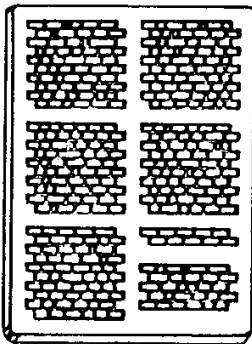# LINKA BUILDING KIT

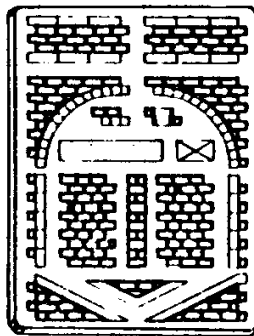## MEDIEVAL GATEHOUSE

Designer: Brian Zobel

Before building this model, do become familiar with casting, gluing, and cutting parts, as shown in the "Basic Instructions".
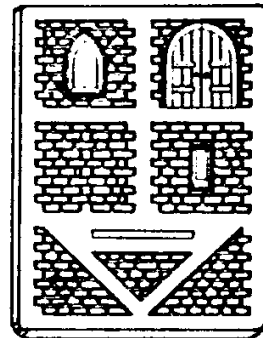
PARTS NEEDED:

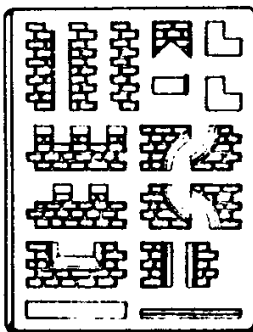There are six moulds in this kit. Cast each mould as shown below:
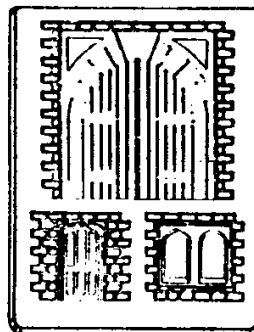
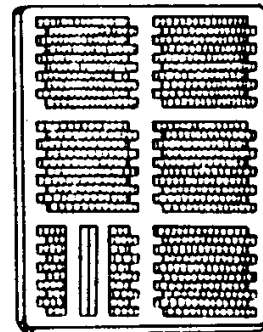**Cast S1 ten times**

Cast S3 nine times

Cast S4 six times

Cast S5 twelve times

**Cast S6 five times**

Cast R2 twice

You will now have enough castings to make this model, plus extras. The extras can be used to replace broken castings - or to help build your own design variations.

ABOUT BUILDING THIS GATEHOUSE: This is a major kit, and will probably take more than average time and care. If it is your first Linka model, we recommend building a small practice model first (any simple design will do). Alternatively, go straight into the Gatehouse - but accept that your first try might need to be rebuilt!

BUILDING THE MAIN WALLS:

PREPARATION: The main archway of the gatehouse consists of two of the large gate castings from mould S6, with the central gate removed to create an open gateway, as shown below.

With a craft knife, gently and carefully score around the central gate, as shown by the dotted 'cut' lines.
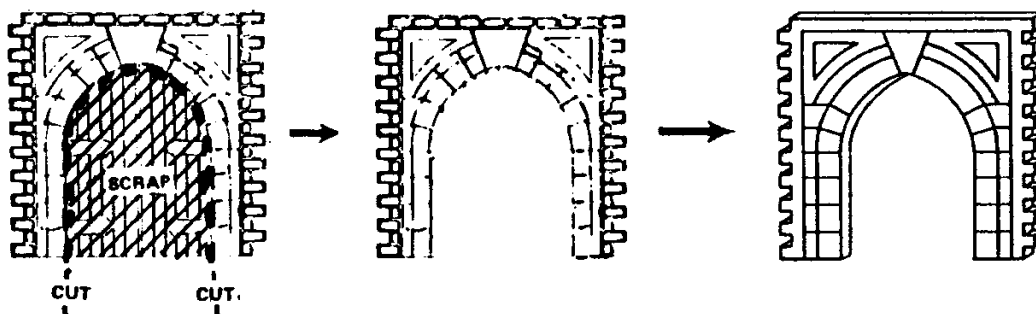

Keep on gently scoring around the gate until it drops out. You will probably break the gate arch while you are doing this, but don't worry! Just glue the arch back together and put aside to set. (The arch will be reinforced when it is incorporated with the rest of the model, and any fracture lines will disappear once the model has been painted.)

Sand the edges smooth inside the archway, from which the gate was removed.

You will need TWO gate arches for this model, one for each side of the gatehouse; therefore, prepare another gate arch, following the same sequence.

A tricky start - but here's the good news: one of the most difficult building tasks for this model is already over!
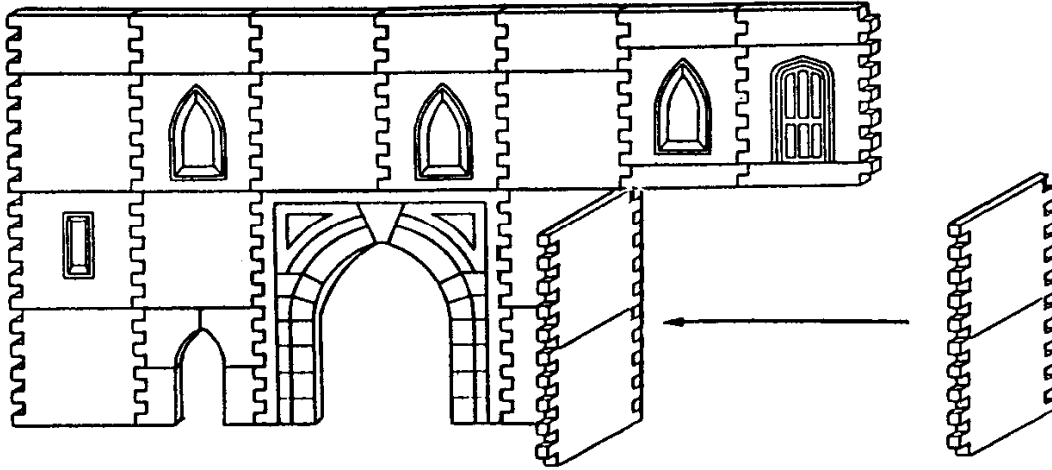
1) Using the castings shown below, carefully glue the front wall together. T do this, it is best to put the castings on a smooth surface (detail side fac down) and then slide them together. Note that the two top right-hand casting need cutting prior to gluing in place. When the wall is complete (and still fac down), press all the castings into good alignment before leaving to set. Thi final lining up of each wall is important, because poor alignment will show u on the finished model. Keep in mind that the walls will be fragile until the are incorporated into the full model – so put this completed wall carefull aside to allow the glue to harden completely.
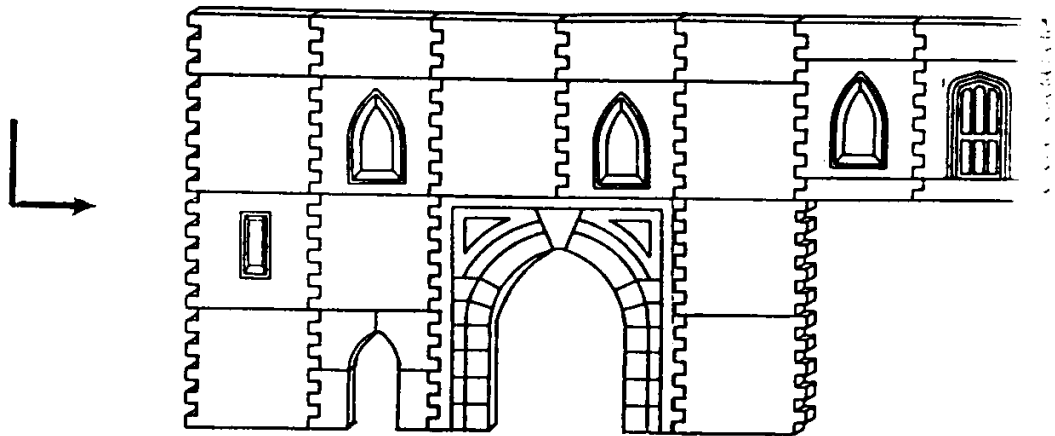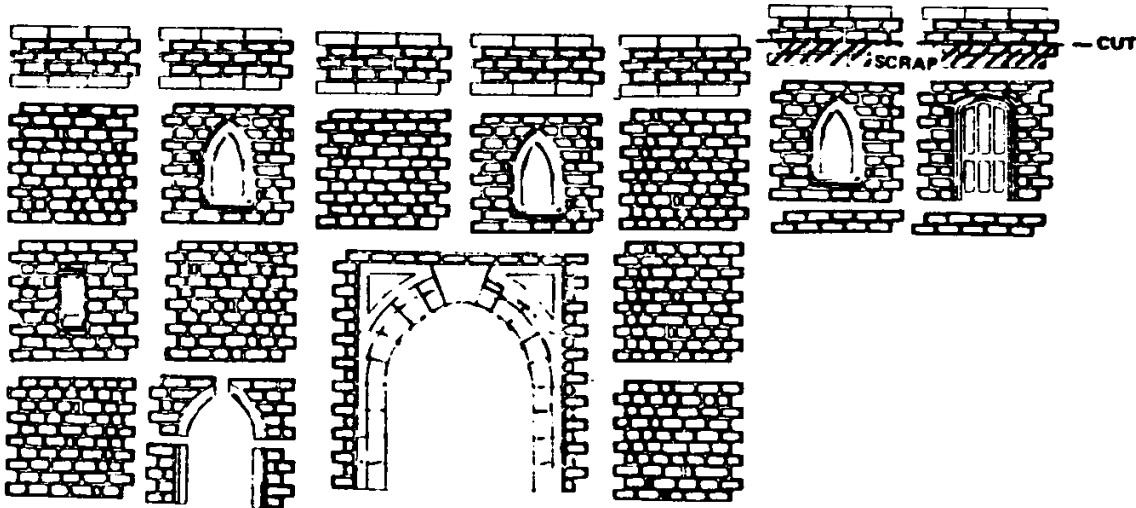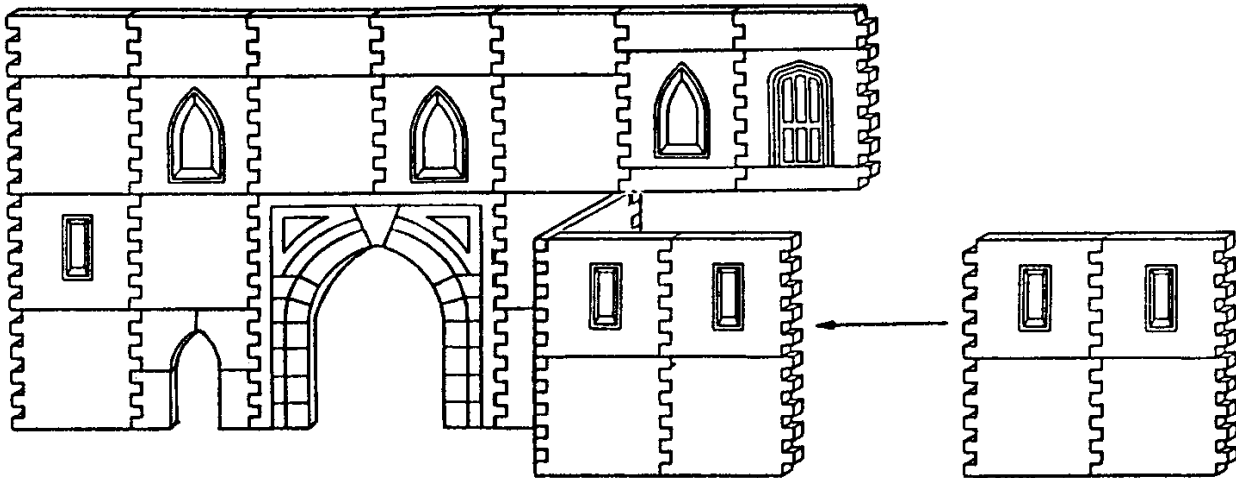
**2) Using the castings shown below, glue the two walls of the front turr together.**
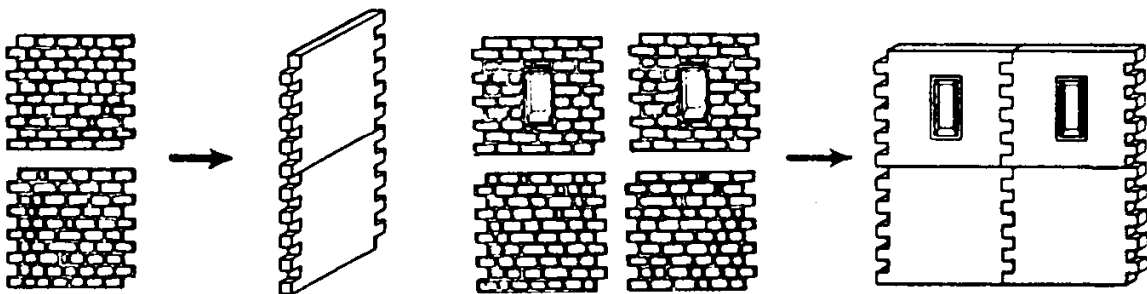
3) Glue the side wall of the front turret in place, at right angles to the main front wall.

