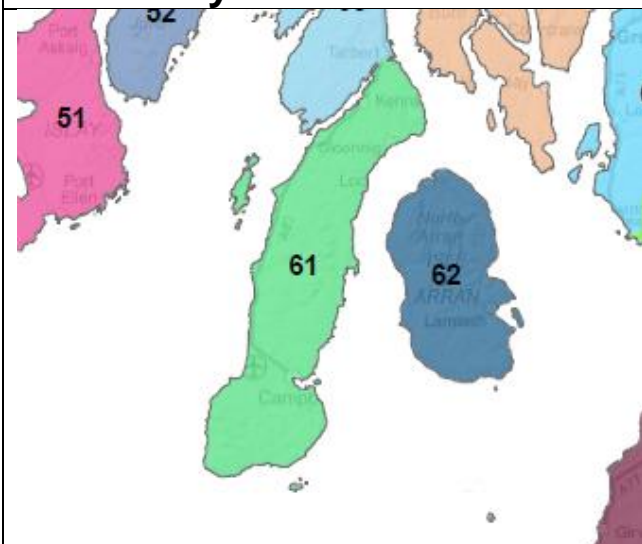


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61	Kintyre	62	Arran
63	Clyde Muirshiel	64	Glasgow and Clydeside
65	Slammanan Plateau	66	Pentlands
67	Lammermuirs and Moorfoots	68	Ayr Plain
69	Renfrewshire Hills and Clydesdale	70	Etrick and Moffat Hills

61 Kintyre



Description

Kintyre is often called the 'mainland Island'. A long central moorland spine is flanked by a mix of forestry plantations and small areas of open moorland, that fall gently toward the coast, with intimate glens cutting into the spine. Rocky stretches and sandy beaches provide a varied coastline, hugged by the main roads and giving dramatic views across the sounds to the islands of Arran, Gigha and Islay. Ruined forts and castles dot the coastline. South, towards the mull, the land flattens out and becomes more settled, with wide, open beaches and pastures. Campbeltown is the largest town. Here, with the airfield, runway and golf course at Machrihanish, have a more developed character, which contrasts with the rest of the peninsula.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Argyll and Firth of Clyde

NHF: Argyll West and Islands (14)

HLA: XX

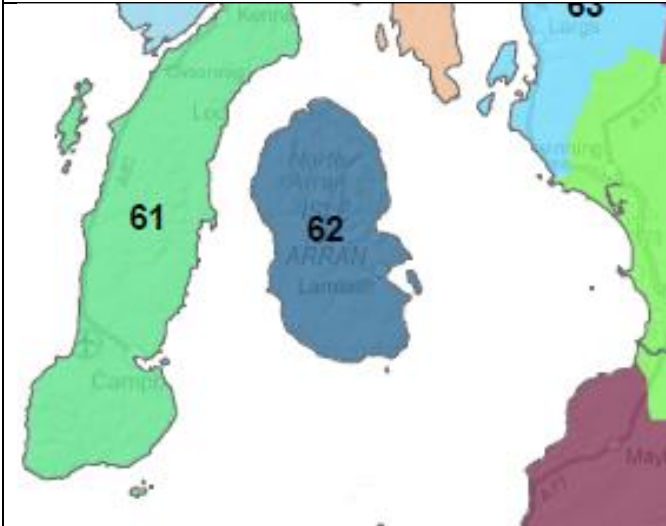
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Selected creative associations

Paintings

Off to the Fishing (William McTaggart)

62 Arran



Description

Comprising both lowland and highland landscapes, this island is popularly known as 'Scotland in miniature'. In the north, dramatic, serrated central granite uplands are ringed by gentler rocky coasts, low cliffs, coastal farmland, or beaches of sand, shingle or cobbles. . To the south, agriculture is more prevalent with field boundaries and steadings common. Modern forestry plantations are a more significant feature in the centre of the island. Most of the settlement is along the coast and is generally traditional vernacular in style. Castles and stone circles indicate the long history of human occupation. The coastal road which circles the island provides dramatic views to Kintyre and the other islands of the Clyde as well opportunities for encountering a range of wildlife.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Ayrshire

