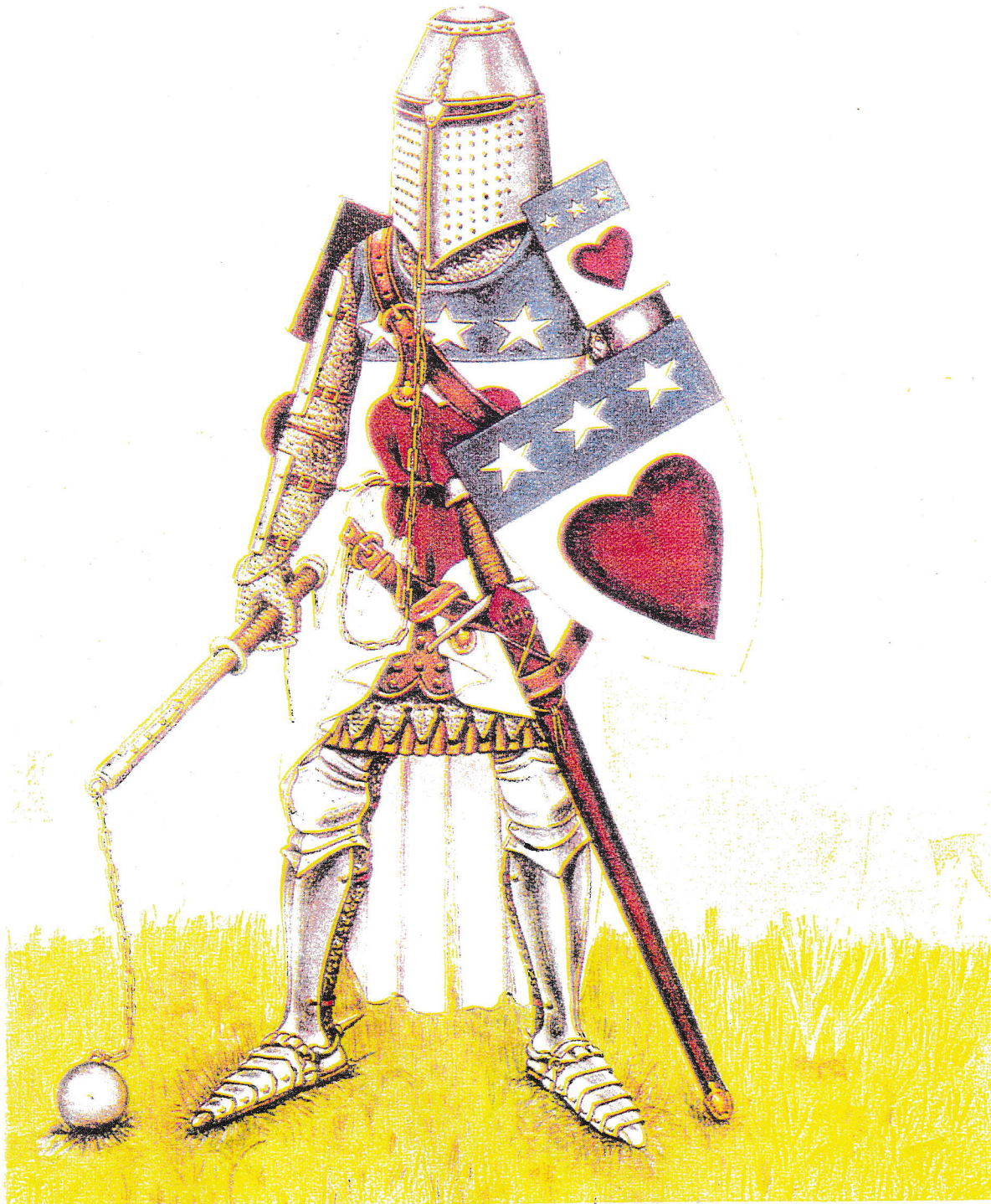


# A GUIDE TO DOUGLAS LANDMARKS IN SCOTLAND

## Castles, Abbeys and Battles



Sir Archibald Douglas, 3rd Earl of Douglas, known as  
"The Grim". Builder of Threave Castle. Died 1400.

(Artist's impression)

# **DOUGLAS**

**A brief historical and geographical history**

---

The noble steed, the harness bright  
The gallant lord and stalwart knight  
In rich array,

Where shall we seek them now? Alas  
Like the bright dewdrops on the grass,  
They fade away!

Anonymous

"We are the children of many sires  
and every drop of blood in us in its  
turn betrays its ancestor."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

By Douglas town in ruin lies a Castle that knew fame,  
For there a gallant Knight abode and Douglas was his name,  
He put to flight the English Might and glory brought to us  
Now history in ruin lies at Castle Dangerous.

O long may Scotland sing in praise, her sons wi' famous names,  
Now let us sing the glory of a Douglas Good Sir James,  
Let every hill and glen resound his battle cry of yore,  
"A Douglas" "Douglas" "Douglas" "A Douglas Evermore."

Side by side wi' Bruce he fought, and always played his part,  
And when at last the great Bruce died, he took his dear Kings heart  
Into the thickest of the fray he flung the heart on high,  
"Go first as thou were wont to do, I'll follow thee or die."

At last at rest in auld St. Bride's, the famous Douglas lie,  
Nae mair the English fear their names or fear their battle cry,  
But long may Scotland praise his name who fought victorious,  
The Great Black Douglas, Good Sir James, of Castle Dangerous.

Author Unknown



Saint Bride Church – Douglas, Scotland



Burial crypt of "The Good Sir James", The Black Douglas.  
Saint Bride Church – Douglas, Scotland

PATRON SAINT OF THE DOUGLASES  
SAINT BRIDE

When the Gaels celebrate the birth of Christ they picture the gentle Bride, Saint Bride of the Kine, stealing on tired, wondering feet across the Courtyard of the Inn at Bethlehem. They see her crooning to the sleeping babe wrapped in her mantle, and through the swelling harmonies of the first service on Christmas morning they listen to her angel's song.

Who is this Saint Bride, this Muime Chrísd of the Celtic Race, this tender-hearted, pitying "Fostermother of the Christ"? Some hold she was the niece of Saint Ultan, and followed the footsteps of Saint Patrick. She is, above all, Saint Bride of the Mantle, the loving shepardess of sheep, and perhaps because she was borne of the Royal Blood of Ireland, and exiled on account of the high destiny that should be hers, or because her parents were poor and obscure, yet filled with piety, she came in some mysterious way to be a serving maid in the Inn at Bethlehem.

THE STORY OF SAINT BRIDE  
THE HANDMAID OF THE INN

A decree had gone out from Caesar Augustus, and the little city was full. A great drought held the land in its parched grasp, and the innkeeper must needs make his way to the well that is beside the gate, there to bide his time. He left Bride but a stoup of water and a bannock for her use, and till his coming back no further traveller must be admitted to the caravanserai.

The twilight deepened into the dusk of an Eastern night, lit with a glory of twinkling stars, and a golden planet hung low upon the horizon. Palms and cypresses rose out of the barren sand, and beyond, the roofs and domes of the town glimmered white in the stillness.

There entered slowly into the courtyard an old man with hair and beard yet brown, and with mild eyes in which there brooded wondering joy and great awe. In one hand, he grasped his pilgrim's staff, and by the other he led a mule on which was seated a woman. He asked for food and shelter, but Bride could give naught but the provision which was hers, and guide them to the shed where meek oxen lay. There was no more room for them in the Inn. Then she returned to her post and fell into a deep sleep, but when she awoke it seemed to her that as from a distance she heard a rapture of music ineffable, as when the morning stars sung together and all the sons of God shouted with joy. A dazzling radiance shone above the stable door, a glory exceeding the glory of sunset or of dawn. Trembling, she entered the lowly rockhewn byre, and fell upon her face in adoration, for there was that Blessed One she had seen in a vision of her childhood as she gazed into the cool depths of the fountain of youth. In that instant her memory returned to an Island set in western seas, where on the horizon dim enchanted Isles lie shadowy, and the winds blow out of an unknown past.

Often through her slumbers there had floated the song the white merle sang in the branches of the quicken tree beside the spring, while that form in which the perfect ideal of womanhood was revealed, whose innocence and loveliness no painter has ever succeeded in portraying, had haunted her waking dreams.

The Babe slept, and gently bending, Bride received Him from the arms of the Blessed among women, and wrapped Him in her mantle, for the breeze would come chill with the dawning. Then, sprinkling on his head three drops of water, she, too, fell asleep.



GAWAIN THOMAS ALEXANDER DOUGLAS

Recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross. Knight Chevalier of the Military and Hospitaller Order of St. Thomas Acon. Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries (Scotland). Life Governor of the Royal Home and Hospital for Incurables, London. Late of the British, Indian Army (Cavalry). Lieutenant Colonel in the Royal Armoured Corps Special Reserve of Officers. Ex-Squadron Leader in the Royal Air Force, 1941-1947. Aide-de-Camp to Lord Erskine of the Earldom of Mar, Governor of Madras, and Adjutant of the Governor's Mounted Bodyguard, 1938-1940.

**GAWAIN THOMAS ALEXANDER DOUGLAS**  
*(Original compiler of this information)*  
**Biographical Sketch**

Lieutenant Colonel Gawain Thomas Alexander Douglas was born December 18, 1914. His numerous earned and accumulated honors are listed on the previous page beneath the photo.

His regiment was the famous polo- playing 15th Lancers before WWII, and in 1938 found himself playing against U.S. top polo players, "Laddie" Sanford and Gerald Balding in the Prince of Wales tournament in Bombay. This period of his early life as a subaltern was very exciting due to his participation in polo, tiger shooting, yacht racing, Himalayas climbing and qualifying as a pilot in his spare time. In 1941 he was transferred to the R.A.F. and flew as a fighter pilot for the rest of the war in the Middle East, Burma and Malaya. He flew mainly Hurricanes, Spitfires, P47 Thunderbolts and Tempests. After the excitement of the war he found peacetime soldiering boring and poorly paid, so he resigned and went to work, mainly overseas, as an administrator in shipping and large hydro-electric projects. He retired in 1980 to a small polo ranch near Palm Beach, Florida where he lived for 14 years. He returned, in 1994, to Great Britain to be with his family.

Gavin (preferred spelling) fortunately can trace his ancestry through the Lairds of Drumlanrig, to the half-brother of "the Good" Sir James Douglas, 2nd Earl of Douglas and Mar who was killed at Otterburn in 1388--and through him supposedly to "le Hardi" and "Long Leg".

He is one of the Douglasses of Morton in Nithsdale, descended from the 7th Laird of Drumlanrig in 1520. In 1995 he matriculated his Arms, for his childrens' sake, in the Court of the Lord Lyon. His father matriculated his in 1930 although it is necessary to do this only every 3rd or 4th generation.



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are, of course, indebted to Gavin Douglas for the original preparation of most of this material and it is included, for the most part, verbatim.

We are also indebted to "Shire Publications, Ltd" for permission to use their battlefield maps, which appear in their publication, "Discovering Battlefields of England and Scotland", and to "Cassell PLC" for use of the painting of Sir Archibald Douglas appearing in "The Book of the Medieval Knight" for our front cover. For the picture appearing on the back cover, we thank "Broughton Ales Ltd., Broughton, Peeblesshire". This is an artist's impression commissioned by the company.

We also wish to thank several members of the Douglas Clan for the use of their personal photographs.

*( The only liberties taken with the original work involve additional information from the compiler, rearrangement of text and inclusion of pictorial material)*

John O.A. Douglas, 1998

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## PREFACE

In the 13th and early 14th centuries the loyalty of a number of important Scottish families was divided between Scotland and England, especially those who owned lands in England from which they drew revenue, and for which they were bound in return to give feudal service, and allegiance, to the English king. During the early years of Scotland's struggle for independence it is not surprising, therefore, that, at first, some of the Scottish nobles fought on the side of the English and that others were luke-warm, at best, in opposing the invasion of their country by the English under King Edward I who was determined that Scotland, Wales and England should be one country.

The patriotic resistance put up by Sir William Wallace and his men against superior English forces, and his dastardly death at the hands of the English in London after he was taken prisoner, awakened the conscience of the Scots and it provided the inspiration and impetus for those Scottish nobles who had hung back at first to unite against the English under the leadership of Robert the Bruce, Earl of Carrick.

King Robert the Bruce is one of the heroic figures of history. It was he who, supported by the Scottish Church and a group of ardent young men, now led the fight for freedom. He built up a band of Highland guerrillas, and close companion knights, among whom was the young, legendary "Black Douglas", eldest son of Sir William "le Hardi", 2nd Earl of Douglas, who had died while a prisoner of the English in the Tower of London in 1298.

The war of Scottish Independence lasted for several centuries, with successes and defeats on both sides, nevertheless during it a monarchy (the Stuarts) was successfully established in Scotland which ironically provided, in 1603, the heir to the throne of England as well. It is also of note that the main protagonist supporting the Act of Union in 1704 between the two countries should have been a Douglas, James Douglas, 2nd Duke of Queensberry.

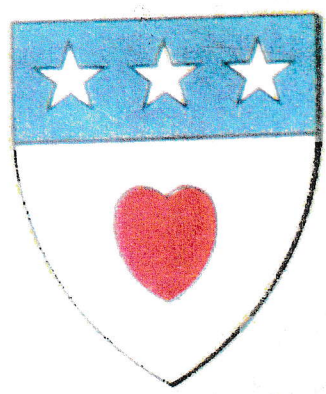
This, necessarily abbreviated, short guide will take you around southern Scotland to show you where the Douglasses had their strongholds, and where their battles and skirmishes were fought. It must, however, be remembered that in those days there were no roads such as there are now, and that the only feasible access into Scotland from England was either by the east coast, or by Carlisle in the west. Much of southern Scotland, particularly in the centre, was covered by dense forest in which wild boar and wolves abounded in the hills and dales, and the lack of cultivable land to produce food was an effective bar to penetration by an invading force of effective size.

