



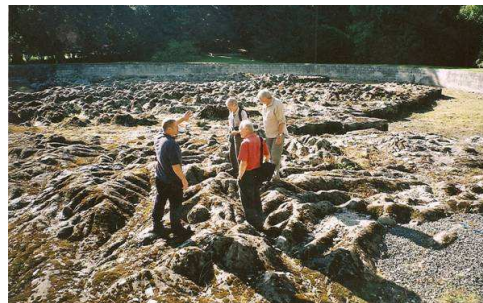
RENDEZVOUS IN POLAND -neighbours invade in 1939



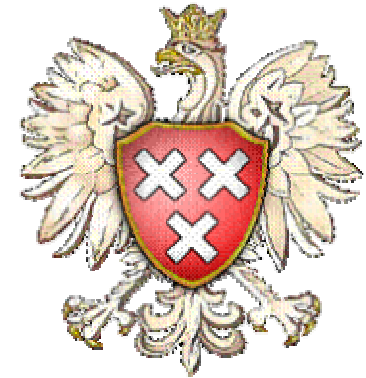
Polish troops lay tanktraps along the Firth of Forth



Polish troops at Peebles Hydro in the snow of 1940-1



Barony Castle Eddleston, site of the Great Polish Map

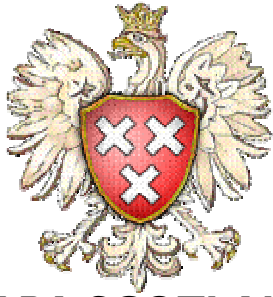


## MAPA SCOTLAND

*-the campaign to restore*

## General Maczek's GREAT POLISH MAP OF SCOTLAND





## **MAPA SCOTLAND**

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# **General Maczek's GREAT POLISH MAP OF SCOTLAND**

*In the grounds of Barony Castle Hotel is an unexpected sight. A great three-dimensional map of Scotland in a giant enclosure, now crumbling and overgrown. The map was originally set in a sea of water and fitted with over 50 water springs to operate its rivers.*

**Why?**



**Paderewski Hospital –on Western General site**

After the fall of France in 1940 came the Battle of Britain. Polish forces - whose own country was overrun by the combined might of Hitler and Stalin - made their way to Scotland. The desperately overstretched British government was glad to receive them and gave them

the task of defending Scotland from the expected German invasion. All over Scotland hotels and mansions were taken over to house the Polish troops and the Barony Hotel at Eddleston became an Army headquarters and later Staff College. Tactics were planned on a large outdoor map created on the putting green. The Polish troops successfully protected Scotland's coasts. Polish Navy and air forces defended our waters and skies, Polish doctors and nurses helped keep Scotland's emergency medical services going. By the end of the war, Polish forces were the fourth in strength among the allies, exceeded only by Russia, USA and Britain, and were critical to the breakthroughs at Monte Cassino and in Normandy, and the liberations that followed in the West. But because of the postwar Stalinist regime and Cold War tensions, it was far from easy for Poles to return home willingly or safely. Many chose to stay on in Scotland.



**Breda in the Netherlands liberated by Polish forces and General Maczek given citizenship, 30 Oct 1944**

One of those who stayed in Scotland was the Commander, General Maczek. After the war, it was a bitter disappointment to be separated from home but the General stayed warm to Scotland and the Netherlands. When the Barony at Eddleston, a Hotel once again, came into the ownership of one of his former soldiers Maczek and the hotelkeeper Jan Tomasiak decided to create a great Map of Scotland in memory of the hospitality of its people and Poland's part in its defence, on the site of the tactical map they had once made on the old putting green. Quietly, for the Cold War was still in progress, they asked Professor Klimaszewski in Poland to send a small team of young geographers to build the map. It was completed by the hard work of Kazimierz Trafas and his four colleagues in just a few weeks in 1975.



**GENERAL STANISŁAW MACZEK**  
**Born Lwów 1892 died Edinburgh 1994**

When Jan Tomasiak died and the hotel changed hands several times, the Great Polish Map fell into decay. A few years ago it was cleaned up and stabilised by the efforts of hotel staff, but restoration to its original glory seemed impossible. In 2008 an interim team of Scottish-based volunteers came together after three exhibitions about the Map by the Penicuik Community Development Trust. The team has drawn up proposals for restoration and made a first application for grant. The Great Map is an amazing learning resource and a lasting testament to technical skill and international co-operation. Pre-launch displays to attract support are in Penicuik Town Hall on Saturday 17 and 24 April 2010.

**We launch the restoration project on a democratic and constitutional footing with an open day, Great Map viewing and on-site exhibition from 2pm and Inaugural General Meeting from 3pm all at the Barony Castle Eddleston EH45 8QW on Sunday 25 April 2010**



**MAPA SCOTLAND** [www.makers.org.uk/place/Maczek](http://www.makers.org.uk/place/Maczek)  
**emails** [mapascotland@gmail.com](mailto:mapascotland@gmail.com)

Wartime background :

[www.makers.org.uk/place/PolishInScotland2WW](http://www.makers.org.uk/place/PolishInScotland2WW)

Making the map : [www.makers.org.uk/place/scotinscot](http://www.makers.org.uk/place/scotinscot)

Maczek exhibition [www.makers.org.uk/penicuik/maczek](http://www.makers.org.uk/penicuik/maczek)

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