



CASTILLO DE BENIDORM

ajuntament



benidorm

regidoria de patrimoni històric

Benidorm had its origin in the Charter of Settlement conceded by Admiral Bernat de Sarriá on May 8, 1325, establishing the town and castle in the so-called Tossal del Canfali, promontory that enters the sea between both beaches of the city (Levante and Poniente).

For centuries, the castle of Benidorm suffered the attacks of the pirates, which caused the abandonment of the population and the progressive deterioration of its defenses. The worst assault was suffered in August 1447, when the Tunisian fleet attacked the town and captured all its inhabitants. In the sixteenth century the Italian engineer Juan Bautista Antonelli proposed, unsuccessfully, to improve the defenses of the castle and provide it with a greater military garrison.

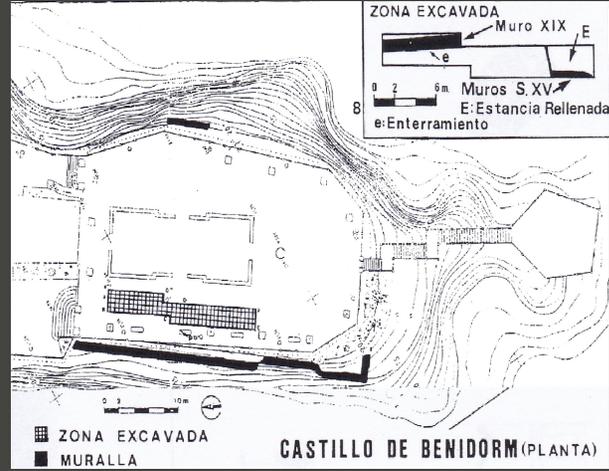
On April 8, 1666 the Lady of Benidorm Beatriz Fajardo de Mendoza again conceded a new of Settlement providing for an improvement of the castle walls and the mandatory residence for forty families.

During the eighteenth century, the increase in maritime security and the occupation by the population of the flatter areas, led to the progressive abandonment of the castle and the old town.

During the War of Independence, the castle of Benidorm, occupied by the Napoleonic troops, was bombed and almost completely destroyed by the English army.

The remodeling of the castle of 1928 completely changed its appearance conserving only the denomination; the balustrade was added and, with the pass of time, it has become its most characteristic element.

At present, only a few canvases of the wall can be seen on the western side of the hill that make up a 40-meter-long cloth made up of irregular masonry, inside which there are stone slurries with mortar of ground, lime and small stones.



Castle excavated floor. 1993



Western wall of the castle



Fortification plan of the castle by Giovanni Antonelli in 1575 (General Archive of Simancas, MPD, 19, 101)



Aerial view of the castle

Cover photo: <http://guiacastillosalicante.blogspot.com.es>
 Source documents:
 Amillo Alegre, Francisco: Historia de Benidorm, de los orígenes a 1960. Associació d'estudis de la Marina Baixa, 2012.
 Ortega Pérez, José Ramón: Aproximación histórico-arqueológica al castillo de Benidorm. En Actas del I Congreso de Castellología Ibérica, 14 a 17 de Septiembre de 1994.-- [Palencia]