

Castles

Romantic, whimsical, physically appealing...Castles is a small category that holds some interest for a number of collectors, and for a number of reasons—although, as a teacher, I should point out that castles, in reality, were anything but romantic. They were cold, dark, drafty, and uncomfortable. Before 1100, castles had little furniture, and indeed, the lord and lady of the house slept on the floor, usually with the other important castle inhabitants in the same room, since since it was so costly to heat multiple rooms. For most rooms, the only sources of light were candles and torches, and the candles gave off unpleasant odors, so living in a castle was a ‘stinky’ experience, as well.

Since you’d probably only be looking for a certain type of graphic, here, this is a category that cuts across most other categories and can be a conjunctive in all areas. You’re more likely to find them among your Restaurant covers, of course, but you could possibly find them in any other collection. They would also be found in all sizes and types of covers.

And, if you’d like an additional challenge, you could even consider going after covers from *real* castles! There were over 10,000 castles built in Medieval Germany alone. Anyone who’s been to Europe knows that the two things one most commonly sees are castles and cathedrals...and many of those present-day castles are still lived in, and even more are active tourist attractions...so it’s quite probably that at least some covers have been issued by real castles. Then, there are various European sets that feature castles from around the continent.

This latter type of cover would present an additional challenge, as well, in that the only source would be Foreign covers.

