***From Carrickfergus to Carcassonne. the epic deeds of Hugh de Lacy during the Albigensian Crusade*.**

Edited by: Paul Duffy, Tadhg O'Keeffe and Jean-Michel Picard.
HB 350 pages; black and white/greyscale illustrations: 61; colour plates: 22.
Publisher: Brepols: Belgium, 2017.
ISBN 9 782503 567815
Price: £80.00.

This excellent, academically groundbreaking book on one of the most powerful Anglo-Norman lords in Ulster, Hugh de Lacy, is Volume 5 of Brepols' Outremer Studies in the Crusades and the Latin East. There are three editors of this volume (Paul Duffy, a licensed archaeologist with Irish Archaeological Consultancy; Professor Tadhg O'Keeffe, University College Dublin (UCD); Professor Emeritus (UCD) Jean-Michel Picard), and fourteen internationally significant contributors/scholars, who provide between them, one chapter by way of an introduction, and fifteen further chapters. Contributors hail from France: (of

which there are seven: Professor Emeritus Lucien Aries, University of Toulouse III; Anne Brenon, Honorary Curator of Heritage (Archives de France); Jean Catalo, archaeologist, including at University of Toulouse; Jean-Louis Gasc, guide-lecturer at Carcassonne; Pilar Jiménez Sanchez, Jean Jaurès University of Toulouse; Jean-Michel Picard (cf. above); Jean-François Vassal, manager of Carcassonne Linguistique Institute); Belfast, Northern Ireland (four: Daniel J. F. Brown, Philip Macdonald, David McIlreavy, Ruairí Ó Baoill); and both Dublin and Galway in Ireland (three: Paul Duffy, Tadhg O'Keeffe, Daniel Tietzsch-Tyler). Ten of the chapters are based on papers given at a conference held in both Belfast and Carcassonne in 2015. Castles associated with Hugh de Lacy are considered and reinterpreted from a number of standpoints in the following chapters in particular: Beeston (Chapter 16); Bolingbroke (Chapter 16); Carrickfergus (Chapters 4, 5, 16); Castleroche (Chapter 16); Chartley (Chapter 16); Dundrum (Chapters 3, 4, 14, 16); Greencastle (Chapter 16); Toulouse (Chapter 12); Trim (Chapter 3).

The book takes a multidisciplinary approach by experts across the geographical area considered; it is therefore a new historical and architectural research approach to the subject of Hugh de Lacy, Earl of Ulster, and 'the wider interplay between the Gaelic, Angevin, Capetian and Occitan worlds in the late twelfth and early thirteenth centuries'. There are three themes of the book: Expulsion (six chapters); Exile (five chapters); Restitution (four essays), which makes for a balanced interpretation and presentation of Hugh's life and his architectural, archaeological and landscape legacy. The editors make it clear at the outset that the book is not comprehensive, the intention being to inform wider conversations

between archaeologists and historians on contemporary Ireland and France, thus providing 'templates for further research into the Carrickfergus-Carcassonne axis.' Differences of opinion between contributors are therefore refreshingly apparent, with no consensus attempted, either between the contributors of the essays themselves, or indeed by the editors.

The book certainly raises a number of important points of new interpretation. Chapter 1, 'The Cathar Heresy and Anglo-Norman Ireland' by the three editors serves as an introduction, pointing to the aims of the book, and drawing together its key themes. Chapters 2 to 7 are under Section I: Expulsion. Chapter 2, 'From Carrickfergus to Carcassonne: Hugh de Lacy and the Albigensian Crusade', by Paul Duffy and Daniel Brown, provides a new interpretation of the cause and effect of Hugh de Lacy's expulsion to the Albigensian Crusade and his pivotal role in it. The authors consider the garrisoning of Dundrum and Carrickfergus castles in the light of Llywelyn ap Iorwerth's aggressive acts in Gwynedd, Wales at that time (1210), and the tactic of war through 'friends and followers' in England, a theme later picked up in particular by Paul Duffy in Chapter 16 (cf. below). Chapter 3, 'Trim before 1224: New Thoughts on the *caput* of de Lacy Lordship in Ireland', by Tadhg O'Keeffe, takes a thought-provoking 'counterfactualism' research approach (i.e. what might have happened). The results of O'Keeffe's detailed architectural examination of Trim Castle suggests that Hugh's older brother, Walter de Lacy had ambitious plans for Trim Castle, town and landscape, but Hugh returned from exile and put a stop to them.

