Chapter 1: Northumberland: The Secret Kingdom

English Borderland North of the Wall Apart from the Castles, Bastles and Pele towers, arguably one of the most dramatic monuments to Northumberland's border past is Hadrian's Wall, but in fairness, though a symbol of the border country it may well be, the wall never formed the boundary between England and Scotland.

Kingdom to County Northumberland, more anciently known as Northumbria, was part of the great Anglo-Saxon kingdom of that name, with territory extending from the Humber to the Firth of Forth. The hills still form the most imposing natural boundary between England and Scotland. Eventually the Northumbrian lands to the north of the Cheviots and to the south of the Tees Yorkshire were conquered respectively by the Scots and Danes so that the remaining part of Northumbria was reduced to an Anglo-Saxon earldom comprised of what later became the counties of Durham and Northumberland. Other liberties were given to Norman Barons, or powerful ecclesiastics who through their own self interest, were expected to defend and protect them from the Scots in return for special privileges granted by the king. It is these barons who were largely responsible for building many of the grand castles, that are still a feature of the Northumbrian landscape to this day. Until the Union of the English and Scottish Crowns in life in the Border County could be extremely dangerous and was often a one of strife and misery. Stability, Law and order were of course gradually brought to the Border region following the accession of James I to the throne in From then on the heyday of Border raids slowly came to an end. Today the bloody Border past, has left Northumberland with a rich and colourful history, heritage and folklore. Some of these castles are admittedly ruins, but many still stand as very impressive monuments to the Border past. Peles or Pele towers are the most common. These are stone-built, oblong tower houses, measuring approximately 40 feet by 30 feet, with walls 3 to 4 feet thick. Found on both sides of the border, the Pele towers were virtually impregnable against raiders and marauders and were lived in by the rich and poor alike. They usually consisted of a tunnel-vaulted ground floor for storage and livestock refuge along with two or three upper storeys accessible by a narrow spiral staircase. Access to a Pele Tower could be gained through two sets of doors, the outer made of iron the inner of oak. Border Pele towers can date from as early as the thirteenth, to as late as the seventeenth century, but were all built to very much the same pattern. Bastle Houses are a variation on the Pele tower, but are a lot less common. These are fortified farm houses rather than tower houses and tend to be found in remoter areas of the border country, usually not far from the border itself. In Elizabethan and earlier times, the Pele Towers and Bastles of Northumberland were often inhabited by lawless raiding clans called the Border Reivers which included once notorious families like the Robsons, Armstrongs, Elliotts, Grahams and Dodds. The greater part of the county of Northumberland actually lies to the north of the ancient Roman frontier.

