**Time Travel Radio- Castles- Transcript**

**Tina the Time Traveller:** Welcome back to Time Travel Radio listeners. It’s your host Tina the Time Traveller and I am excited to say that we are switching it up today! I love a good castle, I mean who doesn’t? I can picture it now, commanding my army from the tallest tower. But seriously, today we are traveling to York to take a look at Clifford’s Tower! But we aren’t just going to one time period, oh no listeners, we are going to see the castle when it was first built and then check in on it about 250 years afterwards! So right nowtheyear is 1068, just 2 years after the Battle of Hastings where William Duke of Normandy won the throne of England. Now King William I, has spent the last couple of years building castles just like this across England. In fact, let's talk to one of the locals and see what they can tell me about this castle! Excuse me? Excuse me?

**Anne:** Yes lovey?

**Tina:**  Do you live around here?

**Anne:** Yes, why I do dear.

**Tina:**  Brilliant. Would you mind terribly if I ask you a couple of questions about the new castle?

**Anne:** Well I don’t see why not. My name is Anne. We are all talking about it anyway. It’s a bit intimidating isn’t it?

**Tina:** mmhmm I see what you mean. Listeners, let me describe what I am looking at. This is a Motte and Bailey Castle. By that I mean there is a big mound of soil, The Motte. It is super steep, in fact I don’t even think I could run up that thing! On top of the mound of soil is a big wooden Tower called the Keep. And right now we are standing in the Bailey. Now that listeners is a big bit of land where people live and work and it is right at the bottom of the Motte. Now Anne, you say it intimidates you, can you tell more about why?

**Anne:** Well it’s huge isn’t it! From all the way up there they can see everything, everywhere! I hear they can hit any intruders with an arrow from up there. I feel watched. I think that’s what they want though. To keep us all in line what with that new King and all.

**Tina:**  I would have thought it would make you feel safe Anne? There’s a big wooden fence, a um ooh what's it called? A palisade, all around, and beyond that, a deep ditch to keep people out.

**Anne:** I suppose so, but really it's just so the Lord and I suppose the King, they can watch and keep control of the area, I think.

**Tina: W**ow. I hadn’t thought of that. I always thought that castles were about defending against armies and their knights, with swords and arrows and spears, not about showing how powerful the king is. I have a joke about a castle that might make you feel less intimidated by it. Would you like to hear it?

**Anne:** I do love a good laugh.

**Tina:**  Well this is a good one! I’ve always heard Castles are a great place to go for a party. They’re famous for their Knight Life…. Hahahahaha.

**Anne:** Very good,very good.

**Tina:**  Thank you Anne. I am known for being pretty hilarious actually. It has been wonderful speaking to you Anne really.

**Anne:** My pleasure, lovely. Best be off back to work now, goodbye now.

**Tina:**  Goodbye! Right then listeners, That was really interesting. We know what the castle looked like when it was first built, but I would love to see how the Castle changes over time. Good thing I have a time machine! Give me a moment whilst I fire it back up!

*Jingle and whir of time machine*

**Tina:**  Wooooo, that was a bumpy journey. Lots of turbulence. Right listeners, we are still in York, but it's now 1312, nearly 250 years later! Let’s see what has changed shall we.

*Door closes*

Oh my, well goodness that is quite a bit different! Listeners, the wooden structures are gone! In its place is a big stone castle. Oh, I see a castle guard over there. I wonder if he would tell us more about it. Sir? Do you have a moment?

**Richard:** What? Yes, I suppose. Who are you?

**Tina:**  My name is Tina and I would love to know more about this castle.

**Richard:** Right, the name’s Richard. What do you want to know?

**Tina:**  Well, I would like to know what happened to the wooden Keep? When was it replaced with a stone tower?

**Richard:** Oh, that was a long time ago. There was a fire about a hundred years ago. The whole thing went up in flames! That’s the issue with wood you see. Stone however, is much safer.

**Tina:**  Okay, so you’ve used stone so the Keep doesn’t burn down again, I see. Isn’t that expensive.

**Richard:** Well, it's more expensive than wood, but it’s worth it. Stone is much stronger, it doesn’t rot because of bad weather and importantly, it is harder to break so it makes better defences against sieges too! You know, attackers, they can’t burn it down.

**Tina:** That makes a lot of sense Richard. So it is all about defence?

**Richard:** Not at all. The Keep is still up on the Motte, nice and high to see any threats, but these arrow slits are perfect for archers.

**Tina:**  Listeners, let me explain. An arrow slit, is like a really thin window without the glass. Just thin enough to see through.

**Richard:** Not just to see through. They’re the perfect shape for archers to use their bows to attack any threats. The stone around the arrow slit offers protection to the archer too. Attack and defence!

**Tina:**  Amazing. Thank you Richard, I will leave you to your work now. Well listeners, there you have it! Castles were just a little different to the Bouncy Castles we see today. No jumping on these bad boys! Over 250 years this Motte and Bailey Castle in York changed from a wooden structure to stone. It was used for defence and for attack but also to show people how powerful the people who owned it were. In fact, the Tower is still standing in the 21st Century! I wonder what people in the future will think of it. Until next time, I’ve been Tina the Time Traveller, and this is Time Travel Radio.

*Time Travel Radio Jingle.*