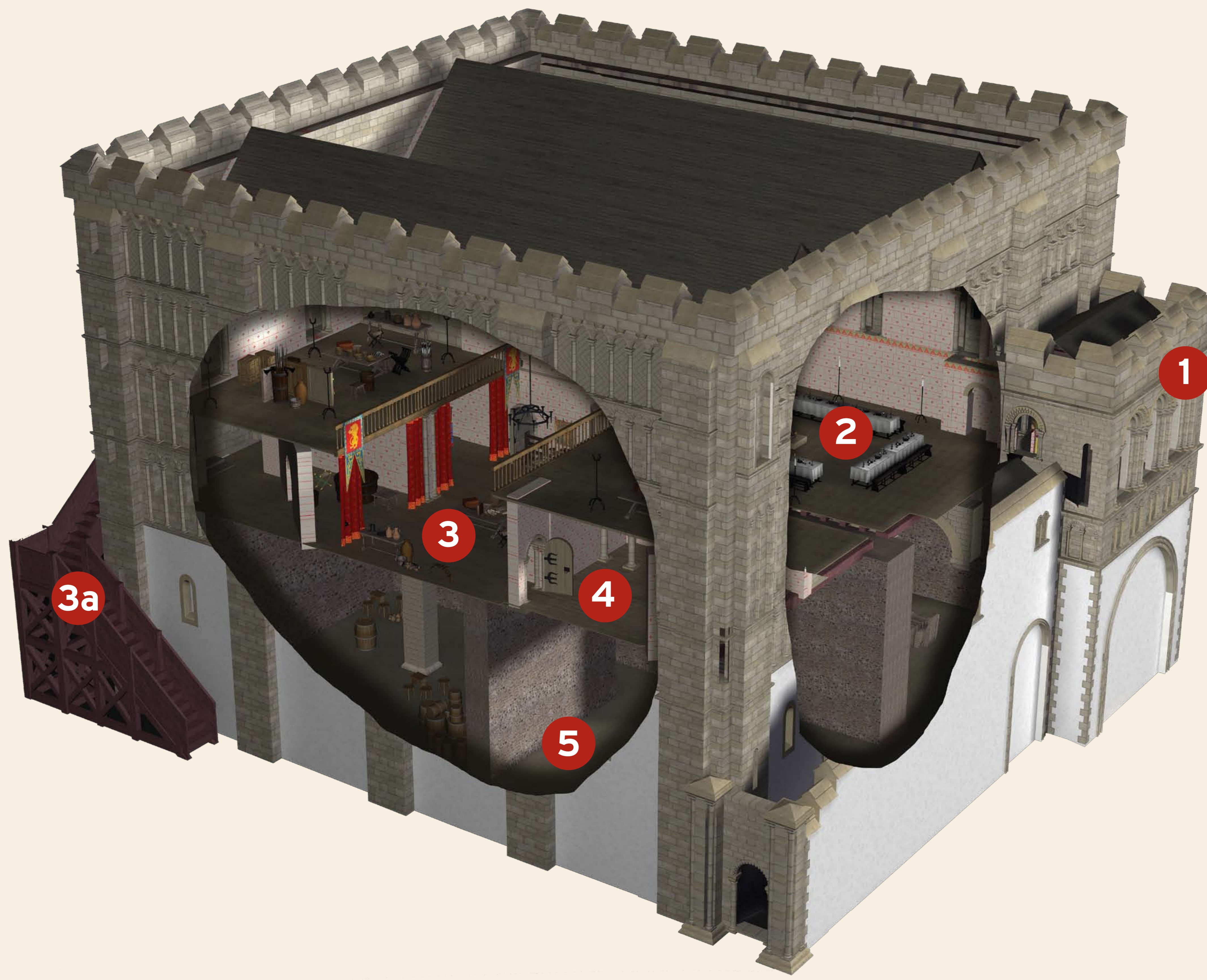


The model and virtual tour displayed on this floor show the Keep as it may have looked at Christmas 1121, when the Norman King Henry I and his court visited Norwich.



1 Bigod Tower. The ceremonial entrance to the Keep. The intricately carved doorway is regarded as an architectural masterpiece. It was designed to inspire awe in visitors.

2 Great Hall. The Castle's main room, huge and richly decorated, a symbol of the King's might. Only servants and very important people would ever see this room.

3 King's Chamber. A room set aside for the King's use during royal visits. It may have been used by the Constable or Sheriff at other times. Leading off this room, there is a window with a view of the Norman market-place. There may have been a wooden balcony here (**3a**) where the King showed himself to the people wearing his crown; similar to Buckingham Palace balcony appearances today.

4 Chapel. The Chapel at Norwich Castle is relatively small, and the location of the altar in the corner of the building is unusual.

5 Keep ground floor. A huge space, we think it was used for storage and possibly as sleeping quarters for servants. Its main function was to give height to the imposing ceremonial rooms above.

Computer reconstruction of Norwich Castle in 1121, showing the vast defences and the baileys full of tents and small buildings.

