

OCR HISTORY AROUND US  
Site Proposal Form Example from English Heritage

The criteria

The study of the selected site must focus on the relationship between the site, other historical sources and the aspects listed in a) to n) below. It is therefore essential that centres choose a site that allows learners to use its physical features, together with other historical sources as appropriate, to understand all of the following:

- A. The reasons for the location of the site within its surroundings
- B. When and why people first created the site
- C. The ways in which the site has changed over time
- D. How the site has been used throughout its history
- E. The diversity of activities and people associated with the site
- F. The reasons for changes to the site and to the way it was used
- G. Significant times in the site's past: peak activity, major developments, turning points
- H. The significance of specific features in the physical remains at the site
- I. The importance of the whole site either locally or nationally, as appropriate
- J. The typicality of the site based on a comparison with other similar sites
- K. What the site reveals about everyday life, attitudes and values in particular periods of history
- L. How the physical remains may prompt questions about the past and how historians frame these as valid historical enquiries
- M. How the physical remains can inform artistic reconstructions and other interpretations of the site
- N. The challenges and benefits of studying the historic environment

## HELMSLEY CASTLE

Criteria	Specifics about the site in relation to this criteria	Sources that can be used with this criteria
a) The reasons for the location of the site within its surroundings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helmsley Castle occupies a rocky outcrop above the River Rye. Helmsley has easy connections to York and to other towns with major castles, such as Pickering and Scarborough. The River Rye runs near to the castle and there is archaeological evidence that part of it was diverted in an unsuccessful attempt to provide a convenient water supply. In addition, the local area still shows evidence of the woodland that would have provided building materials and fuel for cooking and heating. The open countryside to the west and north of the site provided ample opportunities for hunting and grazing livestock.</li> <li>• The castle sits just south of the North Yorkshire Moors and, while it is a large protective landscape, its location is not very impressive topographically or strategically. Politically, however, the castle sits at the centre of the lands given to Robert de Mortain by William the Conqueror (his half-brother) and later owned by Walter Espec and the de Ros family. This allowed the castle to be used as an administrative centre.</li> <li>• In addition to the castle, there was already a local settlement nearby. Robert de Ros re-arranged the settlement of Helmsley town and gave it the status of a borough, allowing it to hold markets. The name Helmsley appears in documents throughout the Middle Ages in various forms, such as 'Hamelak' and 'Haumesley'.</li> <li>• Whilst maybe not an obvious defensive location for the Norman stronghold, the location of the castle demonstrated to the local landholders that the Normans now held the area, making a strong political statement.</li> </ul>	<p>Kenyon J, <i>Helmsley Castle</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2017) <a href="#">Buy Guidebook: Helmsley Castle   English Heritage</a></p> <p>Google Map of Helmsley Castle: <a href="#">Helmsley Castle - Google Maps</a></p> <p>Coppack, G, <i>Helmsley Castle</i>, (1990)</p> <p>McDonnell, J, <i>A History of Helmsley Rievaulx and District</i>, (1963)</p> <p>Thompson, M W, 'Medieval Britain in 1957', <i>Medieval Archaeology</i>, Vol. 2 (1958), p.196</p>

<p>b) When and why people first created the site</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People have been living in the area around Helmsley since prehistory, with evidence of round barrows being seen in the local countryside. There was a Roman settlement at Beadlam Villa a mile to the east of Helmsley which was occupied from 300-400 AD. Coins from this time have also been found in Helmsley.</li> <li>• Place names in the local area attest to both Old English (Anglo-Saxon) and Old Scandinavian (Viking) influences. Before the Norman Conquest, the owner of the Manor of Helmsley in the hundred of Maneshou, was a noble called Uhtred, who seems to have owned several manors in the vicinity. In Church of All Saints, Helmsley there is a 10<sup>th</sup>-century hogback tomb – this type of tomb is considered to be unique to Scandinavian settlers in the north of England.</li> <li>• At the time of the Domesday survey in 1086, the manor of 'Elmeslac' (Helmsley) was owned by Robert, Count de Mortain – half-brother of William the Conqueror. Castles were used as a sign of Norman rule but there is no evidence that Robert built on the land. According to the survey there were seven households, comprising families, living on the estate, including a priest.</li> <li>• Castles were created for protection and defence: of land, routeways or people. They also functioned as symbols of power and control. Walter Espec probably built Helmsley Castle to show off his great influence in this part of Yorkshire. He had been an important commander at the Battle of the Standard (1138), which took place around 20 miles away and resulted in the defeat of the Scottish king, David I. Walter may have been attempting to protect his estates from a future Scottish invasion, though at this point the border was moving northwards as English kings extended their power over the North. Abbot Aelred, who lived three miles away at Rievaulx Abbey, wrote a description of a</li> </ul>	<p>Kenyon J, <i>Helmsley Castle</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2017) <a href="#">Buy Guidebook: Helmsley Castle   English Heritage</a></p> <p><a href="https://opendomesday.org/place/SE6183/helmsley/">https://opendomesday.org/place/SE6183/helmsley/</a></p> <p>Historic England's entry for Church of All Saints: <a href="https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1149308?section=official-list-entry">https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1149308?section=official-list-entry</a></p> <p><a href="#">Domesday: Britain's finest treasure - The National Archives</a></p>
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	<p>castle, possibly inspired by Helmsley Castle: “<i>Three things make a castle strong: a moat, a wall and a tower. First the moat, then the wall rising above the moat, and finally the tower, which is taller and more significant than the other two.</i>”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helmsley Castle sits in the centre of the land granted by William the Conqueror following the Norman Conquest of 1066. Although very well-defended, Helmsley Castle had no major strategic function and owes its location to the town being at the centre of the Espec and de Ros estates. Its location reminded the local landholders that the Normans now held the local area, making a strong political statement.</li> <li>• Most of the castle we see today dates from the time of Robert de Ros II (c. 1182–1226/7). Although he held estates in England and Normandy, Helmsley Castle was Robert de Ros’ main residence, so it’s likely he spent large periods of time there.</li> </ul>	
c) The ways in which the site has changed over time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The castle earthworks were constructed during the 12<sup>th</sup> century and pre-date the standing remains that we see today.</li> <li>• The land was granted to Walter Espec in about 1122. It is thought that Walter Espec built the first castle sometime after this. Very little remains of it. It is likely that the earthworks were topped with timber palisades. The main platform (what is now the inner bailey) was divided in two by a curtain wall (the footings of which can still be seen), with a ditch possibly in front of it.</li> <li>• Much of the castle structure that can be seen today dates from the time of Robert de Ros II (also known as Fursan). The earth and timber defences of Walter Espec’s castle were replaced with the stone curtain wall and towers, a square gatehouse was built at the south-east corner and this became the main entrance to</li> </ul>	<p>Helmsley Castle phased site plan – page 5 of the Helmsley Castle Teachers’ Kit – search the English Heritage website.</p> <p><a href="#">Helmsley Castle: twelfth century ringwork, twelfth to fourteenth century enclosure castle and sixteenth century mansion, Helmsley - 1009963   Historic England</a></p> <p>Kenyon J, <i>Helmsley Castle</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2017) <a href="#">Buy Guidebook: Helmsley Castle   English Heritage</a></p>

