

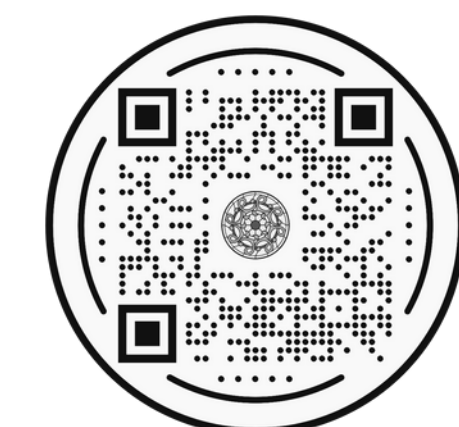
The Craigdarroch Castle Historical Museum Society acknowledges that we are on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking peoples, known today as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations. The Lekwungen speaking peoples have hunted and gathered here for thousands of years and this area was a trading centre for a diversity of First Peoples.

Constructed between 1887–1890, Craigdarroch Castle was built as the home of coal baron Robert Dunsmuir. The wealth he amassed is reflected in the Castle's four floors of exquisite stained glass, intricate woodwork and lavish Victorian-era furnishings. Robert passed away before the completion of Craigdarroch. Only his wife Joan, three of their daughters and two orphaned grandchildren ever lived on the original 28-acre estate.

Now owned by a non-profit charitable organization, the Castle Society's mission is to protect, restore, and preserve the Castle while bringing its stories to life.

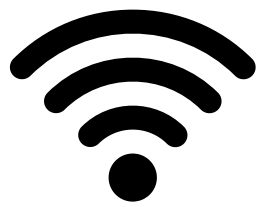
#### CASTLE GUIDELINES

- Please remember not to touch woodwork or artifacts.
- Feel free to use handrails and chairs without rope.
- Alarms will sound if you cross exhibit barriers.
- Backpacks must be worn on the front while inside.
- No food or drinks allowed inside.
- Photo, flash and video are allowed inside.
- Questions? Ask our friendly staff and volunteers.

