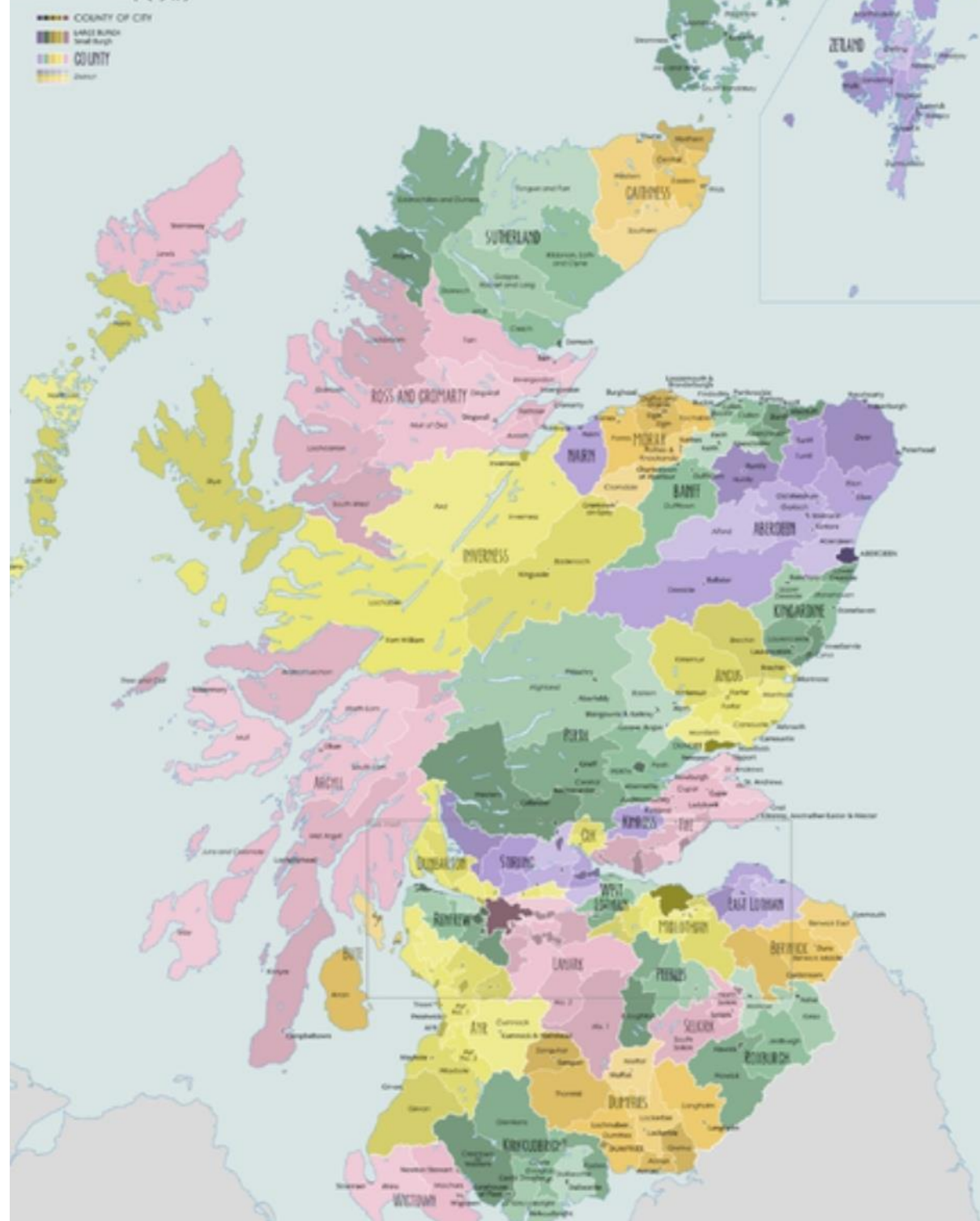


Scotland is a country that is part of the United Kingdom. Covering the northern third of the island of Great Britain, mainland Scotland has a 154 km ^{border} with England to the southeast and is otherwise surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean to the north and west, the North Sea to the northeast and the Irish Sea to the south. In addition, Scotland includes more than 790 islands; principally within the Northern Isles and the ~~the~~ Hebrides archipelagos.

