

## What changed with castles?

### Anglo Saxon Castles

- Built royal castles or burghs
- Defensive features
- Built for the King

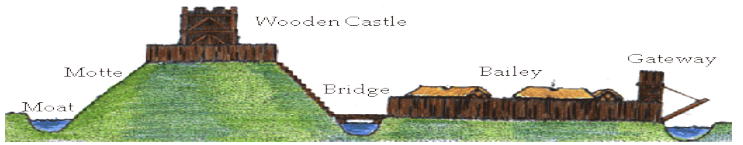


### Norman castles

- Built castles as bases to control the area
- Used to control Anglo Saxons after the Normans took control
- Built by nobility to protect themselves
- Symbolised Norman suppression of the Anglo Saxons
- Higher than previous built castles



## The first castles – Motte and Bailey



The Normans needed to build their castles quickly – sometimes in just a few days so at first they used earth and wood which were easily available and quick to use. Using this method they could build **Motte and Bailey** castles in **2 weeks**.


- Where were Castles built?**
- Castles were built at sites that were strategically important
- William personally ordered the building of a number of castles
- Castles were often built near an existing town, on high ground, close to a water source
- Often land had to be cleared to build houses within the castle grounds
- The location of castles was extremely important as they had to be high enough to see attackers coming and defend important routes



# Method of Control: Castles



- What do I need to know:
- Why William built castles.
  - Where castles were built?
  - How castle building changed.
  - About Pevensey castle.

- Key Words:
- Crenellations
  - Fort
  - Pevensey
  - Ramparts
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## Why was William a Castle Builder?

- William defeated Harold Godwinson in the Battle of Hastings
- Between 1066 and 1086 the Normans built around 500 motte and bailey castles
- These castles were part of William's long term strategy to secure his position on the throne of England
- As soon as William landed in England to attack Harold he rebuilt a castle in Pevensey
- Defeated Anglo Saxons did not want William as their leader
- Normans built castles as bases for offensive patrols in different areas in England – to protect Normans from further attack



## The first castle – Pevensey Castle

- Pevensey was the first Norman castle
- It was typical of castles during Norman England
- Was originally created as a temporary shelter for William and his nobles, to use as a base to launch their invasion of England
- Pevensey was seen as the gateway to Britain as it was a coastal location
- Already there were stone remains of a Roman fort
- William used these to build his motte and bailey castle and he incorporated the Roman remains into the castle
- Pevensey developed as an important castle site during the Norman period and beyond

## What was the purpose of castles?

- Norman castles were built for defense against invaders and to control the Anglo – Saxons
- Norman castles were primarily built by nobility
- Castles symbolised Norman suppression of Anglo Saxons
- Norman castles were large imposing buildings built to intimidate, bully and to administrate the local area
- Norman castles were a visible distinction between the rulers and the ruled
- Motte and Bailey castles were easy to build and made use of geographical features, such as hills
- Wooden motte and bailey castles were built until 1070
- After 1070, stone keeps were added and by 1100 all new castles were made from stone