In some parts of the itinerary, where there is not much left to see, you may use your imagination to let your mind travel back a half of a millennia while you imbibe the "atmosphere" at the spot where you quietly stand. Surely, if you have any Celtic blood in your veins, you will hear faintly through the mists of time, the hoof beats of galloping horses, the shouts and tramp of marching men, and see before you the glint of sun, or moonlight, on their swords, armour and lances.

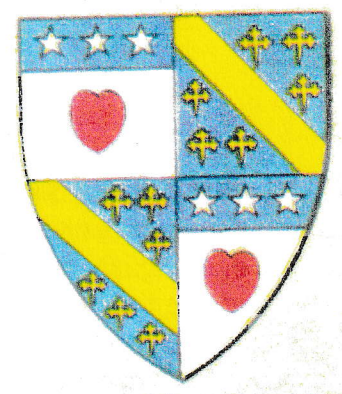
Scotland is a magical place.



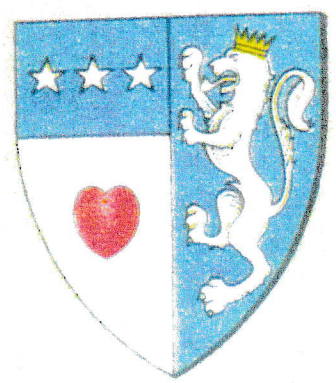
1. Sir Wm. Douglas



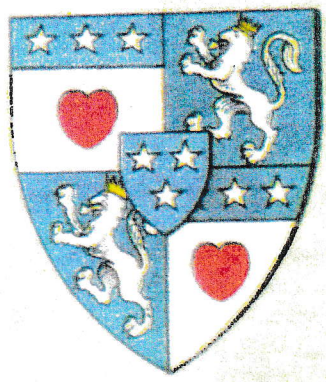
2. 1st Earl of Douglas



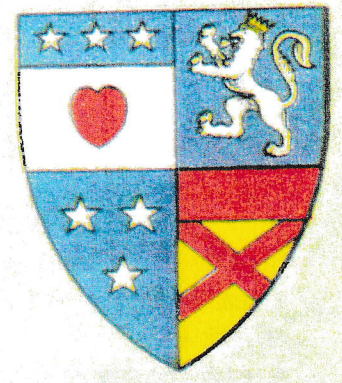
3. 1st Earl of Douglas and Mar



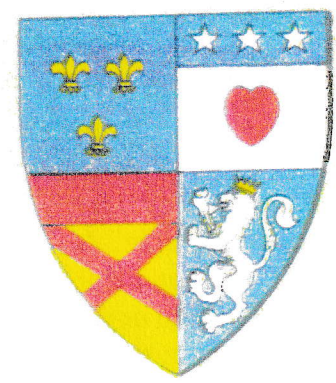
4. 3rd Earl of Douglas



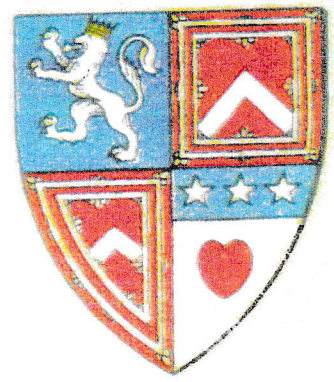
5. 4th Earl of Douglas



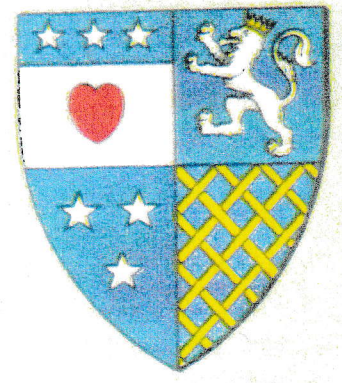
6. 4th Earl of Douglas



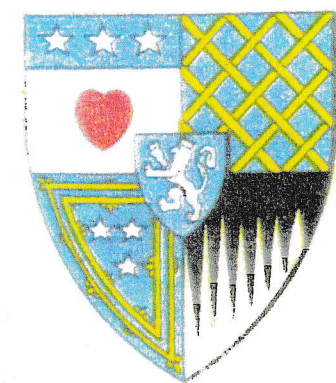
7. 4th Earl of Douglas



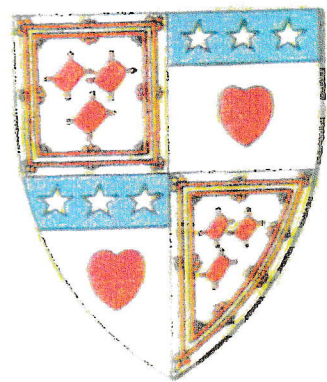
8. Earl of Wigtown



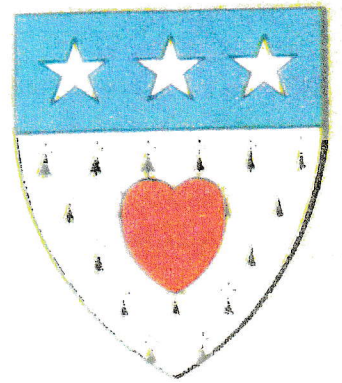
9. 7th Earl of Douglas



10. 9th Earl of Douglas



11. Earl of Moray



12. Earl of Ormond

## **SHIELDS OF THE FIRST DOUGLAS EARLS**

**The shields are Number one, that of Sir William, Lord of Douglas, who was created First Earl of Douglas on January 26, 1358. Number two marks the first time the Bruce heart appears on the Douglas shield, later in Sir William's lifetime.**

**Thereafter, the blazoning on the subsequently numbered shields shows the acquisition of additional chivalric titles, either through marriage, inheritance, or force in successive generations.**

**James, the Ninth Earl, was the last of the main line. His brother, William, the Eighth Earl, was murdered by King James II(Fiery Face), at Stirling Castle after dinner on the night of February 20, 1452. The Ninth Earl died in exile at Lindores Abbey after having had his lands and titles taken away from him. Numbers Eleven and Twelve are the shields of his brothers, Archibald, Earl of Moray, and Hugh, Earl of Ormond. Archibald was killed at the disastrous battle of Arkinholm on May 1, 1455. Hugh was taken prisoner in the same battle and was beheaded shortly thereafter.**

**Although the main line died out after Arkinholm, various sturdy branches sprouted from the main trunk which still flourish today. They are the Douglasses of Angus, Hamilton and Selkirk, the Douglasses of Morton, the Douglasses of Drumlanrig, Queensberry and Kelhead, the Douglasses of Bonjedward, the Douglasses of Morton in Nithsdale, the Douglasses of Cavers, the Douglasses of Friarshaw, the Douglasses of Mains, Pumpherston and Baads, the Douglasses of Sweden, and other Douglasses.**

### **GLENDDEVON CASTLE**

Held by the Douglasses in the 15th century. Location -- 18 miles north of Dunfermline on A823.

### **DUNFERMLINE**

Former capital of Scotland and burial place, along with Iona, of Scottish kings. The Benedictine abbey was founded in 1074, and Robert the Bruce is buried there.

Location -- Intersection of A994 and A906.

### **ABERDOUR CASTLE**

James Douglas, 4th Earl of Morton, Chancellor and then regent of Scotland from 1572 "busied himself making walls and alleys, in drawings of garden plots" to enhance this stylish castle. The remnants of this once stately dwelling can still be seen. Nearby is the Nunnery established by the 1st Earl of Morton.

Location -- Aberdour on A92

### **ABERCORN**

When James II laid siege to this castle the 9th Earl of Douglas immediately fled to England. This siege in 1445 was the immediate prelude to the falls of the Earls of Douglas and their line which was sealed by the defeat of their forces under the Earl's brothers at the battle of Arkenholm on May 12, 1445

Location -- off A905, along the river Forth.

### **LINLITHGOW PALACE**

Archibald Douglas, powerful 6th Earl of Angus, Warden of the East and Middle Marches, visited Linlithgow many times, as did many of the other Douglasses. Here, in 1525, he refused to hand over guardianship of the young king (James V) with such a show of forcefulness that it left him supreme in his position (see Maxwell, Vol.2, p.84). It was also he who featured in the "Cleanse the Causeway" affray in Edinburgh in 1520 when the numerically superior Hamiltons were put to the rout, by the Douglasses, and many of them were killed.

The 10th Earl of Angus had 3 sons and 3 daughters, and his second daughter, May, married the 2nd Earl of Linlithgow.

Early in Robert the Bruce's reign, Linlithgow castle was in the hands of the English. He captured it from the English by use of a stratagem with the help of a farmer named Binning, who drove his cart under the portcullis so that it could not be lowered when the attack took place. Two battles of Falkirk were fought close to Linlithgow.

Location -- M9 near B825.

### **KIRK NEWTON**

Dalmahoy House, seat of John Charles Sholto Douglas, 21st (and current) Earl of Morton.

Location -- intersection of A70 and B7031.

## **EDINBURGH**

The Castle, Royal Mile, Holyroodhouse Palace incorporating the Augustinian abbey founded by David I in 1128, St. Giles Cathedral, etc., the list is immense. Its former name in the mists of time was "Duneadain" (the spelling varies) meaning a fortified place on a slope, or fort on a rock. A succession of castles has existed here for over a thousand years. The earliest surviving part of the present structure is the small part of Saint Margaret's chapel which dates from 1100 A.D.. The majority of the present buildings date from the 17th century with later additions in the 18th and 19th centuries.

King Edward I of England captured the castle in 1296 and occupied it for 17 years until 1313 when it fell to Robert the Bruce's captain, Sir Thomas Randolph (there is a romantic story how Sir Thomas and his men succeeded in scaling the rock one night and taking the English garrison by surprise). Under Robert the Bruce's order all of the castle's buildings (mostly of wood) were then destroyed with the exception of Saint Margaret's chapel which was left unharmed.

The castle rock fell again to the English army during the reign of Edward III who refortified it extensively, only to lose it again to the Scots on April 16, 1341.

On November 24, 1440 it was the scene of the murder of the young 6th Earl of Douglas and his brother by James II at the "Black Dinner".

On April 29, 1520 it featured in the "Cleanse the Causeway" affray which took place between the feuding factions of Douglas and Hamilton when the Hamiltons were put to rout and Sir Patrick Hamilton and many of his men were slain, and the Earl of Arran and his son, Sir James Hamilton, escaped together through the Nor'loch to the fields on the back of a coal-heaver's cart horse, leaving Archibald, 6th Earl of Angus, in possession of the capital.

"Mons Meg", the massive cannon which once stood in front of St. Margaret's chapel is now in the castle museum. It was once believed (now disproved) that it had been built in Kirkcudbrightshire for the express purpose of battering down the walls of Threave castle. It was last fired, as a salute to King Charles II, in 1680 when its barrel burst.

Near the entrance to the castle stands Cannonball House. Directly opposite this building are the remains of a well above which there is a plaque inscribed into the well. This marks the spot where over 300 women were burnt at the stake between 1480 and 1720 over a period of 260 years. Among the victims was Lady Janet Douglas, ex-wife of the 6th Lord Glamis, and 3rd sister of the Earl of Angus, on July 17, 1537. There is now no doubt that this, based on trumped-up charges, was an act of spite born of fear of the power of the Douglasses by King James V.

## **DALKEITH PALACE**

This impressive palace was built around an existing castle by James Douglas, 4th Earl of Morton, 6th Lord of Dalkeith and Regent of Scotland, in the early 17th century. The palace was sold by the Douglasses 80 years after James was executed for complicity in the murder of Darnley. Its new owner, the 2nd Earl of Baccleuch is the ancestor of today's present resident and successor, the Earl of Dalkeith.

Location -- 6 miles S.E. of Edinburgh of A7.



Edinburgh Castle (picture taken from Princes Street)



Ruins of Morton Castle  
Home of the Douglases on Morton in Nithsdale for 170 years, 1550-1720



### **CRICHTON CASTLE**

Many well-known Scots lived at various time at Crichton. It was here that Sir William Crichton laid plans to murder the young Douglas brothers in 1440 at Edinburgh. Later, the castle was occupied by Margaret Douglas, wife of Frances Stewart, 5th Earl of Bothwell and Lord High Admiral of Scotland.

Location -- 17 miles S.E. of Edinburgh on B8367 off A68.

### **DROCHIL CASTLE**

This castle, now a ruin, was erected by Regent Morton in 1570.

Location -- 8 miles N.W. of Peebles on A72.

### **MORTON HALL**

Now a Country Club, this stately building was once the seat of the Earl of Morton.

Location -- 5 miles east of Edinburgh on B7030.

### **PRESTONPANS**

Three battles took place here on the outskirts of Edinburgh in 1648, 1715, and 1745.

Location -- west Edinburgh.

### **HADDINGTON**

Lennoxlove, seat of the 15th Duke of Hamilton and Brandon, Alan Angus Douglas-Hamilton.

Location -- intersection of A6137 and A6093.

### **DIRLETON CASTLE**

About 2 miles west of North Berwick stands the ruin of Dirleton castle which once belonged to David II, the Scottish king. After 11 years of being held a captive in England by the English, the Scots were eventually able to come up with the enormous ransom money that was demanded to free him, and in 1357 he returned to Scotland. However, things didn't run smoothly in Scotland and when, after a few years, it became known that David had been negotiating with Edward III to alter the Scottish succession in favour of the Plantagenet line the Scottish nobles expressed their displeasure openly. Sir William Douglas, 1st Earl of Douglas seized Dirleton Castle in 1363, and backed by Robert the Steward and the Earl of March, then morally forced David II to cease any further negotiations.