NHF: Argyll West and Islands (14)

HLA: XX

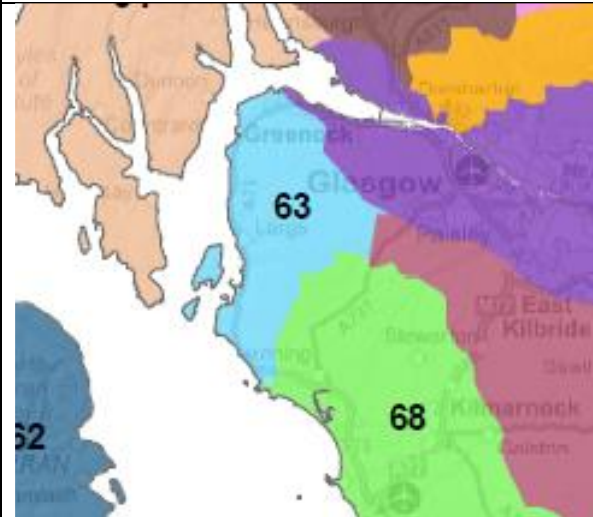
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Selected creative associations

Paintings

A Riverbank at Corrie (Robert Herdman)

63 Clyde Muirshiel



Description

An area of high coastal moorland that contrasts with the surrounding farmland, loch and wetland areas on lower ground. It has a surprisingly remote feeling for a place so surrounded by settlement and has extensive views over the Firth of Clyde. Steep, winding roads lead down incised glens towards the coast and the views from them are a feature of travelling through the area. The coast has a raised beach with occasional castles, and is surmounted by a wooded relict cliff. Marinas, settlements, power stations and road and rail links all occupy the busy coastal strip. Many of the coastal villages and towns are popular day-trip destinations. Wind farms are common in the southern part of the area.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Ayrshire, Glasgow and Clyde Valley

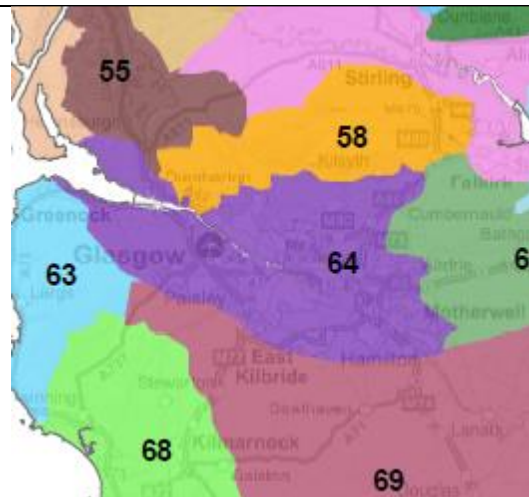
NHF: West Central Belt (17)

HLA: XX

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pp 171-176

Selected creative associations

64 Glasgow and Clydeside



Description

The great expanse of the Glasgow conurbation sits in a large alluvial plain, bordered to the north and south by low hill ranges. Built development in all its forms dominates, obscuring the underlying natural features, such as the hummocky drumlin landform. Even the River Clyde is generally seen only when viewed from its banks or from its many bridges. Major transport routes follow the river valleys. Evidence of earlier settlement can be seen along the length of the Clyde. The modern city includes a wealth of civic, industrial and residential buildings, following a grid-iron pattern in the centre. This, the industrial heart of Scotland, is busy and crowded, but the 'dear green place' is also known for its many parks and quiet pockets of greenery along its smaller rivers.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Glasgow and Clyde Valley

NHF: West Central Belt (17)

HLA: XX

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Selected creative associations

Poetry

Glasgow (Alexander Thomson)

Novels / writings

The Slab Boys (John Byrne)

The Trick is to Keep Breathing (Janice Galloway)

