

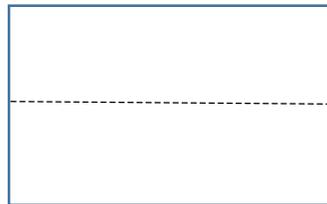
Where are we?

Start on the walkway

Find a spot on the walkway around the keep where your group can stand and look at the view.

Draw the view

1. Take a piece of paper (or a page from your exercise book) and fold it in half horizontally.



2. Look out at the view of the Ribble valley. On the outside of the folded paper, draw the view you can see today. Include as much detail as you can: the hills, fields, houses, shops, church, factories, park, roads, railway, car parks for example.
3. Imagine it is the year 1100 AD. This is when Clitheroe castle was first built. It was the only castle keep the Normans built in the area. About 30 years before the Normans built the Clitheroe castle, the Forest of Bowland was planted. Discuss: Which of the things that you have drawn would you have been able to see 900 years ago? Which things were built or changed later on?
4. On the inside of the folded paper, draw the view you think you would have seen in 1100 AD, 900 years ago.

Discuss

Why do you think the Normans chose to build Clitheroe castle here?

If you have time

Discuss why you think there are no other castles in the Ribble valley.



What is this place made of?

Start at the bottom of the keep steps

Clitheroe castle keep sits on top of a mound of rock. At the bottom of the steps up to the keep there is a tarmacked area and play zone. If you stand in this tarmacked area, you can get a good look at the rocky mound.

Inspect the mound

- Look closely at the rocky mound. What colour is the rock? Does it have patterns? Can you see shapes? On your paper, write down as many words as you can to describe the rock.
- Touch the rock (do not climb on it). What does it feel like? Add some more words to your description.
- Make a quick drawing on your paper to record the shape and texture of the rock.
- If the rock is dry, take a rubbing by holding your paper against the rock and shading the paper with your pencil, pressing against the rock. You will be able to see the texture of the rock.

Inspect the keep

Climb the steps to the keep and then down the steps on the other side, so that you can walk right up to the outside walls of the keep. Stand close to one of the walls.

- Look closely at the outside wall of the keep. Describe the rock it was built from. Write down as many words as you can to describe the rock that was used to build the keep wall.
- Touch the keep's walls. What does it feel like? Add some more words to your description.
- Choose one of the stones in the keep wall and make a quick drawing to record the shape and texture.
- If it is dry, take a rubbing of the keep wall.

Compare

Look at your descriptions of the rock of the mound and the rock of the keep walls. Are they the same or different?

Discuss

The keep is made from limestone. The mound is limestone too. What differences did you notice?

What is this place made of?

The limestone of the mound is natural. The limestone used to build the keep was carved into blocks with hammers and sharp tools.

Why do you think limestone was used to build the keep?

If you have time

Draw a picture of the mound and castle without the railings or walkways. Label the limestone in your drawing.



What is this place for?

Start inside the castle

This tower, on a mound, is called a keep.

Measure the keep

Clitheroe castle's keep is one of the smallest keeps in the UK. Measure the floor inside the keep.

1. Work with a partner, one drawing and writing, one measuring.
2. The floor of the keep is roughly square. Draw a square on your paper.
3. You are going to measure each side of the square floor. If you don't have a ruler or tape measure with you don't worry! Measure using your feet.
4. Stand in one corner, with the heel of one foot in the corner as close to the walls as you can comfortably get it.
5. Put your other foot in front of the first, heel to toe.
6. Walk along like this, heel to toe, sticking close to the wall, until you reach the next corner. Count your steps as you go.
7. Write the number of steps on one side of the square you drew.
8. Measure the other three walls the same way.

Measure the keep's walls

Use your feet to measure how thick the walls are. You can see how thick the walls are by walking through one of the openings in the wall people use to go in and out of the keep.

Write your measurement on your drawing.

Discuss

Why are the walls so thick?

Look around inside

The keep is always the strongest part of a castle. Other parts of the castle included a great hall, chapel and stables, surrounded by a wall. Clitheroe castle used to have these, but over time they have been destroyed or changed. The keep is the only original part of the castle that is still standing.



What is this place for?

Clitheroe castle was never attacked, but there were sometimes soldiers in the keep for defence. Can you spot:

- The doorway the soldiers would have used to get in. It is high up – the wooden stairs they used to climb up to it no longer exist.
- The slots in the walls that were the beams of wood that held up the floors used to be.
- The slit windows that let in a little light.
- The sky up above you. The keep used to have a roof!

If you have time

There were no fireplaces in the keep. What do you think it felt like in the keep 900 years ago?

Make a list of all the good things and the bad things about being a soldier here in the past.

How has this building changed?

Start outside the keep

Find a spot where your group can gather together and look at the keep. Make sure you can see the side that has a large roundish hole.

