest, the Stewarts' ancestral lordship of Renfrew, and Cunningham (granted to them by Robert I), may be considered to have had the same status; the new Lordship of the Isles accounts for Islay, Garmoran, Lochaber and Knapdale; and Strathbogie was to form the core of the later lordship of Gordon and earldom of Huntly. Thus there were thirteen likely 'provincial lordships' at the beginning of the fifteenth century; the others had lapsed.

The fifth map also deals with provincial earldoms and lordships, depicting them on a country-wide basis. It demonstrates how immensely important they still were in the early fifteenth century - but not for much longer, for during that century most of them came into the crown's hands, radically changing the country's territorial power structure. This map also indicates the lands of the new 'honorific' earldoms of Douglas (created 1358) and Crawford (created 1398); both consisted of scattered baronies and (in Douglas's case) lordships, and foreshadow the new earldoms of the later fifteenth century. In addition, the map shows the main Stewart possessions, which in 1404 were united into a great appanage for Robert III's heir, Prince James.

Finally, the sixth map is concerned with another type of 'superbarony', the regality. A grant of regality bestowed major extra powers: authority to deal with 'the pleas of the crown' (murder, rape, arson and violent robbery, which were normally reserved to the justiciar courts), and execute those found guilty; exclusive jurisdiction over the regality's tenants, so that any of them brought before another court could be 'repledged' to that of the regality; and freedom from interference by royal officers. Lords of regality thus had supreme control over their regalities, subject only to parliament and the king. Such major privileges were much more restricted than those of ordinary baronies. In the early fifteenth century there were only fifteen lords of regality, of whom several had powers confined to small areas. Others, however, held whole earldoms or provincial lordships in regality, and there were four particularly large complexes: the Stewart appanage (from 1404); the earldom of Douglas; the lands of the Douglas earl of Angus, including Liddesdale and Jedworth Forest; and the dozen baronies in southern Scotland held by James Douglas of Dalkeith, the richest lord in Scotland bar a few earls. Members of the house of Douglas thus had regality powers over a vast amount of territory. And, in general, it is striking how much of early fifteenth-century Scotland was withdrawn from the normal administrative structure because of the regalities.

AG



A: INVERNESS

1. Abernethy (*Abernethy*)
2. *Abertarff (*Abertarff*)
3. *The Aird (*Wardlaw* +)
4. Avoch (*Avoch*)
5. *Bona (*Bona*)
6. *Brachlie (*Brachlie*)
7. *Cromdale (*Cromdale*)
8. Eddirdour (*Killearnan*)
9. *Glencairnie (*Duthill*)
10. *Kirdell (*Daviot*)
11. *Strath Dearn (*Moy* +)
12. Old Wick (*Wick*)
13 *Torboll (*Dornoch*)
14 Urquhart (*Urquhart*)

B: NAIRN

1. *Nairn (*Invernairn* ++)

C: ELGIN

1. *Duffus (*Duffus*)
2. *Petty (*Petty*)
3. *Rothes (*Rothes*)

KEY TO ALL MAPS OF BARONIES ABOUT 1405

- ① — *Caput* of small barony (for numbers, see accompanying lists)
- ④ — *Caput* of larger barony, with indication of likely extent of lands
- 13 × — *Caput* of barony consisting of scattered lands
- C — *Caput* (usually) of sheriffdom or constabulary
- Boundary of sheriffdom
- Approximate boundary of provincial earldom or lordship
- Ross — Provincial earldom
- Badenoch — Provincial lordship
- Linkages between detached parts of baronies, earldoms, sheriffdoms

Baronies about 1405, (1): northern Scotland (sheriffdoms of Inverness, Nairn, Elgin) AG

Baronies, lordships & earldoms

D: BANFF

1. Aberchirder (*Aberchirder*)
2. Boharm (*Boharm*)
3. Boyne (*Inverboyndie*)
4. Deskford (*Deskford*)
5. Findlater (*Cullen*)
6. Glendowachy (*Gamrie*)
7. Inverugie (*Inverugie*)
8. Mortlach (*Mortlach*)
9. Rothiemay (*Rothiemay*)
10. Strathalvah (*Alvah*)
11. Strathavon (*Inveravon +*)
12. Troup (*Gamrie*)

Unidentified: 'Kilsaurle'

E: ABERDEEN

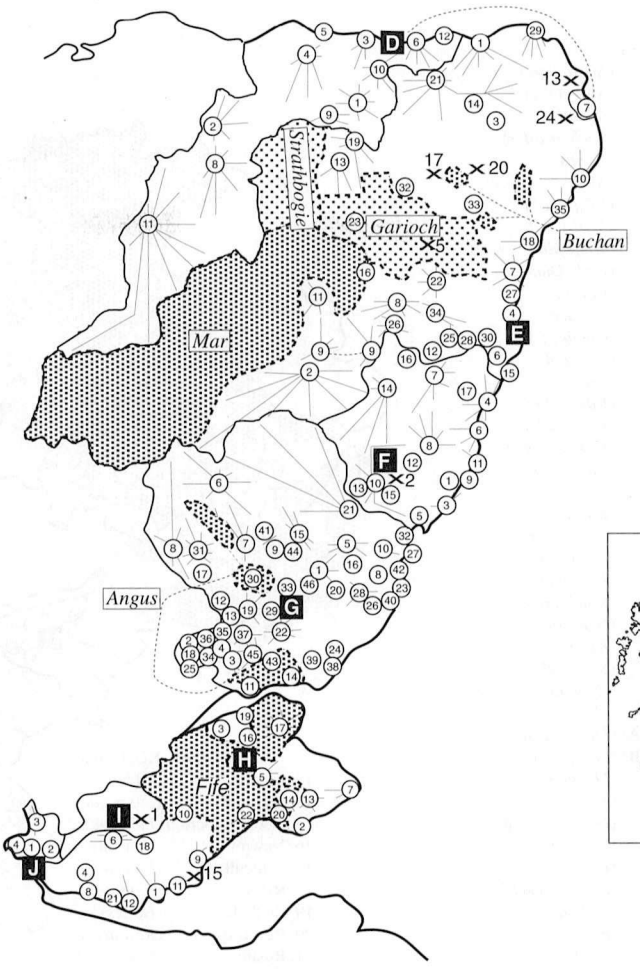
1. Aberdour (*Aberdour++*)
2. Aboyne (*Aboyne*)
3. Aden (*Deer*)
4. Balgownie (*Aberdeen St Machar*)
5. Balhalgardy (*Logie Durno ++*)
6. Banchory-Devenick (*Banchory-Devenick*)
7. Belhelvie (*Belhelvie*)
8. Cluny (*Cluny*)
9. Coull & O'Neil (*Coull, Kincardine O'Neil*)
10. Cruden (*Cruden*)
11. Cushnie (*Cushnie*)
12. Drum (*Dalmayock*)
13. Drumblade (*Drumblade*)
14. Fedderate (*Deer*)
15. Findon (*Banchory-Devenick*)
16. Forbes (*Forbes*)
17. Formartine (*Fyvie +*)
18. Foveran (*Foveran*)
19. Frendraught (*Forgue*)
20. Kellie (*Methlick ++*)
21. Kingedward (*Kingedward ++*)
22. Kintore (*Kintore*)
23. *Leslie (*Leslie*)
24. Ludquharn (*Longside ++*)
25. Little Culter (*Peterculter*)
26. Midmar (*Midmar*)
27. Monycabbo (*Aberdeen St Machar*)
28. Murtle (*Peterculter*)
29. Philorth (*Philorth*)
30. Pitfodels (*Banchory-Devenick*)
31. Rattray (*Crimond ++*)
32. Rothienorman (*Fyvie*)
33. Shivas (*Tarves*)
34. Skene (*Skene*)
35. Slains (*Slains*)

F: KINCARDINE

1. Allardyce (*Arbuthnot*)
2. Balmaleedie (*Aberlethnot/Marykirk*)
3. Benholm (*Benholm*)
4. Cowie (*Fetteresso*)
5. Craigie (*Ecclesgreig*)
6. Dunottar (*Dunottar*)
7. Durris (*Durris*)
8. Glenbervie (*Glenbervie*)
9. Inverbervie (*Kinneff*)
10. Kincardine (*Fordoun ++*)
11. Kinneff (*Kinneff*)
12. Mondyness (*Fordoun*)
13. Newdosk (*Newdosk*)
14. Strachan (*Strachan*)
15. Thornton (*Aberlethnott/Marykirk*)
16. Tullibole (*Banchory-Ternan*)
17. Urie (*Fetteresso*)

G: FORFAR

1. Aberlemno (*Aberlemno*)
2. Ardler (*Kettins*)
3. Auchterhouse (*Auchterhouse*)
4. Auchtertyre (*Newtyle*)
5. Brechin (*Brechin*)
6. Clova (*Clova*)
7. Cortachy (*Cortachy*)
8. Craig & Glenisla (*Inchbrayock/Craig, Glenisla*)
9. Downie (*Tannadice*)
10. Dun (*Dun*)





(FORFAR, contd.)

11. Dundee (*Dundee*)
12. Earl's Ruthven (*Ruthven*)
13. Eassie (*Eassie*)
14. *Ethiebeaton (*Monifieth*)
15. Fern (*Fern*)
16. Fethies (*Farnell*)
17. Formal (*Lintrathen*)
18. Gask (*Kettins*)
19. Glamis (*Glamis*)
20. Guthrie (*Guthrie*)
21. Glenesk (*Edzell*)
22. Inverarity (*Inverarity*)
23. Inverlunan (*Lunan*)
24. Kellie (*Abirlot*)
25. Kettins (*Kettins*)
26. Kinblethmont (*Inverkeillor*)
27. Kinnaber (*Montrose*)
28. Kinnell (*Kinnell*)
29. Kinnetles (*Kinnetles*)
30. *Kirriemuir (*Kirriemuir+*)
31. Lintrathen (*Lintrathen*)
32. Logie (*Logie Montrose*)
33. Lour (*Restennet*)
34. Lundie (*Lundie*)
35. Nevay (*Nevay*)
36. Newtyle (*Newtyle*)
37. Ogilvie (*Glamis*)
38. Panbride (*Panbride*)
39. Panmure (*Panbride*)
40. Red Castle (*Inverkeillor*)
41. Reddie (*Tannadice*)
42. Rossie (*Inchbrayock*)
43. *Strathdichty (*Mains/Strathdichty*)
44. Tannadice (*Tannadice*)
45. Tealing (*Tealing*)
46. Turin (*Rescobie*)

Unidentified: 'Galloweald', 'Murlettre'

H: FIFE

1. Aberdour (*Aberdour*)
2. Ardross (*Kilconquhar*)
3. Ballenbreich (*Flisk*)
4. Carnock (*Carnock*)
5. Ceres (*Ceres*)
6. Cleish (*Cleish*)
7. Crail (*Crail*)
8. Crombie (*Crombie*)
9. Dysart (*Dysart*)
10. Fithkill (*Leslie/Fithkill*)
11. Glassmount (*Kinghorn*)
12. Inverkeithing (*Inverkeithing*)
13. Kellie (*Carnbee/Kellie*)
14. Kilbrakmont (*Kilconquhar*)
15. Kinghorn (*Kinghorn ++*)
16. Kinnear (*Kilmany?*)
17. Leuchars (*Leuchars*)
18. Lochore (*Ballingry*)
19. Naughton (*Balmerino*)
20. *Reres (*Kilconquhar*)
21. Rosyth (*Rosyth*)
22. *Scoonie (*Scoonie*)

Unidentified: 'Pitconnochie'

I: KINROSS

1. Lochleven

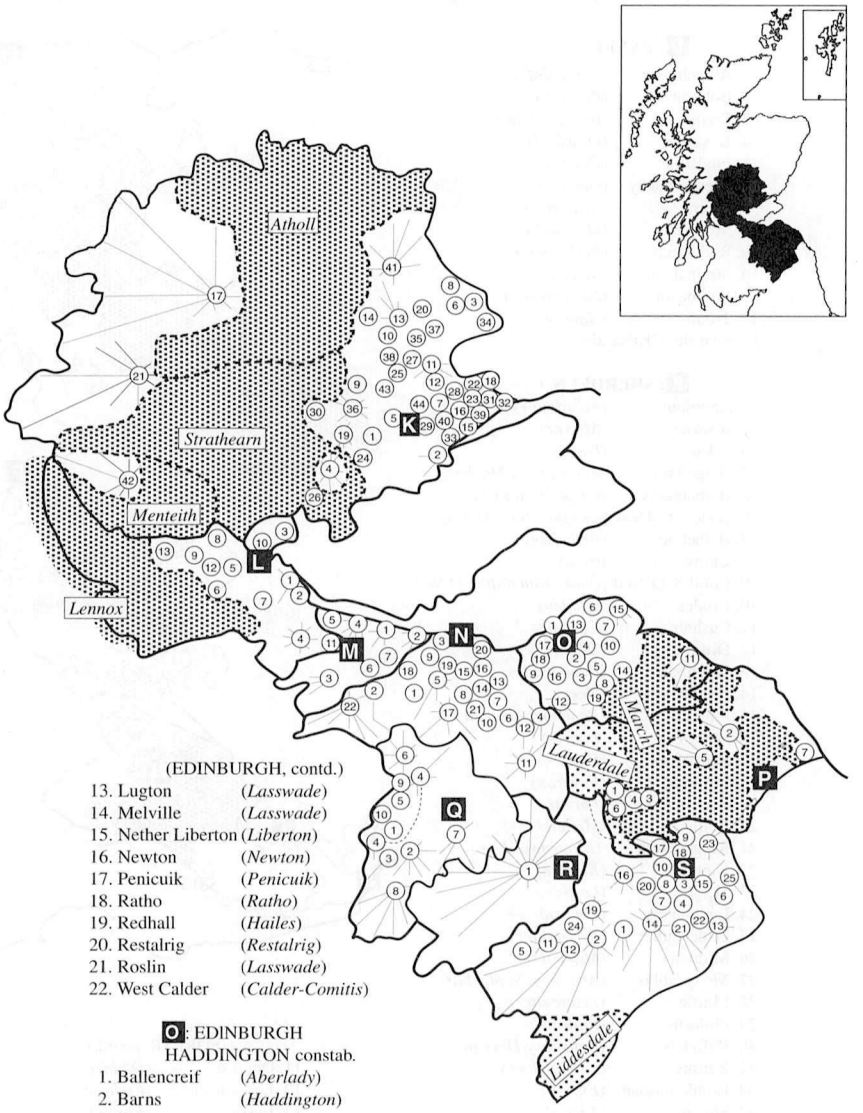
J: CLACKMANNAN

1. Alloa (*Alloa*)
2. Clackmannan (*Clackmannan*)
3. Tillycoultry (*Tillycoultry*)
4. Tullibody (*Tullibody*)

Unidentified: 'Schenbothy'

Baronies about 1405, (2): eastern Scotland AG
(sheriffdoms of Banff, Aberdeen, Kincardine, Forfar, Fife, Kinross, Clackmannan)

Baronies, lordships & earldoms



K: PERTH

1. Aberdalgie (*Aberdalgie*)
2. Abernethy (*Abernethy*)
3. Alyth (*Alyth*)
4. Auchterarder (*Auchterarder*)
5. Balhousie (*Perth*)
6. Balindoch (*Alyth*)
7. Baltrody (*Kilspindie*)
8. Bamff (*Alyth*)
9. Cairnie (*Moneydie*)
10. Caputh (*Little Dunkeld*)
11. Cargill (*Cargill*)
12. Collace (*Collace*)
13. Clunie (*Clunie*)
14. Easter Cardney (*Dunkeld*)
15. Errol (*Errol*)
16. Fingask (*Kilspindie*)
17. Fortingall (*Fortingall*)
18. Fowlis (*Fowlis Easter*)
19. Gask (*Findogask*)
20. Glasclune (*Lundeiff*)
21. Glen Dochart (*Killin*)
22. Inchmartin (*Inchmartin*)
23. Inchture (*Inchture*)
24. Invermay (*Forteviot*)
25. Kercock (*Kinclaven*)
26. *Kincardine (*Blackford*)
27. Kinclaven (*Kinclaven*)
28. Kinnaird (*Kinnaird*)
29. Kinnoul (*Kinnoul*)
30. Logie (*Monzie*)
31. Longforgan (A) (*Longforgan*)
32. Longforgan (B) (*Longforgan*)
33. Megginch (*Megginch*)
34. Meigle (*Meigle*)
35. Meikleour (*Little Dunkeld*)
36. Methven (*Methven*)
37. Muirton (*Blairgowrie*)
38. Murthly (*Little Dunkeld*)
39. Powgavie (*Inchture*)
40. Rait (*Rait*)
41. Strathardle (*Strathardle*)
42. Strath Gartney (*Aberfoyle*)
43. Strathord (*Auchtergaven*)
44. Tarsappie (*Perth*)

L: STIRLING

1. Airth (*Airth*)
2. Airthbisset (*Airth*)
3. Alva (*Alva*)
4. Callendar (*Falkirk*)
5. Cambusbarron (*St Ninians*)
6. Dundaff (*St Ninians*)
7. Herbertshire (*Dunipace/Herbertshire*)
8. Kincardine (*Kincardine*)
9. Leckie (*St Ninians*)
10. Logie Airthrey (*Logie Atheron*)
11. Manuel (*Falkirk*)
12. Touchfraser (*St Ninians*)
13. West Kerse (*Kippen*)

M: EDINBURGH: LINLITHGOW constab.

