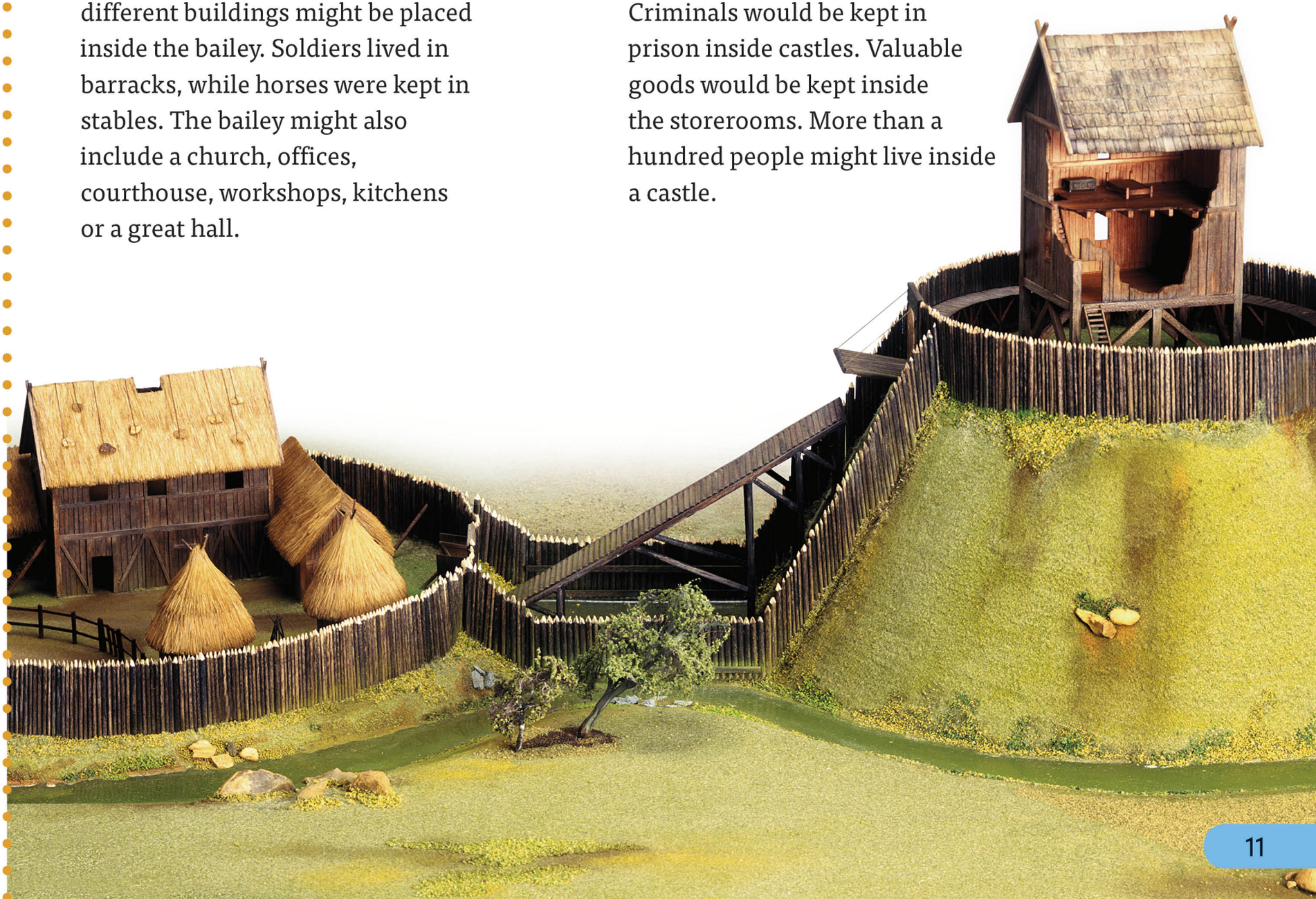
How to Build a Motte-and-Bailey Castle

1. Choose the site for the castle.
2. Hire a master builder to design it.
3. Hire 300 workers to build it.
4. Dig the ditch around the bailey, and use the soil to build the bank.
5. Build a wooden wall around the bailey.
6. Build buildings in the bailey.
7. Dig a deep ditch around the motte, and pile up the soil to form the motte.
8. Build a tower on top of the motte.
9. Sit back and relax. You are now safe from your enemies.

Beside the motte, a large area of ground was surrounded by a ditch and a bank of earth. A wooden wall was built on top of the bank. This area was called the bailey. Several different buildings might be placed inside the bailey. Soldiers lived in barracks, while horses were kept in stables. The bailey might also include a church, offices, courthouse, workshops, kitchens or a great hall.

During peaceful times, castles were used for many different purposes. People went there to pay their taxes or to obtain justice from the courts. Criminals would be kept in prison inside castles. Valuable goods would be kept inside the storerooms. More than a hundred people might live inside a castle.