In chapter 4, 'The Medieval Archaeology of Carrickfergus Town (Co. Antrim): A Brief Survey' by Ruairí Ó Baoill, is a valuable summary of the many excavations undertaken in Carrickfergus and its town and landscape over the last 65 years, as well as how these excavations have revealed the past lives of the town. This relatively brief yet highly comprehensive study includes a focus on the town's stone castle, John de Courcy's initial build from 1177 (and in Hugh de Lacy's hands from 1227), as well as mention of Duncrue Fort just outside the town, a motte with two baileys.

Daniel Tietzsch-Tyler provides Chapter 5:'Carrickfergus and the Revolution in Castle Design, *c.* 1200', his abstract summarising significant new interpretation at Carrickfergus Castle, thus:

> The rapid evolution of Anglo-Norman castles in Ireland between 1170 and 1220 is discussed in the context of the introduction of new ideas across the Angevin empire [including William Marshal's Chepstow Castle]. Of particular interest is the re-introduction after many centuries of the round tower and its pairing on either side of castle gates. An early class of T-shaped gatehouse is identified and its possible implications for the construction history of four notable early Irish twin-towered gatehouses are discussed. From this, a revised date for the great outer gatehouse at Carrickfergus is suggested [from Tom McNeill's originally proposed date of 1220s – 1230s undertaken by Hugh de Lacy, to a possible royal build between 1217 and 1220] (p. 77, 105-6).

Calling upon and revising previous interpretation, including that published by a number of eminent scholars and Castles Studies Group members, and Dr Neil Guy in particular, Tietzch-Tyler's soundly-argued interpretation is at odds with that of Duffy's (Chapter 16). This highlights the

successful meeting of one of the chief aims of the book: to stimulate academic debate.

Chapter 6, 'The Occitan Cathar Manuscript of Dublin (Ms 269 Tcd): A Unique Window into Dissident Religiosity' by Anne Brenon, discusses the as yet poorly understood religious dissidence of Catharism, which Hugh de Lacy and others aimed to eradicate during the Albigensian Crusade, the primary focus of the chapter being on a small manuscript written in Occitan discovered in Dublin in 1960: Trinity College Dublin, Manuscript 269. The final contribution to Section I, is Chapter 7 by Jean-Michel Picard, 'Transmission and Circulation of French Texts in Medieval Ireland: The Other Simon de Montfort.' Picard discusses such circulation, including the literary text dating to 1210 – 1211 of *Canso de la Crusada* depicting Hugh de Lacy as a main character and major supporter of Simon de Montfort. This comprehensive linguistic/literary study concludes with a suggestion that complex networks existed in Europe during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries.

Section II: Exile, commences with Chapter 8, by Pilar Jiménez Sanchez: 'Origines et implantation de l'Eglise des bons homes en Languedoc.' This fascinating study, presented in French, examines the origins and the evolution of the Cathar dissidence and its indoctrination by 'les bons hommes/bonnes femmes' in Languedoc. While Carcassonne and Simon de Montfort receive attention, however, the connection with Hugh de Lacy's exile in Languedoc from 1210 is merely implicit. Daniel J. F. Brown's Chapter 9, 'Strategies of Comital and Crusader Lordship under Hugh II de Lacy', on the other hand, focuses on Hugh in newly interpretative detail. Brown's in-depth study of contemporary sources shows

that while Hugh was charged with the expulsion of Carthar heretics, 'les bons hommes/bonnes femmes' did in fact remain active within their communities of Castlenaudray and Laurac, these under the crusader lordship of Hugh.

The third chapter of Section II, and the second of the book in French, is Chapter 10, by Jean-Louis Gasc: 'Simon de Montfort – un croise dans l'âme?', which provides a fresh examination of contradictory contemporary chroniclers of the Albigensian Crusade, to better understand de Montfort's career and temperament, these influencing Hugh de Lacy's exile in Languedoc. Chapter 11, also in French, is by Jean-François Vassal: 'Pierre de Voisons. L'Histoire, au coeur de la Croisade en Albigeois, d'un seigneur du Nord', which considers Simon de Montfort's lieutenant during the Albigensian Crusade, Pierre de Voisons. While both chapters study contemporaries of Hugh de Lacy's in some detail and with new interpretation, neither chapter relates its valuable research to links with Hugh de Lacy, beyond a passing reference in the latter.

