

Vianden

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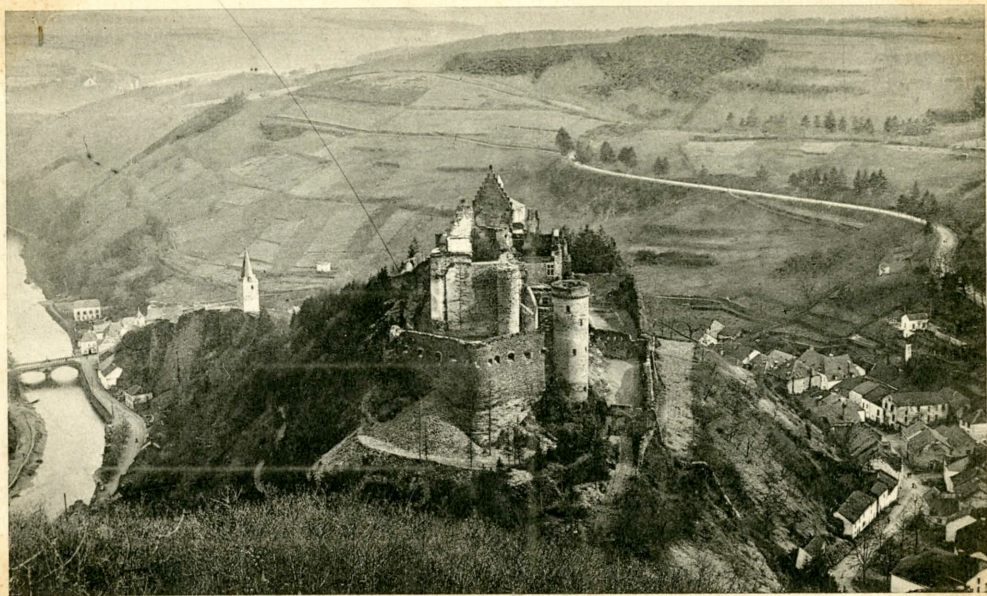
This should have been no 1 but
will make it 0. From the train
winding thru the hills, this is
the first view I got of Vaanden
& its old military monument.

Is it not a beautiful sight?

Luxemburg has numerous
of these castles, but I believe
this is one of the largest & most
noted ones, probably the best

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preserved of any. Can you
blame me for being somewhat
enthusiastic about it?



Vlianden

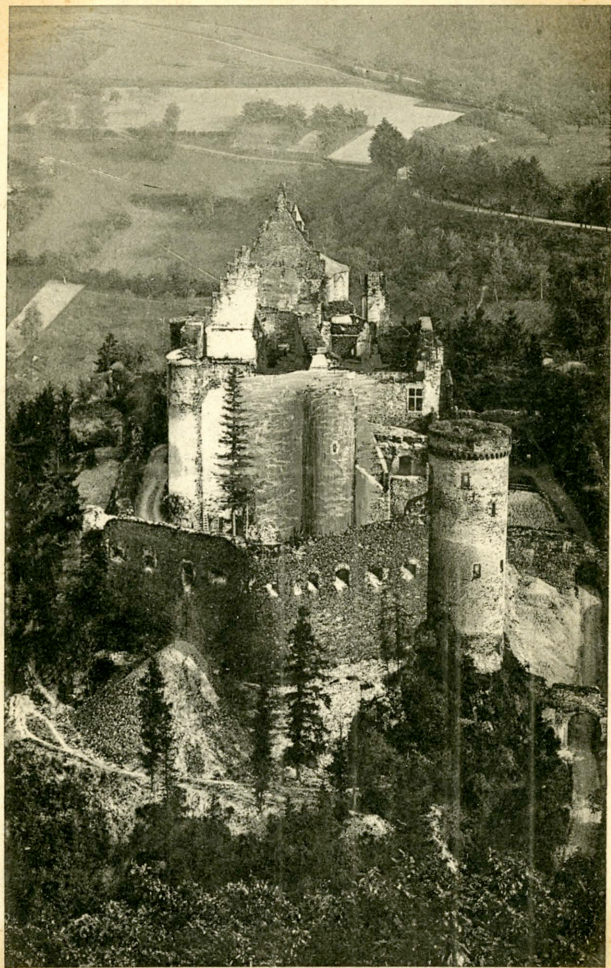
Will number ⁽¹⁾ cards as I go
along. This is the best view to the
old castle at Vianden, I can
give you. This is taken from
a beautiful hill, very high.
There here is known as the
Alps of Luxemburg and the
scenery is simply grand.
And the old castle looks so
strong and imposing on this

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point. And believe me it
was sure built to stay.

