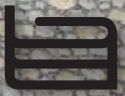


Medieval Castles

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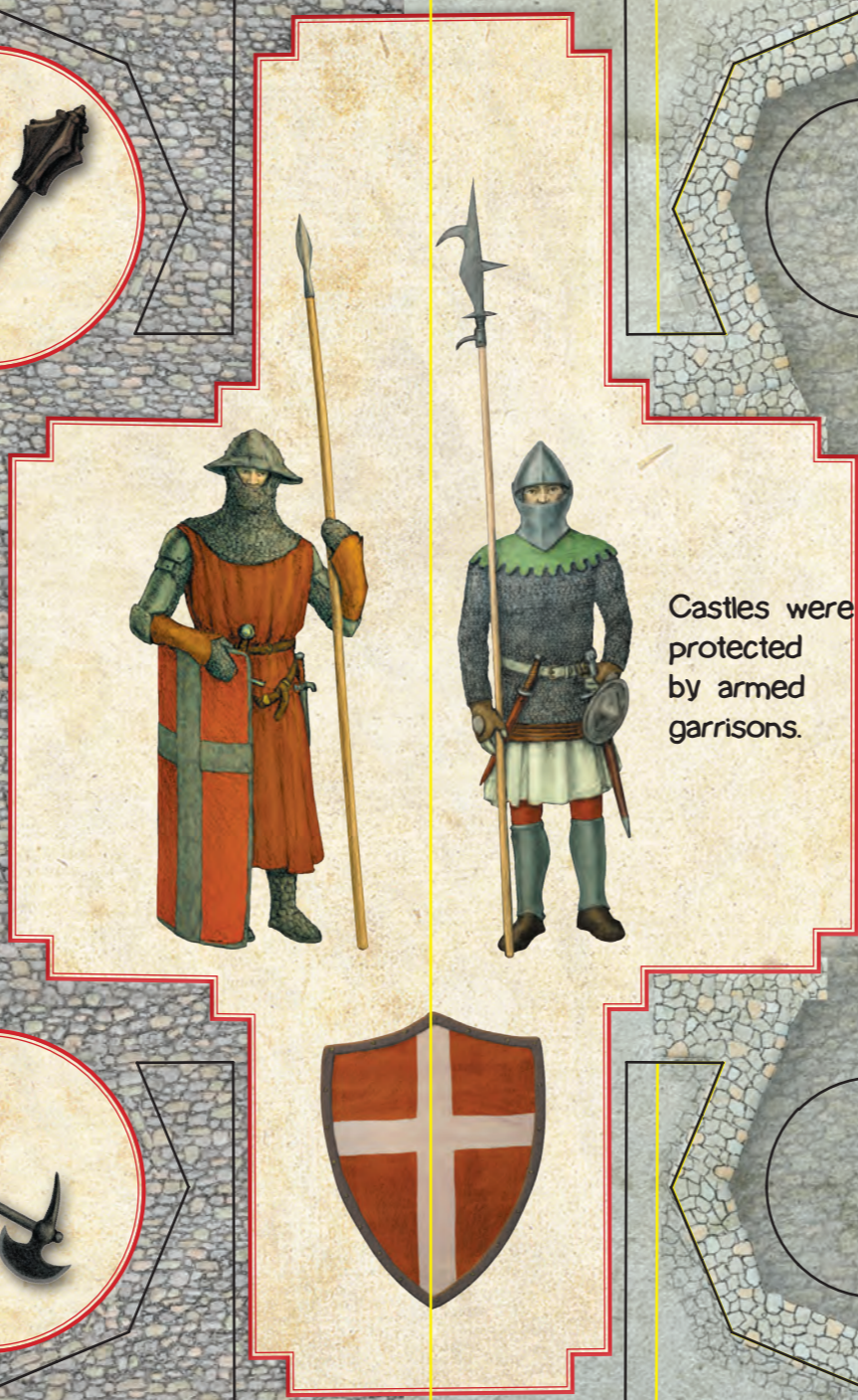




