



TEACHERS' KIT

Carlisle Castle

This kit has been designed to help teachers plan a visit to Carlisle Castle, which provides essential insight into castle defences and life in a medieval castle. Use this kit in the classroom to help students get the most out of their learning.



KS1-2

KS3

KS4+

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WELCOME

This Teachers' Kit for Carlisle Castle has been designed for teachers and group leaders to support a free self-led visit to the site. It includes a variety of materials suited to teaching a wide range of subjects and key stages, with practical information, activities for use on site and ideas to support follow up learning.

We know that each class and study group is different, so we have collated our resources into one pack allowing you to decide what materials are best suited to your needs. Please use the contents page, which has been colour coded to help you easily locate what you need and download individual sections. All of our activities have clear guidance on the intended use for study so you can adapt them for your desired learning outcomes.

To further aid your planning, we have created Hazard Information guidance, which you can download from the Carlisle Castle **Schools page**. Here you can also find information on our expert-led Discovery Visits and an overview of what your class can experience. You can find more practical information about your booked visit to Carlisle Castle in the Education Visit Permit and the Site Information Pack which have been sent to you.

We hope you enjoy your visit and find this Teachers' Kit useful. If you have any queries please don't hesitate to get in touch with a member of our team either via bookeducation@english-heritage.org.uk or on 0370 333 0606.

English Heritage Learning Team

ICON KEY

The icons below will help you quickly identify the types of activities and information presented.

 KSI-2	 KS3	 KS4+			
					
LOOK	WRITE	READ	ROLE PLAY	CHALLENGE	DID YOU KNOW?
					
QUOTE	EXAMINE	MATHS	ART	GROUP ACTIVITY	MAP

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KSI-2

KS3

KS4+

PRE-VISIT

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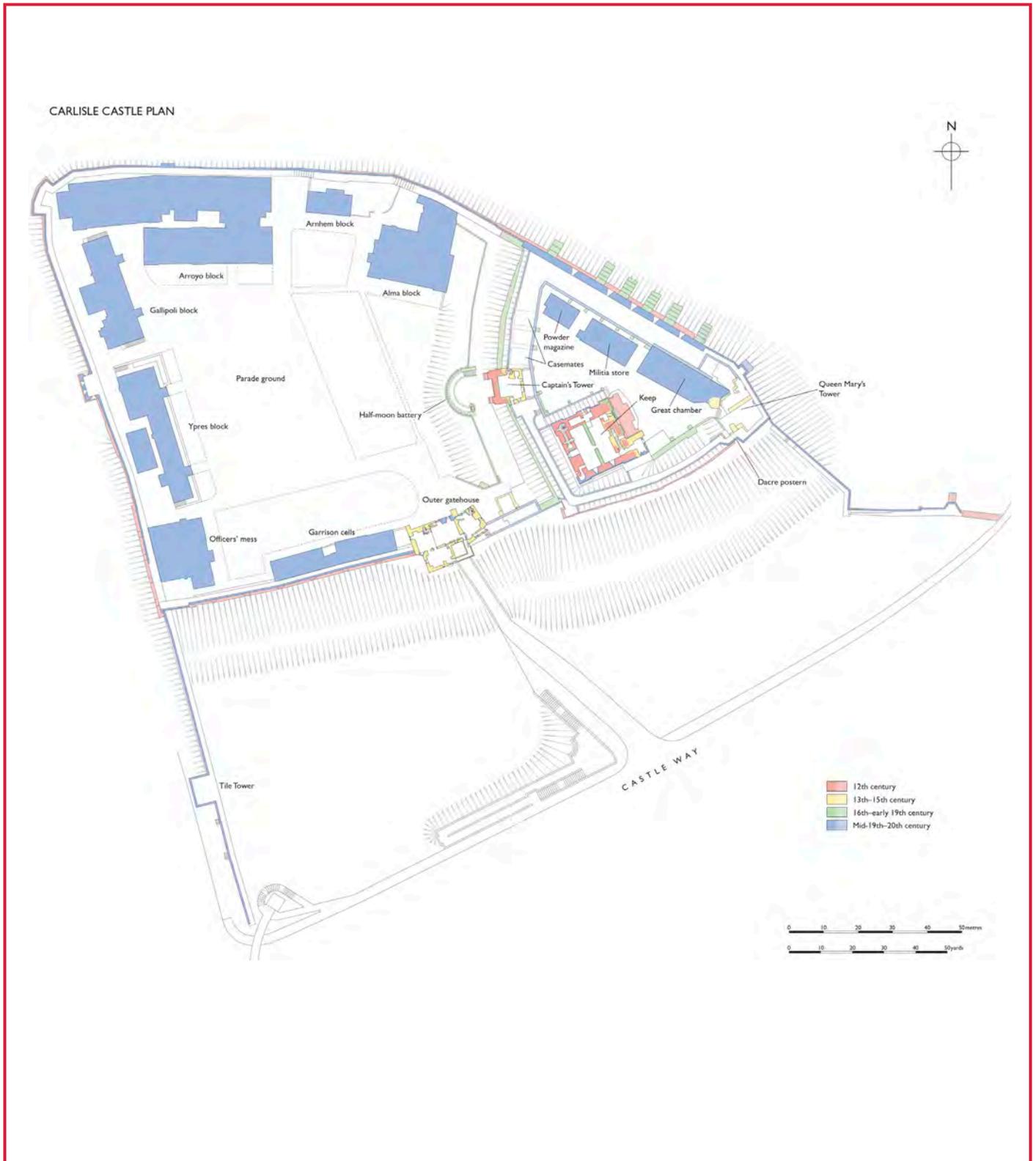
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PRE-VISIT

Information and activities you can use in the classroom before your visit.

CARLISLE CASTLE SITE PLAN



HISTORICAL INFORMATION

DISCOVER THE STORY OF
CARLISLE CASTLE

Below is a short history of Carlisle Castle. Use this information to learn how the site has changed over time. You will find definitions of the key words in the Glossary.

AD c.100–410: ROMAN BEGINNINGS

In AD c.100, a large Roman fort was built where the castle stands today. In AD c.122, the Emperor Hadrian ordered the building of a defensive wall across the north of England that marked the boundary of the Roman empire in Britain. The fort supported soldiers on the wall and acted as a **staging post** for Roman armies invading Scotland. A town called Luguvalium grew up around the fort to provide services to the soldiers. Luguvalium became prosperous and the Romans stayed here until the end of the fourth century AD.

Once the Romans left Britain, around AD 410, native Britons probably lived at the site of the fort for the next 100 years.



This part of a Roman altar is from the third century AD. In the late 14th century, it was recycled in the outer gatehouse to prop up a door frame.

NORMAN BORDER CONTROL

Following the Battle of Hastings in 1066, the Normans conquered England. By 1092, King William Rufus (r.1087–1100) wanted to claim the land between England and Scotland that was still fought over by the Normans, Vikings, Saxons and Scots. At this time, Carlisle was ruled by a man named Dolfin, who probably supported the Scots. King William Rufus arrived in Carlisle, drove out Dolfin and built a castle. We don't know exactly where this stronghold was, but it was likely to be near where the castle is today. It was probably an earth **ringwork** with wooden buildings inside. This type of fort was easy, cheap and quick to build, and William needed to build a castle urgently in case the Scottish armies tried to take Carlisle.

In 1122, King Henry I (r.1100–35) visited Carlisle and ordered that it be '**fortified** with a castle and towers'. Work on the **keep** began.

In 1135, when Henry I died, England fell into **civil war**. King David of Scotland (r.1124–53) took Carlisle Castle while the rest of the country was distracted by the war. David probably finished the stone castle that Henry I had begun. Building in stone took many years!



Norman castles were often first built quickly using earth and wood, and then later re-built in stone to make them more secure.



In the 12th century, the stone keep was built to make the castle stronger during an attack and easier to defend.

A SCOTTISH SIEGE – NO SURRENDER!

When Henry II (r.1154–89) took the throne of England in 1154, the threat of his power was so great that the Scots left Carlisle. The English returned, and Henry ordered the castle buildings to be reorganised and strengthened. He built new outer and inner **gatehouses**.



The earliest parts of the inner gatehouse are from the 12th century.

The stronger stone castle was tested between 1173 and 1174 when the Scottish King William ‘the Lion’ (r.1165–1214) attacked Carlisle twice, with a large army. The castle and city came under **siege** and were close to surrender when William was defeated by the English forces at the **Battle of Alnwick**.

Henry visited Carlisle in 1186 and ordered improvements, including a new **chamber** for him with a small tower and a decorated **chapel** with expensive glass windows.

KING ALEXANDER'S SUCCESSFUL SIEGE

Henry II’s son, King John (r.1199–1216), stayed at Carlisle four times and spent a lot of money on improving the castle. King John was facing opposition from the **barons** in the north of England and used Carlisle as one of the bases from which to control them. The barons decided to rebel against the king in 1215, and made an alliance with the Scottish king, Alexander II (r.1214–49). In 1216, Alexander went to take Carlisle for himself and the people in the city surrendered – but the soldiers at the castle refused. It was attacked and put under siege – the south curtain wall was **sapped** by miners and both gatehouses were badly damaged by **shells**. Eventually, the castle was captured by the Scots. When King John died, they left Carlisle.



A portrait from c.1620, by an unknown artist, of King John. John used Carlisle Castle as a base to rule the north of England but in 1216 it was captured by Alexander II of Scotland.

When the **Treaty of York** was signed in 1237, a new border was created between England and Scotland. This meant that the castle was not needed to defend against attacks and was left abandoned. Twenty years later, a report claimed the castle was ‘very greatly in need of repairing’.

1314: A SCOTTISH ATTACK

King Edward I (r.1272–1307) used Carlisle Castle as the main base for defending northern England from the Scots and to launch his attacks on Scotland.

In 1314, the Scottish army defeated the English at the **Battle of Bannockburn** and soon afterwards, led by Scottish King **Robert the Bruce** (r.1306–29), they attacked Carlisle. They used a **siege engine** to try to attack from outside the city wall, just below the castle. But the

English army, led by the sheriff Sir Andrew Harclay, and the townspeople were ready

– the city and castle walls were lined with engines for firing **projectiles**. What really helped the English, though, was the rain. It had rained so heavily that the moat outside the city walls was impossible to cross; the ground was so muddy that when the Scots wheeled their **siege tower** towards the walls it got stuck! The Scots tried to mine under the walls but the ground would quickly fill with water when they dug. After 11 days, the Scottish army left Carlisle without capturing the city or castle.

Eight years later, Sir Andrew Harclay was arrested for treason at the castle. King Edward was displeased that Sir Andrew had made a new peace deal with the Scots without his permission. He ordered that Sir Andrew be hung, drawn and quartered (some of his insides removed and his body cut into four parts), and one of his 'quarters' left on top of the castle keep.

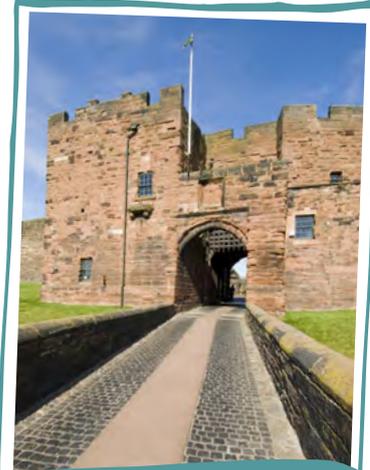


A siege tower used in a modern re-enactment at Kenilworth Castle. In the siege of Carlisle in 1314, the Scots' siege tower got stuck in the mud.

FIRST GUNS AT THE CASTLE

The war with Scotland continued into the late 1300s. Between 1370 and 1380, the Scots attacked the north of England more frequently. To make the castle stronger, the outer gatehouse was rebuilt for cannons to be brought in. Two cannons were put on top of the keep – the highest point in the castle with the best view of approaching attackers. These guns were made of brass and fired balls of stone or iron using gunpowder. These were a very early example of explosive **artillery**.

The people who supervised the border on behalf of the king of England were called the **Wardens of the Marches**. In the 14th, 15th and 16th centuries, Carlisle was the home of the Wardens of the West March. The wardens were usually powerful lords who were experienced soldiers. The kings and March Wardens in the 15th century did not spend much money at Carlisle and the castle was left to ruin.



The outer gatehouse was rebuilt from 1378 to 1383 to hold large cannons – a new type of artillery.

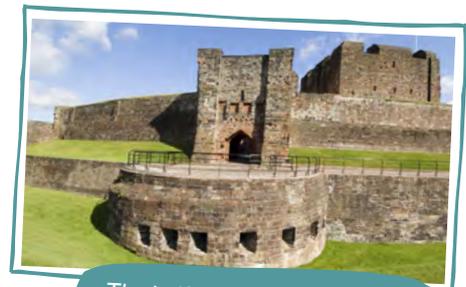
TUDOR UPGRADES

In 1529, a report described the castle as being close to collapse. It wasn't until it was attacked by rebels opposed to King Henry VIII (r.1509–47), as part of the **Pilgrimage of Grace** in 1536–37, that repairs were made. Henry also feared that the Scots might make an alliance with the French (as they both opposed his divorce from Catherine of Aragon and his break from the Roman Catholic Church) and that they would try to invade northern England.

In 1541, German military engineer Stephan von Haschenberg began to design the defensive improvements at Carlisle. He needed to make sure that the castle could hold new, heavy artillery and also stand up to fire from the enemy's guns. So he built **buttresses** outside the curtain wall, the **half-moon battery** and made the **wall-walk** and the roof of the keep stronger. But Stephan worked too slowly and was fired in 1543. By then, Henry was less worried about an attack from Scotland.



Henry VIII upgraded the defences at the castle in the 1540s because he feared an attack by the Scots, supported by the French.



The half-moon battery was built in the 1540s so handguns and cannon could be used to defend the inner ward.

KINMONT WILLIE'S ESCAPE

The castle was kept in service as a base for keeping watch on the border lands and as a prison for cattle thieves. In 1596, **William Armstrong of Kinmont**, or 'Kinmont Willie', a famous **Border Reiver** who was being kept prisoner at the castle, was helped to escape by his fellow Reivers. The story of his escape is told in 'The Ballad of Kinmont Willie' but misses out the key facts that Kinmont Willie was not chained down in a dungeon but held in a room in the outer ward, and that he and his rescuers had help from inside the castle.



