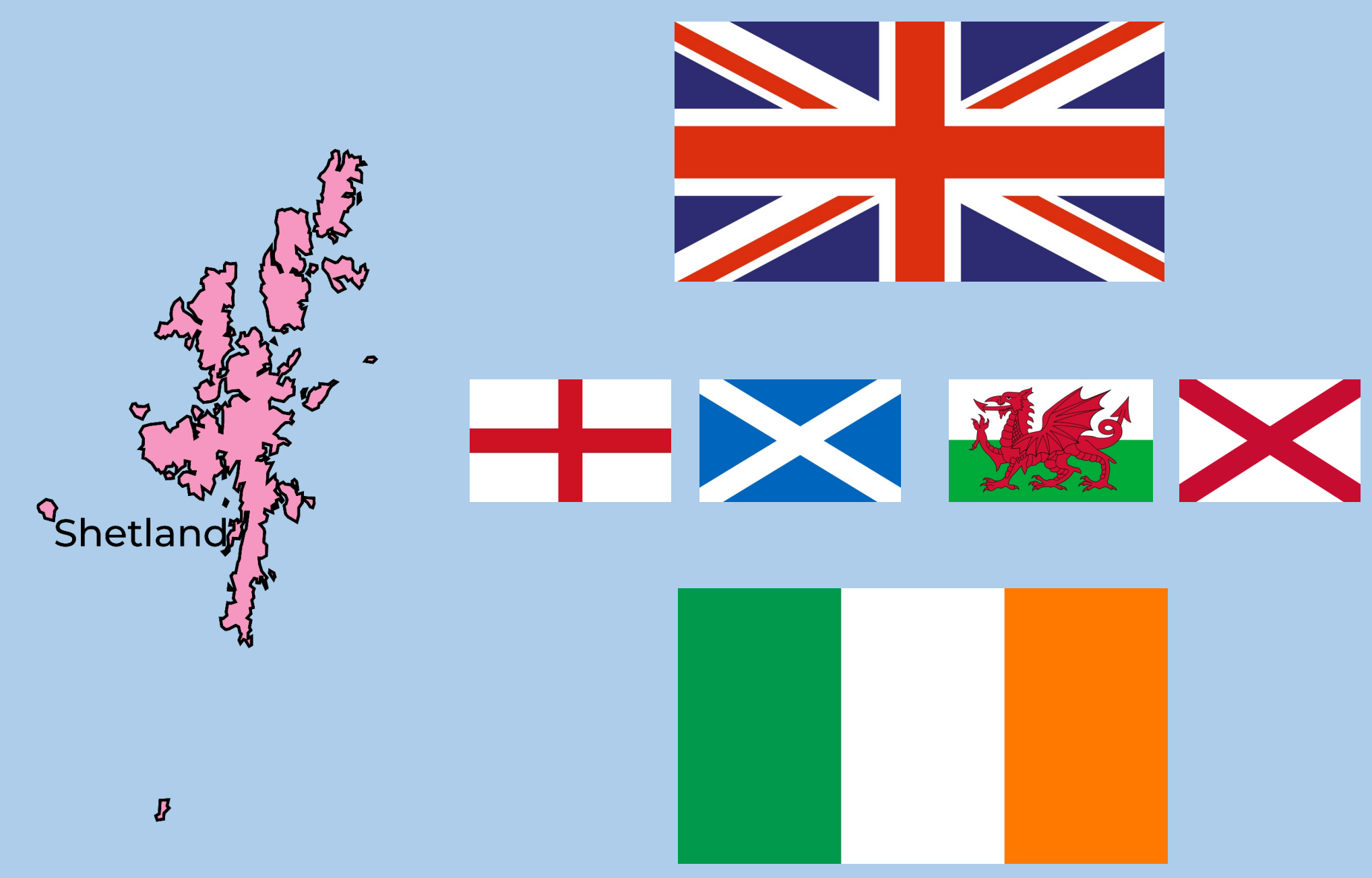


COUNTIES OF GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND



Geography & Culture Paramount

While each historic county may have originally been set up for some public purpose or other, long before the beginning of the nineteenth century it was their geographical and cultural identities that were paramount.

The counties were considered to be territorial divisions of the country, whose names and areas had been fixed for many centuries and were universally known and accepted.

The traditional counties of England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland are 118 historic subdivisions of Great Britain and Ireland

They are also known as the historic counties (so-called because they ‘have a lot of history’) or legally as the ancient or geographical counties.

These 118 counties have existed for centuries and are an indelible part of the history, heritage, geography and culture of Great Britain and Ireland.

The UK Office for National Statistics (ONS) recommend use of the historic counties as “a stable, unchanging geography which covers the whole of Great Britain”.

CAMPAIGN
FOR
HISTORIC
COUNTIES