



HADRIAN'S WALL (photo courtesy Wikipedia)

# Scottish Heritage USA

## NEWSLETTER JUNE 2022

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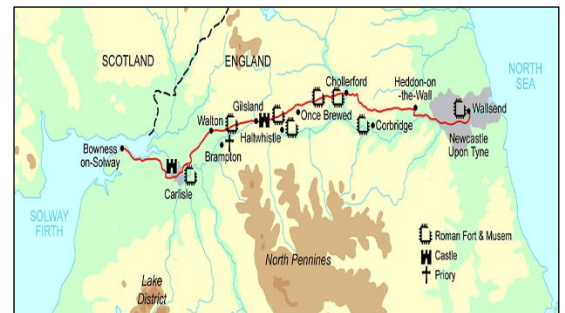
## MEET HADRIAN'S WALL

**D**ou may not be able to see it from outer space, but Hadrian's wall is only second place to the Great Wall of China! Started in A.D. 122, the wall was designed by Emperor Hadrian himself and runs 73 miles from sea to sea, between what is now Bowness-on-Solway in Cumbria to Newcastle in the east. Originally designed to be 3 meters thick and up to 7 meters tall (9ft x 22ft), the structure comprised 800,000 cubic meters of hand-carved stone, dug from local quarries. Construction tied up troops from all three of the permanent Legions at York, Chester and Caerleon (in what is now south-east Wales). Together with the associated milecastles, turrets, outposts, ditches, roads and later forts, Hadrian's Wall represents the greatest single building project ever undertaken in Europe.

The northern highlands of Scotland had always caused major problems for Rome. Because of the decentralization of highland society, there were no large centers to attack and no powerful kings with which they could negotiate. While Rome was used to full frontal attack in the open warfare, they were not used to the guerilla tactics the enemy used. The mountainous terrain was also a bothersome problem, keeping the troops from mounting a well-ordered attack. For the first time since it had arrived in Britain, the Roman army started to suffer significant losses.

Economically it was even worse as the land in the north was better suited to pasture than intensive crop production and there were no known valuable minerals there.

Following Agricola's success at the battle of Mons Graupius, Emperor Domitian declared that all Britain had been subjugated. Rome was facing significant problems elsewhere in the Empire and the 'British Project' was looking like a huge waste of money and resources. Gradually troops were withdrawn and by the beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, the retreat had stabilized along a line running between Carlisle and Newcastle. All claim by Rome to land north of this line was formally abandoned.



The political scene in Britain at this time remains shrouded in mystery...there is little written evidence of what it was like. The Roman scholar Fronto did later note that at the start of the AD120's: "Great numbers of soldiers were killed by the British," in an uprising that may have spread as far south as London. This 'great



*Continued on page 2 Hadrian's Wall*



## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



A year comes round quickly and in just over a month's time we will be gathering at the magnificent MacRae Meadows at Grandfather Mountain for the 66<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games. Scottish Heritage USA was one of the co-founders of these Games.

This year, we are sponsoring the increasingly popular Cultural Village event held in the big marquee in the lower field.

Our special guest from the National Trust for Scotland will be Catriona McIntosh who works at the NTS Culloden site. She will be giving a presentation about Culloden.

In addition, we will have two lovely representatives from the National Trust for Scotland Foundation and Camilla Hellman, President of the American Scottish Foundation. Scottish

Heritage USA member. Gordon Kirkbright, will be telling the truth about the history of the tartan. Board member Bill Caudill will be giving a talk about how to be a Scot and yours truly will be recounting the story of the castaways on Disappointment Island and their remarkable survival in this sub-Antarctic archipelago.

We invite you to stop by our tent adjacent to the main field entrance at Grandfather. Join up or renew your membership. Think about gifting a membership to a family member or friend. Members can get a free lunch and the use of our own WC!



## HADRIAN'S WALL (cont' from page one)

number' of Roman fatalities may have been a reference to the missing Ninth Legion. An elite fighting unit that totally disappeared from army records around this time and the disappearance has never been explained.

Whatever, things looked bad and in the summer of AD 122 the emperor Hadrian brought the Sixth Legion and restored peace and order. He then set the northernmost limits of the province by ordering the construction of a delimiting wall. Designed by the Emperor himself, the wall is more than a simple barrier. With its gates, earthworks, outlying early-warning signal towers and system of small forts, it is a complex system of control. It was an architectural mechanism designed to maintain

order along Rome's most troublesome of borders. Even today in its semi-ruinous state, Hadrian's Wall is an impressive and awe-inspiring monument.

It may also have had a further function: to establish a permanent militarized zone and keep the northern tribes of Britain apart, separating those 'inside' from non-Roman influence beyond. This would ensure that any of the disaffected elements within the Empire were kept from potentially destabilizing external forces, such as barbarian tribes. From now on at least from the perspective of imperial spin, everything to the south was 'Roman' and everything to the north 'Barbarian'!

Well, kudos to the 'Barbarians' for having someone else build and pay for their 'Wall'!