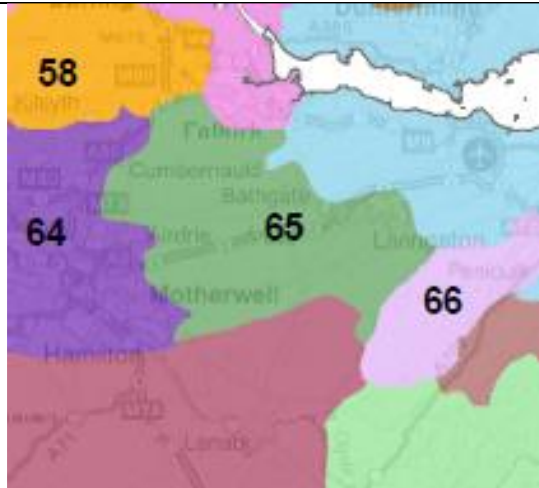
Young Adam (Alexander Trocchi)

Film / TV

Comfort and Joy (Bill Forsyth)

Ratcatcher (Lynne Ramsay)

65 Slammanan Plateau



Description

Slammanan is an area of exposed, sometimes bleak moorland, dotted with towns and villages with a strong mining and industrial heritage. The plateau lies between Cumbernauld and Falkirk, around the headwaters of the River Avon. It consists of peatland, wetland, rough and improved grassland. The pronounced north to south folds in the topography tend to restrict views to and from the plateau. It is crossed by minor roads, running from north to south, which connect the scattered settlements and farmsteads. Windswept tree belts and hedges often edge the fields and roads. Lowland crofts and some extensive tree planting are relatively new features in this landscape.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Lothians, Glasgow and Clyde Valley

NHF: West Central Belt (17)

HLA: XX

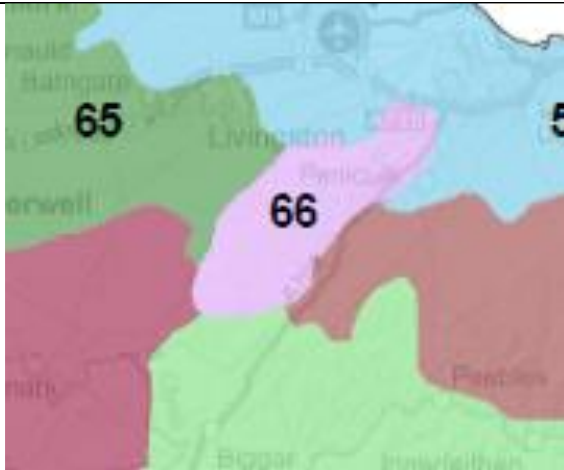
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pp 171-176

Selected creative associations

Music

The Rose of Allandale (traditional)

66 Pentlands



Description

A linear range of rounded hills with some individual, neat, small-scale peaks. The interior comprises a mosaic of open grassland and moorland, which is interspersed in the more elevated north-west by small lochs and reservoirs, all connected by a network of well-used paths. The smooth lower slopes contain farms, small woodlands and some forestry plantations. These hills provide the setting for the capital, and they are a landmark feature in central Scotland. There are panoramic views from the summits. The hills' strategic importance in earlier times is shown by cairns and prehistoric forts, and remains of a Roman road. Despite their proximity to settlement, they feel surprisingly remote and are a popular leisure destination for residents and visitors.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Lothians, Glasgow and Clyde Valley, Borders

NHF: Border Hills (20)

HLA: XX

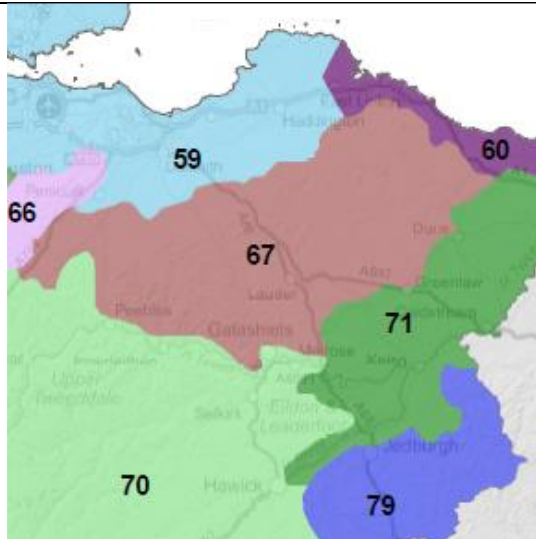
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Selected creative associations