	<p>the castle, the west tower was built overlooking the parkland, the east tower was built overlooking the town of Helmsley and a twin-towered gatehouse was built as a private entrance on the north wall. He took possession of Helmsley Castle in 1191. Helmsley Castle was Robert de Ros' main residence and the west tower, or solar, functioned as his private apartments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The medieval castle was most likely served by other buildings (like barns and a blacksmith) in the outer bailey or quieter parts of the inner bailey.</li> <li>• Creating defensive features ensured Helmsley Castle could withstand attack, such as when Robert de Ros II successfully held the castle against King John during his northern campaign against the barons' rebellion in 1216, according to the chronicler Matthew Paris.</li> <li>• Robert de Ros III (d.1285) further strengthened the castle's defences, possibly using his wife Isabel d'Aubigny's money as she was the heiress of the Belvoir estate in Leicestershire. He added a drawbridge pit with postern at the northern gatehouse entrance, alongside an outer defence or barbican consisting of two elongated, open-backed towers. He also added a further drawbridge and three posterns in front of the south gate and ordered the building of the south barbican. In roughly the centre of the castle, a rectangular chapel was built, commissioned in 1246.</li> <li>• During the 1300s, both William de Ros II and William de Ros III focused on improving the domestic buildings. Rooms were created against the south barbican and walls were added, running down to the ditch and up to the southern corners of the castle. The east tower - where Edward III (r.1327–77) may have</li> </ul>	<p>English Heritage YouTube Channel, <i>A Mini Guide to Medieval Castles   Animated History</i> (2017)  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RXXDThkJ3Ew">www.youtube.com/watch?v=RXXDThkJ3Ew</a></p> <p>English Heritage YouTube Channel, <i>How to Take a Medieval Castle   Animated History</i> (2017)  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xNeNPk4D_Ng">www.youtube.com/watch?v=xNeNPk4D_Ng</a></p>
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stayed when he visited in 1334 - was heightened to create four floors. A new aisled hall was built in the inner bailey and a kitchen, pantry and buttery were built against the south curtain wall to serve the hall. The west tower was enlarged and new windows and latrines were built. A latrine block was built at the opposite end of the west range.

- Throughout much of the 1400s, Helmsley Castle remained the Yorkshire seat for the de Ros family, but their main home was at Belvoir Castle in Leicestershire, roughly 90 miles to the south. There is little evidence for building work at Helmsley Castle during this time, apart from the probable addition of the bakehouse and brewhouse.
- In the 1570s and 1580s, the Manners family refurbished Helmsley Castle as a grand mansion house. The west chamber block was adapted to create new apartments, including fine plaster and woodwork. The latrine tower and west tower were remodelled and a new wing created which ran from the chamber block towards the chapel, with a long gallery on the first floor. The gatehouse in the south barbican was also refurbished. Despite these refurbishments, it is not thought the family spent long periods of time at Helmsley Castle as their main residence was still Belvoir Castle.
- In 1644, during the Civil War, the castle was used as a Royalist garrison. Running low on supplies after a three-month siege, the commander of the Royalists, Sir Jordan Crosland, negotiated terms for surrender. Following the surrender to Parliamentary troops, the castle's slighting was ordered. 'Slighting' of castles ensured they could no longer be used as a defensive structure. The walls and gates were blasted open and part of the east tower was pulled down, beginning the castle's descent into ruin.

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	<p>However, there were still enough defensive features for the castle to be used as a prison for Royalist prisoners during the Second Civil War (1648). They were held 'in the Dungeon at Helmsley Castle' which was probably the basement of the west tower.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The commander of the Parliamentary troops, General Thomas Fairfax, acquired the castle and borough of Helmsley in 1650. His daughter Mary married George Villiers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke of Buckingham, whom Helmsley Castle had been confiscated from during the Commonwealth. George Villiers regained his properties on the Restoration of King Charles II (r.1660–85). The only detail of changes to the castle during this time is that John Etty of York created wood panelling there for the duke in 1666.</li> <li>• When Helmsley Castle was bought by Charles Duncome in 1695, he used the castle as accommodation. The next owner of the castle, Thomas Duncombe, commissioned a new house to be built in the parkland surrounding the castle in 1713. From the time the new house was completed, Helmsley Castle no longer functioned as a home. During the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the ruined castle was incorporated into the newly designed landscape of Duncombe Park.</li> <li>• During the 1800s, the castle site was used for community events, such as fetes, historical pageants and agricultural shows.</li> <li>• In the early 1900s, Helmsley Tennis Club had their courts within the inner bailey.</li> <li>• In 1923, the castle was taken into the care of the government, by what was then the Office of Works. Restoration work was carried out over a period of ten years. The ruins were consolidated and</li> </ul>	
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	<p>conserved, a new roof was put on the latrine tower and four timber bridges were built to enable the public to access the site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 1983, English Heritage became the organisation trusted with looking after the castle. It is now a tourist destination and part of the local economy.</li> </ul>	
d) How the site has been used throughout its history	<p><b>Administrative centre</b> Prior to the castle being built, the site formed part of an Anglo-Saxon manor. When the first castle was constructed, it was likely used as an administrative centre by Walter Espec. Apart from the earthworks, the only surviving part of this castle is the footings of a wall running between the west tower and the chapel, which originally divided the bailey. As Walter spent time and invested money in Helmsley Castle, it is likely that the castle was a residence as well as a place of administration. Regardless of its use, Helmsley Castle became a very visible marker of Norman power.</p> <p><b>Strongly defended family home</b> Much of what remains of Helmsley Castle was built by Robert de Ros II (also known as Fursan). The de Ros family built the keep and the curtain wall at the castle, which would have had a visible impact on the local landscape. Although he held lands elsewhere, Helmsley Castle was Robert's main residence, so it provided a home for him and his family.</p> <p>During the 1300s, the castle continued its function as an impressive home. Major improvements were made to the domestic arrangements at the castle, with new rooms being created against the south barbican and a new kitchen, pantry and buttery built against the south curtain wall, serving a new aisled hall. The east tower was heightened to create four floors.</p>	<p>Kenyon J, <i>Helmsley Castle</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2017) <a href="#">Buy Guidebook: Helmsley Castle   English Heritage</a></p> <p><a href="#">Helmsley Castle: twelfth century ringwork, twelfth to fourteenth century enclosure castle and sixteenth century mansion, Helmsley - 1009963   Historic England</a></p>