Location -- on A198.

### **TANTALLON CASTLE**

Stronghold of the Red Douglasses. Located on A198, three miles east of North Berwick.



Tantallon Castle, North Berwick

Stronghold of the Red Douglases. Built mid-14th century and finally abandoned in 1661 after receiving severe damage from Cromwell's artillery under General Monk

## **DUNBAR**

Three events of note took place here in 1296, 1339 and 1650. Dunbar was in the hands of the Scots and the English many times.

Location -- B1343.

## **COLDINGHAM**

This Benedictine priory was for many years an appanage of the Earls of Douglas and Angus. William Douglas was Prior in 1522. The priory featured many times not only in the struggles between the Scots and the English but also between the Scottish lords themselves.

Location -- intersection of A1107 and B6438.

## **BERWICK-UPON-TWEED**

On the Scottish-English border, it was always being overrun by both sides. Sacked by Edward I on March 28, 1296. Attacked by Bruce and Sir James Douglas in June 1315. Besieged by them in 1316, and captured in 1317. More often than not, however, it was in the hands of the English as one of their forward bases. Nearby the Battle of Halidon Hill took place in 1333.

Location -- intersection of A1 and A698.

## **COLDSTREAM**

"The Hirsell", home of the late Rt. Hon. Alec Douglas-Home, 14th Earl of Home and former Prime Minister.

Location -- A698 and A697.

## **WOOLER**

The battle of Homildon Hill in September 1402 took place close to Wooler.

## **KELSO**

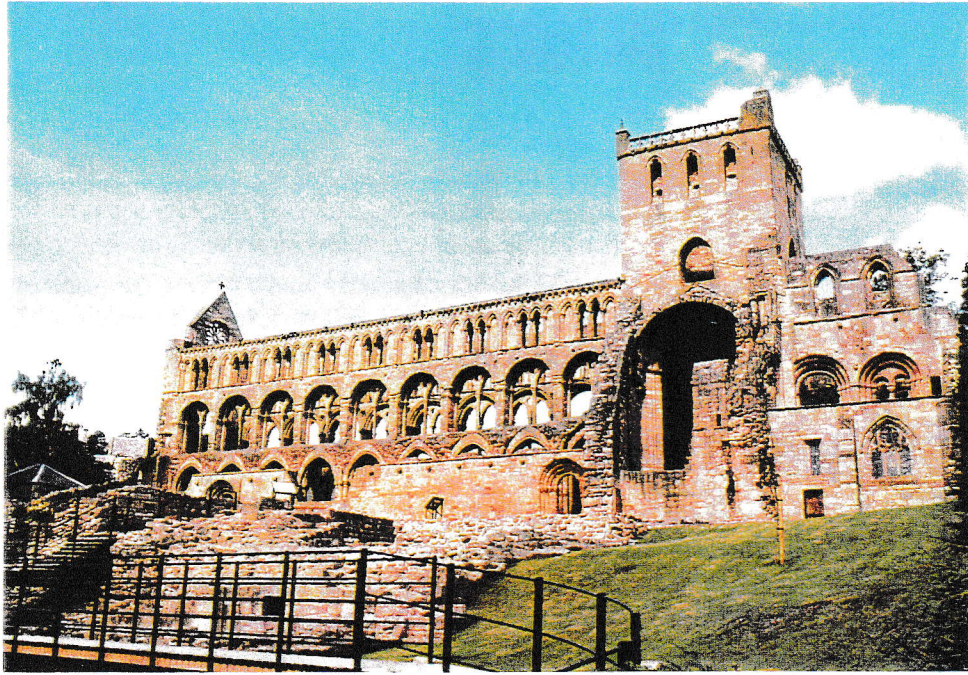
Kelso Abbey was a Tironensian abbey founded by David I in 1113. It was well-known to Bruce and Douglas in their struggles against the English, and like all Border abbeys it was often damaged in these affrays.

Floors Castle, owned by the Duke of Roxburgh, is close to Kelso but hardly a vestige remains of Roxburgh Castle which was always one of the most strongly held castles by the English. In 1314 it was captured by Sir James Douglas and his men by adopting the ploy of slowly creeping on all fours towards the castle one twilight evening in the hope that they would be mistaken by the sentries for late-grazing cattle, and then, having reached the walls putting up their scaling ladders and taking the garrison by complete surprise. It was at this time (Shrove Tuesday) that the legend arose:

"Hush ye, hush ye, little pet ye,  
Hush ye, hush ye, dinna fret ye,  
The Black Douglas will no get ye,"

"Don't be so sure of that," said a voice behind the women who was singing her child to sleep as she sat on the wall, and a steel-gloved hand was laid upon her shoulder. It was the Black Douglas himself!

In 1460 James II was killed at Roxburgh by the bursting of one of its siege guns, and Douglas,



Jedburgh Abbey (exterior)



Jedburgh Abbey (interior)

Earl of Angus, who was standing beside him, was injured. For many years the spot was marked by a hawthorn bush.

Location -- intersection of A698 and B6352.

### **JEDBURGH**

An Augustinian abbey founded by David I in 1123 which was also often damaged in the border affrays. It was particularly well-known to the Douglasses of Bonjedward, and was colonised by French monks from Beavais. In 1523 it was attacked by the Earl of Surrey and set on fire.

On Queen Street stands a house in which Mary Queen of Scots lay feverishly ill in 1566 after her epic dash on horseback to be beside the wounded Bothwell at the Hermitage. It was roughly 50 mile round trip done in one day, over rough country under terrible weather conditions. The house is now a museum dedicated to her memory.

Location -- intersection of A68 and B6358.

### **ST. BOSWELLS**

Dryburgh Abbey was founded by David I in 1150. It contains the tombs of Sir Walter Scott and Earl Haig of Bemersyde. About 3 miles south of the abbey the battle of Ancrum Moor was fought on February 17, 1545.

Location -- intersection of A68 and A699.

### **MELROSE**

This Cistercian Abbey is probably the finest ruined abbey in Scotland. Like all border abbeys it was under continual attack from the English invaders and suffered damage in 1332 and 1385, being completely destroyed in the raids of 1543-44. Robert the Bruce's heart is believed to have been buried beneath the East Window of the Chancel.

The nearby Eildon Hills are a feature of Scottish folklore especially in connection with Thomas the Rhymer. Scenes of witchcraft were often reported by the superstitious countryfolk to have happened amidst the hills in times past.

Location -- intersection of A6091 and B6360.

### **ABBOTSFORD**

Home and museum of Sir Walter Scott. Sir Walter probably did more to bring to notice the history of Scotland through his novels and poetry than any other person or factor.

Location -- on B6360.

### **SELKIRK**

Selkirk is a Royal Borough, and is steeped in history. Nearby is Bowhill House, one of the residences of the Duke of Buccleuch. Also close at hand is where the battle of Philiphaugh took place on September 13, 1645 which ended the Royalist cause in Scotland.

Location -- intersection of A7 and A699.



**Melrose Abbey, Roxburghshire**

**One of four famous Border Abbeys, Dryburgh, Kelso and Jedburgh, which were sacked, burnt and rebuilt a number of times during the War of Scottish Independence. Robert the Bruce's heart is buried here.**



**Melrose Abbey, Roxburghshire. A red-painted stone marks the site where the heart of Bruce was exhumed in 1997.**

## **BLACKHOUSE TOWER**

Situated on Douglas Burn by Yarrow, Blackhouse was a stronghold of James "The Good", companion of Robert the Bruce.

Location -- 11 miles west of Selkirk on A7089.

## **ST. MARY'S LOCH**

This quiet loch was once the scene of the "Douglas Tragedy" described by Sir Walter Scott in his "Lay of the Last Minstrel". Here, on Blackhouse Heights above the Douglas Burn, and not far from Ettrick, are stones marking the spot where seven Douglas brothers fell dead while pursuing their eloping sister, Lady Margaret Douglas, and her lover, a Sir William. Her lover killed the brothers and badly wounded her father before riding on, but by morning both lovers were dead from their wounds and they were buried together in St. Mary's churchyard. The graveyard is on the side of Hendersyde Hill. Over the lady's grave is said to have grown a "bonny red rose" while over her lover's grew a briar.

Location -- Between Selkirk and Moffat on A708

## **HAWICK**

A border town which often changed hands in the wars between the Scots and the English and of great historical interest.

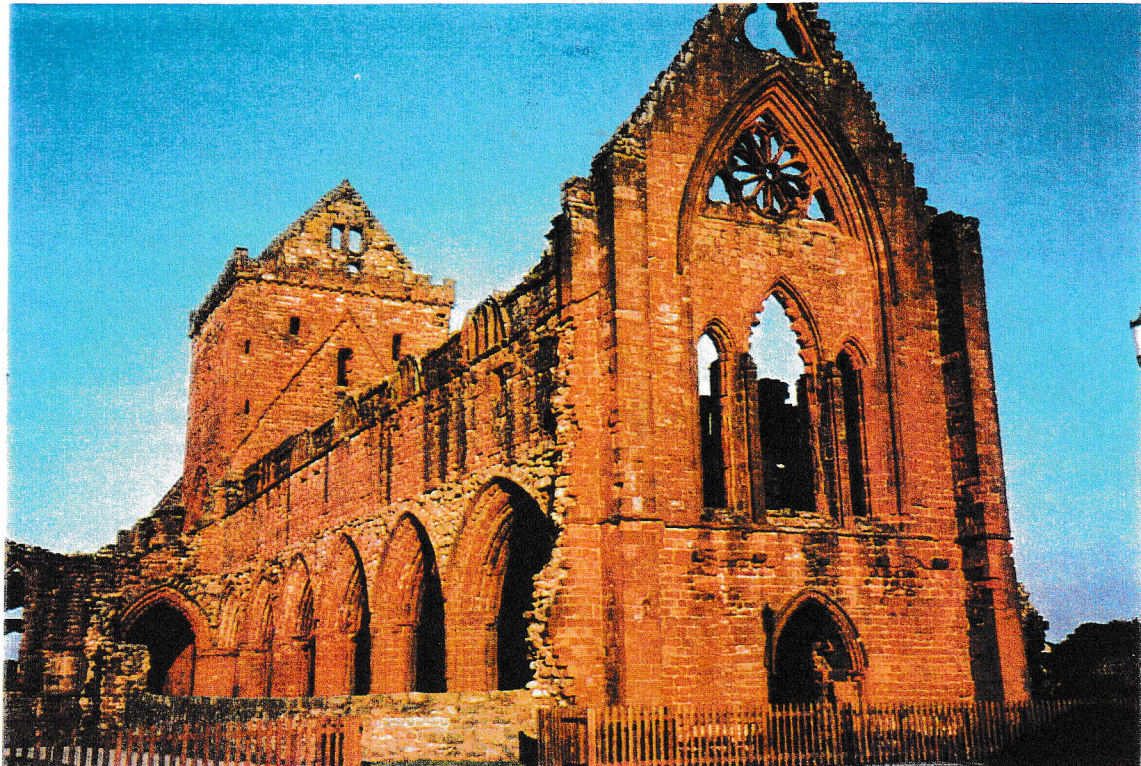
The 9th Laird of Drumlanrig was created Lord Douglas of Hawick and Tibbers, and Viscount Drumlanrig (peerage of Scotland) in 1628, and later Earl of Queensberry. The Hawick title has remained with the Marquesses of Queensberry ever since.

Location -- intersection of A698 and A7.

## **THE HERMITAGE**

Formerly held by the de Soulis, Dacre, Douglas and Bothwell families. It repeatedly changed hands. In 1335 Edward Baliol granted it to one of his supporters, Ralph Neville, but in 1338 it was captured by Sir William Douglas, the famous Knight of Liddersdale. In 1342 he seized his enemy, Sir Alexander Ramsay, and threw him into prison in the Hermitage where he was starved to death. Then Sir William Douglas himself was murdered in Ettrick Forest by William who afterwards became 1st Earl of Douglas, in the hands of whose family it remained until 1492. James IV ordered Archibald Douglas, Earl of Angus, to hand over the Hermitage and it then came into the possession of Patrick Hepburn, Earl of Bothwell. It was from Jedburgh to here that Mary Queen of Scots made her famous ride on 15 October 1566. In 1594 the Hermitage reverted to the Crown and by the end of the century passed into the hands of the Scotts of Buccleuch. In 1930 the castle was placed in State care. For over three centuries it had seen great violence both in the constant warfare between the Scots and the English, and also in the internecine struggle amongst the nobles and the king.

Location -- on B6399.



**Sweetheart Abbey, New Abbey**  
A setting sun turns the Abbey's stones a beautiful warm red.



**Hermitage Castle, Liddisdale**  
Built in the Thirteenth Century, by the end of the Eighteenth Century, it had fallen into complete disrepair.



## **LANGHOLM**

It was here that the battle of Arkenholm was fought on May 12, 1445. James, 9th Earl of Douglas had already been forced to take refuge in England, and his brother, Archibald, Earl of Moray, was killed and Hugh taken prisoner. This brought about the end of the "Black Douglas" line of the Earls of Douglas. To encompass it James II had obtained the help of George, 4th Earl of Angus, a "Red Douglas", while he himself remained at Abercorn. Parliament in June formally forfeited the estates of the Earl of Douglas and his three brothers, and those of his mother, the Countess Beatrix. The king bestowed Annandale upon his second son, Alexander, Duke of Albany, and the rest of the Douglas lands were divided among the Maxwells, Johnstones and Scotts. Angus was given the lordship of Douglas with the original possession of his ancestors in Douglasdale.

