



Find out about Old Place of Monreith's past...

Hello, welcome to Dowies (say 'Doo-ies'), that's what us locals call Old Place of Monreith. Don't tell your parents though its top secret! Ssssh.

My name is Archie Fraser. I lived in the local farm with my mum, dad and bossy older sister in the late 1600s. The farm was owned by **Laird** Maxwell. He owned lots of land in these parts, including the big tower house you are staying in. He was a very grand man who never liked kings much, especially when they meddled with the Scottish Kirk (as we Scots call a church).

Fact:

Laird is the Scottish word for Lord.



Fact:

The **Battle of Rullion Green** was on 28 November 1666 in the Pentland Hills in Lothian – that's near Edinburgh, and very far away from here.

The Laird's eldest son, John Maxwell even fought in a battle called the **Battle of Rullion Green** to try to stop the king meddling. He was very brave. The Scottish army had over 3000 soldiers and John's side only had 900. Poor John, there was no way they could win.

After escaping from the battle John rode the whole way home without stopping (that's over 100 miles!) Laird Maxwell was so happy with the horse that he said the horse was allowed to relax for the rest of its life in its own stone-walled field. What a lucky horse!



Fact:

Belted Galloway cows come from the west side of Scotland in an area called Galloway –right where you're staying now.

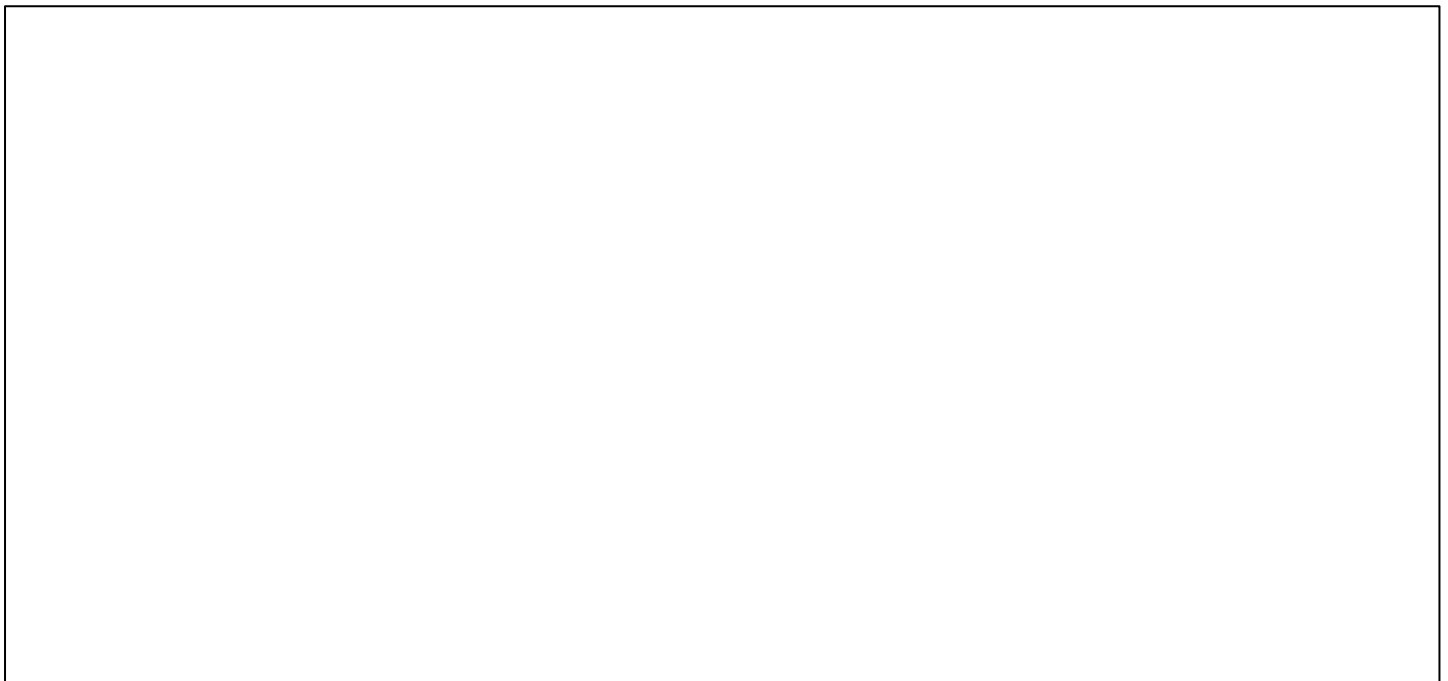
I loved living on the farm. I got to look after the animals all day long. I didn't even mind the cockerel waking me up at sunrise – we got up then anyway. I bet you don't!