Chapter 12, by Jean Catalo, is entitled 'The Château Narbonnais of Toulouse during the Siege of 1218.' Toulouse Castle was held by Simon de Montfort in 1213, features prominently in the chronicles of the Albigensian Crusade, and was under siege from 1217-18. The chapter provides new interpretation based on conflicting historical evidence, and following extensive archaeological excavation, and considers whether or not the castle was intra- or extra-mural (town walls of Toulouse Castle); it summarises that the town walls and its three gates were integral to the castle within a wider defensive system.

Chapter 13 commences the third and final section: Restitution, and is entitled 'Bataille de Bazièrge de 1219: Données nouvelles sur le cadre de la bataille', by Lucien Aries; it is also the fourth and final contribution in French. The chapter provides new facts, and thus interpretation, on the unprecedented defeat of the Crusaders during the battle of Bazièrge, in which Hugh de Lacy took part. It is unclear why this chapter was not included in the previous section: although evidently highlighting the commencement of Hugh's demise in the Languedoc following Simon de Montfort's death in the previous year (2018), Hugh did not return to Ireland until two years later, in 1221, and the restoration of Hugh de Lacy's lands in Ulster took effect at a much later date, in 1227. Philip MacDonald's chapter (14), 'Identifying Hugh II de Lacy's Contribution to Dundrum Castle (Co. Down)' reviews the architectural, archaeological and historical evidence, to reinterpret the phases of build at the castle, with a particular focus on the two periods during which Hugh de Lacy held Dundrum Castle: 1205 – 1210, and again from 1227 until his death in 1243. MacDonald concludes that building at Dundrum Castle cannot be attributed to Hugh during either period with any certainty.

Chapter 15, by David McIlreavy, is entitled, 'Making Twescard: The de Lacy/O'Neill Campaign in Northern Ulster 1223-24', and discusses the under investigated formation of the county of Twescard during de Lacy's 'rebellion' in Ireland. McIlreavy introduces the 'triumverate' social circle discussed at length in Chapter 16, of Hugh de Lacy, Ranulf de Blundeville, 6th Earl of Chester, and Llywelyn ap Iorwerth, Prince of Gwynedd, as well as provides a new interpretation for Hugh de Lacy's rebellion of 1223 – 1224, where the sponsorship

of de Blundeville was perhaps a catalyst. Running on beautifully from this, is the book's final chapter, 16, by Paul Duffy: 'From Carcassonne to Carrickfergus: The Legacy of de Lacy's Crusade experience in Britain and Ireland', which focuses particularly on Capetian developments in defensive architecture, arguing that it was Hugh de Lacy who disseminated these to Wales, the Welsh March and into Ireland. Duffy's interpretations wax and wane, as he interweaves the interpretations of others into his argument (including an extensive review and agreement in large part, of an interpretation published by this reviewer). Challenging a number of previously interpreted dates for the construction of castles, including the various suggested dates of construction of Carrickfergus Castle gatehouse by Tom McNeill, Daniel Tietzsch-Tyler and Neil Guy (the latter two interpretations mentioned within the book, cf. above), as well as Tadhg O'Keeffe's proposed date for Castleroche, the chapter aptly concludes the book, by fuelling further potentially valuable ongoing debate on the many inspirational points raised.

There are, however, some editorial niggles, which point both to a volume which has been rushed to publication, and which highlight fundamental oversights by all layers of the editorial process. These include inconsistencies: sometimes contributions are described as essays, and sometimes as chapters; 'University of Toulouse' seems to be interchangeable with 'Toulouse University' in the list of contributors (p. ix); in that list, Daniel Brown, for example, is not listed as Dr, yet Philip Macdonald is, as well as similar consistencies of the inclusion/exclusion of professional titles on pp. xi to xi; some names in the list of contributors are not replicated in the chapter titles (e.g. Daniel Brown is