1. Abercorn (*Abercorn*)
2. Barnbougle (*Dalmeny/Barnbougle*)
3. Bathgate (*Bathgate*)
4. Carriden (*Carriden*)
5. Kinneil (*Kinneil*)
6. Strathbrock (*Strathbrock*)
7. Winchburgh (*Kirkliston*)

N: EDINBURGH

1. Balerno (*Currie*)
2. Calderclere & Kingscavil (*Calder-Clere+*)
4. Crichton (*Cramond*)
5. Currie (Long Hemmiston) (*Currie*)
6. Dalhousie (*Cockpen/Dalhousie*)
7. Dalkeith (*Lasswade*)
8. Glencorse (*Lasswade*)
9. Gogar (*Gogar*)
10. Gorton (*Lasswade*)
11. Heriot (*Heriot +*)
12. Loquhariot (*Borthwick/Loquhariot*)

(EDINBURGH, contd.)

13. Lugton (*Lasswade*)
14. Melville (*Lasswade*)
15. Nether Liberton (*Liberton*)
16. Newton (*Newton*)
17. Penicuik (*Penicuik*)
18. Ratho (*Ratho*)
19. Redhall (*Hailes*)
20. Restalrig (*Restalrig*)
21. Roslin (*Lasswade*)
22. West Calder (*Calder-Comitis*)

O: EDINBURGH HADDINGTON constab.

1. Ballencreif (*Aberlady*)
2. Barns (*Haddington*)
3. Bolton (*Bolton*)
4. Byres (*Haddington*)
5. Coulston (*Haddington*)
6. Dirleton (*Dirleton*)
7. Drem (*Haddington*)
8. Duncanlaw (*Yester*)
9. Elphinstone (*Tranent*)
10. Garleton (*Athelstanford*)
11. Innerwick (*Innerwick*)
12. Keith (*Keith*)
13. Luffness (*Aberlady*)
14. Morham (*Morham*)
15. North Berwick (*North Berwick*)
16. Pencaitland (*Pencaitland*)
17. Seton (*Tranent*)
18. Tranent (*Tranent*)
19. Yester (*Yester*)

P: BERWICK

1. Boon (*Legerwood*)
2. Bunkle (*Bunkle +*)
3. Gordon (*Gordon*)
4. Huntly (*Cordon*)
5. Langton (*Langton*)
6. Legerwood (*Legerwood*)
7. Mordington (*Mordington*)

Q: PEEBLES

1. Broughton (*Stobo*)
2. Drummelzier (*Stobo*)
3. Glenholm (*Glenholm*)
4. Kilbucho & Newlands (*Kilbucho+*)
5. Kirkurd (*Kirkurd*)
6. Linton Roderick (*Linton Roderick*)
7. Manor (*Manor*)

(PEEBLES, contd.)

8. Oliver Castle (*Stobo*)
9. Romanno (*Newlands*)
10. Skirling (*Skirling*)

R: SELKIRK

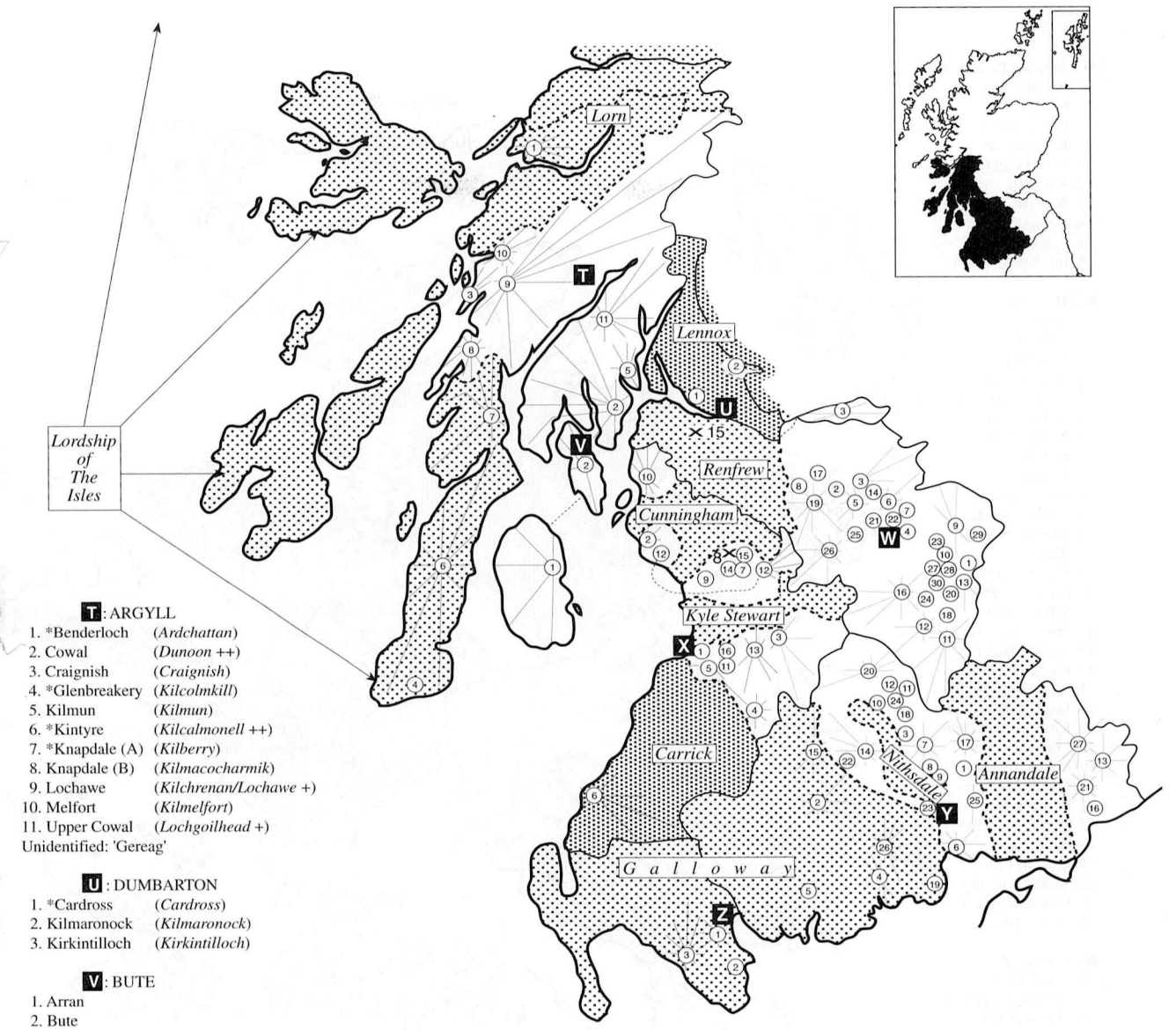
1. Selkirk (*Selkirk ++*)

S: ROXBURGH

1. Bedrule (*Bedrule*)
2. Cavers (*Cavers*)
3. Caverton (*Eckford*)
4. Cessford (*Eckford*)
5. Chamberlain Newton (*Hawick*)
6. Clifton (*Morebattle*)
7. Crailing (*Crailing*)
8. Eckford (*Eckford*)
9. Ednam (*Ednam*)
10. Fairnington (*Fairnington*)
11. Hassendean (*Hassendean*)
12. Hawick (*Hawick*)
13. Hownam (*Hownam*)
14. Jedburgh (*Jedburgh ++*)
15. Linton (*Linton*)
16. Longnewton & Maxton (*Maxton*)
17. Makerston (*Makerston*)
18. Maxwell (*Maxwell*)
19. Minto (*Minto*)
20. Nisbet (*Crailling*)
21. Oxnam (*Oxnam*)
22. Plenderleith (*Oxnam*)
23. Sprouston (*Sprouston*)
24. Wilton (*Wilton*)
25. Yetholm (*Yetholm*)

Baronies about 1405, (3): central and south-eastern Scotland AG
(sheriffdoms of Perth, Stirling, Edinburgh, Berwick, Peebles, Selkirk, Roxburgh)

Baronies, lordships & earldoms



T: ARGYLL

1. *Benderloch (*Ardchattan*)
2. Cowal (*Dunoon* ++)
3. Craignish (*Craignish*)
4. *Glenbreakery (*Kilcolmkill*)
5. Kilmun (*Kilmun*)
6. *Kintyre (*Kilcalmonell* ++)
7. *Knapdale (A) (*Kilberry*)
8. Knapdale (B) (*Kilmacocharmik*)
9. Lochawe (*Kilchrenan/Lochawe* +)
10. Melfort (*Kilmelfort*)
11. Upper Cowal (*Lochgoilhead* +)

Unidentified: 'Gereag'

U: DUMBARTON

1. *Cardross (*Cardross*)
2. Kilmaronock (*Kilmaronock*)
3. Kirkintilloch (*Kirkintilloch*)

V: BUTE

1. Arran
2. Bute

W: LANARK

1. Biggar (*Biggar*)
2. Blantyre (*Blantyre*)
3. Bothwell (*Bothwell*)
4. Braidwood (*Carluke*)
5. Cadzow (*Cadzow*)
6. Cambusnethan (*Cambusnthan*)
7. Carluke (*Carluke*)
8. Carmunnock (*Carmunock*)
9. Carnwath (*Carnwath* +)
10. Covington (*Covington*)
11. Crawford (*Crawford*)
12. Crawfordjohn (*Crawfordjohn*)
13. Coulter (*Culter*)
14. Dalziel (*Dalziel*)
15. *Dennistoun (*Kilmalcolm*)
16. Douglas (*Douglas* +)
17. Drumsargard (*Camuslang/Drumsargard*)
18. Hartside (*Hartside*)
19. Kilbride (*Kilbride*)
20. Lamington (*Lamington*)
21. Machan (*Machan*)
22. Mauldslie (*Carluke*)
23. Pettinain (*Pettinain*)
24. Roberton (*Roberton*)
25. Stonehouse (*Stonehouse*)
26. Strathaven (*Strathaven*)
27. Symington (*Symington*)
28. Thankerton (*Thankerton*)
29. Walston (*Walston*)
30. Wiston (*Wiston*)

X: AYR

1. Alloway (*Alloway*)
2. Ardrossan (*Ardrossan*)
3. Cumnock (*Cumnock*)
4. Dalmellington (*Dalmellington*)
5. Dalrymple (*Dalrymple*)
6. *Glenstinchar (*Colmonell*)
7. Grougar (*Kilmarnock*)
8. Kilmarnock (*Kilmarnock*)
9. Kilmaurs (*Kilmaurs*)
10. Largs (*Largs*)
11. Lochmartnaham (*Coylton*)
12. Loudon (*Loudon* +)
13. Ochiltree (*Ochiltree*)
14. Pokelly (*Kilmarnock*)
15. Rowallan (*Kilmarnock*)
16. Sundrum (*Coylton*)

Y: DUMFRIES

1. Amisfield (*Tinwald*)
2. *Balmaclellan (*Balmaclellan*)
3. Barburgh (*Dalgarno*)
4. *Buittle (*Buittle*)
5. *Cally (*Girthon*)
6. Carlaverock (*Carlaverock*)
7. Closeburn (*Closeburn*)
8. Dalswinton (A) (*Kirkmahoe*)
9. Dalswinton (B) (*Kirkmahoe*)

(DUMFRIES, contd.)

10. Drumlanrig (*Durisdeer*)
11. Durisdeer (*Durisdeer*)
12. Enoch (*Durisdeer*)
13. Ewesdale (*Ewes*)
14. Glencairn (*Glencairn*)
15. *Glenken (*Dalry*)
16. Kirkandrews (*Kirkandrews*)
17. Kirkmichael (*Kirkmichael*)
18. Morton (*Morton*)
19. *Preston (*Kirkbean*)
20. Sanquhar (*Sanquhar*)
21. Staplegordon (*Staplegordon*)
22. Snade (*Glencairn*)
23. Terregles (*Terregles*)
24. Tibbers (*Durisdeer*)
25. Torthorwald (*Torthorwald*)
26. *Urr (*Urr*)
27. Westerkirk (*Westerkirk*)

Unidentified: 'Malarnock', *'New Forest'

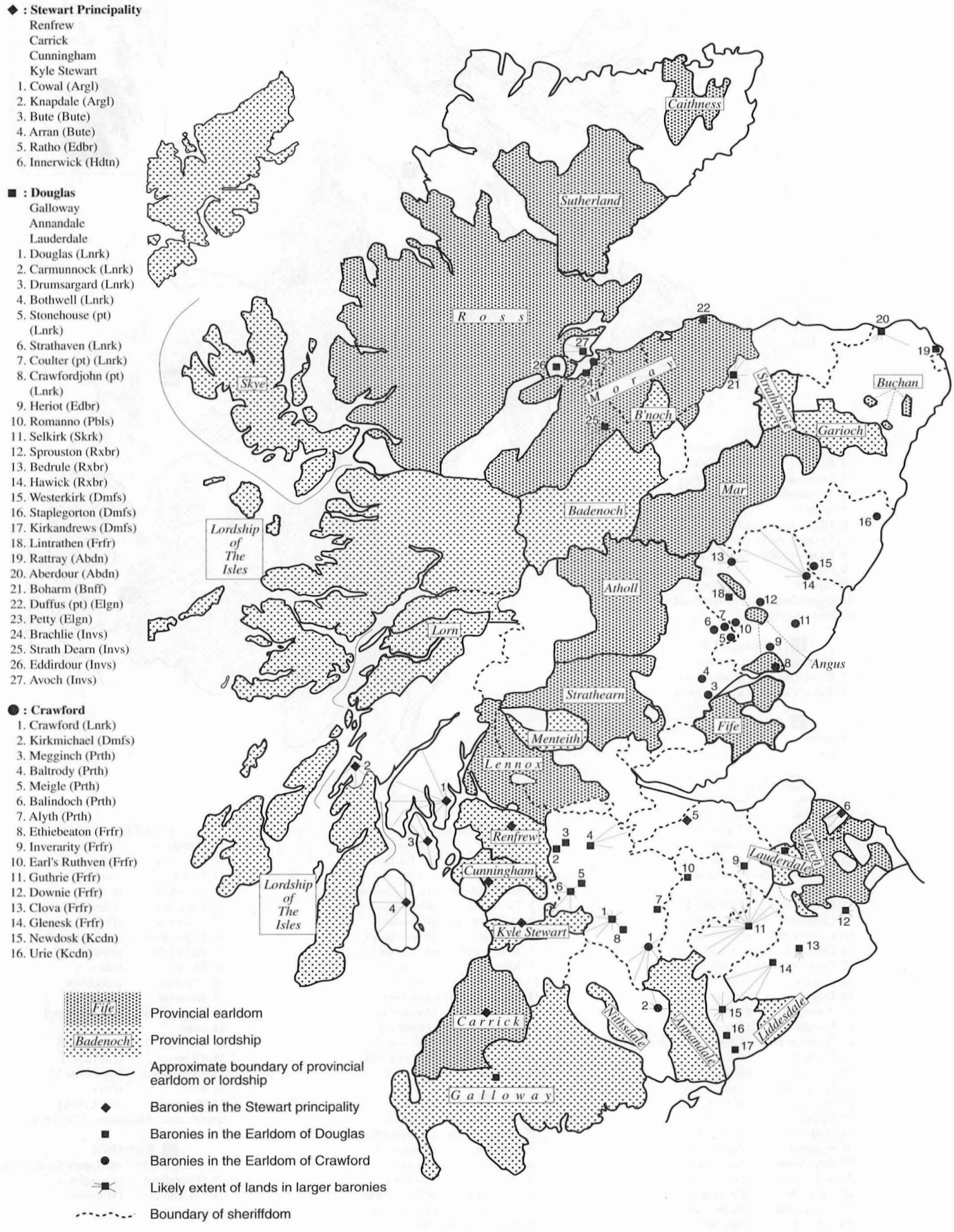
Z: WIGTOWN

1. *Carnesmole (*Kirkinner/Carnesmole*)
2. *Cruggleton (*Cruggleton*)
3. *Mochrum (*Mochrum*)

