

Manzanares el Real Castle Architecture

Dictionary of Architecture and
Construction

Common Roots, New Routes



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This dictionary includes the most important words related to the architectural elements of the Manzanares el Real Castle

Most of the words that we have included in this dictionary are important in order to understand better:

- ★ the structure of the castle and its different parts,
- ★ its main elements,
- ★ the main prime materials,
- ★ characteristic architectural elements and features of the age and
- ★ its design.

It is also useful to get a general idea of the main features of the age in which the castle was built and to witness how the architects combined some features from the previous age and built a masterpiece which managed to stand out since it was built.

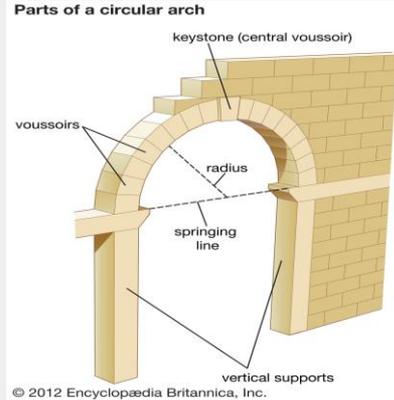
In order to make it more visual we have added a picture whenever it was possible,

a

- ★ **Allure, walk-walk, chemin de ronde:** used to refer to the passage that can be found behind the parapet of a castle wall.



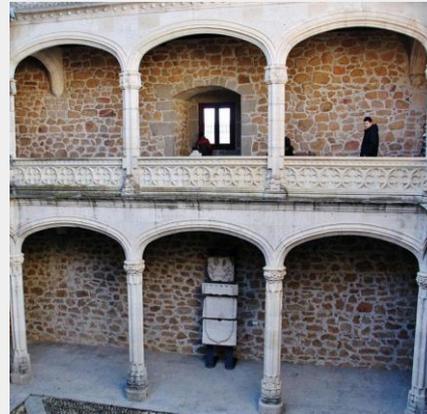
- ★ **Armour:** special clothing made of metal used in the past to protect the soldiers while fighting.



- ★ **Arrowslit:** a narrow vertical slit cut into a wall through which arrows could be fired.



- ★ **Arches, segmental arches:** a curved structure that supports the upper part of a building, sometimes forming an entrance.
 - A curved structure spanning across the top of an opening in a vertical surface.
 - There are several types of arches: round arch, pointed arch, flat top segmental arch, triangular Tudor arch.



B

- ★ **Barbican:** a specific type of tower that is part of a defensive structure such as a castle.
 - Tower or similar building usually built over a bridge or gate in a medieval city to defend it.



C

- ★ **Castle:** it is a fortified and self-sufficient dwelling of an individual feudal lord. In the past, castles had many functions: both practical and symbolic. Some castles are part fortress, part statehouse and they were built to provide a secure aristocratic residence and a military headquarters, in this sense it enabled the resident commander to control the surrounding territory and the borders of the area.



- ★ **Circular, square towers:** tall narrow structures shaped like a circle or square.



- ★ **Chapel:** a small building or room used for Christian worship in the castle.
 - Separate part of a church or cathedral with its own altar used for small services and private prayer.
- ★ **Crenellation:** a rampart built around the top of a castle with regular gaps for firing arrows or guns.
 - A series of square indentations in a parapet giving a castle-like appearance.



- ★ **Cylindrical elements:** shaped in the form of a cylinder, such as the tower at the entrance.



F

- ★ **Façade:** the exterior face or presentable front of a building.



- ★ **Fieldstone:** building stone collected from field.



- ★ **Foliate:** a specific type of ornamentation which consists of carved leaf shape split into thin sheets or layers.



- ★ **Fortress:** castle or large fort strengthened against attack.



H

- ★ **Hexagonal towers:** a slender, tall structure usually rising above the building to which it is attached, it has the form of a hexagon, that is having a six-sided base or section.



I

- ★ **Isabelline Gothic style:** it refers to a vigorous, inventive and cosmopolitan architectural style created during the joint reign of **Ferdinand and Isabella of Castile**. The Isabelline style is not a pure style. It was only used in few of the buildings created during the decades that it encompasses (c.1480–1521). It represents a true architectural synthesis of late Gothic Art and Early Renaissance.



L

- ★ **Ladies Hall:** room where ladies stayed during the day.