Sling



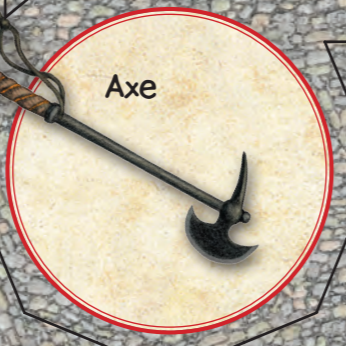
Mace



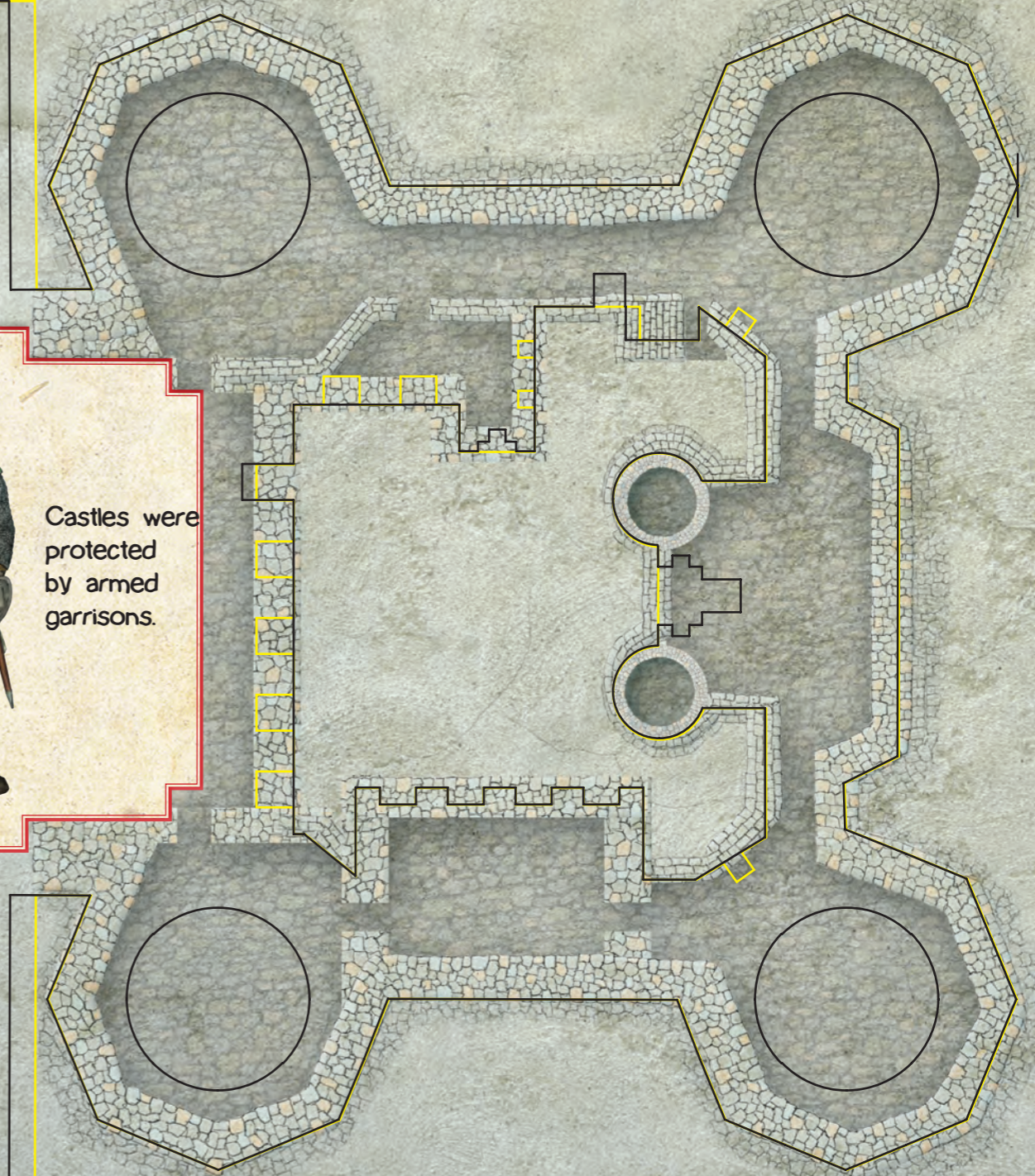
Castles were protected by armed garrisons.



Flail



Axe



Castles hosted knights' tournaments.

The victor of a joust would usually win his opponent's weaponry.

Every knight had his own combat equipment.

Armour was very expensive. Only rich noblemen could afford it.

A KNIGHT'S ARMOUR

Chain mail was made of small metal rings and worn under armour.



Castel del Monte, Italy.



The fortified town of Carcassonne in France.