4) Glue the front turret wall in place, in line with the main front wall, as shown below. Gently put aside the whole assembly to set.
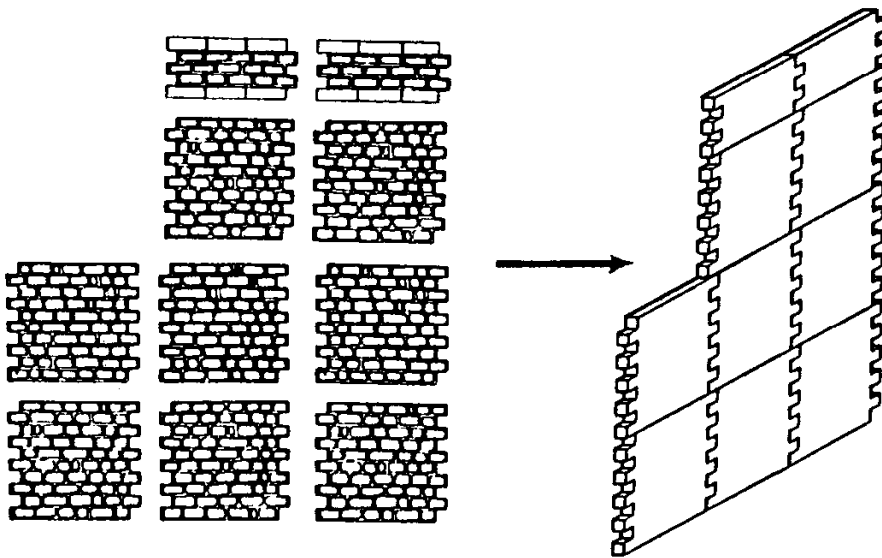
5) Using the castings shown below, glue the back wall together. Although th
is a major wall, making it is straightforward. Taking your time, carefully glu
each part into its correct place and align well. Then put the completed wa
carefully aside to set.
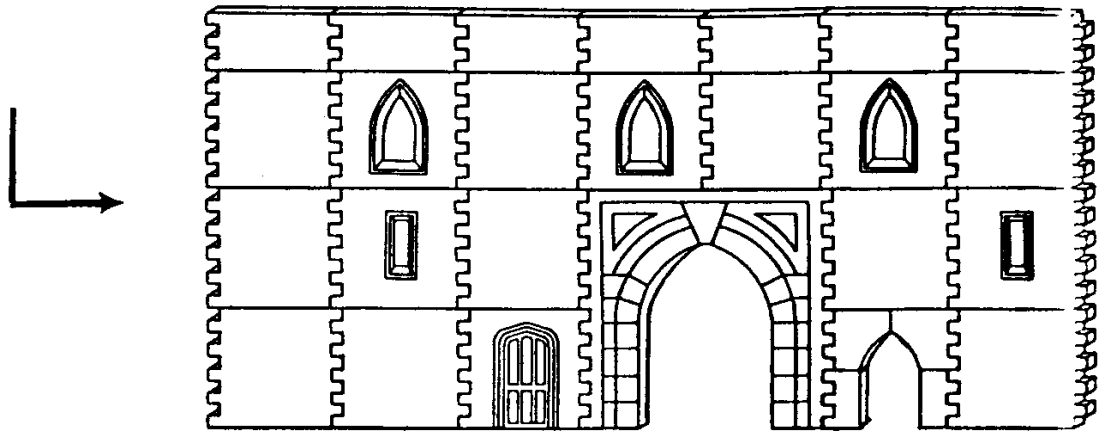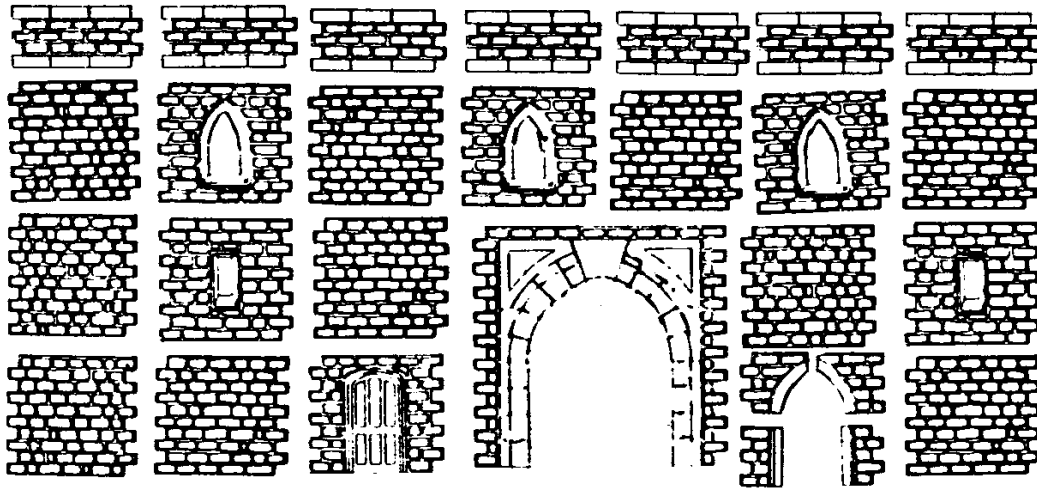
6) Glue the left-hand wall together.
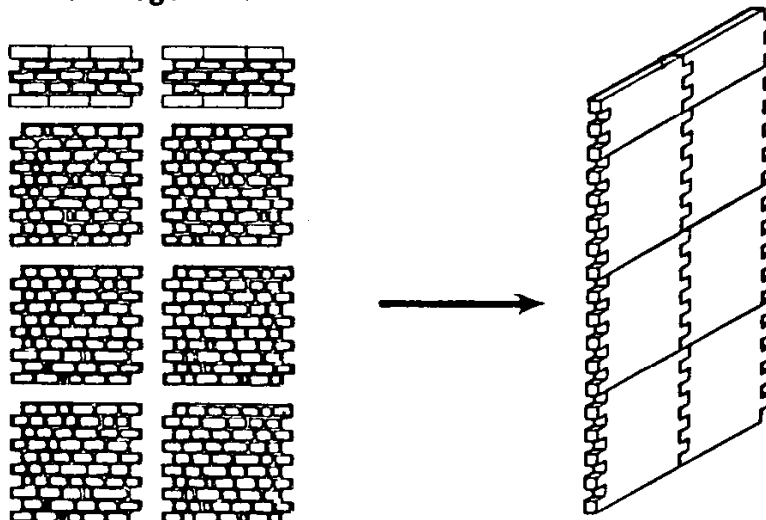
7) Glue the right-hand wall together.

8) When all the main gatehouse walls have set completely, assemble them in the following sequence (again, a tricky operation - take time and care):

Put the rear wall face down, and glue the left-hand wall into place, gently easing the teeth into position. Don't worry if some of the teeth break off while you are doing this - they can be glued back in place, and any fractures will disappear after painting.