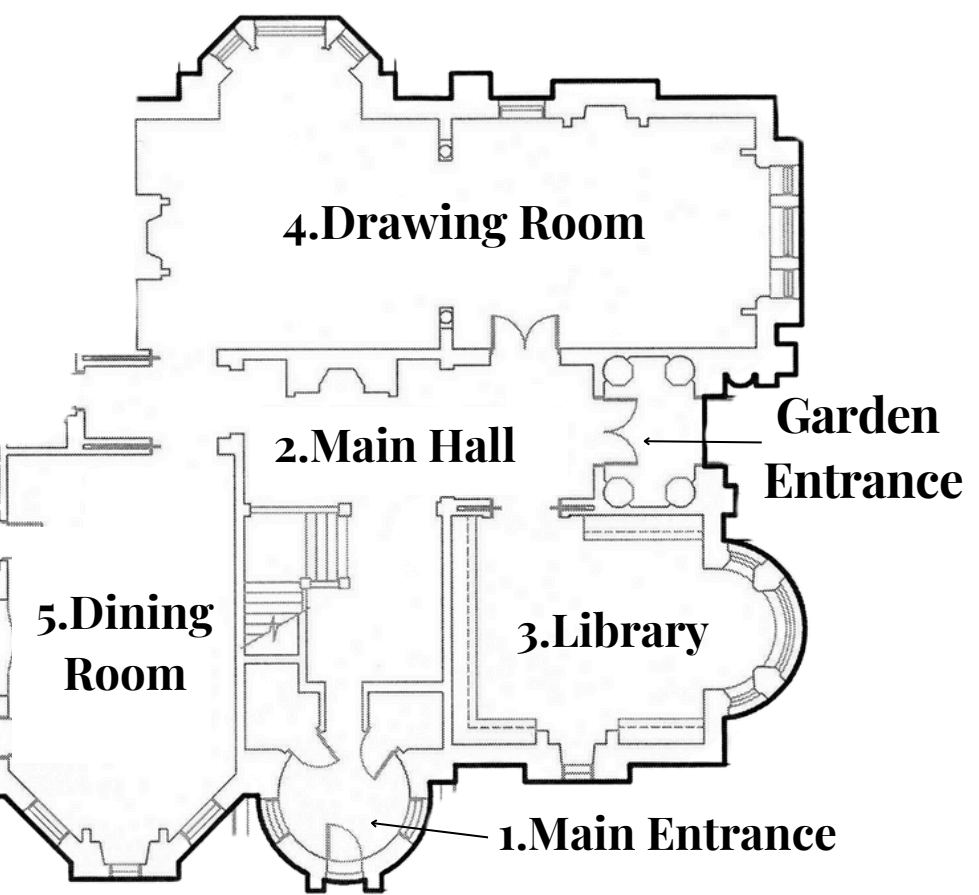


Scan to search our online Collection

Complimentary Wifi Available  
Username: Castle-Guest  
Password: Castlevisit



### 1st FLOOR ( FRONT HALF)



**1. Porte Cochere (Main Entrance):** This was the main entrance used by Joan Dunsmuir and her guests. The paneling and ceiling are western red cedar. The two doors in this room lead to a coatroom and a bathroom.

**2. Main Hall:** The white oak paneling in the main hall and stairwell was manufactured by A.H. Andrews & Company of Chicago, Illinois. The quotation above the main hall fireplace comes from Shakespeare's play *Troilus and Cressida*. The clock on the mantle is original to the home and was purchased by Mrs. Dunsmuir on a trip to Switzerland.

**3. Library:** The woodwork in this room is Spanish mahogany. The portraits beside the fireplace depict Robert and Joan Dunsmuir. The cylindrical radiators on either side of the bay window are part of the Castle's original heating system and are still functional.

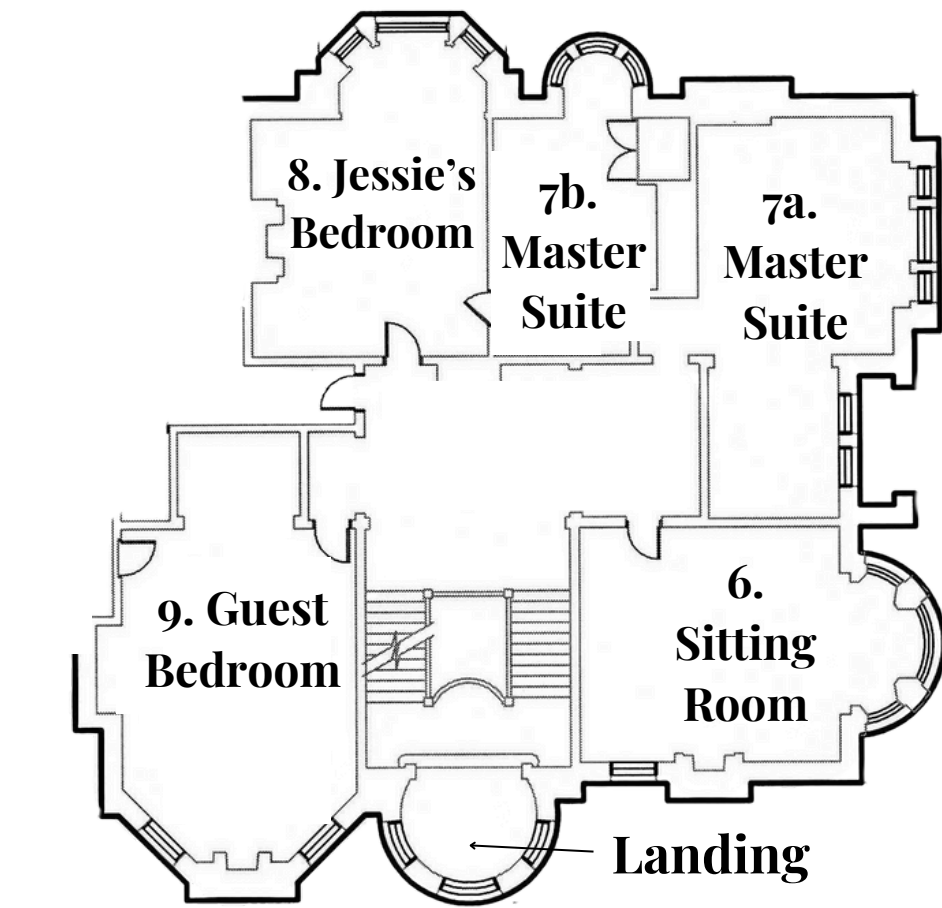
**The Garden Entrance:** This door was used by the Dunsmuir family to access the veranda. The bear-shaped hallstand on the right is original to the house. This door was used as the main entrance during the Military Hospital years (1919 – 1921) and Victoria College years (1921 – 1946).

