

Key to Quotations

- When we had a king, and a shall bear the gre, an' at that. For a that, an' a that, men o' our ain, we could aye pebble them wi' stanes when they were na gude bairns - But naebody's nails can reach the length o' Lunnon. **Sir Walter Scott (1771-1832)** "Midlothian"
- Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer, **Psalms 119:14**
- From the lone shelling of the misty island Mountains divide us, and the waste of seas - Yet still the blood is strong, the heart is Highland, And we in dreams behold "Canadian Boat Song" **First appeared 1829**
- This is my country, These windy spaces Are surely my own, And those who toil here In the sweat of their faces hoodies croak for doom Never heed whitt the freedom Of passionate imaginin' Till stonily, From soaring battlements, Earth eyes Eternity, **Hugh Andrew Fletcher (1655-1716)** "So, cam' all ye at hame wi' these windy spaces"
- 4 This is my country, The land that begot me, These windy spaces Are surely my own, And those who toil here In the sweat of their faces hoodies croak for doom Never heed whitt the freedom Of passionate imaginin' Till stonily, From soaring battlements, Earth eyes Eternity, **Hugh Andrew Fletcher (1655-1716)** "So, cam' all ye at hame wi' these windy spaces"
- 5 What would the world be, once bereft Of wet and wildness? Let them be left, O let them be left, wildness and wet; Long live the weeds and the wilderness yet. **Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844-1889)** "Inversnaid"
- 6 Then let us pray that come it may (As come it will for a that) That Sense and Worth, o'er a the earth,
- 7 Conglomerate - no lettering Mrs Howden in "Heart of "A Man's A Man for A' That" Robert Burns (1759-1796) Shall brothers be for a that, o'er, naebody's nails can reach the length o' Lunnon. **Sir Walter Scott (1771-1832)** "Midlothian"
- 8 But Edinburgh is a mad god's dream Fritful and dark, Unseizable in leith And willeder by the Forth, But irresistibly at last Clearing to somber heights Abair ach beegan is abair gu math e. **Seannfhacal** Say but little and say it well. Put all your eggs into one basket - and then watch that divided, Them that work the hardest are aye wi' least provided, But there's no much pleasure need not care who should make the laws of a nation. If a man were permitted to make all the ballads, he would care who should live'n' affen ten and nine. **Mary Brooksbank (1894 -1980), Oh Dear Me (The Jute Mill Song)**
- 9 I wad some Pow'r the giftie gie us To see oursel's as others see It wad frae monie a blunder free us An' foolish notion. **Robert Burns (1759-1796)** "To a Louse"
- 10 Well, we had a wee fern tosh and we lay on the quiraing, beats the thomh. Is! Alba nan Gall's nan Gaidheal is gair e blath is Lees Civil Elegies. Toronto: (1934-) © Canongate Press
- 11 Tell us about last night well, we had a wee fern tosh and we lay on the quiraing, beats the thomh. Is! Alba nan Gall's nan Gaidheal is gair e blath is Lees Civil Elegies. Toronto: (1934-) © Canongate Press
- 12 Who possesses this landscape? - The man who bought it or I who am possessed by it? False questions, for this landscape is Manley Hopkins (1844-1889) "Inversnaid"
- 13 There is hope in honest error; None in the icy perfections of the mere stylist. **Charles Rennie Mackintosh (1868-1928)** **Seannfhacal** Am fear as fear a churraas 'S as fear a bhualnaas. He who sowest best reapest best. **Proverb** "The Young Politician Looks at the Moon" © the author Put all your eggs into one basket - and then watch that divided, Them that work the hardest are aye wi' least provided, But there's no much pleasure need not care who should make the laws of a nation. If a man were permitted to make all the ballads, he would care who should live'n' affen ten and nine. **Mary Brooksbank (1894 -1980), Oh Dear Me (The Jute Mill Song)**
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- 18 Is! Alba nan Gall's nan Gaidheal is gair e blath is Lees Civil Elegies. Toronto: (1934-) © Canongate Press
- 19 Errochty sandstone - no lettering Lorimer Memorial Trust **Winds of Scotland" © W L (1915-1984) "The Four me. George Campbell Hay Roam through the houses that stand - Sweet ghosts in a loving band**
- 20 The rose of all the world is not for me. I want for my part Only the little white rose of Scotland That smells sharp and sweet - and breaks the heart. **Hugh MacDiarmid (1892-1978) "The Little White Rose"**
- 21 To promise is ae thing, to keep it is anither. **Proverb** And it's in the constituency too. **Alan Jackson (1938-1978) "Scotland Small?"**
- 22 What a lovely, lovely moon. And it's in the constituency too. **Alan Jackson (1938-1978) "Scotland Small?"**
- 23 Put all your eggs into one basket - and then watch that divided, Them that work the hardest are aye wi' least provided, But there's no much pleasure need not care who should make the laws of a nation. If a man were permitted to make all the ballads, he would care who should live'n' affen ten and nine. **Mary Brooksbank (1894 -1980), Oh Dear Me (The Jute Mill Song)**
- 24 Scotland small? Our multiform, our infinite Scotland *small?* **Hugh MacDiarmid (1892-1978) "Scotland Small?"**
- 25 The battle for conservation will go on endlessly, it is part of the universal battle between right and wrong. **John Muir (1838-1914)** Bright is the ring of words. **Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894) "Songs of Travel"**
- 26 Bright is the ring of words. **Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894) "Songs of Travel"**
- 27 Work as if you live in the early days of a better nation. **Alasdair Gray (1934-) © Canongate Press**
- 28 Sweet ghosts in a loving band Roam through the houses that stand - Sweet ghosts in a loving band
- 29 The rose of all the world is not for me. I want for my part Only the little white rose of Scotland That smells sharp and sweet - and breaks the heart. **Hugh MacDiarmid (1892-1978) "The Little White Rose"**
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Canongate Wall

