



Find out about Auchinleck House's past...

Greetings, you young rascal, and welcome to my house. You might have heard of me – I'm James Boswell, and I was a rascal all my life.

I was born in 1740 and I'm famous for the diaries I kept. I put everything down on paper – the things I did (good and bad), the people I met (polite and rude), what I thought. Have a look on the bookcases in the library at Auchinleck (say 'ock-in-leck') House, there are lots of my diaries there.

My father was the 8th **Laird** of Auchinleck. I was 20 when he started to build Auchinleck House in 1755. Don't you think it looks a bit like a Roman temple? That's what was fashionable to live in then if you were rich.



Fact:

Laird is the Scottish word for Lord.



Father was a judge in Edinburgh and so important they made him a lord. You can see him in his red robes downstairs. He was pretty strict and very good at putting crooks in prison – or even hanging them if they did something bad enough!

He wanted me to be a lawyer too, and sent me to law school when I was 19. It was much too boring for me. I wanted to be a writer, and to live in London, so I ran away there.

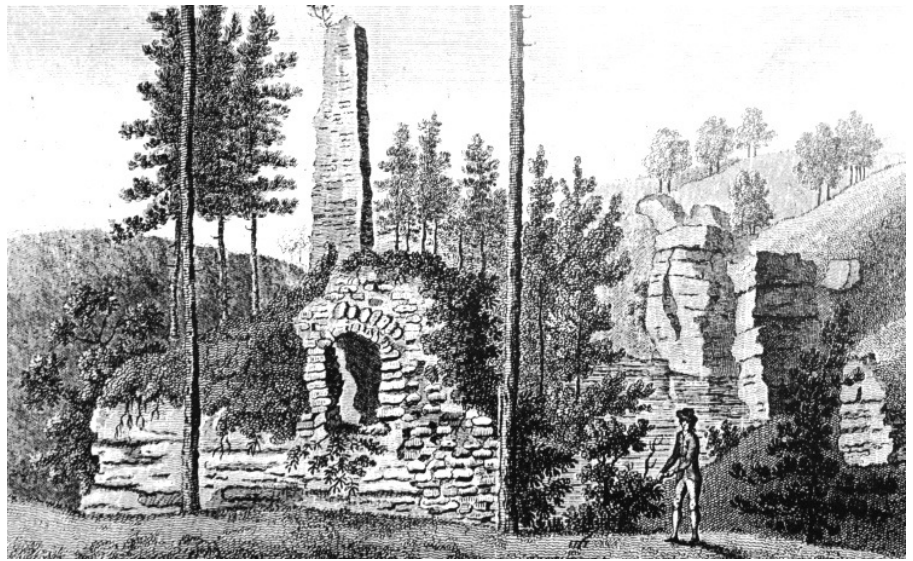
But then Father made me come back to Scotland to pass my exams. When I did, he said I could be a lawyer in London. Wahoo!

So from then on I spent more time in London than here at Auchinleck House. I soon gave up being a lawyer – I was having too much fun at parties and drinking in pubs. I was best friends with a very clever man called Dr Samuel Johnson. He wrote the first English Dictionary but wasn't as boring as he sounds! We had lots of adventures together and I wrote a book about him – and I brought him to Scotland, including here to meet my father. They didn't get on – there's a surprise!





I never really liked Scotland, London was much more exciting. But sometimes I would miss the countryside, especially walking through the trees to the ruins of the old castle on cliff. It was very peaceful there.



Fact:

Inherited (say 'in-hair-it-ed') is when you are left something like money or a house by someone who has died. It is normally written down on a piece of paper called a **will**.

When my father died and I **inherited** Auchinleck House. I didn't want to live in Scotland all the time so I left Mr Bruce, the steward in charge. He made sure that the house and land were looked after.

When I did go to Auchinleck I had big parties with my friends. We would have lots of fun laughing, dancing, playing cards and drink lots and lots of wine. I would go on morning walks with Mr Bruce around the grounds. I loved these walks best in spring once the snowdrops had flowered. It was magical.