The notorious Border Reiver William 'Kinmont Willie' Armstrong was helped to escape from Carlisle Castle on 13 March 1596.
© Cumbria Image Bank

1600s: SIEGE OF STARVATION

In 1617, when King James I (r.1603–25) returned to England from Scotland, he stayed at Carlisle Castle. The castle had been neglected, but James did not repair it. When James had been crowned king of England and Scotland in 1603, the two countries were united as one kingdom so the castle was no longer needed to defend the border.

Things changed during the **English Civil War** when Charles I (r.1625–49) was king. The castle was prepared for attack from the **Parliamentarian** army with three **gun batteries** set up in the inner and outer **wards**.

In 1644, the Parliamentarian victory at the **Battle of Marston Moor** meant that most of northern England was controlled by Parliament and the Scots. Later that year, Carlisle came under siege by the Scots once again. The city was surrounded by cannons and earthworks. Rather than attack the city and castle directly, the Scots waited to starve the people out, not letting anyone in or out of the city gates. The people in the city became so hungry that they were forced to eat their horses, dogs and, later, even rats. Eventually, after eight months, the city surrendered.

When the **monarchy** was restored, Carlisle Castle once again belonged to the Crown. Very little money was spent on it and by the end of the 1600s the **garrison** had left.



In the 17th century, Charles I prepared the castle for attack from Parliamentarians by adding new gun batteries.

JACOBITE REBELLION

In 1745, Carlisle was underprepared for the **Jacobite** rebellion, led by **Charles Edward Stuart** or 'Bonnie Prince Charlie'. Colonel James Durand commanded a force of just 1,250 men against around 5,000 Scots. Although the government sent English soldiers to help, they were trapped by snow and unable to reach the city. On 9 November, the Jacobite army arrived and some of the Colonel's men began to desert (leave without permission). Eventually the Colonel was forced to surrender. Charles Edward Stuart was led into the city by 100 Scottish pipers.

On 20 December, the Scottish army retreated back across the border, leaving 400 men to defend the castle and city against the advancing English army, led by the Duke of Cumberland. The city was surrounded and the castle was bombarded with siege guns and **mortars**. On 30 December, the Jacobites surrendered.

Following the English victory at the **Battle of Culloden**, captured Jacobite soldiers were held prisoner at Carlisle Castle. Thirty-one were hanged and the rest were transported to North America. After that, life at the castle was quiet again and it was used as a military store.



A portrait from c.1750 of Charles Edward Stuart, or 'Bonnie Prince Charlie', by William Mosman. Charles successfully captured the castle from the English.



A historical re-enactment of Colonel Durand's forces defending Carlisle Castle during the 1745 siege.

19th-CENTURY BARRACKS

In 1819, soldiers returned to Carlisle Castle once again. The city's textile workers were campaigning for political and social reform, and the Government decided to turn the castle into a **barracks** so that soldiers would be there permanently to stop any disturbances or violent protests. New buildings were put up to house the troops and some of the older buildings converted.

From the 1870s, the castle was used as a recruitment and training centre for the newly created **Border Regiment**. By the end of the century, the castle was appreciated more and more as a tourist attraction.



New barracks were built for soldiers who came to live permanently at Carlisle Castle in the early 19th century.

CARLISLE CASTLE IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR

In 1911, the **War Office** agreed with the **Office of Works** to share responsibility for the castle buildings. During the First World War, the castle was mainly used to train recruits and as a **depot** for the Border Regiment. There was a military hospital in the outer ward. A total of 23,000 recruits passed through the castle during the First World War. These recruits probably helped with digging for the Office of Works' excavation of the ditches around the half-moon battery.

The tarmac-covered parade ground in the outer ward is where much of the training took place. Gravel was laid on top of the grassed areas to make the space larger. The brick buildings around the parade ground were built in the 19th and 20th centuries to house hundreds of soldiers.

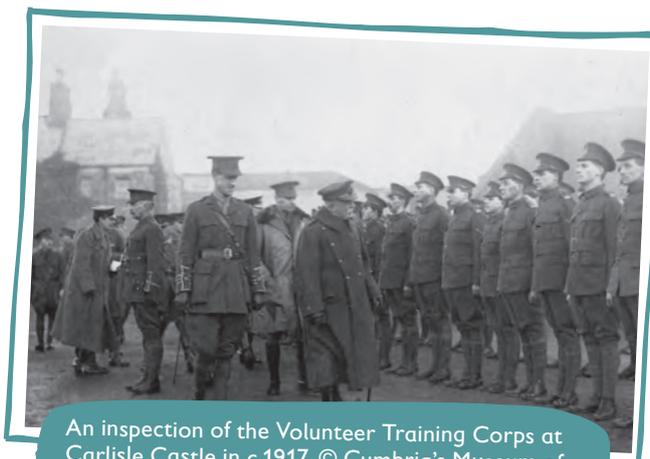
The castle also provided a headquarters for the Volunteer Training Corps and accommodation for the Labour Corps during the war. Outside of the castle, this 'total war' was fought in different ways in factories and hospitals. Many of Carlisle's local women worked in **munitions** factories and all types of buildings were used as makeshift war hospitals where nurses cared for the wounded.

The Border Regiment served in almost every major area of conflict of the war; France and Flanders, Italy, Mesopotamia, Gallipoli and Macedonia. 7,000 soldiers from the Border Regiment lost their lives. The Regiment won many Battle Honours, including the **Victoria Cross** five times. You can discover more about the history of the Border Regiment at Carlisle Castle by visiting **Cumbria's Museum of Military Life** inside the castle grounds and exploring their website: www.cumbriasmuseumofmilitarylife.org/education-outreach

In 1959, the regimental depot moved out of the castle, though most of the buildings in the outer ward were still used by the military, and are still in use today.



The buildings were named after the 19th- and 20th-century battles in which the Border Regiment took part. © Cumbria's Museum of Military Life, Carlisle Castle.



An inspection of the Volunteer Training Corps at Carlisle Castle in c.1917. © Cumbria's Museum of Military Life, Carlisle Castle.

GLOSSARY

TRICKY TERMS AND
WHAT THEY MEAN

Below is a list of words you might come across while exploring Carlisle Castle. Use this Glossary to find out what they mean.

artillery – large guns (cannons) used in war on land

baron – the lowest-ranking member of the British nobility (aristocracy or ‘upper classes’)

barracks – a large building or group of buildings used to house soldiers

Battle of Alnwick – the battle in Northumberland on 13 July 1174 when William I of Scotland (r.1165–1214), also known as William the Lion, was captured by English forces

Battle of Bannockburn – the battle near Stirling on 23–24 June, 1314, between Robert the Bruce and Edward II (r.1307–27), which was an important Scottish victory in the First War of Scottish Independence



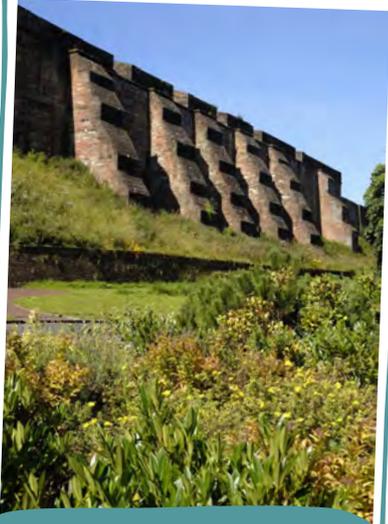
A cannon from the 18th century on the walkway at Carlisle Castle. The walkway was originally widened in the 16th century to support new, larger artillery. Kindly on loan from the Royal Armouries.

Battle of Culloden – the final battle of the Jacobite rising on 16 April 1746, near Inverness, in which the Duke of Cumberland defeated Charles Edward Stuart and ended his claim to the English and Scottish thrones

Battle of Marston Moor – one of the major battles of the English Civil War, in which the Parliamentary defeat of the Royalists on 2 July 1644 near York signified the end of their power in the north of England

Border Regiment – one of the oldest units of the British Army, it was formed under this title in 1881 by combining the 34th Cumberland and 55th Westmorland Regiments

Border Reivers – lawless people who raided others’ property along the Anglo-Scottish border, taking cattle and supplies, from the late 13th century to the beginning of the 17th century



In the 16th century, Henry VIII ordered the castle walls to be strengthened with huge buttresses.

buttress – a narrow piece of wall built against another wall, to strengthen or support it

chamber – a room or apartment

chapel – a small building or room used for Christian worship within a larger building, such as a castle

Charles Edward Stuart – the eldest son of James Stuart, who was the son of James II. Charles attempted to take the throne of the United Kingdom during the second Jacobite revolution; he was also known as ‘Bonnie Prince Charlie’

civil war – a war between citizens of the same country

depot – a place for the storage of large quantities of equipment, food or goods

English Civil War – the war from 1642 to 1651 between people who supported Parliament (Parliamentarians) and people who supported the King (Royalists) over how England should be ruled

fortified – protected by defensive structures

garrison – a group of troops living in a fortress or town to defend it

gatehouse – a room(s) built over a castle entrance, which were used for living in, and sometimes as prisons

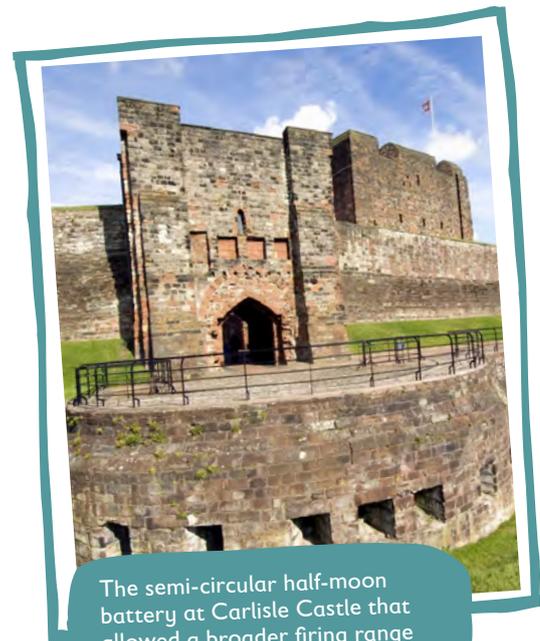
gun batteries – a strong shelter or supporting structure built to protect or hold artillery

half-moon battery – a gun battery in the shape of a semi-circle

Jacobite – a supporter of James II (r.1685–88) (after he was deposed) and his descendants, including Charles Edward Stuart, in their claim to the British throne

keep – the strongest tower of a castle and the final refuge during an attack

monarch – the ruling king and/or queen



The semi-circular half-moon battery at Carlisle Castle that allowed a broader firing range for handguns and artillery.

mortars – a short gun with a smooth inner surface inside for firing shells at high angles

munitions – military weapons, ammunition, equipment and stores

Office of Works – began in the royal household in 1378 to oversee the building of royal castles and homes. In 1940 it became part of the Ministry of Works, and now many of the places it cared for are looked after by English Heritage

Parliamentarian – a supporter of Parliament in the English Civil War

Pilgrimage of Grace – a popular rising in Yorkshire in October 1536 against Henry VIII's (r.1509–1547) break with the Roman Catholic Church, the Dissolution of the Monasteries and other political changes

projectiles – an object propelled through the air, especially one thrown or fired as a weapon

ringwork – circular earth banks and trenches around a medieval castle

Robert the Bruce – King of the Scots from 1306 until his death in 1329

sapped – gradually weaken a fortification by removing its foundations

shell – an explosive artillery projectile

siege – a military operation in which enemy forces surround a town or building, cutting off essential supplies, with the aim of forcing those inside to surrender

siege engine – a device that is designed to break or overcome castle or city walls, towers or any fort structure during a siege

siege tower – a wooden tower on wheels, which could be pushed up to the wall of a castle during a siege to allow the attackers to reach the top of the wall

staging post – a place at which people or vehicles regularly stop when making a particular journey

Treaty of York – an agreement between Henry III of England (r.1216–72) and Alexander II of Scotland (r.1214–49), signed at York on 25 September 1237, that marked out the modern Anglo-Scottish border

Victoria Cross – a military decoration awarded for extreme bravery in the armed services, introduced in 1856, during Queen Victoria's reign

wall-walk – a defensive feature in medieval castles that allowed soldiers to quickly move between towers, keep watch for approaching enemies and use it as a fighting platform

ward – an area of ground enclosed by the castle walls

Warden of the March – a position in the governments of Scotland and England. The wardens were responsible for the security of the border between the two countries, and often took part in military action

War Office – a department of the British Government responsible for the administration of the British Army between 1857 and 1964

William Armstrong of Kinmont – a Border Reiver and outlaw active in the Anglo-Scottish border country at the end of the 16th century



A typical medieval siege tower used during a re-enactment at Kenilworth Castle.

ROMANS

NORMANS
1066–1154**AD 43**

The Romans arrive to conquer Britain.

AD 122–128

Emperor Hadrian builds a wall to defend northern Roman-occupied Britain from invasion by Pict tribes.

AD 410

The Romans leave Britain.

1066

William the Conqueror is victorious at the Battle of Hastings. The Norman Conquest of England begins.

1086

Domesday Book is completed.

**1087**

William dies. His son, William Rufus, is crowned King William II.

AD 1

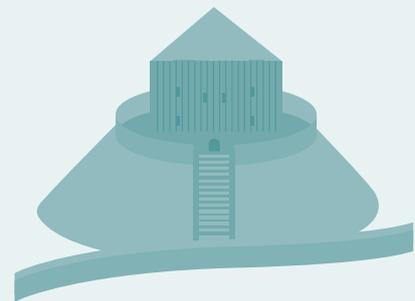
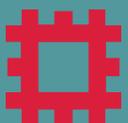
1000

AD 122–128

A large Roman fort is built in Carlisle on the site of the current castle.

1ST
CENTURY**1092**

William Rufus drives Dolfin out of Carlisle, builds an earthwork castle and puts his soldiers on guard there.

