

NEEL ACCOU - BELGIUM JONAS GATEAU - BRETAGNE

CASTLE POSTOLOPRTY WESTERN BOHEMIA SUMMER SEMESTER 2023/2024

### **DESIGN STUDIO EFLER**

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECURAL CONSERVATION FA CTU IN PRAGUE

# ANALYSIS

### History

The castle's history spans centuries, with each era leaving its mark.

It first appeared in the 12th century as the Postoloprty monastery with the medieval church next to it. From the 15th to the 17th century, the castle experienced destruction and multiple ownership changes. In this time the castle was used as a refuge for the nobles traveling from Prague to Germany.

Finally the Schwarzenberg family took ownership in the 18th century and initiated an early Baroque renovation of the castle which brought up the first known floor plans, drafted by P. I. Bayer. However, only the southern part was renovated.

In the 1720s, the construction vision shifted from Bayer to the Viennese builder Martinelli. His plans included the castle's structure and a large garden, protected by a massive retaining wall. The castle suffered during the Seven Years' War in the 1770s, with the northern entrance wing being demolished. A reconstruction plan by Johann Schmidt was proposed but never realized. The 1780s brought new energy to rebuild the castle. Plans for the reconstruction of the northern wing were developed by Andreas Zach. His practical approach proved to become the final appearance of the castle until today.



#### 15th -17th century

Type monastery was destroyed several times and the castle complex was possessed by different owners It had an Renaissance forecourt and this period the castle had early Baroque renovation





### 1700s

The castle was purchased by the Schwarzenberg family

In this period we saw the first known floor plans by P. I. Bayer. the castle was in need of a renovation but only the southern part was rebuilt





#### 1770s

The castle was destroyed in a fire after the Seven Years' War

The former northern entrance wing was demolished and a proposed rebuilding by Johann Schmidt was done but this project stopped for unknown reason









#### 1780s

Plans were drawn for a reconstruction of the northern wing.

An easier and more "economical" solution was proposed by Andreas Zach, this proposal was approved and this is the plan we have to this day



Today

google earth view of the castle



### Materiality of the castle

Bricks and stones (limestone, gneiss or sandstone) +stucco



## Vaults made with bricks + stucco, plaster or lime





## Wooden framework, beams and floors



Interior walls and ceilings with various cob mixtures (for holding finishes or for insulation)



























































## DESIGN

Postoloprty Castle, celebrated for its aesthetic appeal and historical significance, is undergoing a comprehensive restoration to preserve its former grandeur. The project involves reinstating the original design of the garden's east side and establishing a museum that displays the castle's historical artifacts and traditional room decor. Notably, the castle features an exceptional historical room with a balcony offering expansive views of the surrounding fields, available for events and rentals.

Additionally, the ground floor houses various workshop spaces and artists' studios, with an exhibition area on the first floor, fostering creativity and cultural engagement.

The restoration also includes both temporary accommodations for artists and visitors, and permanent residences for seniors, aimed at revitalizing the castle as a vibrant cultural and social hub of the city. The addition of a café and a restaurant will enhance social interaction and showcase another historic segment of the castle.

Moreover, Postoloprty Castle is intricately connected to nearby historical sites, including a brewery and a farmyard. The project seeks to integrate these landmarks by redesigning the surrounding landscape and creating additional access points. The west side of the garden, designed as an open green space, features a playground and seating areas,

In essence, the rehabilitation of Postoloprty Castle aims to safeguard its cultural heritage while injecting new life into the local community.











Demolished walls



Demolished walls



Demolished walls







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South elevation Scale 1:400



West elevation Scale 1:400





Elevator

## Perspective drawings















# **DESIGN PROCESS**

## Concept drawings











