

Torre del Homenaje

The keep, now an imposing ruin, is located in the upper corner of the precinct. It was initially built during the Taifa period, with a large brick arch on its eastern face, which could have been an access to the interior of the original Alcazaba that was independent from the madina access, prior to the renovations carried out by Badis in 1057. During the Nasrid period, it was filled in throughout its lower area and resurfaced in order to give it greater thickness, and it occupied part of one of the 11th-century houses of the Barrio de Viviendas (Neighbourhood of Dwellings) located in the interior area. The lower part conserves the works of all the different periods, which is why there are some spaces that are built of ashlar, others that are built of brick, and on its south face the rammed earth can be clearly seen.

When the restoration of the monument first started, a project was implemented for the integral recovery of the Torre del Homenaje. The initial plan was to build three floors and finish it off with a rooftop terrace that would serve as a viewpoint over the city. However, its ruins were so complex and there were so few documents that could provide information about its original appearance that it was decided to instead respect the ruins and only consolidate them, leaving them in that romantic and evocative state that they are in today, with their original window open to the sky.