I've seen pictures about like
this when a little fellow and
have longed to see + go thru
one of these places. And this
one is quite all here, compared
to the one at Sarcobette. It sure
is some strong hold.



Vlanden

This gets us a bit closer. The big tower on right corner is at least 25 ft in diameter - walls is between 4 & 5 ft thick. The heavy battlement around edge is very heavy. and in very good condition considering its being built in 711 or it was inhabited then. The roof was made of copper - dismantled & sold in 1805. some

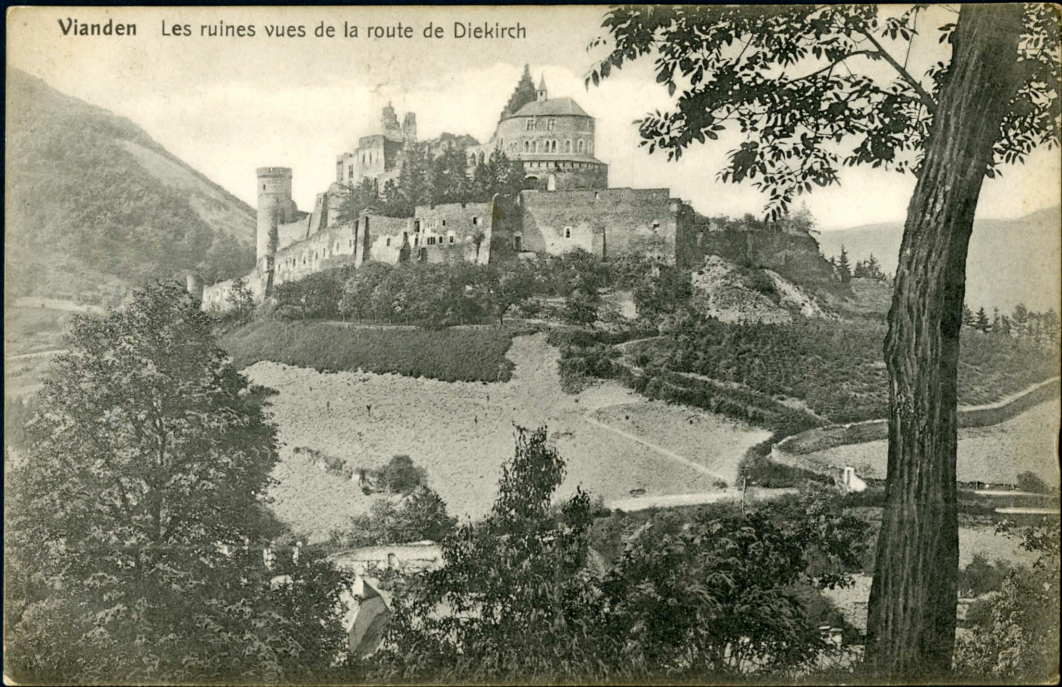
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time with exception of the Chapel. The old tower described above has a dungeon of 30 or more feet deep.

See the firing holes and battlements around the place would take more than hand grenades to knock out this place.

Vianden Les ruines vues de la route de Diekirch



(3)

on extreme left you can see
the point of the high hill the no 1
and 2 pictures were taken from.

At the bottom you can see
bits of the roofs - the town is
all thru the valley. The chapel
is the prominent part in this
picture, has the roof on and
looks better preserved than
the rest of the ruins.

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great dragons have their
heads projecting from the
top of the chapel.