The keep has changed a lot over its 900 year history. In 1649, Parliament decided that many castles around Britain should be allowed to decay. This was just after a long civil war, and Parliament didn't want to have to pay to look after these castles – and they didn't want people to use the castles for more fighting either.

Compare

The drawing on the back of this card shows what the keep looked like in 1848, after many years of being left without being looked after. After the drawing was made, the new owner, the Duke of Buccleuch, decided to repair the castle.

Compare the drawing from 1848 to the keep today.

- How did the Duke change the keep?
- Why do you think he had the changes made?

Discuss stories

Look at the large round hole in one of the keep's walls. There are many stories about how this hole was made:

- One story is that the hole was made by Oliver Cromwell during the civil war 1642-1649, when he fired a cannon at it from the top of Pendle Hill.
- Another story is that the devil made the hole by throwing a boulder from Pendle Hill.
- Historians think it is more likely that the hole was originally a small window, and the hole became bigger when part of the wall collapsed.
- Which story do you think is true and why? Which story is your favourite and why?

If you have time

Make up your own story about Clitheroe castle that explains how it changed over time. Your story could explain:

- how the damage to the keep that you can see in the drawing from 1848 happened
- how the keep was repaired so that it looks the way it does today
- what happened to the other buildings that used to be part of the castle
- what will happen to the castle next.

Drawing of Clitheoe Castle, 1848



Courtesy of Ribble Valley Borough Council and Lancashire Museum Service

What can buildings tell us?

Start outside the keep

Find a spot where your group can gather together and see the castle keep and the mound it is sitting on.

When did you spot the keep?

Think back to when you were travelling to Clitheroe castle today.

- When did you first spot the keep? Was it a long or short time before you arrived?
- Do you live in or near Clitheroe? If you do, can you see the keep from your home?
- Why is it easy to see the keep?

Describe the keep

1. Look carefully at the keep. Think about the size and shape of the keep, and the material it is made from.
2. Stand in a circle with your group.
3. Go around the circle, with each person saying one word that describes the keep.
4. Keep going around the circle without repeating any words that have already been said.
5. Don't stop until everyone has run out of words to describe the keep!

Why is the keep like this?

The keep was built in the year 1100 AD, after the Normans had become the new rulers of England. William the Conqueror came from Normandy (which is now part of France). After the Battle of Hastings in 1066, William became King of England. He had friends who were Norman dukes, and he gave them bits of land around England. The Norman dukes built castles with keeps on their land – this is one of them. There are a few reasons why the dukes built castles:

- To have a strong building where soldiers could stay and defend the duke's land.
- To make sure the local people could always see the duke's castle so they knew the duke was in charge.
- To show off that they had enough money to build a castle.
- To make themselves look powerful and important.

How does the design of the keep, and the materials it is made from, make its owner look strong, powerful, rich and important?

If the keep could talk

Imagine the keep could talk. What would its voice sound like? What would it say? Would it be friendly or scary?



What can buildings tell us?

Work with a partner. One partner can be the keep, another can be a local person in 1100 AD. Act out a conversation between the castle and the local person, then swap over and act out another conversation.

If you have time

Redesign the keep so that it doesn't make its owner look strong, powerful, rich or important. Draw a new keep that makes its owner look weak or silly. Think about the size and shape of the new keep, where it should be built, and what it should be made from.

Who was here?

Start outside the keep

Find a spot where your group can stand together and see the castle keep and the museum building.

The keep

The keep was built in the year 1100 AD for the de Lacy family, who were Normans (from what is now France). There were probably people living nearby already, but the town would have looked very different to Clitheroe today. The de Lacy family didn't live at Clitheroe Castle, they had another castle in Pontefract that was their home.

The stewards' house

Look out for the building near the keep, which is now a museum. It was built in 1742. This is where the castle stewards lived. It was their job to look after the keep. Many different people lived and worked here as castle stewards over the years until 1945.

Imagine the people who were here before

The keep has been here for more than 900 years. Lots of people have come and gone. Can you imagine them? Here some people to think about:

- The builders who built the keep in 1100.
- The local people who saw the keep being built.
- King Henry VI when he was held prisoner in the keep in the 15th century.
- The stewards who looked after the castle. (Between 1826 and 1878, the stewards were called Mr and Mrs Robinson).
- Naughty children who climbed over the walls of the castle in the 1910s to sneak into the keep and chase the peacocks who were kept in the grounds.
- People who visited the dentist here in the 1920s. (It's true! The castle, the land around it and the stewards' house were sold to the council. Sometimes it was used as a clinic and dentist).
- People who visited the war memorial here after the First World War to remember people whose lives had been changed or ended by war.
- Children who visit the keep and play in the park on school trips.



Who was here?

Write about a day at Clitheroe Castle

Choose a group of people from the list above and write a few sentences describing Clitheroe Castle from their point of view. What would the castle look like to them? How would they feel about it?

If you have time

Draw a picture to illustrate your piece of writing.