Did You Know?....

Apparently, when the Castle was being constructed, a mason dropped a chisel while working on a basement wall and couldn't recover it. The antique chisel was found a century later in 2013 when restoration work was being done on that part of the building. The chisel is on display here, as well as a diagram showing the type of mallet the mason might have used to strike the chisel and shape the stone (see figure 9).

Diagram showing mason's tools from "Masonry: An Elementary Textbook" published in 1914.

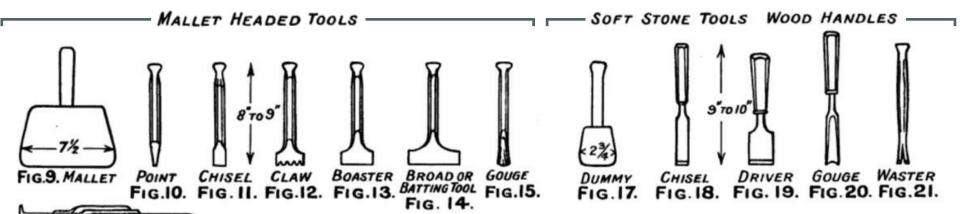


FIG.16, TRAMMEL AND SCRIBER

Mallet (Fig. 9).—Of beech, hickory, or other hard wood, circular in shape, and of varying sizes, used for striking malletheaded tools when working freestone.

Dummy (Fig. 17).—A tool made of zinc or pewter, three to 4 lbs. in weight and used for striking wood-handled chisels in working soft limestones.

Image of the basement's south wall, where the chisel was found.

