

МБОУ «Средняя общеобразовательная школа №51
“Центр образования”» г. Рязани

Замки Соединённого Королевства (Castles of the United Kingdom)

Проект

Секция: Иностранные языки (английский язык)

Выполнили
Мальцева Мария,
Сазонова Екатерина,
6А класс

Учитель
Симакова Юлия
Валерьевна

Рязань, 2013

Contents

Introduction.....	3
1. The First Castles on the British Isles.....	4
2. The Beginning of Stone Castles in the XI-XII centuries..	5
3. Concentric Castles: Better Protection.....	6
4. XIV century: New Defence	7
Conclusion.....	8
Literature.....	9
Appendix.....	10

Introduction

In our country lots of people are interested in the English language. Nowadays many Russian people live and study in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland that is why they should know more interesting facts and important information about this country.

Our research work is dedicated to the architecture of castles situated on the territory of the United Kingdom. Studying this problem we came across a large diversity of castles and fortresses. Each of them has its own history, specific architectural features. Each castle is unique. So we decided to find out what historic events influenced the peculiarities of these wonderful architectural constructions.

Starting the research we see its *aim* as following: to understand what historic events determined the architecture of the UK castles

Taking into consideration the aim of the research we defined its *tasks*:

1. To analyze the specific features of the architecture of the United Kingdom.
2. To learn more about famous architectural buildings in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
3. To expand information about the history of the origin of the castles during the Middle Ages in Britain and Northern Ireland.

1. The First Castles on the British Isles

The Normans were the tribes who inhabited Scandinavia in the Middle Ages and organized, aggressive campaigns in Europe.

The Normans invaded England in 1066 and after killing England's King, they set about taking over the whole country. In order to do this, they needed to build defences to protect themselves while they advanced across the rest of the country. The Normans built “motte and bailey”. These castles were quick to build using just earth and wood. Their first castles were wooden and later they started to built stone castles for better protection.

The term “motte and bailey” castle comes from Norman French words for mound and enclosed land.

Motte - mound or 'clod of earth'
Bailey - enclosure.

The most important part of the Motte and Bailey castle was the Keep. It was built on a huge mound (the motte). Mottes ranged from 25 feet (8 metres) to over 80 feet (24 metres) in height. (Appendix 1)

The sides of the motte were so steep that it would have been impossible to run up them in one go. For better protection, a deep ditch was dug around the bottom of the motte.

These castles didn't preserve because:

- Wooden castles were not very strong.
- The wooden structures caught fire easily.
- Stone was much stronger.
- Since 1100, people began to build castles in stone.

2. The Beginning of Stone Castles in the XI-XII centuries

Timber, one of the two materials from which “motte and bailey” castles were built, was perishable and, more importantly, vulnerable to fire. A more durable and resistant material was required and that was stone.

Compared to the wooden “motte and bailey”, castles stone ones were larger, taller and more reliable for defense purposes. They gave better protection against attack, fire and cold rainy weather.

In the early medieval times the English castle is often a stone fortress built on a hill.

Windsor Castle, in Windsor in the English county of Berkshire, is the largest inhabited castle in the world and, dating back to the time of William the Conqueror, is the oldest in continuous occupation. (Appendix 2)

Together with Buckingham Palace in London and Holyrood Palace in Edinburgh, it is one of the principal official residences of the British monarch. Queen Elizabeth II spends many weekends of the year at the castle, using it for both state and private entertaining. Her other two residences.

3. Concentric Castles: Better Protection

The word concentric means one circle inside another (this referred to the walls of this type of castle).

Concentric castles can be described as "a castle in a castle". They had two or three walls around the keep.

The word concentric means one circle inside another (this referred to the walls of this type of castle).

The inside walls were built higher than the outside walls. This meant that defenders could fire arrows over the heads of the soldiers defending the outside walls. Having many walls meant that even if an enemy broke through the outer wall, there was a second castle securely defended and stored with provisions. So concentric castles were better protection from attacks.

