



IN-SITE ANALYSIS

The scope of the on-site analysis document is, according to the approved AF, *“informing the participants about the problems resolved and the good practices implemented”*. The information provided should be brief, so that Study Visit participants have a clear vision of the Fortress and the actions, projects and policies that have been developed around it or are planned to be developed.

Name of the Fortress, Location	Wall of Albarracín, Teruel, Spain
Historical background	<p>Albarracín (Teruel, Spain), an Aragonese city with an imposing medieval legacy, witnessed by its architecture and urban planning. It became a Taifa kingdom and an independent lordship. Its defensive needs forced it to close in on itself and to have narrow streets, with hardly any squares or free spaces. The typical reddish farmhouse is perched on a limestone cliff carved by the Guadalaviar River and surrounded by the wall, from which the castle and the cathedral emerge as the most unique pieces.</p> <p>Around the year 965, a first defensive enclosure was built, protected by twelve towers and which included the fortress, an albarrana tower (Torre del Andador) and an entrance gate (Portal de Hierro). In the S. XI, coinciding with the conversion of Albarracín into the capital of the Taifa, the enclosure is extended to include the Torre del Andador and three portals and a new albarrana tower (Torre de la Muela), now disappeared, are incorporated. Between the 13th and 14th centuries, with the city already in Christian hands, the White Tower was built and important works were carried out to rehabilitate the walls.</p>
Current status	<p>The restoration of the wall has been developing, section by section, for more than fifty years. Currently, recovery work is being carried out on the southern end of the enclosure, in the vicinity of the White Tower. The intervention of several existing sections in the eastern area, the steepest and closest to the Guadalaviar River, and of some specific points in the rest of the enclosure is pending.</p> <p>Interestingly, the evolution that intervention theories have undergone over time can be read in the comparative image of the first restored sections with the most recent ones, between more restorative actions and others that are more purely conservative.</p>
Recent projects implemented	<p>The first interventions in the defensive area date from the 70s and 80s, and were directed by the architect Antonio Almagro Gorbea. Dating from this period is the restoration, among other areas, of the Portal de Molina, the outer enclosure and the Torre del Andador.</p> <p>In the 1990s, he reduced the pace of interventions, although these were resumed with renewed impetus from the year 2001, by the Santa María de Albarracín Foundation and the architect Pedro Ponce de León. The restoration of the White</p>



	<p>Tower, the castle and the western section of the wall date from this period.</p>
<p>Projects under implementation or planned to be implemented</p>	<p>Since 2010, the restoration of the southern canvas and its surroundings has been carried out in phases by the Fundación Santa María and the architects José Luis Baró Zarzo, Jaime Díaz Morlán and Javier Gomez Sponsorship.</p>
<p>Local, regional, national and/or European policies used related to the preservation of the Fortress and the development of the area</p>	<p>The wall is currently being developed with funding in small annual budgets, from the General Council of Aragon – General Directorate of Heritage (Regional Institution).</p> <p>Previously, the interventions undertaken since the beginning of this century in the Castle, the White Tower and some section of the Wall have been carried out with subsidies called FITE (Teruel Investment Fund), financed 50% between the Government of Spain and the Government of Aragon. precisely this investment fund that since 2019 has made it possible to complete the restoration of the monument, taking care of its immediate surroundings. It is about innovating in the field of cultural landscapes, taking into account the integrity of the monument and its surroundings, which can be as important as the monument itself (wall) in the joint interpretation of the landscape.</p>
<p>Stakeholders involved</p>	<p>The Santa María Foundation itself, the different regional and national Public Administrations financing citizens themselves.</p>
<p>Public consultations on the actions, if any</p>	<p>Since its creation, the Foundation has received consultations and requests for advice on its project in general and restoration architectural programs. Also, institutions or educational centers have requested collaboration to carry out field visits to this specific space.</p>
<p>Public opinion</p>	<p>Very important. The development of a comprehensive project for a cultural landscape has aroused great interest from public opinion, both for the restoration of the wall and for the re-naturalization of its surrounding space. We have to think that it has gone from a degraded space (in fact it was a dump), to a space of singular historical-natural interest in accordance with the geographical area in which it is inserted.</p> <p>Different media, especially regional ones, have systematically followed the entire intervention.</p>
<p>Existing problems related to the preservation of the Fortress and the development of the area</p>	<p>As we have already pointed out, this southern sector of the historical complex denoted great landscape values, in disrepute due to its inappropriate use, and due to the historical deterioration of the remains of the wall . The remains of all the works carried out in Albarracín since the 1960s have been accumulating in this most hidden sector of the city, so that it has been necessary to carry out, first of all, a dump restoration project, parallel to the progress in the restoration of the wall that surrounded the city itself. In sections, these walled remains used to disappear under accumulations of rubble, or also appear highly degraded remains of their continuity, negatively affected by the passage of time and their location on the escarpment of the hillside. Undoubtedly, these improvements are helping to create an example of cultural landscape intervention.</p>