Baronies about 1405, (4): south-western Scotland
(sheriffdoms of Argyll, Dumbarton, Bute, Lanark, Ayr, Dumfries, Wigtown)

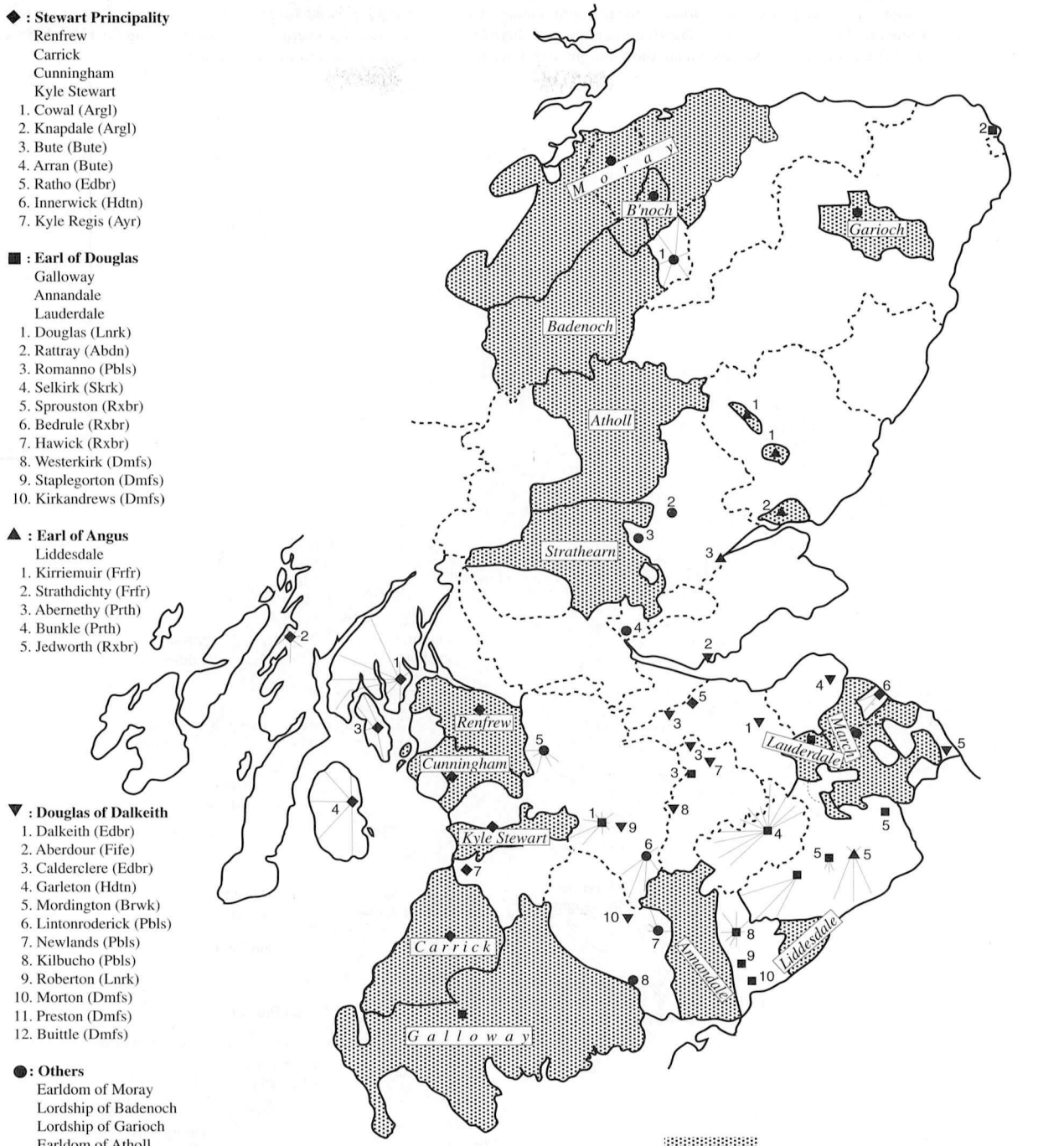
AG

Baronies, lordships & earldoms



Earldoms and lordships about 1405 AG

Baronies, lordships & earldoms



◆ : **Stewart Principality**
Renfrew
Carrick
Cunningham
Kyle Stewart
1. Cowal (Argl)
2. Knapdale (Argl)
3. Bute (Bute)
4. Arran (Bute)
5. Ratho (Edbr)
6. Innerwick (Hdtn)
7. Kyle Regis (Ayr)

■ : **Earl of Douglas**
Galloway
Annandale
Lauderdale
1. Douglas (Lnrk)
2. Rattray (Abdn)
3. Romanno (Pbls)
4. Selkirk (Skrk)
5. Sprouston (Rxbr)
6. Bedrule (Rxbr)
7. Hawick (Rxbr)
8. Westerkirk (Dmfs)
9. Staplegorton (Dmfs)
10. Kirkandrews (Dmfs)

▲ : **Earl of Angus**
Liddesdale
1. Kirriemuir (Frfr)
2. Strathdichty (Frfr)
3. Abernethy (Prth)
4. Bunkle (Prth)
5. Jedworth (Rxbr)

▼ : **Douglas of Dalkeith**
1. Dalkeith (Edbr)
2. Aberdour (Fife)
3. Calderclere (Edbr)
4. Garleton (Hdtn)
5. Mordington (Brwk)
6. Lintonroderick (Pbls)
7. Newlands (Pbls)
8. Kilbucho (Pbls)
9. Roberton (Lnrk)
10. Morton (Dmfs)
11. Preston (Dmfs)
12. Buittle (Dmfs)

● : **Others**
Earldom of Moray
Lordship of Badenoch
Lordship of Garioch
Earldom of Atholl
Earldom of Strathearn
Earldom of March
1. Abernethy (Invs):
Lord of Badenoch
2. Strathord (Prth):
Duke of Albany
3. Logie (Prth):
Logie of that ilk
4. Alloa (Ckmm):
Erskine of that Ilk
5. Kilbride (Lnrk):
Stewart of Kilbride
6. Crawford (Lnrk):
Earl of Crawford
7. Kirkmichael (Dmfs):
Earl of Crawford
8. Terregles (Dmfs)
Herries of Terregles

Regalities about 1405

AG

Sheriffs, stewards and bailies

This sequence of maps shows first the relatively slight development of sheriffdoms in the later Middle Ages. The sheriffdom of Argyll emerges in the reign of Robert I (1306-29), Bute later in the fourteenth century. Renfrew was separated from Lanark about 1414. Linlithgow appears to have evolved from a constabulary of Edinburgh into an independent sheriffdom in the fifteenth century, while Elgin and Forres were merged. The first reference to a sheriffdom of Tarbert is in 1481. Not shown are those burghs which received grants of shrieval jurisdiction during the period. A significant development resulted from forfeitures of large regalities, which led to their administration coming under royal authority as stewartries distinct from neighbouring sheriffdoms - Menteith, Strathearn, Annandale and Kirkcudbright. The final point illustrated by the maps is the holders of the offices of sheriff, steward and bailie, based on the sets of sheriffs' accounts surviving for 1359, 1455 and 1501, supplemented from other sources.



HLM

Sheriffs, stewards and bailies about 1360

Sheriffs, stewards and bailies



Sheriffs, stewards and bailies about 1455 HLM

Sheriffs, stewards and bailies



Sheriffs, stewards and bailies about 1501 HLM

Justice ayres in the fifteenth century

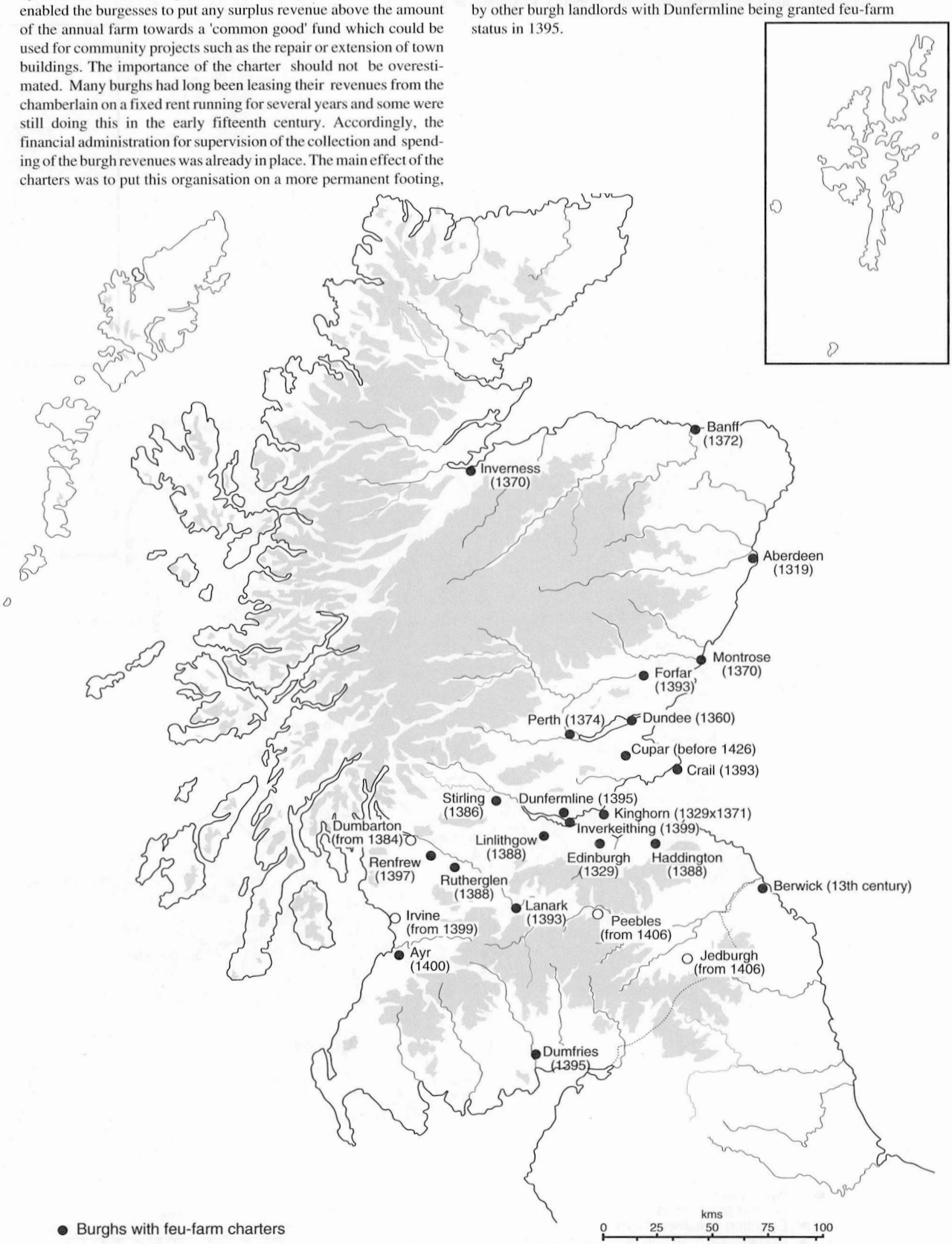
This map illustrates the circuits of the fifteenth-century justiciars as they may be deduced from a variety of sources. There is little change from the thirteenth century save that the justiciary of Galloway was not revived by Robert I (1306-20). Instead it was subsumed within the justiciary of Lothian, which was renamed the justiciary south of Forth at the end of David II's reign. The justiciary of Scotia had already become the justiciary north of Forth. Some of the ayre towns changed: Lauder replaced Berwick and Jedburgh Roxburgh, as a result of English occupation, while the ayre of Angus was held sometimes in Forfar, sometimes in Dundee. Some sheriffdoms do not seem to have received ayre visitations, notably Argyll, where local lieutenants were sometimes given justiciary powers. In theory, the ayres were still held twice a year and they were held more often than has usually been held by historians. The ayres were also supplemented by ad hoc commissions of justiciary.



Justice ayres in the fifteenth century HLM

Burghs 1426 to 1550

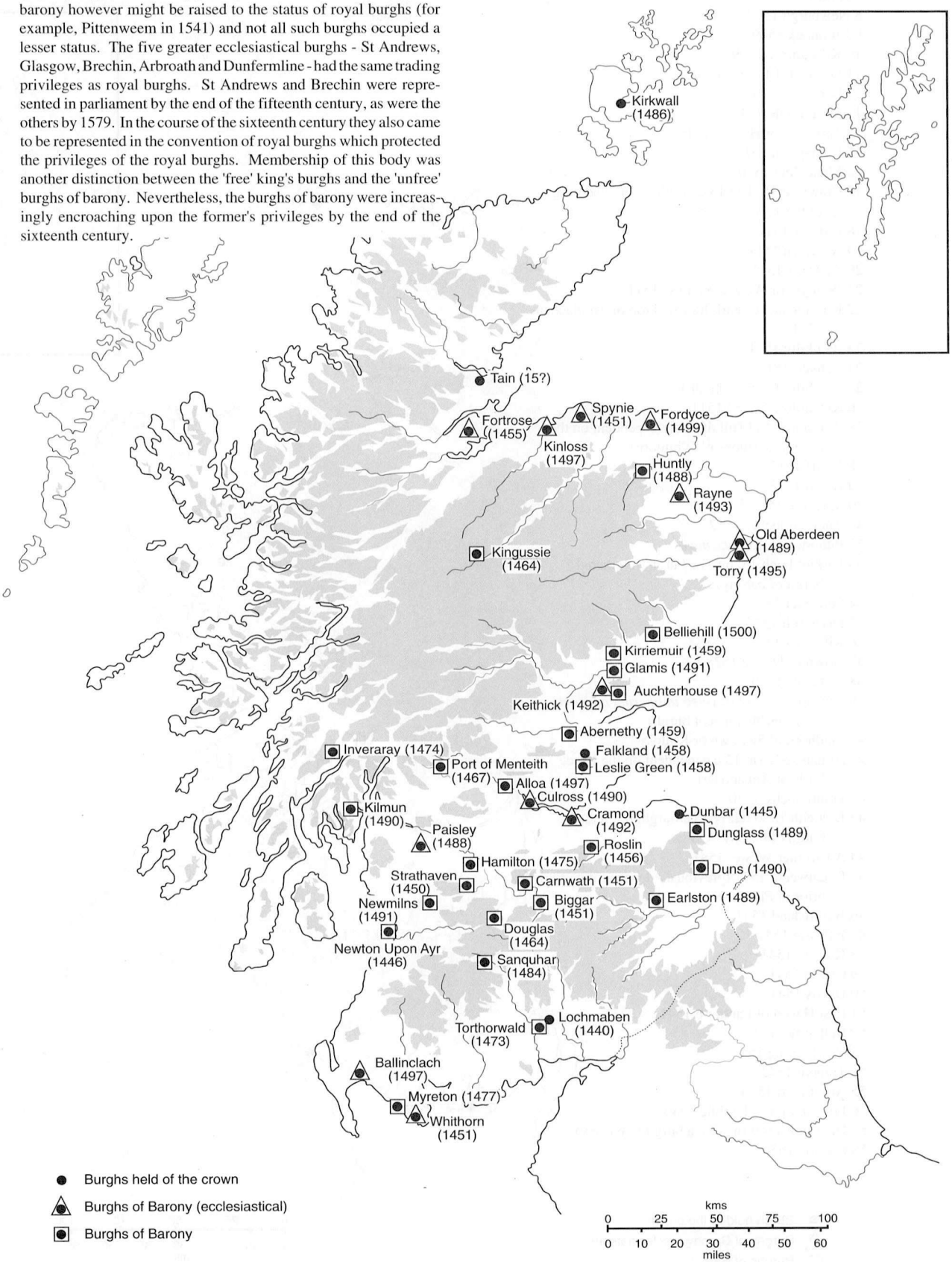
The first burgh to receive a feu-farm (feu-ferme) charter was Berwick sometime in the second half of the thirteenth century. The grant had to be renewed twice subsequently after the burgh had been recovered from English control. Aberdeen was the first burgh to receive a feu-farm charter which remained permanently in force. This was in 1319; similar grants to other burghs soon followed so that by 1425 at least 22 burghs had feu-farm charters. The privilege enabled the burgesses to put any surplus revenue above the amount of the annual farm towards a 'common good' fund which could be used for community projects such as the repair or extension of town buildings. The importance of the charter should not be overestimated. Many burghs had long been leasing their revenues from the chamberlain on a fixed rent running for several years and some were still doing this in the early fifteenth century. Accordingly, the financial administration for supervision of the collection and spending of the burgh revenues was already in place. The main effect of the charters was to put this organisation on a more permanent footing, although they were probably also seen as a mark of status and indicate the crown's recognition of the burghs' increasing economic (and political?) inportance. All but three or four were granted after 1357 when the question of David II's ransom brought the burgesses to new prominence and parliamentary representation of the burghs became a permanent feature of central government. Although the charters were largely restricted to royal burghs the idea was copied by other burgh landlords with Dunfermline being granted feu-farm status in 1395.