Cows are my favourite animal, especially the ones we have. They are called **Belted Galloway** cows because they have a strip of white on middle of them. They are so naughty. Once when I was herding them into a different field, my favourite cow Daisy escaped. I was really worried I'd be in trouble so spent 4 hours looking for her. I couldn't believe it, she had walked all the way to the sea to eat the grass there. It must taste better than field grass! What is your favourite animal?

.....



I love living near the sea, I walked there most days with my dog called Scamp. In summer we sat and watched the sun set. It was beautiful to see the sun melt into the sea. It was like the sea was eating the sun! Draw a picture of the sun setting into the sea in the box below.



When the Laird was away my friend Ella who works in the kitchens let me explore the house. It was very big and grand. I had never been anywhere like it. There were so many books, I wish I could read and write. Then I could send letters to my cousins who moved to Edinburgh. Ella even gave me some of the leftover overs from his dinner the night before. It was yummy. I wish I was a Laird.

Unruly Rulers

Who were the Tudor and Stuart kings and queens?

This lot were a blood thirsty bunch, always chopping off heads. **Tudor** and **Stuart** are the family names of the kings and queens. The first Tudor was Henry VII in 1485 and they lasted till Elizabeth I. Then the Tudors' cousins, the Stuarts, ruled from James I to Anne.



King Edward VI

Henry VIII's only son, he had some big shoes (and clothes) to fill! King at nine and dead at 16. Poor Eddie.



Queen Mary I

Back to Catholics again. Bloody Mary was her name, burning Protestants was her game.



King James I & VI

What a silly king, he kept thinking witches were trying to kill him! He even wrote a book on witches.



Oliver Cromwell

Not a king but still a ruler. He didn't like the royals and made himself Lord Protector of England. He didn't last too long.



King James II

A bit dim was this king. He tried to make everyone Catholic again, then ran away when they said no.



Queen Anne

A sickly queen who loved to eat!

1509

King Henry VIII

6 wives, only 1 son. Angry at the Pope horrible Henry made himself Head of the Church destroying all the Catholics churches.



1547

Lady Jane Grey

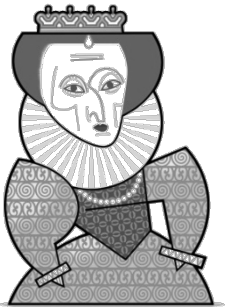
Only 16 when she became Queen for just 9 days before Mary Tudor took the throne. Off with her head!



1553

Queen Elizabeth I

Good Queen Bess knew leaving religion alone was best. (Unless the Catholics attacked!) Had lots of boyfriends but married none.



1158

1603

King Charles I

Bad King Charlie wanted to rule without Parliament. That started a civil war which he lost. Onto the block went Charlie's head. One chop and he was dead.



1625

1649

King Charles II

A merry monarch who brought back fun and games Oliver had banned!



1660

1685

Queen Mary II & William III

She and her husband took her dad, James II's throne in the Glorious Revolution. Not so glorious for James.



1688

1702-1714



Meet James I & VI – who ruled when this Landmark was built.



Hi James!

So when did you become king?

I was already King of Scotland but I became King of England on 24 March 1603.

What are you most famous for?

I was nearly killed by Guy Fawkes who tried to blow up parliament. Instead he was caught – phew!

What is your favourite thing to do?

I loved hunting witches. I wanted Scotland and England to be free of those meddling women.

