

Lincoln Castle and its Construction

Lincoln Castle was built in 1068, on the orders of William the Conqueror. It was constructed on top of a hill to make it easy to look out for approaching enemies.

The walls were originally made of wood. This was not the best choice of building material for the long term, as wood is a material that can decay, break down or burn in a fire. As soon as Lincoln Castle's mottes had solidified the walls and towers were upgraded to limestone which the builders got from local quarries.

Lincoln Castle is a motte and bailey castle. The Bailey is a big open space surrounded by strong walls to keep all the inhabitants safe. Motte is a French word that means *mound of earth*. Lincoln Castle is one of two castles in the whole of the UK to have two mottes. Our mottes support our beautiful Observatory Tower and our imposing keep: Lucy Tower.

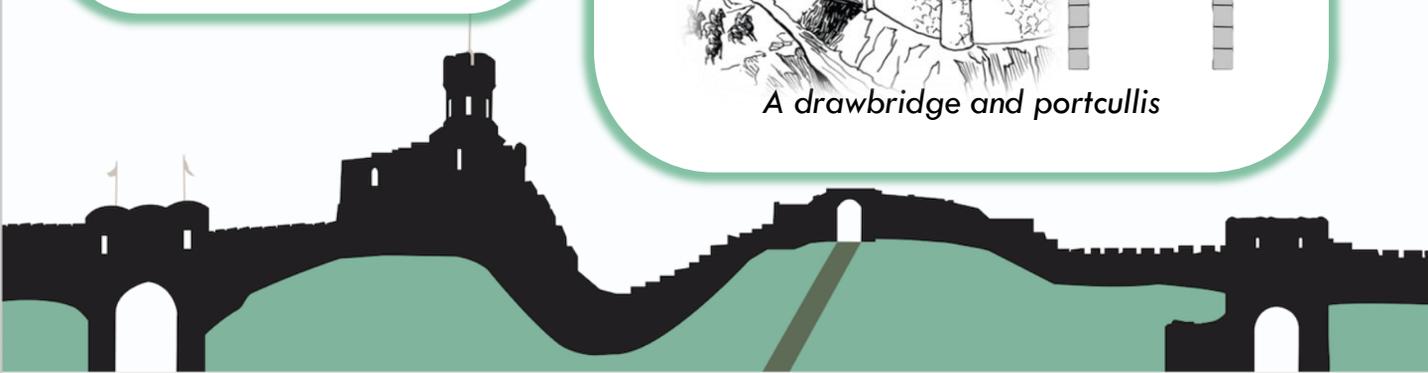


Lucy Tower

At the East and West gates there used to be doors that were designed to keep friends safe and foes out! The drawbridge was a large wooden door that could be raised up to keep people out and lowered to let people in. The portcullis was a very heavy metal (or sometimes wooden) gate with dangerous spikes on the bottom.



A drawbridge and portcullis



Build your own Castle!

Use craft materials or your household recycling to design and build your very own Castle. It must have some key features though. Make sure your Castle has walls to protect its inhabitants, a tower to watch out for enemies and a drawbridge so your horses don't get wet hooves!



We used an empty cardboard box to create a keep. We painted it and used a felt pen to add some details. Then we added a cardboard drawbridge. We even added some buildings inside and a well (very important so you wouldn't run out of drinking water if you were under siege)!



When you've finished post a photo of your creation on social media, don't forget to include [#InvestigateLearning](#) and tag [@LincolnCastle](#)