Burghs with feu-farm status by 1426 EE

Burghs 1426 to 1550

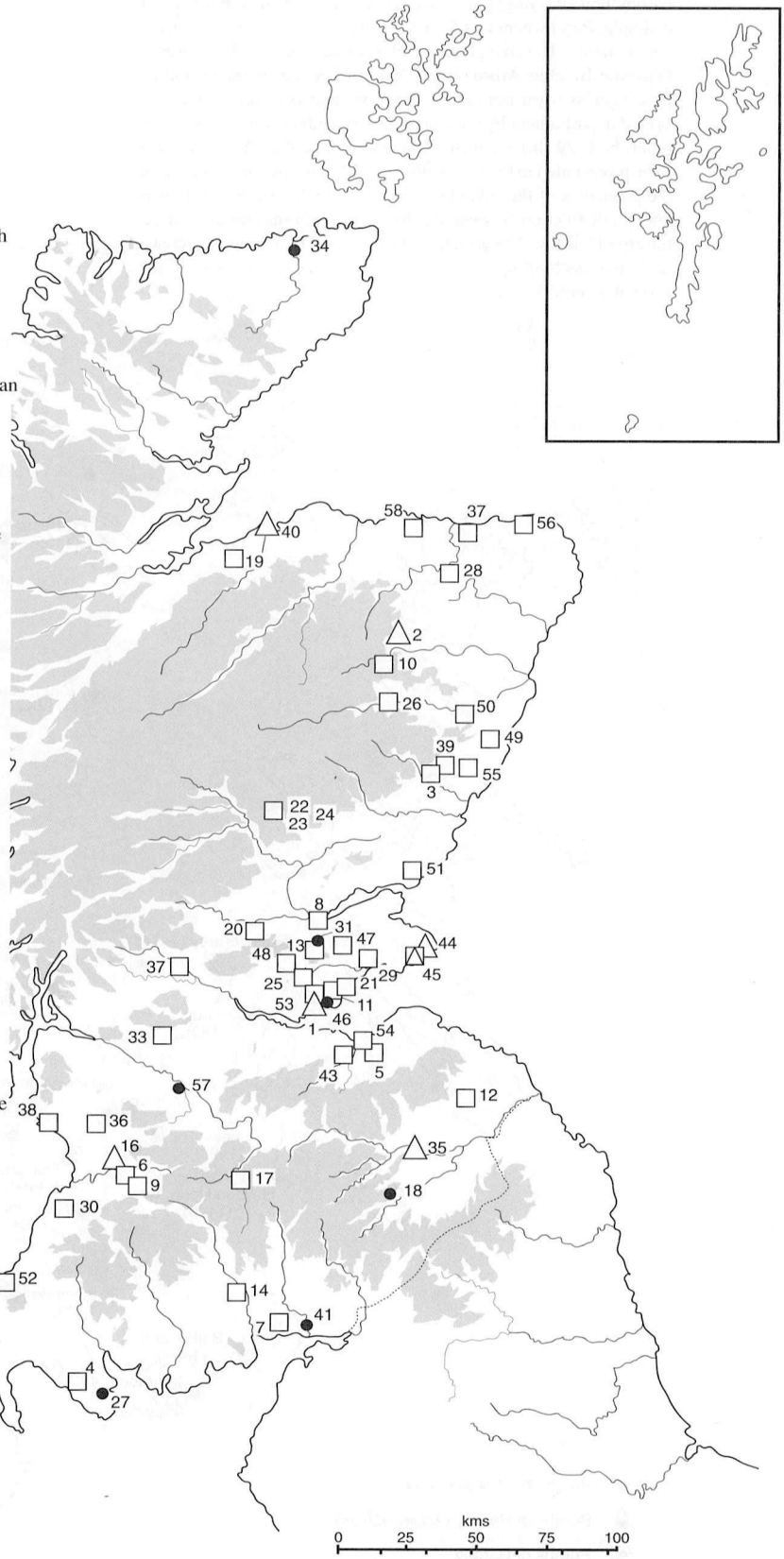
Two important features were the rapid expansion in the number of foundations compared with earlier centuries and the increasing predominance numerically of burghs of barony, both ecclesiastical and secular. The administration of such burghs was in line with that of earlier burghs in that (i) they had no rural hinterland where they might monopolise and control trade; (ii) they had no inherent right to be represented in parliament and so were not liable for cess; and (iii) they might not offically participate in overseas trade. Burghs of barony however might be raised to the status of royal burghs (for example, Pittenweem in 1541) and not all such burghs occupied a lesser status. The five greater ecclesiastical burghs - St Andrews, Glasgow, Brechin, Arbroath and Dunfermline - had the same trading privileges as royal burghs. St Andrews and Brechin were represented in parliament by the end of the fifteenth century, as were the others by 1579. In the course of the sixteenth century they also came to be represented in the convention of royal burghs which protected the privileges of the royal burghs. Membership of this body was another distinction between the 'free' king's burghs and the 'unfree' burghs of barony. Nevertheless, the burghs of barony were increasingly encroaching upon the former's privileges by the end of the sixteenth century.



Burghs 1430 to 1500 EE

Burghs 1426 to 1550

1 Aberdour (West) 1501
2 Clatt
3 Fettercairn 1504
4 Merton 1504
5 Pencaitland 1505
6 Auchinleck 1507
7 Ruthwell 1508
8 Newburgh 1509 *de novo*
9 Cumnock 1509
10 Kildrummy 1509
11 Dysart 1501, 1549 *de novo*
12 Langton 1510
13 Strathmiglo 1510
14 Terregles or Herries 1510
15 Dalnagairn 1510
16 Mauchline 1510
17 Crawford 1511 (a 13 c burgh, re-erected burgh of barony)
18 Hawick 1511
19 Auldearn 1511
20 Dunning 1511
21 Wemyss or Wester Wemyss 1511
22 Kirkmichael or Kirkill or Kirkton or Tomlachan 1511
23 Balnkilly 1511
24 Balnald 1511
25 Corshill - Over Inchgall 1511
26 Kincardine O'Neil 1511
27 Whithorn 1511 (till this date dependent on the prior and canons of Whithorn)
28 Turiff 1512
29 Largo 1513
30 Maybole 1516
31 Auchtermuchty 1517
32 Pittenweem 1526 *de novo*
33 Kirkintilloch 1526 (13 c burgh, re-erected burgh of barony)
34 Scrabster 1527
35 Dryburgh 1527
36 Kilmaurs 1527
37 Down or Doune 1528
38 Saltcoats 1529
39 Kincardine 1532 (erected *in liberum burgum*, but probably ancient burgh)
40 Findhorn or Seatown or Kinloss 1532
41 Annan 1532 (in 13 c dependent on the Bruce lords of Annandale)
42 Drummochy 1540
43 Dalkeith 1540 (early 15 c burgh, re-erected burgh of barony
44 Anstruther Wester 1541
45 Pittenweem 1541 (previously dependent on the prior of Pittenweem)
46 Burntisland 1541
47 Pitlessie 1541
48 Kinross 1541
49 Cowie 1541
50 Durris 1541
51 East Haven of Panmure 1541
52 Ballantrae 1541
53 Newbigging 1541
54 Tranent 1542
55 Arbuthnott 1543
56 Fraserburgh or Faithlie 1546
57 Hamilton 1549 (in 15 c a burgh of barony)
58 Portsoy 1550

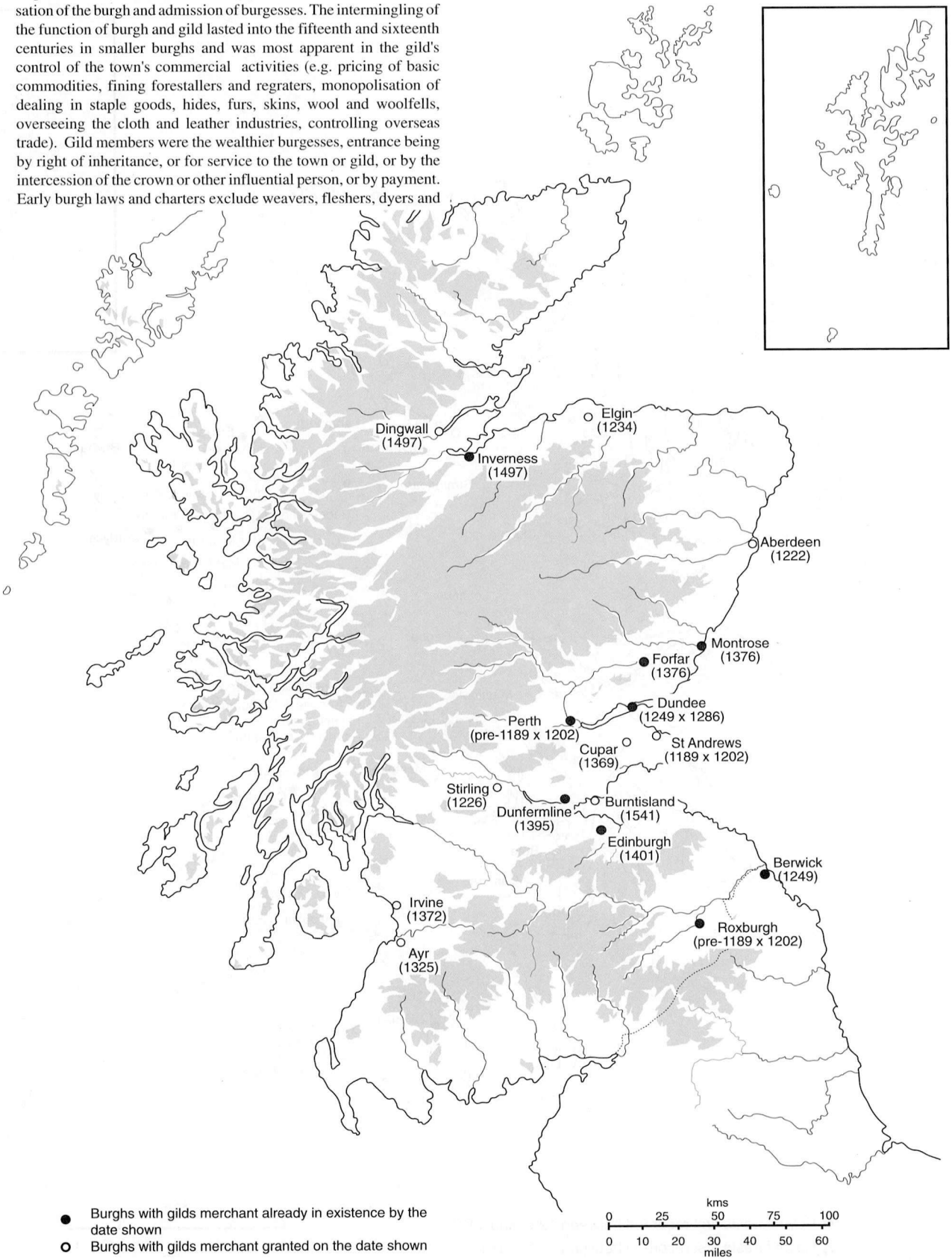


Burghs 1501 to 1550

EPD

Burghs 1426 to 1550

Gilds are found throughout medieval western European as socio-religious groups which developed in towns as economic organisations involved in mercantile pursuits. The emergence of burghs in Scotland was often tightly linked with gilds merchant, although it cannot be concluded with certainty that all early burghs possessed them. The early gild merchant could reflect the self-expression of the burgh, and gild members (as able members of society rather than as gild members) took an increasingly dominant role in the organisation of the burgh and admission of burgesses. The intermingling of the function of burgh and gild lasted into the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries in smaller burghs and was most apparent in the gild's control of the town's commercial activities (e.g. pricing of basic commodities, fining forestallers and regraters, monopolisation of dealing in staple goods, hides, furs, skins, wool and woolfells, overseeing the cloth and leather industries, controlling overseas trade). Gild members were the wealthier burgesses, entrance being by right of inheritance, or for service to the town or gild, or by the intercession of the crown or other influential person, or by payment. Early burgh laws and charters exclude weavers, fleshers, dyers and fullers from gild membership, but in practice craftsmen were accepted into the gild's fraternity. As formal craft organisations emerged in the larger burghs in the late fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, a certain exclusiveness and social stratification manifested itself in economic tension between groups, but in the smaller burghs the gild merchant maintained its role as an organisation of men, whether merchants or craftsmen, who dealt in merchandise.



