

SUBJECT TITLE: EAST WEMYSS CAVES AND MACDUFF'S CASTLE

Feature: Sandstone coastal caves and 16th century castle.

Chart No: 734 **Lat/Long:** 56° 9'.7 N 003° 3'.3 W

OS 1:50,000 sheet number Sheet 59 **Grid Ref.:** NT 345971

Subject description: Around a dozen caves, well known for their incised Pictish symbols of which there are more here than anywhere else in the UK. An interesting self guided tour can be made using the "Guide to Wemyss Caves" by Frank Rankin. Above the caves is the castle of which one tower remains. A spiral stair enables this to be climbed to the top.

Approach by sea: There are no off lying dangers.

Directions by land: Village on the A955 between Kirkcaldy and Leven. Two roads lead to the shore, one between the primary school and the cemetery at the North end and the other near the "Carshed" a newsagent. Park near the interpretation boards by Weavers Court. Follow the coastal path to caves.

Anchoring / Mooring: Anchor in 3.5 m. Best to advise MCA Fifeness as to intentions as anchoring here is unusual.

Landing: No particular landing, open shore.

Other local information: It is strongly recommended that any intending visitor obtain a copy of "Guide to Wemyss Caves" by Frank Rankin, 1988, revised and reprinted 2001, ISBN 0946294 30 5, available from Tourist Information Offices and Save Wemyss Ancient Caves Society, Secretary Ann Watters, 17 Townsend Crescent, Kirkcaldy, Fife, KY1 1DN.

References / weblinks:

1. The Origins and History of the Wemyss Caves.
www.thefifepost.com/wemysscaves.html
2. Caves of Britain: Wemyss Caves
www.showcaves.com/english/gb/caves/Wemyss.html
3. Wemyss Caves Carvings Laser Scanned
www.themodernantiquarian.com/post/28498
4. MacDuff's Castle
www.geo.ed.ac.uk/scotgaz/features/featurefirst9709.html

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