Location -- B7068, east of Lockerbie.

## **CARLISLE**

Formerly a border town much involved in the Scottish War of Independence. There is now an excellent museum here depicting those times, and also of the sallies of the Scottish Reivers.

Location -- intersection of B5307 and A595.

## **BRAMPTON**

Is situated nearest to the remains of the western end of Hadrian's Wall. Further to the east is greater evidence of the wall at Haltwhistle and Low Brunton (approx. 20 miles).

Location -- on M6.

## **GRETNA**

Three battles were fought here, the "battle of the Sark" October 23, 1488/9, the "battle of Solway" December 14, 1542, and the "battle of Pinkie Cleugh" September 10, 1547.

Location -- intersection of A74 and A75.

## **CAERLAVEROCK**

This castle was the principal seat of the Maxwell family often visited by the Douglasses.

Location -- on B725.

## **NEW ABBEY**

New Abbey, or Sweetheart Abbey, was founded in 1273 by Devorguille, mother of John Baliol. When Archibald (the Grim) Douglas took over the lordship of Galloway in 1369 Sweetheart Abbey was in a low state, the building dilapidated and the convent bankrupt. It owed its restoration to his munificence and piety, as did Lincluden and Holyrood.

Location -- on A710.



**Threave Castle, Galloway**

**Built by Sir Archibald Douglas(The Grim) about 1369. This castle has always been associated with the Black Douglases. In 1455 it was rendered uninhabitable after the battle of Arkenholm, and was finally abandoned.**



**Threave Castle, Galloway**

**Since it is surrounded by water, the only way to the castle is by this small ferry boat.**

### **DOUGLAS CAIRN**

The cairn marks the summit of Crifell, elevation 1866 feet, and faces Solway Firth.

Location -- between towns of New Abbey, Kirkbean and Sweetheart Abbey off A710.

### **DUNDRENNAN**

Dundrennan Abbey was another Cistercian abbey not far from Sweetheart. It was founded by David I in 1142 and was colonised by monks from Rievaulx Abbey in Yorkshire. Now it's a complete ruin. For years it was used as a quarry by local builders until it was taken over by the State in 1842 and partly repaired.

Location -- A711.

### **KIRKCUDBRIGHT**

Created a Royal Borough by James III, it is said, to commemorate the end of the power of the "Black Douglases" and their line.

Location -- A711.

### **CASTLE DOUGLAS**

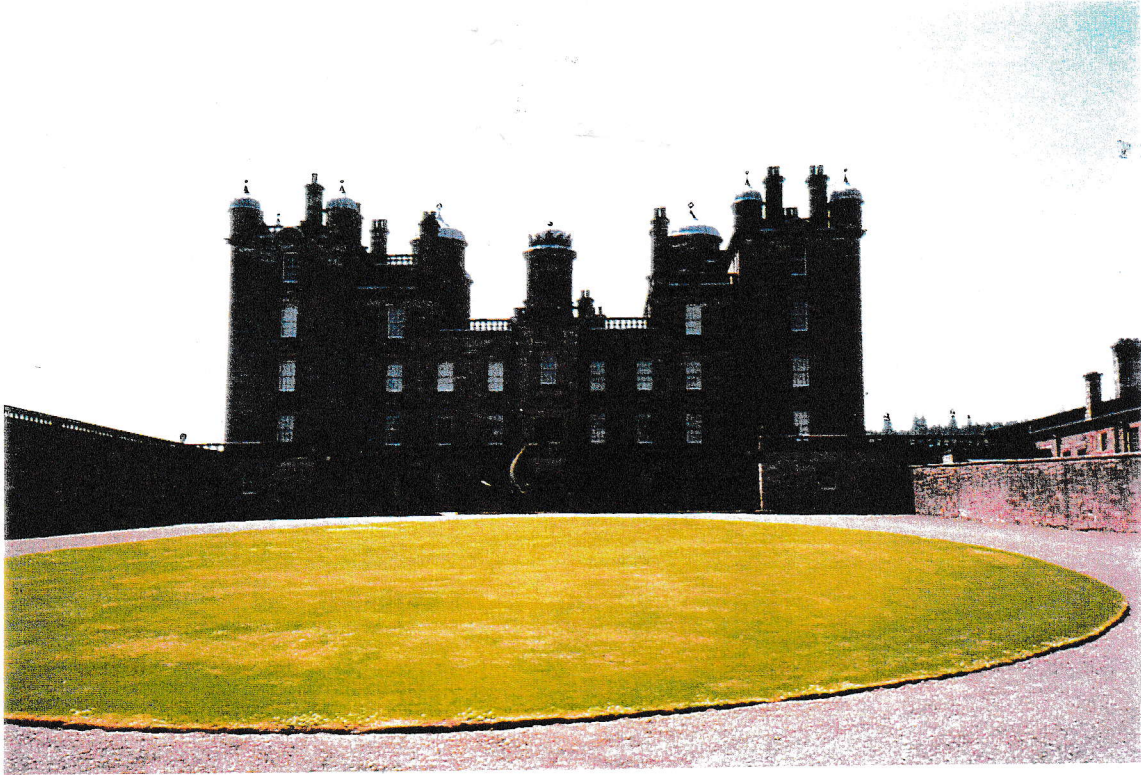
The present town named Castle Douglas has nothing to do with the ancient Douglas family. It stands adjacent to the old town of CARLINGWARK which, however, was well known to them. Close by is the ancient castle of THREAVE, home of "Black Archibald", known also as "The Grim". It was the last of the Earls of Douglas' castles to fall to James II, and surrendered after a two months siege in the summer of 1455.

Location -- intersection of A and A 745.

### **LOCH TROOL (GLEN TROOL)**

Roughly in the centre of Galloway Forest Park, about 15 miles due west of New Galloway and 10 miles north of Newton Stewart (about 40 miles north-west of Kirkcudbright by road), lies Loch Trool in the midst of spectacular mountain and loch scenery. In 1304, it was on the old road which ran beside the loch that Robert the Bruce and Sir James Douglas defeated a much larger group of English soldiers led by Lord Clifford by rolling rocks down onto them from the hill-side thereby forcing them into the icy waters of the loch where they were drowned in large numbers.

Location -- Off A714 in Glentrool Forest.



Drumlanrig Castle, Dumfriesshire

300-year old mansion, home of the Dukes of Buccleuch. Built between 1679 and 1689 under the direction of William, 1st Duke of Douglas, upon the site of former Douglas strongholds.



Castle Dangerous  
in Douglas---->

## **DUMFRIES**

Nothing now remains of the early castles at Dumfries and Carlingwark, both places having been reduced to ashes many times over the centuries. It was here that Robert the Bruce stabbed "Red Comyn", nephew of John Baliol (Toom Tabard), in the dynastic struggle for the Scottish throne. On the outskirts of the present town stands the ruin of Lincluden Collegiate church constructed on the site of a former abbey and adjacent nunnery. In 1388 Archibald the Grim, 3rd Earl of Douglas and Galloway, seized the nunnery and expelled the sisters on grounds of their misconduct. In its place he then founded the collegiate church and installed a provost and 8 non-monastic priests, or canons. In the present ruin lies the tomb of Princess Margaret, daughter of Robert III, and niece of Archibald (the Tineman) son of Archibald the Grim.

Location -- intersection of A701 and A75.

## **THORNHILL**

West of Thornhill is Drumlanrig Castle, home of the Dukes of Buccleuch, and a mile or so to the south lies the now hardly distinguishable ruin of Tibbers Castle, and about 3 miles to the east, the ruin of Morton Castle. A whole book could be written about the histories of these three castles.

Drumlanrig Castle is set on a hill (Drum) at the end of a long (lang) ridge (rig). The present Renaissance building was built by William, 1st Duke of Queensberry in 1679-91, and it was superimposed upon the earlier Douglas stronghold, few traces of which are now discernible. All three castles should be visited, particularly Drumlanrig and Morton.

Location -- A 76

## **DURISDEER**

The castle known here to the earlier Douglases has long since disappeared. In the church at Durisdeer lies a vault in which many former Douglases are interred. Durisdeer lies on one of the main axes of entry into Scotland through the Dalveen Pass and along the old Roman road which was used later by both the Scots and English forces.

Location -- A702 north of Thornhill.

## **DOUGLAS**

This was the centre of Douglas power for centuries dating back to the times of the first Earls of Douglas. It is where Douglas Castle stood which Sir Walter Scott poetically described as Castle Douglas but of which today only a practically unrecognizable vestige remains. Douglas is now a small, sleepy backwater town distinguished in more recent history by its covenanting activities, and the raising here in 1689 by the young Earl of Angus (and disbandment in 1968) of a famous Scottish regiment, the Cameronians.

Saint Bride was the patron saint of the early Douglases, and to quote George Crosbie, "to visit the chancel-chapel of St. Bride people come to Douglas, in the Upper Ward of Lanarkshire, from opposite ends of the earth. Here is a shrine both of Scottish history and of perhaps the most fascinating and the most resiliently tenacious of Scottish Lowland families".

Inside the chapel, which was once much larger, lies, amongst other tombs, that of the Good Sir James Douglas, and in a glass case containing two caskets are said to be his heart and that of Archibald "Bell-the-Cat". In the vault beneath the chapel lie many other Douglases.

Also to be seen at Douglas are the Tolbooth, the small Douglas museum run by the Douglas Heritage Society, and St Sophia's chapel, once the Dower House (the ducal crown can still be seen above the door). Adjacent to St. Brides is the clock tower and clock. Local tradition says the clock was a present from Mary Queen of Scots. (It certainly dates from her reign.) There is a statue in the park to the young Earl of Angus, and a small monument to the Cameronians.

Of sentimental interest is a walk through the castle's park, parallel to the stream called Douglas Water, to where Douglas Castle once stood, and where now only a part of a single broken tower remains. Its demise is surely one of the saddest things of all, and as Crosbie put it, "could only have occurred in a period of culturally induced amnesia". Surely the ancient Douglases deserved a better Valhalla than this.

Location -- intersection of ~~A75 and A713~~. *M74 AND A70*

## **AYR**

Ayrshire is peripheral to the main activities of the Douglases. however, Turnberry is where Robert the Bruce was born on July 11, 1274, and traces of the castle can still be seen on the cliff overlooking the Firth of Clyde.

Alloway, just south of Ayr, is the birthplace of Robert Burns, the Scottish poet. Here are his restored cottage, the Auld Brig O' Doon, the Auld Kirk. and the monument erected to his memory. At the Visitor's Centre is an audio-visual presentation of his well-known tale, Tam O' Shanter.

Location -- intersection of A719 and A70.

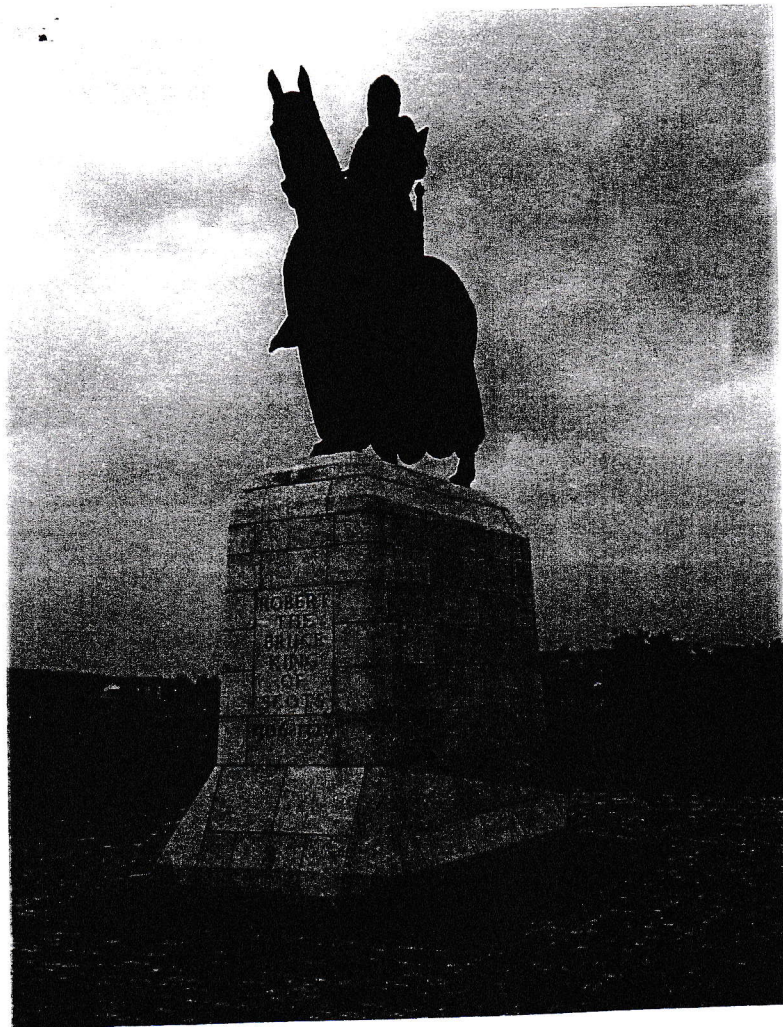
## **CROSSRAGUEL ABBEY**

On the ~~A77~~ south of Ayr, between Maybole and Kirkoswald stands the ruin of Crossraguel Abbey, originally a Cluniac monastery founded by the Earl of Carrick in the 12th century. Robert the Bruce and Sir James Douglas were frequent visitors here. Nearby, on the coast, stands Culzean Castle belonging to the Kennedy family. The top flat of the castle was given was given to General Eisenhower in 1946 to be used as his Scottish residence.