Chapter 2: Lyrics containing the term: borderland

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Once a powerful kingdom in its own right, it was the cradle of Christianity in England. It has its own language, a strong musical tradition, and many old ways and customs that have survived the march of time. It also has a pace of life slower than the rush of the cities. You come to Northumberland to slow down, to relax and unwind, to walk on tiny rambling country lanes, to explore empty, windswept beaches, to be seduced by the peace and the amazing light. If I could settle in any one county in England, I would come here. The place weaves a potent spell and I fell under it on my first visit. To me, Northumberland is the county of amazing light and amazing peace, where history is as remote as the landscape and very close all the same. Come on a visit and see for yourself. To the visitor with a mind to explore Northumberland has much to offer: The Pennines, assembled from layers of Carboniferous limestones, sandstones, shale and gritstone are only slightly younger. While once you may have seen jagged peaks, only recently pushed from the earth, now you merely find wide valleys gauged by torrents of water and round hills smoothed by mighty glaciers. Every twist in the path opens another stunning view and hard uphill sections are relieved by gentle strolls along the riverbank. Life here, on the very outskirts of the Roman Empire, was harsh - but not so harsh as one might imagine. The Romans had arrived in Northumberland in AD They built a supply base in Corbridge, before moving north in their attempt to subdue all of Britain. Yet despite victories as far north as Inverness, the legions failed to hold the North and eventually established a permanent border across the narrowest part of England. But future missionaries were not to come from Rome, but from the Celtic mission on Iona. Aidan, created Bishop of Northumberland in , founded a monastery at Lindisfarne - one of the foremost centres of Christian learning in pre-Norman England. But it was still not remote enough for St Cuthbert, who retreated to a tiny cell on one of the Farne Islands to practise his faith. Otherworldly St Cuthbert may have been, but his bishopric left us one of the great treasures of early Christian England: He produced books on history, theology, grammar, poetry and natural science from his cell in the monastery of Jarrow. His Ecclesiastical History of the English People is still read today. But over time, strife came to the peaceful seats of learning. Political strife, when Roman church and Celtic church strove for supremacy, and military strife, when waves of Vikings began to harry the coast of England. By turns proud, brooding or even menacing, these hint at the centuries of strife that have ravaged this remote and beautiful part of England. After the retreat of the Romans, the land was settled by Angles and Saxons who guarded the river Tweed against the northern Scots and built the mighty Kingdom of Bernicia. Fortifications played a role even then, but we owe most of the proud Northumbrian castles to the Normans. While some of these now stand in ruins, Alnwick Castle has survived as seat of the Dukes of Northumberland. The continued wars against the Scots kingdom to the north lead to more castles being built throughout the Middle Ages. Pele towers, bastel houses and fortified farms are still part of the Northumbrian landscape. They lend a feel of romance and adventure to the stunning landscape, but also attest to the vulnerability that the Northumbrians must have felt, caught forever in the cross-fire between English and Scottish ambitions. Not until after James VI of Scotland acceded to the English throne and united the two countries did peace return once more to the north. If you find yourself in Alnwick and only have three days to explore the area, then take a look at one of my favourite driving tours. And - of course - the spectacular coastline in between! Uniquely Northumberland Situated between the mountains to the west and the North Sea to the east, Northumberland has always been a land of two parts, a kingdom of farmers and fishers. Already famous for producing kippers, oysters, mead, cheese and honey, the county now welcomes many visitors who come to admire the wildlife this coast so abundantly offers. Once the refuge of St Cuthbert, the Farne Islands are home to seals and sea birds. And boat trips go out almost daily from the port of Seahouses to visit the colonies. Whatever your tastes and hobbies, be they history, music, fishing, hiking, cycling, or simply relaxing, this county will welcome you. Explore its market towns and villages, its castles and ports, its hills

and beaches, its history and music, its produce and crafts. Come and leave your own footprints. If you want to know more, you might find the following pages useful.