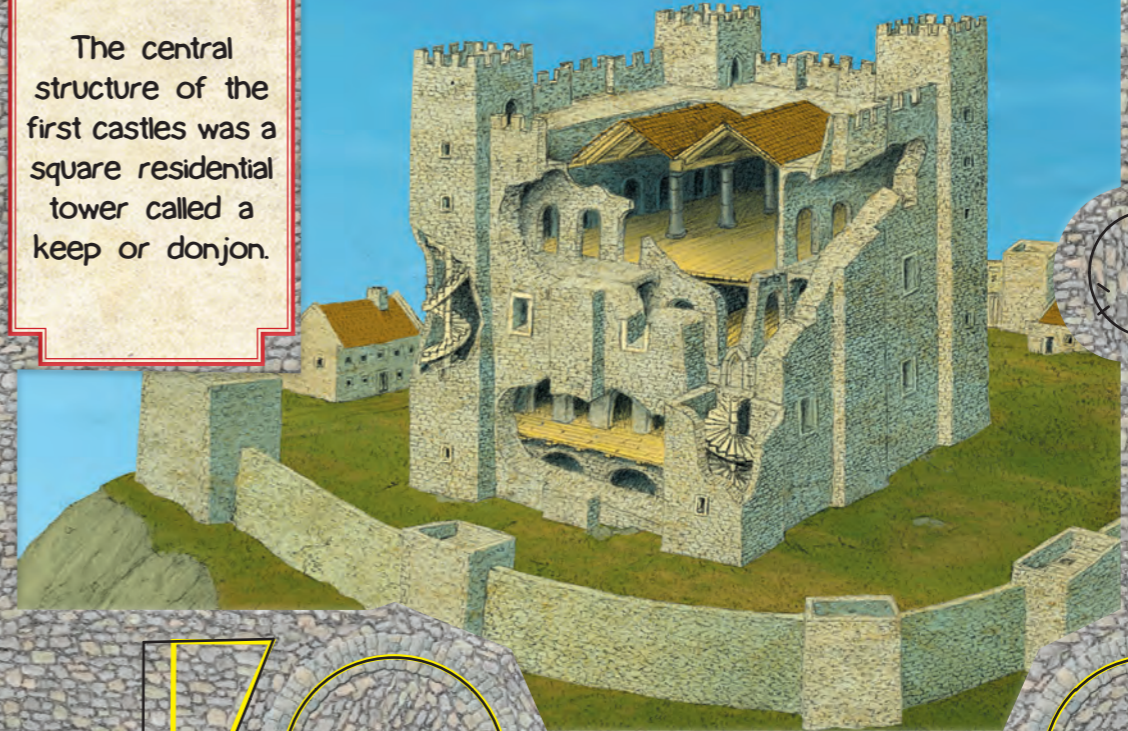
Neuschwanstein Castle is a romantic imitation of the splendour of medieval castles; it was built, however, in the 19th century.



The shape and extent of a fort were determined by place, time and purpose.



The central structure of the first castles was a square residential tower called a keep or donjon.

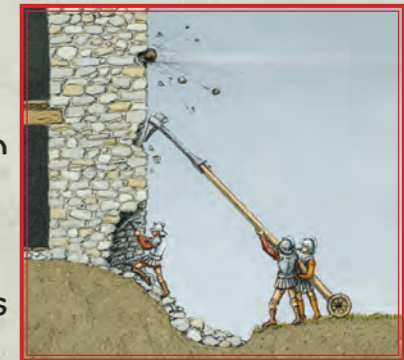


A CASTLE
UNDER
SIEGE



A castle's inhabitants needed to be prepared for sieges of long duration. If aggressors did not succeed in conquering a castle, they would attempt to starve out its inhabitants by holding the castle so long under siege that the inhabitants ran out of food and were forced to surrender.

Before the invention of gunpowder, aggressors would attempt to undermine a castle's walls.



A curtain wall stood between towers or bastions from which a defensive barrage was mounted from the sides.



CASTLES
WERE
NOT ONLY
SCENES
OF WAR.



Cultural events at court kept many artists and musicians busy. As science began to develop, alchemist's workshops, astronomer's observatories and extensive libraries originated.



For much of what we know about castles, knights and the Middle Ages in general, we are indebted to the scribes and chroniclers who had to the patience to write everything down.



Medieval Castles

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This book in the shape of a medieval castle will reveal you how the castles were built, what was their main role and what types of castles and fortifications evolved from the ancient times till the Middle Ages. You will also learn how the inhabitants of the castle defended it, what weapons both besiegers and defenders used and what terms machicolation and barbican means. Beautiful illustrations and interesting make this book a great gift for beginning readers. Smaller children will appreciate its attractive shape and comprehensible pictures and schemes.

Medieval Castles

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