11TH
CENTURY

NORMANS
1066–1154

PLANTAGENETS
1154–1485

1100

Henry I crowned king of England.

1124

David I crowned king of Scotland.

1139–53

Civil war in England between King Stephen and Empress Matilda.

1154

Henry II crowned king of England.



1174

Scottish King William 'the Lion' is defeated and captured by the English at the Battle of Alnwick.

1100

1122

Henry I visits Carlisle and orders a stone castle to be built.

1135

King David of Scotland takes Carlisle from the English and continues the building work of the stone castle.



1157

The Scots leave Carlisle. Henry II orders the castle buildings to be strengthened. New inner and outer gatehouses are built.

1173–74

Scottish King William 'the Lion' attacks Carlisle twice, putting the castle and city under siege. Before they surrender, William is defeated at the Battle of Alnwick.

1186

Henry II visits Carlisle and orders a new king's chamber, tower and chapel.

12TH
CENTURY

PLANTAGENETS

1154–1485

1215

King John signs Magna Carta at Runnymede. Soon afterwards, the barons revolt against the king, aligning with Alexander, king of Scotland, and Prince Louis of France, to try to remove King John.

1237

The Treaty of York meant that the Scots abandoned their rule of northern England. The Anglo-Scottish border line is drawn.

1296

War with Scotland begins.

1200

1216

Scottish King Alexander II takes the city of Carlisle. He puts the castle under siege until it surrenders.

c.1217

The Scots withdraw from Carlisle.

1256

The castle is reported as 'very greatly in need of repairing'.

1296–1307

Edward I stays at Carlisle several times. He improves the castle, including building a new tower in the inner ward.

13TH
CENTURY

1314

The English are defeated by the Scots at the Battle of Bannockburn.



1300

1315

The Scottish army, led by King Robert the Bruce, attacks Carlisle but fails to capture the castle.

1323

Sir Andrew Harclay, earl of Carlisle, is arrested for treason at the castle and executed at nearby Harraby Hill.



c.1380

The outer gatehouse is rebuilt and the first guns are brought to the castle.

14TH
CENTURY

TUDORS
1485–1603

STUARTS
1603–1714

1509

Henry VIII becomes king.

1533

Henry is granted a divorce from his first wife, Catherine of Aragon. Henry is excommunicated by the Pope.

1536

Henry begins the Dissolution of the Monasteries. Robert Aske leads the Pilgrimage of Grace in protest against Henry.



1603

James I, who had been James VI of Scotland, becomes king of England and Scotland. The kingdoms are united.

1642–51

The English Civil War.

1644

The Parliamentarians, supported by Scottish armies, win the Battle of Marston Moor.

1660

Restoration of the monarchy of England, Ireland and Scotland. Charles II becomes king.



1500

1529

A report describes how the castle buildings are close to collapse.

1541–43

Stepan von Haschenperg redesigns the defences at the castle to hold cannons.

1596

Border Reiver William 'Kinmont Willie' Armstrong escapes from the castle.

16TH
CENTURY

1600

1644–45

The Scots, supported by English Parliamentarians, besiege Carlisle. They surround the city gates for eight months until the starving people surrender.

1660

Following the Restoration of the monarchy, the castle is owned by Charles II.



17TH
CENTURY

GEORGIANS

1714–1830

1707

The Acts of Union unite the kingdoms of England and Scotland and create Great Britain.

1715–16

The first Jacobite rebellion is defeated and James Stuart flees to France.



1746

The Jacobites are defeated at the Battle of Culloden.

1700

1745

The Jacobite army take Carlisle, led by Charles Edward Stuart (Bonnie Prince Charlie). By December, the Jacobite army retreat back across the border. The Duke of Cumberland leads an English assault on the castle and the Jacobites surrender.

1746

Captured Jacobite prisoners are again held at Carlisle; 31 are hanged.

18TH CENTURY

c.1780-1819

Textile workers in Carlisle become increasingly aware of their importance to the British Empire's global economy. They begin to campaign for better rights and political representation.

1819

11 people attending a reform meeting at St Peter's Fields in Manchester are killed by the Manchester Yeomanry in the 'Peterloo' massacre.

1832

The Reform Act gave more people the right to vote.

1800

1819

Fears that people protesting against the Government would storm the castle leads to soldiers being brought in to guard the castle walls.

1820s

Carlisle Castle is converted into barracks for soldiers to live there permanently to help keep public order.

1826

The parade ground is flattened and gravel is laid over the grass where animals had grazed.

19TH CENTURY

VICTORIANS
1837–1901

WW1
1914–18

WW2
1939–45

1837–1901

Reign of Queen Victoria.



1914–18

The First World War.

1939–45

The Second World War.



1900

1839

Nearly 250 soldiers are living at Carlisle Castle.

1859

A report describes the castle's army hospital as 'one of the worst ... we have inspected'.

1872–73

The 34th Cumberland and 55th Westmorland regiments are moved to the castle and conditions start to improve.

1881

The 34th Cumberland and 55th Westmorland regiments are combined into the Border Regiment.

19TH
CENTURY

1911

The War Office and Office of Works agree to jointly look after the castle.

1914–18

Carlisle Castle is used as a depot and recruitment and training centre during the First World War.

1939–45

An anti-aircraft gun is set up on top of the keep.

1959

The regimental depot is closed. The armed services continue to use the buildings at Carlisle Castle today.

20TH
CENTURY

SELF-LED ACTIVITY

WHY BUILD NEAR THE BORDER?



Recommended For

KS2 and KS3
(History, Geography)

Learning Objectives

- Use map-reading skills to discover the significance of Carlisle Castle's location
- Recognise why Carlisle Castle has served as a defensive outpost over many centuries
- Understand that the castle was the headquarters of the Warden of the West March and the wardens' role in patrolling the border area for the monarch

Time to complete

30 minutes



The carving of a boar at Carlisle Castle represents the badge of Richard, Duke of Gloucester, Warden of the West March 1471–85 and, from 1483, King Richard III. The boar was one of his heraldic symbols.

SUMMARY

Begin with showing students the map of the border area between England and Scotland as it looked by the 16th century. They should carry out Task A which will help them understand the long history of the castle's strategic position.

Task B will help students explore how the border area has been militarised over hundreds of years. They should observe the continuity of the first militarised border during the Roman occupation, the first earthwork castle at Carlisle built by William Rufus in 1092 and the later medieval castles along Hadrian's Wall. Use Source 2 to help explain how William Rufus distributed lands to his trusted supporters to help him establish Norman rule in the north of England.

In Task C, students will investigate the residence of the Warden of the March at Carlisle Castle. As wars with Scotland continued throughout the 14th, 15th and 16th centuries, militarisation of the border became increasingly important and the March Wardens became very powerful.

MORE LEARNING IDEAS

Students could investigate the areas of land belonging to the Border Reiver clans in the Debatable Land and label their map with what parts of the border area each clan came from. This could lead to further investigation about where major raids were carried out between the 13th and the 17th centuries. Students could also write a profile of William 'Kinmont Willie' Armstrong.

WHY BUILD NEAR THE BORDER?

TASK A: INVESTIGATE THE POSITION OF CARLISLE CASTLE

- 1** Find the position of Carlisle Castle on the map you have been given.
There has been a Roman fort on the site of today's castle since the first century. The fort helped the Romans defend their territory from rebel tribes in the north.
- 2** Label the site of the fort on the map.
By the 11th century, the kings of England and Scotland were fighting over Carlisle, until it was conquered by William Rufus, the Norman king of England.
- 3** Use your Timeline to find out when the first Norman earthwork castle was built at Carlisle by William Rufus. Label this date on the map next to the castle.



TASK B: INVESTIGATE THE HISTORY OF THE BORDER

- 1** Find the other medieval castles along Hadrian's Wall on the map. Why do you think castles were still built along the line of Hadrian's Wall after the Romans had left Britain?

.....

.....

.....

The Scots and the English continued to fight over Carlisle and the north of England until they agreed the Treaty of York in the 13th century. This treaty confirmed the border between the two countries.

- 2** Use your Timeline to find out the date when the border between England and Scotland was legally drawn. Label the border on your map with this date.



WHY BUILD NEAR THE BORDER?

TASK C: INVESTIGATE THE WARDENS OF THE MARCH

In the 14th, 15th and 16th centuries, the Warden of the West March lived in the outer gatehouse at the castle. This officer controlled security in the area around the border called the West Marches. He was trusted by the monarch to keep the border strong and not let the Scots invade.



1 Use the scale diagram to calculate the shortest possible distance from Carlisle Castle to the border between England and Scotland. What is the approximate distance in miles?

.....

2 Use 'directions' on Google Maps to find out how far Carlisle Castle is from Westminster in London (where the monarch governed from). What is the distance approximately in miles?

.....

3 In the medieval period, it took one day to travel roughly 30 miles on horseback. How many days would it take for the king to travel to Carlisle Castle with an army?
..... days.

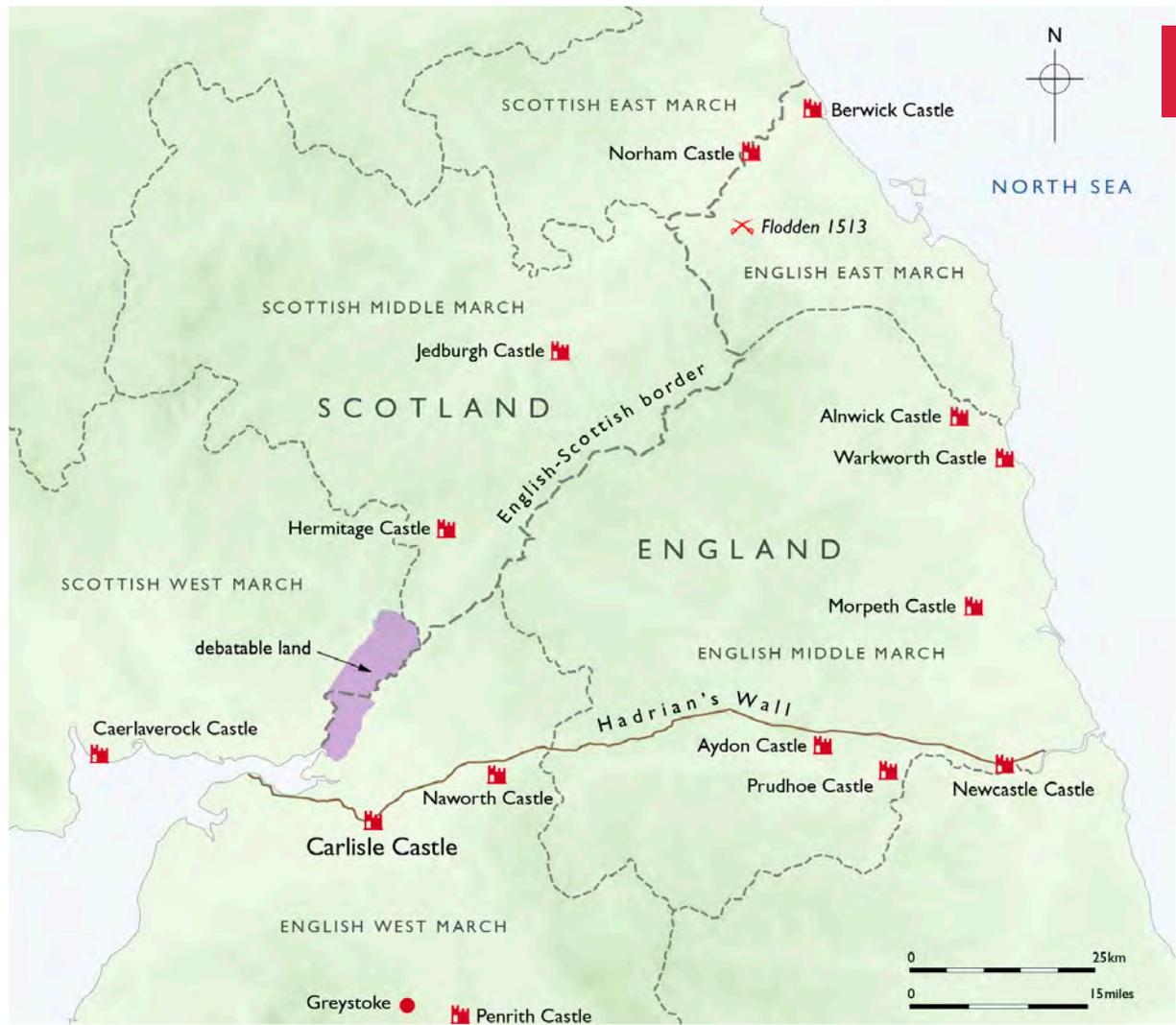
4 Why was it important for the monarch to have a Warden living at Carlisle Castle?

.....

.....

.....

WHY BUILD NEAR THE BORDER?



A map of the English and Scottish Marches in the 16th century. The Marches were areas of land along the Anglo-Scottish border.

SELF-LED ACTIVITY

KINMONT WILLIE: A TRUE STORY?



Recommended For

KS2 and KS3
(History, English)

Learning Objectives

- Understand how historians judge the reliability of sources based on their provenance
- Compare sources to assess their reliability
- Understand how language is used persuasively, i.e. imagery, sensory description, emotive words and evocative adjectives

Time to complete

30 minutes



The notorious Border Reiver, William 'Kinmont Willie' Armstrong, was helped to escape from Carlisle Castle on 13th March, 1596.

SUMMARY

Use the Historical Information in this kit to explain the story of Border Reiver William 'Kinmont Willie' Armstrong's escape from Carlisle Castle on 13 March 1596. Start the activity by explaining that the ballad form was originally stories passed down orally through generations. 'The Ballad of Kinmont Willie' was first recorded in 1802 in Walter Scott's 'Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border' but would have been told for generations before this.

People who sang the ballad probably supported the Border Reivers and would have wanted to portray Kinmont Willie and the Reivers as heroes. For example, the ballad uses lots of sensory description about sound to mock the ease with which the Reivers were able to break into the castle and leave without being caught.

