Castillo de la Alameda

The bridge over the moat

What are we looking at?

The western corner of the castle















What was it like? The bridge

The original bridge

There was a bridge over the moat, and its supports have been preserved in their final form after the 16thcentury renovation.

Typically, the original bridge had a solid section and a wooden section; the latter could be quickly destroyed in the event of an attack to isolate the castle.

The bridge after the renovation

With the enlargement of the moat, the bridge had to be modified. Defensive measures were no longer necessary, so it was rebuilt with the addition of an arch, some remains of which have survived at the bottom of the moat.

The entrance gate to the site



Although the castle's curtain wall gate has not been preserved, its location is known thanks to the position of the bridge and the remains of one of the two flanking turrets that defended it.

What was it like?



Walls for El Capricho, with

Duke and Duchess of Osuna. He was inspired by a corner next to El Capricho: in the foreground, the Church of Santa Catalina and,

The plundering for El Capricho

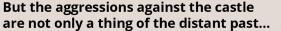
What do we know?

The castle is abandoned after a fire Although the castle was likely barely in use by this time, it was finally abandoned when a fire destroyed the building in 1695. Like all ruins with an abundance of stone, it became a quarry for the

nearby walls and houses.

Abandonment and ruin of the castle

> The plundering of materials intensified in 1785 when, with municipal authorisation, the Duchess of Osuna extracted a large part of the stone from the castle to build her nearby palace. This resulted in the demolition of the entire western corner, including the keep. Later, erosion caused the remains to be buried.



Around 1970, during the development of the neighbourhood, bulldozers dug two large trenches to extract earth, one on each side of the castle, destroying part of the buried remains of the moat. One of these sides (the one beneath this viewpoint) has now been





The Ruins of the Castle in an Engraving Published in the Magazine Ilustración Española in



The castle between 1950 and 1960, before the abandonment of the Casa del Guarda (Estate Keeper's House) and the opening of the ditches (Photo by Valentín Gamazo y