- ★ **Granite stone:** grey stone used for building.



m

★ **Machicolation:** a projection in the battlements of a wall with openings through which missiles could be dropped on besiegers.

★ **Moat:** a deep trench usually filled with water that surrounds the castle or part of it especially as a defence.



★ **Mudejar, Romanesque-Mudejar:** It is an artistic style only found in the Iberian Peninsula. It combines both Romanesque Art features and Muslim Art features. It covers the period between the 12th and 16th century.



★ **Mote:** mound on which a medieval castle is built.

O

- ★ **Octagonal columns:** an upright post, usually a tapered cylinder, used for support or decoration; in classical architecture a column consists of a base, shaft and capital.



- ★ **Ogive, ogival arch:** band of stone extending diagonally across the underside of the roof of a Gothic building.





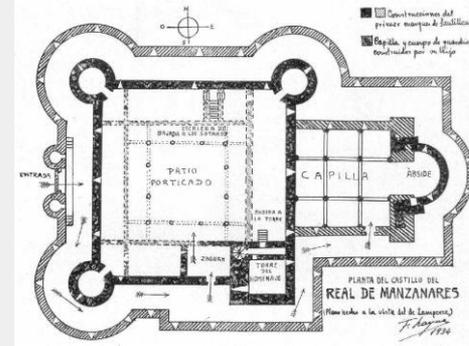
- ★ **Palace:** official home of a king, commander, or sovereign.
 - Any large, splendid house.



- ★ **Parapet:** a wall which protects the castle at the top of a fortification around the outer side of the wall-walk.



- ★ **Plan, square plan:** detailed, large-scale diagram of part of a castle, town, district, etc. The square plan is a building designed in the shape of a square.



- ★ **Portico (arcaded courtyard):** it is a courtyard with the roof supported by columns, especially one forming an entrance to large buildings.



Q

- ★ **Quadrangular:** a building with four equal sides.



R

- ★ **Romanesque architecture:** It's an artistic European style developed between the 11th and the 13th centuries. It used stone as its primary material, interior supports with cruciform columns and pillars, semicircular arches and barrel vaulted ceilings.

- ★ **Rectangular courtyard:** it is a patio with rectangular shape.



S

- ★ **Semicircular arched windows:** the windows have a semicircular shape on the upper side.



- ★ **Slab, stone slabs:** thick flat, often rectangular or square, piece of stone.



T

★ **Tapestry:** piece of cloth into which threads of coloured wool or woven or embroidered by hand to make pictures or designs, used for covering walls and furniture.



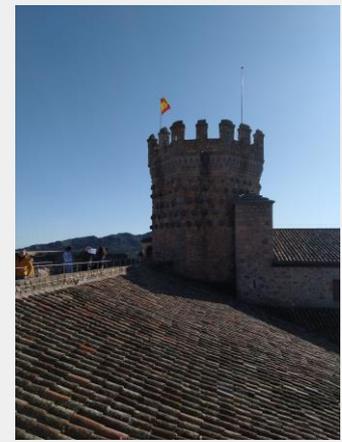
★ **Terrace:** raised level area of ground.



★ **The cross of Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem**



★ **Tower of Homage, (or keep):** main tower of the Castle and it is used as residential area with lots of luxuries such as Great Hall, Storeroom, Sleeping quarters.



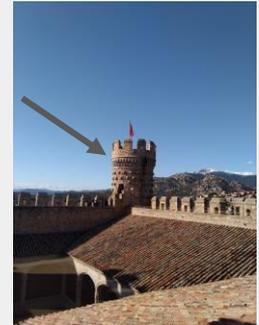
★ **Tracery:** used to refer to the stonework elements that support the glass in a window.

- Ornamental pattern of stonework in a church window.



★ **Turret:** a small tower rising above and resting on one of the main towers, usually used as a look out point.

- small tower on top of a larger tower or at the corner of a building or defensive wall.



V

- ★ **Vault, barrel vault:** A barrel vault, also known as a tunnel vault or a wagon vault, is an architectural element formed by the extrusion of a single curve (or pair of curves, in the case of a pointed barrel vault) along a given distance. The curves are typically circular in shape, lending a semi-cylindrical appearance to the total design.



- ★ **Vertex:** a point where two lines meet to form an angle, especially the point of the triangle or cone opposite the base.

Z

- ★ **Zotheca:** used to refer to a small living-room, as distinguished from a sleeping-room. Also called an alcove.

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