listed as Daniel J. F. Brown in chapters two and nine). More concerning are a number of incorrect spellings *passim*, these including: Llywelyn in Paul Duffy's chapter (16) on pages 314 and 328 is consistently spelled incorrectly (Llywellan), although correctly spelled throughout the remainder of the chapter, meaning that the volume's Index of Names and Places omits essential references to Llywelyn; Chapter 10 notably has a circumflex accent missing in its title (l'âme), although it is correctly accented in the Contents to the book; McNeill (Tom) is misspelled on p. 324 (MacNeill). In addition, the Illustrations section at the beginning of the book does not include reference to colour plates at the end of the volume – a separate and important section – where only in-text reference is made to them. A quarter of the chapters (four) are published in French, which is not advised on the dust cover, nor explicitly in Brepols' synopsis and marketing of the book (i.e. the publisher simply lists the contributors and chapter titles, four titles of which are in French). This misleads the potential purchaser of – and heavy investor in – the book.

As with an increasing number of academic publications, the considerable price of this academically valuable and important book will only likely appeal to an exclusive and thus small audience beyond the recipient of any lucky university library. It is to be hoped that in time, a more inclusive availability will marry with a significant drop in price. Indeed, the true value of this worthy book lies in its new interpretation and stimulating debate, and thus deserves a considerably wider audience - including all interested in the new analysis of a number of castles located in France, England and Ireland.

Dr. Rachel E. Swallow.
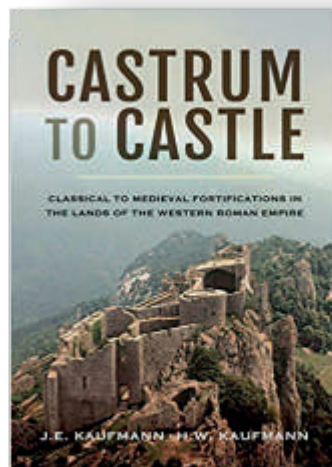
Castrum to Castle: Classical to Medieval Fortifications in the Lands of the Western Roman Empire

For over a thousand years, from the time of the Roman Empire to the classic period of castle-building in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, fortified sites played a key role in European warfare. This highly illustrated history gives a fascinating insight into their design and development and into the centuries of violence and conflict they were part of. The study traces the evolution of fortifications starting with those of the Romans and their successors. Included are the defences erected to resist Islamic invasions and Viking raids and the castles that were built during outbreaks of warfare. As the authors demonstrate, castles and other fortifications were essential factors in military calculations and campaigns - they were of direct strategic and tactical importance wherever there was an attempt to take or hold territory. The factors that influenced their location, layout and construction are analysed, as is the way in which they were adapted to meet the challenges of new tactics and weapons.
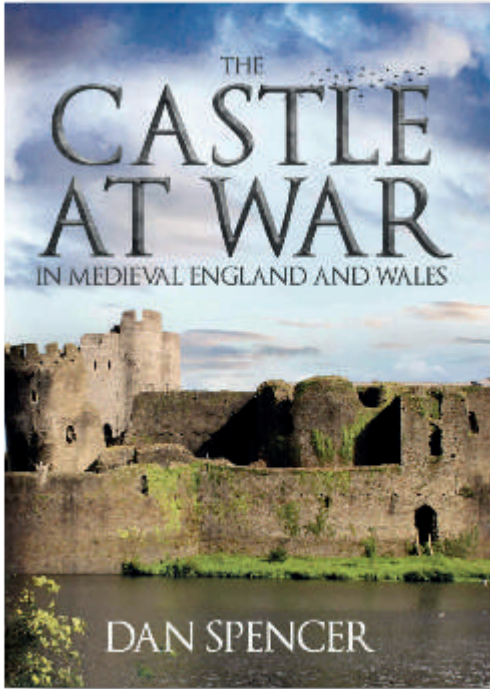
The Castle at War in Medieval England and Wales

Author: Dan Spencer
Publisher: Amberley
Hardback: 319 pages
Illustrations: 16 colour and black and white plates
ISBN: 978-1-4456-6268-8
Publication date: 2018
Price: £20.00

In recent years, there has been much excellent work in medieval history emanating from the University of Southampton, although I must declare my bias as a History & Archaeology graduate of that institution. One thinks of the work of Professor Anne Curry and her team re the AHRC-funded database *The Soldier in Later Medieval England*, work that has led to a number of important publications, such as those by Adam Chapman,

as well as the work on Agincourt. The author of *Castle at War* was awarded his doctorate at Southampton in 2016, the subject being medieval English gunpowder weapons, and he has published several papers, including work on the artillery employed at Henry V's siege of Harfleur. Spencer is currently a Visiting Fellow at Southampton.