**4. Drawing Room:** The name “drawing room” comes from the word “withdraw.” The Dunsmuir daughters would withdraw to this room after dinner. The 1898 Steinway piano was commissioned by Alexander Dunsmuir and was used by his brother, James, at his home Hatley Park. The ceiling in this room was once covered with five layers of house paint; a fine art conservator restored the ceiling over the course of twelve years.

**5. Dining Room:** The door to the right of the mirrored sideboard was used by servants to bring food in from the pantry; the door on the left opens to a five-foot-drop. This room has the most original furniture of all the rooms in the house: the three large gold-framed paintings, two carved deer wall panels, silverware, and the dining table and matching chairs are all original.

TOUR CONTINUES UP THE MAIN STAIRS TO THE 2nd FLOOR

### 2nd FLOOR (FRONT HALF)



**Landing:** This space would have been used for resting or for musical entertainment during parties. The stained glass throughout the home was manufactured by the Pacific Art Glass Works of San Francisco, CA.

**6. Mrs. Dunsmuir's Sitting Room:** Joan Dunsmuir spent time here managing the vast business empire left to her by her husband. She met with her sons, James and Alexander, in this room several times where they argued over the contents of Robert's will. On the wall is an example of Victorian hair-art, a popular pastime for upper class women.

**7a & 7b. Master Suite:** This room was Joan Dunsmuir's bedroom. The nook to the right would have housed the bed. During the Military Hospital years, the ensuite bathroom was expanded to accommodate the many patients housed in the building.

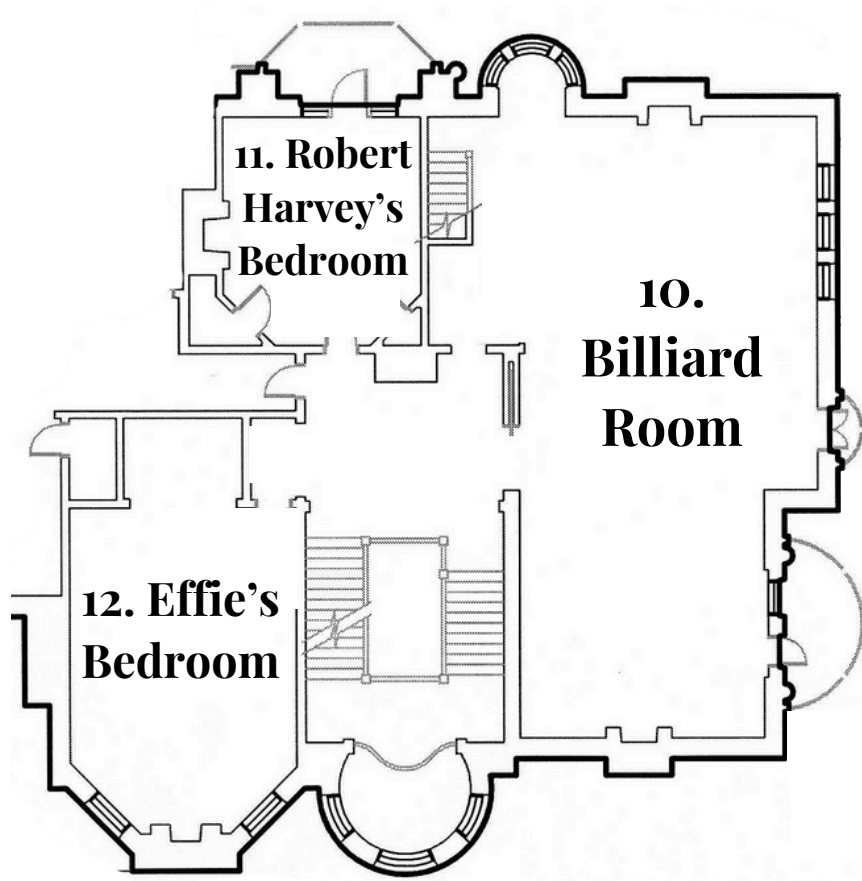
**8. Jessie's Bedroom:** This was possibly the bedroom of Jessie Sophia Dunsmuir (Jessie), who was 24 years old when she moved into Craigdarroch. Jessie was the first of her siblings to marry into the British aristocracy. In 1891, she married Irish Baron Sir Richard Musgrave and moved back to Ireland with him. The stained glass in this room features British Columbia's provincial flower, the Dogwood.