Poetry

The Pentland Hills (Lady Carolina Nairne)

67 Lammermuirs and Moorfoots



Description

These rounded, open and bare hills are breached only by a few north-south passes and incised valleys. The expansive, windswept hills have large areas of heather moor, managed by muirburn, which gives the appearance of a 'devoré' velvet texture and seasonal colour changes. The remainder consists mainly of rough grass sheep grazing with some forestry plantations. Their height and sense of remote grandeur contrasts with the surrounding landscapes. Settlement is limited to a few small villages on the lower flanks; cairns and remnant hill forts hint at a long history of occupation. Traces of a Roman road flank the west side of Lauderdale and modern roads similarly follow the passes to link the Lothians and Borders.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Borders

NHF: Border Hills (20)
Eastern Lowlands (16)

HLA: XX

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pp 155-161, 161-166

Selected creative associations

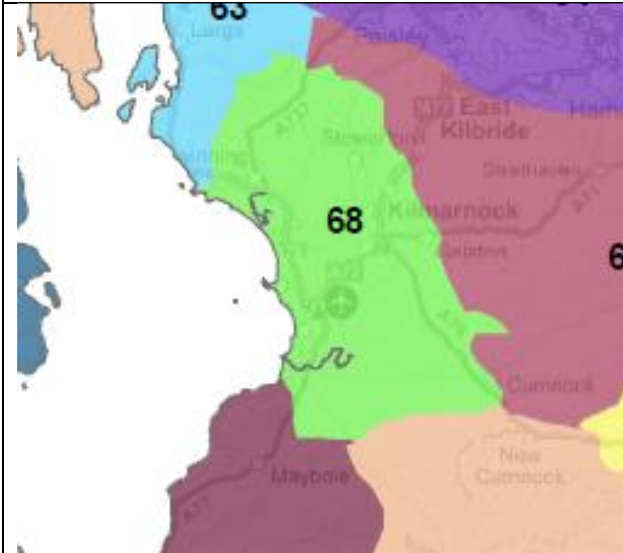
Novels / writings

The Bride of Lammermuir (Sir Walter Scott)

Music

Lucia di Lammermuir (Gaetano Donizetti)

68 Ayr Plain



Description

A low coastal plain of gently rolling farmland and wooded river valleys, perhaps better known for its coast, seaside resort towns and ferry ports. Several of the small inland towns have weaving or mining histories. The settlements often have charming cottage-lined main streets or grand dark red sandstone civic buildings. There are splendid views west across the island-strewn Firth of Clyde where ferries, yachts and dinghies ply the waters. Thick, varied hedges of hawthorn, blackthorn, and beech enclose the pastures of brown and white dairy cattle. The area is associated with farm produce, golf, and its cultural links with Robert Burns, but there is also large-scale opencast coal mining and coastal industry, including a nuclear power station and a paper mill.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Ayrshire

NHF: West Central Belt (17)

