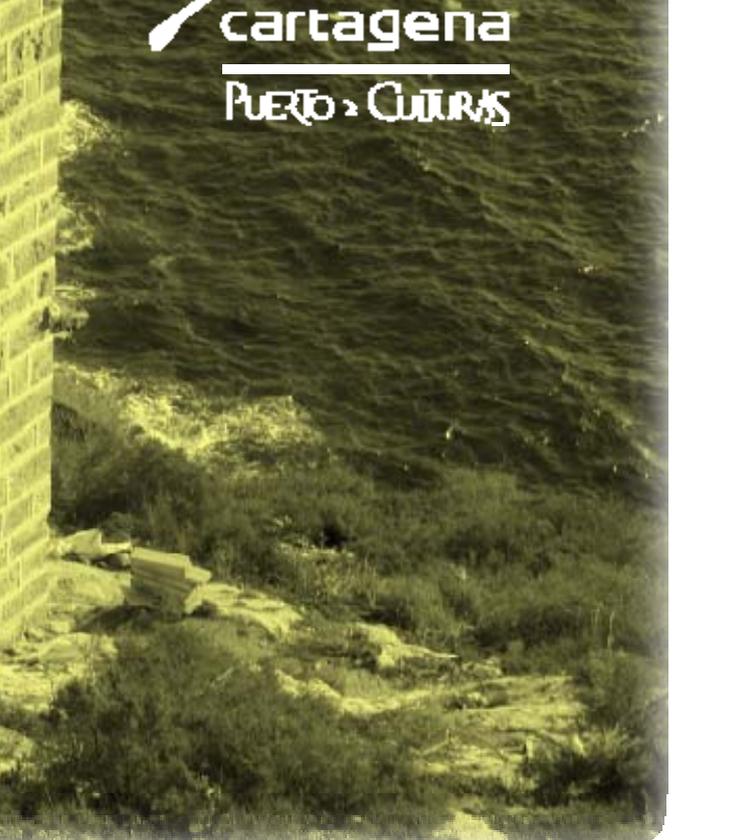


UNDERSTANDING CARTAGENA

THROUGH ITS
DEFENSIVE SYSTEMS



cartagena
PUERTO > CULTURAS

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UNDERSTAND CARTAGENA

THROUGH ITS
DEFENSIVE SYSTEMS

TEACHER'S GUIDE

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PROYECTO DIDÁCTICO COLABORATIVO

UNDERSTANDING CARTAGENA THROUGH ITS DEFENSIVE SYSTEMS

TEACHER'S GUIDE
WHAT DO WE PROPOSE?

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1. INTRODUCTION
2. GOALS
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1. INTRODUCTION

Our teaching plan begins with some general premises for developing a historical approach to defensive systems. Here we propose new paths to guide our understanding of the defensive environment of the city of Cartagena throughout different historical periods. We offer our two cents to foster a better educational experience, with the understanding that this is not strictly developed in the school environment; it is a constructive, ongoing and integral process that will continue to transform individuals and involves the selection, organization and transmission of knowledge, values and sociocultural content through the implementation of activities that move beyond the classroom.

The experience of disseminating the historical, artistic, aesthetic, sensory and intangible values of the city of Cartagena's defenses is no easy task. It requires a huge daily effort, since creating the right atmosphere for transmitting and interpreting these values is a very challenging mission. In this sense, although the factors that influence our daily lives are very diverse, we always begin with the main goal of the program, which is simply to instill that motivation to transmit the importance and usefulness of what students are learning and the importance of passing the integrity and authenticity of Cartagena's defensive monuments onto future generations.

Therefore, we want the activity to be integrated into the developmental stage of each individual, always taking into account the fact that each age has very different needs. It is not the same to each, for example, the Punic Wall to ten-year-olds in sixth grade elementary school as it is to adolescents in high school. Add to this the fact that, although during their visit students will work with classmates of the same age who are in the same school year, their concerns are very diverse and influenced by their personal and family situation, socioeconomic status, rural or urban environment, etc., all of which are tied to the extraordinary cultural diversity and increasingly complex fabric of our society. All of these factors lead each student to have his or her own expectations and unique way of approaching both the monument and the educational experience. Therefore we can expect many and varied interests that we must address in each educational itinerary.

In this regard, one of our goals as interpreters of heritage is to try to guide students to personally investigate, gather information, pose hypotheses and arrive at their own conclusions. For this reason differences are also accepted and celebrated to instill feelings of trust and safety, encouraging the participation and teamwork of all students, each of whom has something to teach and share with others. We therefore value original, independent thinking to encourage conscious and critical interpretation of the place and things being learned.

Ultimately, our efforts to select, organize and transmit knowledge, values and socio-cultural content are not only focused on knowledge, learning and doing, but also, crucially, on the development of individuals so they can produce their own answers and, ultimately, acquire greater freedom and agency in their own lives.