Students can start by comparing the ballad (Source 3) with the evidence from the sources below. For example, the word 'stole' contrasts with the way the ballad describes the noise created by the Reivers' escape that failed to alert the guards, i.e. the 'clang' of Willie's chains.

After considering these sources, the students should look again at the ballad and highlight any language techniques that might show that the writer wanted to portray Kinmont Willie and the Border Reivers as the heroes of the story. Explain to students that the ballad was told as entertainment in an era before television and the internet. The tellers would have used specific techniques to keep people listening and make their stories memorable.

MORE LEARNING IDEAS

In small groups, students can turn the ballad into a play. They should imagine that they are telling the story to others, so they should come up with actions and choose which dramatic moments in the ballad to act out. Key characters will be Kinmont Willie, Red Rowan, some other Reivers, Thomas Scrope and the other castle guards who don't notice Willie escaping. You could perform this at the castle and take photos.

We'd love to see your photos, so please tweet them to [@EHEducation](https://twitter.com/EHEducation).

KINMONT WILLIE: A TRUE STORY?

‘The watch, as yt shoulde seeme, by reason of the stormye night, were either on sleepe or gotten under some covert to defende themselves from the violence of the wether, by means whereof the Scottes atchieved their enterprise with less difficultie...’

“”

This source is Thomas Scrope’s account of the escape of William ‘Kinmont Willie’ Armstrong. It was written on 13 April 1596. Thomas Scrope was Warden of the Western Marches and responsible to the English king for security of the area from 1593 to 1603.

‘... the repairing and amending of the postern gate which William of Kynmowth did break under when he stole away.’

“”

This source describes a payment made for repairs at the castle. It is taken from an exchequer record (a record of how money from public taxes is spent) from the late 16th century.

- 1 Can you find any words in the sources above that **challenge** the description of events in the ballad?
- 2 How **reliable** are these sources?
- 3 How does the writer use **language** to portray the Border Reivers as the heroes of the story? Think about:

- imagery
- emotive language
- sensory description
- interesting adjectives

Use quotations from the ballad or the sources to help explain your answer.



AT CARLISLE CASTLE

Activities for students to do at Carlisle Castle to help them get the most out of their learning.

TOP THINGS TO SEE

CARLISLE CASTLE

See if you can find all of these things and complete each challenge. KS1 students can use the tick list at the back while their teacher guides them around. KS2 students may want to lead their own learning in small groups.

Can't find your way?

Use the map at the back to help.



1 OUTER GATEHOUSE

This is the castle's first defence against enemy attackers. The gatekeeper in the gatehouse watched through the windows to see who was coming towards the castle. If it was an enemy, the portcullis could be dropped to block the gate.

 **WHERE IS IT?**
At the entrance to the castle

DID YOU FIND IT?



DID YOU KNOW?

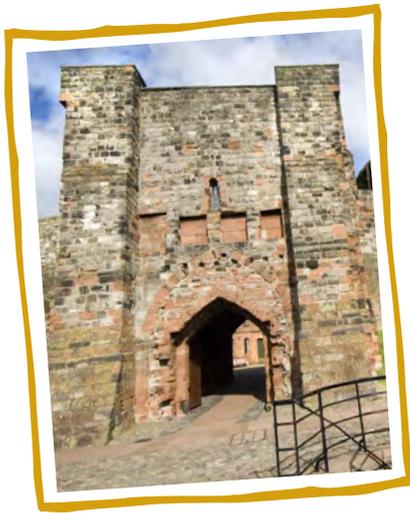
There used to be a drawbridge over the ditch to get to the gatehouse. This could be pulled up during an attack.



CHALLENGE TIME!

Look for the wicket gate – the small gate in the heavy oak doors. What do you think the gatekeeper used this for?





2 CAPTAIN'S TOWER

This tower and gate protect the inner ward from attack. The Captain was in charge of the castle's soldiers. He lived in the rooms above the gateway. The tower sticks out from the walls on either side so soldiers could aim their fire back at enemies trying to destroy the walls.

 **WHERE IS IT?**
Through the outer gatehouse, turn right, then left

DID YOU FIND IT?

DID YOU KNOW?



The base of the tower is chamfered (sloping). This made it less likely to collapse if it was hit with a battering ram.

CHALLENGE TIME!



Under the archway, **find** the blocked-up, square murder holes where projectiles could be thrown down on attackers.

3 WELL ROOM

If the castle was under attack, everyone would retreat to the keep – the strongest building in the castle. To help people survive in the keep for a long time, there is a well. Water could be pulled up from the well into this room.

 **WHERE IS IT?**
In the keep, on the first floor

DID YOU FIND IT?



DID YOU KNOW?



The well is 21 metres deep. That's as deep as the keep is tall. Wells had to be deep to get fresh water from between layers of rock underground.

CHALLENGE TIME!



Imagine you are trapped in the keep during a siege. **Think** about why you need water. **Decide** how many times you'd need to pull the bucket up from the well in one day.



4 LATRINE (toilet)

This S-shaped passage used to have a hole in the ground that was the top of a chute. This was a medieval toilet – people would squat over the hole and the waste would fall down the chute and out into the moat below.

 **WHERE IS IT?**
In the keep, on the first floor

DID YOU FIND IT?

DID YOU KNOW?



Richie Graham, a prisoner at the castle, once tried to escape by climbing down the latrine chute!

CHALLENGE TIME!



Walk into the latrine – **imagine** how it would feel in medieval times with no heating or flushing water. How would you feel using this as a toilet?

5 KITCHEN

The second level of the keep was probably living space for the lord or the commander. This kitchen would have made food for the people living in these rooms. The food would have been cooked on a fire in the fireplace.

 **WHERE IS IT?**
In the keep, on the second floor

DID YOU FIND IT?



DID YOU KNOW?



The first chimneys were built in England in the late 12th century. Before that, fires were in the middle of the room. Smoke was let out from a hole in the ceiling.

CHALLENGE TIME!



Go under the stone fireplace arch into the fireplace to **look up** the chimney. Where do you think the chimney leads to?



6 PRISONERS' CARVINGS

These carvings are a mystery. This passage leads to rooms on either side which could have been prison cells. The carvings could have been made by prisoners or by bored guards. The carvings show heraldic symbols, strange birds and animals and religious symbols.

 **WHERE IS IT?**
In the keep, on the second floor

DID YOU FIND IT?

DID YOU KNOW?

Powerful families had heraldic badges (symbols). The boar is the badge of Richard Plantagenet, Duke of Gloucester, who was Warden of the March from 1471 to 1485 and later King Richard III.



CHALLENGE TIME!

In pairs, **find** two carvings of mermaids holding mirrors. This was a symbol for vanity (caring too much about how you look) in medieval times.



7 LICKING STONES

This room was mainly used for storage but possibly for prisoners too. In 1746, prisoners of the Jacobite rebellion were kept here. Parts of the wall were often wet, and it is thought that the prisoners were so thirsty that they licked the stones into the shapes that you can see today.

 **WHERE IS IT?**
In the keep, on the ground floor

DID YOU FIND IT?



DID YOU KNOW?

The Jacobites wanted the Stuart family to be kings of England and Scotland. A Jacobite army captured the castle in 1745 but were driven out weeks later.



CHALLENGE TIME!

Nine Men's Morris was a medieval game. **Look** for a carving of it on the stone walls by the door of this room. It is a square with smaller squares inside.





8 TRAP DOOR

Look up to see this trap door in the ceiling above you. It opens from the floor of the first level of the keep, near the well room. The king or lord would have feasts for his guests on the first floor. Barrels of food and drink could be sent up or dropped down into the storage rooms below.



WHERE IS IT?

In the keep, on the ground floor



DID YOU FIND IT?

DID YOU KNOW?



Supplies were stored in the keep so that people could survive during a siege. Sieges could last for months – the enemy wouldn't let anyone out of the castle to get food so they had to store it inside.

CHALLENGE TIME!



The storage rooms on the ground floor have very small windows. **Discuss** with your partner – why are these rooms good places to keep food and drink in?

9 GUN RAMP (now steps)

In the 1530s, Henry VIII was worried the castle would be attacked by the Scots, with help from the French. He ordered new cannons and this ramp was built for soldiers to wheel the cannons up to the walkway.

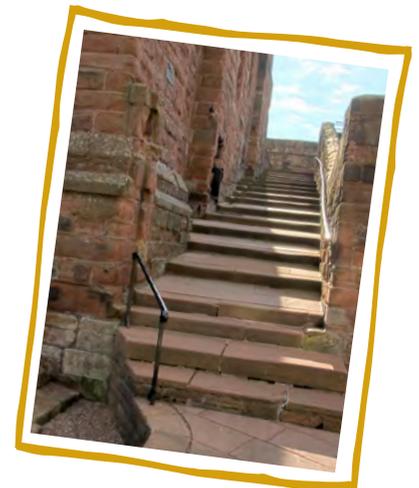


WHERE IS IT?

Outside the keep, to the left



DID YOU FIND IT?



DID YOU KNOW?



The Tudor cannons weighed around two tonnes – that's as much as a car.

CHALLENGE TIME!



On your way up the steps, **find** the well where the water was taken from into the well room that you saw in the keep.

10 WALKWAY

From the walkway there are very good views of the city. The walkway was a platform for soldiers to fire down on people attacking the castle below. They could also keep a look out for enemies. The walkway has battlements to protect soldiers from enemy fire as they aim their guns through the gaps.



 **WHERE IS IT?**
Up the steps next to the keep, turn right at the top

DID YOU FIND IT?

DID YOU KNOW?



You can walk along the walkway around the whole inner ward. Soldiers could push the cannons to aim at wherever the attack was coming from.

CHALLENGE TIME!



Look closely at the cannons. Can you **find** the number that tells us how heavy the cannon balls were in pounds?

(1 pound = 450g)

These cannons are on loan to Carlisle Castle by kind permission of the Royal Armouries.



ENGLISH HERITAGE
EDUCATION

KSI

TOP THINGS TO SEE

CARLISLE CASTLE

See if you can find
all these things.
Tick each thing off
as you find it:

1 GATEHOUSE



2 CAPTAIN'S
TOWER

Blocked up murder holes



3 WELL



4 TOILET



5 KITCHEN

Chimney



6 PRISONERS'
CARVINGS



7 LICKING
STONES



8 TRAP DOOR



9 GUN RAMP

Well

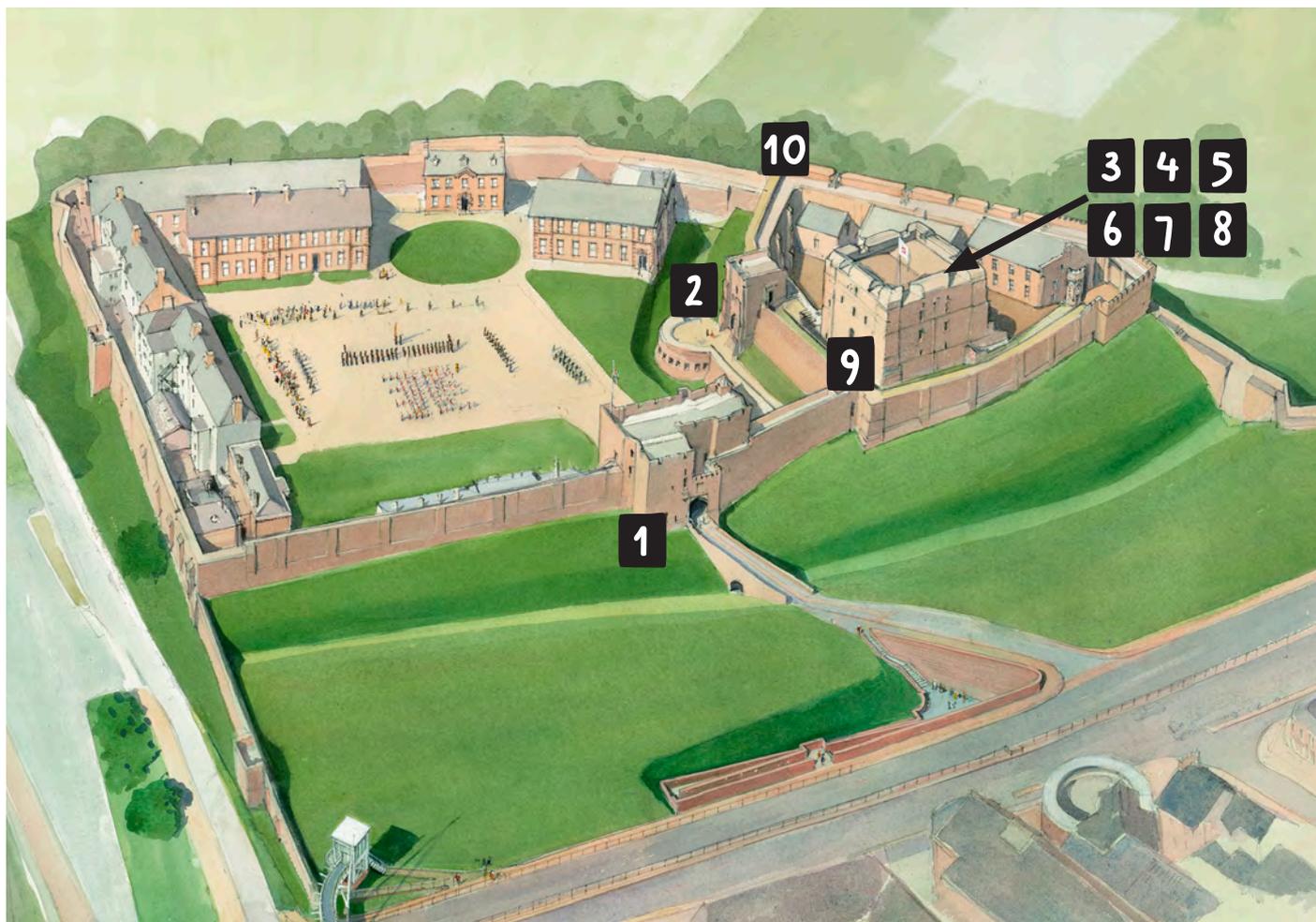


10 WALKWAY

Canon



CARLISLE CASTLE TOP THINGS TO SEE MAP



1 OUTER GATEHOUSE

2 CAPTAIN'S TOWER

3 WELL ROOM

4 TOILET/LATRINE

5 KITCHEN

6 PRISONERS' CARVINGS

7 LICKING STONES

8 TRAP DOOR

9 GUN RAMP

10 WALKWAY

WHAT I'VE LEARNT

I think the best thing to see at Carlisle Castle is:

.....

