

COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW OF REMAINED BASTION CASTLES IN LVIV REGION (UKRAINE)

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This article aims to give a complete picture of preserved 17th-century bastion castles in the Lviv Region in Ukraine with their current conditions. The results of the study are ready to be picked up by different actors participating in the restoration and conservation interventions for the development of proposals and recommendations for the rehabilitation and prosperity of those cultural monuments. Three of the reviewed castles in the article have not been registered as heritage sites yet and are rarely known among the public; two of them are recently uncovered and visited by the author. Further development of this study can help create proposals for registering unregistered monuments shown in this article, at least on the regional level as heritage.

Keywords: bastion castles, Lviv Region, 17th-century, Ukraine

Problem statement

Many researchers were doing their studies on bastion castles in Lviv Region. Still, most of the studies were about the history of the bastion castles or their defensive analysis, not about their current conditions. Moreover, the analysis of bastion castles waiting for rehabilitation works or development strategies has not been done yet. Especially, there is a lack of information on this topic in English. Starting several years ago, two organizations, EFFORTS (European Federation of Fortified Sites) and their member Forte Cultura joined the forces to promote a joined transcultural root in Europe and support the exchange of knowledge on the development of regions with fortification sites. This year they have launched a special supportive project called the “Twinning Programme” with Ukrainian fortified sites. The problem they faced was finding suitable fortified sites in Ukraine for this program because of the lack of necessary information for this task.

Literature review

Several Ukrainian architects recently made some relevant studies about bastion castles on the territory of investigation:

Olha Okonchenko (Ukrainian architect) studied the typology of bastion castles and the current state of the selected fortifications (2015).

Mykola Bevz (Ukrainian architect) studied fortifications on the historical map of 1772 and made several theoretical reconstructions of bastion castles in this region (2020)

Olha Tikhonova (Ukrainian architect) studied typomorphology and the current state of bastion castles (2016, 2020)

O. Maciuk (2005) and V. Pshyk (2008) made a significant contribution to castle research in the Lviv Region. They dedicated a considerable portion of their research career to studies on Ukrainian castles. However, their works predominate castles' descriptions rather than analyses; they show mainly ethnographical or historical materials.

Also, the work of Jan Leszek Adamczyk (2004) can be referred to the recent publications in the field. The author gives a precise analysis of castles' bibliography in the 15th-17th century and their short history.

Also, the researcher introduces a map of Ukraine from the 17th century with pointed cities that had castles. This map was made by French military engineer and cartographer Wilhelm le Vasseur de Beauplan. The map was already known before but had not been comprehensively studied until his research.

The aim and objectives

The theoretical and practical significance of the study lies in the fact that the researcher offers the analysis of remained bastion castles in the Lviv Region with a definition of the main characteristics and the current state of the monuments. As many of those bastion castles have not been registered as heritage sites yet and are almost unknown (for example, bastion castle in Lashki Murovane of Pustomyty district), this study can be used as a starting point for the proposals for their registration as heritage at least on the regional level. Also, it will be a valuable material for EFFORTS and Forte Cultura members in the search for the sites for the Twinning program with Ukraine.

The main objectives of the study are as follows:

Objective 1. Acquaint with amount and location of bastion castles in Lviv Region in the 17th century.

Objective 2. Determine the current state of bastion castles, which remained in the territory and can be proposed for further studies for their rehabilitation or improvement using the direct observation method.

Data sources

As proved before in the author's studies (Tikhonova, 2016), one of the best sources for searching for fortifications in the Lviv Region is the Map of the Kingdom of Galicia Lodomeria (1763-1787). So, the author has decided to explore all bastion castles built or rebuilt during the 17th century in Lviv Region using this map. The list of settlements for checking the researcher made according to mentions of castles in different sources from prominent researchers in the field of fortifications, such as Adamchyk (2004), Łozinski (1903), Pshyk (2008), and others that talked about any possibility of existing bastion castles in a specific place in Lviv Region.

Other valuable sources for the article resulted from the author's direct field observations, called in literature – on-site familiarities.

Results and discussions

As a result of the research, the author made a map of the Lviv Region with labeled towns that were checked. Some bastion castles were left with undefined typology after the study. The author could not define the typology of several castles due to untraceable remains, lack of information about them in the historical documentation, and unclear plan configuration on the historical map.

