

Durham



Location

Durham is a city in the North-East of England and is well known for its Norman cathedral and 11th-century castle.



There are three other counties surrounding Durham there names are Northumberland , YORKSHIRE.



The present cathedral was designed and built under William de St-Calais (also known as William of St. Carilef) who in 1080 was appointed as the first Prince-Bishop by King William the Conqueror. In 1083 he founded the Benedictine Priory of St.



Settlements

Durham Cathedral was built between the late 11th and early 12th century



Physical Geography



Penines in the west
River Tees in the
south

North Sea in the East
River Tyne and
Derwent in the
North

Human geography

The average age of people in County Durham is about 42 years old. (Office of National Statistics 2011 Census estimates)

Northumbria became the leading centre of the Christian church in Britain with the foundation of Durham Cathedral in 1093 acting as a lasting reminder of the County's legacy to Christian worship in Britain.

People can have jobs like a bus driver , taxi driver, they could work in a office block , and a fire man



History/ Geography

Yorkshire, Durham and Northumberland are ancient counties with roots going back a thousand years or more but something changed in the 1970s that left communities confused and disembodied in a legacy that continues to this day.

Throughout history, County Durham has been important to settlers ranging from the Romans to the Anglo-Saxons and Normans.

One of the most important political changes of the 1970s was the establishment of the new counties of Cleveland and Tyne and Wear which swallowed up the most populous chunks of Northumberland, Durham and North Yorkshire. Coal mines continued to close in the 1970s and 1980s and the issue coming to a head in the bitter miners' strike of 1984-85. By the end of the 1980s, there were only six collieries left in the land between Tyne and Tees and only two left in Northumberland.

The name “Durham” comes from the Old English word for hill, “Dun” and the Norse for island, “holme”. The legend of the Dun Cow and the milkmaid also contributes to the naming of this county town and Dun Cow Lane is said to be one of the first streets in the original city.

The legend follows the journey of a group of Lindisfarne monks carrying the body of the Anglo-Saxon Saint Cuthbert in 995 AD. It is told that while they were wandering in the north, Saint Cuthbert’s bier came to a halt on the hill at Warden Law and the monks could not move it any further, no matter how hard they tried.

The Bishop of Chester-le-Street (where Saint Cuthbert had previously lain) called a three day holy fast and prayers for the Saint. Saint Bede recalled that during this time, Saint Cuthbert appeared before one of the monks, Eadmer, and told him that his coffin must be taken to “Dun Holm”.

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But by chance, they met a milkmaid on Mount Joy, south east of the site of Durham, who was wandering, searching for her lost Dun Cow, which she had last seen at Dun Holm. Yes! Taking this as a sign from Saint Cuthbert, the monks followed the milkmaid who guided them to a “wooded hill-island formed by a tight gorge-like meander of the River Wear”, Dun Holm.

In medieval times the city, built around the Cathedral, was revered as the last resting places for Saint Cuthbert and Saint Bede the Venerable, and became the subject of many pilgrimages. The shrine to Saint Cuthbert, situated behind the High Altar in the Cathedral, was the most important religious site in England before the martyrdom of St Thomas Becket.



Owing to the divine providence evidenced in the city's legendary founding, the Bishop of Durham has always enjoyed the title "Bishop by Divine Providence"[20] as opposed to other bishops, who are "Bishop by Divine Permission".[5] However, as the north-east of England lay so far from Westminster, the bishops of Durham enjoyed extraordinary powers such as the ability to hold their own parliament,[5] raise their own armies,[6] appoint their own sheriffs and Justices, administer their own laws, levy taxes and customs duties, create fairs and markets, issue charters,[8] salvage shipwrecks, collect revenue from mines, administer the forests and mint their own coins.[5] So far-reaching were the bishop's powers that the steward of Bishop Antony Bek commented in 1299 AD: "

There are two kings in England, namely the Lord King of England, wearing a crown in sign of his regality and the Lord Bishop of Durham wearing a mitre in place of a crown, in sign of his regality in the diocese of Durham".

The most famous of battles fought at Durham was the Battle of Neville's Cross in 1346. The English were preparing to wage war against the French (as part of the Hundred Year War) and the French were getting nervous! The old Scottish-French alliance was called upon by the French King Philip VI; he sent a plea for help to King David II of Scotland.

By the time the monks had settled at Durham the Vikings were perhaps not so great an enemy as the Scots, who were to pose a threat to the wealthy shrine of St Cuthbert at Durham for many years to come.

Not only is Durham an important religious site but also a defensive one. Situated high on a hill and protected by the river on three sides, Durham was important in defence against the Scots invading English lands.

The Cathedral and Castle were built together by the community of Benedictine monks who wanted a monumental shrine for Saint Cuthbert and a place to live for the Bishop of Durham. The project of building the two structures was impressively ambitious, and the panoramic view of the Cathedral and Castle facing each other has been described as 'one of the finest architectural experiences of Europe'. They are now united as a World Heritage Site

King David, albeit a bit slow, rallied his army and set forth to capture England from the north; he assumed this would be fairly easy as the English troops would be tied up in the south preparing to invade France. But England had foreseen this and troops were waiting at Durham as the Scots swept through Liddesdale and Hexham (Carlisle paid protection money) towards Durham and Yorkshire. However, the Scots were right in that the English were indeed small in numbers; six to seven thousand English to the 12,000 Scottish that initially crossed the borders. Both armies started on the defensive so after a long period of stalemate, the English finally provoked the Scots forward and then obliterated them! Two thirds of the Scottish army fled and the final third eventually retreated and were chased for twenty miles.

Presently, Durham Castle is home to students of Durham University as University College. The University is steeped in history and is the only University, other than Oxford and Cambridge, to operate the collegiate system in the UK.



For going through my power point about Durham but I am sorry for doing thousands of pieces of History but what can I say I love it and enjoy some of Durham's wild flowers 🤔