.....

The most interesting thing I've learnt:

.....

.....

.....

.....

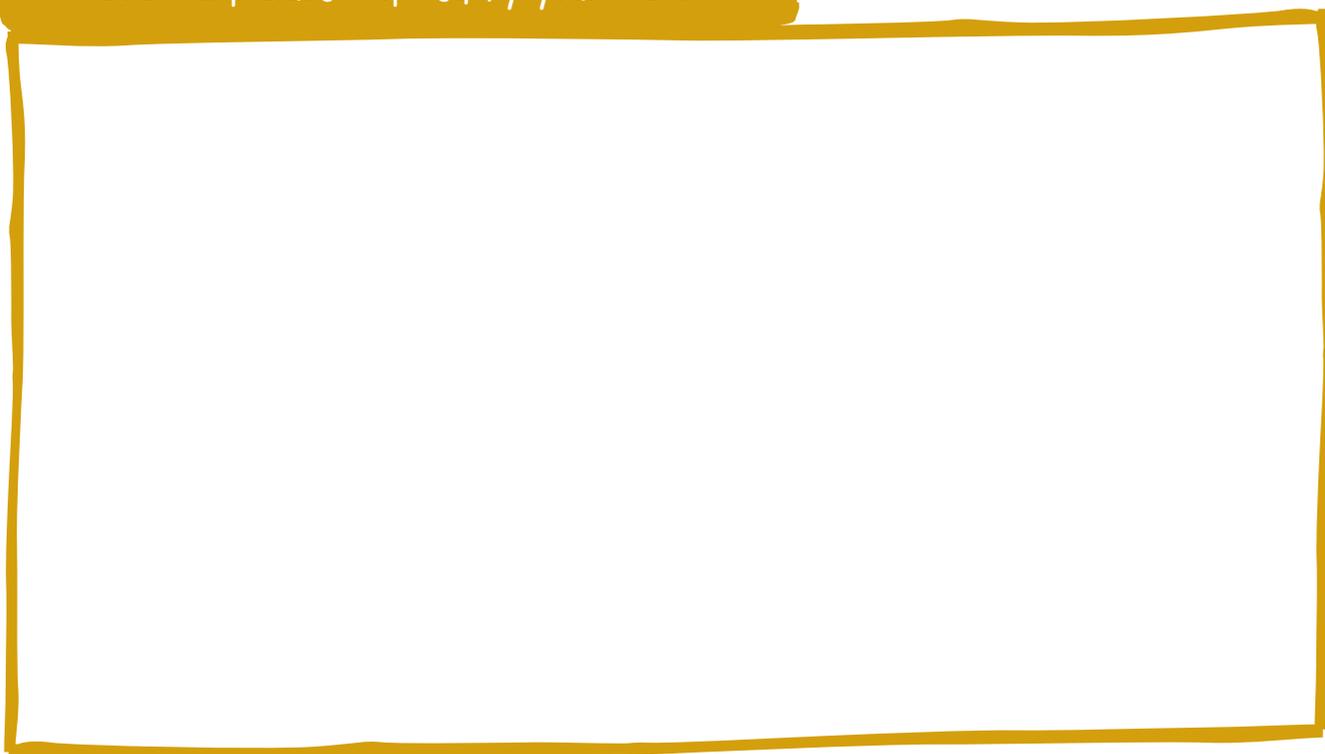
I want to know more about:

.....

.....

.....

Draw a picture inspired by your visit.



SELF-LED ACTIVITY

SURVIVE THE SIEGE



Recommended For

KS2 and KS3
(History)

Learning Objectives

- Understand the purpose of a siege – to force the castle inhabitants to surrender through starvation
- Connect medieval standards of living, food supply and storage with the architectural features of the castle

Time to complete

20-30 minutes in the classroom;
30 minutes at the castle



The well in the keep at Carlisle Castle. It is accessible both inside and outside the keep, within the protected inner ward.

SUMMARY

Students should use the Timeline and Historical Information to find out when the castle was besieged. Source 7 will be helpful to understand the conditions that a siege created for the inhabitants of the castle and city.

Next get the students to research how food was stored in medieval times. Common methods for storing food were salting and preserving in barrels.

At the castle, students can explore the keep to find out how the castle inhabitants could survive there during a siege. The castle Site Plan shows that the keep was the securest place in a castle during a siege and this is where provisions would be stored.

In small groups, the students can pretend that they are preparing for a siege (in 1315, the citizens had warning and stockpiled food).

STUDENT TASK:

You need to make a plan to present to the Captain of the castle of how your group will store food and keep everyone in the castle and city alive. As you explore the castle, think about:

- where the best place is to store food so it is safe from the enemy
- how to keep the food fresh
- where you will get water from
- how you will share out the food among the hungry people
- how long you will prepare for

MORE LEARNING IDEAS

Following your visit, the students could imagine that the siege has been going on for several weeks and people are becoming desperate for food. The soldiers at the castle have taken the last bread and meat. They should write a persuasive speech to the people about why they need to trust the soldiers to protect them against the enemies waiting outside the gates. Alternatively, students could come up with a recipe for how to cook rats to make them more appetising for the trapped townsfolk!

SELF-LED ACTIVITY

SPY FOR THE SCOTS



Recommended For

KS2 and KS3 (History)

Learning Objectives

- Understand medieval siege weapon technology
- Recognise defensive features of the castle and how they worked

Time to complete

20 minutes in the classroom;
30-40 minutes at the castle



How will the students plan to get past Carlisle Castle's three lines of defence?

SUMMARY

On your visit to the castle, students can pretend that they are medieval spies for the Scottish king sent to investigate the defences at the castle and report back about how the Scots could lead an attack. You could prepare for this visit by looking at Source 5.

Show your students our YouTube video on medieval castles to get them started: <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/learn/histories/medieval-castles/>

At the castle, students can use the checklist of medieval weapons on the next page to compare with the defences they see at the castle. Where would they use each weapon? How would they get past the three levels of defence – the outer gatehouse, the captain's tower and the keep? They can take photos, make sketches or write notes on the back of their checklist to record for later.

Extend your learning by visiting Cumbria's Museum of Military Life, also inside the castle grounds. For further information go to www.cumbriasmuseumofmilitarylife.org/education-outreach/

MORE LEARNING IDEAS

Back in the classroom, students should use the notes and photos to make their report to the Scottish king. You could take this further with students designing their own siege weapon to combat the defences of the castle.

MEDIEVAL SIEGE WEAPONS

Name	How it worked	Pros and cons
siege tower	The tower was built high enough so that when it approached a castle wall, or tower, it could drop a platform down that let soldiers cross over it.	The tower protected the attackers inside as they approached the enemy castle, but it had to be on level ground and didn't work if there was a moat.
battering ram	This was usually a huge felled tree that was pushed on wheels into a castle door or wall to break it down.	The ram could break down a strong gatehouse door but needed to get to it before the drawbridge was pulled up.
mangonel	Like a catapult, the mangonel could fling a stone weighing up to 25kg. The stone sat in a cup, held down by a rope – when the rope was released, the cup threw the stone into the air.	The mangonel could launch projectiles over a moat but had to be aimed carefully so the projectile hit its target.
mantlet	A sloping board that covered attacking archers on the ground as they aimed arrows at a castle.	Good cover for archers but it did need holes in to let the archers see where to aim.
mining	Miners, or 'sappers' would have crept up to the base of the walls under the cover of a hurdle (frame) and mined into the foundations.	This was a skilled operation that needed trained miners. Square towers were easier to undermine than round ones.



A siege tower, catapult and battering ram being used in a re-enactment.

SELF-LED ACTIVITY

BUILDING FOR STRENGTH



Recommended For

KSI and KS2
(History, Science,
Design & Technology)

Learning Objectives

- Recognise how the castle was reinforced over time due to the introduction of new weapons technology
- Explore architectural features and understand how they were used to strengthen the castle structures

Time to complete

20 minutes in the classroom;
30-40 minutes at the castle



The buttresses supporting the Captain's Tower have chamfered bases to provide extra protection against battering and mining.

SUMMARY

Before your visit, it would be helpful to introduce the students to the changes in artillery from the medieval to early Tudor periods. For example, the medieval siege weapons and the use of cannons to defend fortresses during the time of Henry VIII. Combine this knowledge with their learning about forces in Science, or building structures in Design & Technology.

During your visit, students should explore the castle's defensive features that were created to strengthen its ability to withstand an attack. You might like to focus on the list below. They should record their impression of these features – either by sketch or in photos – and try to assess how the defences are designed to provide extra support.

- Captain's Tower with buttresses – 12th century
- thick walls of keep – 12th century
- wide walls of the walkway to support cannons – 16th century
- buttresses on curtain wall – 16th century

MORE LEARNING IDEAS

After your visit, the students can experiment with materials such as card, foam, wood or paper to try to re-create techniques such as buttresses or chamfering to build their own castle structure. You could introduce an element of competition by challenging each team's structure to hold a weight for the longest time, or who can withstand a 'battering ram' the longest – illustrating how well the students have understood the principles of the reinforcing features.



The walkway was widened in the 16th century to allow the movement of cannons around the top of the inner ward walls.



Huge buttresses were added to the inner ward's east exterior wall to strengthen it in the 16th century.

SELF-LED ACTIVITY

ACTIVITY TRAIL



KS2

KS3

Recommended for

KS2 and KS3 (History,
Geography, Art)

Learning objectives

- Learn to identify key defensive features, understand how and why Carlisle Castle changed over time and what life was like in the castle.
- Exploring Carlisle Castle's defensive and domestic features and linking architectural changes with wider historical events.
- Students understand the functions of key castle features, in the castle, the significance of Carlisle Castle's position on the border and its role in the history of power struggles between England and Scotland.

Time to complete

5–10 minutes per activity;
8 activities

PRE-VISIT

PRIOR LEARNING

Before your visit, you could discuss the strategic importance of Carlisle Castle on the border between two, often warring, kingdoms. You could also show your students images of typical defensive features of a castle, and discuss how they think they helped to prevent enemy attack. Another key topic is life in a castle, so it would help if the students had some background to medieval life, for example lack of electricity, internet and materials such as plastics or concrete.

PRE-VISIT ACTIVITY

In 'English or Scottish Castle?', students use the Timeline to collect information on the battle between the Scottish and English kingdoms for ownership of Carlisle Castle and control of the border.

PREPARATION AND RESOURCES

You will find the Activity Trail on the following pages. Please read our printing tips and photocopy enough for your class to bring to Carlisle Castle.

The pages have their own sequence which differs from the rest of the Teachers' Kit and they will appear to be in a random order; this is purposeful to help you create an A5 booklet that can be easily followed by your students. To do this you'll need to adjust your Print settings:

1. Select size A4.
2. Select a custom page range of 50–57 to avoid printing unnecessary pages (this has to match the PDF toolbar).
3. Select 'Print on both sides of the paper'.
4. Select 'Flip on short edge'.
5. This will print four double-sided pages of PDF which can be folded in half and arranged in page number order.

ACTIVITY TRAIL

TEACHERS' ANSWER SHEET

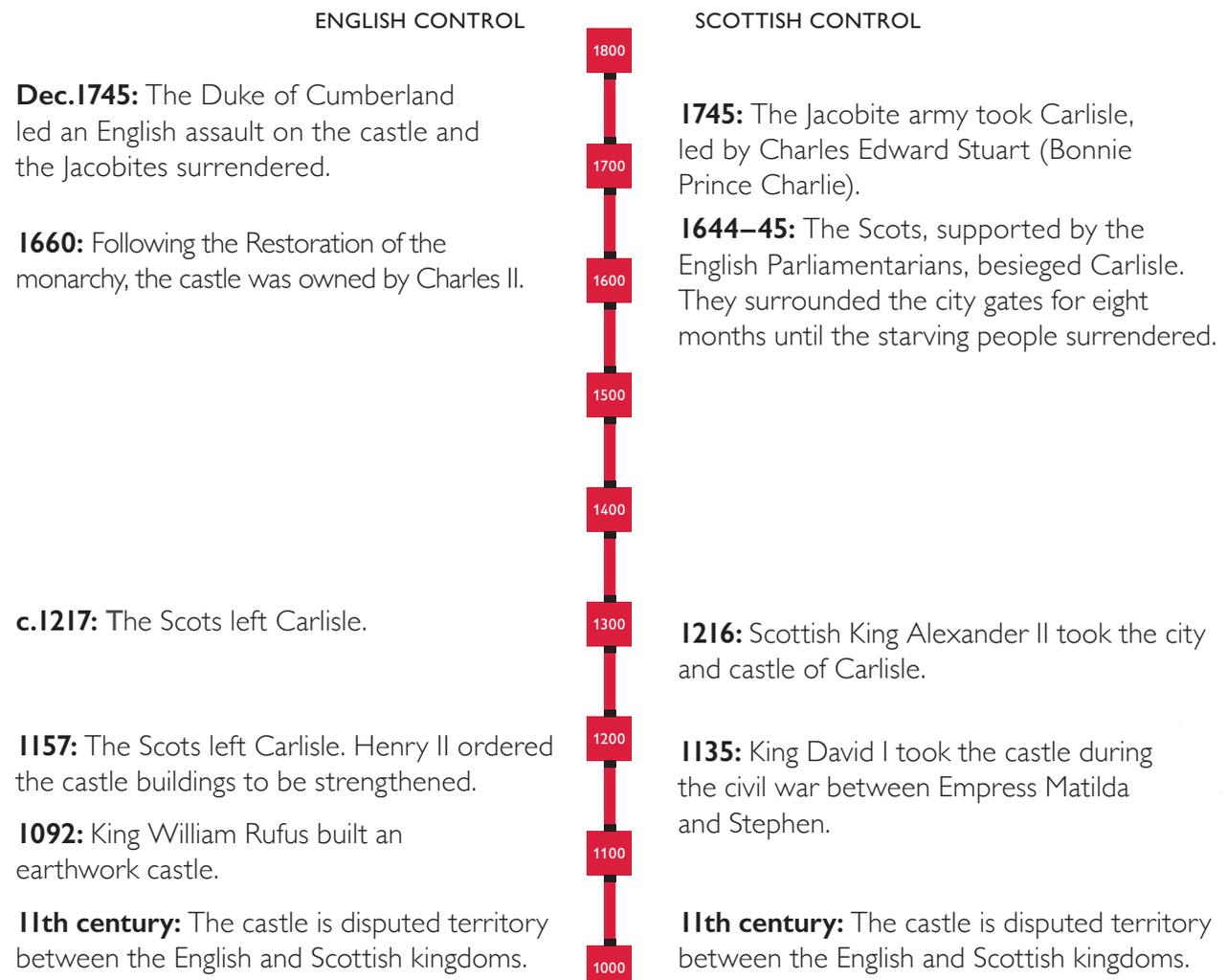
ENGLISH OR SCOTTISH CASTLE?