Auchinleck passed down through my family and in the Second World War it was used to house French, Canadian and Polish soldiers. Through the years it wasn't looked after very well and started to fall apart. But don't worry; this story has a happy ending! The Landmark Trust saved and repaired it so that you can be here today. I hope you enjoy your stay here!

If you had a party here what would you do?

Unruly Rulers



Who were the Georgians?

The **Georgians** were nobles from Germany. George I was King James I's great grandson. So when Queen Anne died with no heirs George became king. They are called **Georgians** because they are all called George (apart from William – but he wasn't meant to be king anyway!) Their surname was **Hanover** so this time is also called the **Hanoverian** (say 'han-o-ver-ee-an') period.



1714 **King George I**

A king from Germany who couldn't speak much English. He kept his wife in prison for 32 years - how mean!



King George II 1727

A boring king who only liked to fight battles. He died on the toilet of constipation, pooh!

1760 **King George III**

A popular king who went mad. He started talking to an oak tree in Windsor thinking it was Frederick the Great! Poor Georgie, he had to stop ruling as he was so mad.



George III's son George IV had to step in and rule as Prince Regent. This was called the **Regency Period**.



King George IV 1820

A bad king who ruined all his dad's hard work. He loved to drink, eat and party!

1830 **King William IV**

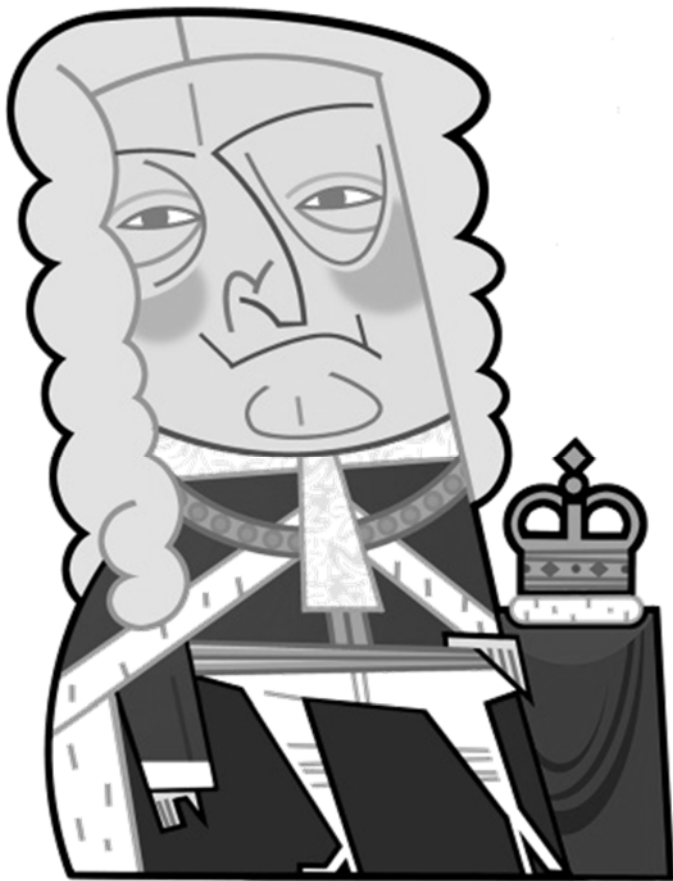
A simple king who wanted to be a sailor but was too stupid to command a ship. He would sometimes offer people a lift in his carriage!





Meet King George II

– who ruled when this Landmark was built.



Hi Georgie!

So when did you become king?

I became King on 11 June 1727 when I was 44.

What are you most famous for?

I was the last British King to lead an army into battle (of course we won!)

What is your favourite thing to do?

I can't choose – I love stag-hunting and playing cards after dinner!

What is the naughtiest thing you've ever done?

I once tried to swim the castle moat to see my mother who had been put in prison by my dad.



What does Auchinleck House look like?

Can you walk all the way around it?

Can you use any of these words to describe the building? Draw a circle around the ones that do.

Does Auchinleck House look like other buildings in the area? What's different about it?

