

St Mungo's Long Strange Trip: Archaeological explorations of Kentigern's origins

Stephen T Driscoll (Professor of Historical Archaeology, University of Glasgow)

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This lecture will examine a range of archaeological and historical discoveries which have a bearing on our understanding of Kentigern's origins. Taking the 12th-century *Life of Kentigern* as a guide, the lecture will trace the journey from his birthplace on the great Iron Age hillfort of Traprain Law in East Lothian, via St Serf's monastery in Culross, Fife and finally to the Clyde. We will travel through time as well as space, from late prehistory to the peak of the cult in the 13th century. Along the way there will be detours to investigate the role of Celtic mythology in shaping the Kentigern tradition and to examine the archaeological discoveries which allow us to visualise the stages on our journey and provide our timetable.