The author reminds us of an aspect of castle studies of which we are cannot help but be aware, namely that much work has appeared in the last twenty years or so in particular on the non-military aspects of castle studies, studies long overdue. However, we also must bear in mind that there was always a military aspect of castle building – an obvious fact when looking at the architecture. Spencer's book does not seek to argue the military versus the domestic aspects, but to highlight the role of castle in warfare in England and Wales from the Norman Conquest to the end of the reign of Henry VIII (1547). One only has to read this book to realise that there were numerous occasions when castles were engaged in some form of military action, however short the events were, even allowing for the fact that the book covers almost 500 years of history.

So, this is not another book on castle architecture, but a chronological history of the military engagement in which castles were involved, written in eleven chapters (2-12), with the first and last being on the origins of castles and the epilogue respectively. The chapters are accompanied by detailed notes of primary and secondary sources, a bibliography that includes online secondary sources, as well as an index, although the latter could have been more detailed.

Three chapters cover the eleventh and twelfth centuries, including one on the 'Anarchy'. The reigns of John and Henry III another two, with two on the conquest of Wales and the wars with Scotland. The fourteenth century, with its threats to the English coast, is the subject of chapter 9, and the two subsequent ones are concern the Lancastrian period and then the Wars of the Roses. The early Tudors (Henry father and son) is the final chapter before the epilogue.

There are some parts of the book that are repetitive (pp. 104 & 107), and there are a few typos, such as the date of the start of construction of some Edwardian castles in north Wales (1283, not 1282). Castles are the subject of much ongoing research, and in the case of the twin mottes of Lewes Castle (p. 38), Jim Leary's mounds project has suggested that Brack Mount is more likely to have been a late-medieval or post-medieval garden feature, rather than a motte. The picture of Caerphilly Castle on the dust jacket has been reversed.

The book is a very welcome addition to the castle bookshelf, as I am sure that the reviewer is not the only castellologist to have been asked about castle warfare and its frequency; one has tended to downplay the times castles were involved in sieges before the civil wars of the 1640s, wars touched upon in the epilogue, and Spencer's book is now at hand to provide us with a convenient source for answers. It is also a valuable introduction to the 'ups and downs' experienced by the English crown and the Welsh princes.

John R. Kenyon
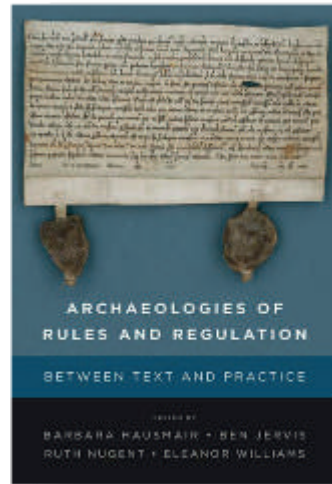
Archaeologies of Rules and Regulation Between Text and Practice

Barbara Hausmair, Ben Jervis, Ruth Nugent, and Eleanor Williams (eds).
Berghahn Books (New York and Oxford)
**HB; 356 pages, 56 illus., bibliog., index**
ISBN 978-1-78533-765-9
eISBN 978-1-78533-766-6 eBook
Published: January 2018
Price: £92.00