**9. Guest Bedroom:** This guest bedroom was likely used by the Dunsmuir's youngest son, Alexander, when he came to visit from his home in San Francisco. The documentary playing in this room tells the story of the Castle; it is 36 minutes long and plays on a loop.

**After The Dunsmuirs**  
After Joan Dunsmuir's death in 1908, Craigdarroch and its contents were left to her five remaining daughters. Over the course of three days, the building's entire contents were auctioned. The 28-acre estate was subdivided, and the Castle was raffled away for free. The lucky winner, Solomon Cameron, used the building as collateral to secure loans from the bank. He went bankrupt after ten years and the Castle was repossessed by the bank.

TOUR CONTINUES UP THE MAIN STAIRS TO THE 3rd FLOOR

### 3rd FLOOR (FRONT HALF)



**10. Billiard Room:** This room was used by the Dunsmuir daughters to relax and entertain. While not original to the house, the billiard table is the same size as the original Dunsmuir table and was made by the same company. The graffiti which covers the paneling by the doorframe was carved by the students of Victoria College. It has been preserved as a part of the history of the house. The staircase beside the telescope was used by servants to access the 4th floor dance hall.

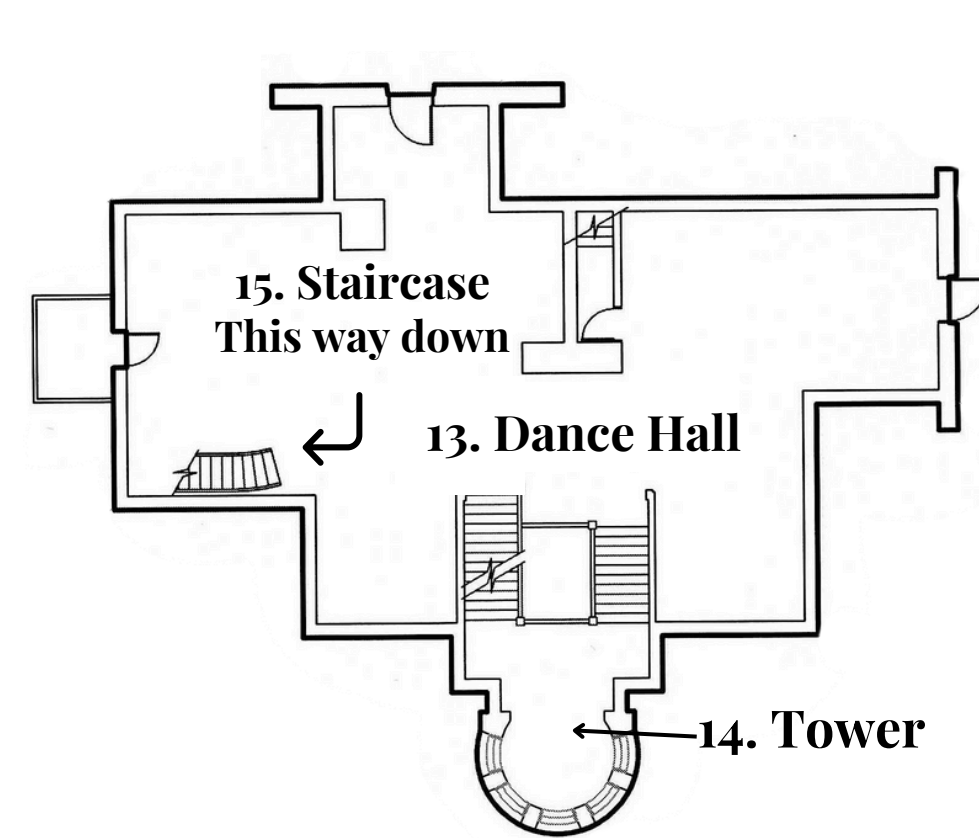
**11. Robert Dunsmuir Harvey's Bedroom:** This room was possibly occupied by Robert Dunsmuir Harvey, Mrs. Dunsmuir's orphaned 12-year-old grandson. His parents were Agnes Dunsmuir and James Swan Harvey. Robert and his sister, Elizabeth, moved into the Castle with their grandmother after their parents died of typhoid. This room contains many items belonging to Robert Dunsmuir Harvey, including the silver sports trophies on the mantle, the golden spurs on the dresser, and the watercolour and gouache portrait beside the fireplace.