Glue the right-hand wall into place by, again, gently easing the teeth together.
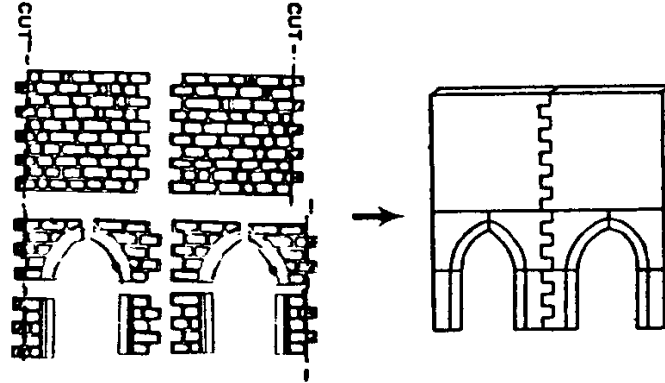
Carefully stand the three walls upright. Glue the front wall and turret into place by, once again, gently easing in the teeth, first on one side, and then on the other.
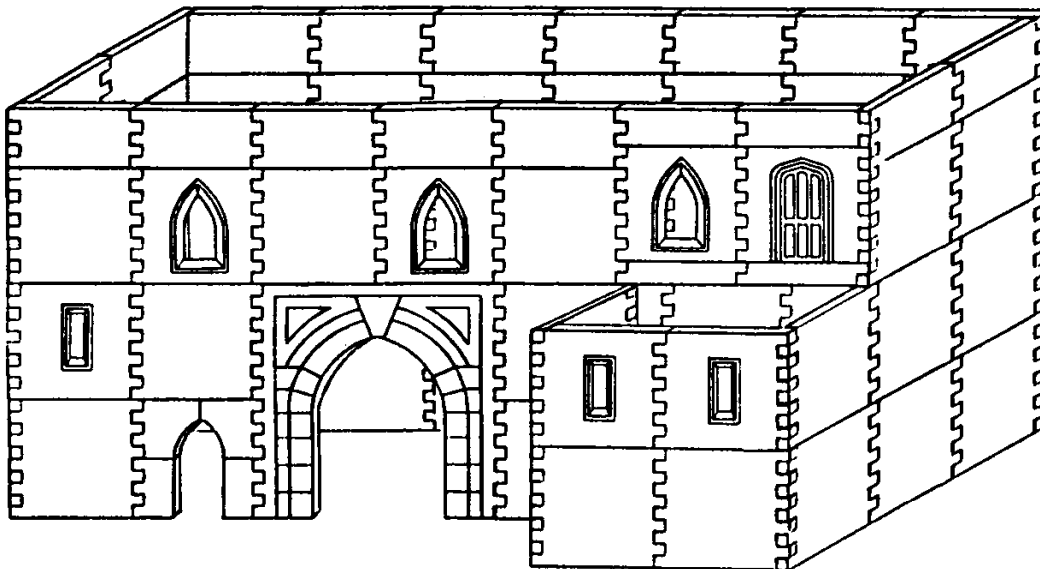

The worst is now over! Check that your model is square, and put it aside to set - but be careful, as the model is still very fragile.

BUILDING THE INNER ARCHES:

MAIN ARCH:

1) Glue the left-hand side together, cutting off the outer teeth, as sh[ ]v below.

2) Cut off the teeth from two large gate castings (this time you do not rer [ ] the inner gate!). One gate casting forms the right-hand side; and the ot [ ]e turned over so that the smooth side faces down, forms the roof.
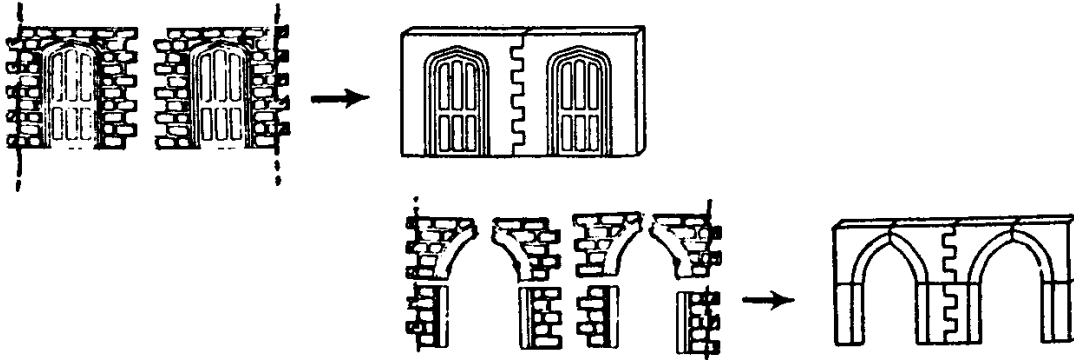

Turn over, to [ ]a
smooth side f [ ]i
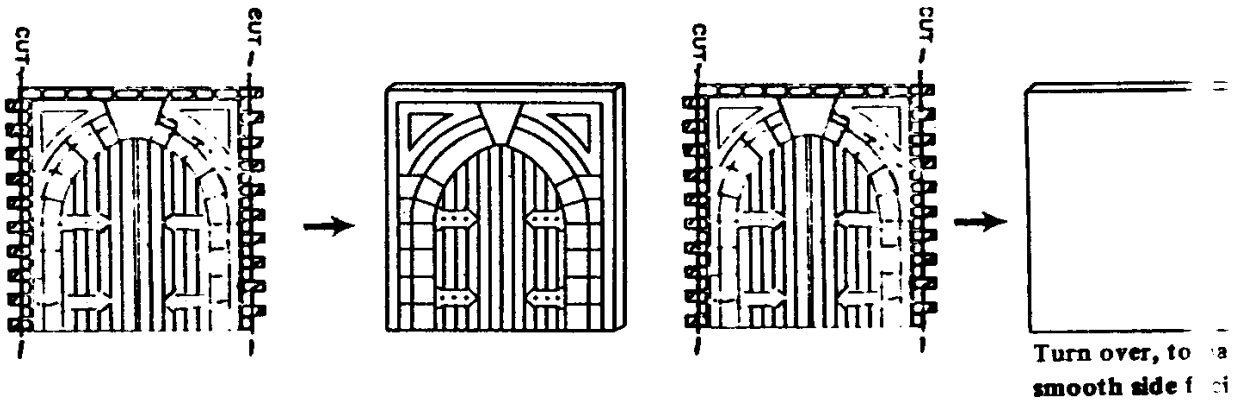
3) Glue the three parts together to form the main arch, with the detail on [ ] walls facing inward, and the smooth side of the roof facing downward, as sh[ ]v below.
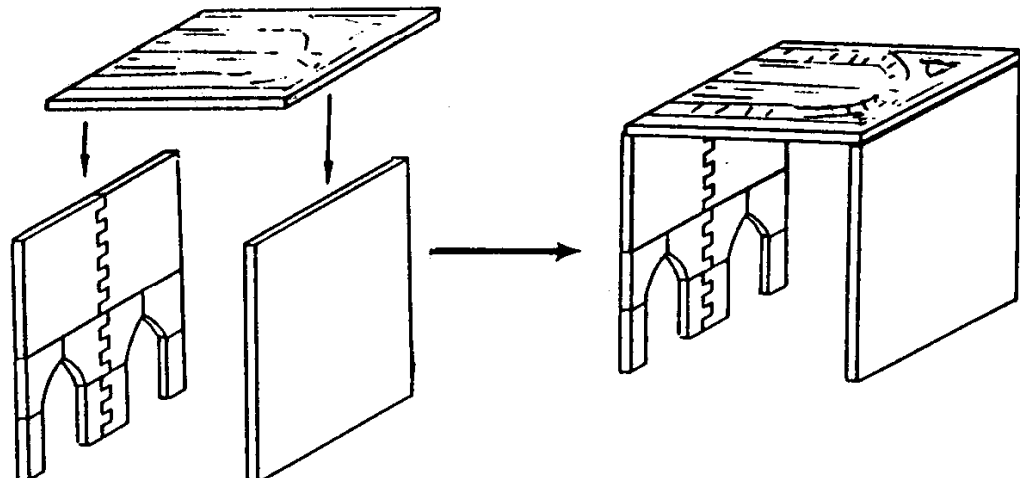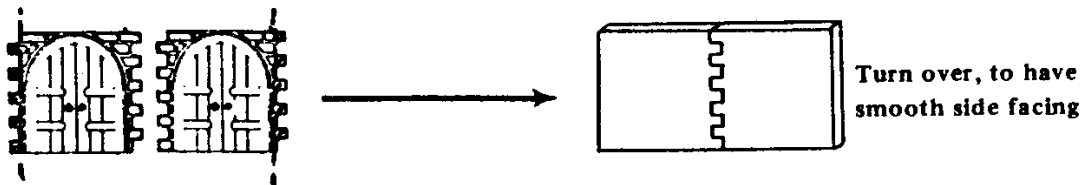
SMALL ARCH:

1) Glue the left and right-hand sides together, again cutting off the outer teeth, as shown below.
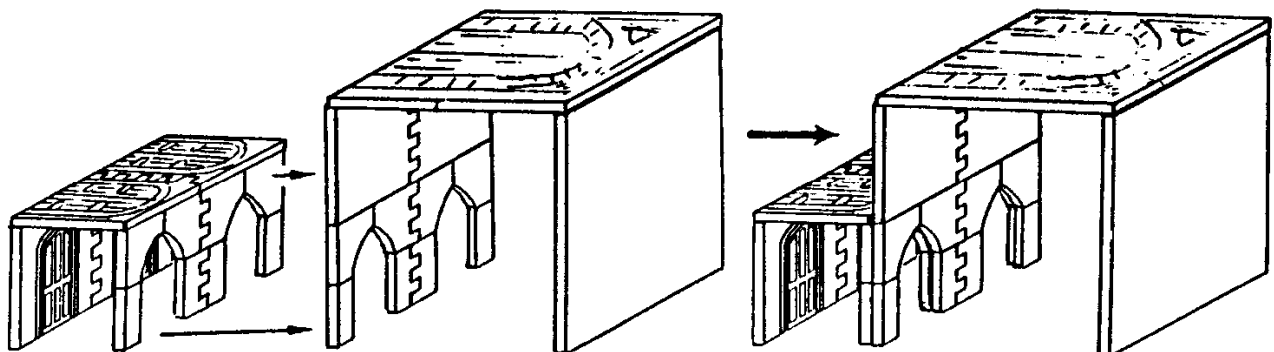
2) Glue the roof together, cutting off the outer teeth. (ANY spare castings can be used here, as only the smooth side will show.)

Turn over, to have smooth side facing

3) Glue the three parts together to form the small arch with, again, wall detail inward, smooth roof downward.
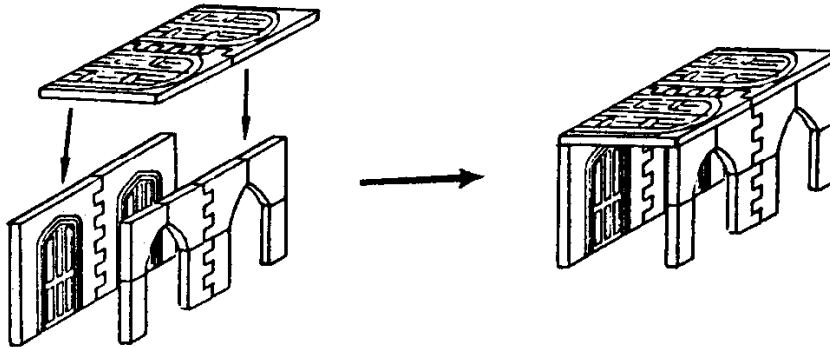
ASSEMBLY:

1) Glue the two arches together, as shown below.