Castle

Pretty

Stone

Symmetrical

Square

Friendly

Tall

Industrial

Brick

Home

Elegant

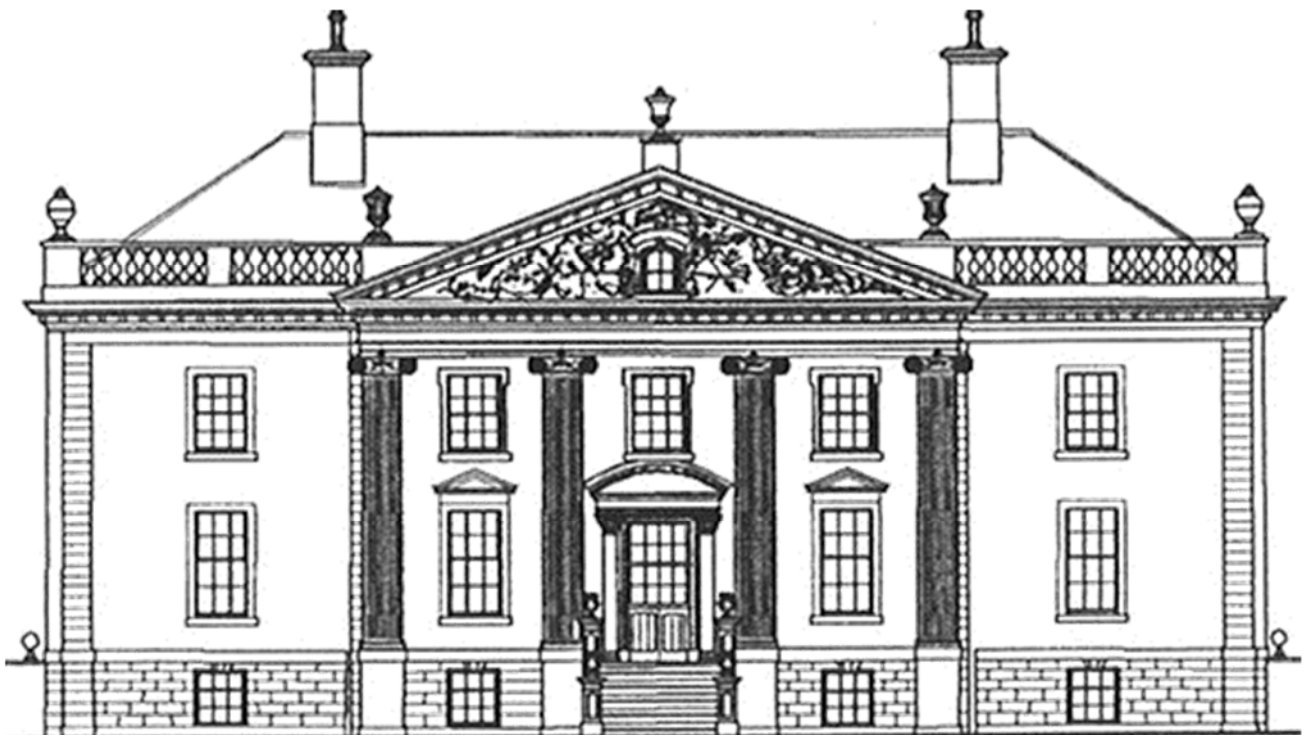
Low

Auchinleck House is the third house to have been built on this land. In the 1300s there was a Castle on the cliff which fell apart, all you can see now are ruins. There is also a ruined building called the Old Place where the Boswell family lived before Auchinleck House was built.

Auchinleck House was built in the 1700s in a **classical** style of architecture (say 'arch-i-tec-ture'). This style of building was very popular in the 1700s and early 1800s. Lots of rich people went travelling to Italy and saw old Greek and Roman buildings that they liked. There were books of drawings of old buildings to copy too. Colour in Auchinleck House below.