There were 90 towns checked in Lviv Region during the study, and 15 of them were confirmed to have a modern bastion castle structure (fig. 1). They are castles located in the following settlements: Brody, Iavoriv, Zhovkva, Vysotsko, Pidhirtsi, Bilyi Kamin', Zolochiv, Dunaiv, Zhuravno, Komarno, Sambir, Murovane (Sambir District), Biskovychi, Maheriv, Zamok, Murovane (Pustomyty District).

According to the previous author's research (Tikhonova and Toussaint, 2017), castles in Brody and Zhovkva refer to the classical Renaissance urban structure when the castle is directly connected to the defensive walls of the city. Similar to that type is "a partly joined structure" in Iavoriv castle. It stands very close to the town's defensive walls. In that case, a castle is situated in the town structure; however, it is a self-sufficient monument. Castles in Vysotsko, Pidhirtsi, Murovane (Sambir and Pustomyty Districts), Biskovychi, and Zamok belong to the type "castle with the open linear town." It is a structure with free links of fundamental urban elements such as the main street and bastion castle. Like the types mentioned above, the castles in Bilyi Kamin, Zolochiv, Dunaiv, Zhuravno, and Komarno correspond to an individual noble castle that stands next to an open (not defended by the wall) settlement. However, it is not a linear settlement in those last cases. It is typical for the Polish-Commonwealth Renaissance urban structure with a market square in its center and a regular grid. Castles in Maheriv and Sambir belong to a type where the castle stands far from the fortified settlement. In the case of Maheriv, it is a town with bastion fortifications, and in the case of Sambir, it is a town with round bastions (Italian bastea).

The bastion castle complex in **Brody** is the National monument of Ukraine; its registration number is № 401/0. Nowadays, the palatial part of the Brody complex is in poor condition when the fortifications are in a state of ruins. Until nowadays, entirely survived two defensive walls, and a northeastern bastion; another two walls survived partly. One white-stone portal on one of the casemates survived in the western part of the castle.

The brick palace on the territory of bastion castle is based on a rectangular plan with two avant-corps¹. Interior space planning of rooms has an enfilade suite². The interior of the rooms is not preserved. There is a rehabilitation center for disabled children, the Academy of Sciences, a local Distance Learning Center, and several other organizations situated in the palace.

The bastion castle in **Komarno** is an unregistered site, although its earthworks, namely the whole bastion outline, are well preserved and situated next to the exit to the road towards the village Peremozhne. Today the castle is used as a stadium, “Gazovyk,” with a football field in the castle courtyard (fig.2, fig.3). The stadium stands are situated on a rampart of earth bastion fortifications. The underground remains of bastions are visibly well-traced. Nearby is a modern brick building. Today it uses as the city hospital.



Fig.2. Football seats located on the bastion of the castle in Komarno (Author's photo)



Fig.3. Football field with earth defensive wall (Author's photo)

Before analyzing **castles in Murovane**, we need to make some clearness. First, neither of those sites are registered monuments. Moreover, the author of this work was faced with the situation of mixing the facts of those two castles by other scholars.

The Lviv region has two villages with the same name Murovane and primary name Lashki Murovane, and both of them had pentagonal bastion enceinte with a palace inside. In addition, both had beautiful gardens and lakes that were next to fortifications. Moreover, those villages are located approximately 10 km from the main towns. However, Lashki Murovane of Pustomyty District (fig. 4, fig. 5) is located 10 km from Lviv, and Lashki Murovane of Old Sambir District (fig. 6, fig. 7) is located approximately 10km from Old Sambir.

There is much information about the bastion castle in Murovane of Old Sambir District. By contrast, only one author, Roman Aftanazy (1991, pp. 351–354), wrote about the bastion castle in Murovane of Pustomyty District and has shown its old photo (see fig. 7).

The scholar who made significant confusion in the history of those two castles is Jan Leszek Adamczyk (2004), who put the citation of Aftanazy on the castle in the Pustomyty district among the references to Laski Murovane in the Old Sambir District.

¹ An **avant-corps** (German: Risalit, Italian: risalto) refers to a part of a building, such as a porch or a pavilion, that juts out from the corps de logis, usually over the full height of the building.

² An **enfilade** is a suite of rooms formally aligned with each other.