2) Carefully lift up the assembled gatehouse and slide in the completed arches Glue into place.
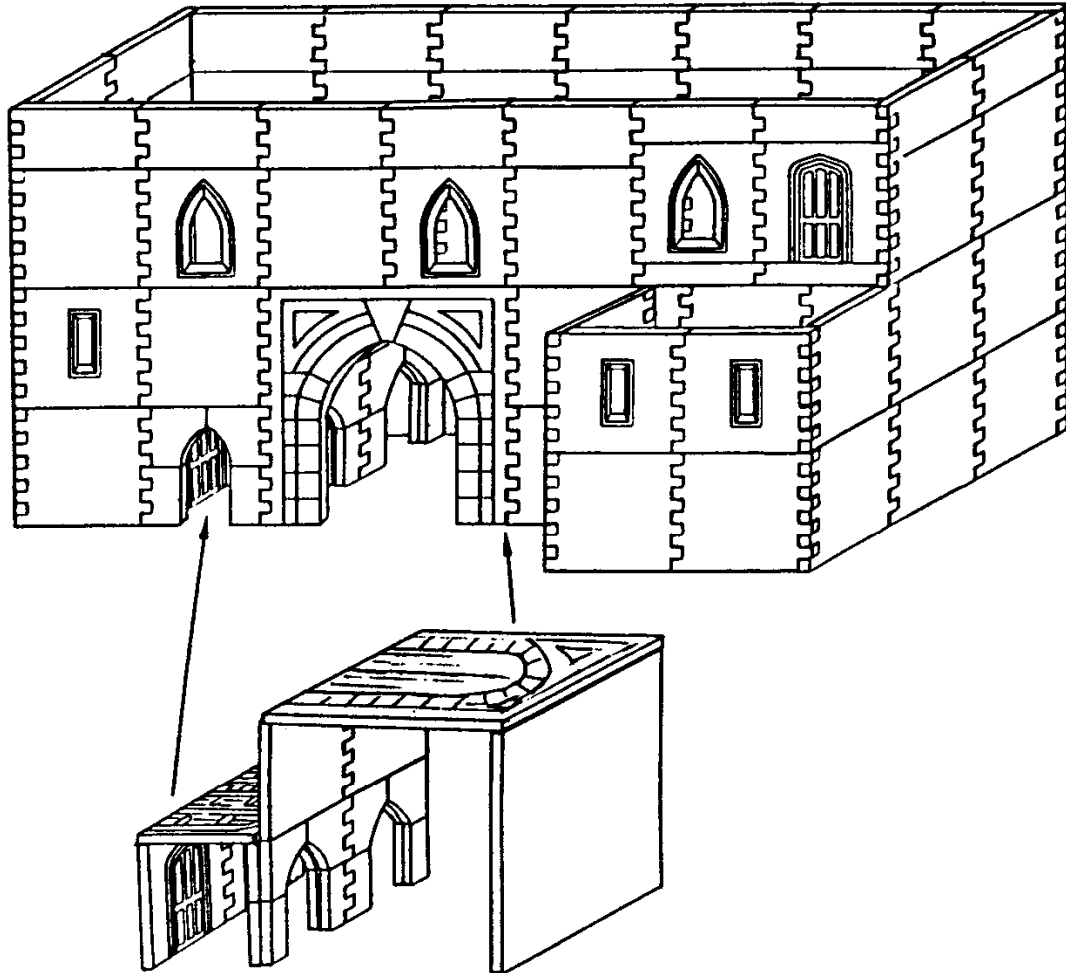
REINFORCEMENT:

Once the inner arches are in place, the model will be stronger; but it is helpful to add reinforcement.

Various spare castings can be used, or cut, for this purpose; but the right-angl casting from mould S4 is particularly useful, and should be glued inside each of the gatehouse corners, as shown below.

BUILDING THE MAIN TOWER:

1) Glue the front and back walls together, as shown below.
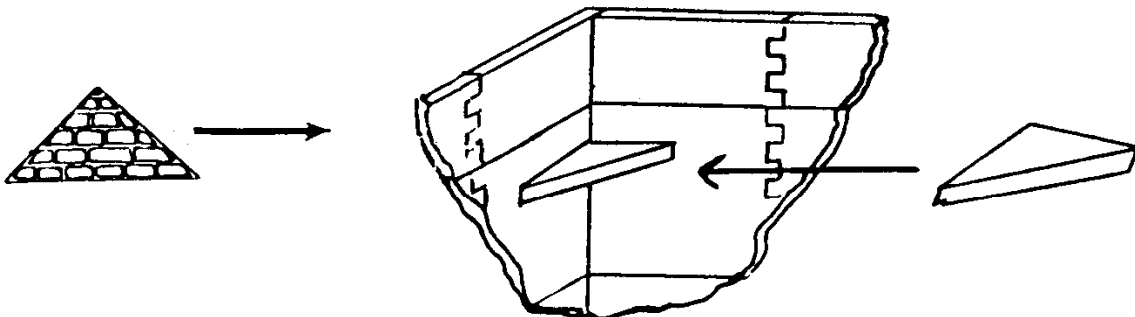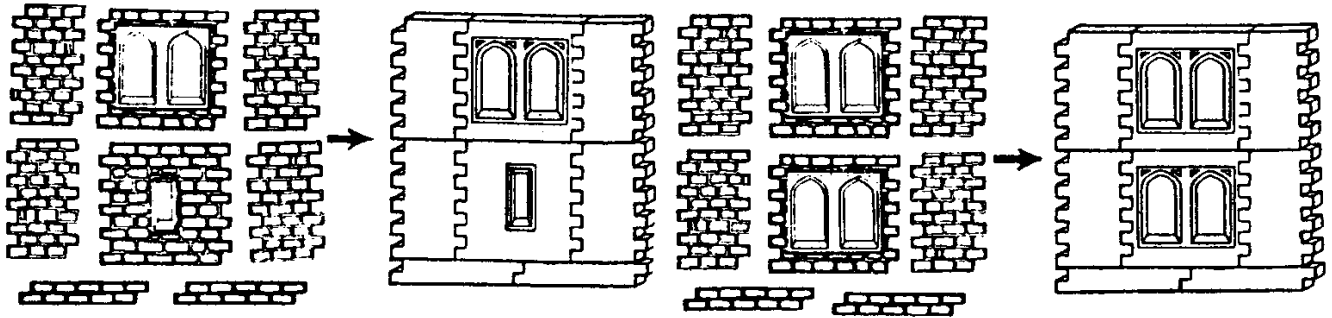
2) Glue the two side walls together, as shown below.

3) Carefully glue the four walls together into a square, easing the teeth in wall by wall, and re-gluing any teeth that break off.

Front view
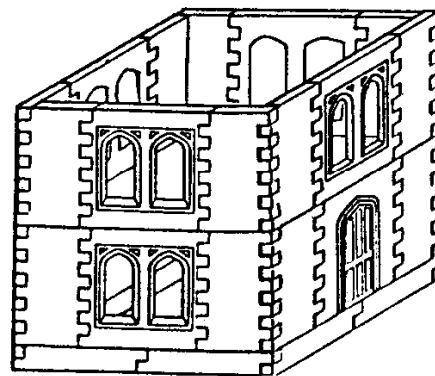
Back view

4) Reinforce the tower by gluing right-angle castings into the corners.

5) Check that the tower is square; then put it aside to set.

ADDING WINDOWS:
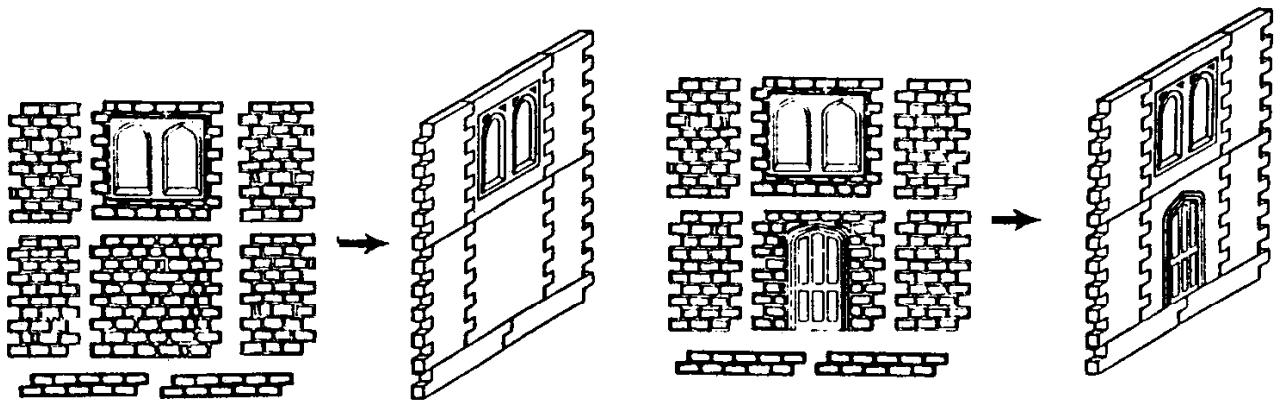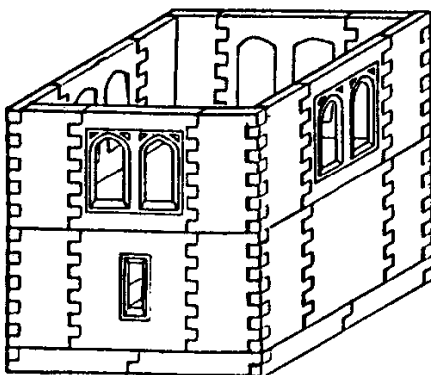
Access will be difficult once the roof is in place; therefore, add the win 'o now.

As paint may splash on to the windows when you paint the model, we feel 't a good idea to paint the window surrounds with a stone-colour paint (s "Painting instructions" on page 20) before fitting the windows.

When the paint is dry, cut out the windows from the supplied window s e Glue in place on the main gatehouse and the tower, as shown below.