## **STRATHAVEN CASTLE**

The castles dates from the 15th century and was once home to the Earls of Douglas and later the Dukes of Hamilton.

Location -- intersection of A71 and A726.



Bannockburn  
Statute of Robert the Bruce

## **BOTHWELL CASTLE**

Bothwell Castle was built overlooking the Clyde, to the east of Glasgow, by Walter of Moray about the middle of the 13th century, and by the end of the century it was in the hands of the Maxwells. It was badly damaged during the Wars of Independence and it was never fully repaired by its new owners, the Black Douglases, but largely replaced by new buildings which today form the greatest part of the ruins. There is still preserved at "presumably Edinburgh" an elaborate genealogical table prepared in 1636 for George Douglas, second son of Sir Robert Douglas of Glenbervie wherein is shown, in addition to the lines of Douglas, Morton and Angus, and the branches of Queensberry, Cavers, Mains, and many others, the collateral descent of the Scoti of Piacenza (see Maxwell, Vol. 1, p.13). Francis Stuart, Earl of Bothwell, married Margaret Douglas, sister of Archibald Douglas, who later succeeded as 8th Earl of Angus, and Janet, daughter of the 1st Earl of Morton and 3rd Lord Dalkeith, married Patrick, Earl of Bothwell.

Location -- off M74, S.E. of Glasgow.

## **BANNOCKBURN**

The battlefield at Bannockburn is now almost completely encompassed by the sprawling urban spread of Stirling brought about by the cultural amnesia about its past and the Phillistinism, that existed in Scotland since the 17th century. In the case of the historic battle of Bannockburn which furthered Scotland's claim to independence, until the Union on October 27, 1707, this encroachment onto the battle site by property developers was fortunately brought to a halt in 1930 by a National Committee under the Earl of Elgin, a descendant of Bruce. Bannockburn is now protected by the National Trust for Scotland. A heritage centre, with museum, has been opened here.

## **STIRLING**

Stirling Castle is strategically placed north of the Forth on a volcanic plug, as is Edinburgh Castle south of the Forth, and for many years it was occupied by the English during the war of Scottish Independence. During one period of fifty years it changed hands no less than seven times. It was well-known to Bruce and the Douglases, and there was a period when the Douglases were so feared by the Stuarts that they were barred from approaching within twelve miles of the castle. It was at Stirling Castle that James II, having invited William, 8th Earl of Douglas, to dinner under a pass of safe conduct, treacherously murdered him in February 1452. William's successor, James, Master of Douglas, was so incensed by this that, accompanied by his brother Ormond and Lord Cadzow of Hamilton and six hundred men, he entered Sterling displaying, as a sign of contempt, the safe conduct granted to their murdered Chief tied to the tail of an old carthorse and dragged it in front of the castle and around the town while the king trembled inside.

Very little of the castle, of those times, remains and most of what can be seen now dates from the 17th century and later. A few miles to the north stands the Wallace Monument.

Location -- intersection of A811 and M9





Stirling Castle



The Douglas Garden, Stirling Castle

## CHRONOLOGY AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF MAIN BORDER BATTLES

1. Alnwick	November 13	1093
2. Berwick-Upon-Tweed	March 28	1296
3. Dunbar I	April 27	1296
4. Stirling Bridge	September 11	1297
5. Falkirk I	July 22	1298
6. Methven	June 19	1306
7. Loudon Hill	May 10	1307
8. Pass of Brander	August	1308 (?)
9. Bannockburn	June 24	1314
10. Dunbar II		1339
11. Halidon Hill	July 19	1333
12. Borough Muir	August 1	1335
13. Kilbain	November 30	1335
14. Neville's Cross	October 17	1346
15. Otterburn	August 15	1388
16. Homildon Hill	September 14	1402
17. Piperdean	September 10	1435
18. Sark	October 23	1449
19. Arkenholm	May 12	1455
20. Suachie Burn	June 18	1488
21. Flodden	September 9	1513
22. Solway Moss	December 14	1542
23. Ancrum Moor	February 17	1545
24. Pinkie Cleugh	September 10	1547
25. Langside	May 13	1568
26. Philiphaugh	September 13	1645
27. Dunbar III	September 3	1650
28. Bothwell Bridge	June 22	1679
29. Prestopans	September 21	1745
30. Falkirk II	January 17	1746

## **Main Border Battles**

### **1. Alnwick---November 13, 1093**

Between the Scots under Malcolm and the English. The Scots were totally defeated, and Malcolm, with his eldest son Edward, was slain in battle.

### **2. Berwick-Upon-Tweed---March 28, 1296**

After King John de Baliol of Scotland refused to supply men and arms for King Edward I's war against Gascony, instead formed a defensive alliance with France, Edward marched an army north and attacked the Scottish border town of Berwick, a centre, then, of international trade.

Overwhelming the citizen's clumsy defenses, his trained soldiers brutally slaughtered thousands and changed the prosperous city overnight into a smoking charnel house, which he later fortified and used as a military base.

### **3. Dunbar I---April 27, 1296**

Between the English, under King Edward I, and the Scots under the Earl of Athol. The Scots were defeated, with a loss of 10,000 men. This defeat led to the surrender of John de Baliol, to whom Edward had awarded the Crown of Scotland in 1292, and Edward was proclaimed king of Scotland.

### **4. Stirling Bridge---September 11, 1297**

Between the Scots under Sir William Wallace and the English, 50,000 strong, under the Earl of Surrey. Wallace fell upon the English army as it was crossing a narrow bridge over the Forth, and practically annihilated the bridgehead. The rest of the English were driven back to the Tweed, the invasion thus failing.

### **5. Falkirk I---July 22, 1298**

Between 18,500 English under Edward I, and 10,200 Scots under Sir William Wallace. The Scots were strongly posted behind a bog, which at first greatly hampered the English attack. In the end, however, the English archers overcame the Scottish defense, and a final charge routed them. Wallace escaped but was a fugitive for the rest of his life. Casualties: about 5,000 Scottish infantry and 40 knights; 200 English cavalry.

### **6. Methven---June 19, 1306**

Here a small Scottish force, under Robert the Bruce, recently crowned at Scone, was attacked and defeated by the English in superior force.

### **7. Loudon Hill---May 10, 1307**

Between the Scots, under King Robert Bruce, and the English, under the Regent Pembroke. Bruce met the attack of the English cavalry with a line of spearmen, which the English were unable to break, and they were driven off with heavy loss. Pembroke thereupon withdrew his army and returned to England.

#### **8. Battle of Pass of Brander---August 1308 (prob.)**

King Robert the Bruce had some old scores to pay off in Argyleshire, and marched there to the foot of Ben Cruachan probably in August 1308. John of Lorn held the Pass of Brander in force; Robert detached Douglas to outflank the clansmen, and then delivered a frontal attack. The melee was fierce and thick. When it was at its hottest, Douglas fell upon the flank and rear of the Highlanders, who broke and fled in every direction. This was followed by the siege and capture of Dunstaffnage, which was surrendered by Alexander of Argyle.

#### **9. Bannockburn---June 24, 1314**

Between the Scots under Robert Bruce, and the English invaders under King Edward II. Bruce's position was partly covered by a marsh, and further strengthened by pitfalls, in which the English cavalry were entrapped, and defeated with great loss. The English king escaped with difficulty, the invasion was abandoned and Scottish independence assured.

#### **10. Dunbar II---1339**

This town was besieged by the English, under the Earl of Salisbury, and was defended by Agnes, Countess of March, known as Black Agnes of Dunbar, whose husband, the Governor, was absent at the time. So vigorous was the defense, that Salisbury was compelled to withdraw from the siege.

#### **11. Halidon Hill---July 19, 1333**

When Edward III came to the throne in 1330 he was soon to face as much trouble from Scotland, as his father. Edward Baliol, a Scot with an equal claim to the Scottish throne, as he was a cousin of the Bruces, took an expedition to Fife by sea and defeated the Scots at Duppin Moor. In September 1332 Baliol was crowned at Scone but within a year the combined forces of the Earl of Moray and Archibald Douglas had driven him into the border country. Edward III gathered an army and, declaring void the Treaty of Northampton, which had agreed to recognize the sovereignty of Scotland, joined up with Baliol to besiege the walled town of Berwick-Upon-Tweed.

Worn down by Edward's great siege engines, the defenders of Berwick agreed in June to surrender the town by 11th of July if they were not relieved before that date. It was a situation similar to that of Stirling castle before Bannockburn. The Scottish relieving force managed to cross the Tweed upstream and burn Tweedmouth. In the diversion two hundred of them reached Berwick and the rest pushed on towards Bamburgh.

A new agreement was made between the town and Edward that he would return the hostages by 20th July if two hundred more Scots succeeded in getting through his lines. Douglas led his men back over the river to Duns. Edward III, whose army consisted of "murderers, robbers and poachers", posted them on the top of Halidon Hill where he could overlook both the town and the direction from which Douglas would attack. Arranged in three divisions with archers on each wing, the left was commanded by Baliol, the centre by the King and the right wing by Sir Edward Bohun, the Constable.

On 19th July the Scots approached from Duns. They were a larger army than Edward's,

which had suffered from desertions, and were arranged also in three divisions under Moray, Robert the Steward and Archibald Douglas. Two hundred picked men commanded by the Earl of Ross were in the rear. Waiting until the first wave of Scots were on the bog before Halidon, Edward's archers opened a devastating fire. Baliol's dismounted knights disposed of the few who reached them and the archers took a heavy toll of the second and third waves. Only Ross stood his ground and fought a rearguard action while the young Robert escaped. The English knights remounted and chased the Scots back to Duns, few of the latter being mounted as their horses had been seized by the frightened Scottish grooms who had watched from Witches Knowle Hill their masters being defeated. Seventy Scottish lords, including Douglas, five hundred knights and several thousand foot soldiers were killed. The English lost one knight, one man at arms and the Newcastle contingent which had arrived late and was cut down to a man.

Bannockburn had been revenged but Scotland was still undefeated and Baliol, although restored, was never accepted by the Scots, who smuggled their young King David II to safety in France.

### **12. Boroughmuir---August 1, 1335**

Guy, Count de Namur, landing on the east coast with a body of Flemish troops to reinforce Edward III, was encountered on 1st August on the Borough Muir near Edinburgh by the Earls of Moray and March and Sir Alexander de Ramsay of Dalwalsey. A brisk encounter ensued and the battle was turning in the favour of the Count de Namur when Sir William Douglas arrived in the nick of time with his own men and a force gathered in the Pentlands, and took the foreigners in the flank. They broke and fled for Edinburgh, hotly pursued by the Scots. The castle was in ruins at the time, having been dismantled lest it should fall into English hands, but the Flemings swarmed among the rocks, slaying their own horses and making a rampart of them. They made good their defense till the morrow, when they surrendered. The Earl of Moray, imprudently, not only released his prisoners, but insisted on escorting them over the border. He paid dearly for this. After parting from the foreign knights on the march his escort was attacked by Percy. Moray himself was taken prisoner and entered upon a captivity of six years. Sir William Douglas, who escaped with difficulty, was wounded in the ear, and William's brother James was slain.

At this time all the north of Scotland was in the power of Edward III and his puppet, Edward Baliol, who had been crowned at Scone in 1332, but it was not to stay that way for long.

### **13. Battle of Kilblain---November 30, 1335**

The national cause of Scotland had never been so low as now and a few Scottish knights, Sir Andrew Moray, having been ransomed about August 1334, Patrick Dunbar, Earl of March, Sir Alexander Ramsay of Dalwalsey, and Sir William Douglas of Lothian, would neither accept this as a fact nor bend the knee to Baliol. When the Earl of Athol, who supported Baliol's cause decided to capture Kildrummie, the last Scottish strength north of the Forth which was in the charge of Sir Andrew Moray's wife (of the house of Bruce), it was decided to proceed to her relief. It seemed a hopeless enterprise, seeing that Moray, March and Douglas had such a weak following. Nevertheless they made all speed to intercept Athol, and having been reinforced by three hundred men from Kildrummie, surprised the greatly superior force in the forest of Kilblain. The result was a victory for the Scottish patriots. Athol himself was slain and his army dispersed with much slaughter.

#### **14. Neville's Cross---October 17, 1346**

Between an English army under the Archbishop of York, Lord Neville of Raby and Henry, Lord Percy and the Scots under Sir William Douglas, King David II and Robert the Steward. Superior forces of the English defeated the Scots mainly due to the topography and bad positioning of the Scottish forces. David II was taken prisoner while trying to flee over Browney Bridge.

#### **15. Otterburn---August 15, 1388**

During the minority of Richard II, the Scots, divided into two armies, crossed the border. The Earl of Douglas, with the smaller army, was beaten off when he had reached Newcastle by Harry Percy and his son Ralph who had an army of 7,000 mostly mounted, lightly armed soldiers. Douglas retreated with Percy's lance pennant and young Percy, determined to retrieve it, followed close behind.

Making for the border, the Scots attempted to capture Otterburn castle in Redesdale. This attempt failed so they camped in a wood nearby keeping a sharp lookout for Percy. The latter detected their camp at about midday on 19th August and, dividing his forces into two, set about the Scots who were resting from their fruitless attacks on the castle. Percy sent Sir Thomas Umfraville on a wide detour to attack the Scots in the rear. He then led his main body against their outposts on the slope before the camp. By this time it was dark and Douglas, with his main body, must have passed close to Umfraville without either party seeing the other. Making a flank attack the Scots fell upon the English and captured the two Percys. In the melee' Douglas was killed but the Scots had other leaders present, like the Earl of Dunbar, who led his men without his helmet, having had no time to prepare himself owing to the surprise of the English attack.

