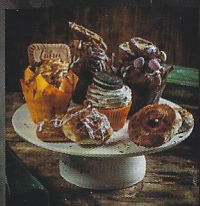


After your visit, you can relax in our ground-floor ice cream parlour and coffee shop, where you can enjoy a wide range of delicious ice cream flavours, hot drinks and decadent cakes.



If you are keen to learn more about life in Edinburgh's Old Town, Gladstone's Land boasts a number of guided tours on specialist subjects. There is also an app-based walking tour between Gladstone's Land and the Georgian House, another National Trust for Scotland property.



Use the QR code to visit our website or ask a member of staff for more details.

GLADSTONE'S LAND

TRADING SINCE 1501

500 YEARS OF TRADING
HISTORY IN THE HEART OF
EDINBURGH'S OLD TOWN



**NATIONAL
TRUST** *for*
SCOTLAND

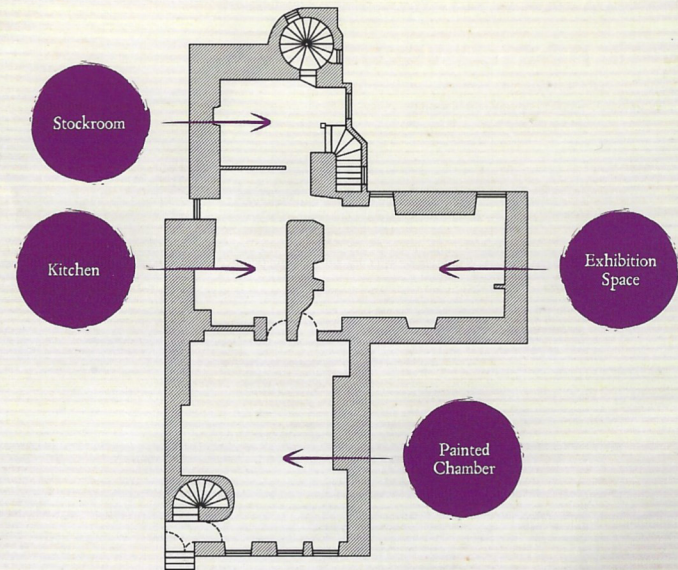
Welcome to Gladstone's Land.

This unassuming tenement has witnessed more than 500 years of Old Town history. It was bought by Thomas Gladstone, who gives the property its name, in the early 17th century. He extended the building to the front and added the fashionable painted ceilings that you can see on each floor with the intention of attracting affluent commercial and residential tenants.

Gladstone's Land continued to thrive until the spacious buildings of the New Town attracted the wealthy away from the area in the late-18th century. This marked the start of a period of decline for the property until it was rescued from demolition by the National Trust for Scotland in 1934.

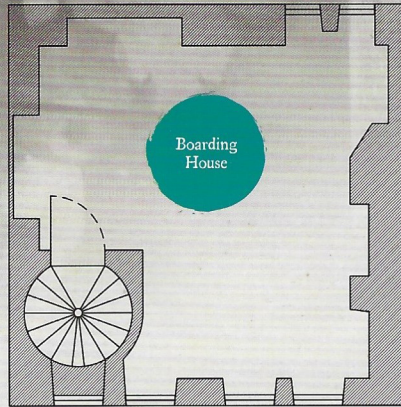
We recommend beginning your visit on the third floor.

1. FIRST FLOOR



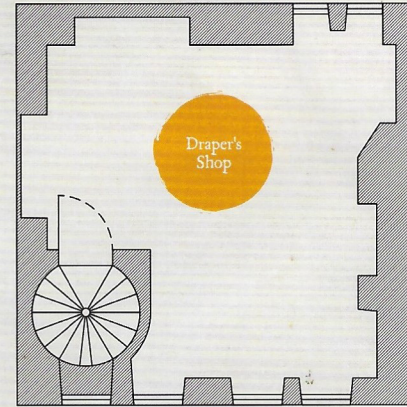
The early-17th century was the heyday of Gladstone's Land and wealthy merchants, John Riddoch and Margaret Noble, lived and worked here in 1632. They ran a shop on the ground floor and a tavern in the basement. This is their apartment with a large hall (for living, sleeping and socialising), a kitchen and a stockroom. The expensive decoration and furniture demonstrated their wealth and their stockroom is full of the luxury goods that they imported and sold.

III. THIRD FLOOR



Mary Wilson opened a boarding house in Gladstone's Land in 1911, advertising in the Scotsman for "two or three respectable men" to share one of the large front rooms. Boarding houses provided temporary accommodation for those without their own home and they varied hugely in the amenities they offered and the class of the residents. This relatively comfortable, but affordable room would have attracted working-class men in steady jobs. The multi-occupancy rooms in the building and the property's increasing sub-division into smaller apartments demonstrates the decline in the property and the area.

II. SECOND FLOOR



In 1766 this draper's shop (belonging to William Dawson and Elizabeth Pillans) was where wealthy members of Edinburgh society would have bought fashionable fabric, ribbons and accessories. Shopping was rapidly becoming a leisure pursuit for middle and upper-class women and the interior design and displays were all calculated to encourage a purchase. Old Town was still a prosperous social and commercial centre, but the creation of the New Town was imminent, changing the way of life in the area.