Concentric castles were the best protection from the attacks in the 12th and 13th centuries. The examples of these castles are Dover Castle and Tower of London. Dover Castle in Kent was one of the first castles where the idea of a concentric castle was tried out by Henry III. He also put an outer wall around the Tower of London making that a concentric castle. (Appendix 3)

Her Majesty's Royal Palace and Fortress, more usually known as the Tower of London, is a historic monument in central London, on the north bank of the River Thames. (Appendix 4)

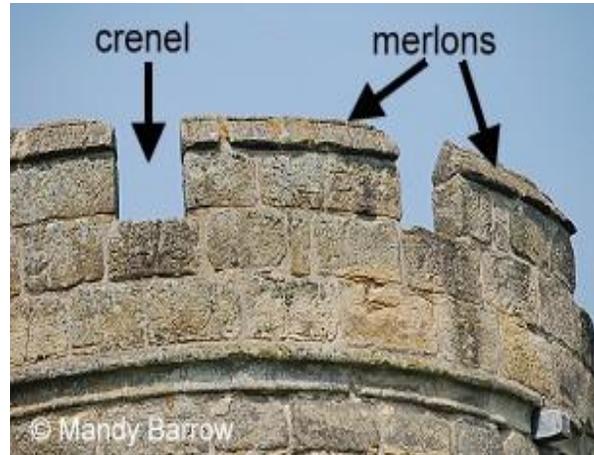
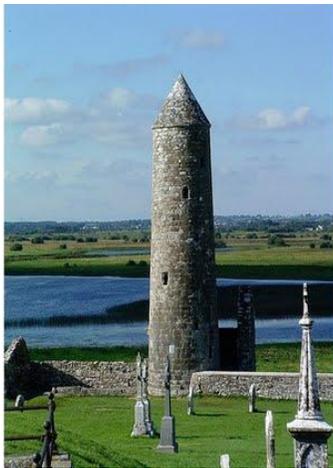
4. XIV century: New Defence

As the war between the feudal lords increased, nobles needed more protection. Then the nobles began to build castles with a more powerful system of protection.

It was harder for attackers to make round towers collapse. Unlike square towers they had no corners, which collapsed if holes were dug underneath the foundations.

The top of the castle walls were the battlements, a protective, tooth shaped parapet often with a wall walk behind it for the soldiers to stand on. The defenders could fire missiles through gaps (crenels). The raised sections between, called merlons, helped to shelter the defenders during an enemy attack.

Bodiam Castle was built in an interesting way. It is one of the few really four-cornered castles and has cells on the outdoor walls and inside courts. There are towers at each of its entrance points and all four of its corners, which acted as lookouts for potential attacks.(Appendix 5.)



Round towers

Conclusion

All castles, which we told about still exist, but it is only a small part of the modern monuments of the United Kingdom. We continue learning English and history and culture of the UK, because we want to go there and see the castles with our own eyes.

We have analyzed the specific features of the architecture of the United Kingdom and can make some *conclusions*.

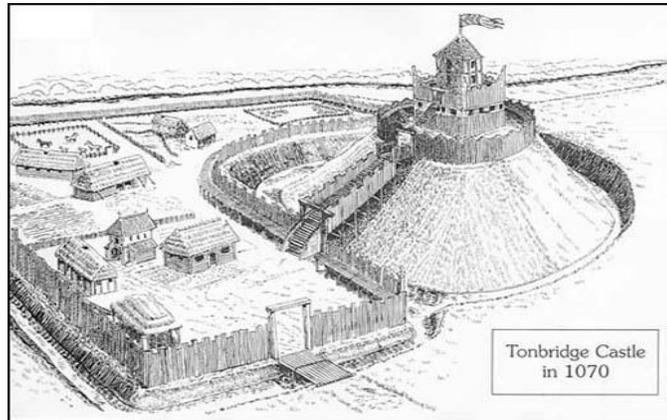
Scandinavian tribes of the Normans conquered England and began to build the first wooden "motte and bailey" castles. But soon the Normans began to build stone castles that were larger, taller and more reliable for defence purposes. They gave better protection against attack, fire and cold rainy weather. However these castles were not very well protected. So the tribes began to build concentric castles. The word concentric means one circle inside another (this referred to the walls of this type of castle). Having many walls meant that even if an enemy broke through the outer wall, there was a second castle securely defended and stored with provisions. So concentric castles were better protection from attacks. As the war between the feudal lords increased, nobles needed more protection. Then the nobles began to build castles with a more powerful system of protection. They had battlement, which helped to shelter the defenders during an enemy attack.

Literature

1. М. А. Запорожцев. Замки Британии. В компании королей и их призраков, 336 с.
2. В.К. Мюллер. Англо-русский словарь.
3. Somerset Fry, David Lyons. Castles of Britain and Ireland: The Ultimate Reference Book.
4. <http://znayuvse.ru/velikobritaniya/velikobritaniya-dlya-turistov/zamok-belfast-krepost-normannov>
5. <http://znayuvse.ru/velikobritaniya/velikobritaniya-dlya-turistov/zamok-alnvik-nasledie-normannov>
6. <http://www.chiddingstone.kent.sch.uk/homework/castles/normancastles.htm>

Appendix

Appendix 1



Appendix 2



Appendix 3



Appendix 4



Appendix 5