Archaeologies of Rules and Regulation Between Text and Practice is a wide-ranging academic book, or collection of papers that looks at the impact of 'rules' (not necessarily laws) on the lives of past people using archaeological evidence. It presents case studies drawn from across Europe and the USA, covering areas as diverse as the use of spaces in a 19th century US army camp, the deposition of waste in medieval towns, and the relationship of people and animals in Anglo-Saxon England. These case studies explore the use of archaeological studies in understanding the relationships between rules, lived experiences and social identity. Rachel Swallow's paper (Chapter 6), 'What Law Says That There Has to Be a
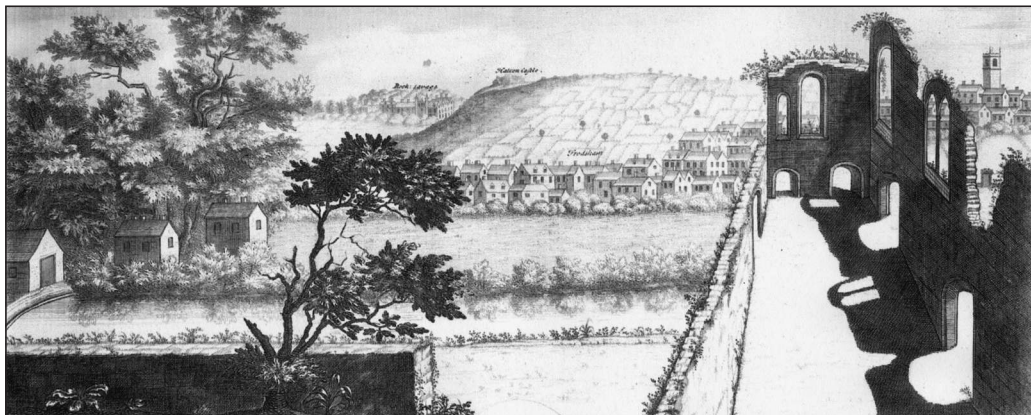
Buck's view of Frodsham castle (1727) ('The west view'). The detail of each topographical or architectural element in the scene may be correct but the trueness of the totality of the scene visually is probably not. Nonetheless the depiction of the (first floor?) Hall may not be imaginative

Castle' - The Castle Landscape of Frodsham, Cheshire' is positioned in Part II, Space and Power.

This discussion, on the precise whereabouts of the now disappeared 'castle' of Frodsham, is prefaced by an interesting, but short analysis of the words for 'castle' used in the *Domesday Book* (1086) and whether there was a rule or some doubt and/or inconsistency in their application by the surveyors. The word '*castrum*' or '*castellum*' appear to have been used interchangeably. Of the 49 castles mentioned in *DB*, eight of these are referred to as '*castrum*' (castle), two as *domus defensibilis* (fortified house) and 39 as '*castellum*' (castle). As Lincoln is termed '*castellum*' and Stamford '*castrum*', both in the same county (Lincolnshire), it does seem that the *DB* scribes had not been given any rules as regards the terms to use. The author centres on a neat term 'fluidity' to handle such apparent discrepancies, and aptly quotes the late Charles Coulson: 'To fuss and refine language too inexact to be treated as 'technical terminology' would lack sense of proportion: but the drift of that language is consistent' (2003, 34).

Swallow then moves on to explore to what extent recent archaeological research at Frodsham Castle can add any clarity as to the 'drift' of what was meant by the various terms used by medieval contemporaries. Thus follows a rigorous comprehensive examination of all the evidence, landscape, cartographic, historical references, archaeology, for the existence of the castle (not termed as such until the early 14th century in any documentary evidence, and later called a 'fortified manor house' in the 19th century). Historical topographical artistic clues are minimal, but the Buck Bros' engraving of Frodsham Castle (their term) in 1727 shows some of the castle ruins upon a seemingly elevated site. The ruins, of a long hall with rounded windows are set against two water mills within the castle landscape (which were possibly those pulled down at the north of 'Castle Park' when the railway was constructed (Illustrated above). This is not verifiable today, and the Bucks' may have been using artistic licence to crowd into the scene assets of the patron not normally visible from one geographic viewpoint. (The

Buck print states 'the west view' but there is sometimes some confusion as to whether that meant view from the west or 'view looking west'. And in fact it is looking north over the River Weaver, not the Mersey. Although the Buck view is unfortunately not shown in the paper, due to imposed external editorial constraints, other illustrations - locations maps, local tithe maps, plans and geophysics surveys are a model of logical and clear, helpful and direct presentation.

There is no doubt that there also once was a significant tower at Frodsham. A dilapidated stone stone tower is mentioned in mid-fourteenth (1355) century documents, which could well have been built by Ranulf de Blundeville in the early 13th century. Swallow lists contextual evidence to support this, when at about this same time Ranulf also created the borough of Frodsham.

In many respects, Frodsham may well have been interpreted as a 'castle' (at a certain time). It had a great hall, a seigneurial stone tower, water mills, a designed landscape, and possibly built by a great Marcher baron. So that 'whatever type of defensive or symbolic (or both) complex the tower belonged, throughout it duration, it would have had an 'unmistakable presence, an elevated and iconic architectural features that forcefully stamped the seigneurial mark on the locality (quote from Creighton 2012).