**12. Effie's Bedroom:** This bedroom may have been used by Annie Euphemia Dunsmuir (Effie), who was 22 years old when she moved into the Castle. The pencil drawing on the easel depicts “Little-Goody-Two-Shoes” and was drawn by Effie when she was around 12 years old. Effie lived a troubled life: in 1908 her husband applied for a certificate of lunacy on her behalf, and she spent the rest of her life in a mental hospital in England.

**Chronology of Craigdarroch**  
**1887 – 1890** Construction of Craigdarroch  
**1890 – 1908** Occupied by Joan Dunsmuir  
**1910 – 1919** Owned by Solomon Cameron  
**1919 – 1921** Craigdarroch Military Hospital  
**1921 – 1946** Victoria College  
**1946 – 1968** Victoria School Board  
**1969 – 1979** Victoria Conservatory of Music  
**1969 – Now** Historic House Museum

TOUR CONTINUES UP THE MAIN STAIRS TO THE 4th FLOOR

### 4th FLOOR



**13. Dance Hall:** The dance hall was used to host lavish parties for the Dunsmuir family and their guests. The arched window to the right faces west and gives a good view of downtown Victoria. Note the servants' staircase coming up from the billiard room.

On the left side of the dance hall, a window overlooks the south lawn. The building with the Canadian flag flying in the distance is Government House. This marks the outer edge of the Castle's original 28-acre estate. The grounds originally housed tennis courts, a teahouse, and a man-made lake. Note the dance cards to the left of the window.

**14. Tower:** Once the tallest point in Victoria, the Dunsmuirs would have enjoyed the tower's views of Pkaals (Mount Tolmie) and PKOLS (Mount Douglas). The tower overlooks part of the two-million-acre land grant that Robert Dunsmuir received for constructing the E&N railway. The floor tiles come from the Minton Tile Company in England

**15. Staircase:** The Collard & Collard piano to the left of the tower staircase is not original and may be played by visitors with musical ability.

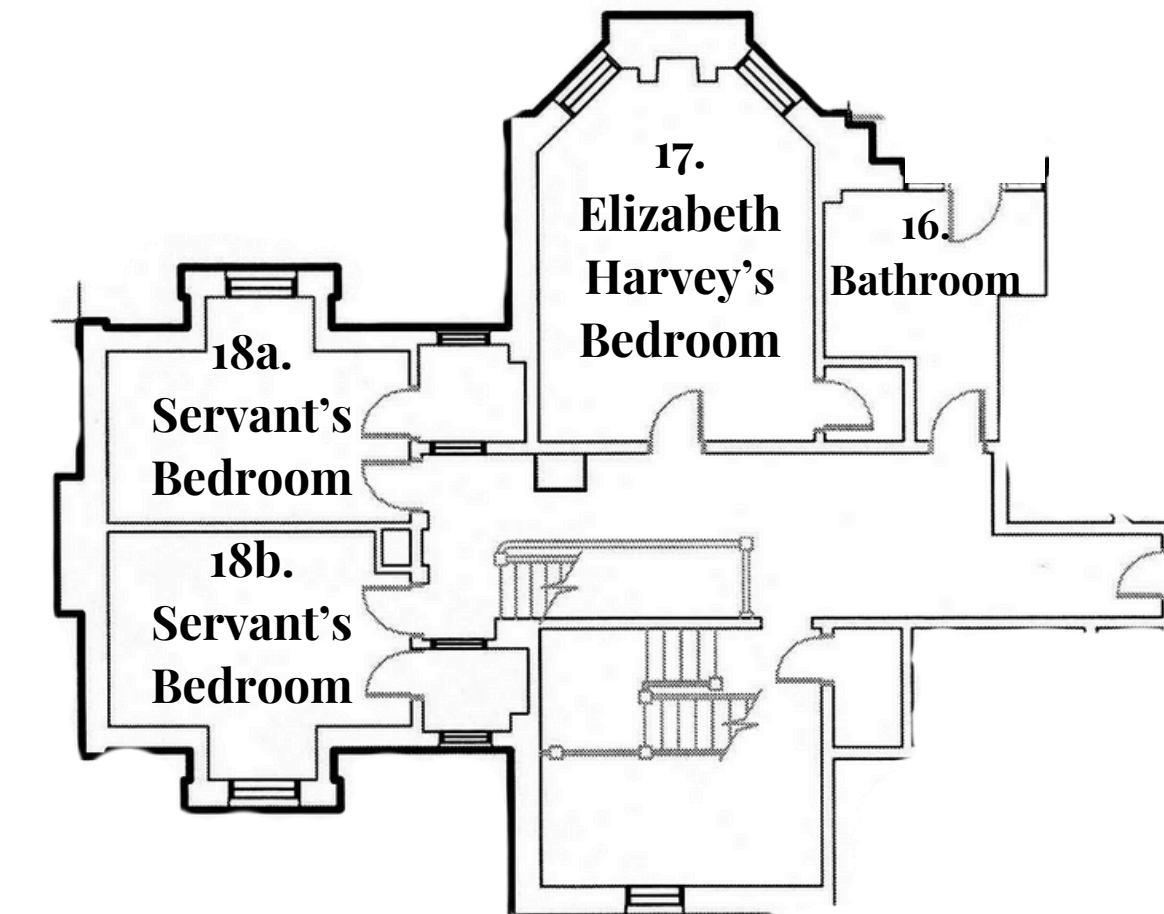
Head past the piano and down the second staircase. These stairs were added in 1994 as part of a public safety upgrade of the house. The original purpose of the room that this staircase leads into is undetermined. However, during the Victoria College years, it was used as a male common room.

