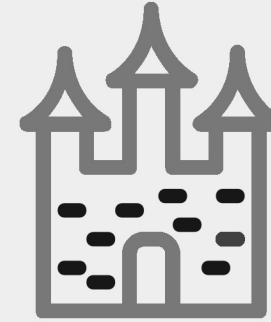


# ELCHO CASTLE



## INTRODUCTION

Elcho castle is a beautifully preserved 16th century tower house, attractively positioned on the south shores of the Tay below Perth. It was built as a country retreat for the Wemyss family, who lived mainly at Wemyss Castle in Fife. It has changed surprisingly little since it was built, apart from a new roof and new window glazing added in the 1830s. It is a particularly good place to study the theme of the castle as a home, as it has well-preserved kitchens, toilets, an orchard and a doo'cot.

The castle is in the care of Historic Environment Scotland (HES) and all visits by school groups should be booked:

<https://www.historicenvironment.scot/learn/schools/>

HES also run events for schools at the castle; see here for details:

<https://www.historicenvironment.scot/learn/schools/learning-programmes/?p=2542>

## SUGGESTIONS FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

### RESOURCES BY HES

#### **Elcho Castle: the Official Souvenir Guide**

by Ann McSween

can be bought from the HES  
online shop

(<https://shop.historic-scotland.gov.uk/books>)

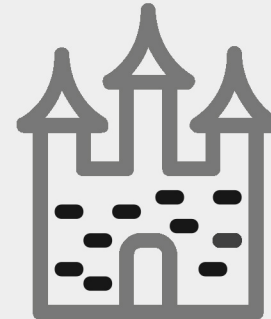
#### **Investigating Castles in Scotland**

a downloadable resource for  
teachers with background  
information and many suggestions  
for onsite activities

(<https://www.historicenvironment.scot/archives-and-research/publications/publication/?publicationId=82999a27-fcfc-4823-8036-a58500ea9845>)



# ELCHO CASTLE



## SUGGESTIONS FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

### CURRICULAR AREA

Social Studies:  
People, Past Events  
and Societies

### EXPERIENCES & OUTCOMES

By exploring places,  
investigating artefacts and  
locating them in time, I  
have developed an  
awareness of the ways we  
remember and preserve  
Scotland's history.  
SOC 1-02a

I can use evidence to  
recreate the story of a  
place or individual of local  
historical interest.  
SOC 1-03a

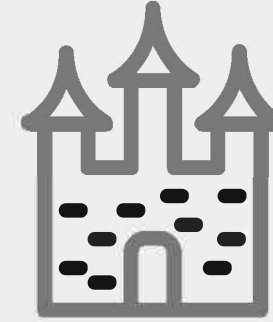
### KEY LEARNING ACTIVITIES

While visiting the castle,  
pupils look for answers to  
their questions, and  
record evidence through  
taking photographs or  
sketching.

After their visit they can  
share their information.

All material could be  
collated into a class  
guidebook.

# ELCHO CASTLE



## PUPIL RESOURCES

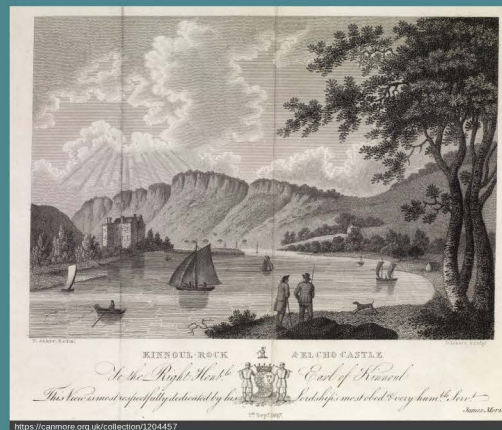


AERIAL IMAGE OF ELCHO CASTLE

Why do you think the castle was built in this place?

Modern aerial photograph.

canmore\_image\_DP00135859 canmore\_image\_DP0008292



ELCHO CASTLE IN 1807

Compare this picture with modern pictures. What has changed? What has stayed the same?

Engraving of Elcho castle and Kinnoull rock, from the north side of the river.



ELCHO CASTLE WITH WATER MILL, 1756

What can you see in front of the castle? What do you think it was used for?

<http://digital.nls.uk/scotia-dpicta/pageturner.cfm?id=74582384&mode=fullsize>

(78) Plate XXXVI/b

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[Plate XXXVI/a](#)



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[Plate XXXVII/a](#)



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(78)Plate XXXVI/b

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Scotia depicta

Description	Over 100 pictorial works and text pages relating to 19th century Scotland's antiquities, cities towns and picturesque scenery. Contains engravings of abbeys, castles, public buildings, battle grounds, harbours and landscapes. John Claude Nattes made drawings of suitable scenes on the spot; etchings are by James Fittler.
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