Fact:

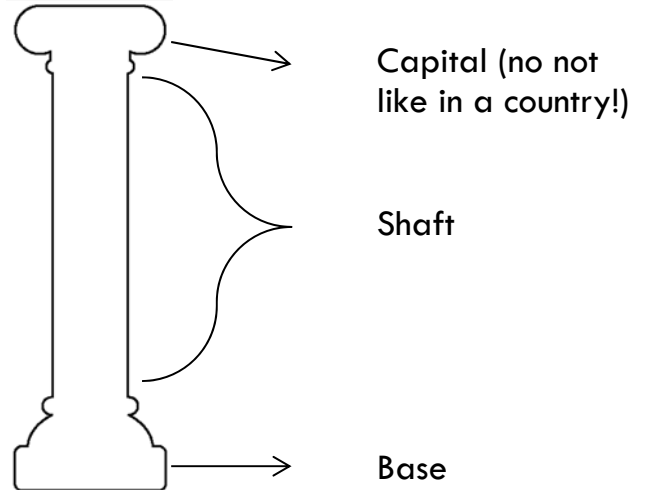
Classical architecture isn't something to do with music! It means that the building was inspired by old Roman and Greek buildings.





Different types of columns.

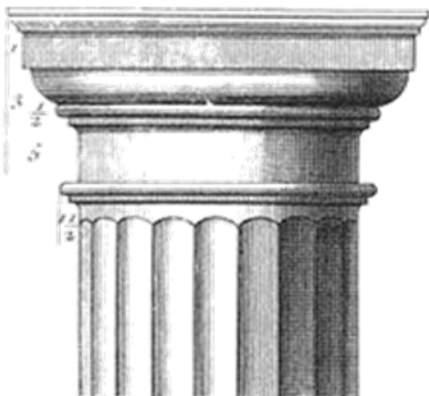
One easy way to tell if a building is in the Classical style is by looking for columns. Columns are a way of supporting the weight of a building. They come in all different shapes and sizes. There are 3 different parts to a column:



The ancient Greeks used 3 different types of capital in their buildings:

Doric

This is the oldest and simplest.



Ionic

This looks like a scroll.



Corinthian

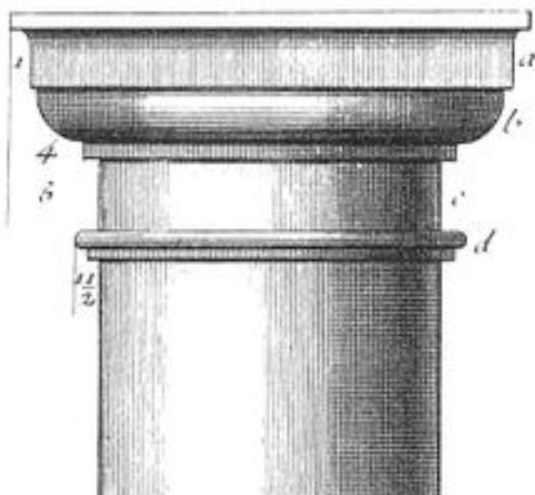
Based on the leaves of a plant called 'acanthus' (say 'a-can-th-us')



Then the Romans adapted them to have two more sorts of capitals:

Tuscan

Is like the Doric column but more simple.



Composite

Is a mixture of Ionic and Corinthian.





Have a go at designing your own capital:

Sometimes stone masons carved faces, animals or words into buildings. Have you seen the words carved into the stone above the front entrance? The words are a motto in Latin written by a Roman poet called Horace. He likes peace and quiet. Can you see the word 'Ulubris'? Romans often used 'V' instead of 'U' – straight lines are easier to carve!

This was a frog-infested swamp outside Rome. Sounds revolting! But Horace liked it. The motto means something like 'Everything you need is here in Ulubris if you can just stay chilled'. Laird Auchinleck uses this motto as Auchinleck House is Ulubris in his eyes.



What would be your motto for how you like to live your life? Write your own moto:



What is Auchinleck House built from?

Fact:

Some buildings were built from stone that was dug out of the ground when farmers ploughed the fields, other buildings were made from stone that was quarried and cut into neat shapes and sizes. There are still many stone quarries around the country today, where people get stone out of the ground.

Stone houses were once cheaper to build than brick ones. Once we could transport bricks up and down the country on the canals and railways, brick buildings became cheaper and more popular.