Art Science and Politics



Local Geodiversity Site

Scottish Parliament Building
Edinburgh



Lothian and
Borders



GeoConservation

How to find the Canongate Wall



How to find the Canongate Wall

The Canongate Wall at the eastern end of the Royal Mile forms the northern boundary of the Scottish Parliament buildings.

By Coach: Parking in Regent Road
By Car: Parking in Regent Road and at Our Dynamic Earth.

Acknowledgements:
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Scotland's Geodiversity

Geologists recognize three kinds of rock. **Sedimentary Rocks** form when sediment (e.g. sand or mud) accumulates on the Earth's surface. This often happens under water. **Igneous Rocks** are crystalline rocks formed from solidified magma, either in volcanoes where lava and ash form extrusive rocks such as basalt and tuff, or as intrusive rocks when magma gets trapped underground, e.g. granite.



Metamorphic Rocks are formed by the action of heat or pressure on existing rocks, usually deep underground. Examples are slate, schist, gneiss or marble. **Metamorphic Rocks** are formed by the action of heat or pressure on existing rocks, usually deep underground. Examples are slate, schist, gneiss or marble.

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Way back in the mists of time ...

Orogeny - the Caledonian Colliding continents and a disappearing ocean

The main building blocks of modern Scotland were assembled in a series of events lasting hundreds of millions of years. The story begins almost a billion years ago with existing continental crust near the South Pole being pulled apart, creating ocean basins where sedimentary rocks piled up. As crustal stretching continued, the lapetus Ocean was formed, with Scotland on the northern edge of the ocean and the rocks of England on the other side, hundreds of miles away. The slow but inexorable movement of tectonic plates means that oceans do not last forever. The closure of the lapetus Ocean resulted in a mountain-building phase called the Caledonian Orogeny, which ended about 400 million years ago. The associated mountain building changed oceanic sedimentary rocks into the different kinds of metamorphic rocks now found in the Northern Highlands and the Grampian Highlands, separated by the Great Glen Fault (Easdale Slate; Ardkinglas Slate; Glen Tilt Marble).

At the same time and for millions of years afterwards, melting created magma that rose towards the surface, forming igneous rocks such as granite and associated metamorphic rocks (Corranie Granite; grey granite; Ross of Mull Granite; Ledmore Marble).

These rolling hills south of the Southern Upland Fault are formed of folded metamorphic rocks, overlain by Permian New Red Sandstone and also intruded by granite (Cove Red Sandstone; Knowhead Sandstone).