Status : Country
Capital : Edinburgh
Language : English
Religion : Church of Scotland
Monarch : Elizabeth II
First Minister : Nicola Sturgeon
Currency : Pound Sterling

SCOTLAND

Administrative Map (1947)



The history of Scotland.

The history of Scotland is fascinating and complex there are Roman soldiers Vikings noble clansmen powerful ruling monarchs and even enlightened philosophers.

Scotland has experienced extraordinary growth and change during the course of its lifetime it's a place that's been invaded and settled many times and that has made mighty contributions to culture and society.

- *'It's a lang road that's no goat a turnin.'*

(goat = got)

Translation: Don't lose heart in dark times, things can't keep going in the same direction forever.



Some historians believe that **bagpipes** **originate** from ancient Egypt and were brought to Scotland by invading Roman Legions. Others maintain that the instrument was brought over the water by the colonising Scots tribes from Ireland.

Scotland

Kilts have deep cultural and historical roots in **Scotland**. They're a time-honored symbol of patriotism and they are carefully stored between wearings. 2. The word 'kilt' is a derivation of the ancient Norse word, kjilt, meaning 'pleated,' and it refers to clothing that is tucked up and around the **body**.



Clan dress in the 1800's

England has the rose, Wales the daffodil,
Ireland the shamrock and Scotland...the
thistle.

Second only to tartan, nothing quite says
'Scotland' like this humble, prickly weed. But
how on earth did it become the proud emblem
of an entire nation?



DID YOU KNOW?

The thistle first appears as a royal symbol on
silver coins issued by James III in 1470.