The battle was over by the following morning and Umfraville, who had attacked an empty camp and returned by the way he had come, led the English back to Newcastle, turning to capture several pursuers at one point. Dunbar led the Scots back to Scotland. The Percys were not prisoners for long for in 1399 they joined Henry of Lancaster when he landed at Ravenspur to take the throne from the unfortunate Richard II.

#### **16. Homildon Hill---September 1402**

In summer 1402 King Henry IV took an army to Wales and during his absence a Scottish army of nearly 10,000 men under Archibald, Earl of Douglas and Murdoch Stewart, son of the Duke of Albany, crossed the border laying waste to Northumberland as far as the Tyne.

The English commander in the north was Percy, Earl of Northumberland, who raised an army with his son Hotspur and the refugee Earl of March, a Scot out of league with Douglas and Albany. Percy's army set out from Dunstanburgh to Wooler where they camped north of the village on the Till in a position that would block the passage of the Scots when they returned towards Coldstream and the border. Douglas reached Wooler before his scouts gave him warning of the English army so he drew up his ranks on the flat-topped Homildon Hill just outside Wooler. Percy had detached his 500 archers and positioned them on the opposite hill. By firing in ranks and withdrawing, the archers carefully led the Scots down to a field known as Red Riggs where the mounted English horsemen were ready for them. The Scots, angered by the English archers, probably outnumbered the English

but their archers had short bows which did not have the range to reach the English ranks.. Sir John Swinton, a border knight, and Adam Gordon, who for many years had been his rival, led a Scottish charge of 100 lances but it was cut down by the heavily armed English troops. Douglas himself was wounded and captured along with Murdoch Stewart and the earls of Moray, Angus and Orkney.

The retreating Scots were pursued as far as Coldstream where many were killed crossing the Tweed. The English longbow was the real winner of Homildon but the Scottish prisoners led to the downfall of Hotspur. He refused to give them up to the King and the wily Douglas persuaded him to attempt to join forces with Owen Glendower's Welsh army. The following year thus saw the eclipse of both Hotspur and Douglas at Shrewsbury, the battle at which the young Prince Henry won his spurs.

#### **17. Battle of Piperdean---September 10, 1435**

William Douglas, 2nd Earl of Angus, was Warden of the Marches, an office which even in truce-time was not a sinecure. The restless Percys could not wait for the expiry of the truce which existed at the time, and in September 1435 they crossed the Border with a force of 4,000 men. Angus, accompanied by Adam Hepburn of Hailes, and Sir Alexander Ramsey of Dalwalsey encountered them at Piperdean on 10th September, and there won an easy victory, in which the slain on both sides numbered only about forty, but 1,500 English surrendered to Angus.

#### **18. Battle of the Sark, or Lochmabenstane---October 23, 1449**

Archibald Douglas, Earl of Moray, and his twin brother who had been created Earl of Ormond in 1445, carried out an expedition against the Percys in the summer of 1448(9), and in his own right Ormond won a well-fought battle near Alnwick. Percy marched, after harvest, with 6,000 men to avenge the injury done upon his lands, and encamped on the banks of the Sark, near Gretna. Ormond attacked and although the English archery fire at first staggered the Scots attack, their attack was put in with such force that the English broke and fled, many of them perishing in the estuary of the Sark which was in flood. The English lost about 2,000 men, and Percy was taken prisoner with many others. The Scots counted their loss of slain at 600.

#### **19. Arkenholm---May 12, 1455**

This was between the troops of James II of Scotland and the rebels under the Douglas brothers. The rebels were completely defeated. Archibald Douglas was killed, Hugh captured, and later beheaded, and James, Earl of Douglas, forced to take refuge in England.

#### **20. Sauchie Burn---June 18, 1488**

Between the rebel Scottish Barons under Angus "Bell-the-Cat", and the troops of James III of Scotland, under the king. The Royal army was totally defeated and James slain.

#### **21. Flodden---September 9, 1513**

"No Scottish army had ever taken the field so well equipped", wrote a Scottish historian about the 40,000 men with whom King James IV crossed into England in 1513. Henry VIII had taken a large army to France and the French King, Louis XII, had called on his traditional Scottish allies for help. The young Henry had left a small army in England under the hands of the Earl of

Surrey who, although over 70 and a veteran of Richard III's defeated army at Bosworth, was an experienced leader who knew the border country well. Setting out for the Tweed Valley, where the Scots had captured Ford castle, Surrey collected his army "en route". It amounted to about 26,000 men which included a large force of archers. His men at arms had short bills and halberds while the Scots had 15-foot French pikes.

At Alnwick a party of armed "sailors" under Thomas Howard, Surrey's eldest son, joined the English army and precise instructions were given to the men on the tactics to be employed. Howard was appointed second-in-command. The Scottish army was strongly positioned on Flodden Edge near the Till river. Surrey sent Roger Croix, his herald, to King James V to suggest the time and place of the forthcoming battle, but the Scots king was not prepared for this old-fashioned method and replied that he would fight when and where he chose. Undaunted, Surrey divided his army and on 9th September, in the pouring rain, moved east and circled round the Scots position crossing the Till at Twizel and Milford bridges so as to cut off the Scottish retreat.

It was a bold move and James could have caught him on the flank when his army was divided. Instead he turned his men round and took up a defensive position on Branxton Hill facing north. His artillery, under Bothwick, was the most modern in Europe but he could not advance quickly without leaving it behind. The smoke from his camp fires at Flodden prevented the English from observing his movements. The English vanguard under Thomas Howard had to cross Pallin's Burn in a column with bogland on either side. No sooner had they deployed than James' borderers charged. The English right wing under Edmund Howard was swept aside and Howard was wounded. The English artillery which had crossed the bog at Sandyford now came into its own. The Scottish king formed his men into schilrons, massed circles of pikemen round their standards, and the two centre divisions, led by Crawford and James himself, advanced on Surrey and his son. On the other side Lord Dacre, who had been stationed behind with his horsemen in reserve, attacked the Borderers in the flank and drove them off. Their leader Lord Home, was later executed for treachery in failing to bring in his reserves against the English horsemen, but his ruffians were so busy plundering the dead that he was unable to rally them.

The English rearguard under Sir Edward Stanley appeared on the flank of the unengaged Scottish division. While holding their attention with part of his force Stanley sent his archers round out of sight to fire at their flank. These Scots, mostly poorly armed Highlanders, turned and fled. Stanley now attacked the main Scottish force in the rear while Dacre charged from the right flank. James, reinforced by his French reserve under D'Aussi, fought bravely but at last a halberd thrust killed him. It was victory for the English halberd over the unwieldy pike and heavy sword. Five thousand Scots including their king and three bishops were slaughtered. The Earl of Surrey, who had been mocked by the Scots as "the crooked Earl in a chariot" because his gout forced him to travel by coach, regained his Norfolk dukedom and henceforward Henry VIII had no more trouble with Scotland.

## **22. Solway Moss---December 14, 1542**

Between the Scottish invading army under Oliver Sinclair and a band of 500 English borderers under Thomas Dacre and John Musgrave. The Scots were totally defeated and many important nobles captured.



**23. Ancrum Moor---February 17, 1545**

Between the English under Sir Ralph Evers, and the Scots under the Earl of Angus. The Borderers, who had joined the English, deserted with the result that the Scots were victorious.

**24. Pinkie Cleugh---September 10, 1547**

Between the Scots under the Earl of Huntly and the English under the Protector Somerset. The Scots crossed the Esk and attacked the English lines, at first with success, but were fired at by warships in the bay and thrown into confusion by a charge of cavalry; and in the end fled from the field with heavy loss. Somerset occupied Edinburgh.

**25. Langside---May 13, 1568**

When the army of Mary Queen of Scots, 6,000 strong, was defeated and dispersed by the forces of the Regent, Murray. The Queen's troops were broken by cavalry charge, in which they lost 300, while only one man of the victorious horse was killed, and fled in confusion from the field. Mary escaped to England and was imprisoned by Elizabeth until she was executed in 1587.

**26. Philiphaugh---September 13, 1645**

Where 4,000 Covenanter horse under General David Leslie surprised and cut to pieces the Marquis of Montrose's force of Highlanders, encamped near Selkirk. Montrose escaped with a few followers, and the Royalist cause in Scotland was finished.

**27. Dunbar III---September 3, 1650**

Between 11,000 Parliamentarians under Cromwell, and the Scottish Royalists, 22,000 strong, under David Leslie. General Leslie left a strong position on the heights near Dunbar, to meet Cromwell, and was routed with a loss of 3,000 killed and wounded, and 10,000 prisoners. Cromwell's losses were small.

**28. Bothwell Bridge---June 22, 1679**

Here the British troops, under the Duke of Monmouth, defeated the Covenanters with much bloodshed.

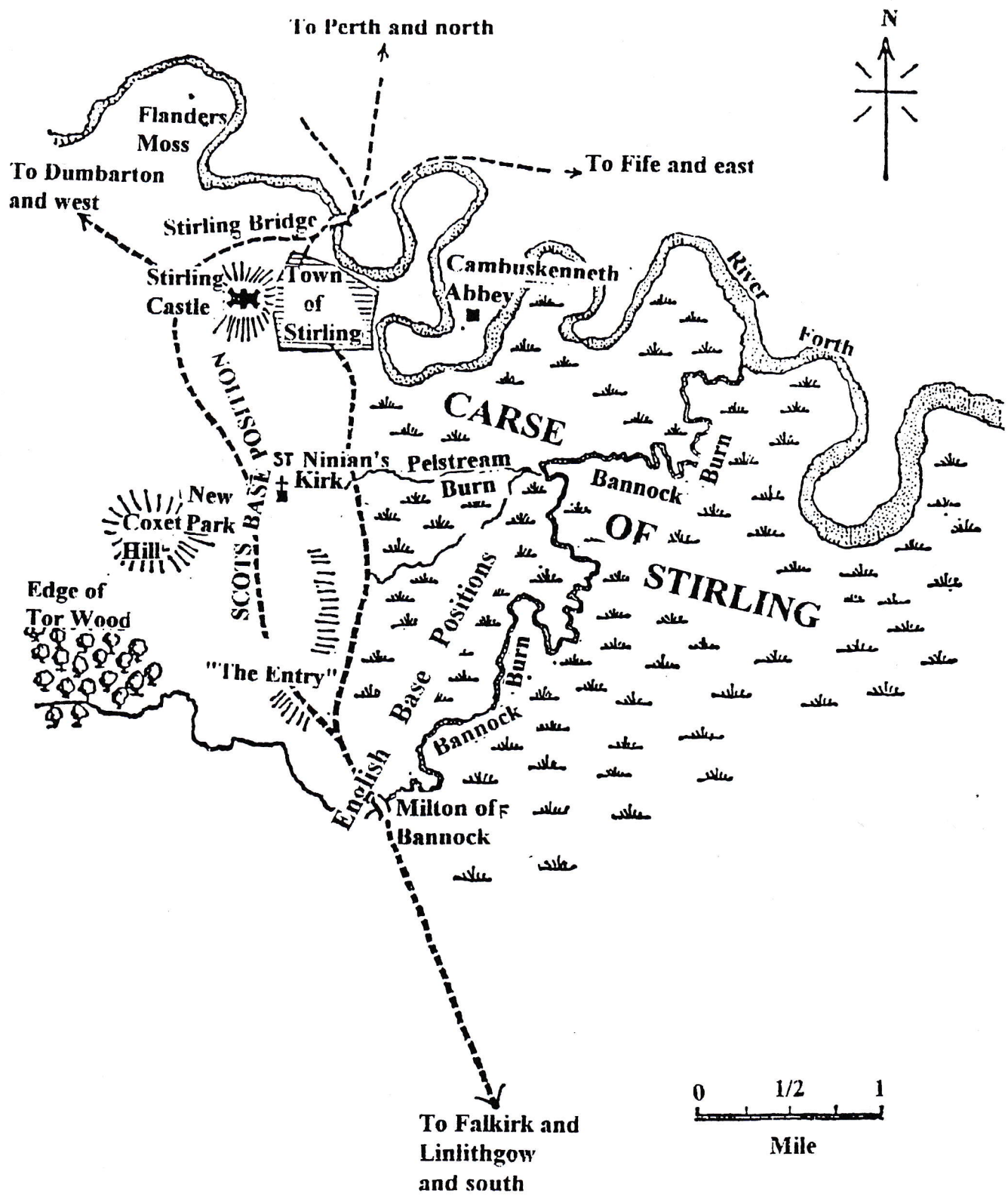
**29. Prestopans---September 21, 1745**

Between 2,300 Royal troops under Sir John Cope and a slightly superior force of Jacobites under the Young Pretender, Prince Charles Edward Stuart. Cope's infantry failed to stand up against the charge of the Highlanders under Lord George Murray, and fled in confusion, losing about 400 in killed and wounded and 1,600 prisoners, including 70 officers. The Highlanders lost about 140 killed and wounded. This action, which helped the Jacobite cause, is also known as the Battle of Gladsmuir.