What is the naughtiest thing you've ever done?

When I first became King of England I was on my way to London when a pick pocket was caught in a town called Newark. I ordered for him to be hanged. After he died I was told I can't execute people without a trial. Whoops!



What does Old Place of Monreith 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 Old Place of Monreith look like other buildings in the area?

Safe

Tall

Pretty

Industrial

Stone

Brick

Symmetrical

Home

Square

Elegant

Friendly

Low

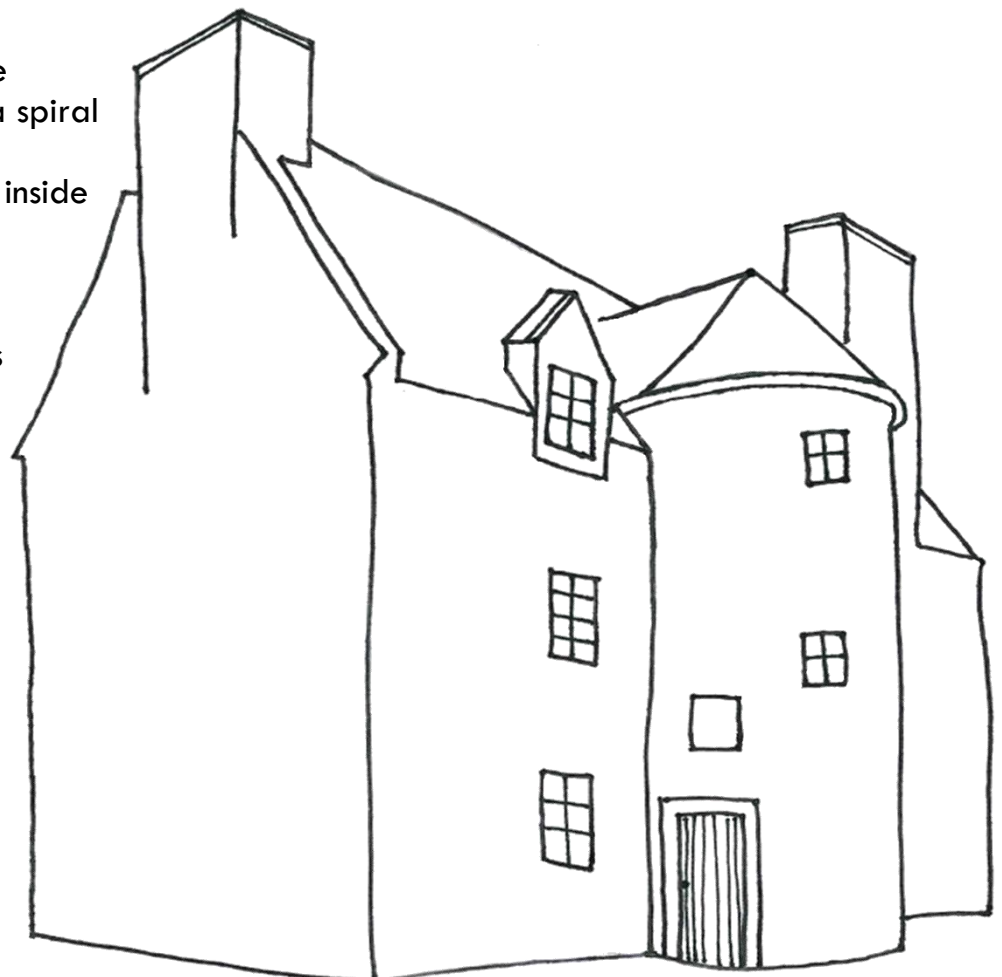
Fact:

Fortified means that it is designed and built to protect from attacks.

Old Place of Monreith was built around 1600. Tower houses are very popular in Scotland. Old Place of Monreith is a **fortified** (say 'fort'if-eyed') tower house. Lairds liked to build tower houses to show that they were strong and powerful (and scare enemies!) There was lots of fighting in Scotland at this time so a tower house helped protect you and your family from enemies. Colour in Old Place Monreith below.