Stone is the solid foundation of the earth. It exists as huge mountains, rocks, stones or small pebbles washed smooth by water. There are lots of different types of stone, with different colours and textures. Some are better to build with than others.



When Auchinleck House was built, stone was still taken out of the ground by hand. Today, a quarry is a place where stone is blasted out of the ground with explosives! The one in the picture shows what quarries look like now.

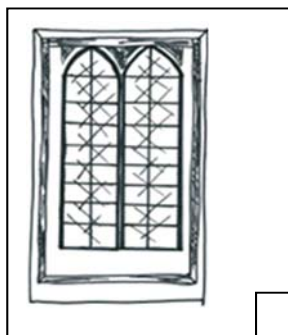


People who work with stone are called stonemasons. They build walls, carve the stone into shapes or add patterns to its surface. They use a mallet and special tools called chisels to shape the stone. The picture on the right shows a stonemason at Auchinleck carving the stone to restore part of the house.

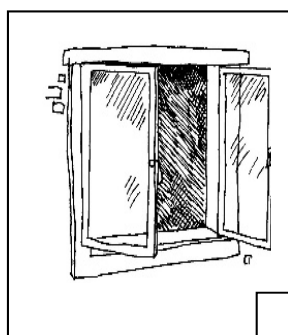




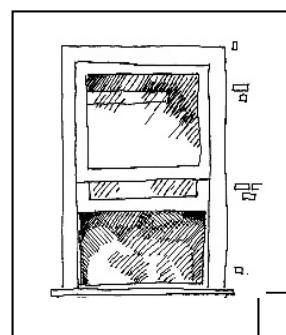
The size and shape of windows tells you a lot about the age and style of the building. What type of windows does Auchinleck House have?



Fixed Picture



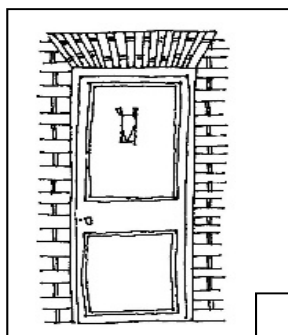
Casement



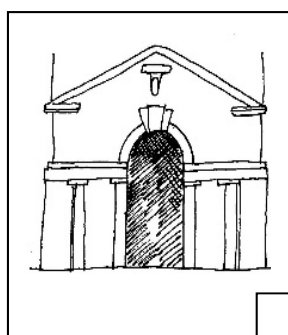
Sash

Fact: Have you noticed how big the windows are at Auchinleck House? At this time they had just learned how to make big panes of glass so rich people used them as much as possible.

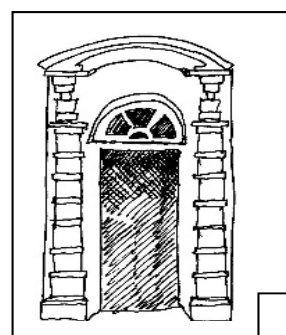
Entrances can be grand or simple. Which of these is most like the front door of Auchinleck House?



Doorframe

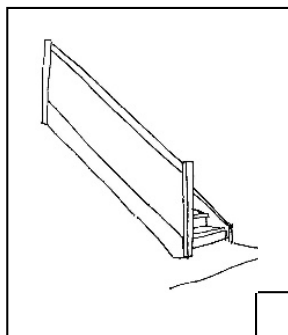


Porch

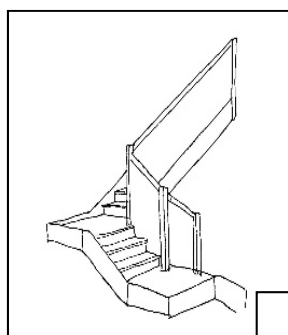


Canopy

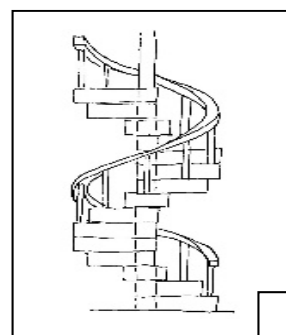
There are many different styles of staircases. Which style is closest to the staircase at Auchinleck House?