**30. Falkirk II---January 17, 1746**

Between the rebel Highlanders, 8,000 strong, under the Young Pretender, Prince Charles, and a force of 8,000 British troops, with 1,000 Campbells under General Hawley. The charge of the Highlanders broke the British line, and they were driven headlong from the field, with a loss of 600

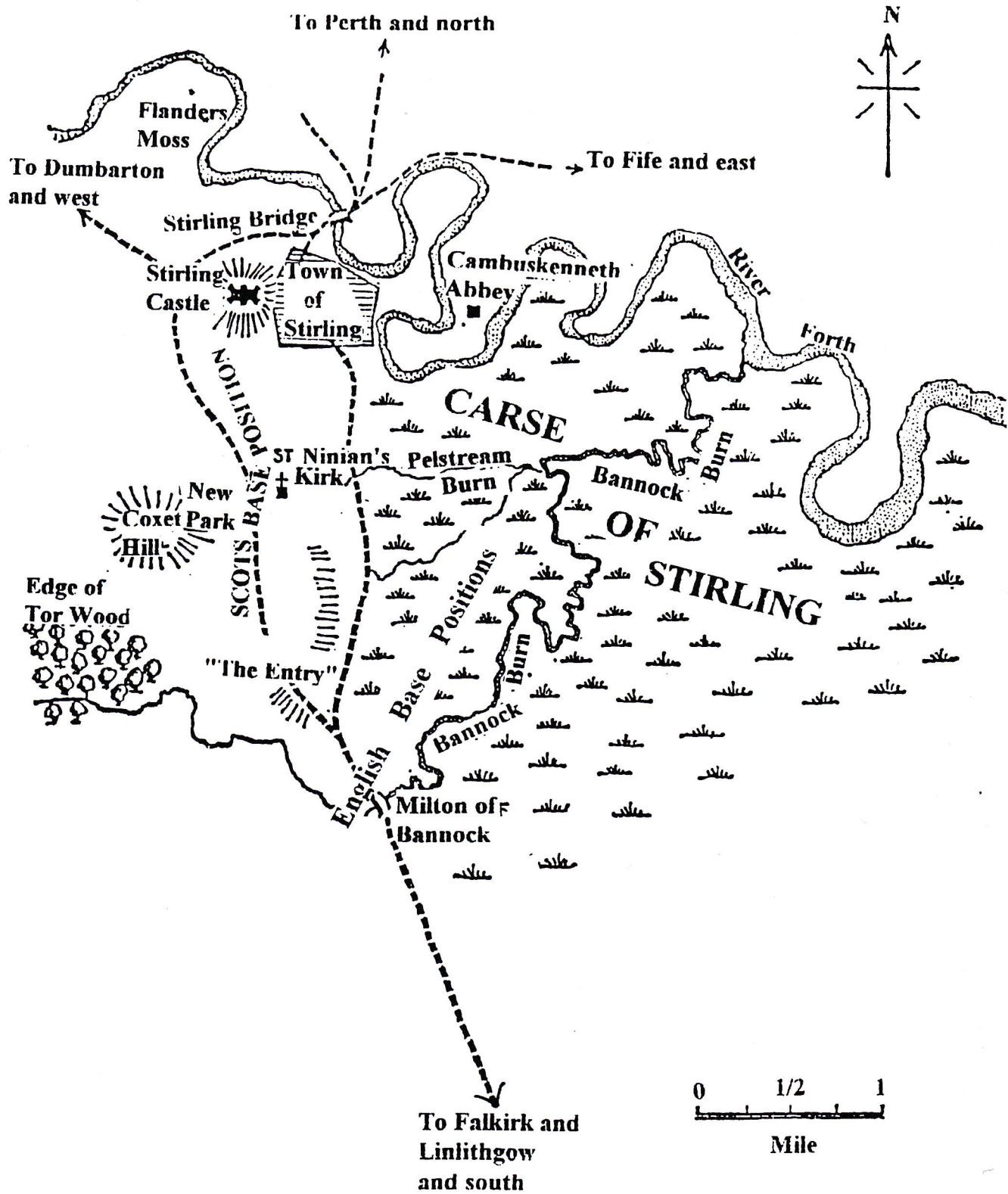
# Battle of BANNOCKBURN June 14, 1314



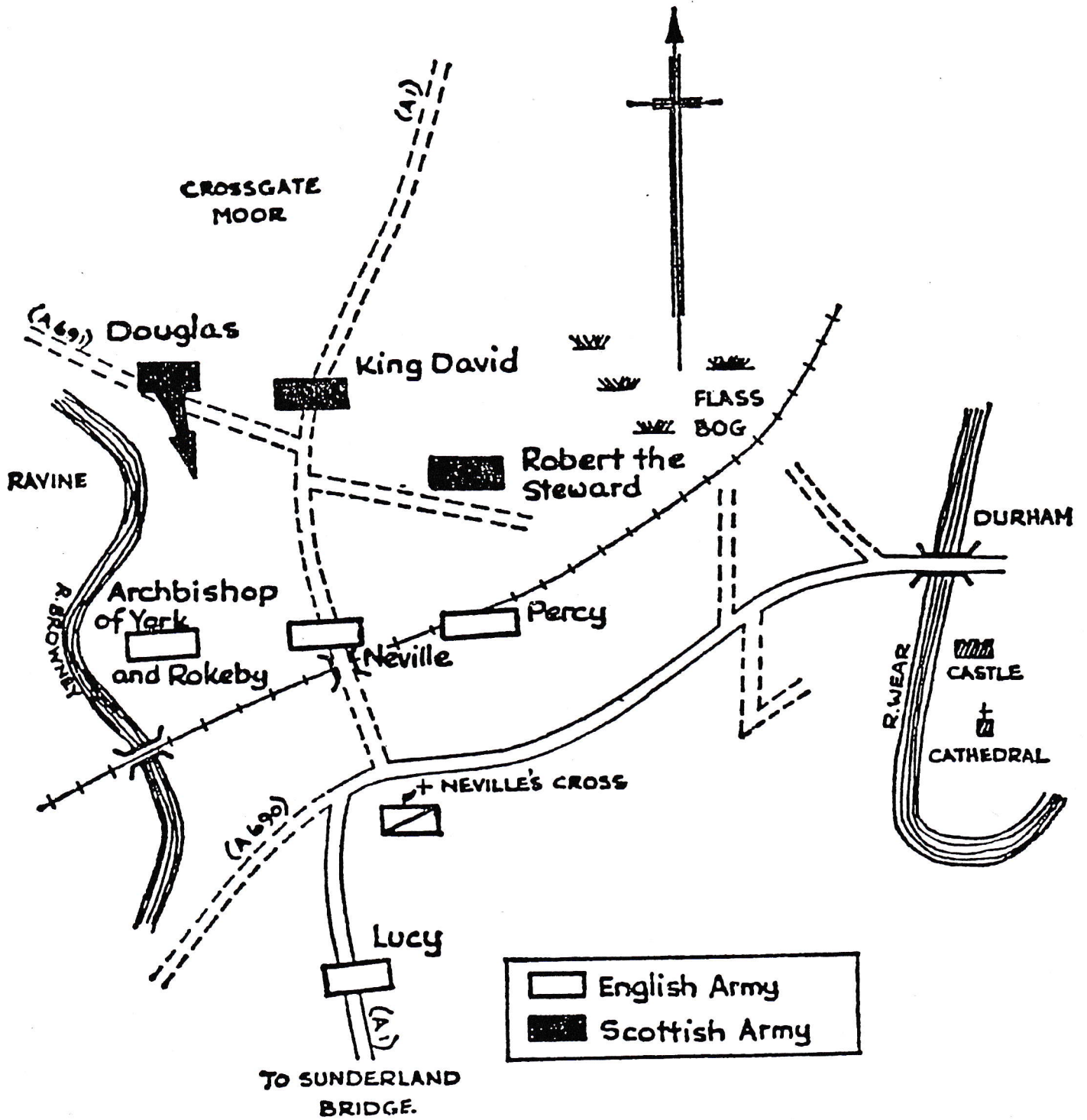
killed and wounded, 700 prisoners, seven guns, and all tents and baggage. The rebels lost 120 only. This was the last Jacobite victory.

*If military history and detailed battle descriptions are of interest to the reader, it is suggested a perusal of the text mentioned in the acknowledgements, "Discovering Battlefields of England and Scotland" by John Kinross or some similar text be consulted.*

