Historical Sights in Newcastle by Jesse Wallace

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In 1080 Robert the Second, eldest son of William the Conqueror, built a castle on the area of an old roman settlement. The castle was named Newcastle, and consequently a thriving city grew about the castle and around the river Tyne. While the original wooden fort no longer stands, the city of Newcastle nonetheless has many historical landmarks and maintains a strong connection to its historical heritage. One of the most popular attractions is Newcastle Keep, built by Henry II on the site of Robert II's original fortifications.

Located not far from Newcastle Central Station, Newcastle Keep is a prime example of Norman architecture. Nearly a thousand years old, the castle has been the site of many military encounters. Used as the basis of Henry II's northern defense system, and then also as a Royalist stronghold during the English civil war, the castle has a long history as an active fortification, making it particularly interesting to those visitors of a historical bent. Aside from its own rich history, the castle is also a repository for various historical artifacts from British history, including relics from the 17th century. The castle is definitely a must-see for any visitor who wants to experience Newcastle's fascinating history. Those visiting Newcastle with young children, may instead wish to take a day trip to Wallington Hall, the ancestral home of the eccentric Treveylan family.

Wallington Hall is a grand estate, run by the National Trust, located some ways north of Newcastle city. Having been a family home for over 300 years, Wallington hall has a long history, and much of this has been preserved by the owners. There is beautiful artwork, a very large collection of china and textiles, and many other curious examples of the Treveylan family's idiosyncrasies, including a doll house of 36 rooms, each lit by electricity. It is also an ideal place to bring young children, as its extensive grounds include an adventure playground, making this a great family day out.

Newcastle has many historical sites spread around its landscape, so many that it is a must-visit for history enthusiasts. As Newcastle is a modern city it has a very well supported tourist infrastructure, consequently there are many Newcastle hotels and tourist information sites. While you are never far from accommodation, it is always advisable to book in advance, to ensure you enjoy your stay as much as possible, and have plenty of opportunity to explore Newcastle's fascinating historical heritage.

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