Vianden Les ruines - Die Ruinen

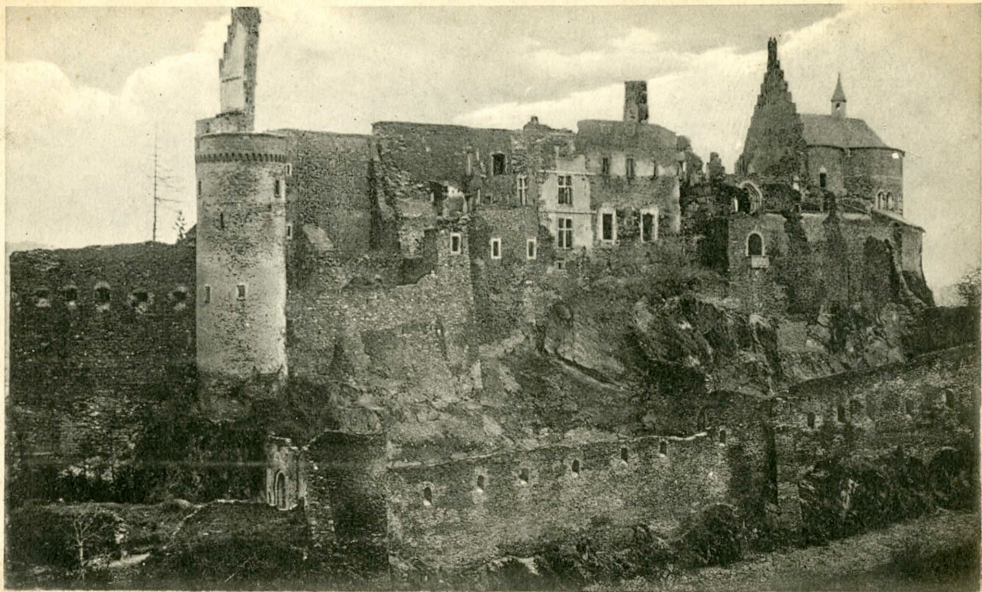


(4)

This is quite like no 3. You
can get a very good idea of
the immense size of it.

537 Manufacture de cartes, P. Houstraas, Luxembourg, Rue des Augustins

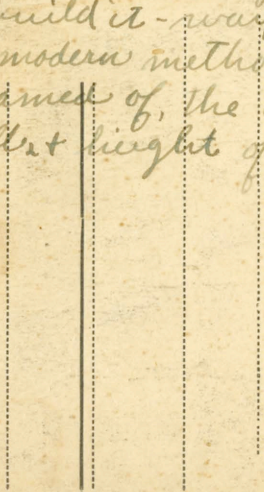


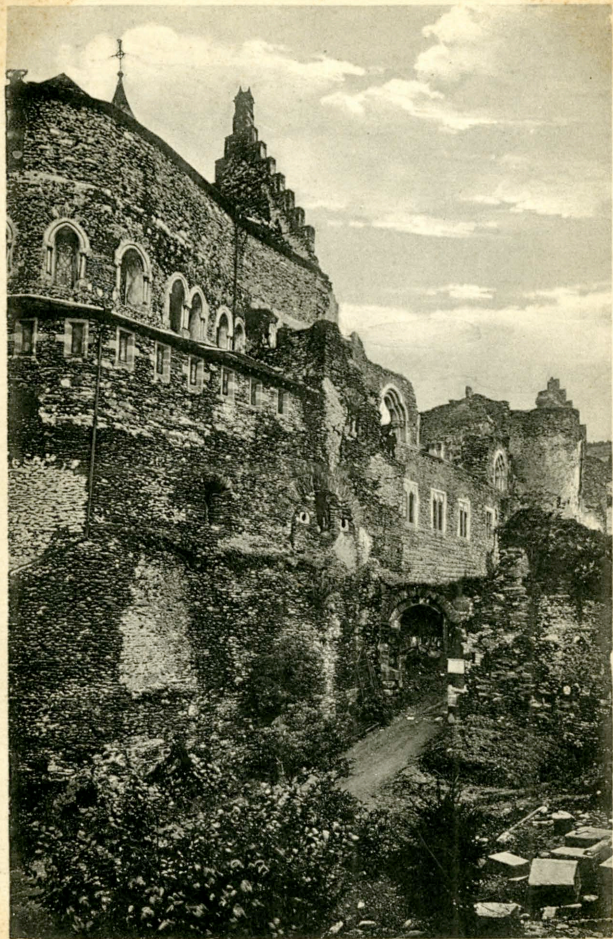


VIANDEN Les ruines vues du couchant - Die Ruinen von Westen

you can see here - it is built
 on a solid rock, and it is
 rather hard to tell where the
 solid rock stops and the mas-
 onry starts. The foundation is
 in Roman architecture. Then
 starts the medieval architecture
 you can hardly realize the labor
 this great monument represents.
 you look at its size and think
 of the methods probably employed
 to build it - way back when
 our modern methods were never
 dreamed of, the thickness of those
 walls + height of them.