Chapter 3: Kingdom of Northumbria - Wikipedia

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His rule was notable for his numerous victories over the Britons and the Gaels. He converted to Roman Cathoicism two years later after a period of heavy consideration and after consulting numerous advisors. Oswald of Northumbria Oswald was a King of Bernicia, who would regain the kingdom of Deira after defeating Cadwallon in Oswald would then rule Northumbria until his death in A devout Catholic, Oswald worked tirelessly to spread the religion in his traditionally pagan lands. It was during his reign that the monastery at Lindisfarne was created. Oswald fell in the Battle of Maserfield against Penda of Mercia in but his influence endured because, like Edwin, Oswald was venerated as a saint after his death. Oswiu succeeded where Edwin and Oswald failed as, in, he slew Penda during the Battle of the Winwaed, making him the first Northumbrian King to also control the kingdom of Mercia. There were no further Viking kings in Northumbria until Guthfrith took over in Eric Bloodaxe In the early twentieth century, historians identified Eric of York with the Norwegian king Eric Bloodaxe, but some more recent scholarship has challenged this association. He held two short terms as King of Northumbria, from to and to Eric took back the throne in, only to be deposed again in Eadred of Wessex r. He permanently absorbed Northumbria into the English Kingdom in after the death of Eric. Between Oswiu, the first King of Northumbria in, and Eric Bloodaxe, the last king of Northumbria in , there were 45 Kings, meaning that the average length of reign during the entire history of Northumbria is only six and a half years. Of the 25 Kings before the Danish rule of Northumbria, only four died of natural causes. Of those that did not abdicate for a holy life, the rest were either deposed, exiled, or murdered. Kings during the Danish rule of Northumbria see Danelaw were often either kings of a larger North Sea or Danish empire, or were installed rulers. A noteworthy example of this phenomenon is Osred, whose father Aldfrith died in , leaving the young boy to rule. He survived one assassination attempt early in his rule, but fell victim to another assassin at the age of nineteen. During his reign he was adopted by Wilfrid, a powerful bishop. Similarly, ealdorman, or royal advisors, had periods of increased or decreased power in Northumbria, depending on who was ruling at the time. The Northumbrians were successful against the Picts until the Battle of Dun Nechtain in , which halted their expansion north and established a border between the two kingdoms. Ealdormen and Earldoms of Northumbria[edit] See also: Ealdorman After the English absorbed the territory of the former kingdom, Scots invasions reduced Northumbria to an earldom stretching from the Humber to the Tweed. Northumbria was disputed between the emerging kingdoms of England and Scotland. In fact, York had a bishop as early as the fourth century. At Yeavering, in Bernicia, excavations have uncovered evidence of a pagan shrine, animal sacrifice, and ritual burials. He was baptized by Paulinus in Paulinus was Bishop of York, but only for a year. He converted King Oswald of Northumbria in , and then worked to convert the people of Northumbria. The bishopric would not leave Lindisfarne and shift back to its original location at York until Aidan, the founder, Wilfrid, a student, and Cuthbert, a member of the order and a hermit, all became bishops and later Saints. Aidan assisted Heiu to found her double monastery at Hartlepool. In particular, Wilfrid travelled to Rome and abandoned the traditions of the Celtic church in favor of Roman practices. When he returned to England, he became abbot of a new monastery at Ripon in Wilfrid advocated for Roman Catholicism at the Synod of Whitby. The two halves of the double monastery Monkwearmouth-Jarrow were founded by the nobleman Benedict Biscop in and Biscop became the first abbot of the monastery, and travelled to Rome six times to buy books for the library. One estimate puts the library at Monkwearmouth-Jarrow at over two hundred volumes. The School at York Minster is one of the oldest in England. Since Northumbria was converted to Roman Catholicism by the Celtic clergy, the Celtic tradition for determining the date of Easter and Irish tonsure were supported by many, particularly by the Abbey of Lindisfarne. The Lindisfarne Gospels survived, but monastic culture in Northumbria went into a period of decline in the early ninth century. Repeated Viking assaults on religious centres were one reason for the decrease in production of manuscripts and communal monastic culture. Within

the Kingdom of York, once the raids and war were over, there is no evidence that the presence of Scandinavian settlers interrupted Catholic practice. It appears that they gradually adopted Roman Catholicism and blended their Scandinavian culture with their new religion. This can be seen in carved stone monuments and ring-headed crosses, such as the Gosforth Cross. The colophon to the Gospel of Matthew from the Durham Gospel Fragment, featuring non-zoomorphic interlace patterns.

Chapter 4: Northumberland West - Wikipedia

Northumberland The Secret Kingdom. Remote and mysterious, Northumberland is borderland. Situated between the spine of England, the North Sea and the land of the Scots it has been fought over by Picts, Scots, Romans, Angles, Saxons, Vikings, English and Normans.

Chapter 5: Best Country Singers in Borderland, WV

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Chapter 6: Northumberland West (provincial electoral district) - Wikipedia

Borderlands Growth. Borderlands Growth brings together the five cross-border local authorities of Northumberland County Council, Carlisle City Council, Cumbria County Council, Dumfries & Galloway Council and Scottish Borders Council to promote economic growth and competitiveness of the area that straddles the Scotland-England border.

Chapter 7: Reading, Writing, Working, Playing: The Marches: A Borderland Journey between England and

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Chapter 8: Rethinking Economic Development in the 'Borderlands'

Northumberland West was a federal electoral district represented in the House of Commons of Canada from to It was located in the province of calendrierdelascience.com was created by the British North America Act of

Chapter 9: Northumberland by

Northumberland West was an electoral riding in Ontario, calendrierdelascience.com was created in at the time of confederation and was abolished in before the election. It was merged with Northumberland East to form Northumberland.