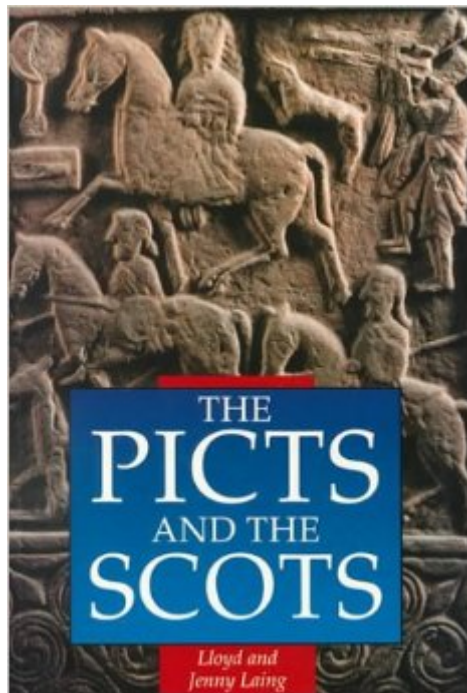


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The Picts And The Scots (Illustrated History Paperbacks)



Synopsis

For a long time the Picts were known almost entirely from their mysterious symbol stones, which scholars have tried to interpret and date. Many problems remain unsolved concerning their links with the Scots. This account presents the latest archaeological discoveries and discusses the relationship between these two peoples, tracing their development from raids on Roman Britain to the formation of rival Dark Age kingdoms that produced a unique artistic inheritance.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

excellent up-to-date work on the Picts and the Scots of ancient Scotland. For many centuries the Picts have remained shrouded in myth and legend for the only written records - their Pictish stones - have been undecipherable. In 1958 with the discovering of the St. Ninan's Isle Treasure, a new focus has been applied to interpreting what we know. Written record mostly comes from people viewing the Pictish Nation from the outside, which often leads to misunderstanding, if not exaggeration...possibly slander. In this highly readable account, they present the latest archaeological discoveries, and discusses how these two different races co-existed and ultimately merged of a nation of one through the slaughter of the Pict royal houses. Again, that is the only slight aggravation (as with nearly all books on this Picts) is the ignoring the importance of this and how it was the foundation of the Scottish Highlands. Otherwise, an excellent work full of photographs, with recommended reading, and is a must for anyone wanting to more about the two races that formed the spine of Scotland.

In recent years there has been a great deal of work done on the Picts and the Scots, but you won't learn anything about that work here. There's nothing much wrong with the book, it is short and readable, but it is seriously outdated. The consensus of opinion on many questions has changed a great deal since the early 1990s, and much that was taken for granted is now rejected or questioned. For a more up-to-date picture, the 2004 edition of Sally Foster's *Picts, Gaels and Scots* is worth considering.

Not really what I expected from Ken Follet. Still I think each reader should give their opinion. Not every one has the same taste.

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