Straight



Quarter turn



Spiral

Quest



Discover more about Auchinleck House

Auchinleck House was built nearly 300 years ago. In that time, many things have changed both inside and outside the building. Follow this Quest to discover more about it.

Can you find the ice house?

You will have to go outside to find this and may need the help of an adult. It's quite a mission to find!

Fact:

When the river froze over in winter the servants at Auchinleck House would cut the ice out and store it in the ice house, sealing the door until they needed ice for the house. The fridge hadn't been invented yet!



Can you find the buffet?

This alcove (say 'al-cove') is called a buffet. In the 1700s it was used to display fine china on the shelves.



Can you find the falcon?

A falcon is a bird of prey, a bit like an eagle. It was in the Boswell coat of arms. Look at the ceilings. Can you see the different animals and plants that have been made out of the plaster? Name 6 different shapes/animals/plants that you can see.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.



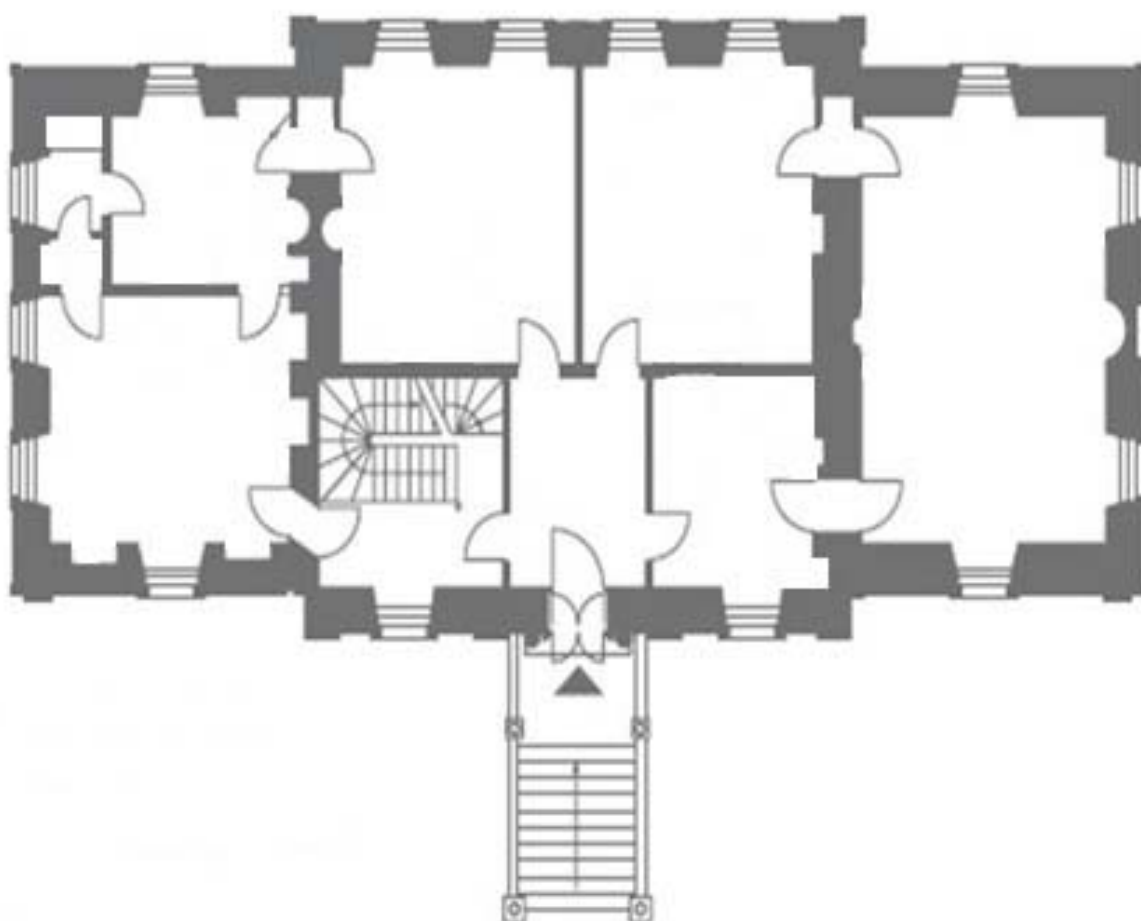
Have a go at designing your own plasterwork in the boxes below.