#### Castle Quick Facts

- Craigdarroch means “rocky oak place” in Gaelic.
- The Castle is 25,572 sq. ft. including the basement.
- It took five rail cars to ship all 2,128 white oak panels from Chicago.
- There are seventeen fireplaces and seven chimney stacks.
- The castle had gas and electric lighting, hot and cold running water for indoor plumbing, central heating, telephones, and a burglar alarm system.

TOUR CONTINUES DOWN THE SERVANTS' STAIRS TO THE 3rd FLOOR

### 3rd FLOOR (BACK HALF)



**16. Bathroom:** This bathroom is the only one in the house that has been restored back to its original Dunsmuir-era appearance. The floor tiles are original, while the woodwork and plumbing have been recreated based on historical trends and evidence found behind the walls.

**17. Elizabeth Harvey's Bedroom & Military Hospital Gallery:** This bedroom was possibly used by Elizabeth Dunsmuir-Harvey (Lizzie), who moved into the Castle with her brother Robert after their parents' death. Today, this room tells the story of Craigdarroch Military Hospital. After The Great War, specialized hospitals were required to house thousands of returning injured and ill soldiers. Over 1000 patients were treated here, some of whom had beds in the building and others who were day patients. The Castle underwent extensive renovations to convert it for use as a hospital. Many of these changes are still visible today.

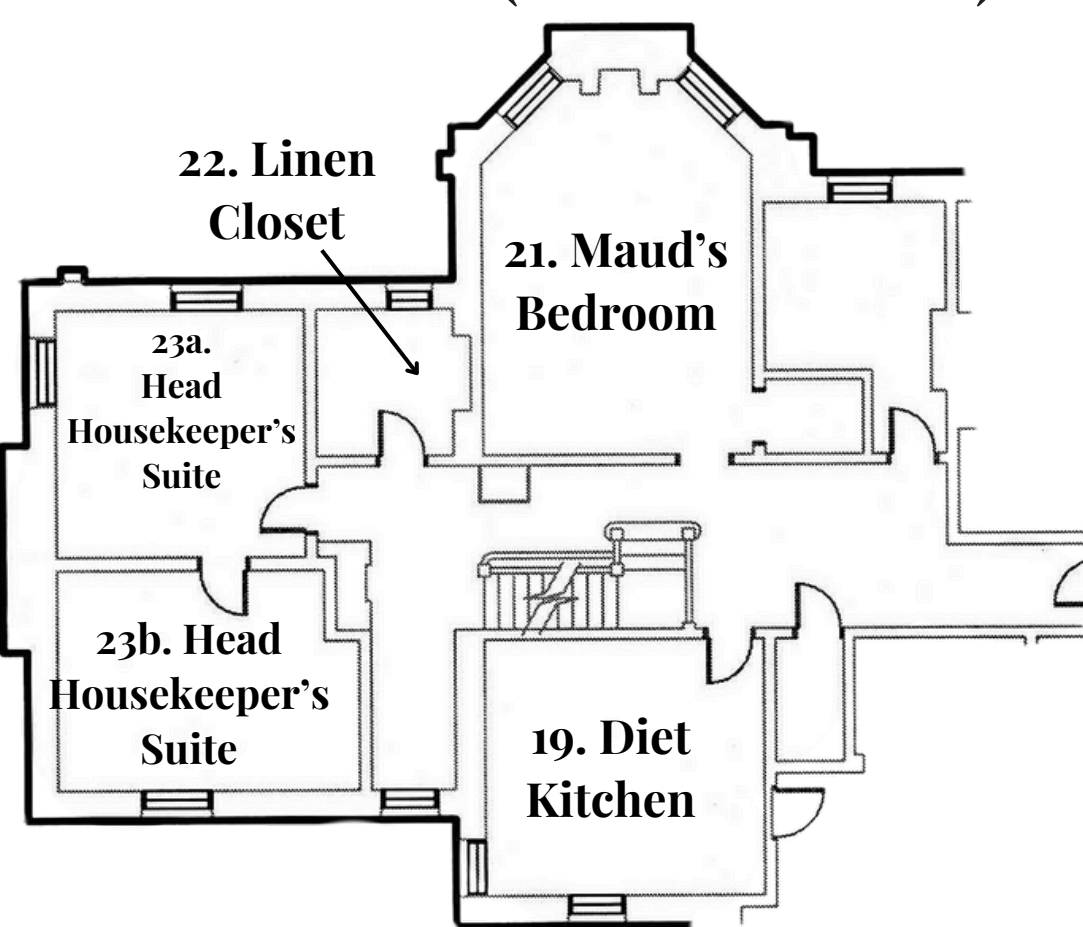
**18a & 18b. Servants' Bedrooms:** The two rooms at the end of the hallway were used by the Dunsmuir's live-in servants. The Dunsmuirs employed up to ten servants, including a housekeeper, housemaids, a groundskeeper, a coachman, houseboys, a cook, and a butler. Some of the staff lived in the Castle and on the grounds and others commuted in.

