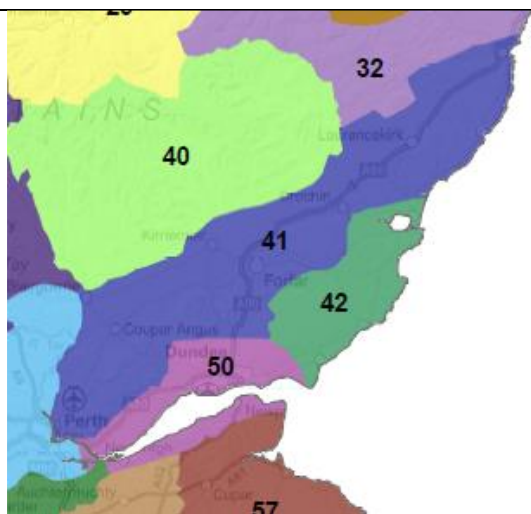


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41	Strathmore and Mearns	42	Angus Coast
43	Lynn of Lorn	44	Mid Argyll and Lorn
45	Mamlorn and Orchy	46	Trossachs
47	Forth Valley	48	Strathearn and Strathallan
49	Ochils	50	Firth of Tay

41 Strathmore and Mearns



Description

An area of gently rolling, fertile agricultural lowlands, lying between sandstone ridges that run east-west. Rich red soils contrast with pasture and crops of daffodil and oil seed rape in spring. Occasional lines and groups of trees punctuate the large open fields. There are few main roads, apart from the busy A90. Traditional villages are scattered through the area. Farmsteads abound, their modern storage sheds contrasting with the traditional buildings. Larger market towns, built of old red sandstone with slate roofs, have a strong local identity. Baronial Glamis Castle, with its wooded parks and gardens is a well-known landmark. The long standing archaeological and historical interest of the area ranges from Pictish cultural artefacts to literary associations, with Barrie and Grassie Gibbon.

Key technical information sources:

LCA: Tayside, South and Central Aberdeenshire

NHF: Eastern Lowlands (16)

HLA: XX

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Selected creative associations

Paintings

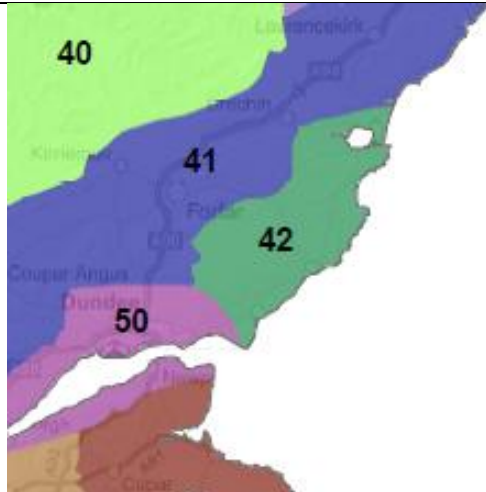
Catterline in Winter (Joan Eardley)

Novels

A Scots Quair (Lewis Grassie Gibbon)

A Window in Thrums (J M Barrie)

42 Angus Coast



Description

An area of gently rolling, fertile, well-kept farmland bordered by low cliffs and wide sandy bays. A network of towns and villages serves the agricultural areas. These settlements are often traditional in character, built from red sandstone, some with landmark church spires. There are a few settlements along the coast, such as Arbroath and Montrose, which are characterised by their combined history as both markets and ports; Arbroath in addition retains some of its textile mills. There are occasional caravan parks, resorts and golf courses but these do not override the tranquillity of the coast. Tree cover is sparse and often wind-pruned, restricted to watercourses, small copses, shelterbelts or estate policies. There are a few distinctive coastal landmarks, notably the Deils Heid Stack, north of Arbroath and the Auchmithie Cliffs.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Tayside

NHF: Eastern Lowlands (16)

HLA: XX

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Selected creative associations

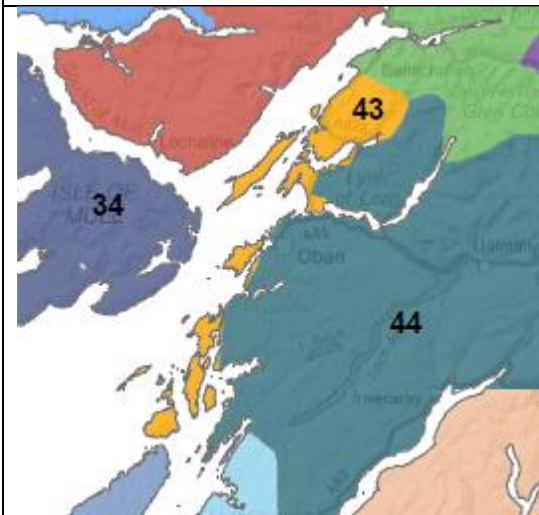
Paintings

Lunan Bay, Angus (Sir William Fetter)