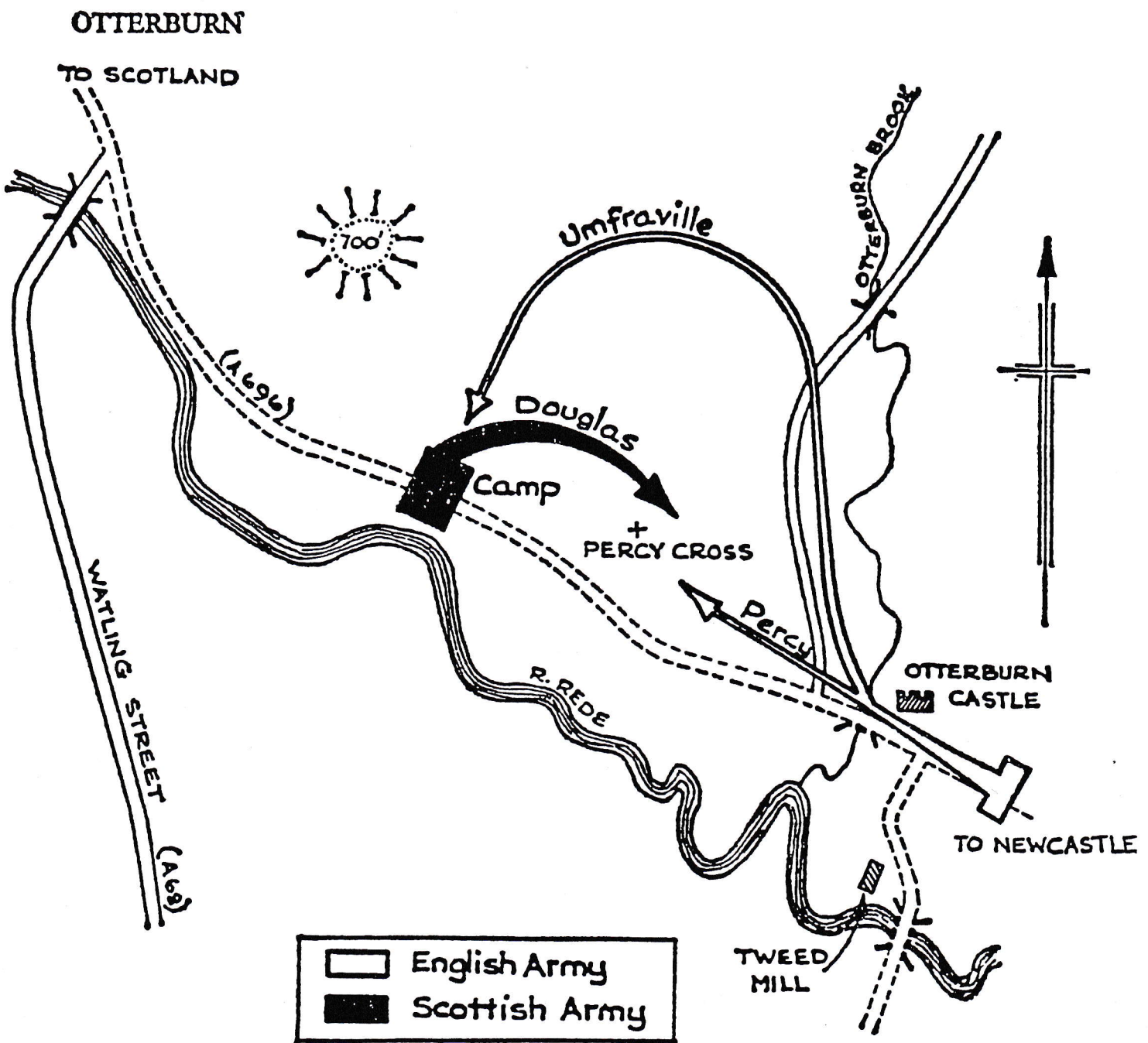
# Battle of BANNOCKBURN June 14, 1314



# NEVILLE'S CROSS

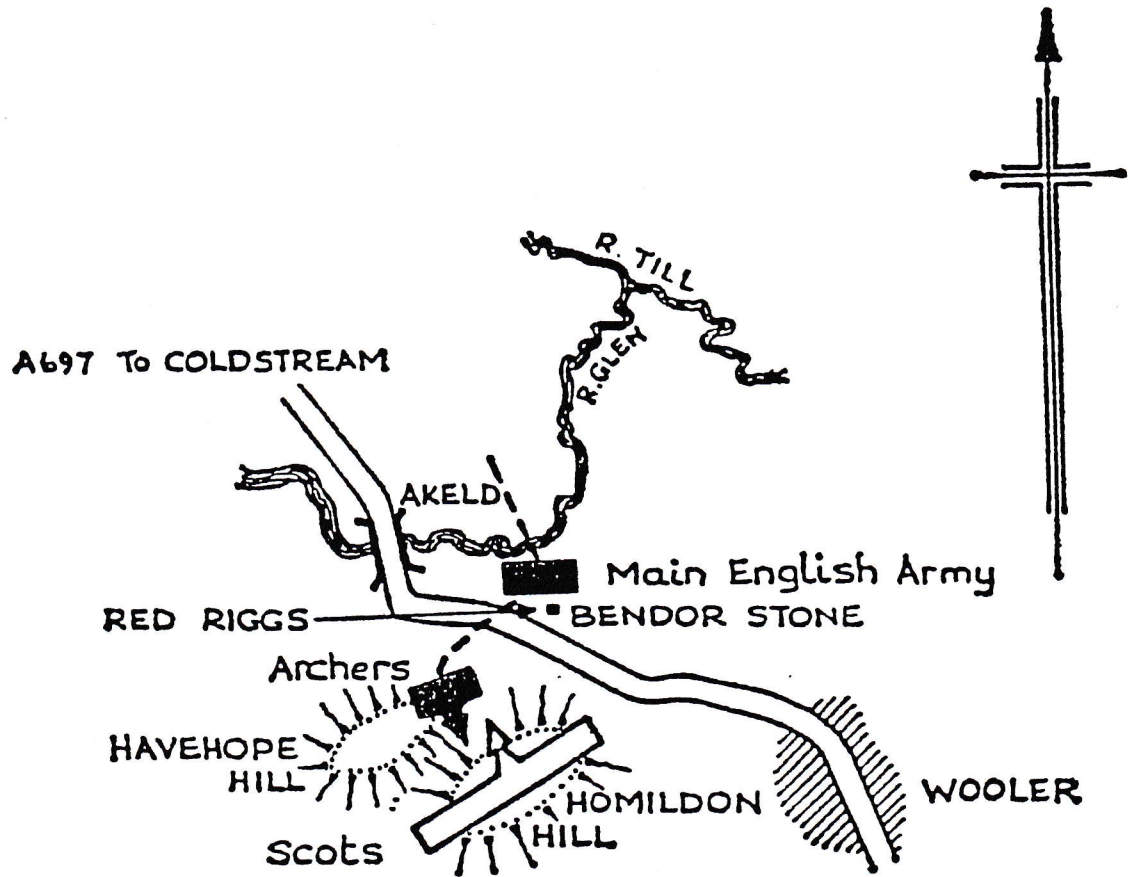


Battle of Neville's Cross, October 19, 1346



Battle of Otterburn, August 12, 1388

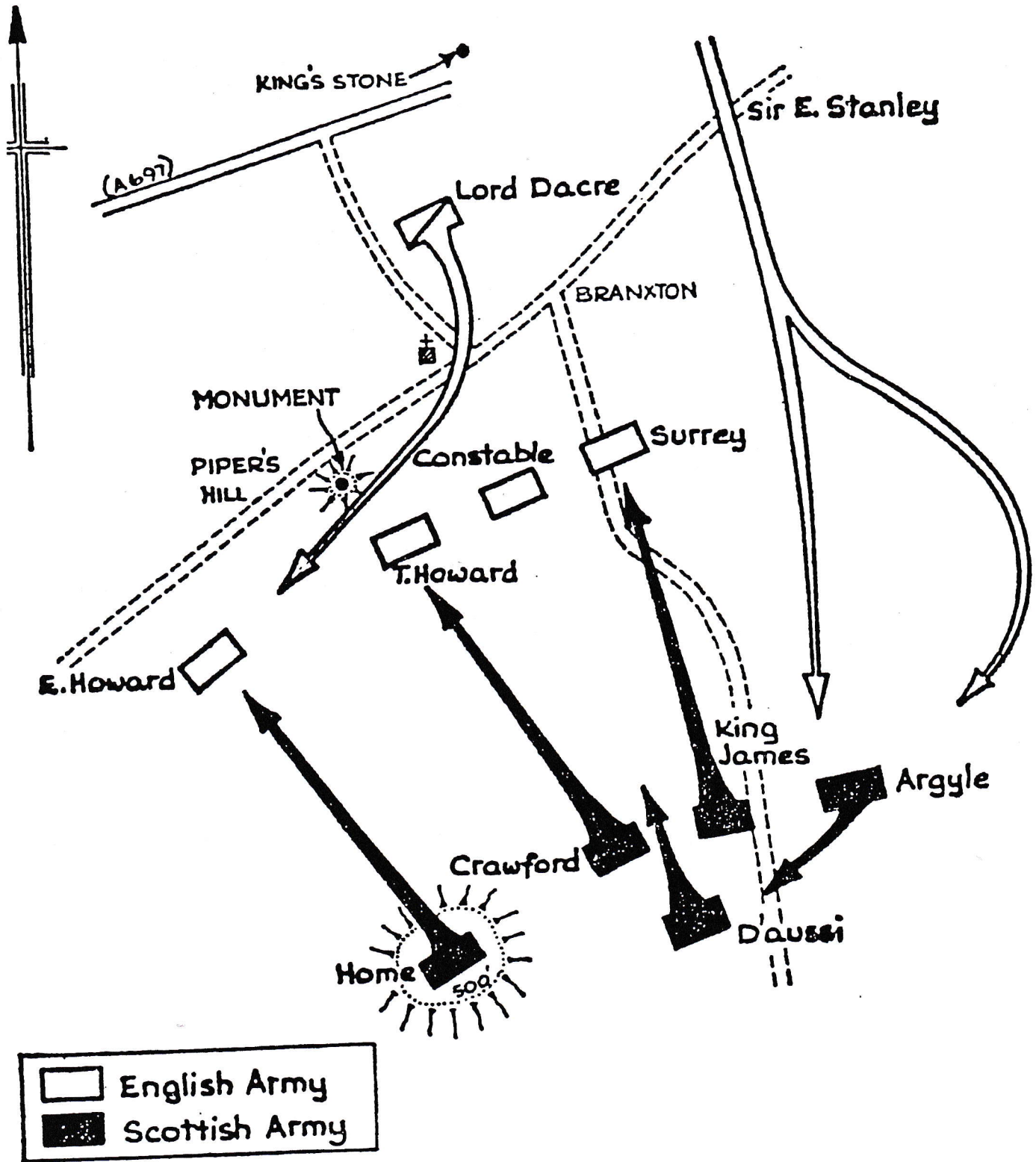
# HOMILDON HILL



	English Army
	Scottish Army

Battle of Homildon Hill, 1402

# FLODDEN



Battle of Flodden, September 9, 1513



## Dates of Scottish and English Monarchs

Scotland	England	Scotland and England
1057-1093 Malcolm III	1042-1066 Edward the Confessor	1603-1625 James VI and I
1093-1094 Donald Bane	1066 Harold	1625-1649 Charles I
1094 Duncan II	1066-1087 William I	1649-1660 Protectorate
1094-1097 Donald Bane	1087-1100 William II	1660-1685 Charles II
1097-1107 Edgar	1100-1135 Henry I	1685-1688 James II
1107-1124 Alexander I	1135-1154 Stephen	1689-1702 William III and Mary II
1124-1153 David I	1154-1189 Henry II	1702-1714 Anne
1153-1165 Malcolm IV	1189-1199 Richard I	1714-1727 George I
1165-1214 William the Lion	1199-1216 John	1727-1760 George II
1214-1249 Alexander II	1216-1272 Henry III	1760-1820 George III
1249-1286 Alexander III	1272-1307 Edward I	1820-1830 George IV
1286-1290 Margaret	1307-1327 Edward II	1830-1837 William IV
1290-1292 First Interregnum	1327-1377 Edward III	1837-1901 Victoria
1292-1296 John Balliol	1377-1399 Richard II	1901-1910 Edward VII
1296-1306 Second Interregnum	1399-1413 Henry IV	1910-1936 George V
1306-1329 Robert I (Bruce)	1413-1422 Henry V	1936-1952 George VI
1329-1371 David II (Bruce)	1422-1461 Henry VI	1952- Elizabeth II
1371-1390 Robert II (Stewart)	1461-1483 Edward IV	
1390-1406 Robert III	1483 Edward V	
1406-1437 James I	1483-1485 Richard III	
1437-1460 James II	1485-1509 Henry VII	
1460-1488 James III	1509-1547 Henry VIII	
1488-1513 James IV	1547-1553 Edward VI	
1513-1542 James V	1553-1558 Mary	
1542-1567 Mary	1558-1603 Elizabeth I	
1567-1625 James VI		

**TEBA, SPAIN – The following pictures are of the castle and area around Teba, Spain. This is the location of the battle in which the Good Sir James Douglas tossed the heart of Robert the Bruce into the crusaders affray.**



**The small modern town of Teba nestles below the ruined castle on its northern side where the ancient village of Teba stood.**



**A view of what was the central command position of the castle on the highest part of the hill. The top covers about two acres and is rocky and undulating, and at one time practically the whole of it was covered with fortification. There is an inside stone staircase in the square tower, and it is possible to get through a trapdoor onto the flat roof from which there is an excellent view for miles around.**



This is the Plaza De Espana in Teba. The monument to The Good Sir James Douglas was erected in 1989.



View looking south from the castle towards the long line of the Sierra Nevadas on the other side of which, some 30 to 40 miles away, lies the sea. About 600 feet below the castle is the plain upon which the Moorish forces met those of the Spanish and the Scottish contingent under Sir James Douglas as they approached from the west.

*The following is directly quoted from the pamphlet prepared for distribution by the  
DOUGLAS HERITAGE MUSEUM SOCIETY  
Douglas, Scotland*

St. Sophia's chapel is one of the most interesting buildings in the village. Originally the Dower House of the old Castle of Douglas, it is very old, and now a scheduled building in an entire preservation area. The date is unknown, but it is claimed that Mary Queen of Scots slept a night in the building and the Town Clock, dated 1565, reputedly the oldest functioning clock in Scotland, was her gift to the village. The building has had many uses in its lifetime before finally being converted to the present Douglas Heritage Museum.

In 1706 the building was reconstructed to provide a Parish School, known as the house of Learning, and the Latin inscription beneath the ducal crown at the doorway reads:-

"This building is restored for the foster children of the muses under the auspices of the high and noble Duke of Douglas for the perpetual use of the School and School Master 1706".

After almost a century it was used as a Poors House where a night's lodging was given to tramps. It then became a dwelling-house and remained as such until 1961 when it was restored and dedicated as an Episcopal Church. The Greek inscription on the chancel screen reads - "Christ the wisdom of God", the name St. Sophia being the Goddess of Wisdom. Owing to the decline in numbers of the congregation, the Episcopal Church ceased worship and the occupancy of the building was officially given up in February 1993.

Under the inscription there are four crests. Starting from the left, looking to the altar, is the Douglas Crest, followed by that of the Lanark County Council. On the right of the aisle is the Crest of the Diocese of Glasgow (St. Mungo) and Galloway (St. Ninian) followed by Canon Reid's own family Crest.

There are six stained glass windows in the small chancel. The three square stained glass windows behind the altar are described from the left as follows:-

#### First Window

The first Earl of Douglas who was given the title in 1358. He married a sister of the Earl of Mar and, because the latter died without issue, the title passed to the Douglas family who succeeded to the Earldom of Mar about 1374.

#### Centre Window

The Second Earl of Douglas and Mar, who succeeded to the Earldom in 1384, was killed at the Battle of Otterburn in 1388. He married a daughter of King Robert the 2nd (Princess Isabel Stewart).

### Third Window

Archibald the Grim, Third Earl, succeeded to the title in 1388. He was a son of the Good Sir James and he married the widow of the Earl of Bothwell. The King gave him all the land between the Nith and the Cree in Galloway. He purchased the remainder of the County at a later date. He was Lord of Douglas, Bothwell and Galloway. He was a great church man. He rebuilt St. Brides's in 1390, restored Sweet-Heart Abbey, spent a big sum of money on Lincluden and built a hospital for the poor - The Chapel of Holyrood. He died in Threave Castle on Christmas Eve 1400.

Turning now to the west side of the chancel, there are also three square windows. The nearest one to the altar is:

Archibald the 4th Earl of Douglas, Lord of Galloway and Annandale and 1st Duke of Touraine, who succeeded to the Earldom in 1400. He married a daughter of King Robert the 3rd (Princess Margaret Stewart). The shield carries the following:

- The Fleur de Lis for Touraine
- The Cross underneath for Annandale  
(Bruce's country)
- The Heart of Douglas
- The Silver Lion for Galloway
- The Royal Scottish Lion for Royalty -  
because he married a daughter of King  
Robert the 3rd.

He went to France and the King of France made him Lord Lieutenant of the Forces and gave him a dukedom. He was the 1st Duke of Touraine and Marshal of France. He was killed, along with his second son, in the battle of Verneuil and they are both buried in the cathedral church at Tours.

The centre window on the west side is for -

William, the 8th Earl of Douglas who succeeded to the Earldom in 1443. He married his kinswoman Mary Douglas, Lady of Galloway. He was stabbed by King James the 2nd's own hand in Stirling Castle in 1452. His shield carries the following:

- The Douglas Crest
- Three Stars for Bothwell
- White Lion for Galloway
- Criss-cross for Lauderdale.

The third window on the west side is for -

Archibald "Bell the Cat" 5th Earl of Angus, born 1449/died 1514. His shield carries the following:

Silver Lion for Angus  
Red Lion for Abernethy  
Red Triangle for Liddedale  
Buckles of Belt for Bonkyl  
Shield in the middle -Douglas

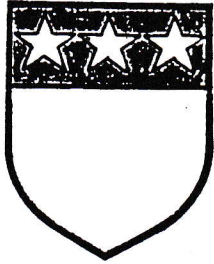
These six windows were brought from the private chapel in Douglas Castle in 1960.

The picture, or triptych, at the North end of the Chapel, in a wooden frame was above the altar in the private Chapel in a more elaborate setting than at present. It has a touch of local history. On the right side is Old St. Bride's and the Free Church steeple and the villagers. In the centre is Mary and the Child and two Kings, representing Wisdom and Riches. On the left of the picture, the third King, Power, represents the House of Douglas and is shown laying down his sword before the Prince of Peace, with the Castle in the background and the Lord of the Manor chatting to the old shepherd and the sheep along the dyke. The triptych was painted by Christopher Whall in 1896.

The christening font at the chapel came also from the private chapel at the Castle along with the silver christening jug and plate.

On his visit a few years ago, the present H.R.H. PRINCE CHARLES signed the visitors' book and showed a great interest in the building and its history.

St. Sophia's was converted to a museum by the Douglas Heritage Society in 1993 to house memorabilia.



Sir James de Douglas, c. 1320.



BLACK DOUGLAS