#### After the Military Hospital

Victoria College moved into Craigdarroch in 1921 with an enrolment of 160 students. At the end of WWII, enrolment rose to 600 and the College moved to a larger campus. More than 5,000 students attended classes here. Next, the Castle was used as an office building for the Victoria School Board. The Castle was then handed over to the Victoria Conservatory of Music and the Castle Society, who occupied the building simultaneously for ten years. Finally, in 1979, the Castle Society took sole occupancy of the building. It has been a museum ever since.

TOUR CONTINUES DOWN THE SERVANTS' STAIRS TO THE 2nd FLOOR

### 2nd FLOOR (BACK HALF)



**19. Diet Kitchen:** During the Military Hospital years, this room was used as a diet kitchen. Food was prepared here for patients with special doctor-ordered diets. The original use of this room is unknown; it may have been used as a dressing room or for storage.

**20. Bathroom:** This bathroom was modified during the Military Hospital period to allow for multiple people to use it at once. Originally, it would have looked similar to the restored bathroom upstairs. The sink and floor tiles are original.

**21. Maud's Bedroom:** This bedroom may have been used by Henrietta Maud Dunsmuir (Maud) the youngest of Robert and Joan's children. Maud was 18 years old when she moved into the Castle. Maud lived a happy life, travelling throughout Canada and the United Kingdom with her husband, Reginald Chaplin.

**22. Linen Closet:** This room is paneled with cedar and was likely a linen closet. Note the holes in the linoleum flooring – this space was used for cello lessons during the Victoria Conservatory of Music occupancy.