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VIANDEN

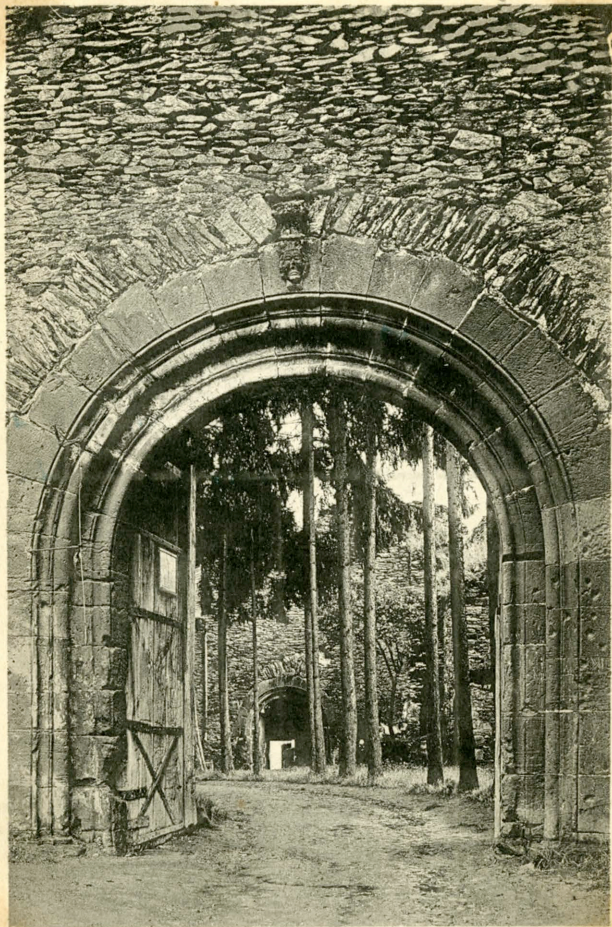
Schloßruine (Südseite) - Ruines du château (côté sud)

close to bottom you can see a bit of drive leading thru a gate or arch. This is on the way up as you enter the grounds. There is 3 or 4 of these gates all heavily built and fortified.

Can you imagine a grand cavalier, with sword, spear shield & flying plume riding up thru those arches - in the

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early history? When the old castle stood out in all its strength and splendor.



VIANDEN *Haupteingang der Schloßruine*
Entrée principale des Ruines

well here is a close view of the last arch. The drive is lined on each side with ever green trees, making a beautiful appearance. above this door (not shown in picture) there is a stone alcove or shoot, where molten lead or hot water or any thing could be dropped on the heads of a besieging party.

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Mr. 29
 On there you see another door. This part is occupied by an old man who shows people there, collects souvenirs. I saw pieces of furniture made in 1400 + 1500. and paintings too. all kinds of arms - spears, swords, helmets every thing it seemed to me along that line.



VIANDEN Schloßruine - Rittersaal
Ruines du château - Salle des chevaliers

This is the "hall of the cavaliers" or knights as it says on the other side. They had their round table here. I can just imagine the one time grandeur of this hall.

This is the first one we saw. The room is immense; stone floor and the great fire place at far end and the remains gives you an idea of the height.

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VIANDEN *Schloßruine - Waffen- und bysantinischer Saal*
Ruines du château - Salle d'armes & salle bysantine

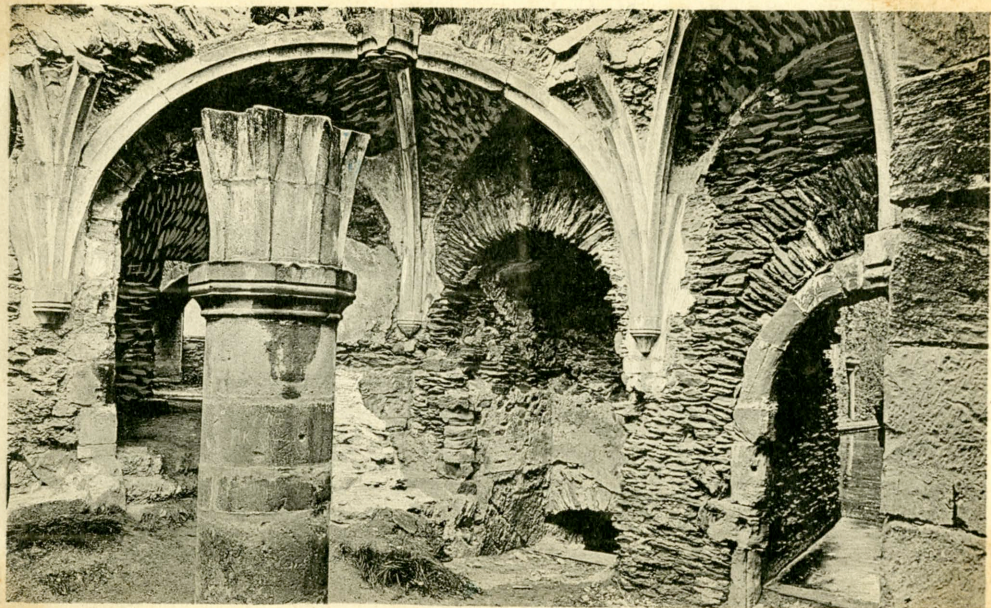
Then we went into the Hall of the Army. I judge this to be where the rulers held their meetings and discussed the subjects of importance. Note the massiveness of the walls where the seats are. This room and the remains enables you to picture in your mind the one time grandeur of this palace.