	<p>During the 1570s and 1580s, Helmsley Castle became a grand country house for the Manners family. The medieval lodgings range was adapted to create new apartments, the latrine tower and west tower were refurbished and a new wing with a long gallery on its first floor was built between the west range and the chapel.</p> <p><b>Leisure</b> In addition to the defensive function, Helmsley Castle was surrounded by parkland and orchards, which enabled residents of the castle to use the castle for leisure pursuits such as hunting. To the north of the medieval castle lay an orchard and gardens, whilst to the west were two parks on the site of the present Duncombe Park.</p> <p>The hall provided a space for entertainment. In 1334, the castle was used for entertaining royalty when Edward III visited for five days.</p> <p><b>Place of worship</b> Before the remains of the current chapel of the mid-13th century there was likely a chapel at the castle but there is currently no evidence for where it was. The original chapel was on the first floor of the east tower. A new, separate chapel was consecrated in 1246. Helmsley Castle was consistently used as a place of worship until the 1580s, when the chapel was converted to a kitchen. It is unknown whether the occupants of the castle from this time onwards had a religious space. They may have observed religion in the parish church, which was not far away.</p> <p><b>Defensive structure</b> In 1216, Robert de Ros held Helmsley Castle against King John during the baronial revolt against him, showing the castle's use as a defensive and protective structure. It was also used as a Royalist garrison in 1644, during the Civil War.</p> <p><b>Prison</b></p>	
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	<p>Helmsley Castle was occasionally used as a prison. In October 1338, Joan Fletcher was placed in the keeping of William Starre, the constable of Helmsley Castle. She had been excommunicated for wilfully disobeying the Archbishop of York and was initially in the custody of Thomas Overton, one of the Sheriff of York's men. A plot was discovered to kill Thomas and free Joan, so Joan was imprisoned in Helmsley Castle. Her eventual fate is unknown. Helmsley Castle was also used to house Royalist prisoners in 1648, during the second Civil War.</p> <p><b>Community resource</b> Historical pageants, fetes and agricultural shows were held at Helmsley Castle in the 1800s. Helmsley Tennis Club had their courts in the inner bailey during the early 20<sup>th</sup>-century. Castle stone was also built into local houses, walls and probably roads.</p> <p><b>Art inspiration</b> During the 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-century, there was shift towards the romantic in art. Helmsley Castle was appreciated for its picturesque beauty by 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century artists such as JMW Turner. The site has continued to provide artistic inspiration. In 2024, the site was used to host art installations as part of the Ryevitalise 'Integripalpia' project by Ed Carter.</p> <p><b>Tourist destination</b> By the 1840s, interest in travel was growing amongst all parts of British society. The romanticism of Helmsley Castle's ruins, along with nearby Rievaulx Abbey, began to attract people visiting the local area. In 1983 Helmsley Castle transferred to the care of English Heritage and continues to be a popular visitor attraction, hosting historically themed family and educational events.</p>	<p><a href="https://historicalpageants.ac.uk/pageants/1503">https://historicalpageants.ac.uk/pageants/1503</a></p> <p><a href="#">Samuel Bough - Helmsley Castle in North Yorkshire - Category:Helmsley Castle in art - Wikimedia Commons</a></p> <p><a href="#">'Helmsley Castle from the South West', Joseph Mallord William Turner, 1801   Tate</a></p> <p><a href="#">'Helmsley Castle: The Keep from the South-East', Joseph Mallord William Turner, 1801   Tate</a></p> <p><a href="#">Creative project 'Integripalpia' by Ed Carter   NYMNP</a></p>
e) The diversity of activities and people	<b>Activities associated with the site</b>	

