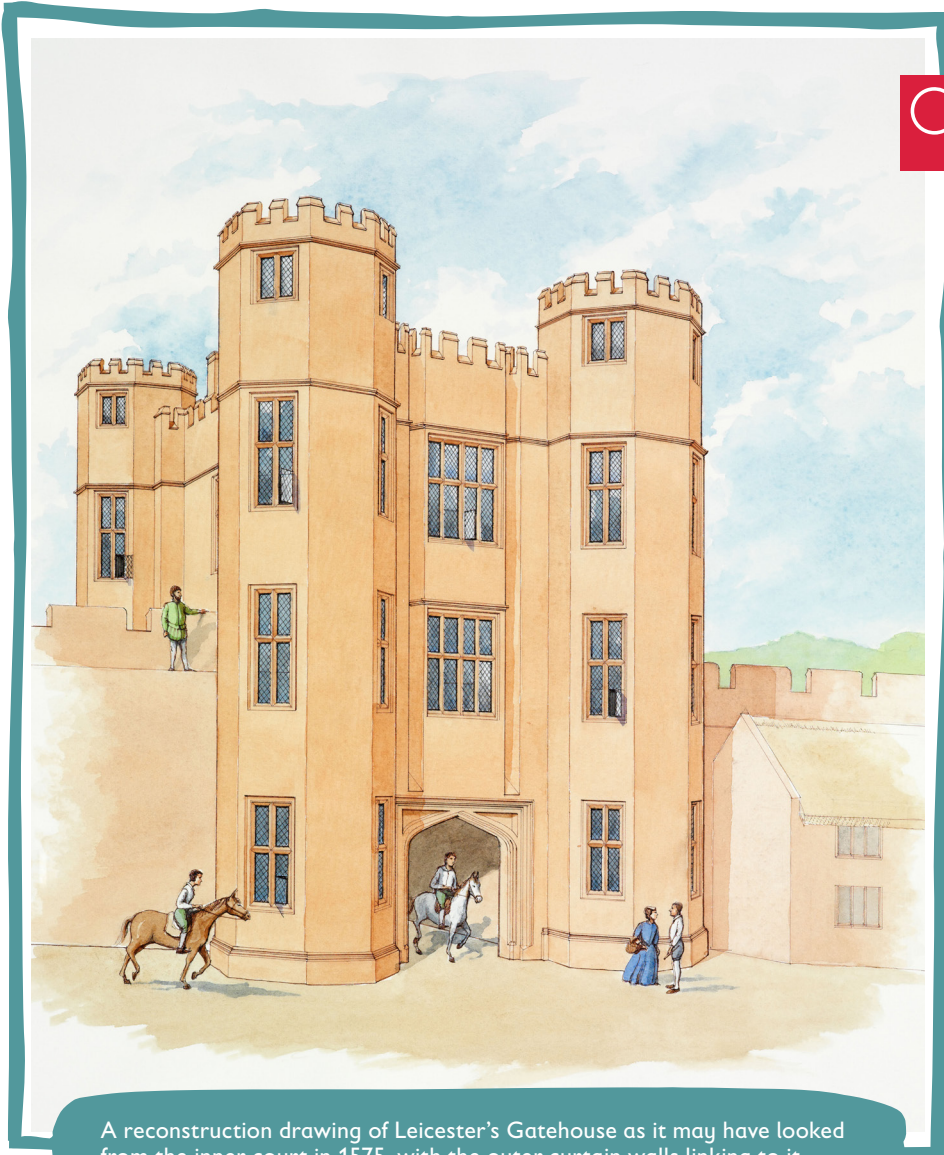


SOURCE 6



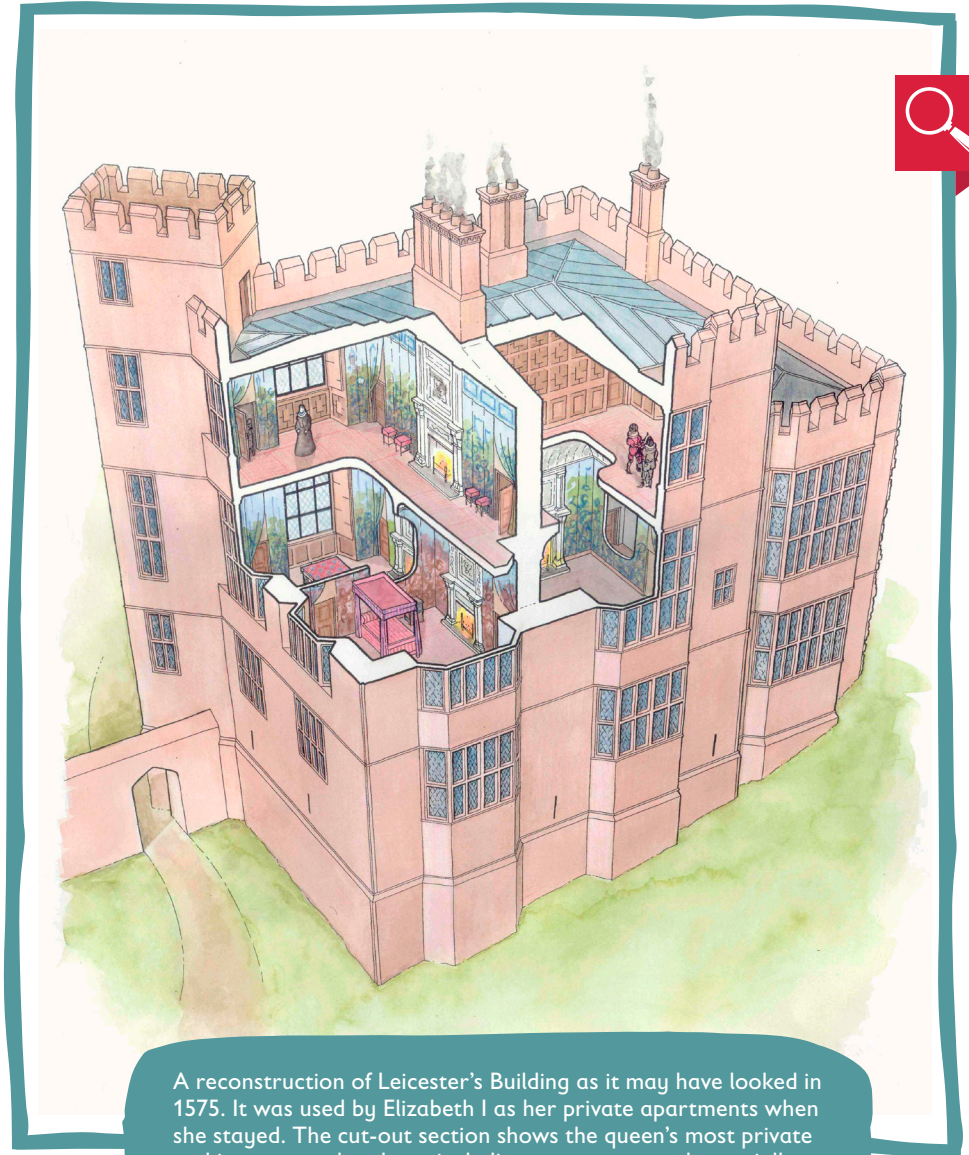
A reconstruction of Kenilworth Castle as it may have looked in 1575, for Elizabeth I's fourth and final visit. Notice the addition of Leicester's Building, which mirrors the Norman keep. Leicester's Gatehouse, the privy garden, the stables and a bridge across the mere have also been added.

SOURCE 7



A reconstruction drawing of Leicester's Gatehouse as it may have looked from the inner court in 1575, with the outer curtain walls linking to it.

SOURCE 8



A reconstruction of Leicester's Building as it may have looked in 1575. It was used by Elizabeth I as her private apartments when she stayed. The cut-out section shows the queen's most private and important chambers, including a room created especially for enjoying music and dancing right at the top.

SELF-LED ACTIVITY

PARTY LIKE IT'S 1575



Recommended for

KS1–KS2 (History, English, Music, Drama)

Learning objectives

- Understand the role and purpose of pageantry in Tudor England.
- Imagine the extravagant celebrations that took place when Elizabeth I visited Kenilworth Castle in 1575.

Time to complete

May vary, depending on depth of study

Group size

Three or four students



An actor in costume as Elizabeth I.

SUMMARY

Use your visit to Kenilworth Castle to imagine what it was like to have been there in 1575, during the 19-day celebration that Robert Dudley put on for Elizabeth I.

Back in the classroom, use some of these ideas to help students understand what Kenilworth Castle was like in 1575:

1. Read the English Heritage blog '5 Ways to Party Like Elizabeth I': <http://blog.english-heritage.org.uk/party-like-elizabeth>
2. Show students sources 6, 7 and 8 (on **pages 56–57**).
3. On a class projector screen, explore an interactive map of the recreated Elizabethan Garden: www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/kenilworth-castle/history/elizabethan-garden
4. Watch the Elizabeth-inspired make-up tutorial on our YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/iquQBqD2Gs4>

Put students into groups of three or four and ask them to work together to plan a party fit for Elizabeth I. They should divide up some of the following tasks between them:

- Design decorations (use the Tudor patterns and colours in the garden as inspiration).
- Write a menu for the feast (the Tudors loved rich food like meat and pastry).
- Plan the evening entertainment (e.g. juggling, magic, theatre, music and dancing).
- Create a plan for the day, telling partygoers what time different things are happening (e.g. arrival, hunting in the deer park, boating on the mere, feasting in the great hall, theatre in the castle grounds).
- Design invitations to give to guests.

MORE LEARNING IDEAS

Students could imagine they were at the party during Elizabeth I's 1575 visit, as an invited guest (high status) or servant (low status). They should write a diary entry about what it was like, describing the things they saw, heard and felt during the celebrations.