



*The Main Gate In 1778*



HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION  
of  
COCKERMOUTH CASTLE  
CUMBERLAND



Price - One Shilling

This History and Description of  
Cockermouth Castle

has been prepared by

Lord Leconfield

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(All Saints and Christ Church)

1739.

THE NORTH-WEST VIEW OF COCKERMOUTH-CASTLE, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND



To the Right Hon.<sup>ble</sup>

Algernon Earl of Hartford,



THIS Castle was built soon after the Conquest by William de Macclesin, who first sold it  
 the House of York by the gift of the Duke of Northumberland, Lord of Cumberland. From  
 the said House it came to a son of Duke John, to Gilbert de Spalding, and from him to the  
 Duke of Northumberland, by which it was given to a younger son, the Duke of Northumberland,  
 in the 17th year of the said Duke's reign, in which it remained till  
 the Duke's death, when it was sold to a younger son of his, the Duke of Northumberland,  
 Duke of Devonshire, who gave it to the Duke of Devonshire, the present possessor.

As a Memorial to the year of the birth of the Duke of Devonshire, the Duke of Devonshire  
 & other Noblemen of Honour of Devon, Captain of the Devonshire Militia  
 and of the Island of Man, &c.

# COCKERMOUTH CASTLE

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**I**N 1221 Richard de UMFRAVILLE Lord of PRUDHOE Castle was summoned with other barons of Henry III. to the siege of Cockermonth Castle. As a result, the first castle, of which a few possible foundation stones are visible to the north of "A" on the plan, presumably was destroyed. It may have been erected by WALDEVE, son of GOSPATRICK. On his death it passed to his sister ETHELDREDA, who married DUNCAN II. of Scotland. Their son William FITZDUNCAN married ALICE DE ROMILLY, the heiress of EGREMONT Castle. Hence the two Castles were united. But they were separated in the next generation, with the result that Egremont Castle passed to the MULTON family and Cockermonth Castle to the DE FORZ family, Counts of Aumale.

The building of the second Castle, the triangle marked "A. B. C." on the plan, may have followed on the grant to William DE FORZ in 1226 of a licence to hold a market in Cockermonth. The thick line at 11 on plan marks its Eastern base. Traces of the former tower at 'B' are said to exist. The tower at 'A' remains, though adapted to subsequent developments. This second Castle remained with the De Forz family until 1274 when AVELINE became the family heiress, and died as wife of Edmund, second son of Henry III. On her death, without issue, the Crown took all her estate, and retained Cockermonth Castle until Edward II. granted it in 1323 to Anthony, first Lord LUCY. His son Thomas, second Lord Lucy, in 1329 married Margaret Multon, who was the heiress of EGREMONT. Hence the two castles were then again united.

Under the Lucy family the amenities of the castle were improved. Thomas, the Second Lord built the Great Hall and the Lords' and Ladies' Chambers. After his daughter Maud succeeded, and married Gilbert de UMFRAVILLE, the Earl of ANGUS, more developments followed. The ditch which had defended the Eastern base of the triangle was filled with cellars below and living rooms above, a spacious kitchen and other improvements. The Gate-house and the outer Bailey followed after the marriage of Maud to Henry Percy, First Earl of Northumberland as her second

husband. This is demonstrated by the Coats-of-Arms above the entrance to the Gate-house :—