Have you noticed that there aren't many windows and a spiral staircase? This makes it harder for attackers to get inside and to get upstairs.

The walls are also very thick and strong. This makes it difficult for attackers to break into the building.

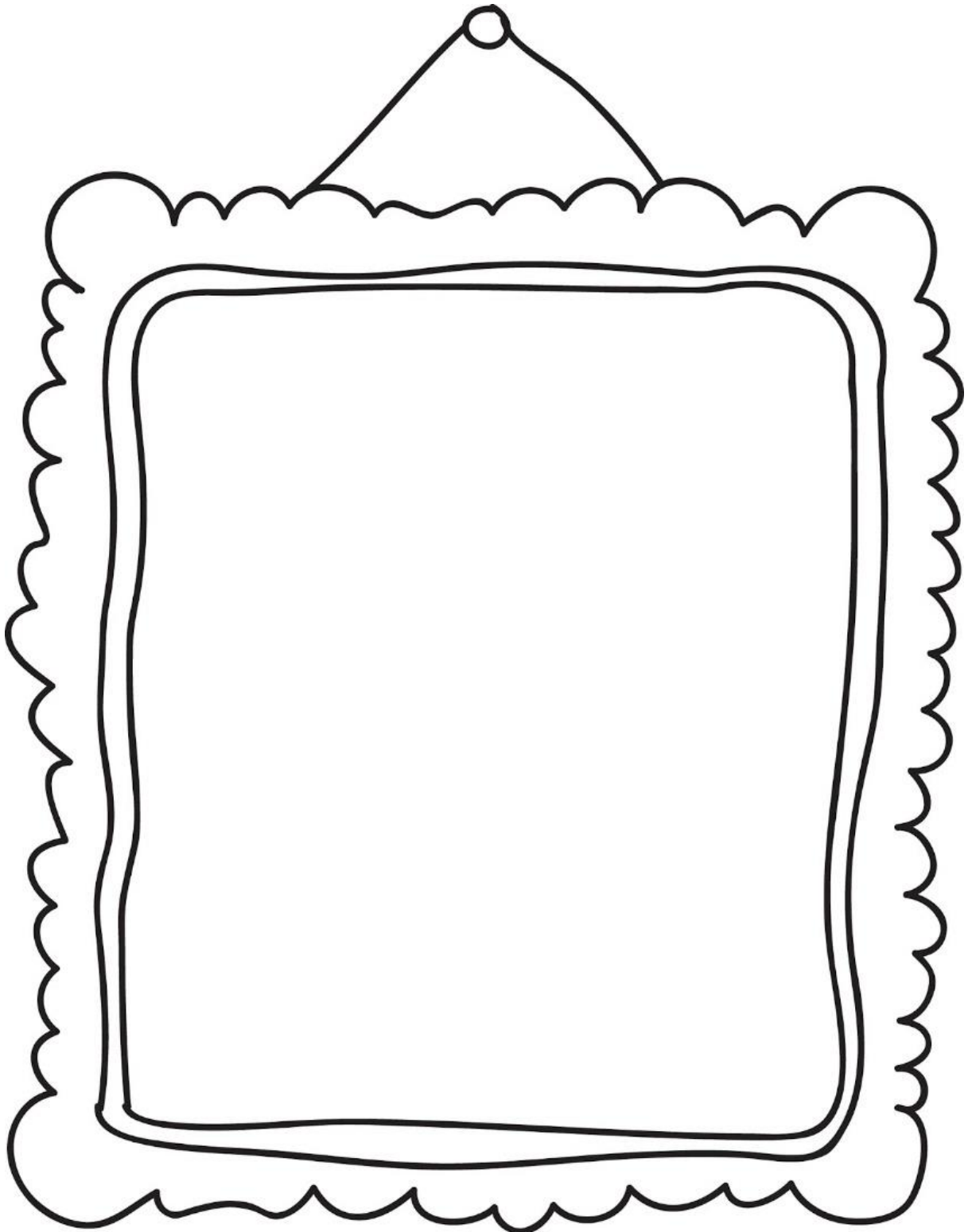




Buildings are quite easy to draw. They are usually made up of lots of geometric shapes, like squares, triangles and circles.