Living in Auchinleck House

The floorplan of a building is a map of the rooms. Auchinleck House has two floors. The plans below show you the shape of each room on the ground floor. Take a walk around each room. Can you identify the rooms and write on the plan how they are used today?

Ground Floor



We use these symbols to show where beds, tables and bathrooms are. Add the symbols on to the floorplans to show where the furniture is.



Bed



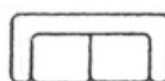
Rectangular (or a round) table



Bathroom



Cooker



Sofa



Kitchen sink



Can you find an example of each of these things inside Auchinleck House. Describe, or draw the object when you find it.

Your favourite chair

A large empty rectangular box for drawing or describing a favourite chair.

The fireplace (is it an open fire or does it have a stove?)

A large empty rectangular box for drawing or describing a fireplace.

Draw the pattern of a rug on the floor

A large empty rectangular box for drawing the pattern of a rug.

Fact:

When James Boswell didn't want to go to school he would hold his head upside-down until he got a headache. This meant he didn't have to go to school and would play at home all day!

In the space below, draw the view from your bedroom window. What can you see in the distance? Are there any animals in the fields or any trees that look very old and interesting?



Laird Auchinleck's Word Search

Now have a go at the word search. Think about different parts of the building and what might have been here when Laird Auchinleck lived here. The words to find are at the bottom of the page.

D	R	I	A	L	C	C	O	L	U	M	N	S
N	I	P	A	V	I	L	L	I	O	N	X	P
A	F	N	R	R	M	A	H	B	L	A	D	O
L	U	K	I	W	Q	W	J	R	K	T	R	R
T	J	A	V	N	U	Y	B	A	C	R	I	T
O	F	R	E	U	G	E	A	R	I	A	N	R
C	K	O	R	M	V	R	A	Y	E	T	K	A
S	S	L	L	L	V	B	O	G	I	T	I	I
S	I	Y	E	L	C	L	J	O	N	S	N	T
F	D	I	A	R	Y	C	P	V	M	E	G	W
C	L	A	S	S	I	C	A	L	N	R	D	E
E	D	I	S	Y	R	T	N	U	O	C	E	M
B	R	I	D	G	E	R	T	R	E	E	S	T
M	C	H	A	N	D	E	L	E	R	T	A	D

RIVER
DINING ROOM
LAWYER
PORTRAIT
SCOTLAND

BRIDGE
CREST
PAVILLION
TREES
TARTAN

LIBRARY
VRAYE
DRINKING
COLUMN
COUNTRYSIDE

LAIRD
FOLLY
CLASSICAL
DIARY
CHANDELIER

How many of these words did you find? Put your score in the box.

/
20



Can you answer these questions correctly?

1. What is the Capital of Scotland?

Glasgow

Inverness

Edinburgh

Fife

2. What is the name of the skirt that men wear in Scotland?

Scot-skirt

Kilt

Milt

Kimono

3. What does loch mean?

Hill

Lake

River

Mountain

4. What is the name of the highest mountain in Scotland?

Ben Nevis

Matt Tenant

Mount Scot

Arthur's Seat

5. What is haggis?

A hat

A county

A traditional Scottish
food

A musical instrument

6. What is the old spoken language of Scotland?

Gaelic

Celtic

Gallic

Latin

7. In 1603 when Queen Elizabeth I died, which Scottish King also became King of England?

King Arthur

King James VI

King Fergus II

King Duncan

8. What colours are in Scotland's flag?

Blue and white

Red and white

Blue and red

Blue and yellow

9. What do Scottish people traditionally have for breakfast?

Bacon and eggs

Waffles

Porridge

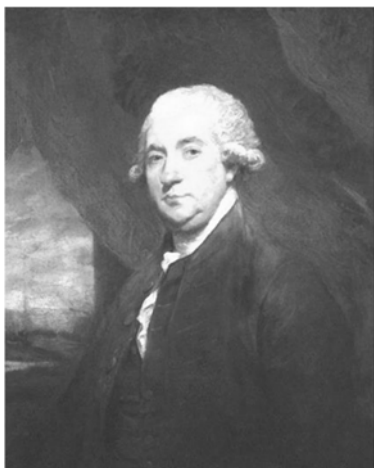
Fruit and yogurt

To find the answers skip one page...