<p>associated with the site</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Anglo-Saxon manor:</b> Helmsley was owned by a lord called Uhtred.</li> <li>- <b>Site of Norman power:</b> the land including the future site of Helmsley Castle was given by William the Conqueror to his half-brother, Robert de Mortain.</li> <li>- <b>Defensive structure:</b> Although very close to the crown for most of their history, the de Ros family sided with the barons during the First Baron's Revolt against King John in 1216-17. The chronicler Matthew Paris reported that in 1216, Robert de Ros held Helmsley Castle against King John during his northern campaign.</li> <li>- <b>Hunting</b> – Helmsley Castle was surrounded by a park which provided space for the occupants to hunt.</li> <li>- <b>Royal entertainment:</b> In 1335, King Edward III was hosted at the castle for five days.</li> <li>- <b>Prison:</b> In October 1338, Joan Fletcher was held prisoner at Helmsley Castle. It is unclear exactly what she was accused of, but King Edward III wrote to William de Ros III (who then owned Helmsley Castle) stating that she had been excommunicated for 'contumacy' – wilful disobedience regarding the authority of the Archbishop of York. She was placed in the custody of Thomas Overton, one of the Sheriff of York's men. A plot was discovered to kill Thomas and free Joan, so Thomas took refuge in Helmsley Castle and placed Joan in the custody of William Starre, the constable there. Joan's fate after this is unknown.</li> <li>- <b>Garrison:</b> During the Civil War, Helmsley Castle became a Royalist garrison. The castle came under siege from General Fairfax and his Parliamentarian forces for three months in 1644. Eventually the castle was surrendered and the Royalist forces allowed to leave unharmed.</li> <li>- <b>Artistic inspiration:</b> many 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century artists, including JMW Turner, passed through Helmsley and sketched the ruins of Helmsley Castle.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://opendomesday.org/place/SE6183/helmsley/">https://opendomesday.org/place/SE6183/helmsley/</a></p> <p>Helmsley Castle school visits website <a href="#">School Visits to Helmsley Castle   English Heritage</a></p> <p>Kenyon J, <i>Helmsley Castle</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2017) <a href="#">Buy Guidebook: Helmsley Castle   English Heritage</a></p>
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- **Community resource:** During the 19<sup>th</sup> century and into the 20<sup>th</sup> century, community events such as historical pageants and agricultural shows were held at the castle. In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Helmsley Tennis Club had their courts in the inner bailey.
- **Military training ground:** In 1876, the 10<sup>th</sup> North Riding of Yorkshire Rifle Volunteer Company drilled there.
- **Site of archaeological interest:** Having such a long history, Helmsley Castle became a site of archaeological interest. The first serious excavations were undertaken in 1967 and 1968, with further work done in 1973. The most recent survey was carried out in 2023 and found evidence of other rooms which are no longer visible, possibly including an early but undated hall and chapel.
- **Educational and tourism visits:** Helmsley Castle is maintained by English Heritage who interpret the site for visitors. They also offer educational visits for school groups.
- **Community arts venue:** In 2024, Helmsley Castle was the site of a project by the artist Ed Carter. He created art installations in the cellar and west range, based on characteristics of local wildlife.

#### People associated with the site

- Alongside the named people below, there would have been a significant amount of people who worked at the castle who we have very little record of. Even those whose positions are mentioned in some of the records (e.g. the chaplain) are not named.
- **William the Conqueror** (r.1066–1087) gifted the land on which Helmsley Castle now sits to his half-brother – **Robert, Count de Mortain** (c.1091–c.1095). The land was taken away from Count Robert when he rebelled against William’s son, William II (r.1087–1100).
- **Walter Espec** (d.1153), a Justiciar to the Royal Court, was granted the land at Helmsley in 1122. He built the first castle on

the site, although, apart from the earthworks, there is little surviving evidence of it. Walter also granted the land on which Rievaulx Abbey sits and it is thought he retired to the abbey before he died in 1154.

- **Abbot Aelred of Rievaulx** (1110–67) – a friend of Walter Espec. He wrote a vivid description of Walter Espec, so we know his physical features. He also wrote a description of a castle that is possibly based on Helmsley Castle.
- **Robert de Ros II** (c.1186–1227) – also known as Fursan – most of the castle that exists today was built by him. Robert campaigned with **King John** (r.1199–1216) in Ireland in 1210 but later sided against him during the baron’s revolt. He was one of the twenty-five barons chosen to hold King John to the provisions of the Magna Carta in 1215. In 1216 he held Helmsley Castle against King John during the king’s northern campaign. Robert was a witness to the third issue of Magna Carta in 1225.
- **Isabella** (1175–1240), illegitimate daughter of William the Lion, King of Scots - she was married to Robert de Ros II.
- **William de Ros I** (d.1258) – he supported Prince Louis of France over King Henry II (r.1154–1189). He was taken prisoner at the Battle of Lincoln in May 1217 when Louis’ supporters were defeated by William Marshal, Earl of Pembroke. He was released later that year following payment of sureties.
- **Robert de Ros III** (d.1285) – in 1264 he helped to defeat Henry III at the Battle of Lewes and take him and his son prisoner. Later that year he was summoned to the parliament of Simon de Montfort, leader of the dissident barons against Henry III.
- **Isabel d’Aubigny** (c.1233–1301)– a powerful heiress who was married to Robert de Ros III. It is thought that her money from the Belvoir estates was used to improve Helmsley Castle.
- **William de Ros III** (d.1343) – he was a military commander for King Edward III (r.1327–1377) and fought at the battle of Crécy in France and in Scotland. He died whilst travelling to Prussia (now