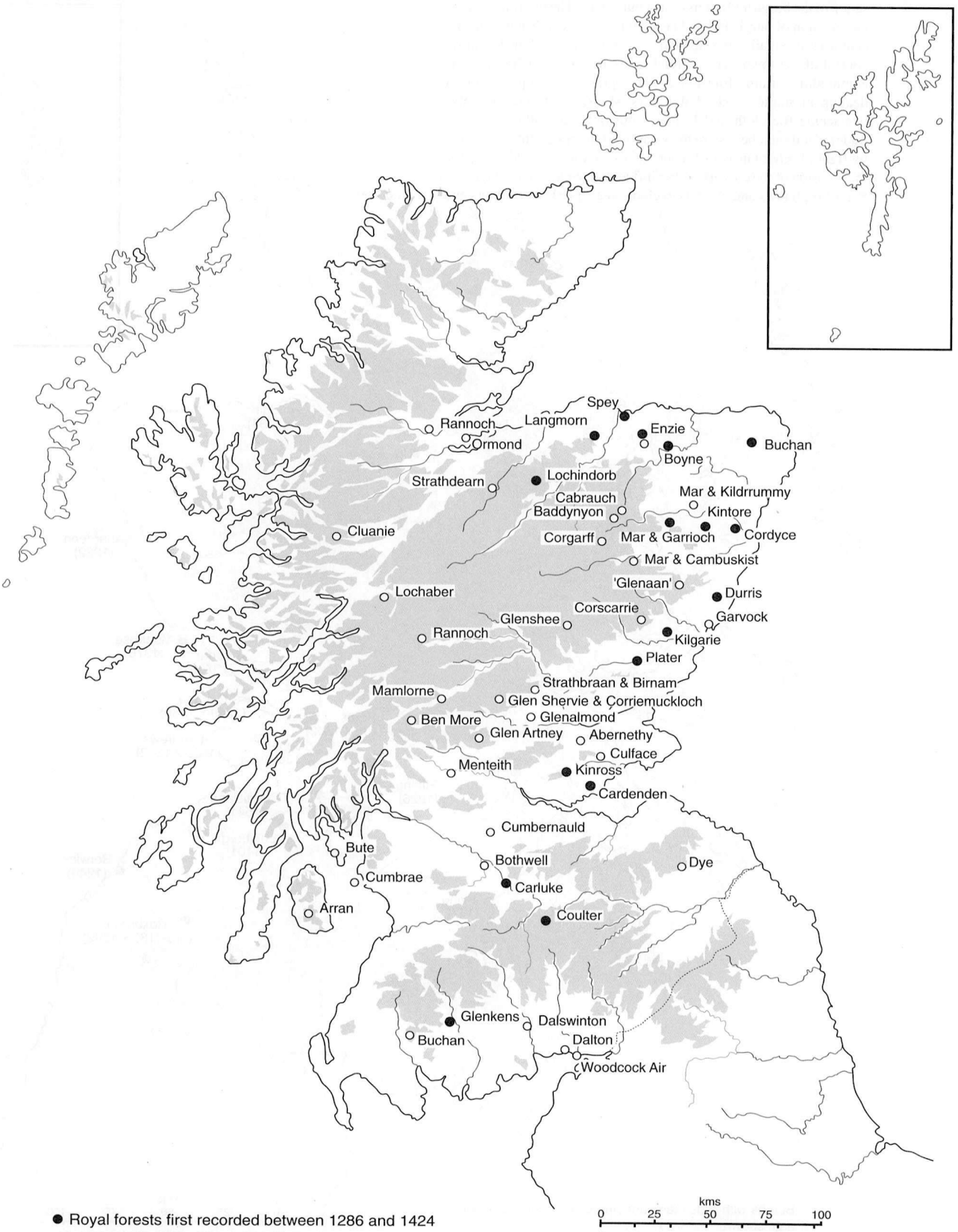
● Burghs with gilds merchant already in existence by the date shown

○ Burghs with gilds merchant granted on the date shown

Burghs with gilds merchant by 1550 EPD

Forests 1286 to 1513

Several royal forests survived into the later Middle Ages, but many were subdivided or alienated. Few new royal forests appeared in the fourteenth century. In the fifteenth century more reserves appear in the Highland area than previously as game was more plentiful there and there was less detrimental economic activity. A cluster of reserves appeared in the southern central Highlands, where Glenfinglas was a favoured royal lodge, and royal forests spread in the Don and Dee valleys



● Royal forests first recorded between 1286 and 1424

o Royal forests first recorded between 1424 1513

Royal forests 1286 to 1513 JMG

Forests 1286 to 1513

The fourteenth century saw a decline in the popularity of the forest grant. Instead there was a preference for the hunting park within which it was easier to control game than in the unenclosed forest. Several of the larger reserves appear to have died out. The later fifteenth century witnessed a resurgence of the forest grants, especially in the north. It was no longer the preservation of game but the protection of the vert for which such grants were valued, reflecting a shortage of timber and the changing position of hunting rights generally.



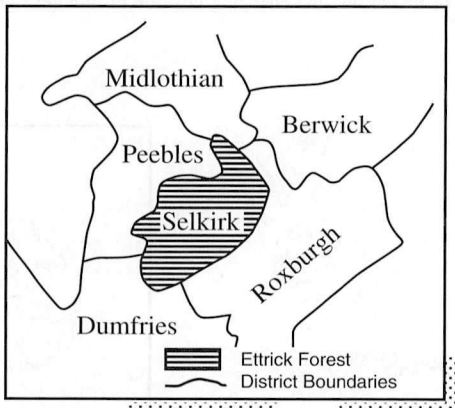
● Baronial forests first recorded between 1286 and 1424

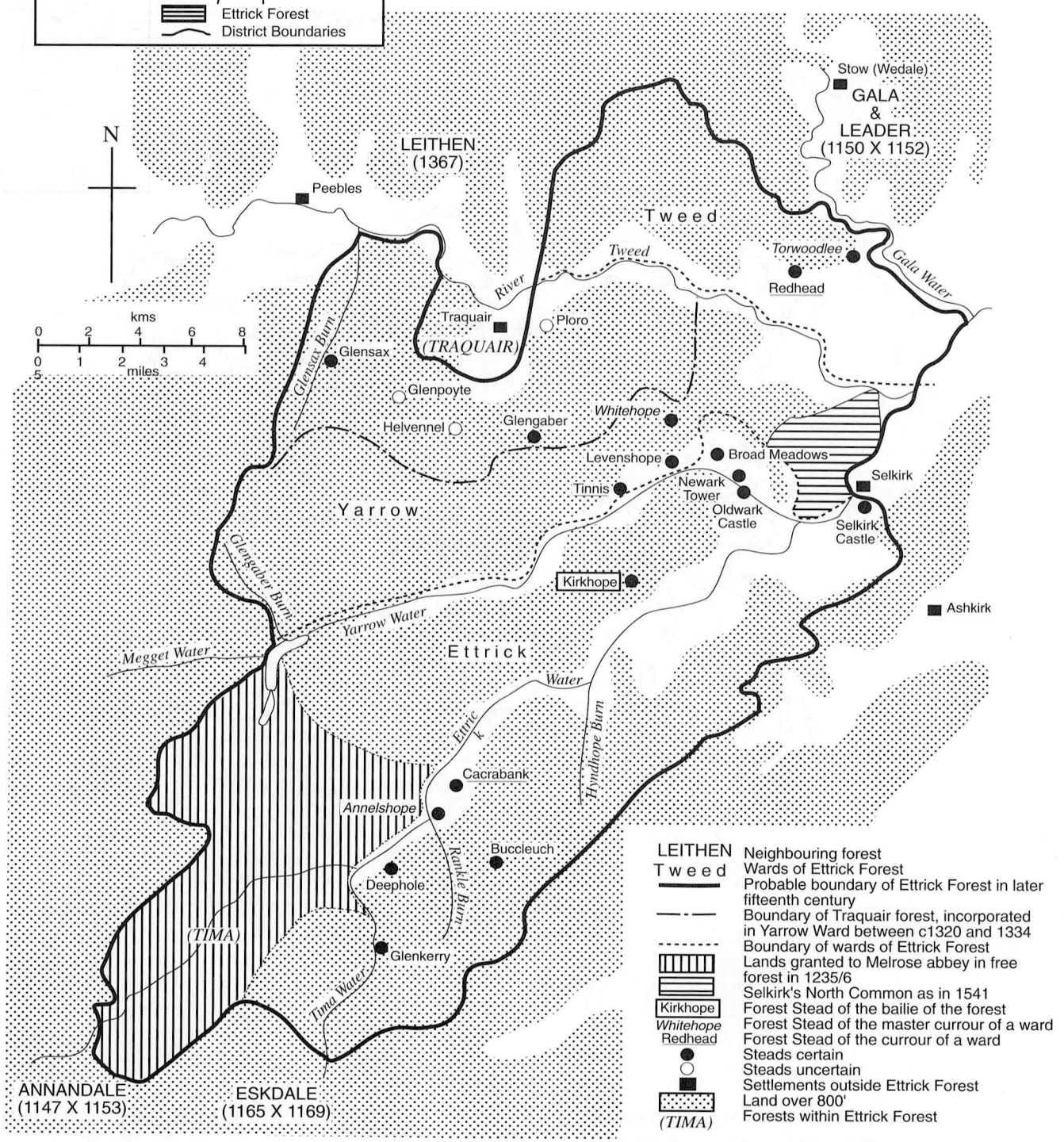
o Baronial forests first recorded between 1424 and 1513

Baronial forests 1286 to 1513 JMG

Forests 1286 to 1513

In his forests the king controlled the vert as well as the game. The vert, which comprised whatever vegetation there was in the forest, was reserved for the harbouring and nourishment of the game. The king could licence others to use the forest resources, sometimes free of charge but more frequently for payment of tolls such as pannage for grazing pigs or herbage and foggage for other animals. Controlling economic pressures to graze and plough within the reserve led to severe difficulties, for example in Ettrick Forest, where by the fifteenth century the whole of the reserve was divided into steads or holdings. A special system of wards, officials and courts was developed to try to control the use of the vert and venison (greater game), but finally James IV (1488-1513) gave up the struggle. The rents of Ettrick were far too valuable to lose and feu-ferming was introduced between 1506 and 1510.





Ettrick Forest JMG

The Session

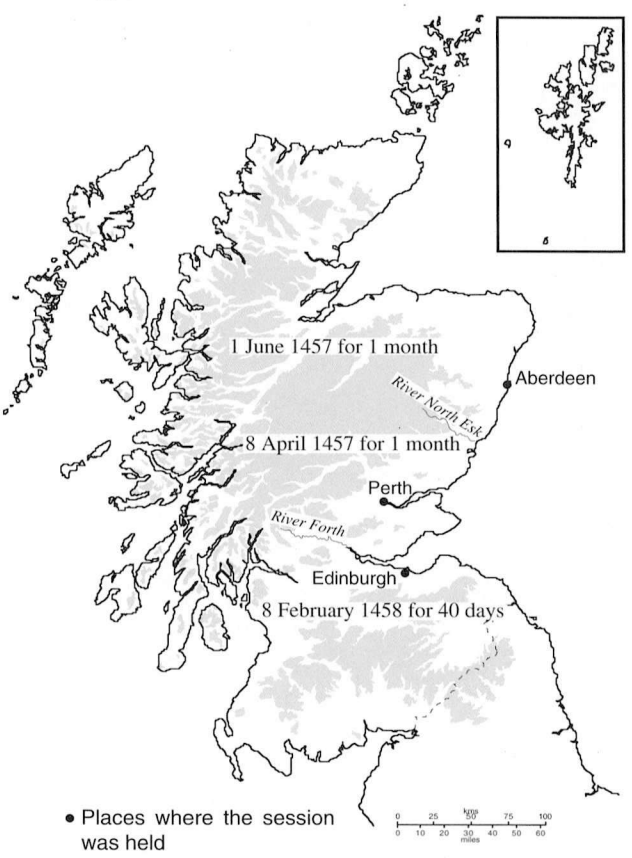
In the first three-quarters of the fifteenth century, the main central civil court was parliament, which usually nominated committees of auditors to hear causes whilst and whenever the parliament was sitting. On several occasions between 1457 and 1472 the estates chose further groups of lords to hold judicial sittings - 'the session' - in regional centres, between parliaments. Thereafter, when parliament was not sitting, civil causes were dealt with centrally only by the king's council. By 1496 the council had superseded the parliamentary committees as the main central civil tribunal, the direct antecedent of the college of justice and the court of session.

From some time in the 1470s until 1488 the council held judicial sittings only in Edinburgh, but in James IV's reign, and especially in the 1490s, the council heard causes in the provinces, following the ayres, or sitting wherever the king's court happened to be at the time.

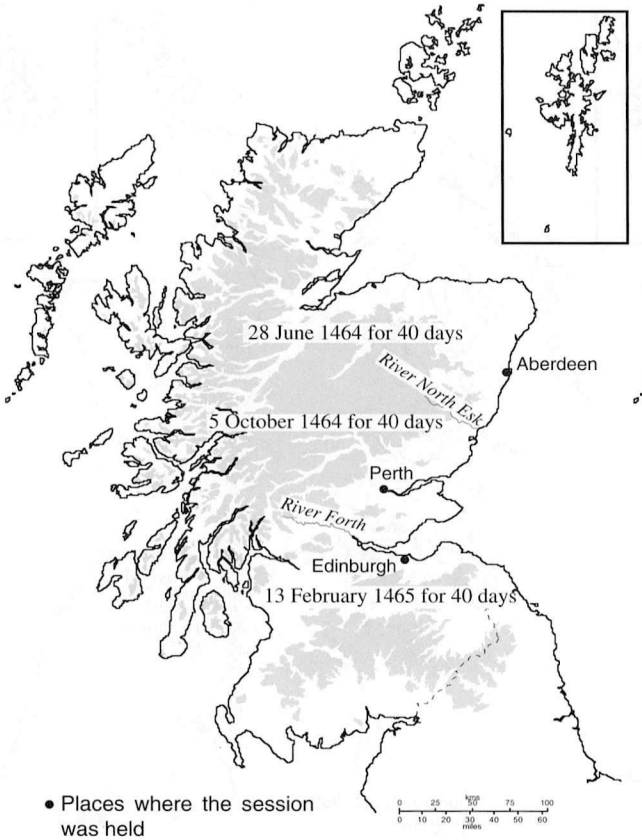
After 1500 that practice became less common, and the council's regular Edinburgh sessions were organised to deal with cases from specific parts of the country in turn. In 1503 an extensive table of causes was drawn up based on a five part division of the kingdom.

Later groupings of sheriffdoms had greater geographical coherence, but the composition, and the time allocated to each grouping, varied from one diet to another. Subsequently, the districts became larger and fewer, and the time allocated to each correspondingly longer.

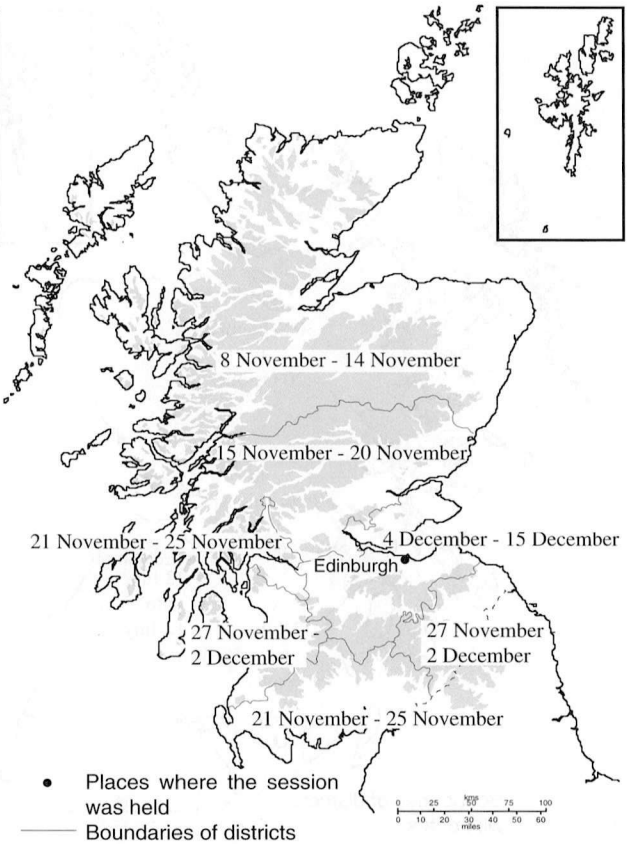
After 1590 the system of districts fell into desuetude: the whole country was then treated as a unity and the court dealt with cases according to priority of calling. On the other hand, the central criminal court has always gone on circuit, and to this day still does.