Fig.4. Scheme showing the castle in Lashki Murovane of Old Sambir District based on the map of F. VonMieg,1781 (Galizien und Lodomerien, 2020) (Author's sketch)

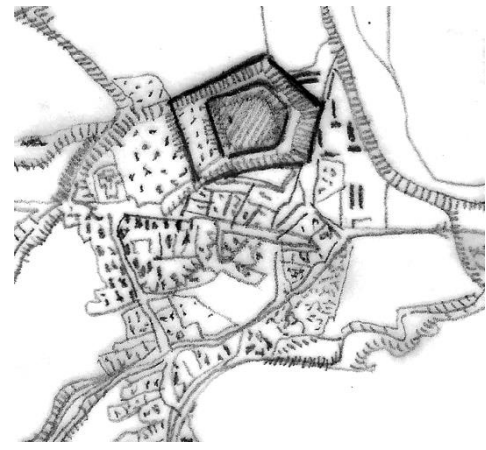


Fig.5. Scheme showing the castle in Lashki Murovane of Old Sambir District based on the map from 1869 (mapire.eu) (Author's sketch)

The clearness about possible confusion with those two castles' localization and history is firstly made in this research, using the analysis of the description of geographical localization of two of them and comparison of these data with cartographic materials from the First Military Survey (1763-1787) and Second Military Survey (1806-1869).

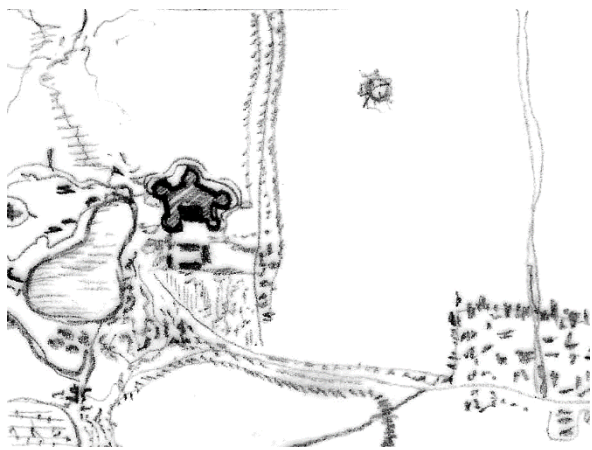


Fig.6. Scheme showing the castle in Lashki Murovane of Pustomyty District based on the map of F. VonMieg,1781 (Galizien und Lodomerien, 2020) (Author's sketch)

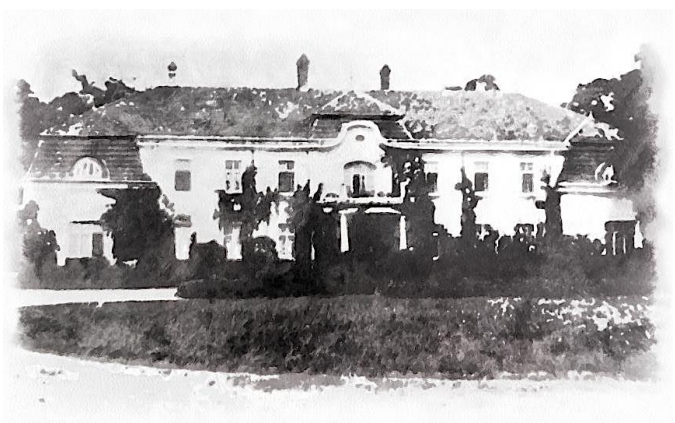


Fig.7. Digital watercolor illustration showing the palatial part of bastion castle in Lashki Murovane of Pustomyty District in Lviv Region in 1939 based on photo in (Aftanazy, 1991, p. 351) (Author's work)

Until nowadays, only small fragments of fortification walls with steep slopes and deep moat and remains of the canal, which was used to fill the ditches, survived in the **Murovane** bastion castle of the **Old Sambir District** (fig.8)



Fig.8. Remains of Murovane Castle (Sambir District) fortifications (Author's photo)



Fig.9. Remains of Murovane Castle (Sambir District) fortifications (Author's photo)

A reconstructed palace in a whole volume remained in the bastion castle in **Murovane of Pustomyty District**. The road to the castle is steep and passes through the park with old linden trees. Also, a stone frame of the lake remained on the castle territory (fig.10,11). Nowadays, the palace stays without any function and needs restoration works (fig.12).