	<p>part of Germany, Poland, Russia and Lithuania) with the Duke of Lancaster.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>King Edward III</b> – he stayed at Helmsley Castle for five days in 1334.</li> <li>- <b>William Starre</b> – constable of Helmsley Castle in 1338. He took charge of <b>Joan Fletcher</b>, a prisoner.</li> <li>- <b>John de la More</b> – porter at Helmsley Castle c.1344. He was responsible for castle security.</li> <li>- <b>Thomas de Ros III</b> (d.1464) – sided with the Lancastrian supporters of Henry VI (r.1422-61 and 1470-71.) Following the loss to the Yorkists at the Battle of Hexham in 1464 he was captured and executed. As a result, Helmsley Castle passed into the ownership of the Crown.</li> <li>- <b>King Richard III</b> (r.1483–1485) – when he was Duke of Gloucester (prior to becoming king) Richard was granted Helmsley Castle.</li> <li>- <b>Edmund de Ros</b> (d.1508) – on the accession of King Henry VII (r.1485–1509) Helmsley Castle was returned to the de Ros family. Edmund was considered to be ‘not of sufficient discretion to guyde himself and his lyvelode (livelihood), nor able to serve his highness after his duties.’ (He was considered unable to manage his finances and estates, or to serve the king.) It is possible he had a developmental disability, but the records are not clear. Helmsley Castle was managed by his brother-in-law, <b>Thomas Lovell</b>.</li> <li>- <b>Thomas Manners, Earl of Rutland</b> (d.1543) – he inherited Helmsley Castle in 1513. Thomas was a member of Henry VIII’s (r.1509–1547) court. After the suppression of Rievaulx Abbey in 1538, he salvaged the west window of the abbey church to be used in the chapel at Helmsley Castle.</li> <li>- <b>Edward Manners</b> (1549–87) – he refurbished Helmsley Castle as a grand country house, incorporating the coat of arms of himself and his wife, <b>Isabel Holcroft</b>, into the decoration of the</li> </ul>	
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	<p>first-floor rooms in the west range. Isabel was a maid of honour to Queen Elizabeth I (r.1558–1603).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Peter Ursulay</b> – a plasterer who worked on the refurbishment at Helmsley Castle in 1580.</li> <li>- <b>Katherine Manners, Duchess of Buckingham</b> (d.1649), inherited Helmsley Castle in 1632 through her father. She had married King James' I's (r.1603–1625) close friend, George Villiers, in 1620 but he died in 1628. She was part of the court of King Charles I (r.1625–1649) and became one of his favourites. A contemporary described her as a woman of 'very great wit and spirit.'</li> <li>- <b>Sir Jordan Crosland</b> – commander of the Royalist troops that used Helmsley Castle as a Royalist garrison during the Civil War. He was the son of the castle's steward. The castle was besieged from August to November 1644 by Parliamentary forces led by General Fairfax. Eventually, running out of food and other supplies, Crosland negotiated a surrender, and the Royalist troops were allowed the leave unharmed.</li> <li>- <b>General Thomas Fairfax</b> (1612–1671) – during the Civil War, General Fairfax commanded the Parliamentary troops that put Helmsley Castle under siege for three months in 1644. He was shot in the shoulder by one of the soldiers at Helmsley Castle but survived.</li> <li>- <b>George Villiers – 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke of Buckingham</b> (d.1687, son of Katherine Manners and George Villiers, 1<sup>st</sup> Duke of Buckingham) – he restored the Tudor apartments following King Charles II's restoration to the throne in 1660. He took up residence at Helmsley Castle with his wife <b>Mary Fairfax</b>, the daughter of General Fairfax who had previously besieged the castle.</li> <li>- <b>John Etty of York</b> – he undertook wainscot work (the creation of wood panelling) at Helmsley Castle in 1666.</li> <li>- <b>Charles Duncombe</b> (1648–1711) – a London banker, he bought Helmsley Castle and estate in 1695.</li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Thomas Duncombe</b> (d.1746) – he was the brother-in-law and business partner of Charles Duncombe and took his surname upon inheriting the Helmsley estate. He built a new house at Duncombe Park in 1713: Helmsley Castle was never lived in after this. Thomas was a Member of Parliament between 1711 and 1741.</li> <li>- <b>JMW Turner</b> (1775–1851)– the artist sketched the ruins of Helmsley Castle.</li> <li>- <b>Charles Norris Gray</b> (1840–1913) - the vicar of All Saints' Church, he often held community events in the castle. These included historical pageants in 1897 and 1898, fetes, parish events, agricultural shows and a tennis tournament.</li> <li>- <b>Sir Charles Peers</b> (1868–1952) – Chief Inspector of Monuments for the Office of Works (which became English Heritage in 1983). He commissioned restoration work between 1923 and 1933.</li> <li>- <b>Tom Dale</b> (1872–1950) – he was one of the first custodians of the castle. He had served with Lord Feversham on the Western Front during the first world war and his association with the family led to his appointment as custodian afterwards. He worked at Helmsley Castle until 1947.</li> <li>- <b>Ed Carter</b> – he is an award-winning composer, sound artist, and interdisciplinary practitioner. In 2024, as part of the Ryevitalise project, he created a soundscape and art installation at Helmsley Castle, to encourage conversations about how we can build a safe space for plants and creatures around the River Rye.</li> </ul>	
f) The reasons for changes to the site and to the way it was used	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The site has had multiple building phases as it developed as a defensive and domestic structure.</li> <li>• The earthworks were one of the first features of the castle to be constructed and it is likely that the first castle was made of wood and sat on top of them. Later, stone structures replaced the earlier wooden buildings and the remnants of several periods of</li> </ul>	Kenyon J, <i>Helmsley Castle</i> , English Heritage Guidebooks (2017) <a href="#">Buy Guidebook: Helmsley Castle   English Heritage</a>



	<p>construction can be seen in the inner bailey. The change from wooden to stone construction was common in castles of this period, as people realised that stone provided better security, durability and longevity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From 1157, Helmsley Castle became the primary residence for the de Ros family. Due to the changeable political situation in England, as well as a desire to live in an up-to-date and fashionable residence, the castle was upgraded to function as both a domestic and defensive complex. During the 12<sup>th</sup>- and 13<sup>th</sup>- centuries the castle's defensive features were built and added to, with the curtain wall, keep, towers, barbicans and drawbridge pits being created. The castle also underwent significant refurbishment of the domestic buildings.</li> <li>• Throughout much of the 14<sup>th</sup>-century, the de Ros family switched their main residence to Belvoir Castle in Leicestershire. However, documentary evidence shows that Helmsley Castle was still maintained in a good state of repair. Records show that the castle was surrounded by orchards and two parks, suggesting that the family used the castle as a base for leisure pursuits such as hunting.</li> <li>• During the 16<sup>th</sup>-century, Helmsley Castle was refurbished as a grand country manor for the Manners family. Their main residence was still Belvoir Castle, but it is clear from the refurbishment of the west range into apartments that the family intended to use Helmsley Castle for at least some of the time. However, an inventory of 1636 mentions that a lot of the furniture was 'old', which suggests that the family did not actually spend much time there.</li> <li>• During the Civil War, Helmsley Castle once again became a defensive structure. It was used as a Royalist garrison and was</li> </ul>	
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under siege from Parliamentary troops between August and November 1644. Running out of food and other supplies, the Royalist commander Sir Jordan Crosland negotiated a surrender. As part of the terms of the surrender, the castle was ordered to be slighted and parts of the curtain wall and the east tower were subsequently pulled down, ensuring that the castle could never again be used defensively. There was, however, enough remaining of the castle for it to be used as a prison for Royalist soldiers during the second Civil War in 1648.