For the next 200 million years, Scotland was a bit quieter tectonically, but still prone to occasional volcanic outbursts which have left some impressive features in the landscape (Caldercruix Dolerte). For much of this time, erosion has been the dominant geological agent at work wearing down the mountains and depositing sedimentary rocks. As Scotland has moved northwards these sedimentary rocks have reflected changing climates, from hot desert conditions (Carmyllie Sandstone; Erochty Sandstone; conglomerate) across the equator where wet conditions dominated (Cullivoe Sandstone; Giffnock Sandstone) and back into desert conditions again (Cove Red Sandstone; Clashach Sandstone; Knowhead Sandstone).

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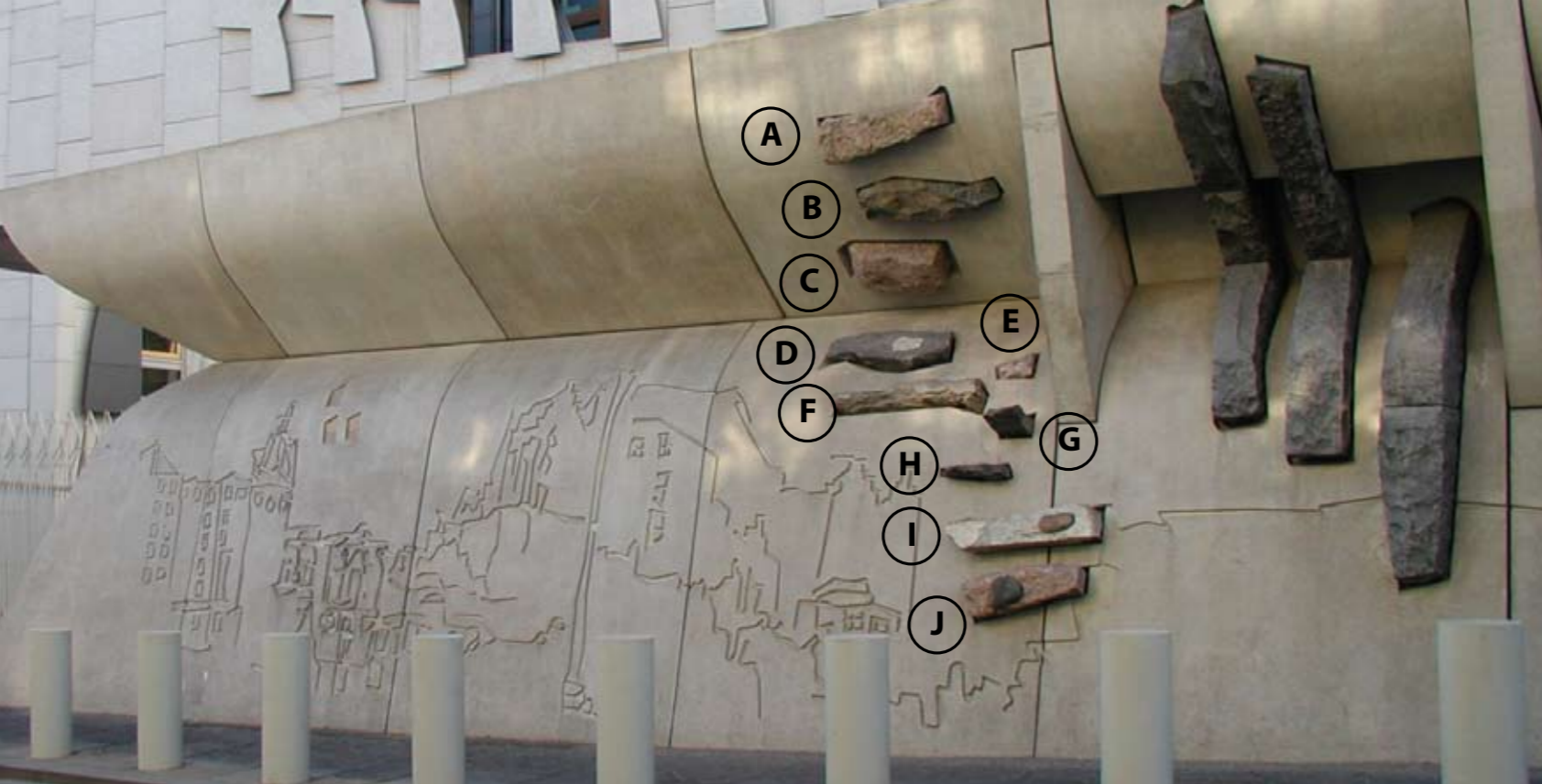
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Key (left)