Front view

Back view

12

Front view

Back view
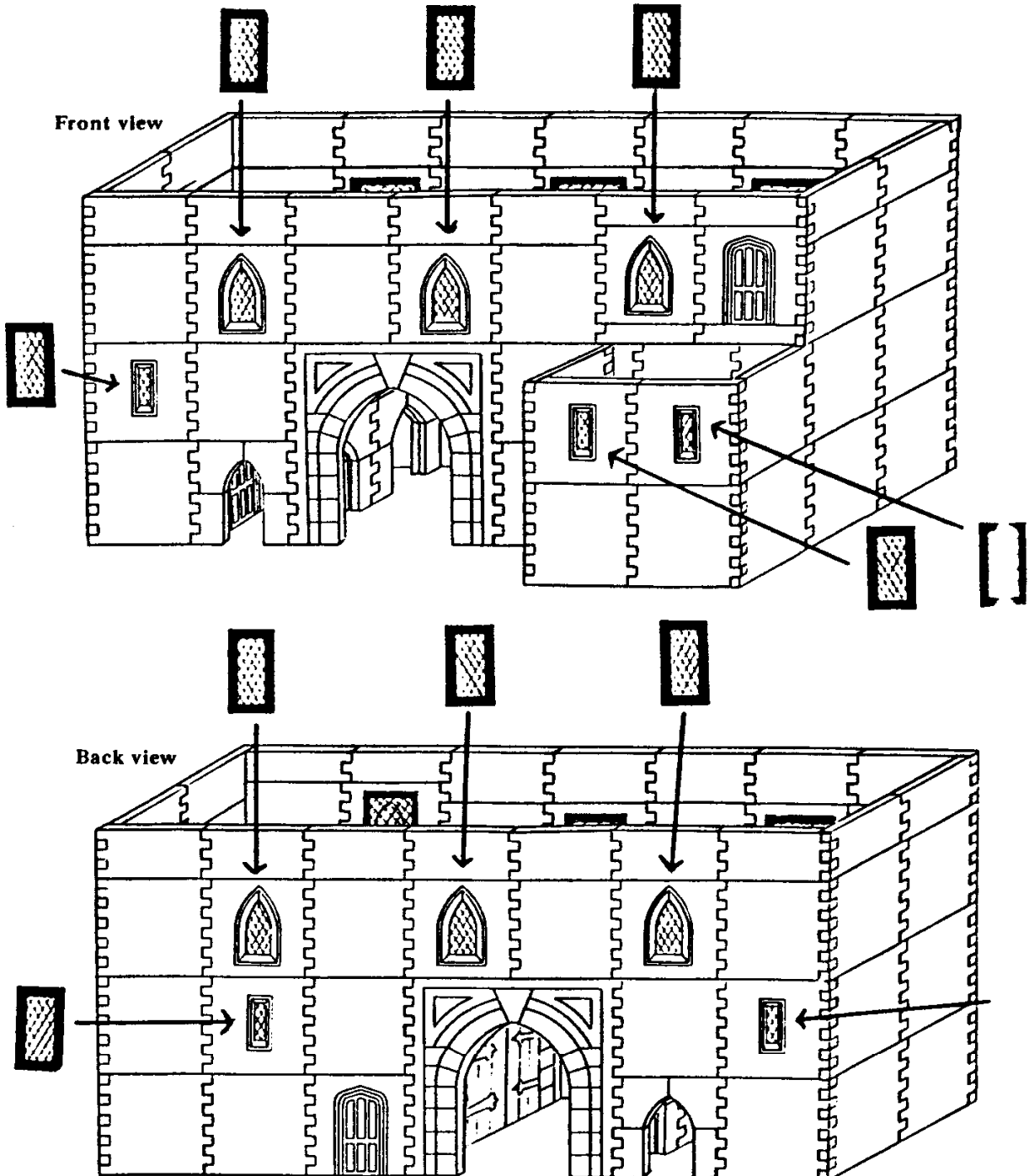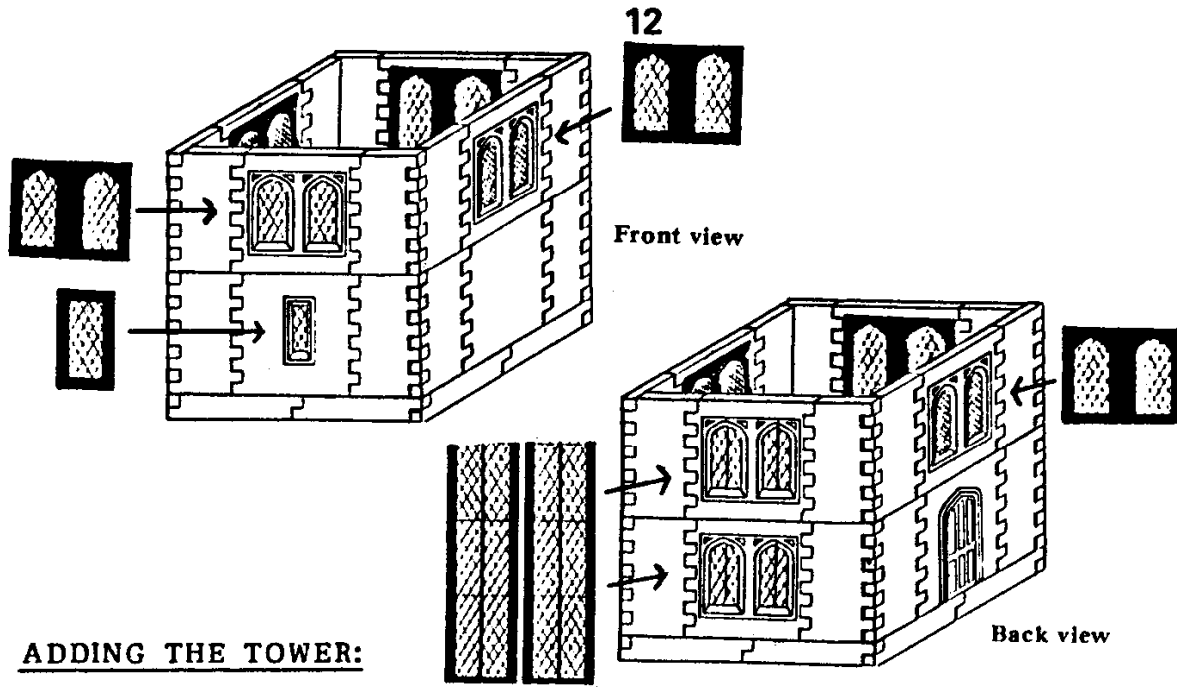
ADDING THE TOWER:

1) Carefully glue the main tower into position on the gatehouse. (Make sure you get it the right way round! The pictures below show exactly how it should be.)
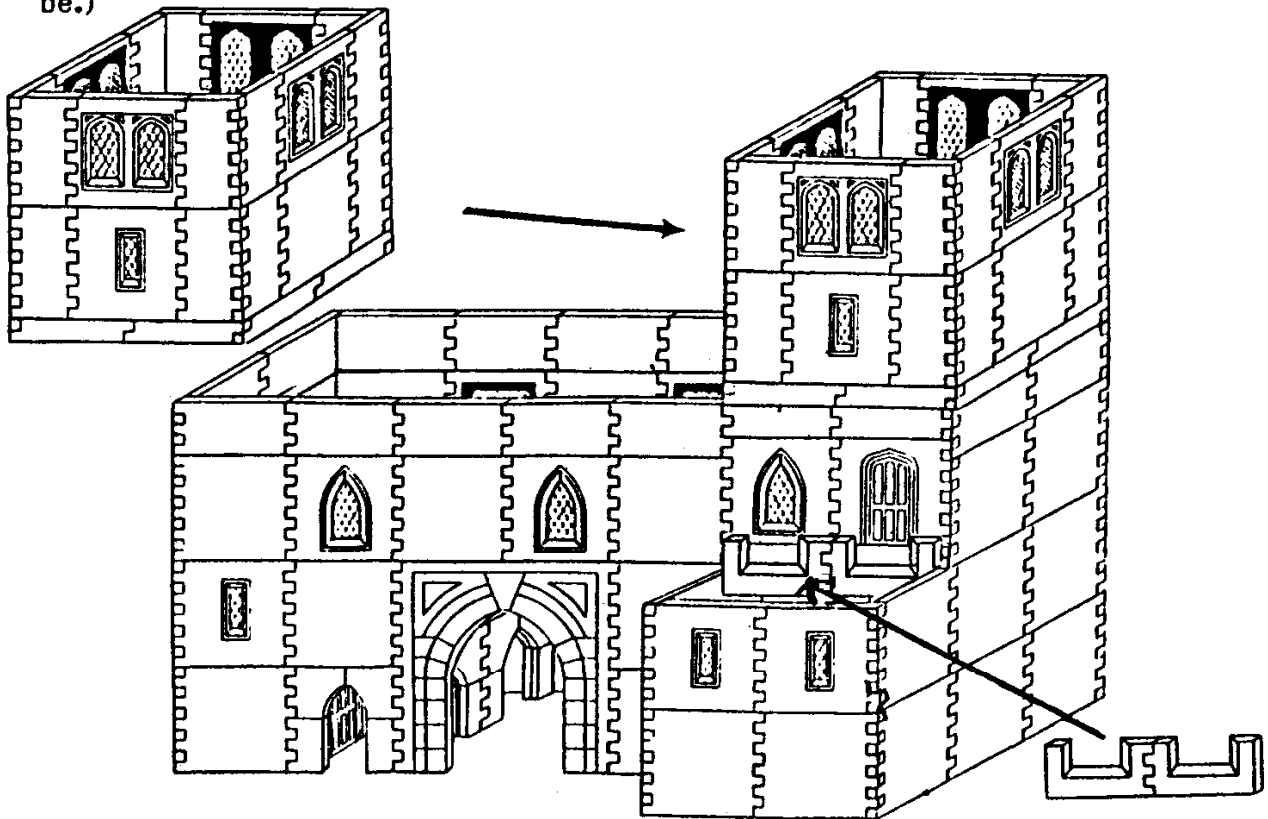
2) Prepare the parts for the lower turret facing, as shown below, by cutting off the outer teeth and sanding down the inner frames, as shown by the dotted lines.

sand   sand
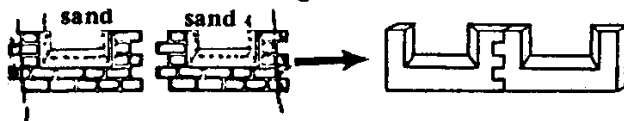
3) Glue the lower turret facing in place, inside the lower turret, and against the door and window, as shown above.