- When Thomas Duncombe inherited the Helmsley estate in 1711, he commissioned a new, more fashionable, mansion to be constructed in Duncombe Park. From 1713, the castle was permanently uninhabited, and it became part of the park landscape.
- As the castle had a large, central, unoccupied space, the local community began to use it for events. In the 1890s the local vicar, Charles Norris Gray, organised historical pageants, fetes, community events, an agricultural show and a tennis tournament in the grounds. Helmsley Tennis Club had their courts in the grounds.
- The site was taken into guardianship by the Office of Works in 1923 and major repairs and additions were undertaken over the next ten years to make the site more accessible and suitable for tourism, including building the four wooden bridges that enable public access to the inner bailey.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helmsley Castle became a site of archaeological exploration. In 1967 and 1968 archaeological excavations were carried out, with further work undertaken in 1973. Many of the objects that were discovered can be seen in the exhibition at Helmsley Castle or at Helmsley Archaeology Store. The most recent survey was carried out in 2023 and found evidence of other rooms which are no longer visible, possibly including an original hall and chapel.</li> <li>• In 1983 the property transferred to the care of English Heritage and it is now a popular visitor attraction, including for school visitors.</li> </ul>	
g) Significant times in the site's past: peak activity, major developments, turning points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helmsley manor was owned by an Anglo-Saxon lord named Uhtred prior to the Battle of Hastings in 1066. Following William the Conqueror's victory, the land where Helmsley Castle sits was given to his half-brother, Count Robert de Mortain.</li> <li>• During the winter of 1069–70 the Harrying of the North took place. The worth of Helmsley manor fell from 32 shillings to 10 shillings.</li> <li>• The first castle was built by Walter Espec sometime after he was granted the land in 1122. It is possible he was prompted to build the castle following the invasion of David I of Scotland (r.1124–53) in 1138. Walter was one of the commanders who defeated David at the Battle of the Standard in Northallerton, around 20 miles away.</li> <li>• The majority of the castle was built after 1191, during the time that Robert de Ros II owned the land. Due to the political situation in England, Robert commissioned many defensive features, such as the curtain wall, east tower and two gatehouses. Robert sided</li> </ul>	<p>Kenyon J, <i>Helmsley Castle</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2017) <a href="#">Buy Guidebook: Helmsley Castle   English Heritage</a></p> <p><a href="#">Helmsley Castle: twelfth century ringwork, twelfth to fourteenth century enclosure castle and sixteenth century mansion, Helmsley - 1009963   Historic England</a></p>

with the barons during their revolt against King John and was one of the 25 barons chosen in 1215 to ensure that King John adhered to the provisions of Magna Carta. Robert successfully held Helmsley Castle against King John during his northern campaign of 1216. He was a witness to the third issue of Magna Carta in 1225.

- Ownership of Helmsley Castle was removed from the de Ros family during the Wars of the Roses (1455–85), which were fought between the houses of Lancaster and York. Thomas supported the Lancastrian Henry VI (r.1422–61). Following the Lancastrian defeat at the Battle of Hexham in 1464, Thomas was executed. In March 1478, the castle was granted to Richard of Gloucester, the future King Richard III (r.1483–85). After Richard's death at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485, Helmsley Castle was restored to the de Ros family.
- By the 1500s, the castle was being used more as a luxurious domestic residence than a defensive fortress. Thomas Manners commissioned the redevelopment of the west tower and the creation of apartments in the west range. The latrine tower was modernised and a new wing built between the west range and the chapel, with a long gallery on the top floor.
- During the Civil War, Helmsley Castle was used as a Royalist garrison for 200 troops. Following the surrender of the garrison after a 3-month siege in 1644, the slighting of the castle was ordered by the Parliamentary side. The walls and gates were blasted open, and part of the east tower was pulled down. This was a significant turning point in the history of the castle, as this action ensured it would never again be used as a defensive structure. The explosions that blasted the tower would have been

	<p>heard in the local town. The local people's view of the castle as a symbol of the lord's power was changed forever.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following the restoration of Charles II to the throne in 1660, George Villiers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke of Buckingham, took ownership of Helmsley Castle and refurbished the Tudor apartments. The castle became a residence once more.</li> <li>• In 1711, Thomas Duncombe, the castle's owner, commissioned the building of a new mansion in Duncombe Park, which surrounds the castle. Upon the new house's completion in 1713 he moved into it. This was the end of Helmsley Castle being used as a domestic residence.</li> <li>• The castle was used by the local community in the 1800s and 1900s, with community events being held in its grounds.</li> <li>• English Heritage began to care for Helmsley Castle in 1983 and the castle became a place where the public could learn about its history, as well as being a visitor attraction for Helmsley.</li> <li>• As it has such an extensive history, Helmsley Castle was the site of several archaeological investigations between 1967 to 2023.</li> </ul>	
h) The significance of specific features in the physical remains at the site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helmsley Castle is an important and unusually substantial example of a twelfth century earthwork castle which developed into an enclosure castle of equally atypical form. It is important for providing an almost complete picture of construction and modification from the twelfth to the sixteenth centuries.</li> </ul> <p>The construction of two great towers, for example, instead of a single keep, is an especially uncommon feature for the period. In addition to the good state of preservation of all its standing</p>	<p>Kenyon J, <i>Helmsley Castle</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2017) <a href="#">Buy Guidebook: Helmsley Castle   English Heritage</a></p> <p>Goodall, J. A. A., <i>The English Castle</i>, Yale University Press (2011)</p>

