

THREAVE

A KEY LOCATION in the #GoCrocketteering literary tourism trails.

See www.gallowayraiders.co.uk for more information.



2019 sees the 120th anniversary of the publication of *The Black Douglas* which features Threave (Thrieve) Castle as a key location. The sequel *Maid Margaret* is also set here. Between them, medieval Galloway is brought stunningly to life for the reader, who can experience the Castle as it was in its heyday, in these works of evocative and exciting historical fiction:

'Close by the last turn of the turret staircase yawned the iron-sparred mouth of the dungeon.'

As a boy Crockett climbed the walls of Threave as enthusiastically as he climbed the rooftops of Castle Douglas and the cliffs of the Solway. As an adult he progressed to climbing in Switzerland but Galloway was always his preferred location.

"The great island strength of the Douglasses was then in its highest state of perfection as a fortress and of dignity as a residence. Archibald the Grim, who built the keep, could not have foreseen the wondrous beauty and strength of which Thrieve would attain under his successors."

In *Raiderland* he wrote: *'Yet though forgotten by the new, Thrieve was once the centre of all the south—one might almost say of all Scotland.'*

The Black Douglas and Maid Margaret recounts tales of the 'red' and 'black' Douglasses and The Maid of Galloway, bringing these historic figures to life in a unique and exciting way, including the siege of the castle, an explanation for the dungeon Archibald the Grim and the construction of the cannon Mons Meg.

You can buy all Crockett's Galloway based novels in paperback or ebook and if you take part in #GoCrocketteering you can get free ebooks, in exchange for taking #SlateSelfies.