PRE-VISIT

Challenge a) Fill in the stacked bar chart to show when the English and Scottish kingdoms controlled Carlisle Castle. Use the Timeline to help you.

Challenge b) Label the bar chart to explain why the castle changed owner.
Example: in 1092, English King William Rufus built the first earthwork castle.

Challenge c) What does the bar chart show about who owned the castle?



ACTIVITY TRAIL

TEACHERS' ANSWER SHEET

ACTIVITY 1

OUTER GATEHOUSE

a) Draw the shape of the battlements on the roof:



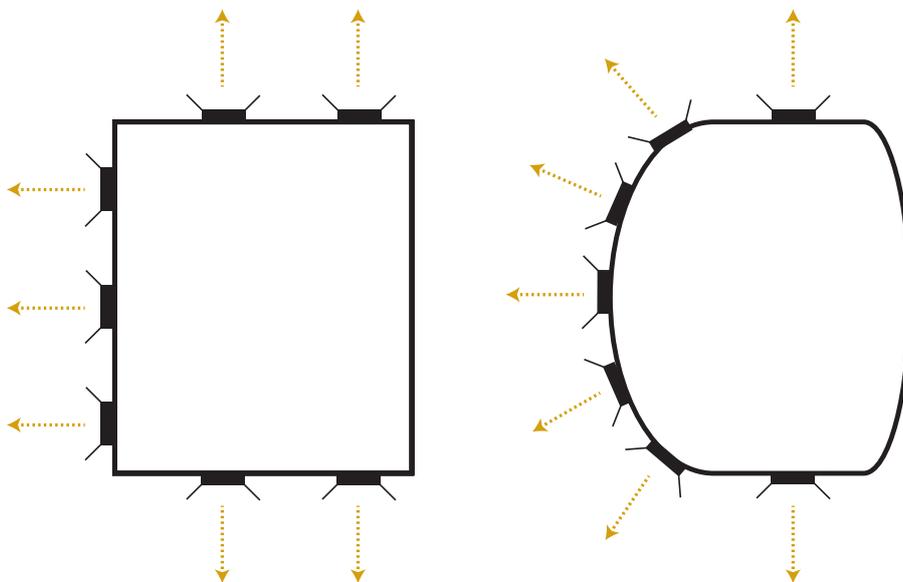
b) How does this shape help protect archers or gunners firing at invaders?

The battlements provide protection for a soldier behind the square projections, allowing him to aim his arrow or gun through the openings between each square.

ACTIVITY 2

HALF-MOON BATTERY

a) Draw a straight line of fire from each opening:



b) Which shape is better? Why?

The half-moon shape is better because it allows a greater range of fire. It allowed defenders to fire in more directions.

ACTIVITY TRAIL

TEACHERS' ANSWER SHEET

ACTIVITY 3

CAPTAIN'S TOWER

- a) Draw the two archways. Estimate how far in metres the archway was lowered from its highest point and label this on your drawing.

The top arch is roughly 1.5 metres higher than the lower arch.

- b) Why do you think the archway was made smaller?

A smaller entrance was easier to defend and allowed a platform to be built above, from which missiles could be aimed down at invaders (students can see the 19th-century joist holes that supported the platform).

Three windows and a door were blocked in the 19th century, when the government feared attack during a revolt by the city's textile workers.

ACTIVITY 4

INNER WARD

- b) Why was this side of the Captain's Tower (facing the inner ward) decorated?

Whereas the focus of the side facing the outer ward is defence against invaders, the purpose of this side is to show off the wealth and sophistication of the castle owner to those inhabiting the residential area of the castle.

- c) Why do you think a ramp would have been useful for the new cannons?

The ramp on the outside of the keep was built so that cannons could be rolled up to the walkway around the walls of the inner ward. It would not have been stepped at that time.

ACTIVITY TRAIL

TEACHERS' ANSWER SHEET

ACTIVITY 5

KEEP – FIRST FLOOR

a) How did people in this room get water for drinking or cooking?

They brought water up from the well in the well house, off this room.

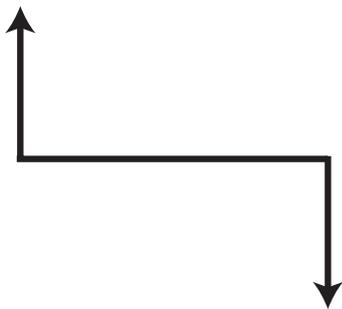
The servants needed to get supplies up from the storage rooms on the ground floor. It would have been difficult to bring heavy barrels up and down stairs.

b) Find another way the servants could get supplies into the room.

The trapdoor in the floor opens into the storage rooms where barrels of supplies were stored.

c) What shape is the latrine (or garderobe)?

There was no flushing water in the keep – toilets were a hole in the ground and the waste dropped through a chute into the moat.



d) Why do you think it is this shape? Clue: without flushing water, toilets become very smelly!

The L-shaped, or 'dog-leg', passage captures the smell of the excrement around the top of the chute, and makes it harder for the smell to travel around the corner into the main room. It also allows privacy.

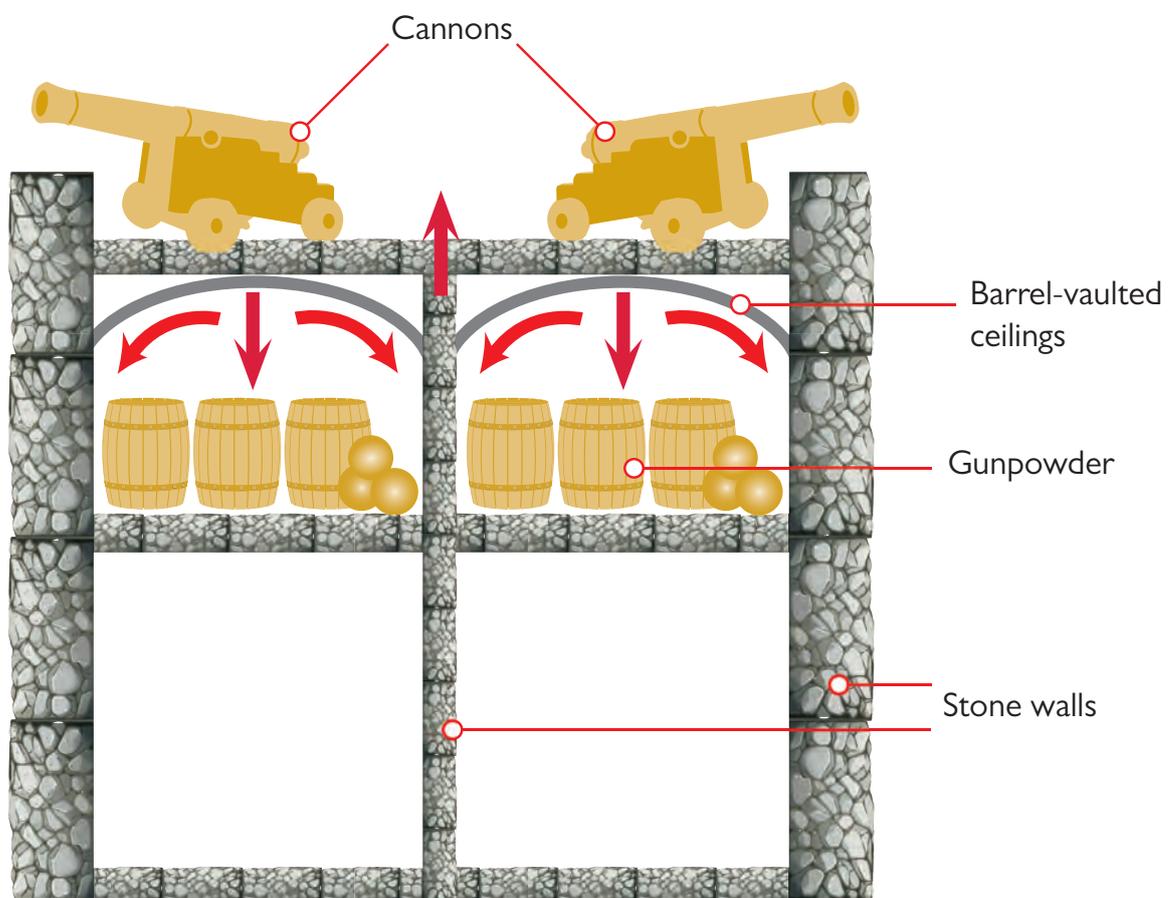
ACTIVITY TRAIL

TEACHERS' ANSWER SHEET

ACTIVITY 6

KEEP – SECOND FLOOR

a) Below is a diagram of the keep. Draw on the diagram how the gravitational force (weight) is acting on the cannons.



b) How do the barrel-vaulted ceilings and the middle wall help hold the weight of the cannons?
Draw and label on the diagram how they act as reactionary forces.

Weight is the action force acting on the cannons, pushing downwards. The reaction force is pushing upwards and the wall in the middle of the room increases this reaction force, which stops the weight of the cannons falling through the ceiling. The forces are balanced.

The barrel-vaulted ceiling was designed to move the force out from the floor beneath the cannons towards the stronger outer walls and internal room division.

ACTIVITY TRAIL

TEACHERS' ANSWER SHEET

ACTIVITY 7

KEEP – GROUND FLOOR

b) Give two reasons why the storage was on the ground floor:

1. The ground floor would have been the coolest place; it also has the smallest windows both for defensive reasons and to let in less light and heat.
2. Heavy barrels of supplies needed to be kept on the secure foundations of the ground floor and not on higher levels where they might be too heavy for the floors to support.

These rooms are functional and therefore plainly constructed with very little decoration. The windows are small to prevent light and heat getting in to spoil the supplies. They have a barrel-vault ceiling shape.

c) Where have you seen this trapdoor before?

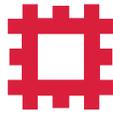
This trapdoor opens from the first floor of the keep, near the well room.

ACTIVITY 8

INNER WARD WALKWAY

d) Compare the narrow slits for rifles with the older, wider embrasures (gaps) for cannons.
Do you think cannons or rifles were better weapons for soldiers? Explain why:

The smaller rifles meant that the openings in the battlements were much smaller than they needed to be for cannons. This meant that the soldier was better protected as he fired. Rifles were lightweight, so the soldier could easily carry them and move quickly to fire at moving targets.



ENGLISH HERITAGE

CARLISLE CASTLE

WELL DONE!

Congratulations on completing the Activity Trail!
We hope you enjoyed your visit.

You can stick this Activity Trail into your book
as a record of your visit.

You're welcome to touch the cannons! Why not
take a photo and tweet it to us @EHEducation?



Step into England's story

NAME:

CLASS:

SCHOOL:

The city of Carlisle is on the border between Scotland and England. For its entire history, it has been important to both countries, as whoever owned the castle, controlled the city and the border area.

- A** Fill in the stacked chart (opposite) to show when the English and Scottish kingdoms controlled Carlisle Castle. Use the Timeline in the Teachers' Kit to help you.
- B** Label the bar chart to explain why the castle changed owner. Example: in 1092, English King William Rufus built the first earthenwork castle.

C What does the bar chart show about who owned the castle?

.....

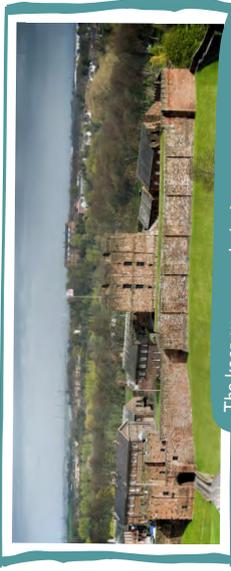
.....



A map of the border between England and Scotland showing Hadrian's Wall, Carlisle Castle and other English Heritage sites nearby.

The keep is 21 metres high. It was a symbol of the power and authority of the owner of the castle to everyone who could see it from afar.

- C** Find where the curtain wall joins the defensive city wall. DID YOU FIND IT?



The keep was a symbol of power and authority to the city of Carlisle and the surrounding area.

Keep walking left to find narrow embrasures (gaps) in the battlements.



By the 19th century, some soldiers used rifles rather than cannons, so slits in the battlements could be narrower.



Larger embrasures (gaps) in the battlements were needed for cannons.

D

Compare the narrow slits for rifles with the older, wider embrasures (gaps) for cannons. Do you think cannons or rifles were better weapons for soldiers? Explain why:

.....

.....

Come out of the keep and turn left.

A **Imagine** how it would feel to push a cannon weighing 2 tonnes up to the walkway – that's the same as pushing a car!

As you walk up the steps to the walkway, look out for the well in the side of the keep. This is the same well that you saw from inside.

DID YOU FIND IT?



The steps used to be a ramp. It was built in the 16th century so that cannons could be pushed up to the walkway of the inner ward.



The well is 21 metres deep – as deep as the keep is high. It was important to have a well in the keep, in case the castle was cut off during a siege.