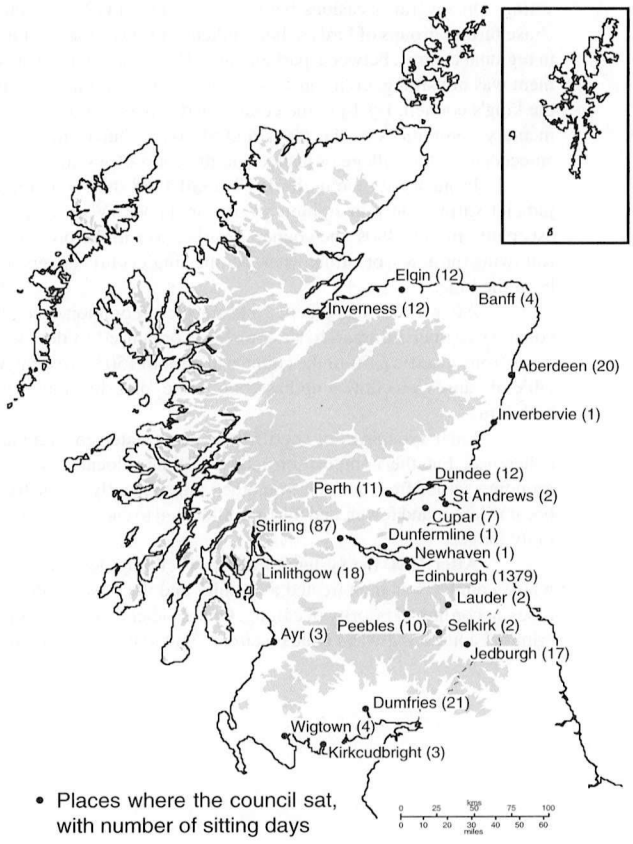
The session 1457/8 TMC



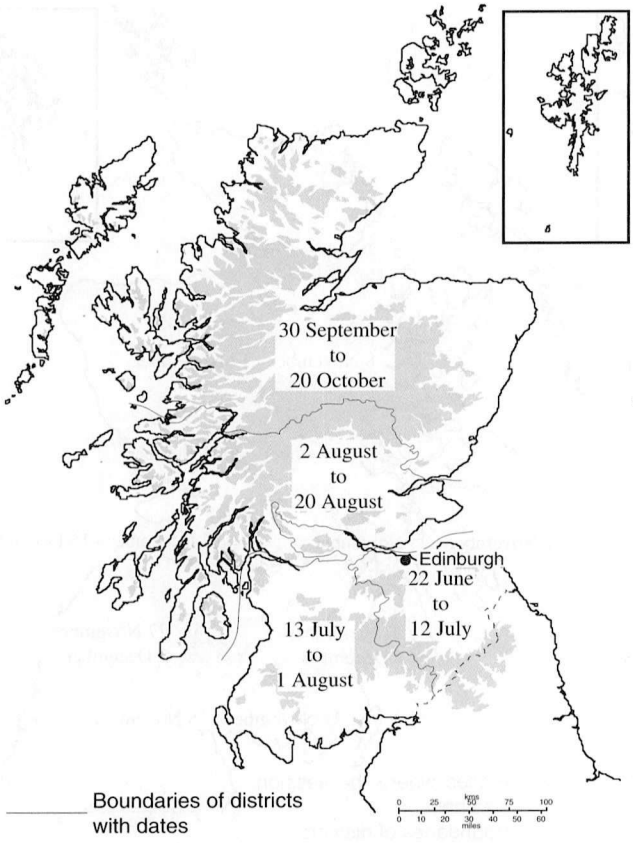
Council districts 1464/5 TMC



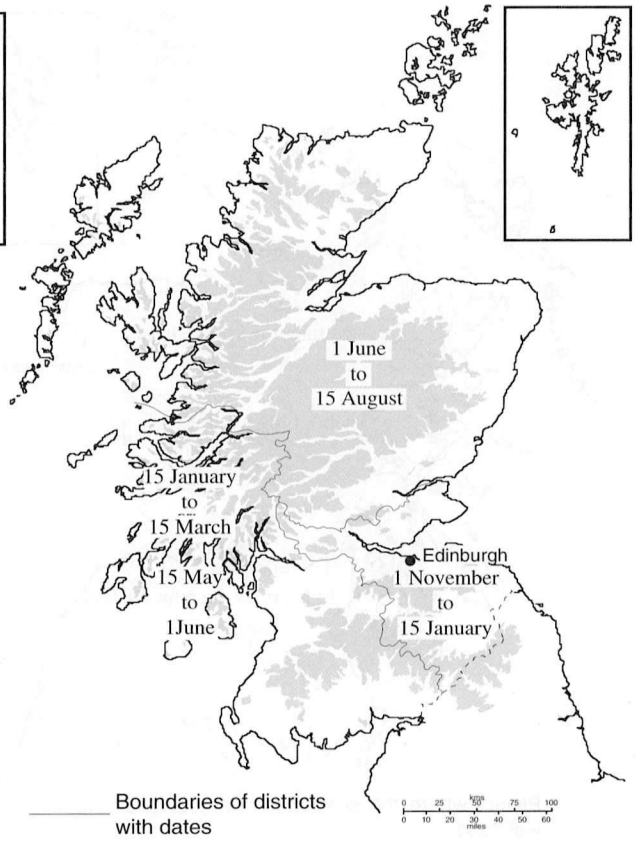
Council districts 1503 TMC



Council sittings 1488 to 1513 TMC



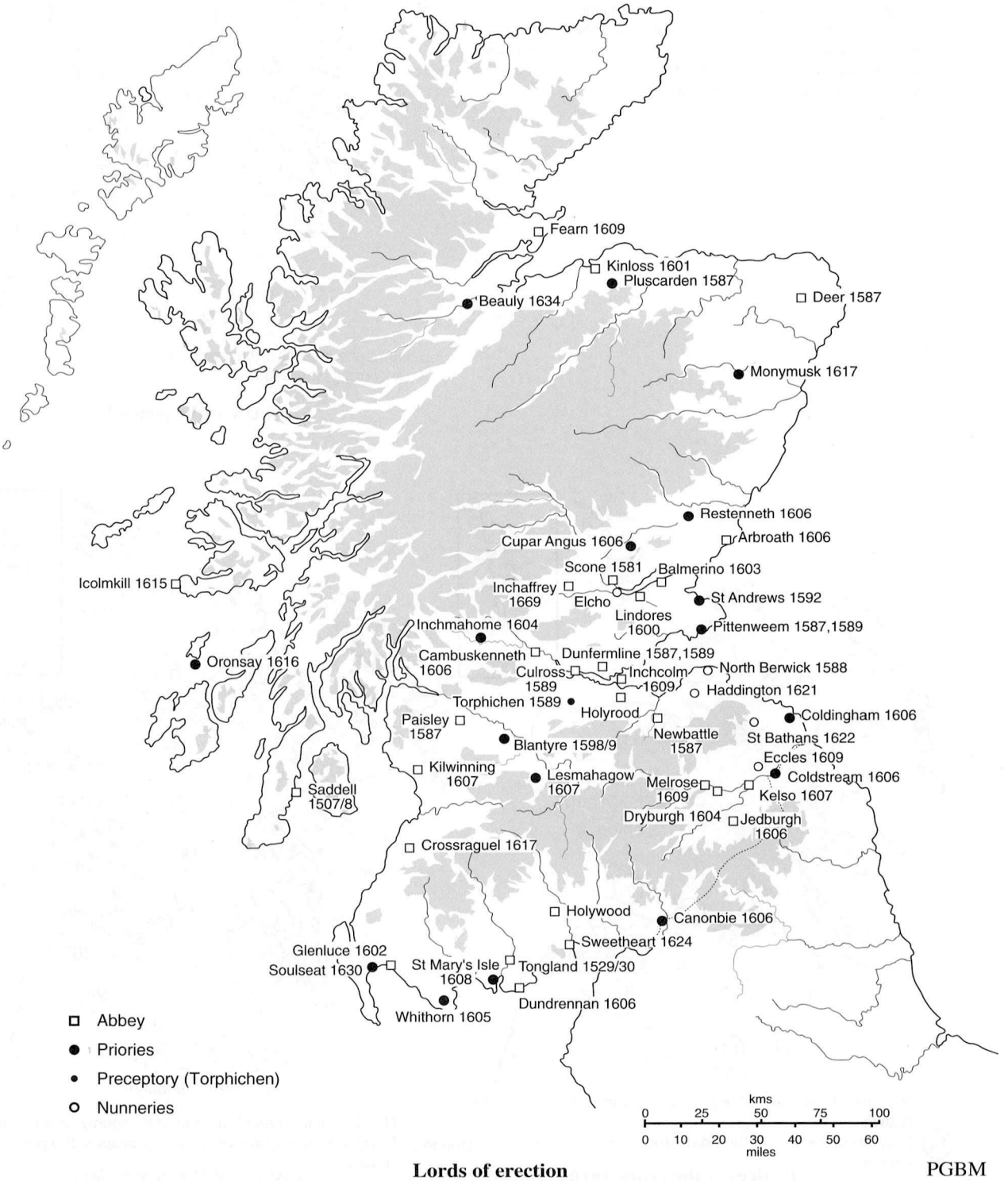
Court of session districts 1517, 1532 PGBM



Court of session districts 1590 PGBM

Lords of erection

Generally, the holder of an ecclesiastical benefice had only a life interest in that benefice. This was the case with regularly appointed bishops, abbots and parsons; and it was also the case with those who, whether they were churchment or laymen, were commendators or *oeconomi* for life of the benefice. After the Reformation grants of benefices *in commendam* were made by the crown, and they were made increasingly to laymen: but these grants remained for life only. In 1587 an act of parliament annexed to the crown (with certain exceptions) all lands, lordships and other rights which had formerly pertained to ecclesiastical persons; and others were annexed later. The crown used its position as proprietor of these lands to *erect* former ecclesiastical property (mostly monastic lands) into temporal lordships which were indistinguishable from lay tenures. The map shows the foundations which were thus created: some others were merely secularised.



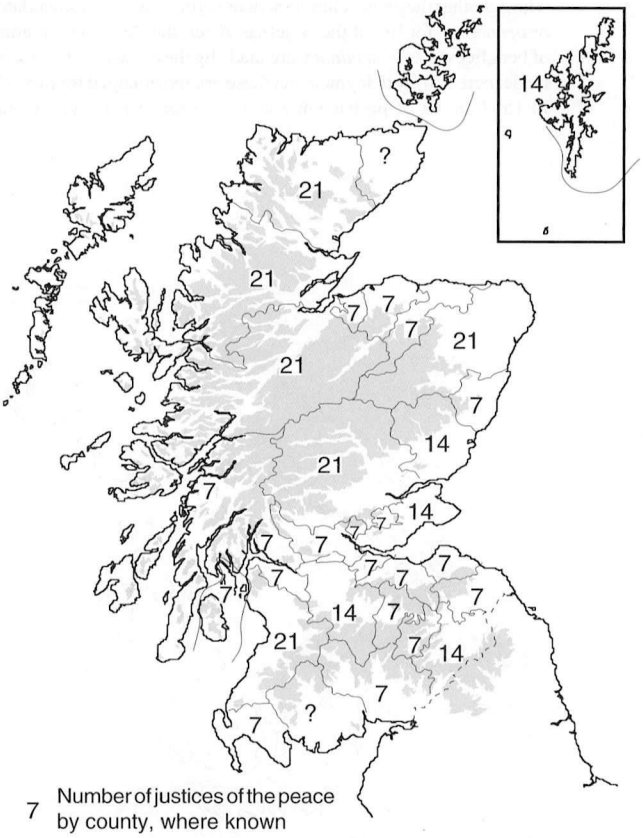
Lords of erection PGBM

Justices of the peace 1587 to 1663

In England from the Middle Ages, the justice of the peace had constituted a significant element in local administration and justice. In Scotland, on the other hand, the office was only introduced tentatively in 1587; and more extensive and more elaborate commisions were made in 1610 and 1663. The Cromwellian period had enhanced the status of the justices; after the Restoration and more so after the Union, the jurisdiction of the justices increased.

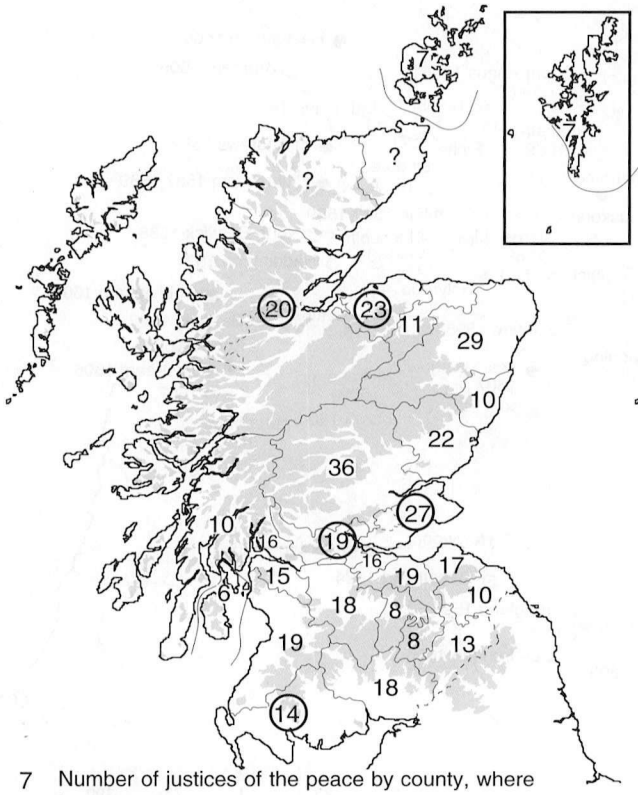
Their primary function was the keeping of the peace; but they also acquired power to enforce regulations in relation to vagabonds, the poor, forestallers and regraters, wages and the like. The county of Edinburgh arrogated to itself a civil jurisdiction in small claims up to £40 Scots (£3:6:8d or £3.33 sterling). Their administrative duties were ultimately taken over by central and local government.

The three maps show the numbers of commissioners designated for each shire in the years 1587, 1610 and 1663. The commissions of 1610 and 1663 included as *ex officio* commissioners, privy councillors and lords of session; and the commission of 1610 also included as *ex officio* commissioners the magistrates of the burghs and towns within the county. Cromarty (but not Ross) appears in the commissions of 1587 and 1610; and Ross (but not Cromarty) appears in the commission of 1663.