Novels

The Antiquary (Sir Walter Scott)

43 Lynn of Lorn



Description

The coastline is very diverse, with sea lochs, low-lying islands and stunning coastal views. There are striking contrasts between this small-scale low-lying area and the scale of the neighbouring Sound of Mull and Firth of Lorn. Behind the coast, wooded slopes, meadows in sheltered hollows and fields divided by stone walls are set within a backdrop of vast mountains. Ruined, isolated settlements, landmark castles and monastic remains characterise the archaeological landscape here. Being accessible, it has long been important as a place of sanctuary and habitation, and was key in the west coast seaborne trade and the Lordship of the Isles. Today it maintains a sense of seclusion and tranquillity.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Argyll and the Firth of Clyde

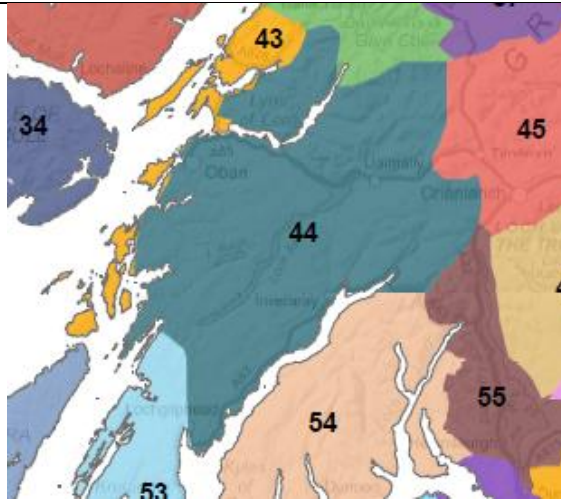
NHF: East Lochaber (13)
Argyll West and Islands

HLA: XX

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Selected creative associations

44 Mid Argyll and Lorn



Description

This rugged upland plateau is aligned north-east to south-west and punctuated by linear lochs. At the coast, steep wooded ridges plunge into the sea, forming a dramatic landscape of sea lochs, peninsulas and islands. It is a landscape of diverse views: there are glimpses of the Highlands, including Ben Cruachan, as well as coastal views. Access to the uplands is limited and these areas tend to be remote and tranquil. Development, limited in extent, is concentrated on the flatter margins around the coastal fringes. Here, many designed landscapes, such as Inveraray Castle on Loch Fyne, and its associated 18th century planned town exert a strong influence over the surrounding landscape. It has a rich historic character, with many archaeological sites, such as duns and forts, and also the Bonawe furnace complex.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Argyll and Firth of Clyde, small part in Loch Lomond & Trossachs

NHF: East Lochaber (13)
Argyll West and Islands (14)

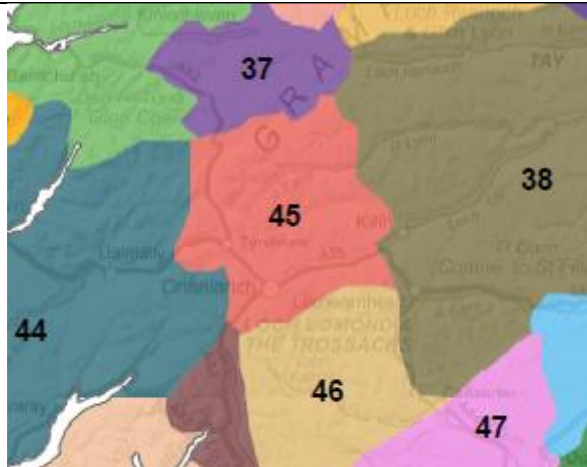
HLA: XX

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pp 191-195

Selected creative associations

Novels
Morvern Callar (Alan Warner)

45 Mamlorn and Orchy



Description

A dramatic upland area, where sweeping mountains tower above U-shaped glens and straths. The main straths contain a mosaic of woodland, bracken and rough pasture, with glacial features such as terraces and drumlins. Remnant pockets of ancient Caledonian pinewoods clothe the low hummocky hills around Tyndrum and Glen Falloch. The hills above Loch Lyon and Glen Lochay are uninhabited and remote, making a sharp contrast with the hydro-electric development in the glens below. The busy corridor between the eastern end of Glen Dochart and Tyndrum contains major roads and two railway lines with bridges and viaducts. Otherwise the area is sparsely populated.