Have a go at drawing the front of Old Place of Monreith.

Please tell an adult where you are going so they don't worry about where you are!
And don't worry if you make a mess of your drawing, just use the other side.





What is Old Place of Monreith built from?

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.

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.

Old Place of Monreith doesn't look like it's made from stone. To protect it, the building has been painted with **limewash** over the top of it. No silly, not the juice from the fruit! Lime is burnt limestone that looks like chalk. To make paint, Lime is mixed with water. To make a plaster Lime is mixed with sand.



In medieval and Tudor times, stone was 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. The stone window below has been carved into shapes called ogees. They use a mallet and special tools called chisels to shape the stone.

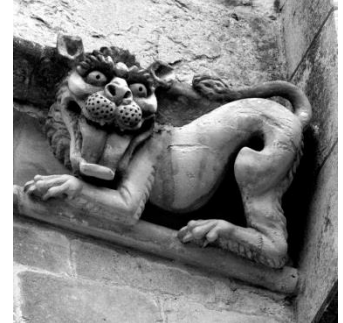
Mallet

Chisels





Sometimes stone masons carved faces and animals called gargoyles. You often find these in churches, up near the roof. Here are some examples. Have a go at designing your own gargoyle. Make it as ugly as you like!



What other building materials can you find outside and inside Old Place of Monreith?

Circle what you can see and note down where you found them.

Stone

Glass

Wood

Plastic

Metal

Clay

Flint

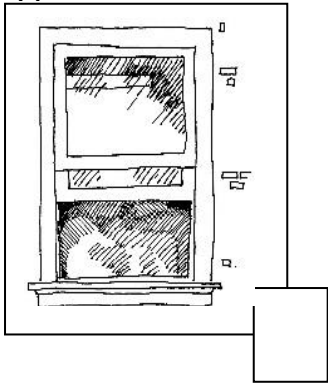
Concrete

Brick

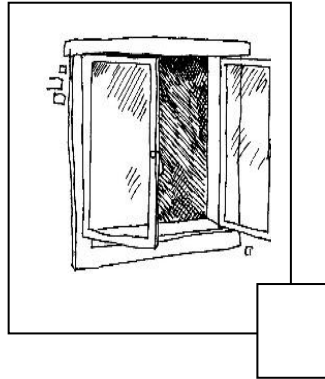
Ceramic



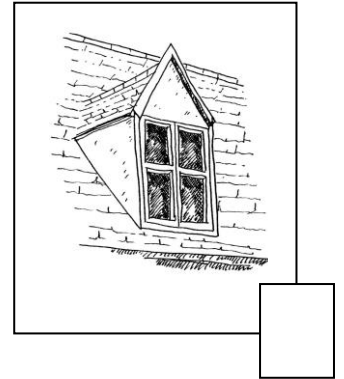
The size and shape of windows tells you a lot about the age and style of the building. What type of windows does Old Place of Monreith have?



Sash

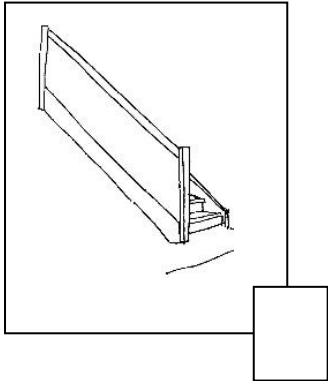


Casement (it opens)

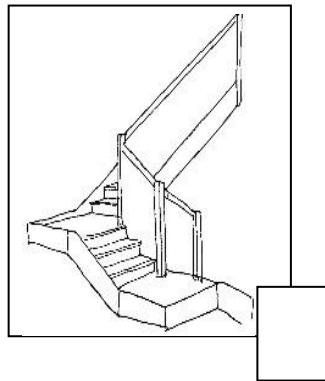


Dormer or attic (in the roof)

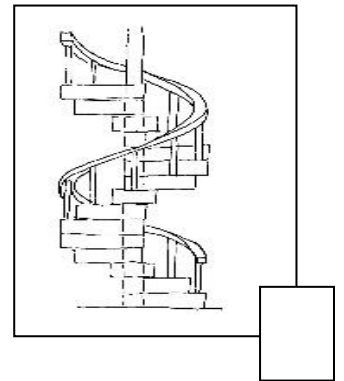
There are many different styles of staircases. Which style is closest to the staircase at Old Place of Monreith?