7 Number of justices of the peace by county, where known

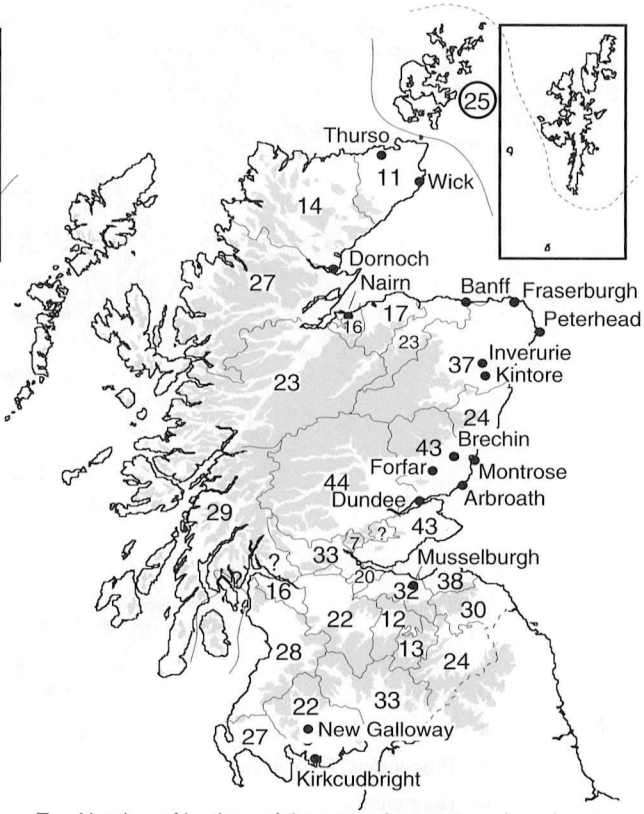
Justices of the peace 1587



7 Number of justices of the peace by county, where known

(14) Number of justices of the peace for more than one county

Justices of the peace 1610



7 Number of justices of the peace by county, where known

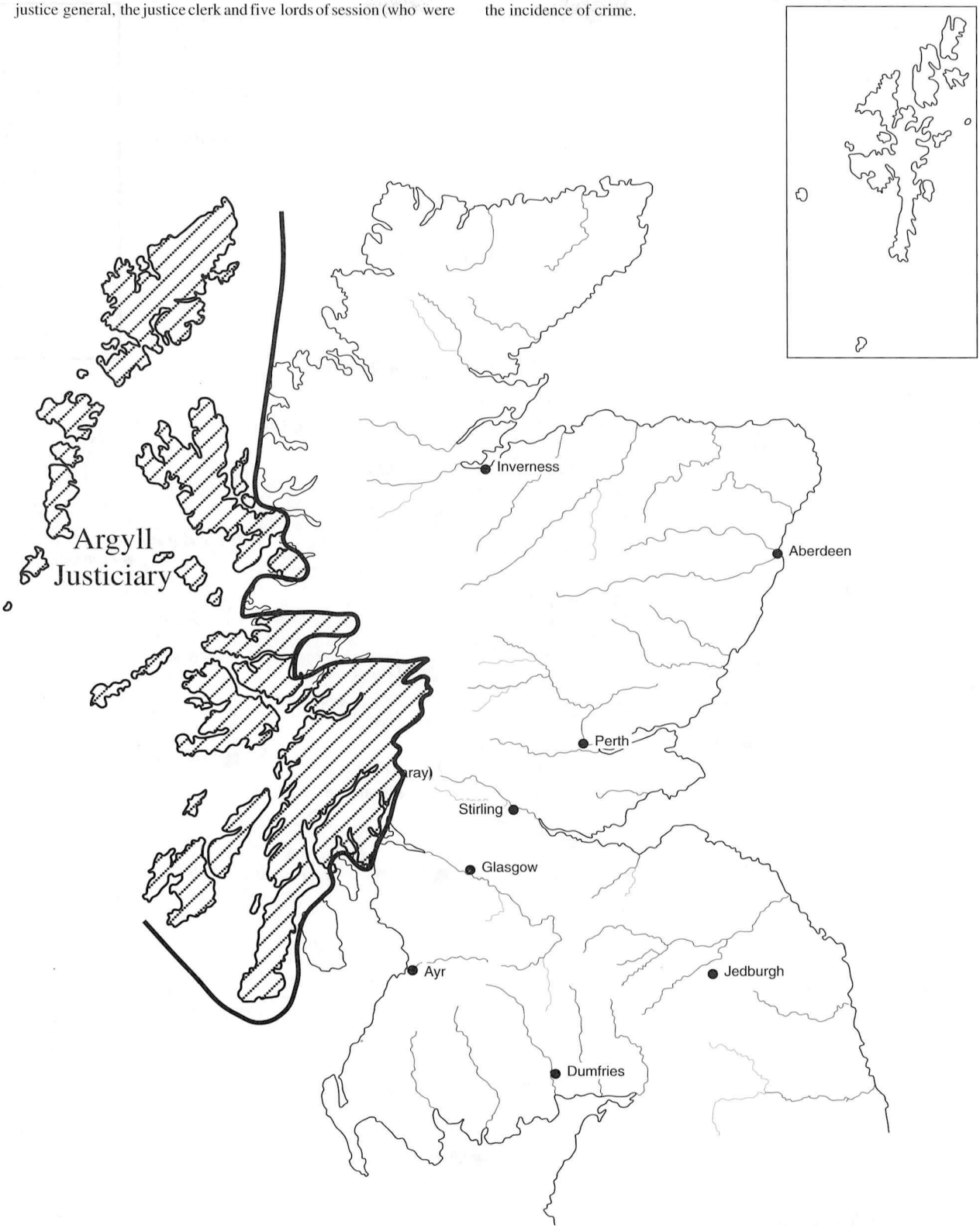
Dundee Burghs from whose magistrates justices of the peace were drawn

Justices of the peace 1663 PGBM

Circuit courts 1672

From 1514 to 1628 the office of justice general of all Scotland was held by the earls of Argyll. After 1628, the office was surrendered to the Crown but under reservation to the Campbell family of the justiciary of Argyll and the Isles which was held by the Campbells until the abolition of the heritable jurisdictions in 1748

In 1672, after various attempts to grapple with the administration of criminal justice outside Edinburgh, the former system of appointing justice deputes was brought to an end; and instead, the justice general, the justice clerk and five lords of session (who were already remunerated in respect of their civil judgeships) were charged with jurisdiction in criminal causes. Two of these 'lords commissioners of justiciary' were appointed to keep courts at the circuit towns which are shown on the map. In general, each circuit court dealt with the crimes which had been committed within the counties within the circuit. Later, the circuits came to be referred to by the points of the compass, north, south, west and home; and the circuits were modified to meet the changes in population and the incidence of crime.

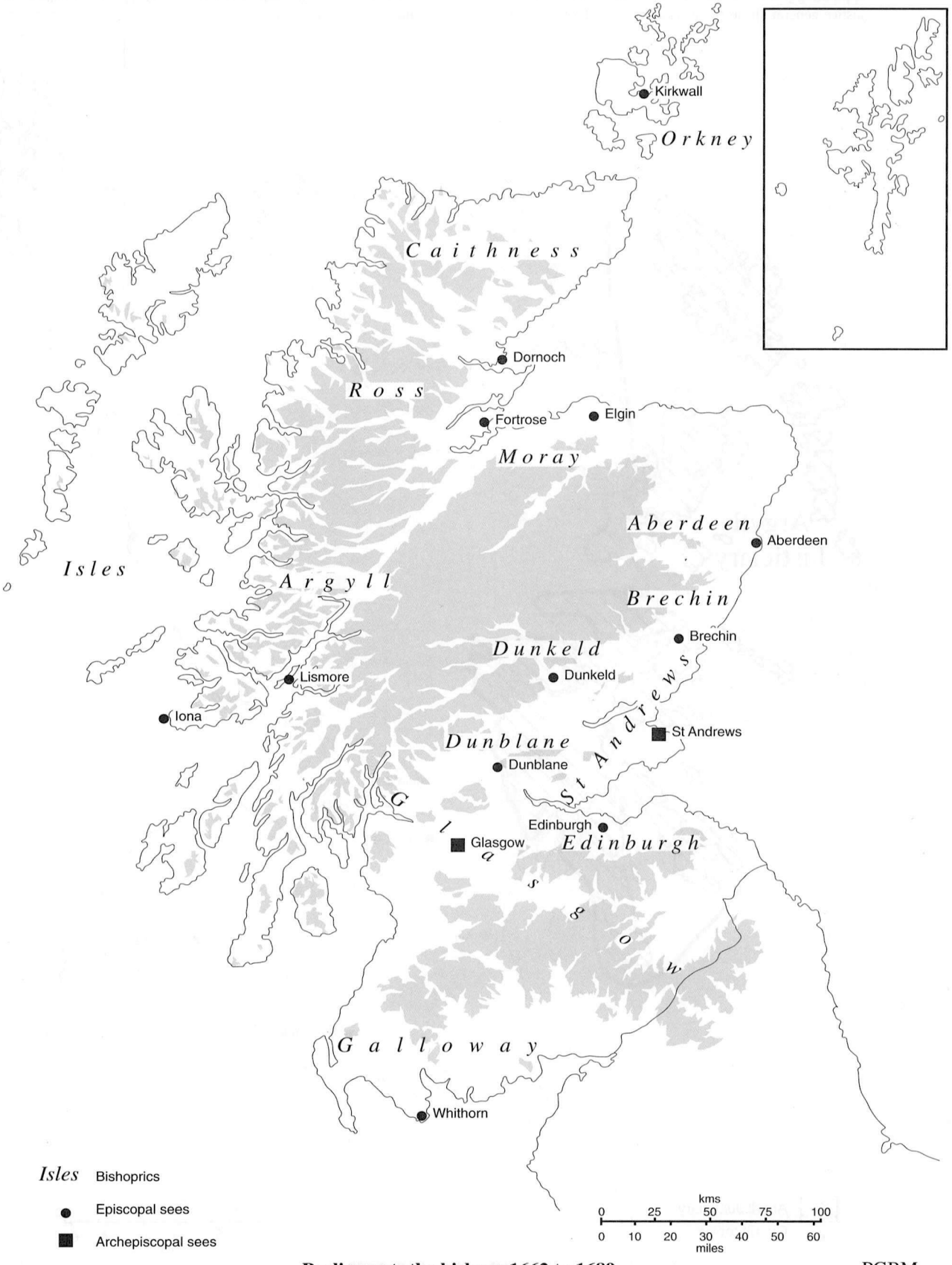


Circuit courts 1672 PGBM

Parliament 1660 to 1707

The Scottish parliament of the Restoration consisted of the lords, the bishops (from 1662 to 1689) and the representatives of the shires and the burghs. The bishops had been restored to their rights in 1662. Earlier, in 1633, the new bishopric of Edinburgh had been created: it consisted of that part of the archbishopric of St. Andrews which lay to the south of the Firth of Forth.

The maps, which show the distribution of the members of parliament before the Union, are based on the sederunts of 1662 and 1706. After 1707, the Scots were accorded a smaller number of seats in the united parliament of Great Britain. Thus, in the House of Lords, there were only sixteen Scottish peers and they were elected by the whole body of Scottish peers. This system lasted in substance until the Peerage Act 1963 which permitted all Scottish peers to sit and vote in the House of Lords.

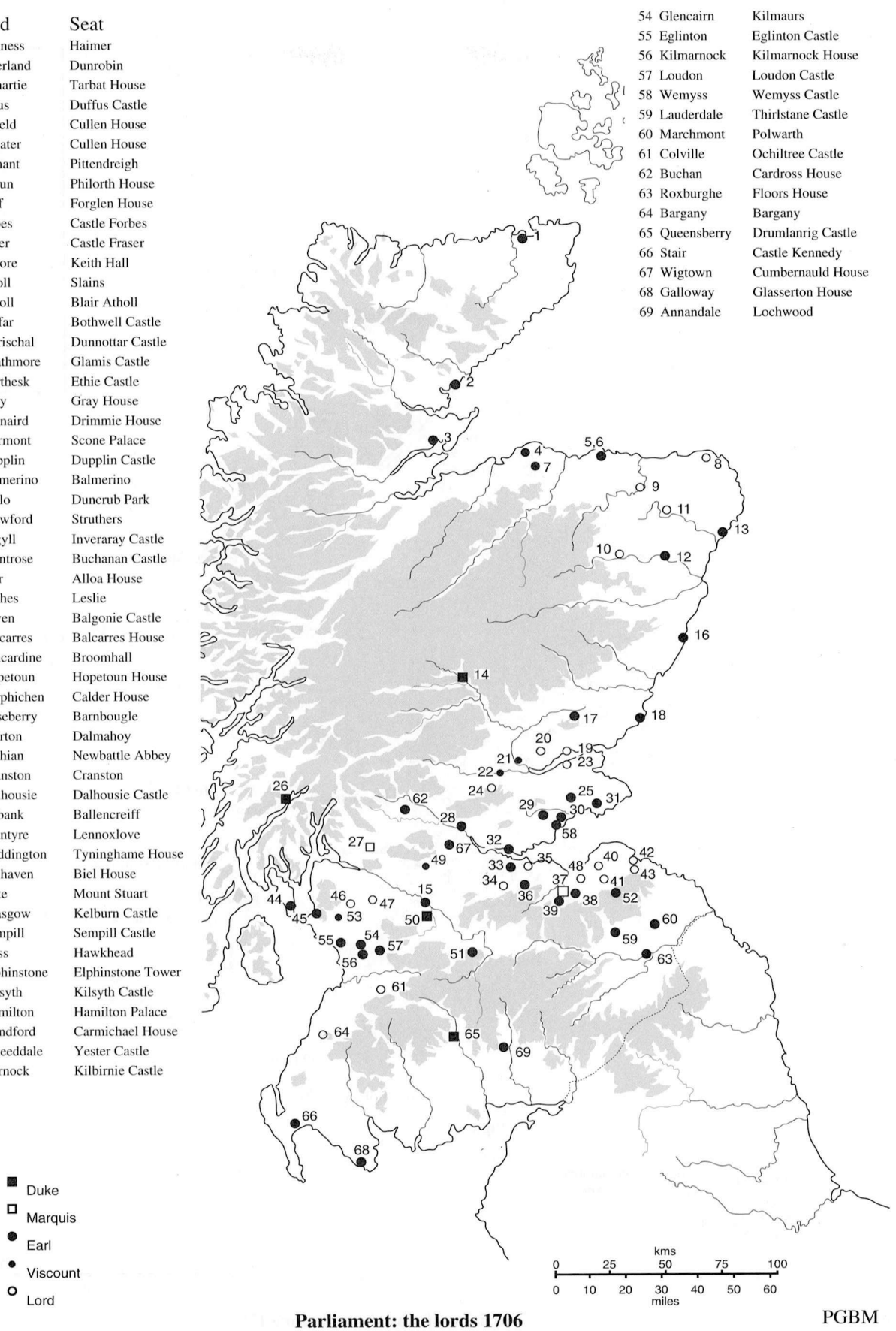


Parliament: the bishops 1662 to 1689 PGBM

Parliament 1660 to 1707

The map shows the location of the seats of the various lords who appear in the sederunt of 1706, with the addition of the chancellor, the earl of Seafield. Some seats cannot be identified and some lords had no Scottish seat (Islay, Dunmore, Bellenden, Abercorn, Delorain and Selkirk). Notable absentees from the sederunt of 1706 include the dukes of Douglas and Gordon and the earls of Aberdeen, Aboyne, Airlie, Breadalbane, Carnwath, Linlithgow, Melville, Moray, Nithsdale, Seaforth and Southesk.

Lord	Seat
1 Caithness	Haimer
2 Sutherland	Dunrobin
3 Cromartie	Tarbat House
4 Duffus	Duffus Castle
5 Seafield	Cullen House
6 Findlater	Cullen House
7 Oliphant	Pittendreigh
8 Saltoun	Philorth House
9 Banff	Forglen House
10 Forbes	Castle Forbes
11 Fraser	Castle Fraser
12 Kintore	Keith Hall
13 Erroll	Slains
14 Atholl	Blair Atholl
15 Forfar	Bothwell Castle
16 Marischal	Dunnottar Castle
17 Strathmore	Glamis Castle
18 Northesk	Ethie Castle
19 Gray	Gray House
20 Kinnaird	Drimmie House
21 Stormont	Scone Palace
22 Dupplin	Dupplin Castle
23 Balmerino	Balmerino
24 Rollo	Duncrub Park
25 Crawford	Struthers
26 Argyll	Inveraray Castle
27 Montrose	Buchanan Castle
28 Mar	Alloa House
29 Rothes	Leslie
30 Leven	Balgonie Castle
31 Balcarres	Balcarres House
32 Kincardine	Broomhall
33 Hopetoun	Hopetoun House
34 Torphichen	Calder House
35 Roseberry	Barnbougle
36 Morton	Dalmahoy
37 Lothian	Newbattle Abbey
38 Cranston	Cranston
39 Dalhousie	Dalhousie Castle
40 Elibank	Ballencreiff
41 Blantyre	Lennoxlove
42 Haddington	Tyninghame House
43 Belhaven	Biel House
44 Bute	Mount Stuart
45 Glasgow	Kelburn Castle
46 Sempill	Sempill Castle
47 Ross	Hawkhead
48 Elphinstone	Elphinstone Tower
49 Kilsyth	Kilsyth Castle
50 Hamilton	Hamilton Palace
51 Hyndford	Carmichael House
52 Tweeddale	Yester Castle
53 Garnock	Kilbirnie Castle
54 Glencairn	Kilmaurs
55 Eglinton	Eglinton Castle
56 Kilmarnock	Kilmarnock House
57 Loudon	Loudon Castle
58 Wemyss	Wemyss Castle
59 Lauderdale	Thirlstane Castle
60 Marchmont	Polwarth
61 Colville	Ochiltree Castle
62 Buchan	Cardross House
63 Roxburghe	Floors House
64 Bargany	Bargany
65 Queensberry	Drumlanrig Castle
66 Stair	Castle Kennedy
67 Wigtown	Cumbernauld House
68 Galloway	Glasserton House
69 Annandale	Lochwood