Who is who?

Each painting is someone who lived at Auchinleck. Match the painting to the name to find out more about the person. You may even be able to see some of the paintings on the walls of Auchinleck!



Margaret Boswell

She was James Boswell's cousin. She and James got married in November 1769 and were married up until she died of **tuberculosis** in 1789. They had four sons and three daughters. (Imagine having to share toys with that many brothers and sisters!)

Fact:

Tuberculosis is a disease of the lungs. Lots of people got it in the 1700s. There is now a **vaccination** to stop you getting it.

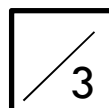
James Boswell, 9th Laird of Auchinleck

He is a famous writer who wrote diaries and biographies (that's when you write about someone's life). His famous biography is about a man called Dr. Samuel Johnson.

Alexander Boswell, 8th Laird of Auchinleck

He was a lawyer and a judge of the supreme court of Scotland. He built Auchinleck House (where you are staying) between 1755 and 1760. That's nearly 300 years ago!

Did you match them all correctly? Put your score in the box.



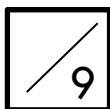


Answer sheet:

Question & Answer:

1. Edinburgh
2. Kilt
3. Lake
4. Ben Nevis
5. A traditional Scottish food
6. Gaelic
7. King James VI
8. Blue and white
9. Porridge

How many did you get right?



Fact:

Believe it or not in Scotland it is normal for men to wear skirts. These skirts are called **Kilts**. A kilt is made from a woollen cloth that is in a tartan pattern.

It is traditional for men wearing a kilt to not wear any pants! Ewww.

Originally a kilt was 5 meters long and was worn as a skirt with lots of pleats. Any leftover material was pinned over the left shoulder.



Colour in the bagpipe player below.

Fact:

A **Bagpipe** is a wind instrument. They used to be made from the skin of a whole animal, turned inside out.



Create

Design your own family crest

A crest is part of a coat of arms. Each knight had a coat of arms which they wore on their armour, on their shield or on a banner. The designs were created by people called heralds. Each coat of arms and crest was passed down through a family. The crest would often be put onto rings and brooches for people in the family to wear.

The Boswell crest is a hooded falcon. The words along the top that say 'Vray Foye' are the family motto. It means 'true faith'.

In the space below design a crest for your family. Use the list of animals to help you and make up your own family motto. You can use your imagination and draw anything that you feel describes you!



Dragon	Defender of treasure
Lion	Courage
Tiger	Fierce
Bear	Protector of family
Elephant	Courage and strength
Lamb	Gentle and patient
Spider	Wisdom
Dove	Love and Peace
Dolphin	Kind and helpful
Unicorn	Extreme courage
Stag and Deer	Peace and harmony
Hooded Falcon	Courage and hope



Bake some shortbread

Shortbread was originally a Scottish medieval biscuit bread. The left over ingredients from the bread would be made into biscuits. Through time butter was added to make the shortbread that we have today. Butter was an expensive ingredient so shortbreads became a special treat on special occasions like Christmas.

Here's a simple recipe for you to try. You might need the help of an adult.

200g plain flour	Zest of ½ lemon
50g caster sugar plus extra for sprinkling	160g cold unsalted butter
75g fine semolina	Pinch of salt

Remember to pre-heat the oven: fan 150 °C or electric 170 °C: Gas 3.5

- Grease a shallow cake tin
- Mix the flour, caster sugar, semolina and a pinch of salt in a bowl
- Add the lemon zest and butter and rub them into the mixture until it feels like breadcrumbs
- Lightly press the mixture into the cake tin (don't press it in too much)
- Bake for 30-35 minutes until golden
- Leave to cool and then sprinkle some sugar on top
- Cut into fingers and then they're ready to eat!