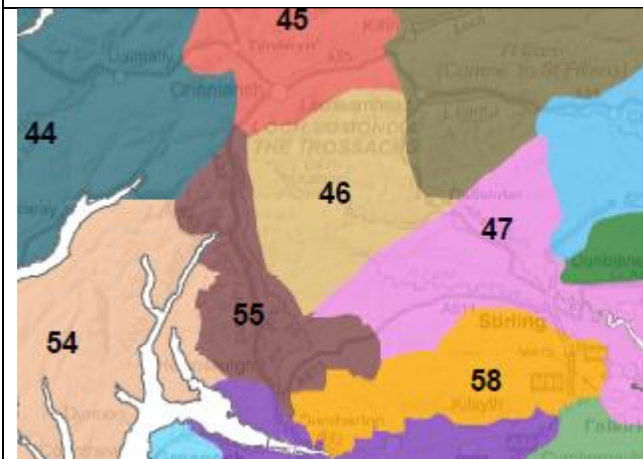
Key technical information sources

LCA: Loch Lomond & Trossachs, Central, Tayside
 NHF: Lochaber (13)
 Loch Lomond, the Trossachs and Breadalbane (15)
 HLA: XX
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Selected creative associations

Poetry
 In Praise of Ben Dorain (Duncan Ban Macintyre)

46 Trossachs



Description

A renowned area of lochs surrounded by wooded glens, forested hills and small but dramatic hill peaks. Lying just to the north of the Highland Boundary Fault, the area is often considered to be the best of the Highlands. Popularised by the writings of Walter Scott, and famed for its panoramic views and autumn colours, it is readily accessible to the Central Belt and popular with visitors. The many tourist attractions tend to centre on the main towns of Aberfoyle and Callander, with holiday villages, tea shops and woollen mills spreading into the surrounding landscape. Away from the small, busy towns, there are many lochs and tranquil, hidden glens.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Loch Lomond & Trossachs

NHF: Loch Lomond, Trossachs and Breadalbane (15)

HLA: XX

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pp 191-195

Selected creative associations

poetry

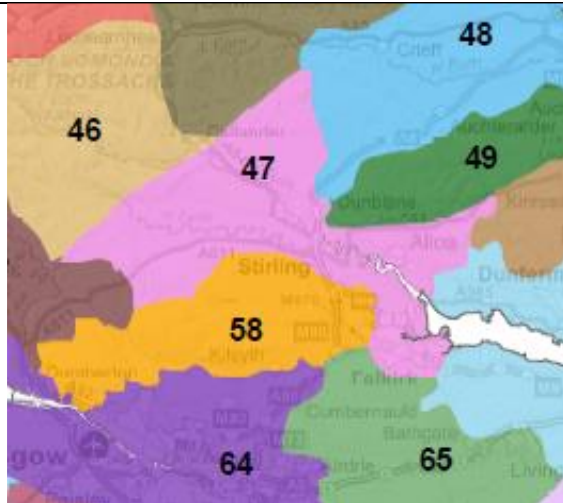
The Lady of the Lake (Sir Walter Scott)

Music

Bonnie Strathyre (Sir Harold Boulton / traditional)

Braes of Balquidder (traditional)

47 Forth Valley



Description

A settled lowland area of flat, open peaty moss, moorland and low lying arable farmland juxtaposed against the surrounding hills. The carse is punctuated in the west by areas of broadleaf and coniferous woodland. To the east, the river flows in wide meanders and the surrounding farmland is dotted with settlements, tower houses, and the remnants of once thriving industries. Views and transport networks converge on historic Stirling. The city is characterised by a narrow mediaeval street plan and tall dwellings, culminating in the castle itself. Roman remains are more subtle reminders of previous inhabitants. The distinctive outline of the city can be seen in long views across the Forth Valley, with woody slopes and monuments crowning the resistant volcanic outcrops.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Clackmannanshire, Central, The Lothians
Dunfermline District, Stirling to Grangemouth

NHF: Loch Lomond, Trossachs and Breadalbane
(15)
Eastern Lowlands (16)

