



DP7COTA 19.january 2013
 Abteischloss Waldsassen
 WCA DL-02834



In the first half of the 15th century various robberys came across the abbey of Waldsassen, mainly from the hussites. The monks decided to build a castle surrounded by water. Together with four small towers around it was build between 1433 and 1479. The castle helped to defense for about 200 years till the thirty years war brought the end for the building. Rebuilding from the rests started in the 17th century. From the four towers one is today remaining and was restructured into a pavillon. The main-building is today part of the location from the tax-office.



Abteischloss Waldsassen in front with the Basilika-church in background

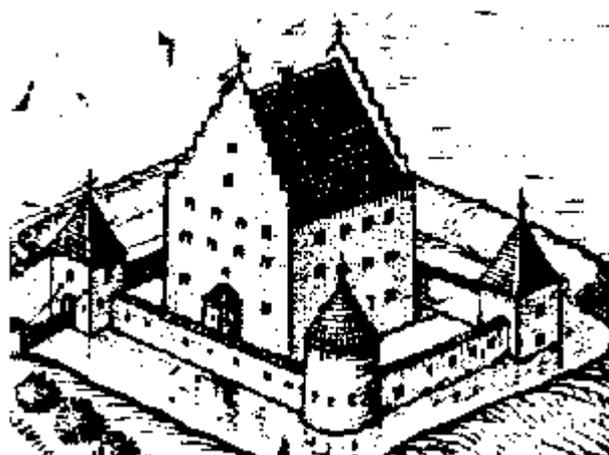
The activation from Abteischloss Waldsassen was the first attempt to start in the new outdoor-activation season. Against the previous activity from Nature-Reserve Waldnabtal we had this time really strong and heavy winter. Planned was the activation to take part on the HBD-Castle-Weekend however remaining in the car was not possible according to the strange temperatures. After some talkings I got kindly the permission from the city council of Waldsassen to make the activation from a room in the city hall which is just on the other side of the castle. Starting with the setup at 0745 utc had some trouble with the mast. The temperatures were extreme down to -8 C. The mast didn't remain in the position and it was too cold to fix it with some cable-guides so I decided to investigate in the blocked partitions of the mast later, after the end and used only the two thicker elements with an altogether height of 4 meters. The parking place for the car with the antenna was just behind the city hall only 5 meters away from my shack inside. Building up and down costs lot of time so we started a bit later then expected at 0851 utc. There was not so many castle-activity in the morning but I decided to start early because the hungarian DX-contest was at 13UTC, so for me only the morning was an acceptable time. After slow start on 40 meters, I got the first big pile-up around 0910 UTC.

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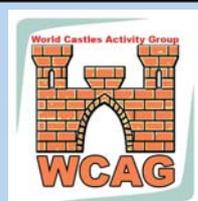
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an ancient view with all four towers





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antenna-setup behind the major-house

Lot of stations calling and the log was filling smoothly. The good run lasted nearly 1,5 hours and I had again the biggest result on 40. When conditions were closing there I tried 20 meters SSB with again a good opening. Worked about 60 stations in 40 minutes before it broke down.

The last time of the activity I did some attempts in CW on 20 and 40 and could finally add some 50 contacts. Altogether 225 contacts with 36 countries were made in a total operating time of 2 hours and 20 minutes.

Absolute satisfying for the first castle-activation in 2013. Many thanks to all callers and listeners on the frequency. QSL is sure via buro via DL7RAG, all cards are already printed and leave the buro in february. Log is already up-

loaded to WCA-logsearch.

Again special thanks to the city of Waldsassen for offering their conference room were normally weddings are done. Had my own marriage also in this room.

Manfred DF6EX

<http://www.qrz.com/db/da0cw>
73, 44, 11 cu from the next one
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<http://blog.winqsl.com> in english

<http://www.u23.de> in german



lucky to have a warm working place in january