Straight



Quarter turn

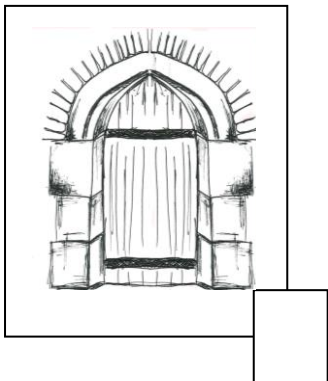


Spiral

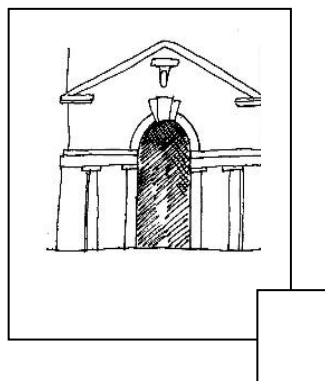
Fact:

Have you noticed that spiral staircases go clockwise when you're going up and anti-clockwise when you're going down? This is because most people are right handed so if there was an attacker with a sword coming up the stairs they had to show more of their body to fight. The swords man above had the wall on his left leaving more room to fight with his right arm.

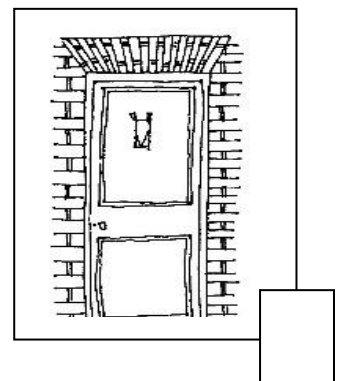
Entrances can be grand or simple. Which front door is most like the one at Old Place of Monreith?



Tudor arch



Porch



Doorframe

Quest



Discover more about Old Place of Monreith

Since the medieval times people have lived on this land. Around 1600 Old Place Monreith was built. That's over 400 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 gargoyle?

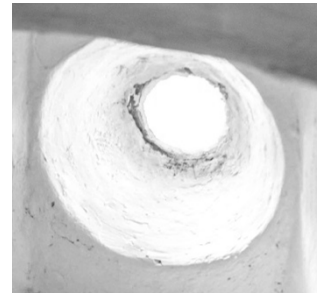
He's hiding outside by one of the windows. He doesn't look like a normal gargoyle, he looks very happy to be on the building!



Can you find the shot holes?

Fact:

A *shot hole* is a small hole in the wall that a gun can be fired through to protect the building from attackers.



Can you find the dry stone wall?

A dry stone wall is made just by placing stones to fit into one another. There is no cement or mortar that other walls use to keep it together. Instead because the stones have been carefully placed and fit into one another the wall is strong. Have a go with smaller stones – it's not as easy as it looks!



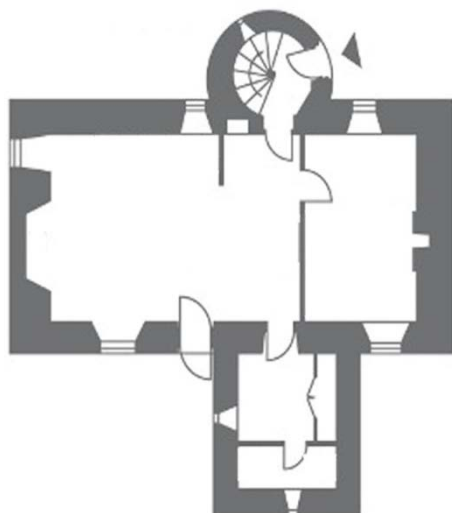
**Have you found anything else interesting on your quest?
Write about it below and draw a picture of it in the box.**