ADDING THE ROOFS:

1) Glue the main roof together from the castings shown below.
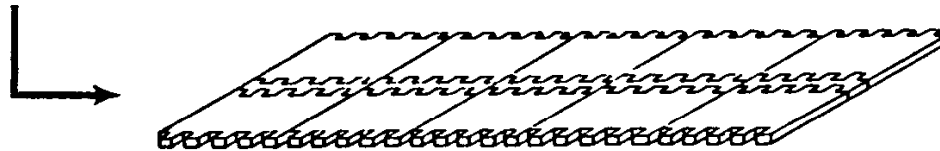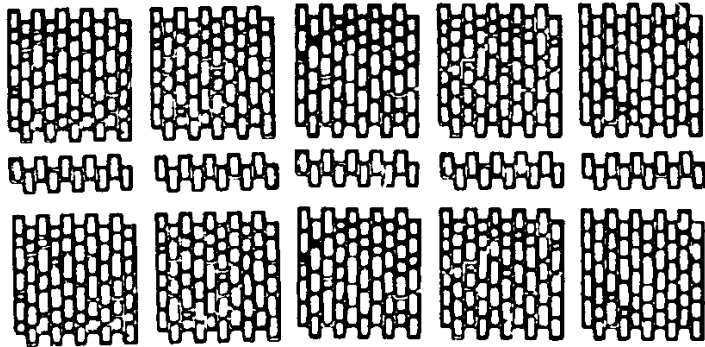
2) Glue the main roof reinforcement together. (Any spare castings can be us d for this reinforcement, as it will be hidden.)
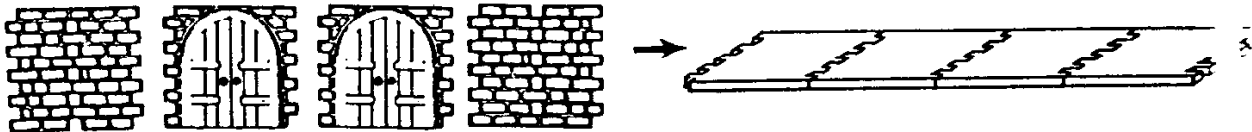
3) Glue the reinforcement onto the underside (smooth side) of the main ro Place the whole assembly aside to set.
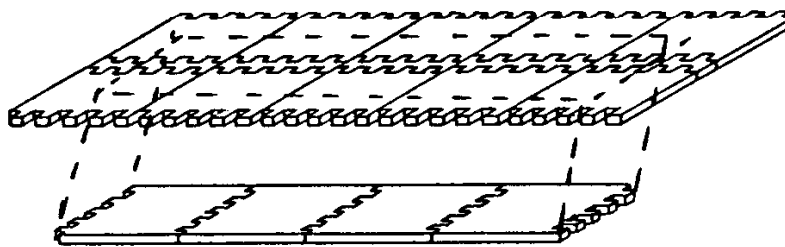
4) Glue the tower roof into a square from the eight angle castings shown.
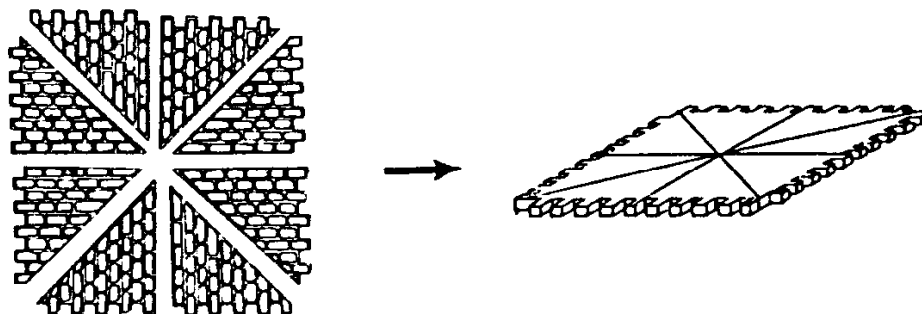
5) Glue any spare casting underneath the tower roof for reinforcement, and put aside to set.
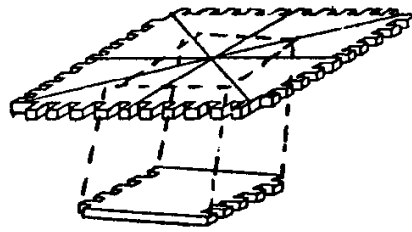
6) Glue the lower turret roof together, cutting off the teeth at one side, as shown.

CUT —   — CUT

7) When set, carefully glue the three completed roofs into position, as shown below.
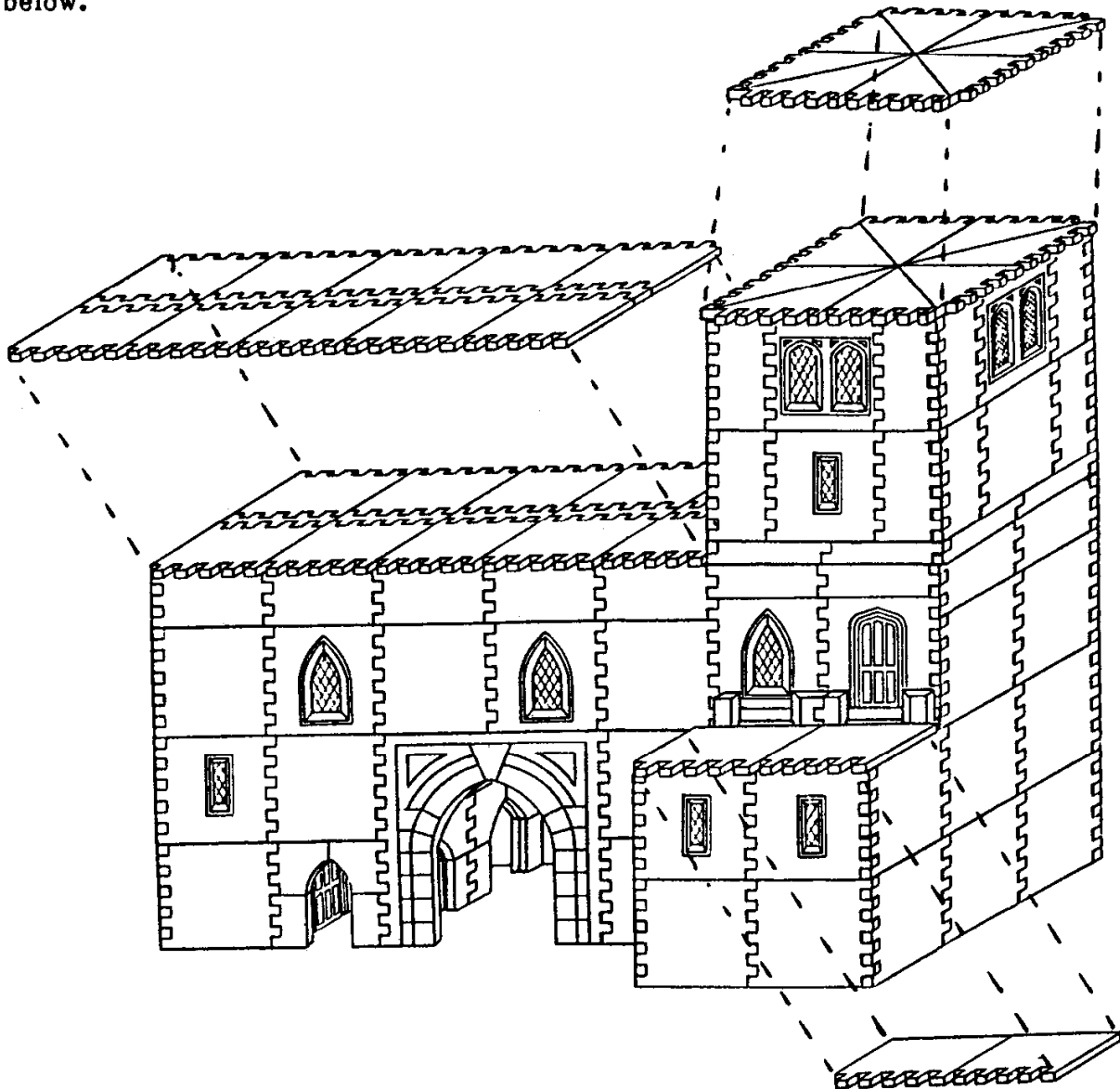
ADDING THE SLATE ROOF:

1) Glue the slate roof together. Cut and glue each side as shown below, an put aside to set. Then glue the two sides onto the two angle ends (from moul S3), as shown below.

CUT —
CUT —
SCRAP
— CUT
— CUT
SCRAP
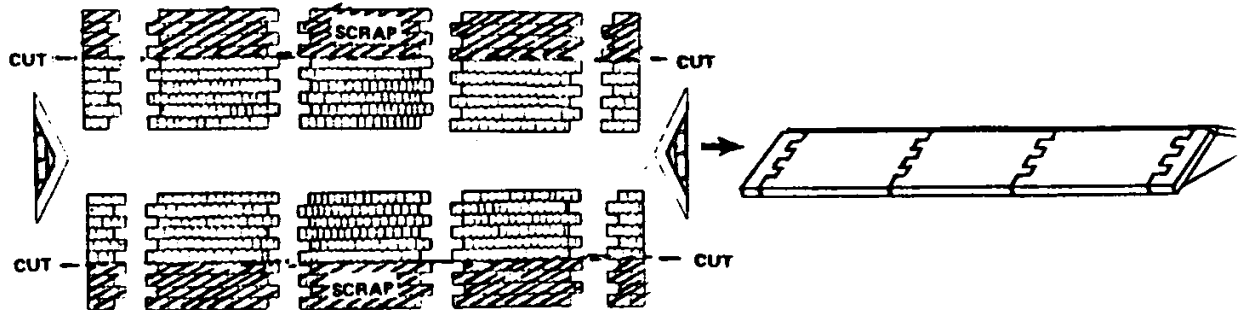
2) Glue half-round castings (from mould S4) onto the apex to form ridging.
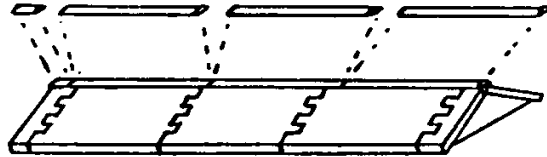
3) Glue the completed slate roof in place on the main gatehouse. Glue the roo doorstep (from mould S5), and the supplied tower hatch in place, as show below.
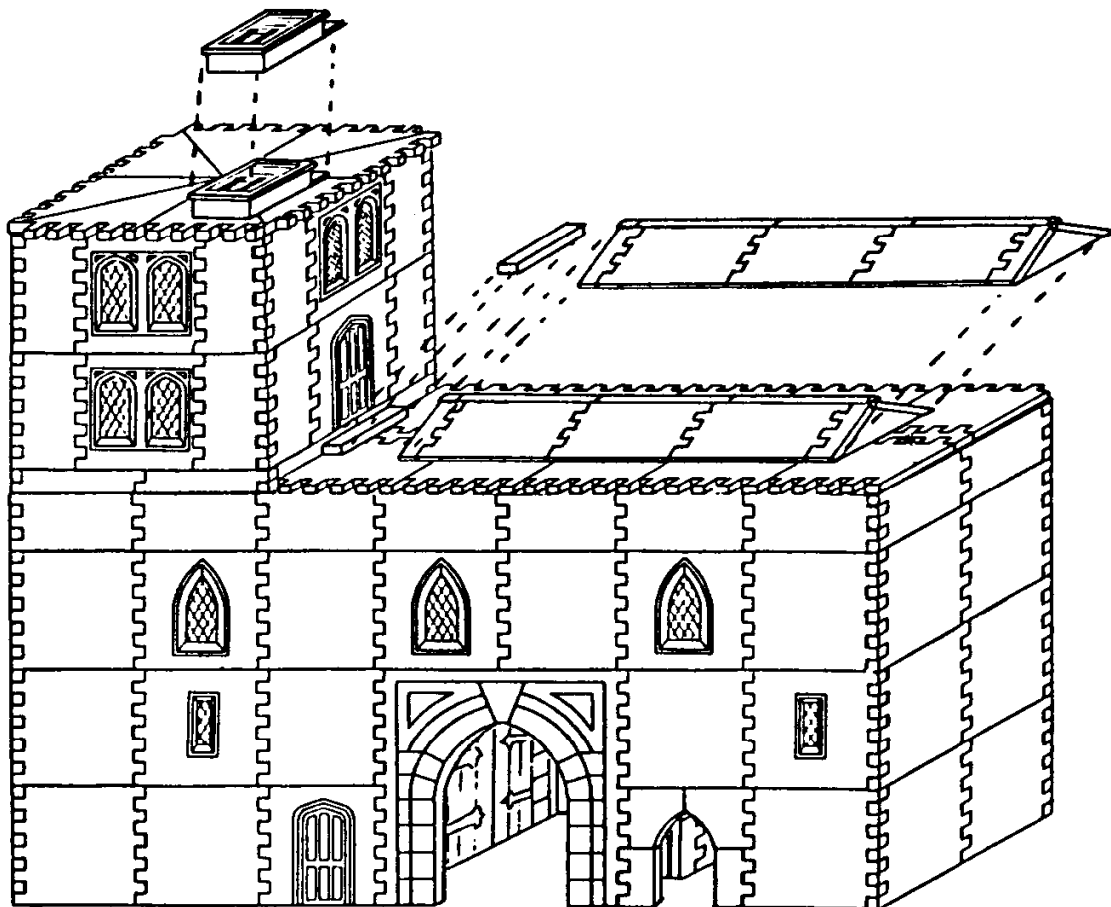
ADDING THE BATTLEMENTS:

Glue the battlements in place, piece by piece – **first on the main roof, then on the lower turret, then on the tower** – as shown below.
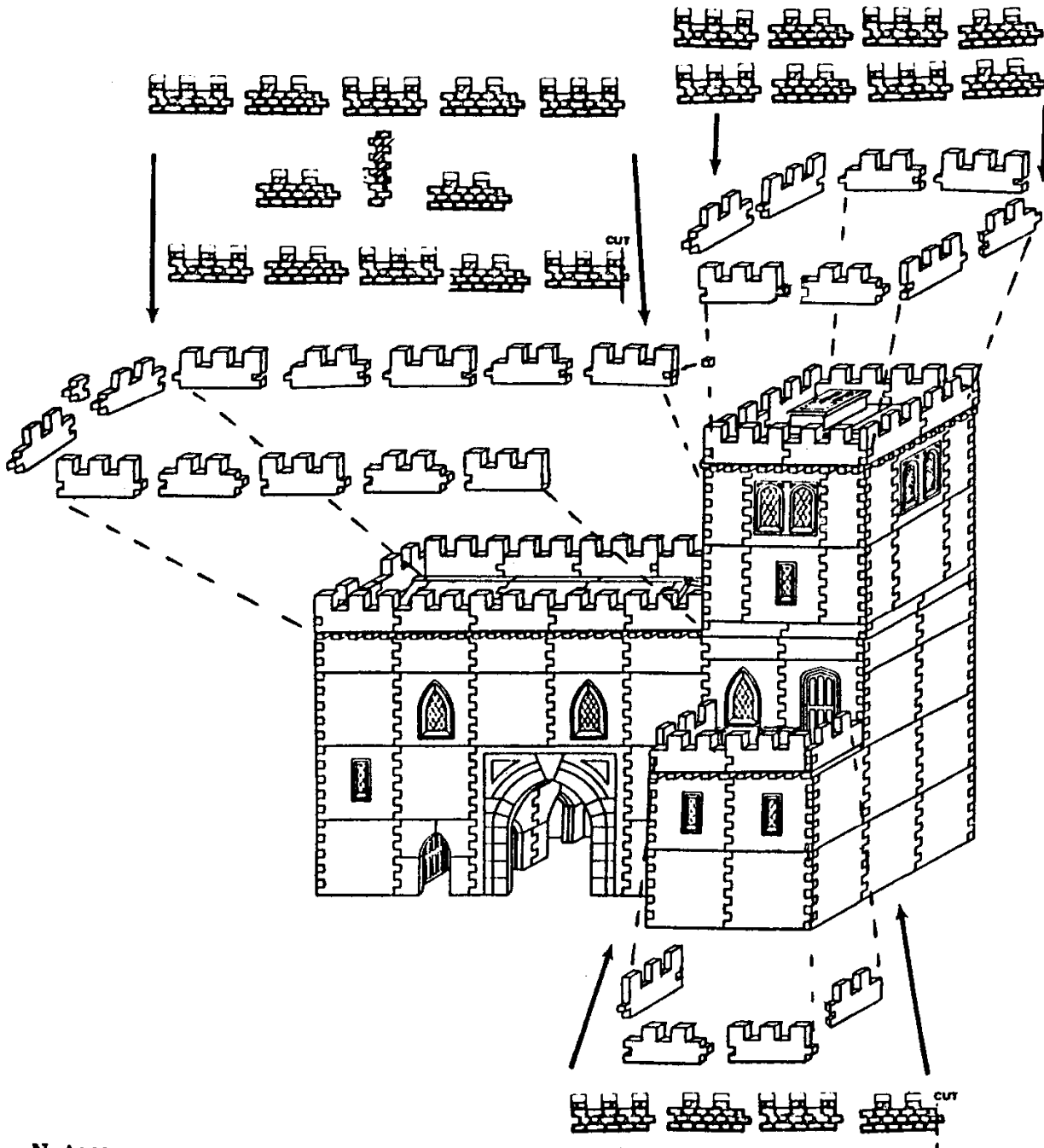
Notes:

On the main roof, a small extension piece is needed on the end battlement. Cut one from the extension casting (mould S5), as shown on the drawing.

Cut off the end tooth on the front right-hand battlement, and glue it into the gap on the back right-hand battlement. Similarly, cut off the end tooth on the lower turret battlement, and glue it into the opposite lower turret battlement.

ADDING THE BUTTRESSES:

1) Glue the four supplied buttresses in place, two on the front, and two on t e back, as shown below.

2) Glue the four tower corners together from the eight castings shown below.

3) Glue the four corners in place on the tower battlements.

Front view

Back view
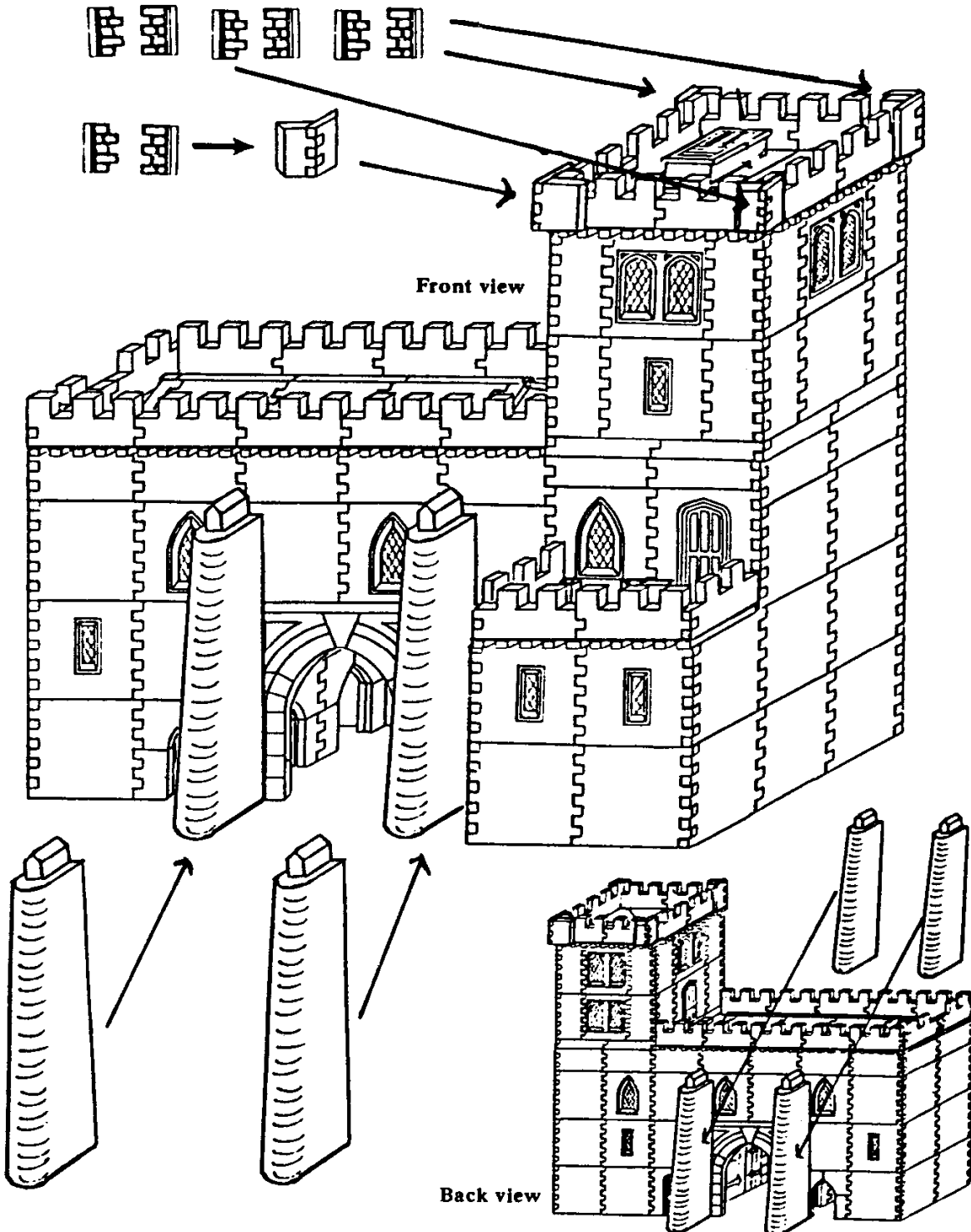
ADDING THE STRINGER COURSE, HOPPERS, & DRAINPIPES:

The stringer courses are the horizontal pieces; the drainpipes are the vertical pieces.

The stringer courses are made from the supplied black rods. (These black rods will also be used for drainpipes; but, unlike the drainpipes, the stringer courses will be painted stone colour when the model is completed.)

1) Add the front stringer course, cutting the three parts to fit horizontally between the buttresses, as shown on the front drawing.