- A Granite
- B Basalt
- C Pipe Rock
- D Dolerite with inset of marble
- E Conglomerate
- F Sandstone with inset pebble
- G Basalt
- H Slate
- I Glen Tilt Marble with inset cobble
- J Ross of Mull Granite with inset cobble

The 3 vertical strips of grey rock are Dolerite

(right) The inscription reads:
 DOLERITE
 AN IGNEOUS
 ROCK FROM
 CALDERCRUIX
 THAT COOLED
 FROM MOLTEN
 MAGMA
 AROUND 300
 MILLION YEARS
 AGO etc.



1. Easdale Slate – Easdale Island, Argyll. "When we had a king..." Walter Scott Mrs Howden in "Heart of Midlothian"
Metamorphic

2. Cove Red Sandstone – Annan, Dumfries & Galloway. "Let the words..." Psalm 19:14
Sedimentary

3. Ardkinglas Slate – Cairndow, Argyll. "From the lone sheiling..." Anon
Metamorphic

4. Whinstone (dolerite) – Caldercruix, West Lothian. "This is my country..." Sir Alexander Gray
Igneous

5. Carmyllie Sandstone – Angus. "What would the world be..." Gerard Manley Hopkins
Sedimentary

6. Errochty Sandstone – Struan, Perthshire. "Then let us pray..." Robert Burns
Metamorphic

7. Conglomerate – Dunbeath Beach, Caithness. No lettering
Sedimentary

8. Lewisian (banded) Gneiss – Lochinver, Sutherland. "But Edinburgh..." Hugh MacDiarmid
Metamorphic

9. Ledmore Marble – Ledmore Quarry, Highlands. "If a man..." Andrew Fletcher
Metamorphic

10. Corrennie Granite – Aberdeenshire. "So, cam' all ye..." Hamish Henderson
Igneous

11. Clashach Sandstone – Elgin, Morayshire. "tell us about..." Edwin Morgan
Sedimentary

12. Bressay Sandstone – Shetland. "Who possesses this landscape?..." Norman MacCaig
Sedimentary

13. Kemnay Granite – Aberdeenshire. "There is hope..." Charles Rennie Mackintosh
Igneous

14. Torridonian Sandstone – Ullapool, Highlands. "Am fhearr as fhearr..." Proverb
Sedimentary

15. Caithness Flagstone (polished) – Spittal, Caithness. "Abair ach..." Proverb
Sedimentary

16. Ledmore Marble – Ledmore Quarry, Highlands. "Oh, dear me..." Mary Brooksbank
Metamorphic

17. Ardkinglas Slate – Cairndow, Argyll. "O wad some Pow'r..." Robert Burns
Metamorphic

18. Pipe Rock – Ledmore, Highlands. "Is i Alba..." Deòrsa Mac Iain Deòrsa
Sedimentary

19. Errochty Sandstone – Struan, Perthshire. No lettering
Metamorphic

20. Cullaloe Sandstone – Aberdour, Fife. "The rose..." Hugh MacDiarmid
Sedimentary

21. Knowehead Sandstone – Dumfries. "To promise..." Proverb
Sedimentary

22. Easdale Slate – Easdale Island, Argyll. "What a lovely..." Alan Jackson
Metamorphic

23. Glen Tilt Marble – Blair Atholl, Perthshire. "Put all your eggs..." Andrew Carnegie
Metamorphic

24. Grey Granite – Dunbeath Beach, Caithness. "Scotland small?..." Hugh MacDiarmid
Igneous

25. Ross of Mull Granite – Fionnphort, Mull, Argyll. "The battle..." John Muir
Igneous

26. Lewisian Gneiss – Lochinver, Sutherland. "Bright is..." Robert Louis Stevenson
Metamorphic

27. Iona Marble – Iona, Argyll. "Work as if..." Alasdair Gray
Metamorphic

28. Giffnock Sandstone – Glasgow. "Sweet Ghosts..." George MacDonald
Sedimentary