Article and pictures courtesy of Wikipedia and World History Encyclopedia

# RECIPE CORNER

## TATTIE SCONES WITH MR. WILKIE'S SPECIAL SOUP

No Scottish breakfast is complete without tattie scones, but we are suggesting you serve them with a hearty Scottish soup from Mr. Wilkie's kitchen. These scones are not like traditional British scones, but more of a potato pancake. They are sometimes called potato scones and you may also hear them called fadge or potato bread in Ireland. No matter the name, tattie scones are quick and easy to make and go well with our soup of the month. Mr. Wilkie's Special Soup combines several unusual ingredients and are compliments of the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, K.T, from Scottish Heritage's own cookbook 'Piping Hot.'

### INGREDIENTS for TATTIE SCONES

1 lb. potatoes, peeled, cooked & mashed  
1 oz butter (plus more for pan greasing)  
½ Teaspoon salt  
4 ½ oz flour  
1 medium egg  
1 Teaspoon baking powder

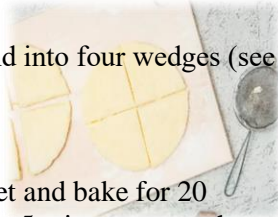
### DIRECTIONS for SCONES

Preheat oven to 400°

Place potatoes in large bowl and add all other ingredients in to make a sticky dough

Roll dough out on floured surface to a thickness of about ½ inch

Cut into 6" rounds and cut each round into four wedges (see photo)



Place wedges on greased baking sheet and bake for 20 minutes OR cook on griddle or skillet 5 minutes on each side.

Serve warm with butter and Mr. Wilkie's Special Soup



*Tattie Scone recipe compliments of Elaine Lemm of The Spruce Eats*



### INGREDIENTS for MR. WILKIE'S SPECIAL SOUP

2 Red peppers	2 ½ cups good stock
1 Onion	2 TBS sherry
2 TBS oil	2/3 Cup whipping cream
14 oz. can tomatoes	

### DIRECTIONS for SOUP

Sauté onion slowly in the oil

Add pepper (chopped)

Soften for a few minutes and add the tomatoes and stock

Simmer for 25 minutes

Liquidize in blender or food processor

Add sherry and cream

Decorate with swirl of whipped cream

## IMPRESSIVE SCOTTISH CASTLES

This beautiful castle was said to have been started by John I Comyn in 1269. It passed through several hands until John Murray, son of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Tullibardine, was created Earl of Atholl in 1629, and the title (and castle) was bestowed upon him by Charles II and has remained in the Murray family ever since.

The castle has been open to the public since 1936 and is managed by Historic Environment Scotland (HES).



Blair Castle



# HELP US WITH OUR MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

We are embarking upon a Summer Membership Drive. Help us enroll 120 new members by the end of August 2022. We ask that our members consider recruiting new members by passing out our brochures, talking up Scottish Heritage to your friends and neighbors, and suggesting memberships as gifts for birthdays and holidays. If you attend Highland Games, ask us to send you brochures to pass out at your clan tents. Come to our tent at Grandfather Mountain, Stone Mountain, and Laurinburg to help us extoll the benefits of Scottish Heritage memberships and your experiences with us.

## JOIN US AFTER GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES FOR A MEMBERS ONLY - THANK YOU BBQ by SCOTTISH COTTAGE

**When:** 10 July 2022, 6:00 – 8:00 PM  
After the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games

**Where:** 116 Paupers Ridge Lane  
Sugar Mountain, Banner Elk  
North Carolina 28604-9934

**Cost:** \$25 per person \$40 per couple  
*\$5 discount per Member who joins at the 2022 Games*

Beer, wine, and set-ups provided (BYOB)

Reservations may be made on-line at  
[www.scottishheritageusa.org](http://www.scottishheritageusa.org), or call the office at  
(910) 296-4448

*Members are encouraged to bring a guest or two!*



Banner Elk House –  
site of Members Only thank you BBQ  
Join us for fun, food, and frolic  
Bring a guest

## SCOTTISH KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

1. A statue of which 'wild west' hero was erected in the east end of Glasgow in 2006?
2. What river runs into the Tay just before Perth?
3. What is the name of the Queen's residence in Edinburgh?
4. What is the par at Old St. Andrews course?
5. What is Edradour, the smallest in Scotland?
6. What battle was fought in 1314, south of Stirling?
7. What was the castle featured in Monty Python and the Holy Grail, Outlander and Game of Thrones?
8. What is the highest point on the Isle of Arran?
9. Where is Flora Macdonald buried?
10. Robt.the Bruce was raised in which castle?

**Bonus:** Where would you find the ship 'The Discovery'?



Doune Castle

1. Buffalo Bill 2. The Almond River 3. Holyrood House  
4. 72 5. Distillery 6. Bannockburn 7. Castle Doune  
8. Goat Fell 9. Skye 10. Turnberry Castle

**BONUS:** Dundee



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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/698401680928383>



Instagram too

Correction in last month's quiz. The question: What is 'capercaillie'? was answered incorrectly as common thistle. It is actually a bird of the grouse family. Thank you to alert member Stephen Maxwell