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24

Several great pillars that supported the great arched ceiling, with their engravings + frescoing. Most of that has been ruined by the elements. Victor Hugo when in exile spent quite a while here - when he wrote one of his books.

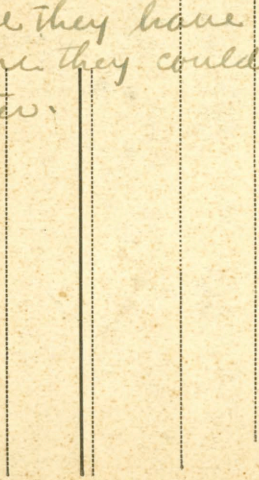


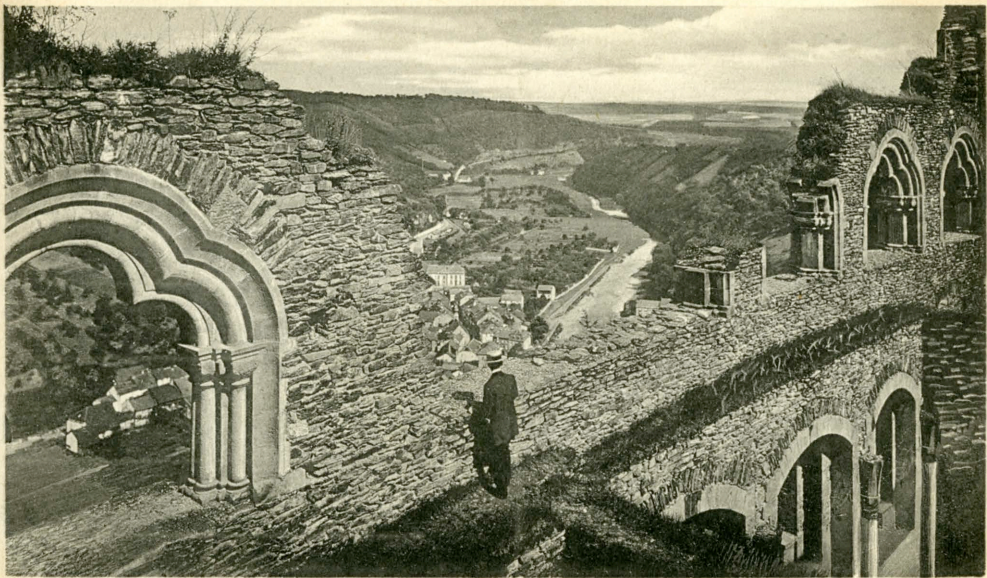
VIANDEN Schloßruine - Waffensaal - Ruines du château - Salle d'armes

This is a closer view of one part of the no 9 room. The stone work looks pretty rough after so many years. at the middle bottom you can see the entrance to an underground passage. There are many of these dark tunnels winding around like rat holes, leading from the chapel to different places, winding stairs; and in the heart of the place at the most guarded place they have a deep well where they could always get water.

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VIANDEN Bysantinischer Saal der Schloßruine mit Ourtal - Salle bysanthine du château & vallée de l'Our

This is standing just above
the room in no 9, looking
down into it. Note the size of
the man and that wonderful
view from up there. It just
seemed to lift one off his
feet to stand there and
look out over that beautiful
town, river and valley.

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Another I would like to spend
a whole day here with
you. So many interesting
things.

1854



Burg Vianden
Pfeilerbündel im
Innern der
Doppelkapelle

This is the chapel. you can get some idea as to the beauty of it from the pictures. Under the chapel is a great room, with the great pillars and arches supporting the chapel, the center is hollow & open, many little nooks with winding stairs down below.

This part shows better than your imagination what the rest of the castle must have been like when it was inhabited, even this is not to compare to what it was at one time.

Your loving son

Paul B. Hendrickson
Hdg 40. 129. Jy.