2) Add the back stringer course, again cutting the three parts to fit between the back buttresses, as shown on the back drawing.

3) Glue the five supplied rain-hoppers in place, as shown on the drawings, ready for the drainpipes below.

4) Glue the five drainpipes in place, as shown on the drawings. Note that four of the drainpipes have to be cut into two parts to pass through the stringer course.
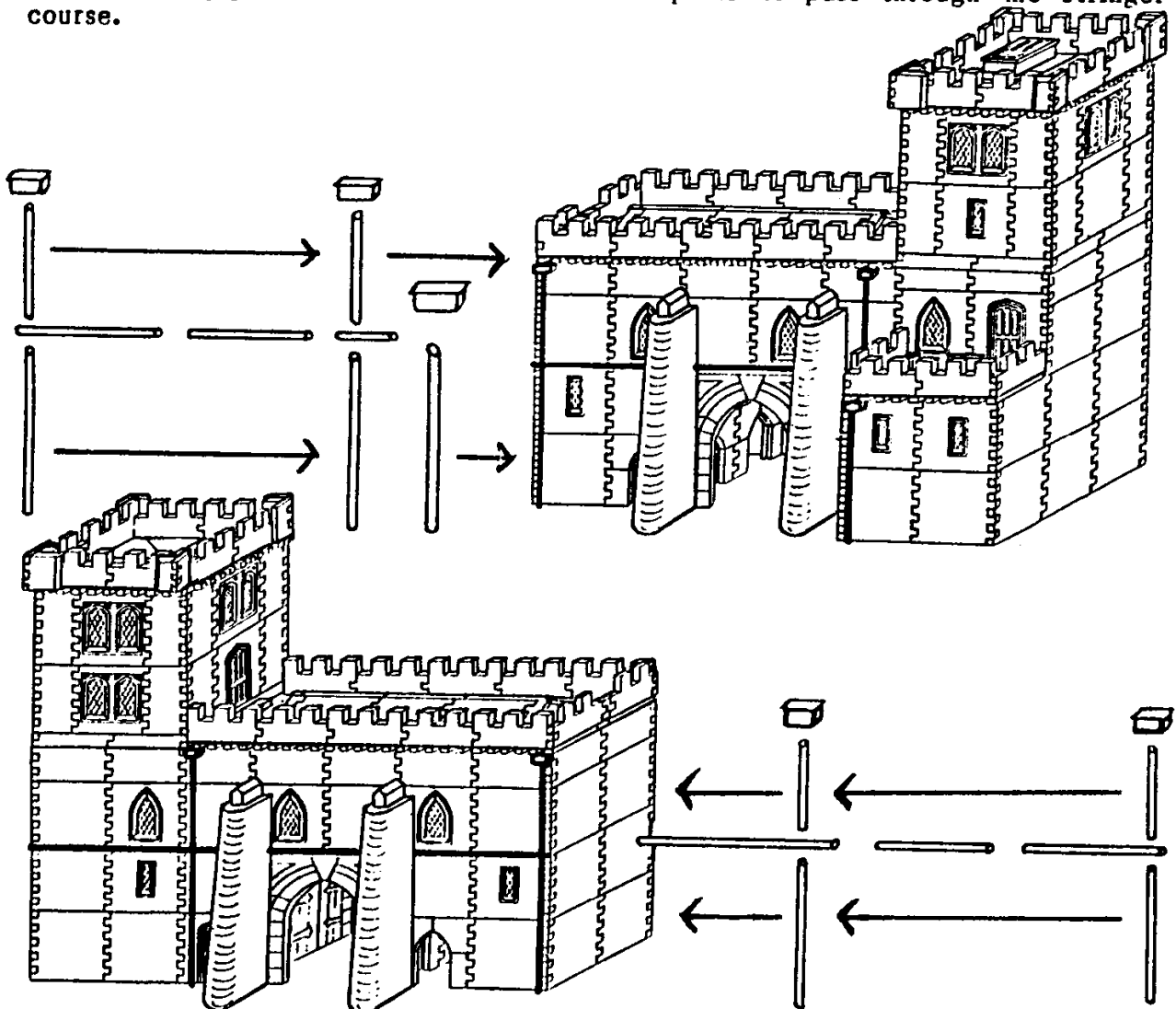
ADDING THE SHIELDS, GARGOYLES, AND FLAG:

1) Glue the shields, five on each side, in place on the model.

2) Glue one gargoyle onto each of the four corners of the tower.

3) Choose and cut out a flag from the supplied sheet, and glue in place aro nd the flagpole. Glue the flagpole in place on the tower roof.

Front view

Back view
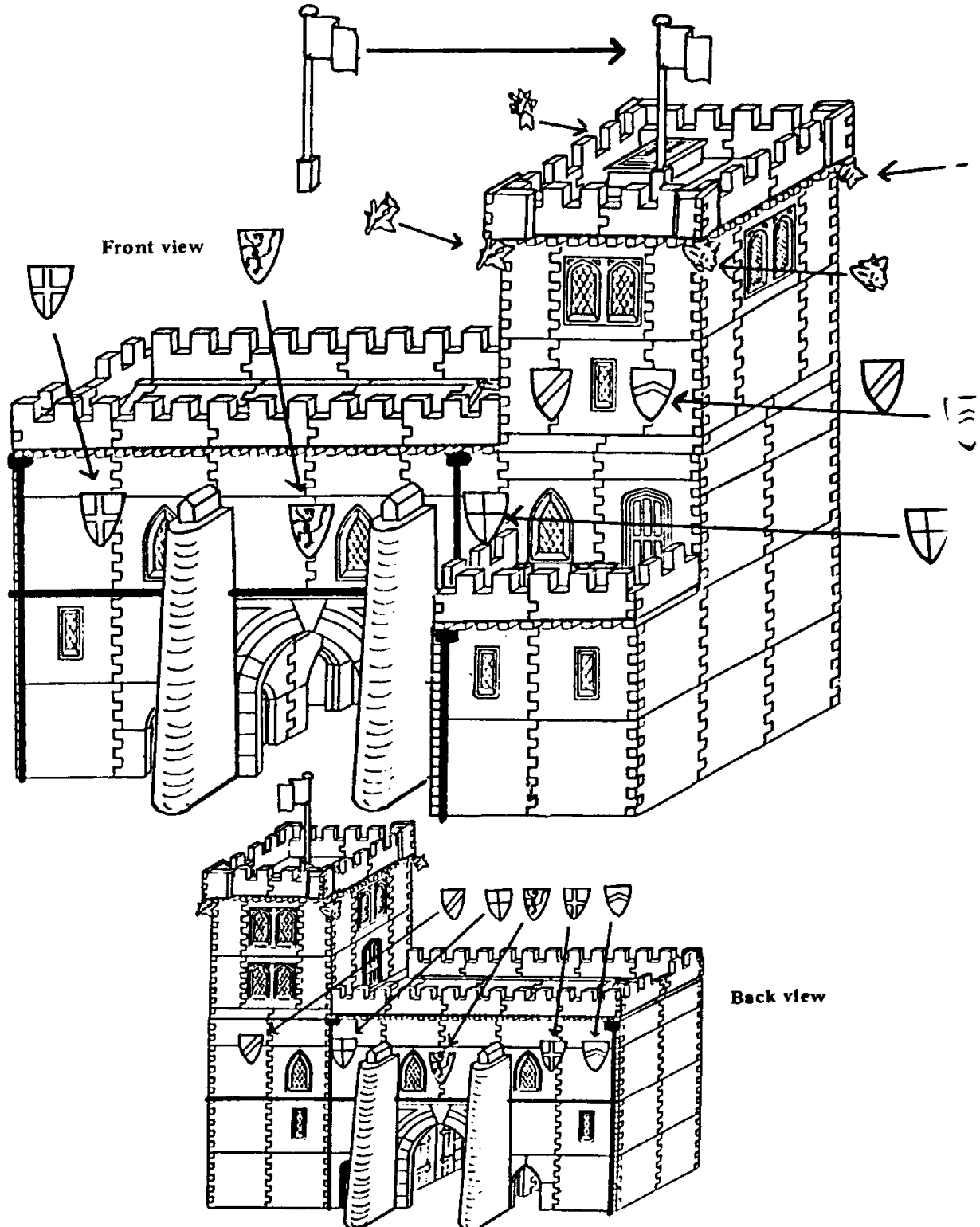
PAINTING:

The model is now ready for painting. Many model paints can be used for painting Linka models, with pots of enamel or acrylic paints (such as "Humbrol", available from most model and craft stores) being popular. For brick and stonework, etc., use a matt paint; for doors, window frames, gutters, drainpipes, etc., use a gloss paint.

You should find the painting both interesting and straightforward, as the castings take paint well, with the crisp detail helping to guide your brush.

The exact shades and colours to be used are up to you, as stone and slate vary greatly in hue. The coloured illustration on the box shows the gatehouse in light grey granite, and you may choose to copy that. Alternatively, gatehouses and castles come in many shades from sand through to attractive reds - a colour guide is included in this kit to help you choose other shades if you wish.

1) Paint all stonework with your chosen stone colour, then the slate roof with your chosen slate colour.

2) Once this first coat of paint is dry, check the model for any gaps or ill fitting joints. Fill any gaps by making a very weak mix of Linka moulding compound (about ½ teaspoon of compound to 3 teaspoons of water) and paint this mix into the gaps with a small paintbrush. An old toothbrush is useful for cleaning off any excess mix, as well as for cleaning out any detail that may have been inadvertently covered. Repaint with stone or slate colour as needed.

3) Decide on your colour scheme for the doors and fittings. Using gloss paint, paint the doors, hoppers, and drainpipes the colour chosen. Paint the shields, gargoyles, hatch and flagpole, copying the illustration on the box, if needed.

4) For greater realism, pick out various stones in different shades: mix a little palette of stone colour, then add small dabs of other colour to give different shades of stone. This can be applied at random to various stones around the model. Do this two or three times with further different shades. Repeat the process with varying shades of slate colour on the roof.

FINISHING:

For the final finishing and weathering of the model, switch to watercolour paint, in either powder, tube, or block form. With a well-diluted mix of grey/black watercolour, paint the entire stonework area; when dry, some of the paint will have collected in the mortar runs to represent cement. If it has 'greyed' the stonework too much, sponge off the excess. Repeat with a black wash for the slate roof. This process can be repeated for heavier weathering effects, or washed off and re-applied for any change of effect.

DON'T STOP NOW!

Now that you've finished the gatehouse (and well done, too!), why stop? Your moulds can be used over and over. Extend the walls! Build a castle!

Or choose from among Linka's large range of kits, spare moulds, parts, and accessories to build a whole village! With Linka, it's all there for the making.

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