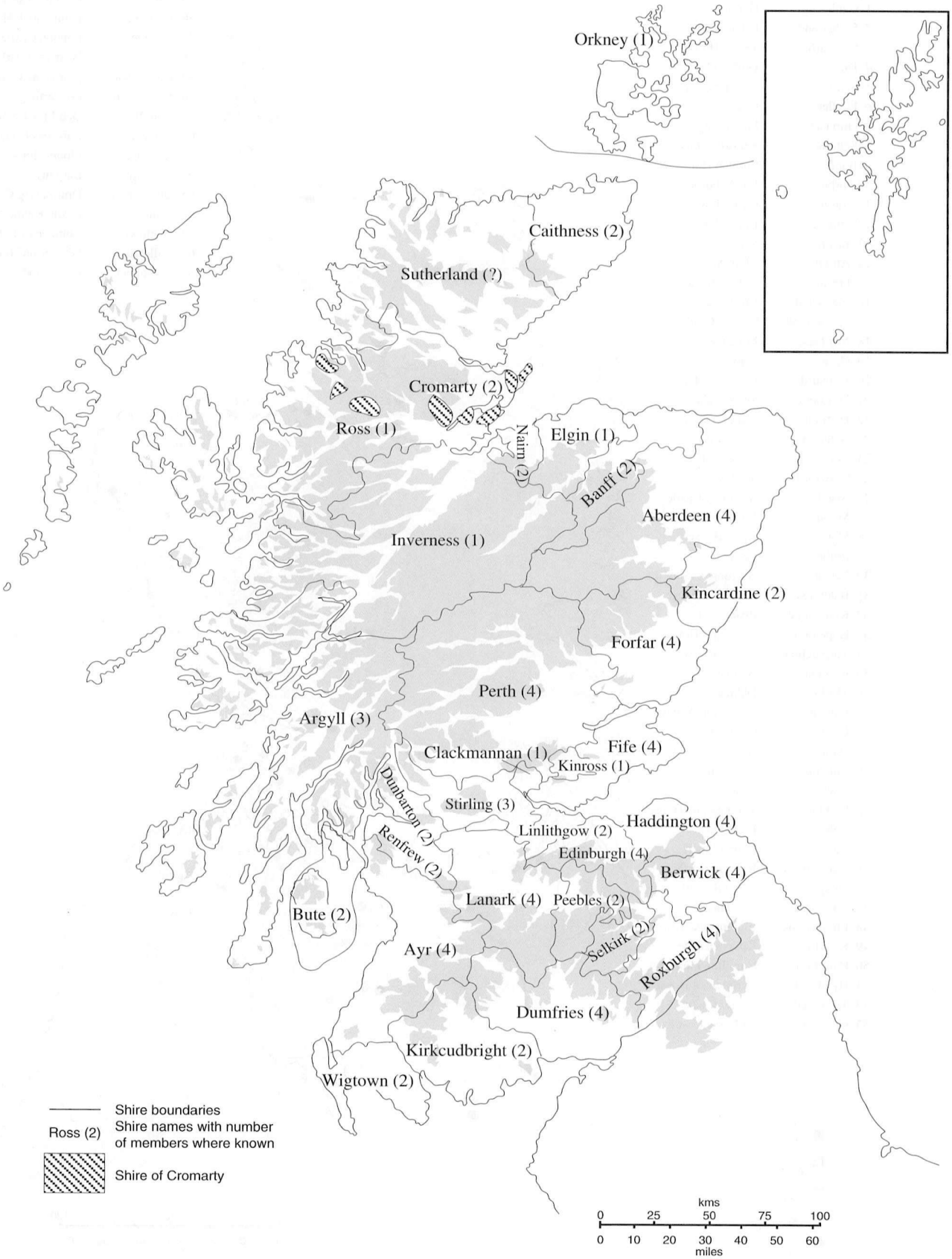


Parliament: the lords 1706

PGBM

Parliament 1660 to 1707

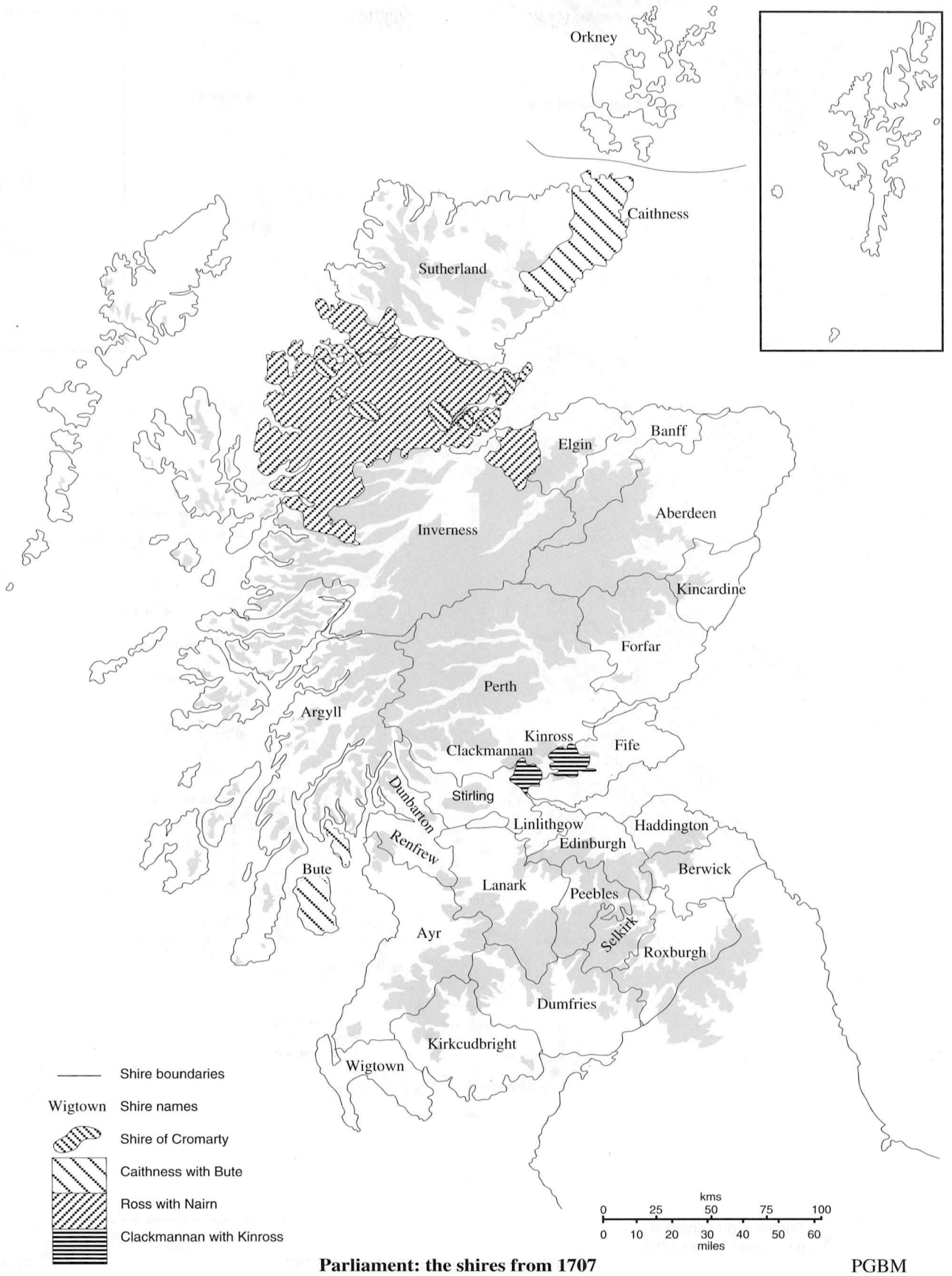
In the pre-Union parliament, each shire was represented by one to four members - depending upon the importance of the shire. By 1681 the number of shires had been stabilised as 33. The constabulary of Haddington and the stewartry of Kircudbright were regarded as the equivalent of shires. The information shown on the map is taken from the sederunt of 1706: there, Sutherland appears without any representative against it; and Kinross has been omitted.



Parliament: the shires before 1707 PGBM

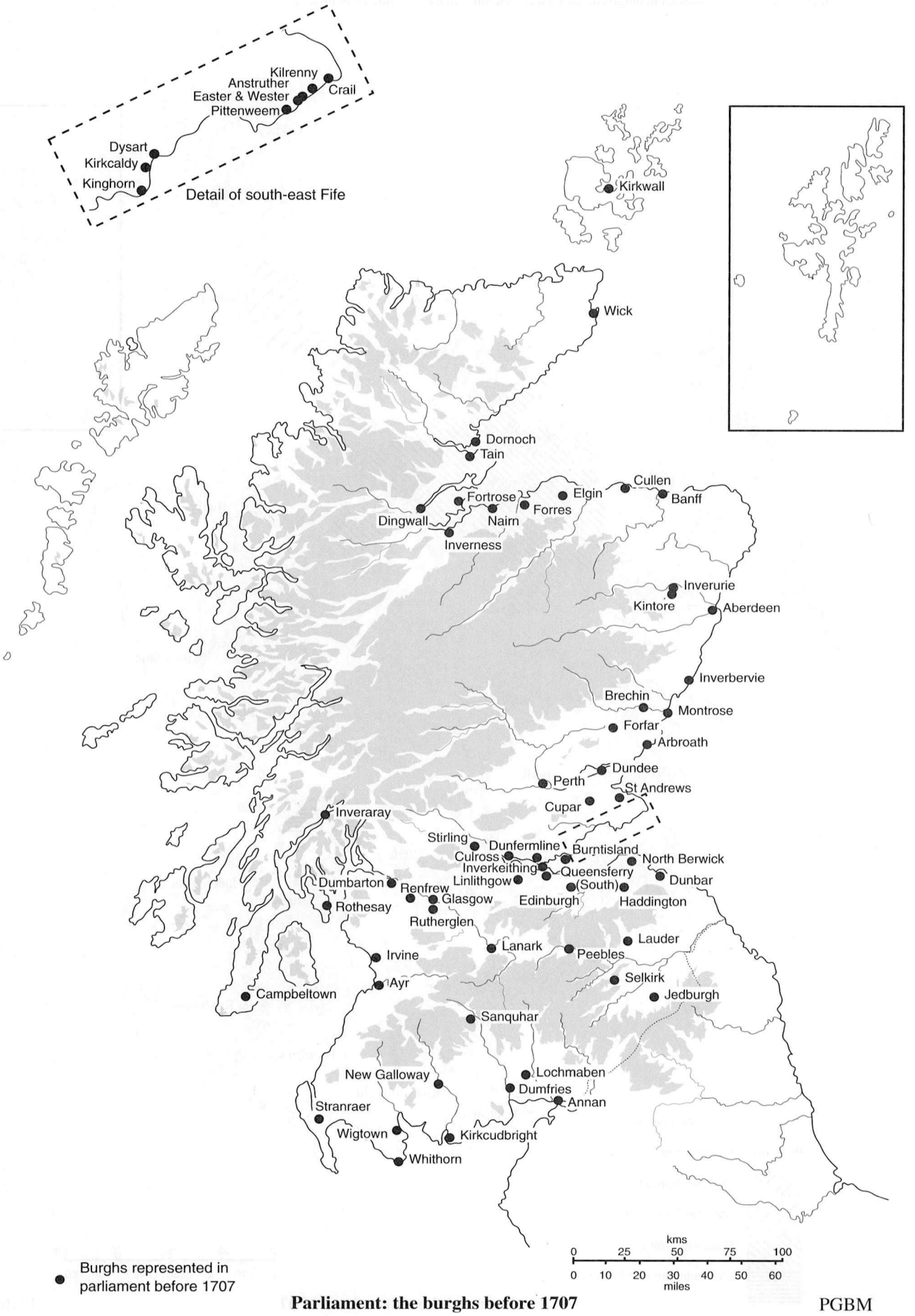
Parliament 1660 to 1707

In the British House of Commons there were to be forty-five Scottish members. The Scottish parliament settled the distribution of the members among the shires and burghs in such a way that thirty of the shires had one member each; and the remaining six shires were made into three groups of three: in each group the election was made in one shire after another



Parliament: the shires from 1707 PGBM

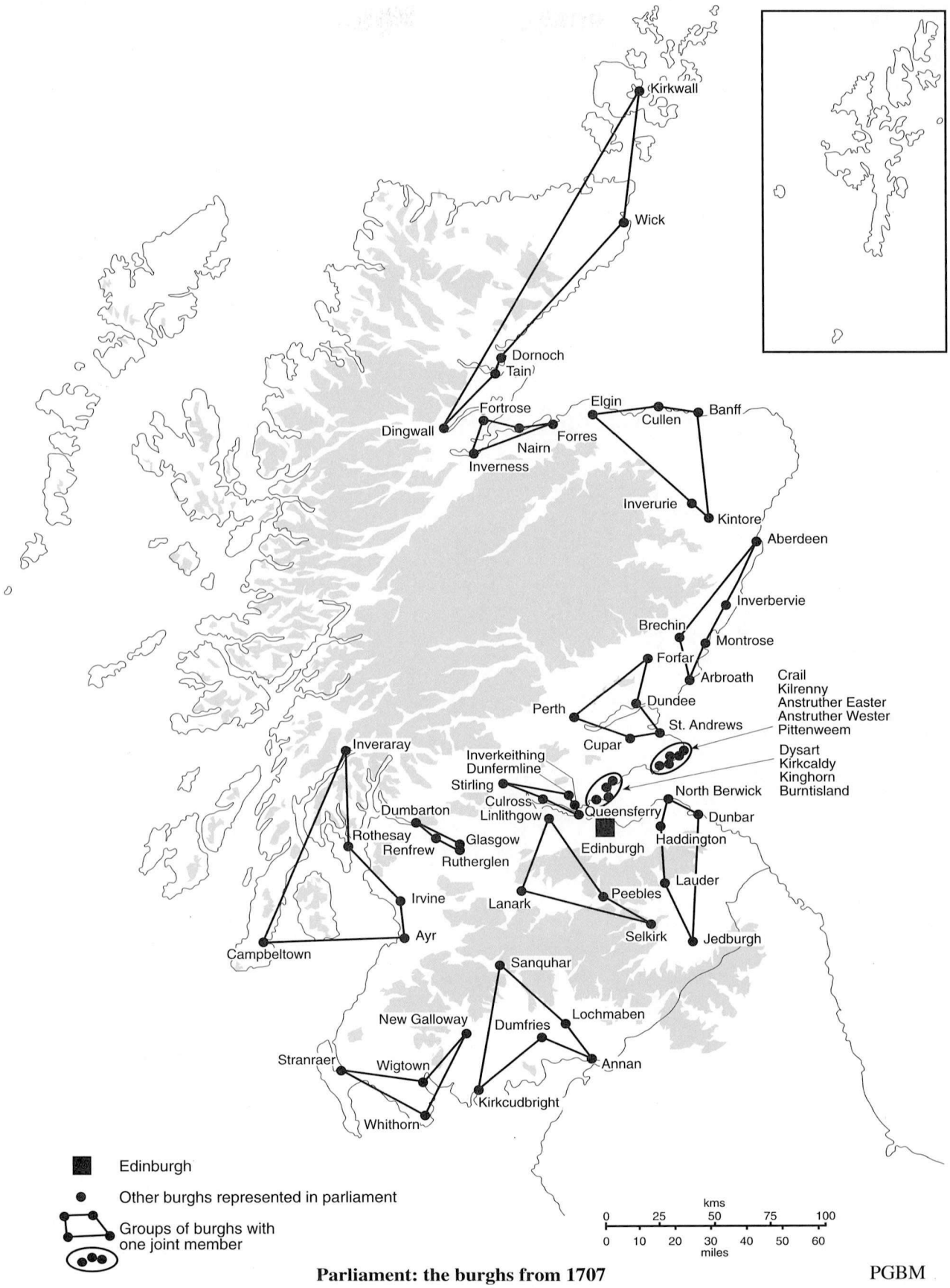
Parliament 1660 to 1707



Parliament: the burghs before 1707 PGBM

Parliament 1660 to 1707

The Scottish parliament distributed the Scottish burgh seats in the united parliament of Great Britain. Edinburgh had one member; and the rest of the burghs were organised in groups of either four or five, and each group had one member. This arrangement lasted until the Representation of the People (Scotland) Act 1832 which redistributed the seats in a different way so as to give better reflection of the changes in population which had taken place since the Union.



Parliament: the burghs from 1707 PGBM