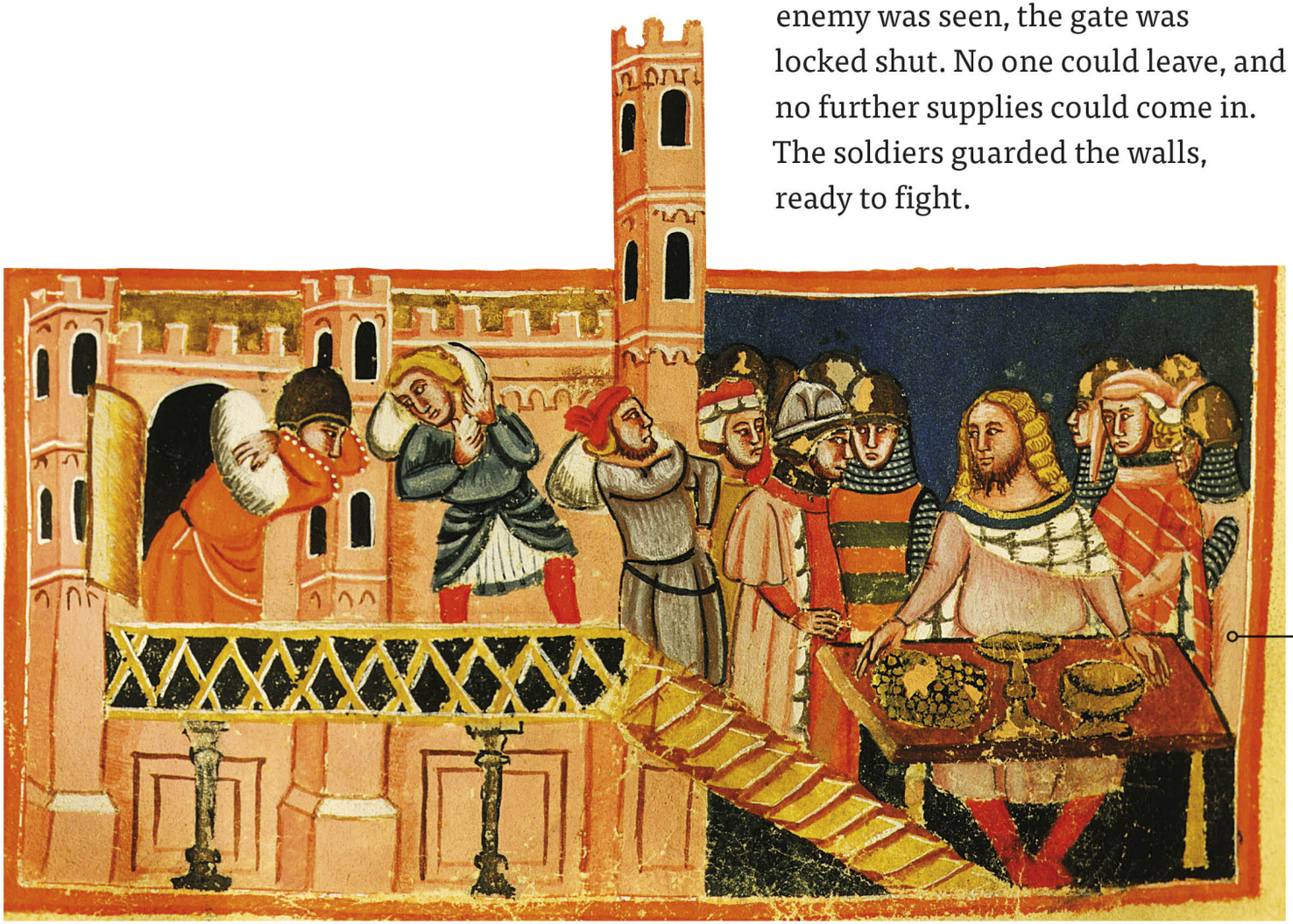


Nicola de la Haye Saves England
At a time when women had few rights, Nicola de la Haye inherited her father's land and his position as Constable of Lincoln Castle when he died. In 1217, French and English rebels overtook much of England. They tried to take Lincoln Castle. But, led by de la Haye, the castle did not fall. After reinforcements arrived, the attackers were defeated. This allowed the English king to remain on the throne.

A Long Battle
A siege could last months or even years.

When a siege took place, a castle became a very busy place. Hundreds of people from nearby farms and villages would come to the castle for safety, bringing their belongings. Tents and sheds were put up in the bailey along with large numbers of farm animals, carts, and tools.

The knight who owned the castle had to prepare for a siege. He brought huge amounts of food into the castle's storerooms. He made sure his soldiers had plenty of weapons and equipment. Riders on fast horses were sent out to look for the enemy approaching. When the enemy was seen, the gate was locked shut. No one could leave, and no further supplies could come in. The soldiers guarded the walls, ready to fight.





Water
Castles had containers called cisterns that could catch rainwater. This gave defenders under siege enough water to drink. Some castles had an underground well for water, too.

Supplying Provisions
This picture on a manuscript from the 1300s shows supplies arriving at a castle.

GLOSSARY

Bandits
A group of robbers or people who break the law

Barbican
The tower and walls that form an outer defense of a castle

Catapult
A weapon that throws large stones

Concentric
[con-SEN-tric]
Circles of different sizes with the same center

Crenellations
[KREN-el-lay-tions]
Battlements with regular gaps

Envoy
A messenger or representative

Exile
Being unable to live in one's own country

Funerary
Used to remember a dead person

Headquarters
The main offices from where an organization is controlled

Horizontal
Flat or level, going from side to side

Moors
A group of Muslim people with African and Arab ancestry

Pilgrimage
A journey to a sacred place

Pilgrims
Religious people who travel to a sacred place

Pope
The leader of the Roman Catholic Church

Portcullis
[port-KULL-is]
A strong, heavy gate made from iron or wooden bars with points at the bottom, which hangs over a gateway into a castle

Siege
[SEE-j]
When an enemy surrounds a town or building, cutting off supplies and trying to force those inside to surrender

Standard
The flag of a royal family

Tanner
A person whose job is to make animal skins into leather

Taxes
Payment that has to be made to those in authority

Trench
A long, narrow hole dug out in the ground

Valuables
Small objects, such as jewelry, that belong to someone and are worth a lot to them

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