Solved problems related to the preservation of the Fortress and the development of the area	The renaturalization of the space (topographic planning and replanting of more than 1,000 native plants) and the restoration of the wall, using the characteristic lime mortars and according to the most current intervention, are effectively solving existing problems.
Good practices used	They focus on 2 issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- the interpretation of a unitary cultural landscape, going beyond the mere recovery of the wall and addressing the regeneration of its adjoining space, resignifying one of the most unique areas of Albarracín;- On the other hand, a comprehensive intervention model is being created in open urban spaces that can be applied to the rest of the historic complex, updating traditional landscaping systems with methods that are much more ecological and respectful of the territory in which the historic complex is located.
Policy instruments related to the strength, preservation and development	<p>The Foundation's policy is based on the gradual and progressive attention to the heritage of the city of Albarracín. In response to its annual restoration-rehabilitation programs, we follow a policy of special conservation of the monument and orderly regeneration of its surroundings.</p> <p>In this sense, a good example could be the progressive recovery of the city's defensive system, taking into account the unique archeological wealth found, especially from the Islamic period. Its purpose and for which the Foundation is especially recognized, is for the comprehensive management of the city's heritage.</p>
Brief evaluation of the state before the study Visit	The first phase of intervention in this cultural landscape has been undertaken with good results, which we intend to continue during this 2022 and future years, to conclude with this exemplary work in this southern sector of the Wall-Torre Blanca .
Websites related to the fortress that contain useful information for participants	Santa María Foundation: www.fundacionsantamariadealbarracin.com Albarracín City Hall: www.albarracin.es



IN-SITE ANALYSIS – ATTACHED MAPS AND IMAGES



Figure 1. Image of the walled enclosure of Albarracín in 1952, before the first restoration works. Photograph from the archive of Francisco López Segura. Institute of Teruel Studies. Reg. No. 157.



Figure 2. Image of the walled enclosure of Albarracín in 2019, before the restoration of the southern wall.