	<p>remains, the castle is important for providing an almost complete picture of construction and modification from the twelfth to the sixteenth centuries. Changes relating both to its fortifications and to fashions in domestic arrangements are well represented, showing, in particular, the late medieval shift from communal life to greater privacy and domestic comfort.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Also significant is the survival of buildings which remained in use during the post-medieval period, particularly those that were adapted into high-status accommodation such as the apartments in the west range.</li> </ul> <p>Some specific significant features are:</p> <p><b>The west tower</b> The development of the domestic arrangements for the castle's owners can be seen in this tower. It is possible to see the original basement and two-storey building, with the later additions of a third and fourth floor, fireplaces, latrines and larger, mullioned windows.</p> <p><b>The latrine tower</b> This shows the development of domestic sanitary arrangements from the 12th to the 16th century.</p> <p><b>The south-west range</b> This is a rare example of a domestic structure in a 12th-century castle. It demonstrates the development of domestic arrangements, with a kitchen, pantry, buttery and serving area visible.</p> <p><b>East tower</b> Not only does the tower dominate the landscape over the town of Helmsley, but its slighted and ruined exterior reflects the impact of the Civil War (1642– 51). The design of the tower is unusual, being D-</p>	<p>English Heritage YouTube Channel, <i>A Mini Guide to Medieval Castles   Animated History</i> (2017) <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RXXDThkJ3Ew">www.youtube.com/watch?v=RXXDThkJ3Ew</a></p> <p><a href="#">Helmsley Castle: twelfth century ringwork, twelfth to fourteenth century enclosure castle and sixteenth century mansion, Helmsley - 1009963   Historic England</a></p>
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	<p>shaped externally and faceted internally. This shows the innovation in castle design during the 12th-century.</p> <p><b>The south barbican</b> This has a strong defensive impact on approaching visitors and its use as a domestic space demonstrates further the development of domestic arrangements at the castle.</p> <p><b>The defensive earthworks</b> This type of earthwork is rare nationally with only 200 recorded examples and less than 60 with baileys. The earthworks would have required an enormous feat of engineering and are amongst the most substantial of any castle in the country. Although they have suffered from some excessive re-profiling, they remain significant in terms of the visual impact of the site.</p> <p><b>The exhibition</b> The collections housed in the exhibition are significant as they reflect domestic life from the span of time the castle was occupied. Included in the exhibition is an unexploded mortar from the Civil War period, found in the ruined north-east tower. It is likely that a similar mortar to this one caused the damage to the tower.</p>	
i) The importance of the whole site either locally or nationally, as appropriate	<p><b>The construction of the castle</b> Helmsley Castle is an example of an enclosure castle built inside a ringwork. Ringworks are medieval fortifications built and occupied from the late Anglo-Saxon period to the later 12th century. They are rare nationally with only 200 recorded examples and less than 60 with baileys.</p>	<p><a href="#">Helmsley Castle: twelfth century ringwork, twelfth to fourteenth century enclosure castle and sixteenth century mansion, Helmsley - 1009963   Historic England</a></p> <p>The west range and inner ditch by Samuel Bough (1822-78) – painting</p>

	<p>The site is an enclosure castle: a defended residence or stronghold, built mainly of stone, in which the main or sole defence comprises the walls and towers around the site. Larger sites might have multiple lines of walls and there are normally mural towers on the straight sections of wall, along with gatehouses. Outside the walls a ditch, either waterfilled or dry, crossed by bridges may be found. They are rare nationally with only 126 recorded examples. The construction of two great towers within the bailey is exceptionally rare. The first enclosure castles were constructed at the time of the Norman Conquest. However, they developed considerably in form during the 12th century when defensive experience gained during the Crusades was applied to their design.</p> <p><b>The range of time periods reflected in the remains</b></p> <p>In addition to the good state of preservation of all its standing remains, Helmsley Castle is important for providing an almost complete picture of construction and modification from the twelfth to the sixteenth centuries. Changes relating both to its fortifications and to fashions in residential arrangements are well represented, showing the late medieval shift from communal life to greater privacy and domestic comfort.</p> <p><b>People associated with the castle and their impact</b></p> <p>Helmsley Castle stayed in the ownership of politically powerful families throughout the time it was inhabited. Many of its owners had strong links with the royal court and played a role in nationally significant events such as the signing of Magna Carta, the Wars of the Roses and the English Civil War.</p> <p>In addition to raising the first castle, Sir Walter Espec made important contributions to the founding of both Rievaulx Abbey and Kirkham Priory. This changed the landscape of the local area.</p>	<p>Kenyon J, <i>Helmsley Castle</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2017) <a href="#">Buy Guidebook: Helmsley Castle   English Heritage</a></p>
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	<p>In 1215, Robert de Ros, the owner of the castle, was one of the 25 lords chosen to ensure King John abided by the provision of Magna Carta. He also held Helmsley Castle against King John during John's northern campaign of 1216.</p> <p>In 1587, Helmsley Castle was owned by Thomas Manners. He was one of the jurors at the trial of Mary, Queen of Scots, which resulted in her execution.</p> <p>During the Civil War, Helmsley Castle was used as a Royalist garrison and endured a 3-month siege by Parliamentary troops led by General Thomas Fairfax. Following the surrender of the Royalist forces, Helmsley Castle was ordered to be slighted, to prevent it being used for similar purposes in the future. The defensive walls and east tower were systematically demolished, most likely over several years. Despite the destruction of the defences, the old Tudor mansion continued to be a habitable residence until 1687.</p> <p><b>Other uses of the site</b></p> <p>In the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, artists of the Picturesque movement stayed in and passed through the town of Helmsley. There are sketches of Helmsley Castle in the sketchbooks of JWM Turner.</p> <p>In the 1800s, Helmsley Castle became an important local community site, with the site being used to host historical pageants and fetes for the local community. The local tennis club had their courts in the inner bailey.</p> <p>Helmsley Castle is now a popular tourist attraction.</p>	
j) The typicality of the site based on	<b>Typical features</b>	Goodall, J. A. A., <i>The English Castle</i> , Yale University Press (2011)