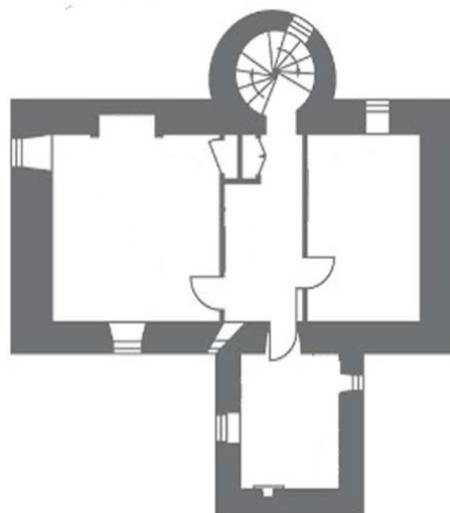
Living in Old Place Monreith

The floorplan of a building is a map of the rooms. Old Place Monreith has three floors. The plans below show you the shape of each room. Take a walk around each floor. Write on the plan what each room is used for.

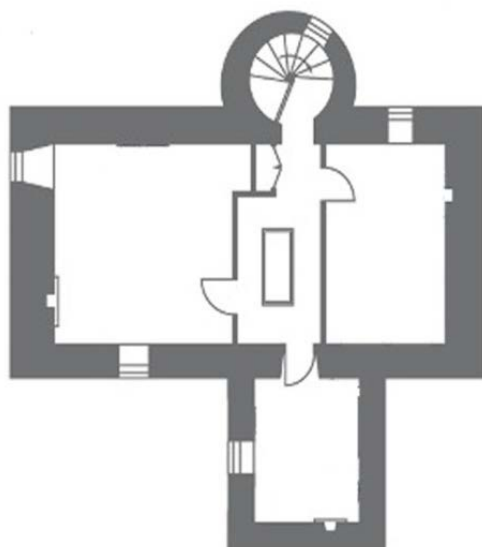
Ground Floor



First Floor



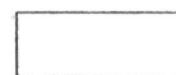
Attic



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



Bed



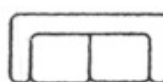
Rectangular (or a round) table



Bathroom



Cooker



Sofa



Kitchen sink



Can you find an example of each of these things inside Old Place Monreith. Describe, or draw the object when you find it.

