

CASTLES IN AMERICA:  
THEIR DIFFUSION INTO THE NORTHEASTERN UNITED STATES  
DURING THE ROMANTIC ERA (1870-1930)

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ABSTRACT

During the Romantic Era (1870-1930), there was a resurgence of medieval themes in Western culture, especially in architecture. The architectural revival began in Europe and spread to the United States in the form of castles, creating a unique landscape. This paper assesses how the castles diffused across the United States, and the builders' purposes behind their construction. This analysis was accomplished by using a combination of pattern analysis, case studies, and GIS analysis. Results show a pattern in the creation of the castles as grand residences built by men who were trying to cement their place within the upper levels of society.