HLA: XX

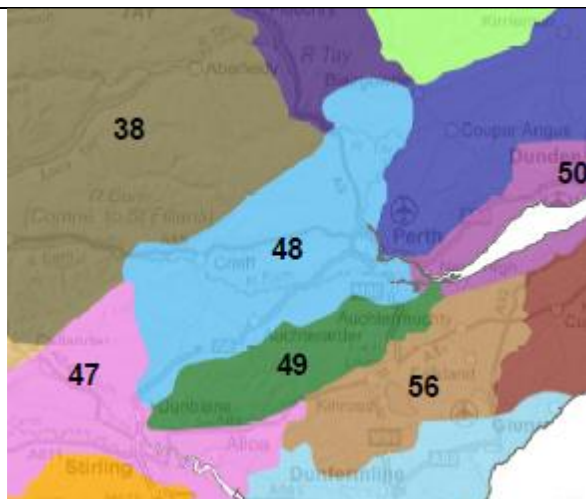
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Selected creative associations

Music

Will Ye go to Sheriffmuir? (traditional)

48 Strathearn and Strathallan



Description

A broad strath and smaller scale valleys, framed by hills, ridges and moorland. It marks a transition between the Lowlands and Highlands, and has extensive views to the hills of the Highland Boundary Fault. The large rivers of the Tay and Earn meander through rolling farmland of large-scale fields, woodland and the policies of large estates. Field boundaries often include mature trees and hedges. To the east, framed by hills, the city of Perth sits elegantly on the Tay. Other settlements include the cathedral town of Dunblane, and 18th century planned Crieff. The other, smaller settlement is associated with estates, strategic river crossings, often via impressive stone bridges, and routes across the hills. Major transport routes follow the straths, and the railway brought tourism and visitors, for example to Gleneagles hotel and golf courses.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Tayside

NHF: Eastern Lowlands (16)

HLA: XX

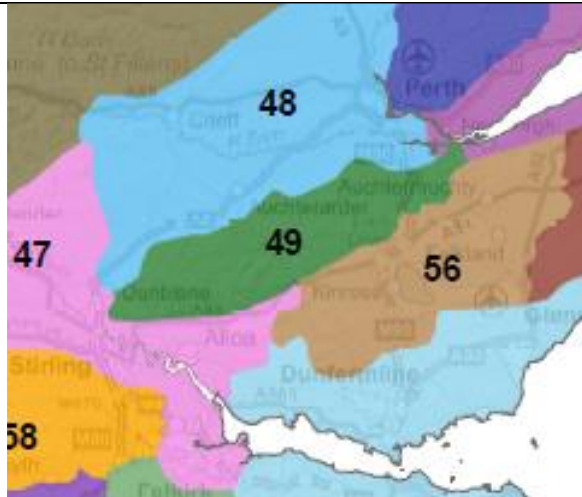
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Selected creative associations

Novels / writing

The Bull Calves (Naomi Mitchison)

49 Ochils



Description

An elongated range of hills with varied south-facing scarp slopes. The contrast with the flat carse below makes the hills seem more imposing than their actual scale would suggest. To the west, the hills are elevated, open, and bare, with a line of small hillfoot villages nestling at the base of the slopes. Separated by a glen running north to south, the hills and grasslands to the east are more rolling, with secret glens, scattered houses, forestry and farmland. The Ochils form a backdrop to the neighbouring settlements, which in turn can be seen in panoramic views from the hills.

Key technical information sources:

LCA: Tayside, Clackmannanshire

NHF: Eastern Lowlands (16)

HLA: XX

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Selected creative associations

50 Firth of Tay



Description

The silvery Firth of Tay is bounded by low-lying, fertile carse farmland with major transport routes to the north, and the undulating hills of Fife to the south. The outer coasts are edged with sandy beaches, dunes and links golf courses. The city of Dundee dominates the south-facing slopes to the east. The silhouette of the city includes the steep-sided Dundee Law, a range of high-rise buildings, and landmark road and rail bridges crossing the estuary. Small towns lie along the coast, whereas traditional farms and villages are dotted throughout the farmland. Castles guard the north of the widening firth, while anti-tank blocks and pillboxes on the south shore sands mark an area thought vulnerable to attack in WWII. Fruit growing remains a feature of the area, often in polytunnels which occupy the sweeping lower hill slopes.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Tayside, Fife

NHF: Eastern Lowlands (16)

HLA: XX

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Selected creative associations

Novels

Emotionally Weird (Kate Atkinson)
The Smiling School for Calvinists (Bill Duncan)

Paintings

Chill October (John Everett Milais)