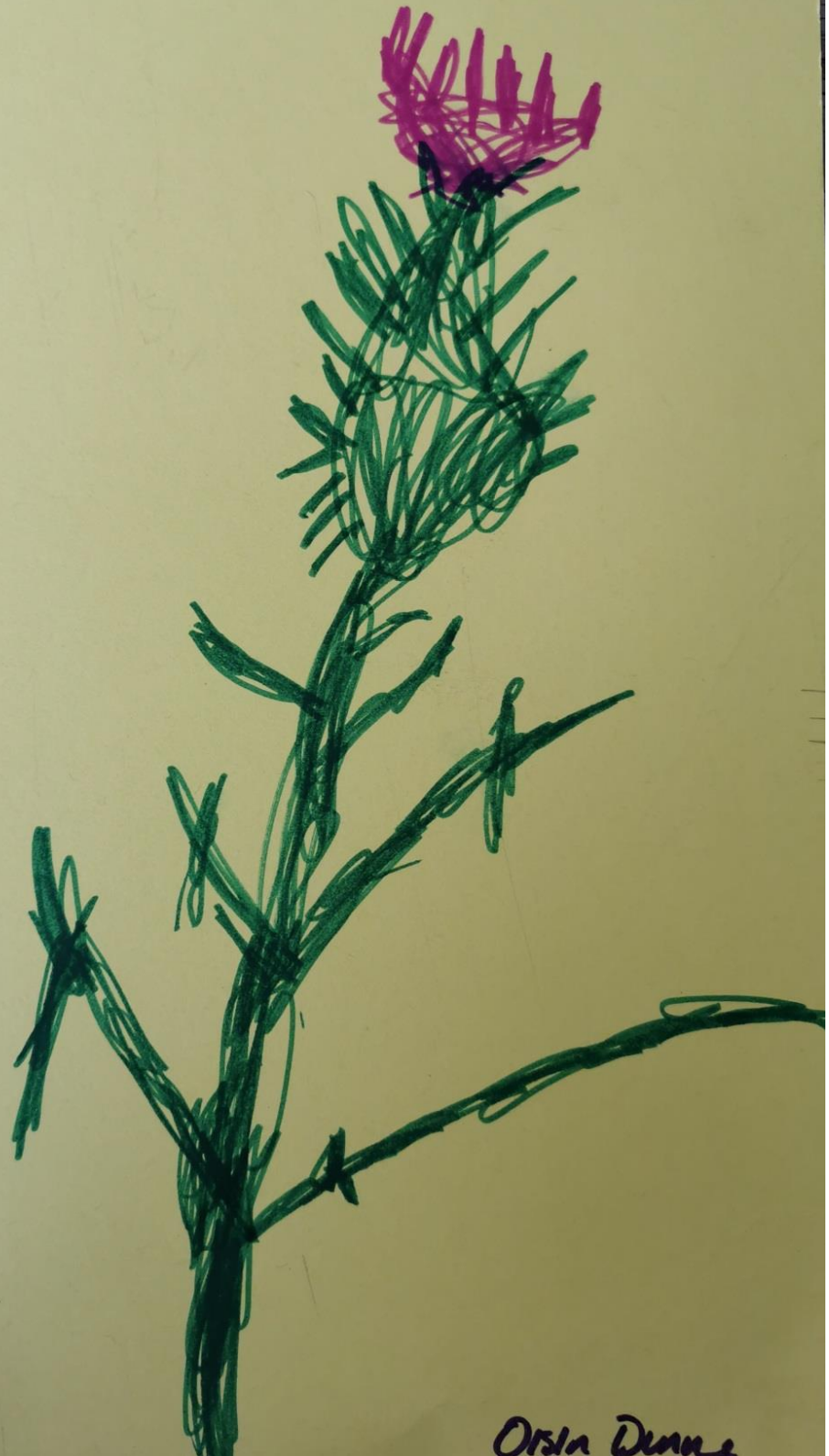
1. Mysterious origins

In truth, no one knows for certain how the purple-flowered thistle rose to such lofty significance. But one legend has it a sleeping party of Scots warriors were saved from ambush by an invading Norse army when one of the enemies trod on the spiky plant.

His anguished cry roused the slumbering warriors who duly vanquished the invader and adopted the thistle as their national symbol.

Of course, there is not a shred of evidence to support this account, but it certainly makes a good story.

The Thistle



Orla Dunne

4. A badge of honour

The thistle has been an important symbol of Scottish heraldry for over 500 years. It also represents one of the highest honours the country can give an individual. Founded by James III in 1687, the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle is an order of chivalry which is bestowed to those who have made an outstanding contribution to the life of Scotland and the greater United Kingdom. HM The Queen alone invests those in the Order of the Thistle which is second only to the Most Noble Order of the Garter in precedence.



The Highland is a Scottish breed of rustic cattle. It originated in the Scottish Highlands and the Outer Hebrides islands of Scotland and has long horns and a long shaggy coat. It is a hardy breed, bred to withstand the intemperate conditions in the

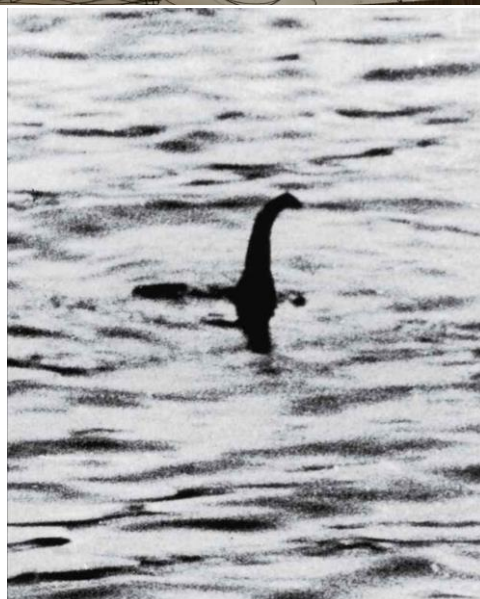
The Highland Cow.



The Loch Ness Monster, or Nessie is a cryptid in cryptozoology and Scottish folklore that is said to inhabit Loch Ness in the Scottish Highlands. It is often ...

First reported: 565

Country: Scotland



Haggis, the national dish of **Scotland**, a type of **pudding** composed of the liver, heart, and lungs of a **sheep** (or other animal), minced and mixed with **beef** or **mutton** suet and **oatmeal** and seasoned with **onion**, **cayenne pepper**, and other **spices**. The mixture is packed into a sheep's stomach and boiled.