<p>a comparison with other similar sites</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The structural and defensive features associated with Helmsley Castle demonstrate specific periods of innovation in castle design in the medieval period, some typical and others atypical.</li> <li>• The ringwork and enclosed castle combination is relatively rare in English castles, with only 200 examples of ringworks and 126 examples of enclosed castles in the whole country.</li> </ul> <p>The sheer size of Helmsley Castle's ringwork indicates that it was the centre of Walter Espec's estates and would therefore have contained important domestic buildings suitable for serving and accommodating the lord and his family and guests. This was typical of a castle of this size during this time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The addition of an outer bailey (the first is now mainly buried beneath the car park, although one bank of it is still visible, running north for around 80 metres, whilst the second still exists outside the south barbican) were typical of similar castles.</li> <li>• The defensive features are more typical of castles of a similar time period, with barbicans, gatehouses, drawbridges and portcullises seen at many similar sites. The curtain wall was originally 4.6 metres high, with a wall walk. All the towers along the wall were open-backed, which is typical of those constructed in the 13<sup>th</sup>-century.</li> </ul> <p><b>Atypical features</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The south-west range is a rare example of a domestic structure in a 12<sup>th</sup>-century castle. It shows the development of typical domestic arrangements during this time.</li> </ul>	<p>English Heritage YouTube Channel, <i>A Mini Guide to Medieval Castles   Animated History</i> (2017)  <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RXXDThkJ3Ew">www.youtube.com/watch?v=RXXDThkJ3Ew</a></p> <p>English Heritage YouTube Channel, <i>History at Home: Castles!</i> (2020)  <a href="https://youtu.be/DucGdZUgu2k">https://youtu.be/DucGdZUgu2k</a></p> <p><a href="#">Helmsley Castle: twelfth century ringwork, twelfth to fourteenth century enclosure castle and sixteenth century mansion, Helmsley - 1009963   Historic England</a></p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Having two great towers instead of one keep within an inner bailey is rare.</li> <li>• The east tower itself is unusual, being D-shaped externally but faceted internally. This demonstrates some of the innovations in castle design taking place during the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Originally the chapel would have been on the first floor of this structure, prior to the separate chapel being built before its consecration in 1246.</li> </ul>	
k) What the site reveals about everyday life, attitudes and values in particular periods of history	<p><b>Everyday life</b></p> <p>Although many of the people associated with Helmsley Castle are anything but 'everyday', being nobility, we do see some aspects of the site that speak to the everyday. The kitchen range, pantry, buttery, brewhouse and bakehouse reflect the importance of and need to provide fresh food and drink for all the castle's inhabitants.</p> <p>The onsite chapel speaks to the importance of religion throughout the time the chapel was inhabited. Whilst the extant chapel was converted to a kitchen during the Tudor period (the fireplace can still be seen), there may have been another chapel somewhere else on the site.</p> <p><b>Defensive fortification</b></p> <p>Politically, the site made a statement to the local community, showing that the Normans were now in control. The extensive defensive features added to Helmsley Castle between the 10<sup>th</sup>- and 14<sup>th</sup>- centuries show that there was a perceived threat to the castle's inhabitants.</p> <p>The redevelopment of the west range into a mansion house during the 16<sup>th</sup>-century reflects the fundamental shift away from castle architecture towards palatial and more overtly non-defensive appearances. However, as the castle was used as a Royalist garrison in 1644 during the Civil War, the need for defensive features had not entirely disappeared.</p>	<p>Kenyon J, <i>Helmsley Castle</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2017) <a href="#">Buy Guidebook: Helmsley Castle   English Heritage</a></p>

	<p><b>Romanticism</b> Like many ruined historical sites, Helmsley Castle has served its time as a romantic ruin. Many 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-century artists passed through Helmsley and sketched or painted the castle's ruins.</p> <p><b>Community event space</b> In the 19<sup>th</sup>-century, the castle was used by the local community as it hosted fetes, historical pageants and an agricultural show. In the early 20<sup>th</sup>-century, Helmsley Tennis Club had their courts in the inner bailey.</p> <p><b>Tourism</b> English Heritage began to care for the castle in 1983 and it was used as a tourist and visitor attraction. This change of use led to changes to the site, with a new Visitor Centre being constructed and the latrines being re-roofed.</p>	
<p>l) How the physical remains may prompt questions about the past and how historians frame these as valid historical enquiries</p>	<p><b>Helmsley Castle-specific questions</b></p> <p>What are some of the typical features of a castle found at Helmsley Castle? How much is it similar/different to other castles built at the time? Consider the defensive features and the domestic arrangements.</p> <p>What do the different building phases tell you about domestic life during the medieval period? What do the apartments in the west range tell you about domestic life during the Tudor period?</p> <p>What was the impact of the Civil War on the castle? What can the physical remains of the site tell us about this time period and its impact? What can we find out and what are the limitations – what might we still want to know?</p>	<p>Kenyon J, <i>Helmsley Castle</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2017) <a href="#">Buy Guidebook: Helmsley Castle   English Heritage</a></p> <p>Visit to Helmsley Castle</p>

	<p>What does the site tell you about the lives of people living at Helmsley Castle during different time periods? What can you find out about their lives from the physical remains? What do the objects on display tell us?</p> <p>How have artists chosen to represent Helmsley Castle (this could be images seen online or the reconstruction images at site)? What information would you need to give a reconstruction artist to help them create an accurate artwork?</p> <p><b>General enquiry questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What is it? What changes has it seen? What was it used for? What stories does it tell about the past? What do we still need to know?</li> <li>- Where was it built? Where was it changed? Where did the people come from who used it?</li> <li>- Who built it? Who changed it? Who used it? Who was the last person to live here?</li> <li>- When did people first live here? When was it built? When was it changed? When was it used? When did it stop being used?</li> <li>- Why was it built? Why was it changed? Why was it used? Why was this location chosen? Why should we protect it?</li> <li>- How was it built? How was it changed? How was it used? How much did it cost to build/change? How can it tell us about the past?</li> </ul>	
m) How the physical remains can inform artistic reconstructions and other interpretations of the site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The interpretation panels on site and within the exhibition space have images of the different people who have occupied the site and could be used as inspiration to populate reconstructions and interpretations of the site. The accompanying free audio tour gives further information about the castle's features.</li> </ul>	<p>Visit to Helmsley Castle</p> <p>Kenyon J, <i>Helmsley Castle</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2017) <a href="#">Buy Guidebook: Helmsley Castle   English Heritage</a></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The artefacts on display in the exhibition area can inspire interpretation of the material culture owned and used by the individuals who have lived and worked in Helmsley Castle.</li> <li>• The physical remains of the site themselves are in excellent condition. As such, they are an incredible inspiration for artistic reconstructions and interpretations. The remains have barely been augmented and have limited modern repairs. The interpretation of the remains is supported by information panels and reconstruction drawings around the site, the objects and interpretation panels in the exhibition and a free audio tour.</li> <li>• Detailed reconstructions of the site have been produced in multiple forms and can be found throughout the historic building and exhibition.</li> </ul>	
n) The challenges and benefits of studying the historic environment	<p><b>Challenges</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Difficult to interpret the physical remains of the inner bailey as they have been augmented and developed in multiple building phases with limited existing remains left on site.</li> <li>- Limited knowledge about the site once it ceases to be a residence.</li> <li>- Although there is significant knowledge and documentation of some people connected to Helmsley Castle, such as the de Ros and Manners families, this depth of knowledge does not extend to the significant number of people who would have worked at the castle.</li> </ul> <p><b>Benefits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gives a sense of place, well-being and cultural identity.</li> <li>- Defines and enhances a connection of people to a place, such as regional and local distinctiveness.</li> <li>- Stimulating and life-enhancing way to engage with history.</li> </ul>	Visit to Helmsley Castle

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Opportunity to investigate changes over time.</li><li>- Links to national events studied as part of the curriculum.</li></ul> |  |
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