At the top of the steps, turn left along the walkway. Please walk carefully on the walkway.

B On the walkway, look out for the latrine chute in the wall of the keep.

DID YOU FIND IT?



Medieval laundry-servants would have washed clothes in water from the well.

ENGLISH CONTROL

Dec. 1745: The Duke of Cumberland led an English assault on the castle and the Jacobites surrendered.

SCOTTISH CONTROL

1745: The Jacobite army took Carlisle, led by Charles Edward Stuart (Bonnie Prince Charlie).



11th century: The castle is disputed territory between the English and Scottish kingdoms.

11th century: The castle is disputed territory between the English and Scottish kingdoms.

Your task is to collect evidence to discover Carlisle Castle's history from the medieval period to the 19th century.

You'll learn about:

- why the castle was important in history
- what life was like here
- key defensive and architectural features

It should take you 45 minutes to one hour to complete this Activity Trail.



ACTIVITY 7 – KEEP (GROUND FLOOR)

Go back down the spiral staircase all the way to the ground floor.

Go into the first room on the right. Find the 'licking stones' – stones in the wall either side of the window that are oddly shaped.

During the Jacobite risings in 1745–46, prisoners were kept at Carlisle Castle. One story is that prisoners held in this room became so thirsty that they licked the moisture off the walls and wore away the stone to make these odd shapes.

A

Close your eyes and imagine you are a prisoner in this room. How would it **feel**? How would it **smell**? What would you **hear**?

Write down some sensory words:

.....

.....

.....

Go into the second room on the right. It was important to have storage in the keep because it was the most secure place to be in a siege. If everyone in the castle retreated here, there had to be enough food to survive the long wait.

b

Give **two** reasons why the storage was on the ground floor (Clue: there were no fridges in the medieval period):

1

2

c

Find the trapdoor. Where have you seen this before? Tell your partner.



These rooms were used for storage such as barrels of food and drink.

ACTIVITY 6 – KEEP (SECOND FLOOR)

Go through the door to the next room to find the prisoners' carvings.

The rooms on either side were prisons, guardrooms, or even a room for a priest. The carvings could have been made by any of these people.

c Many of the carvings are about someone's identity. Find each of these:



A fox preaching to hens – a medieval fable



A crowned lion – a symbol of England



St George killing the dragon

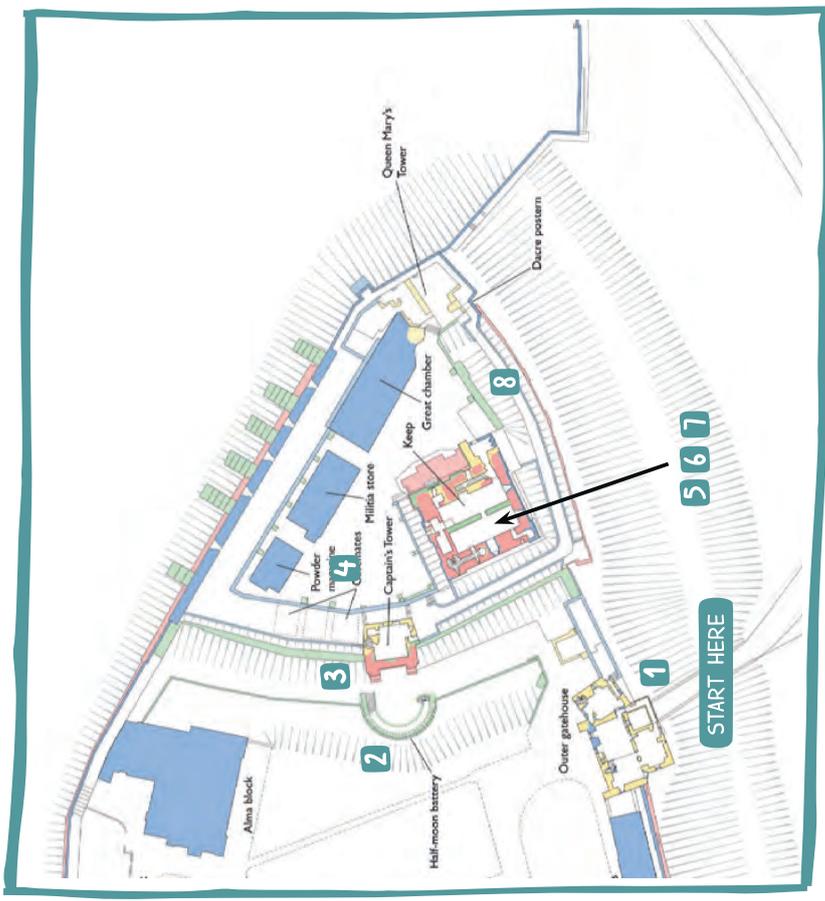


A boar – the badge of Richard, Duke of Gloucester (later Richard III)

d The boar was one of Richard, Duke of Gloucester's badges, which was a symbol of his family. What would you draw to represent you or your family?

CASTLE PLAN

Use the castle plan to help you find your way around. Complete each task as you move around the site. The trail begins at the **outer gatehouse**.



KEY

- 1** Activity 1 – outer gatehouse
- 2** Activity 2 – half-moon battery
- 3** Activity 3 – Captain's Tower
- 4** Activity 4 – inner ward
- 5** Activity 5 – keep (first floor)
- 6** Activity 6 – keep (second floor)
- 7** Activity 7 – keep (ground floor)
- 8** Activity 8 – inner ward walkway

ACTIVITY 1 – OUTER GATEHOUSE

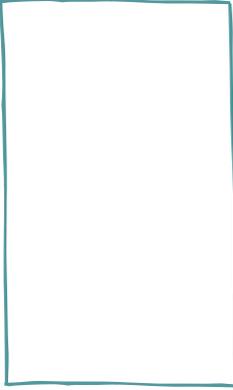
Stand with your group at the lamppost outside the castle, off the road. Before you cross the bridge into the castle, look at the activity below:

The medieval outer gatehouse is the castle's first line of defence. It stands in the curtain wall which joins the city and wall. The walls protect the city and the castle from attack.



The outer gatehouse was first built in c.1160 and then extended in the 14th century within the city boundary

A Draw the shape of the battlements on the roof:



B How does this shape protect archers or gunners firing at invaders?

.....

.....

C As you pass through the outer gatehouse, **spot** three other defences:

- portcullis • narrow gaps in the stone for archers to shoot arrows through at attackers
- arrow slits • an iron or wooden grille that drops down in front of the doors
- heavy oak doors • these were shut and locked to stop attackers getting through the castle entrance

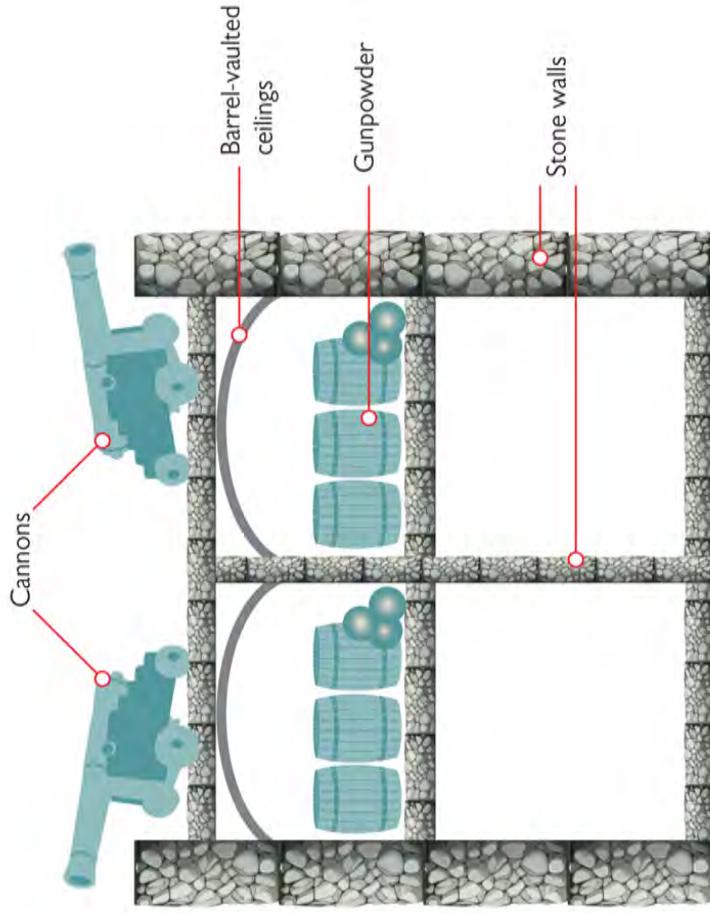
D Draw a line to match the defence with its function.

ACTIVITY 6 – KEEP (SECOND FLOOR)

Go down the stairs (opposite where you came in) and join the spiral staircase going up to the second floor:

This room used to be the top floor of the keep. In Tudor times, the ceiling was lowered and another room was built above it to store gunpowder. The wall in the middle of the room was added to hold the weight of cannons on the roof.

A Below is a diagram of the top of the keep. Draw on the diagram how the gravitational force (weight) is acting on the cannons.



B How do the barrel-vaulted ceilings and the middle wall help hold the weight of the cannons? Draw and label on the diagram how they act as reactionary forces.

ACTIVITY 5 – KEEP (FIRST FLOOR)



The huge fireplace. This kept guests warm, as there was no central heating, and showed off the king's wealth.

When you enter the keep, turn left and go up the stairs to the first floor.

In the 12th century these two spaces were a single room where the king would do business and entertain guests.

A Explore this room – how did people get water for drinking or cooking?

.....

The servants brought supplies up here from the ground floor. It would have been difficult to bring heavy barrels up and down stairs.

B Find another way the servants could get supplies into this room:

.....

Go into the next room. Find the passage.

This passage was a latrine (a medieval toilet). There was no flushing water – toilets were a hole in the ground. The waste dropped through a chute into the moat.

C What shape is the latrine? Circle it below:



D Why do you think it is this shape? Clue: no flush = very smelly

.....

ACTIVITY 2 – HALF-MOON BATTERY



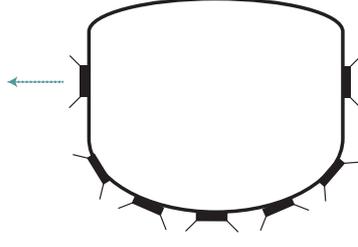
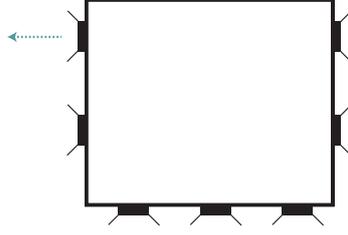
Henry VIII

In the 1530s, Henry VIII was worried about attacks by rebels. He also suspected that Scotland might join with France to try to overthrow him. To defend Carlisle Castle, he upgraded the buildings to hold new, heavier cannons.



There was a level above the top of the half-moon battery where the cannons fired from. The lower floor has openings for soldiers to fire handguns at enemies.

A Draw a straight line of fire from each opening:



B Which shape is better? Why?

The shape is better because

.....

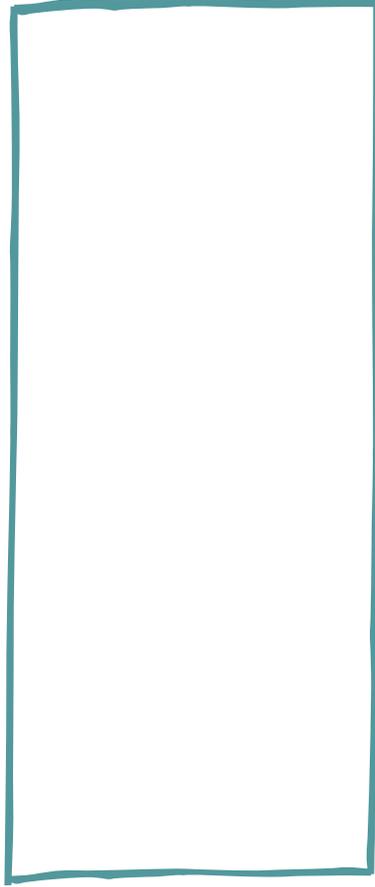
ACTIVITY 3 – CAPTAIN'S TOWER

The Captain lived in the rooms at the top of the tower. He was responsible for the day-to-day running of the castle. The tower was built in the 12th century.

There is different coloured stone in the tower – the grey stone is earlier and the red sandstone shows later alterations.



a Draw the two archways. Estimate how far in metres the archway was lowered from its highest point and label this on your drawing.



B Why do you think the archway was made smaller?

.....

.....

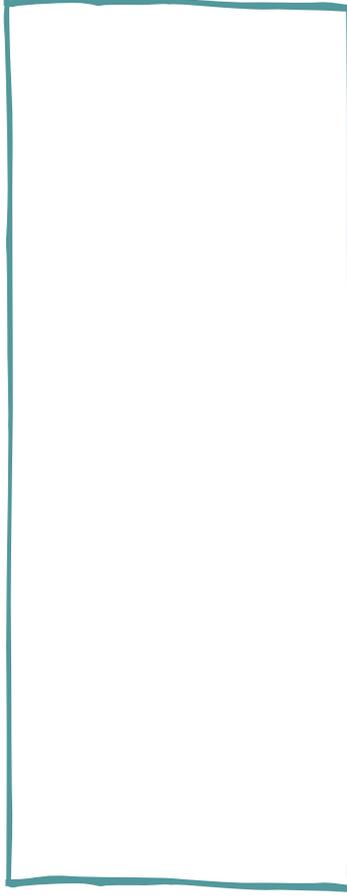
c As you walk through the gatehouse, tick off when you find three other defensive features:

- wicket gate
- murder holes (now blocked up)
- grooves in the wall for the portcullis

ACTIVITY 4 – INNER WARD

Through the passageway of the Captain's Tower, you have passed formidable defences to the secure, inner ward of the castle. This is where day-to-day jobs were done such as bringing in supplies for dinner or cleaning clothes.

a Sketch any decoration that you can see:



B Why was this side of the Captain's Tower (facing the inner ward) decorated?