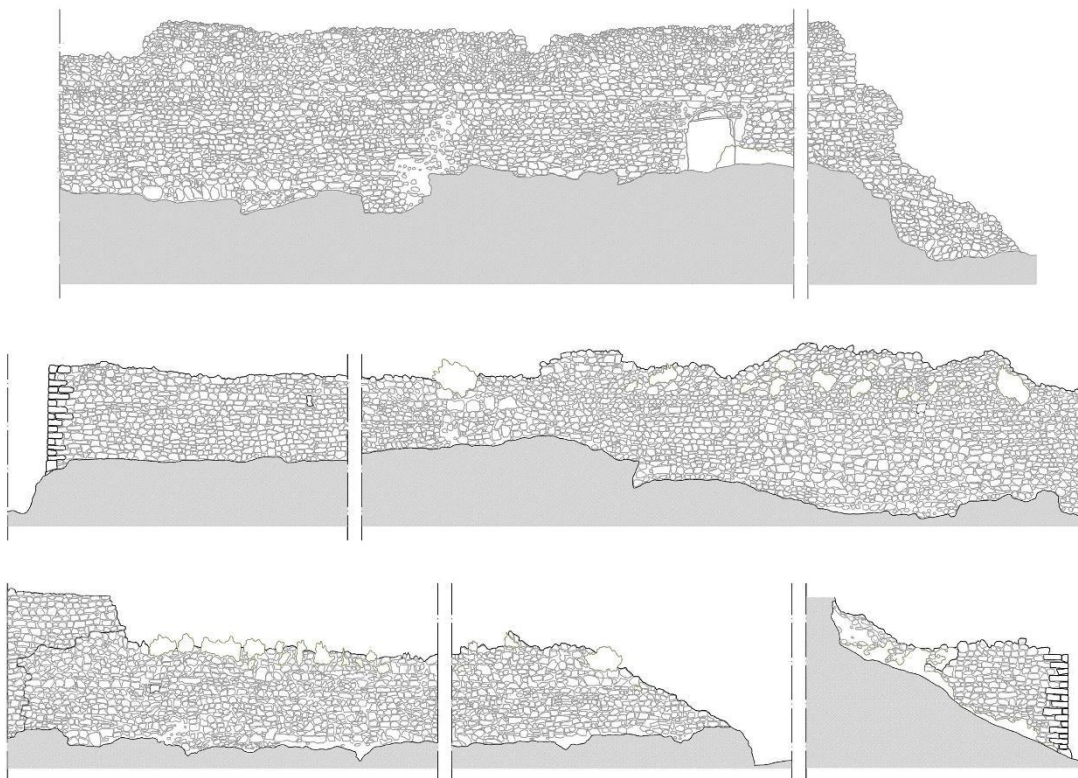


Figure 3. Survey of the previous state of the wall sections included in the project under development



Figure 4. First restoration work on the south



Figure 5. Intrados of the south wall in 2019, completely amortized by the land



Figure 6. Recovery of the intrados of the wall section intervened in the first phase (2020)



Figure 7. Extrados of the south wall in 2019



Figure 8. Recovery of the extrados of the wall section intervened in the first phase (2020)



Figure 9. Excavation of the intrados of the wall section intervened in the second phase (2021)

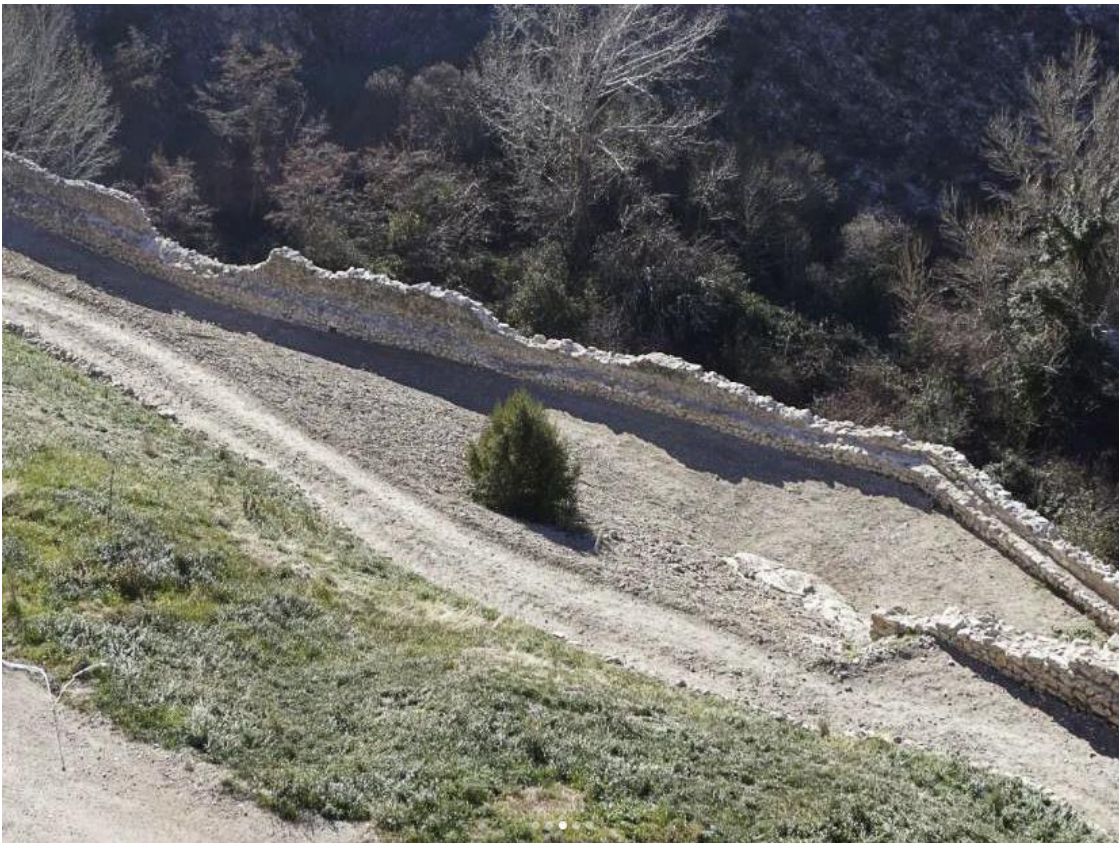


Figure 10. Recovery of the historical levels in the intrados of the wall section intervened in the second phase (2021)