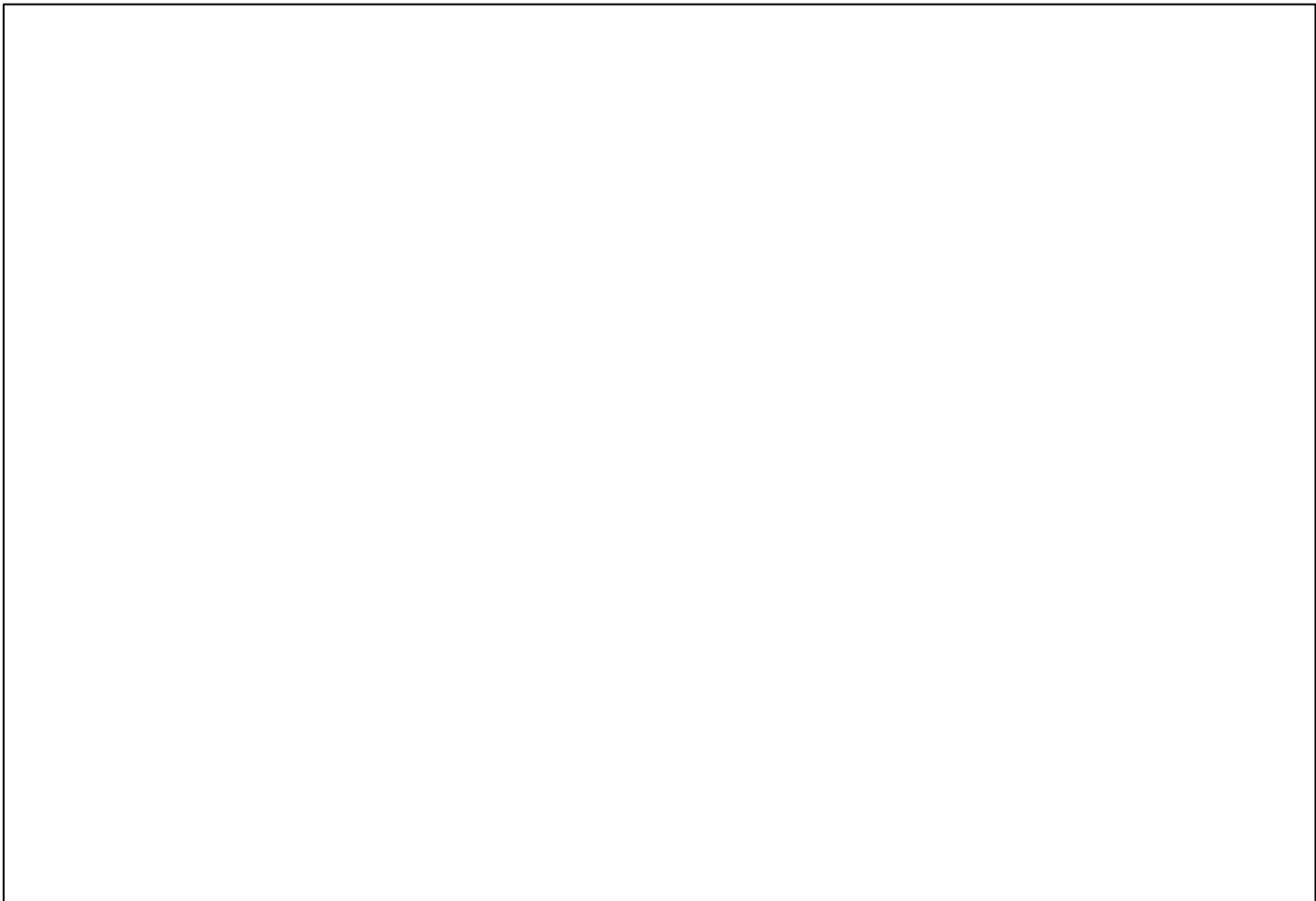
Your favourite chair

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

Draw the pattern of a rug on the floor

Fact:
Did you know that some of the oldest dry stone walls are in Cornwall. Some are thought to be from 5000BC. Dry stone walls aren't just in Britain; they are all over the world!

In the box 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 Maxwell'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 Maxwell lived here. The words to find are at the bottom of the page.

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

VALLEY
TOWER
LAWYER
REMOTE
SCOTLAND

SEA
DOWIES
PORTWILLIAM
TREES
TARTAN

SPIRAL
GARGOYLE
FARM
MAXWELL
COUNTRYSIDE

LAIRD
MONREITH
CHIMNEY
MARSH
COWS

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 turn over...

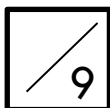


Answer sheet:

Question & Answer:

1. Edinburgh
2. Kilt
3. Lake
4. Ben Nevis
5. A traditional Scottish food
6. Gaelic
7. King James VI of Scotland (he became James I of England too!)
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! Ewwwww.

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 bag pipe player below.

Fact:

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



Design your own Scottish home

Imagine you are a Scottish Laird or Lady who wants to build a new home. What type of home would you have? A tower, a castle, a manor or a mansion? Draw your dream Scottish home below. Put some mountains and lakes in too!



Bake some shortbread

Shortbread was originally a Scottish medieval biscuit bread. The left over ingredients from the bread was 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 for special occasions like Christmas.

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

200g plain flour
50g caster sugar plus extra for
sprinkling
75g fine semolina

Zest of ½ lemon
160g cold unsalted butter
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). Use a knife to draw the lines where you want it to break when it's cooked and prick it all over with a fork.
- Bake for 30-35 minutes until golden
- Leave to cool and then sprinkle some sugar on top
- Carefully cut into fingers or slices along your lines and then they're ready to eat!