But Swallow notes a word of timely caution, and emphasises the need for thinking about fluidity of a descriptive term, over time, and the relationship to the status of the patron. 'However, we are not party to any contemporary ruling as regards the perceived meaning of the term *castellum* in either a national or a local context. Nor do we know whether or not the appearance and defensibility of the *castellum* were relevant at all in relation to

the contemporary use of this term. lt could well be that we mistakenly interpret the legal status of the *castellum* in a very narrow sense today by amalgamating complex variations in the status and use of sites over time. This has a direct impact on how we integrate legal documents that define fixed status and identities, with the fluidity of buildings that were closely tied to the varied fortunes of elite families. For instance, building programmes arose as the result of family fortunes, but also from anxieties over inheritance and competition'.

'Conversely, a decline in a family's fortunes or transferred interests to other geographical areas resulted in site decline. Therefore, a fixed status does not apply to inhabited, elite residences and their many components, where complex interleaving of political, socio-economic fortunes, aspirations and the biographies of buildings existed. If this is the case, our restricted viewpoint of a fixed status cannot provide us with any clue as to what we might expect to discover archaeologically when looking for a *castellum*. Indeed, was Frodsham Castle created purely in the air of later interpretation rather than physically on the ground during the early medieval period?'

The ultimate conclusion of this paper is that there were no fixed rules regarding the building and tight definition of what we now call 'castles' in the Norman period. It has been observed elsewhere that it may have been, in part, the rank of the proprietor that determined whether or not an establishment was regarded as a "castle" (Coulson 2003, 61).

This is a stimulating paper that challenges a number of too easily and lazily defined terms. Its positioning in this rather obscure book is a little unfortunate but it will reward those who will seek it out. *NG*

***Château Gaillard 28 :
l'environnement du château***

***K. O'Conor, A.-M. Flambard Héricher, P.
Ettel (eds.)***
364 p., 220 x 280 mm, 2018
ISBN: 978-2-84133-891-7
Languages: French
Hardback
Publisher: Brepols Publishers
The publication is available.
Retail price: EUR 42,45 excl. tax

The XXVIII Château Gaillard Colloquium was held in August 2016 in Roscommon, Ireland, a site that provides a very useful and well-exploited comparison framework for the theme 'The Environment of the castle'. The contributions confirm the great advances in European research in the field of environmental archaeology. Taking up and exceeding the recent studies that have shown how the seigneury was able to build, with specific objectives of valorisation of power, the landscape that surrounds the castle, the studies that make up this book

are also attached to the initial establishment of the fortress in a chosen landscape, at a well-defined altitude, or near certain symbolic or economically useful places, and the meaning of these choices. The contributions raised also evoke the establishment of a communications network and the evolution in the long time of this mastery of the surrounding landscape. They are finally committed to the possible restitution of this landscape, with the means that this implies.

The articles that make up this volume are from researchers from ten states mainly from north-west Europe, but also refer to the example of Kabul (Afghanistan). They highlight the new means of investigation (modeling, 3d images, radar, geophysics and LiDAR) that allow to rebuild and better understand the organization of castles.
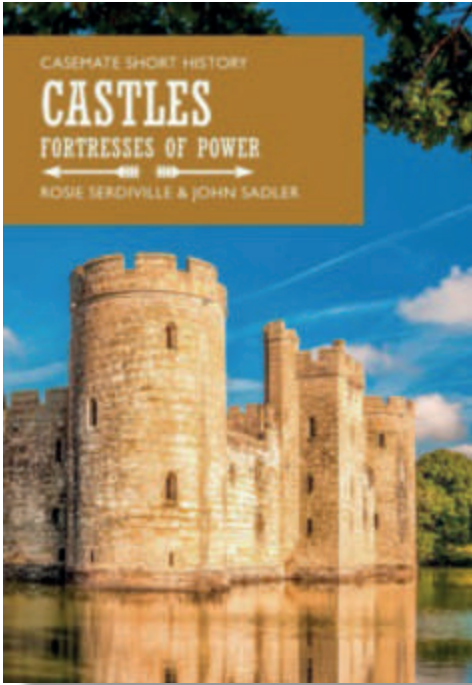

Scottish Castles
Author: Chris Tabraham
Publisher: HarperCollins Publishers
ISBN: 9780008251116
224 pp. Price £6.99

A pocket-sized guide to nearly 140 of Scotland's most dramatic castles and strongholds, all of which are open to the public. Historical background and architectural details for each of the castles, accompanied by a beautiful colour photograph. Includes the major sites of Edinburgh and Stirling, and covers from as far north as Shetland (Muness) to as far south as Dumfries and Galloway (Stranraer), west as far as the Outer Hebrides (Kisimul), and east to Aberdeenshire (Balmoral). Contains an introduction on Scotland's castles - history, description of classification of building type with examples. Includes details on the property's custodianship, whether cared for by Historic Environment Scotland or the National Trust for Scotland, a description of the gardens where relevant, location, website and phone number.

