

Castles (A 9 week course)



The aim of this course is to study the origins, forms and functions of the medieval English Castle. The distribution of castles in the landscape reflects the purposes for which they were built. Herein lies a paradox – they were designed to provide a secure fortress but also a comfortable home, functions that were really incompatible. This is reflected in many of the features of the structures, which changed according to the emphasis laid on the particular use of the castle over time.

Even within the two main functions of the castle there is duality. The military role was both defensive and offensive, while on the domestic level it acted as a home for the lord, his family and retainers, but also provided a seat of administration, a storehouse and in some cases a market for the local community. The actual size, shape and function of a castle is the consequence of the needs of those who built and lived in them.

It is hoped there will be an opportunity to arrange a site visit.

Tutor:	Rod Pearson
Date:	9 meetings from 26 Sept. 2017 to 28 Nov. 2017 There is a mid-term break on 24 October 2017
Time:	Tuesday 10:00 – 11:30 am
Venue:	Holbrook Moor Methodist Church
Fee:	£52
Booking:	Call 01332 882600 or e-mail weaholbrook@talktalk.net