

6 Tulloch Castle: Ancestral Home

One particular **Davidson** family has been associated with the ancient burgh of Dingwall since 1762 when **Henry Davidson**, originally from Cromarty, purchased Tulloch Castle. Six successive Davidsons from this family were lairds of Tulloch Castle until 1917. They served as MPs for the local constituency and Provosts of Dingwall at different times.

Tulloch Castle: The earliest part of the current building may date from the 16th Century. Since the Davidsons acquired the Castle in 1762, from the Bayne family, it has been restored several times and is now a hotel.



Tulloch Castle: South Front



Tulloch Castle Lodge



Tulloch Castle: West Wing

The Davidson of Tulloch Arms can be seen on the front of the building dating from the 1919/20 restoration and in the stained glass above the main staircase. The Clan Crest and Motto are carved in the mantelpiece above the fireplace in the main hall.



Davidson of Tulloch Arms



Tulloch Mains Farm which is located just to the east of the Castle is an important set of farm buildings which date from 1774 when the Davidsons' were making improvements to their farming estates.



Tulloch Farm: The Cottage



Tulloch Farm Archway Entrance



Tulloch Farm Barn

Caisteal Gorach is a picturesque folly designed for the **Davidsons** by Robert Adam in 1789–90, located on the hill above Tulloch. Climb the hill and admire the fine views of Dingwall, the Cromarty Firth, and the lands to the south and the west from this position.



Caisteal Gorach
from the South



Caisteal Gorach
from the East

The Davidson Burial Ground at Millbank includes the graves of the last three **Davidson Lairds of Tulloch** and their wives. This site can be found in the woodland immediately behind the houses in Chestnut Avenue.



Davidson Graveyard at Millbank in the 1890s



Davidson Graveyard at Millbank: Today

Key Dates:

- 1166–85 Castle Keep is built.
- 1500s Approximate date of the oldest part of the current Castle.
- 1542 Bayne Family in occupation.
- 1762 Davidson Family buys the Castle.
- 1770s Tulloch Farm rebuilt.
- 1789 Caisteal Gorach, designed by Robert Adam and built on the hill above Tulloch.
- 1838 Castle damaged by Fire.
- 1845 Castle damaged by Fire.
- 1891 Initial Restoration of East Wing by Andrew Maitland.
- 1917 Last Davidson of Tulloch Laird dies.
- 1920 Further Restoration of East Wing for Vickers Family by Sir Robert Lorimer.
- 1947 Castle leased to Ross-shire County Council as an Educational Hostel.
- 1957 Castle sold to Ross-shire County Council.
- 1988 Castle sold for conversion to a Hotel.