This concise and entertaining short history explores the life of the castle, one that often involved warfare and sieges. The castle was a first and foremost a fortress, the focus of numerous clashes which took place in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Castles became targets of sieges, such as that organized by Prince Louis of France against Dover castle in 1216, and were forced to adopt greater defensive measures.

Also explored is how they evolved from motte-and-bailey to stone keep castles, in the face of newly developed siege machines and trebuchets. The trebuchet named Warwolf, which Edward I had assembled for his siege of Scotland's Stirling Castle, reportedly took three months to construct and was almost four hundred feet tall on completion. With features such as 'murder-holes' for throwing boiling oil at the attackers, the defenders in the castle fought back in earnest. Alongside such violence, the castle functioned as a residence for the nobles and their servants, often totaling several hundred in number. It was the location for extravagant banquets held in the great hall by the lord and lady, and the place where the lord carried out his administrative duties such as overseeing laws and collecting taxes.

Rosie Serdiville is a social historian and re-enactor with a particular interest in the wider impact of war on civilian populations. She delights in spending time in archives: some of the most interesting characters in this volume have emerged from archival materials.

John Sadler is a military historian born and living in Northumberland. He has written extensively on a range of periods and is a battlefield tour guide who covers most of the major battles from both world wars (and numerous others). He also lectures on military history at Newcastle University's Centre for Lifelong Learning, is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, a member of the Battlefield Trust and Guild of Battlefield Tour Guides.

Castles
Fortresses of Power

Authors: Rosie Serdiville, John Sadler
Casemate Publications
English; pp 160
PB, 30 b/w photos and illustrations
Published: September 2018
Price: £7.99

Fortified structures have been in existence for thousands of years. In ancient and medieval times castles were the ultimate symbol of power, dominating their surroundings, and marking the landscape with their imposing size and impregnable designs. After the Norman conquest of England, castles exploded in popularity amongst the nobility, with William the Conqueror building an impressive thirty-six castles between 1066-1087. Windsor Castle is one example of such a castle which survives today, a monument of the remarkable architecture designed and developed in medieval England.

have had a dual function as buildings of elite worship and symbols of secular power and authority.

For the first time, this book gathers together the evidence for these remarkable buildings, many of which still stand incorporated into the fabric of Norman and later parish churches and castles. It traces their origin in monasteries, where kings and bishops drew upon Continental European practice to construct centrally-planned, tower-like chapels for private worship and burial, and to mark gates and important entrances, particularly within the context of the tenth-century Monastic Reform. Adopted by the secular aristocracy to adorn their own manorial sites, it argues that many of the known examples would have provided strategic advantage as watchtowers over roads, rivers and beacon-systems, and have acted as focal points for the mustering of troops. The tower-nave form persisted into early Norman England, where it may have influenced a variety of high-status building types, such as episcopal chapels and monastic bell-towers, and even the keeps and gatehouses of the earliest stone castles. The aim of this book is to finally establish the tower-nave as an important Anglo-Saxon building type, and to explore the social, architectural, and landscape contexts in which they operated.

Anglo-Saxon Towers of Lordship

Author: Michael G. Shapland
Oxford University Press
272 pp, 90 black&white figs/illustrations
HB, Size: 246x171mm
ISBN: 9780198809463
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It has long been assumed that England lay outside the Western European tradition of castle-building until after the Norman Conquest of 1066. It is now becoming apparent that Anglo-Saxon lords had been constructing free-standing towers at their residences all across England over the course of the tenth and eleventh centuries. Initially these towers were exclusively of timber, and quite modest in their scale, although only a handful are known from archaeological excavation. There followed the so-called 'tower-nave' churches, towers with only a tiny chapel located inside, which appear to

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