

The Stolpen Castle Chronicle

Around 1100	Erection of an initial fortification, probably »a castle of roughly timbered wood«
1121	Unproven reference in the »Chronica Boemorum« of Prague and in the Chronicles by Hagecius
Around 1218	(Re-) Purchase of the castle and some surrounding estate by Meissen Bishop Bruno II from Slav Moyko de Stulpen; setup of an independent manorial estate
1222	First documented evidence
1241	Border Treaty between the Meissen Bishopric and the Kingdom of Bohemia
Around 1320	Formation of Amt Stolpen, with the castle becoming the center of its administration
1429	Unsuccessfully besieged by Hussites
1451-1537	Principal reconstruction as an early modern fortification
1520	First official mandate of Bishop Johann VII von Schleinitz against Luther (The Stolpen Decree)
1539	Introduction of the Reformation in Saxony; Meissen bishops retreating to Stolpen
1559	Takeover of the castle, town and of Amt Stolpen by Elector Augustus; Reformation introduced also in Stolpen
From 1559	Reconstruction and conversion into a palace; erection of the Deer Garden and »Water Works« by Martin Planer
1607/08 - 1632	Sinking of the basalt well by four miners from Berggiesshuebel
1632	Successful defense against imperial Croats; parts of the castle destroyed by fires
1634	Deployment of a permanent garrison; worst of the years of raging Black Death
1639	Besieged by Swedish troops
1675	Erection of fortifications by Wolf Caspar von Klengel
1716	Countess Cosel banished on Stolpen
1723	A devastating fire in the town also destroys parts of the castle
1738	The remaining stock of game removed from the Deer Garden
1756	Withdrawal of the garrison to Koenigstein; Stolpen conquered by Prussian troops; extensive devastation
1764	Dissolution of the garrison; natural decay set in
1765	Death of Countess Cosel; buried in the Castle Chapel
1773-1787	Demolition of ruinous parts of the castle

1813	Fortification facilities erected by Napoleon Bonaparte; extensive devastation during retreat, also inflicted by succeeding troops
1842	A park laid out at the upper south slope of the castle
1859	King Johann of Sachsen decrees restoration measures
1874	First castle warden employed
1883	Clearing of the well that had been backfilled in 1756 and 1813
1935-1939	Development of the castle to promote tourism
1945	The castle came under the management of the Main Administration of the State Museums, Castles and Gardens in Dresden
1957	Handover to legal ownership by the Stolpen Town Council
From 1960	More intensive cultural use, e.g., as a backdrop for shooting motion pictures
1989	Record number of visitors: 199,165
1992	Taken over by the Free State of Saxony; the castle was given the status of a State Castle Operation, with immediate intensive construction activities to follow – up to now
1996	Use of the Granary as a versatile location for events, weddings and a place for rent
1998	Opening of the Seven-Peak Tower
2001	Surface design of the High Palace (Prince's Place) following museological-didactic principles
2007	Opening of the Seiger Tower
2013	Conversion into a non-profitmaking limited liability company