

## **Poetic images of landscapes: the Scottish Trossachs and the English Lake District**

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This paper is concerned with past attitudes towards conservation and landscape perceptions in the English Lake District and the Scottish Trossachs-Loch Lomond region. The character of the two regions is very similar at first sight: both are mountainous with many lakes and both are popular tourist destinations. However, the conservation history of the two areas is completely different. While the Lake District experienced a mass protest against forestry operations threatening to transform the landscape, no such protests were heard in the Trossachs-Loch Lomond area. In 1951 the Lake District National Park was established but a Loch Lomond-Trossachs National Park was only recently created.

The different development of both regions has its origins in the period of the enlightenment. Our present-day representation of the landscapes in the Trossachs and the Lake District are deeply influenced by the images in the works of William Wordsworth and Sir Walter Scott. Wordsworth regarded nature as different and often even opposite to the cultivated world of humans. Scott's landscapes are rather different from the Wordsworthian view. Instead of creating an idyllic fiction Scott recorded the landscape around him and his view of the landscape tilts towards a utilitarian one. The proposed paper aims to analyse how the representation of the landscape in the works of Wordsworth and Sir Walter Scott led to different attitudes towards conservation in the Trossachs and the Lake District.

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