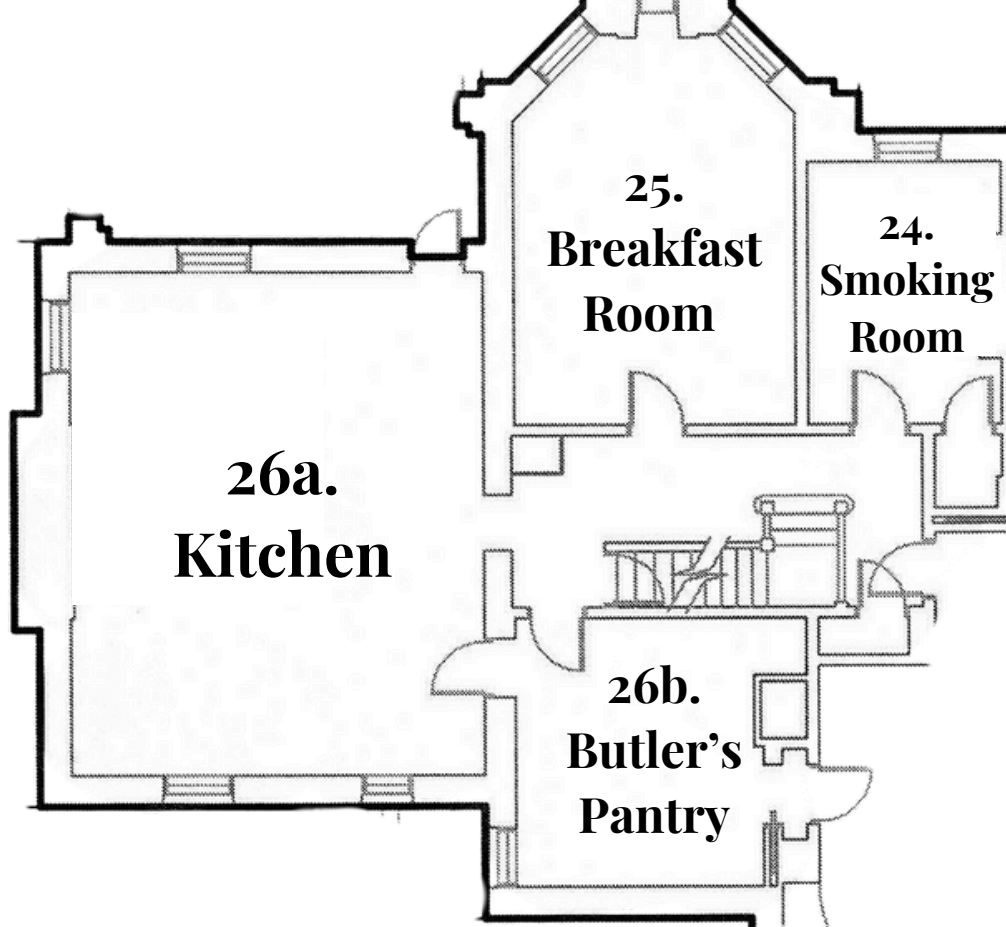
**23a & 23b. Head Housekeeper's Suite:** These rooms were once used as the head housekeeper's private bedroom and sitting room.

#### Dumbwaiter, Speaking Tubes, and Laundry Chute

The wood-paneled box between Maud's bedroom and the linen closet contains the dumbwaiter. A dumbwaiter is a small, enclosed, manually operated lift used to transport items between floors. On the wall beside the dumbwaiter is one of twelve speaking tubes, used by the family to communicate with servants. The terminus for the speaking tubes was in the kitchen but was removed during renovations. Finally, the small door at the top of the stairs is the laundry chute, which ran down to the basement laundry room.

TOUR CONTINUES DOWN THE SERVANTS' STAIRS TO THE 1st FLOOR

### 1st FLOOR (BACK HALF)



**24. Smoking Room:** Smoking rooms were traditionally masculine spaces where gentlemen would retire after dinner to smoke, drink, and talk business. Because no men lived at Craigdarroch, this room would have likely been used by the three youngest Dunsmuir daughters who all smoked. The woodwork in this room is burl walnut. The fireplace with warming compartments was made in Louisville, Kentucky. The stained-glass window depicts Sir Walter Raleigh, credited with popularizing tobacco in Britain.

**25. Breakfast Room:** The Dunsmuir family would have taken informal meals such as breakfast and lunch in this room. The walls are lined with cherry paneling, and the stained-glass windows feature Morning Glory and Coltsfoot flowers. The fireplace's unusual flue bends to the right to accommodate the stained glass. Note the wedge-shaped blue and white dish on the table, which was used for serving cheese.

**26a & 26b. Kitchen & Pantry:** This space was originally three separate rooms: the main kitchen space, a food pantry, and a scullery for washing dishes. Note the markings on the floor which show where the walls once were. The range would have been positioned in front of the yellow-glazed brick wall, which is original. The kitchen pantry connects to the butler's pantry, which was used to store dishes and silverware. Food was cooked in the kitchen, plated in the butler's pantry, then taken through to the dining room. The wooden furniture pieces in the kitchen are all interactive: feel free to touch!

Thank you for visiting Craigdarroch Castle!  
Don't forget to visit the Gift Shop in the Visitor Center, which carries a selection of Castle books, souvenirs, and a wide range of local and Canadian-made gifts.  
All purchases support the work of the Castle Society.