.....

.....

When Henry VIII ordered new cannons, some of the castle buildings had to be changed to hold their weight. The walkway around the top of the inner ward was doubled in width.

Go to the signpost and look to the right of the keep.

c These steps used to be a ramp. Why do you think this ramp was useful for the new cannons?

.....

.....



The brick archway above the windows in the Captain's Tower was added so the cannons could be transported over the top of the tower, along the walkway.



POST-VISIT

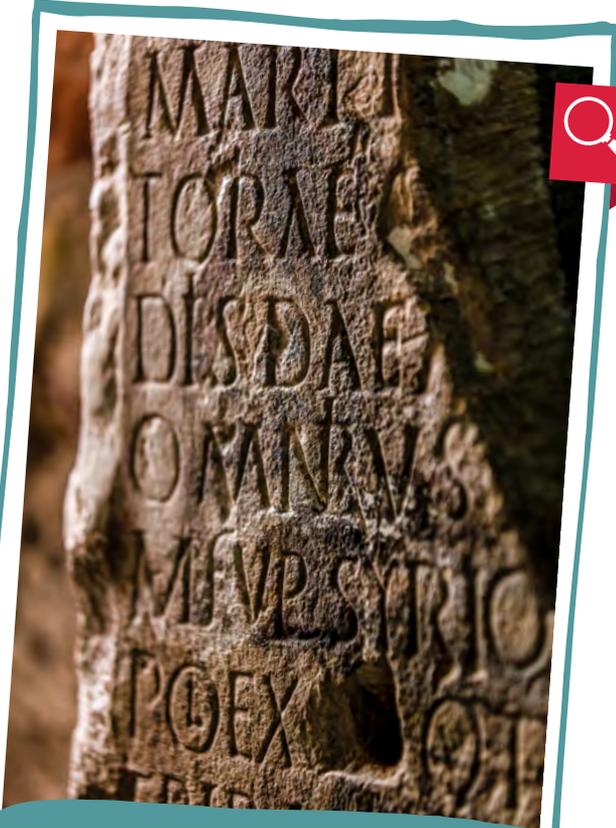
Activities and information to help you extend your students' learning back in the classroom.

SOURCES

PEER INTO THE PAST

A historical source is something that tells us about life in the past such as a document, a picture or an object. It may be a primary source, from the time, or a secondary source, created later. Our experts at English Heritage have chosen these sources to help you learn about Carlisle Castle's history.

SOURCE 1



SOURCE 2

‘1092. King William, with a great army, fared north to Carlisle, built up the town and raised the castle; he drove out Dolfin, who had the rule of the land, and set the castle with his own men. Afterwards he returned south hither and sent there many peasant folk with women and livestock, to dwell there and till the land.’

From the ‘Anglo-Saxon Chronicle’.

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle was written by monks from the end of the ninth century to 1154. It records events for each year, beginning with the birth of Christ. The records were based on early sources or what the monks had seen or heard in their local area.

On the first floor of the outer gatehouse is part of a Roman altarpiece. It had been used as the lintel above the door in the withdrawing chamber.

Altarpieces were used for decoration behind or above the altar in a religious temple.

The inscription says that the altarpiece was dedicated to the gods Jupiter, Juno, Minerva, Mars and Victory. It was dedicated by a Syrian soldier serving in the 20th legion of the Roman army.

SOURCE 3

And when we left the Staneshaw-bank,
The wind began full loud to blaw;
But 'twas wind and weet, and fire and sleet,
When we came beneath the castel wa'.

We crept on knees and held our breath,
Till we placed the ladders against the wa';
And sae ready was Buccleuch himsell
To mount the first, before us a'.

He has ta'en the watchman by the throat,
He flung him down upon the lead
"Had there not been peace between
our lands,
Upon the other side thou hadst gaed!"

"Now sound out, trumpets!" quo' Buccleuch;
"Lets waken Lord Scroope, right merrilie!"
Then loud the Warden's trumpets blew
"O whae dare meddle wi' me?"

Then speedilie to work we gaed,
And raised the slogan ane and a',
And cut a hole thro' a sheet of lead,
And so we wan to the castel ha'.

They thought King James and a' his men
Had won the house wi' bow and speir;
It was but twenty Scots and ten,
That put a thousand in sic a stear!

Wi' coulters, and wi' foreharmers,
We garr'd the bars bang merrily,
Until we came to the inner prison,
Where Willie o'Kinmont he did lie.

And when we came to the lower prison,
Where Willie o'Kinmont he did lie –
"O sleep ye, wake ye Kinmont Willie,
Upon the morn that thou's to die?"

"O I sleep saft, and I wake aft;
It's lang since sleeping was fley'd frae me!
Gie my service back to my wife and bairns,
And a'gude fellows that spier for me."

Then Red Rowan had heute him up.
The starkest man in Teviotdale-
"Abide, abide now, Red Rowan,
Till of my lord Scrope I take farewell.

"Farewell, farewell, my gude lord Scrope!
My gude lord Scrope, farewell" he cried-
"I'll pay you for my lodging maill,
When we first meet on the border side."

Then shoulder high, with shout and cry,
We bore him down the ladder lang;
At every stride Red Rowan made,
I wot the Kinmont's airns okay'd clang!

This source is an extract from 'The Ballad of Kinmont Willie'. It was first recorded in 1802 in Walter Scott's 'Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border' but would have been told for generations before this.



SOURCE 4

‘... a little later in the same year, on the feast of St Mary Magdalene (22nd July), the king of Scotland, having mustered all his forces, came to Carlisle, invested the city and besieged it for ten days...

“”

On every day of the siege they assaulted one of the three gates of the city, sometimes all three at once; but never without loss, because there were discharged upon them from the walls such dense volleys of darts and arrows, likewise stones, that they asked one another whether stones bred and multiplied within the walls. Now on the fifth day of the siege they set up a machine for casting stones next to the church of Holy Trinity, where their king stationed himself, and they cast great stones continually against the Caldew gate and against the wall, but they did little or no injury to those within, except they killed one man...

... on the eleventh day, to wit, the feast of St Peter ad Vincula (August), whether because they had heard that the English were approaching to relieve the besieged or whether they despaired of success, the Scots marched off in confusion, leaving behind them all of their engines of war aforesaid.’

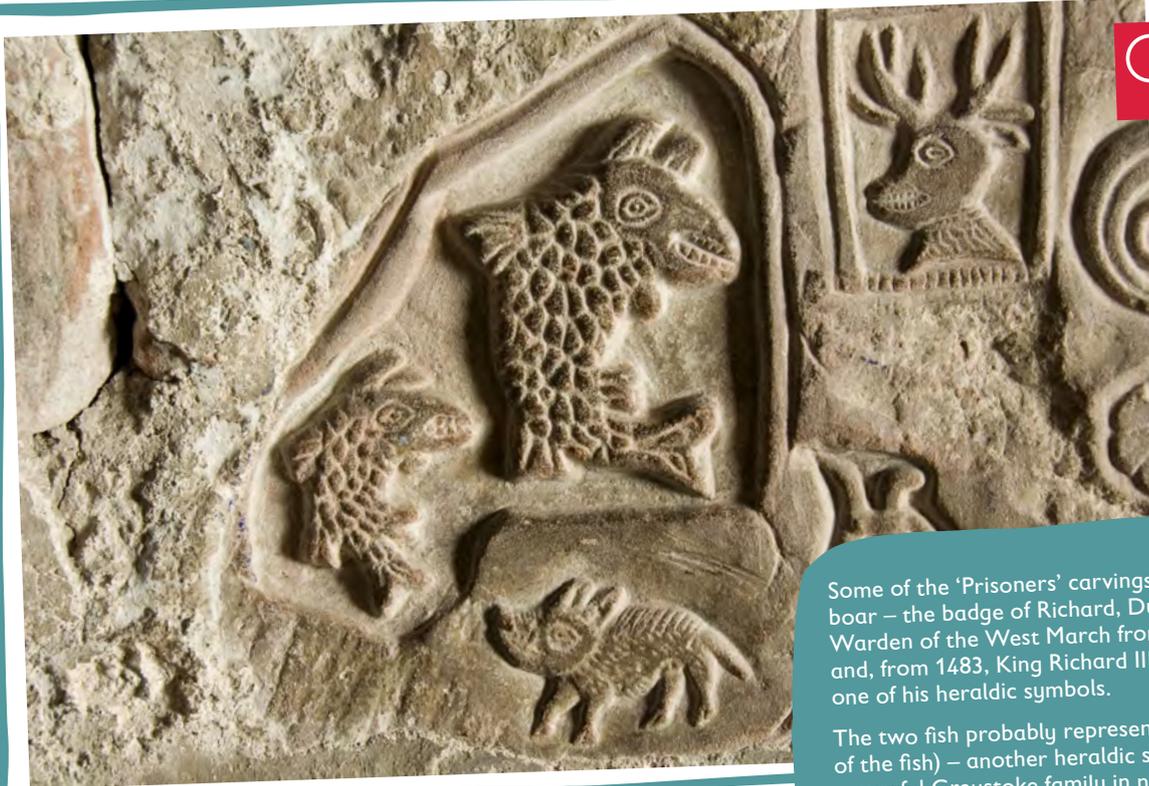
This source is taken from ‘The Chronicle of Lanercost’, written by monks in 1315 at Lanercost Priory. It was adapted from another chronicle written by a Grey Friar, probably of Carlisle. ‘The Chronicle of Lanercost’ is a history of northern England from 1201 to 1346.

SOURCE 5



A typical medieval catapult in action at a historical re-enactment at Kenilworth Castle. The trebuchet throwing arm hurled projectiles from a sling at great speed.

SOURCE 6



Some of the 'Prisoners' carvings' showing a boar – the badge of Richard, Duke of Gloucester, Warden of the West March from 1471 to 1485 and, from 1483, King Richard III. The boar was one of his heraldic symbols.

The two fish probably represent dolphins ('king' of the fish) – another heraldic symbol used by the powerful Greystoke family in northern England.

These carvings were probably made by bored guards on duty or prisoners kept in a cell. They date from the 15th century and were probably all carved by the same person.

SOURCE 7

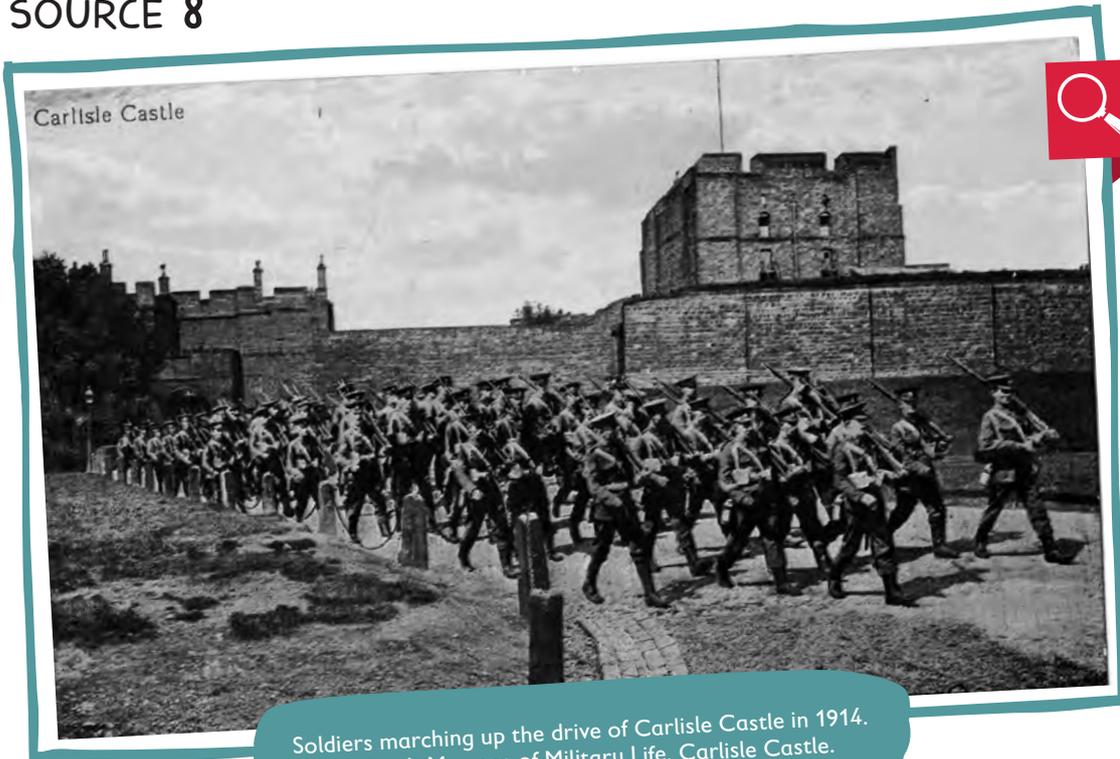
'Christmas 1644... Now was all corne taken from the Citizens, and carried to the Magazeene, a portion thence distributed weekly to every family according to their Number, and their Cattell w^h they were to be killed, taken to the Castle, thence from time to time distributed, no more to ye owner, but ye head, heart, and liver; then to any other. A good while after, and order was published to every Citizen to bring their plate to be coyned, which they did cheerfully...

July 1645... This afternoon, divers officers came with soldiers into the common Backhouse [bakehouse], and took away all the hors flesh from ye poor people, who were as neere starving as themselves.'

This source describes the siege of Carlisle Castle and city from October 1644 to June 1645, during the English Civil War. It is a diary entry by Isaac Tullie, who was 18 years old at the time.

The Parliamentarians had surrounded the castle with support from Scottish forces led by David Leslie. Tullie describes how the citizens were forced to give up their cows to be shared among the population, give in their plate (silver) to make new coins and eat horse meat. Tullie later became Mayor of Carlisle.

SOURCE 8



Soldiers marching up the drive of Carlisle Castle in 1914.
© Cumbria's Museum of Military Life, Carlisle Castle.

SOURCE 9



An inspection of the Volunteers Training Corps at Carlisle Castle c.1917. © Cumbria's Museum of Military Life, Carlisle Castle.