Fig.10. Stone frame around the lake in Murovane of Pustomyty District in Lviv Region (Author's photo)



Fig.11. Stone frame around the lake in Murovane of Pustomyty District in Lviv Region (Author's photo)

It is possible to state that one floor was added in corner avant-corps, and their top was changed somewhen after 1939, comparing fig. 7 of this period with the current state (fig. 12). Also, the roof and windows were altered. Furthermore, the pilasters were added. Unfortunately, there is no exact date when those changes occurred.

The bastion castle in **Pidhirtsi** is the National monument of Ukraine, register number is № 412. The castle structure remained in considerably good condition. Unfortunately, the luxurious interior decoration did not survive until our days. In 1997 Pidhirtsi castle was handed to Lviv Art Gallery by Resolution of the Lviv Castle Administration (Pustynnikova, 2017). The palace is situated on a high base with bastions in corners. There are casemates inside bastions that have entrance into the inner courtyard. The roof of casemates is covered by stone slabs forming a base of terraces for a palace on the first floor (fig.13). Balustrades enclose the terraces. There are echauguettes³ on the top of the bastion corners (fig.14). The first terrace behind the castle is a green oasis. In addition, on this level masonry gazebos⁴, and walls surrounding the terrace remained preserved. A large garden with trees that remained from the past is located on the second terrace.

³ The enchaugette or guerite is a small turret or sentry box built of masonry on top of a wall used to protect one soldier.

⁴ A gazebo is a pavilion, sometimes octagonal or turret-shaped, often built in a park, garden, or spacious public area



Fig.12. Palace in Murovane of Pustomyty District in Lviv Region (Author's photo).



Fig.13. Photo of the terrace that is formed by casemates in Pidhirtsi bastion castle (Author's photo)



Fig.14. Echauguette on the bastions of Pidhirtsi castle (Author's photo)

The castle in **Zhovkva** is well-preserved and renovated. It is a registered National monument under №1928 (385/0). From 2012 to 2015, the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage provided targeted subsidies to implement a research program in Zhovkva castle. Those funds were given to conduct research and detailed documentation of preserved remains of the historical interior of Zhovkva castle (Pyzel, 2015). The castle is connected compositionally with the fortified town. Reconstruction of roofs and façades and renovation of the entrance was made in 2003. In the same year, residents of the apartments in the castle, which had lived there since the 19th century, were transferred to other places. Since 2008, several restoration works have been done on the palace building and the inner bailey⁵.

Castle in **Zolochiv** is the National monument with register number № 381. It remained in good condition and almost to its full extent (fig.15). There are a gatehouse, a Chinese palace, and the main palace with a

⁵ The inner bailey or inner ward of a castle is the strongly fortified enclosure at the heart of a castle.

regular French garden in the fortified complex. The castle lies on a rectangular base fortified with earth ramparts with bastions and strengthened from the outside by hewn stone slabs. The gatehouse is rectangular in plan and is located in the northern curtain wall behind the ravelin protection (fig.16). All bastions have echauguettes on the top of each salient angle.

The main palace is a two-story rectangular building under a hipped roof in the western part of the complex. The corners of the palace are decorated with rustication on the entire height. The Chinese palace is located on the central axis from the main gate (fig.15). It consists of a two-story rotunda in the middle with two one-story corps on both sides. An eight-column portico forms a balcony on the second floor in the central part of the palace. A conical roof covers the central part of the Chinese palace.



Fig.15. The inner courtyard of the bastion castle in Zolochiv (Author's photo)



Fig.16. Drawbridge of Zolochiv bastion castle (Author's photo)

Conclusions

Prior work has documented the effectiveness of using the Map of the Kingdom of Galicia and Lodomeria (1763-1787) to search for bastion castles in the map regions, including the Lviv Region. Thus, the article's author used this map as the primary source for this study. The research problem was solved using the on-site familiarities strategy, namely direct field observations of discovered case studies.

In summary, the article results have represented the amount and location of bastion castles in the Lviv Region from the 17th century and defined their current conditions. Namely, there were 90 towns checked in Lviv Region, and 15 modern bastion castles were found. Ten castles are still undefined and need further investigation. There are just seven castles confirmed as remaining until nowadays. Furthermore, during the research, it was established that there were two bastion castles with a similar structure located in the cities with the same name – Lashki Murovane in Lviv Region, but one in Old Sambir District, and another one in Pustomyty District.

The results will help interested parties, like EFFORTS, to find partners in the Lviv Region and support Ukrainian fortified sites, assisting in their rehabilitation and development of the regions that have those valuable assets.

Acknowledgments

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