

The Evolution of Castles

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Introduction

Castles have been evolving for hundreds of years for defence and space. People live in castles so they wouldn't get attacked. Here are three examples of different castles from 1066 to the 13th Century CE (CE stands for Common Era).

Motte and Bailey castles

This is the Motte and Bailey castle.



The Motte and Bailey castle was the first ever castle built by the Normans.

The Motte was the hill part of the castle and it was used if intruders came.

The big bridge going from the Bailey to the Motte was a drawbridge which the Normans could pull up the drawbridge and stop enemies from coming. The Bailey is at the bottom of the castle and that's where the Normans and English people lived. If you wanted to destroy the Motte and Bailey castle the best way would be to shoot some arrows with fire on them. The reason you would shoot the Motte and Bailey castle with flaming arrows is because the Motte and Bailey castles where made out of wood and mud and the wood would burn easily.

Stone Keep castles



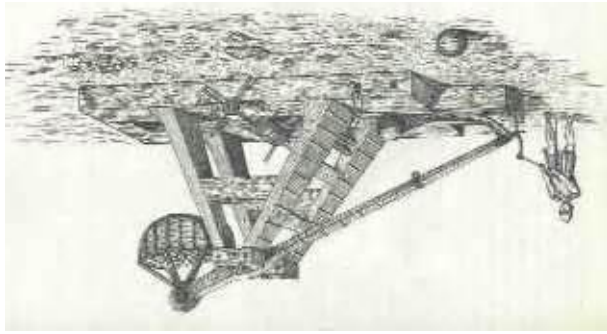
This castle is called the stone keep castle. The stone keep castle replaced the Motte and Bailey castle because it has a higher defence but had fewer windows. When you wanted to go into the stone keep castle you would go up some stairs and reach the first floor.

If you wanted to attack a stone keep castle it would be best to use a catapult and fire stones on to the stone wall so you can break the wall and get inside.

Concentric castles



This is a Concentric castle. The Concentric castle was build in the 12th and 13th Centuries and had the best defence if an intruder came. The space between the two walls was known as the 'death hole' because if an enemy came and they fell in that hole they would be stuck there forever. The main feature of this castle was its walls. An inner wall was built of thick stone with turrets then surrounded by an equally thick but lower stone wall. If you want to attack a Concentric castle the best way would be to have a catapult and a siege army. The reason you would use a catapult and siege is because the catapult could break the two walls



and the siege could attack when the walls were broken.