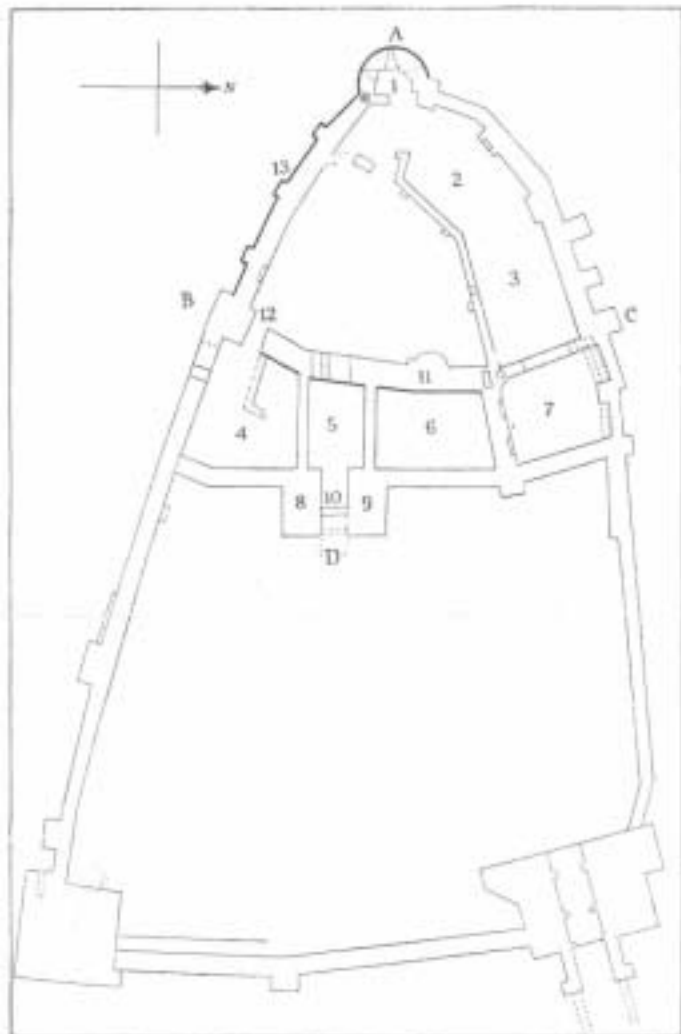
Multon, Umfraville, Lucy, Percy and Neville—Percy's first wife.

The following dates have been suggested for the building of the Castle :—

1. The triangular Castle about 1225
2. The Hall about 1360
3. The New House 1380—90
4. The Gate-house and Outer Bailey 1400
5. The building on the right as you enter the Bailey, and the Stable to the left, were built probably early in the 19th century by George, Third Earl of Egremont
6. The Office-buildings on the East side of the Bailey were built in the middle of the 19th century.

The Castle remained in the Percy family until the 10th Earl of Northumberland was succeeded by his daughter Elizabeth, who married as her third husband, Charles, 6th Duke of Somerset. When her son, the 7th Duke died in 1750, her estate fell to be divided between his daughter Elizabeth, who married Sir Hugh Smithson, created Duke of Northumberland and Earl Percy in 1766, and Charles Wyndham, 2nd Earl of EGREMONT, whose mother, the wife of Sir William Wyndham, was a daughter of the Percy heiress, who married Charles, 6th Duke of Somerset.

The Castle's military history is very scanty. It is said that the improvements executed by the Lucys in the 14th century were interrupted by an invasion of the Scots, who destroyed some of the works. No doubt others were casualties then. In the Civil War, the Castle was held for Parliament, by Lieutenant Bird, and in August, 1648, the Royalists besieged it. It was relieved by Colonel Ashton. Of the relieving force, George BURKE, Christopher BURN, Anthony JOHNSTON, John MILNER who were "Shot in the street near the Moothall," John HARTLEY and Captain HOBSON lost their lives. Of the Castle Garrison only George MURILL was slain.



**KEY TO THE PLAN - COCKERMOUTH CASTLE**

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| <p><b>A. B. C.</b>—Triangular Castle<br/>         1—Lady's Chambers<br/>         3—The Great Hall<br/>         7—Kitchen<br/>         8 &amp; 9—Dungeons<br/>         11—East wall of the A. B. C. Castle, faced and underpinned when the cellars and rooms were built<br/>         13—The upper part of this wall is said to be 15th Century, the lower part is said to be part of A. B. C. Castle</p> | <p><b>D.</b>—Third period ditch filled in 1649<br/>         2.—Lord's Chambers<br/>         4. 5. 6—Cellars and rooms built in the ditch of A. B. C. Castle<br/>         10—Main Entrance<br/>         12—Entrance to A. B. C. Castle</p> |
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