HLA: XX

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pp 168-1

Selected creative associations

Poetry

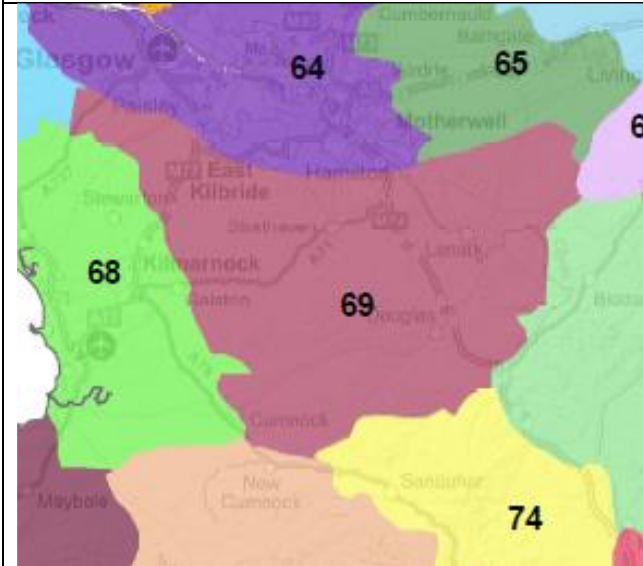
Farewell to the Banks of Ayr (Robert Burns)

Novels / writings

The House with the Green Shutters (George Douglas Brown)

Our Fathers (Andrew O'Hagan)

69 Renfrewshire Hills and Clydesdale



Description

The broad, fertile upper reaches of the Clyde valley contrast with the neighbouring low moorland and grassland hills that border the largest conurbation in Scotland. Upland farmland and unimproved grassland are dotted with thin, mature shelterbelts and hedges. Much of the area has an open aspect and is relatively accessible - roads follow the valleys, most obviously the main England-Scotland road and rail routes. Small towns are located in these river valleys, for example along the upper Clyde, an area including the World Heritage Site of New Lanark, but there are also some villages on higher ground. The Clyde Valley is renowned for market gardens and orchards, several of which remain. A few minor roads trek across the intervening moorlands, occasionally giving views of scattered forestry plantations and wind farms.

Key technical information sources:

LCA: Ayrshire, Glasgow and Clyde Valley

NHF: West Central belt (17)

Border Hills (20)

Western Southern Uplands and Inner Solway

HLA: XX

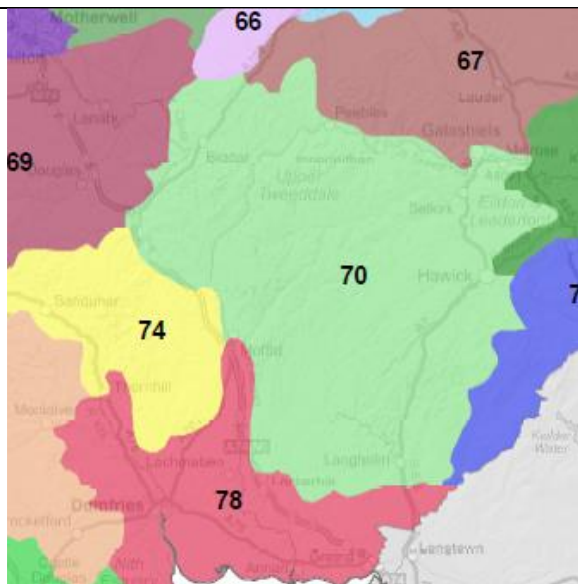
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pp 171-176

Selected creative associations

Paintings

The Falls of Clyde (Joseph Mallord William Turner)

70 Etrick and Moffat Hills



Description

A wide upland area of broad, rounded, open hills and extensive sheep grazing. Amongst the jumble of sculpted hills, a network of glens and passes links small villages and occasional towns. Lochs and reservoirs, some with sculpted dams, occupy the upper reaches of a few of the valleys. Forestry plantations occur on some hills and there is a mix of pasture and woodland in the lower, eastern reaches of the valleys. Lonely roadside inns are reminiscent of earlier eras of travelling. A few castles and towers evoke the reiving history of the area and some traces of cairns, hut circles and Roman forts and camps hint at even older occupation.

Key technical information sources

LCA: Borders

NHF: Border Hills 920)
Eastern Lowlands (16)

HLA: XX

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pp 161-166

Selected creative associations

Poetry

Border Ballads (ed. Sir Walter Scott)
Etrick Forest in November (Sir Walter Scott)

Paintings

Rhymer's Glen, Abbotsford (Joseph Mallord William Turner)

Music

Dowie Dens of Yarrow (traditional)