2. GOALS

This teaching plan identifies a number of overall goals, which are specified in the organization of the activities outlined in the educational guide. Therefore, we can organize them in the following manner:

| OVERALL GOALS | SPECIFIC GOALS |
|---|---|
| 1. Understand, connect and differentiate the main human uses of the natural space for Cartagena's defenses at different points throughout history, as well as the diverse uses of built spaces over time. | A. Identify the functions of these different spaces and defensive structures in the city of Cartagena: Punic Wall, Conception Castle and Christmas Fort. |
| 2. Introduce students to the language of History and historical time. | B. Learn specific vocabulary related to the defensive systems of the city of Cartagena. |
| 3. Emphasize the ability to enjoy, using all the senses, the environment in which the visit takes place, fostering respect for coexistence and participation. | C. Organize fun group activities that encourage cooperative learning and aspects such as creativity and multiculturalism. |
| 4. Promote awareness and appreciation of our cultural and historical heritage, as well as participation in conservation and improvement, respecting these same values across all cultures. | D. Appreciate cultural and artistic heritage and share insights deriving from various disciplines such as archeology, conservation, architecture, art history, etc. |

3. INTERDISCIPLINARITY

With this educational guide, which is not a user manual, we intend to adopt a multidisciplinary approach, linking different activities with other areas of knowledge. Through this project we seek a clear intention of reflection about the artistic and historical heritage surrounding the defenses of the city of Cartagena.

By adjusting the historical and artistic content to the curriculum, we are able to develop the following core skills in our students:

→ **Linguistic communication skills.**

- ⤴ Through the acquisition of basic and specific vocabulary. Students will learn new vocabulary.

→ **Mathematical reasoning skills.**

- ⤴ By understanding the quantitative and spatial aspects of reality. Collection of information, graphic representation, identification of scales and locations on maps.

→ **Awareness of and interaction with the physical world.**

- ⤴ Through awareness of human-environment interaction and the organization of the resulting territory. By studying the history of the Defenses of Cartagena, how they functioned, studying the ways of life at the time, etc.

→ **Social and civic skills.**

- ⤴ By understanding the current social reality through the study of history. Via awareness of the evolution and organization of societies, their achievements and their problems.
- ⤴ Developing social skills such as learning to value the contributions of other cultures.

→ **Cultural and artistic skills.**

- ⤴ Through the appreciation of works of art, monuments and cultural events: perceptual skills, awareness and appreciation of cultural heritage, respect and concern for their conservation.

→ **Information and digital processing skills.**

- ⤴ Through the use of nonverbal language in understanding reality: knowledge and interpretation of iconic, symbolic and representational languages.
- ⤴ Developing skills related to obtaining and understanding information to understand social and historical phenomena.
- ⤴ Through the use of multimedia resources: audio, video, ppt files, etc.

→ **Learning for the sake of learning.**

- ⤴ Through the development of strategies to think about, organize, memorize and recall information.
- ⤴ By collecting, sorting and using of information.

→ **Competencia autonomía e iniciativa personal.**

- ⤴ Independence and personal drive. Through the development of planning initiatives, implementation and decision-making: by performing individual or group work.

The activities contained in this workbook are designed to be fully supervised, so teachers should be present at all times throughout the process; teachers should ultimately adapt the goals and content to their own teaching methods, expanding or simplifying the content of the student workbook as needed.

4. METHODOLOGY

This guide is aimed at elementary and secondary school teachers and their students. The function of this guide is to introduce teachers to Cartagena's defense system in the Punic, Medieval and contemporary ages, as well as a day in the life of the soldiers in charge of defending the city. It is also a tool to comprehend and understand the cultural heritage of Cartagena.

We will follow an active and cooperative methodology where students are the protagonists of their own learning experience. Therefore, in keeping with this methodology, throughout their visit students will participate in activities that are dynamic, varied and adapted to their age

group. Students will acquire adequate knowledge through interaction with their classmates, which will facilitate an active learning experience based on their discoveries and the information they obtain observing, handling and analyzing the different monuments.

We will place particular emphasis on helping students identify the heritage monuments and exhibits as friendly, attractive spaces, where they can move about and learn independently in the most fun environment possible, thus eschewing a traditional, rote approach.

The working methodology is structured around three phases:

- ➔ **PRE-VISIT ACTIVITIES:** previous work by teachers and their students to motivate and inform them in the classroom.

During this learning phase we suggest a series of multimedia resources. For this purpose, teachers will give a slide show to their class and show a series of educational videos about the Punic Wall, Conception Castle and the batteries located in Cartagena, available on the web portals of the Region of Murcia, which are to be watched in the classroom with students. This way we hope to provide some initial impressions of the things they'll be learning about later during the visit. Videos can be found at the following links:

- <http://www.regmurcia.com/servlet/s.SI?METHOD=DETALLEMEDIATECA&mId=4033&serv=Mediateca>
- <https://www.regmurcia.com/servlet/s.SI?METHOD=ENLACEMENUS&sit=a,0,c,522,m,1076,idt,0>
- <https://www.regmurcia.com/servlet/s.SI?METHOD=ENLACEMENUS&sit=a,0,c,522,m,2042,idt,0>

- ➔ **DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES FOR DURING THE VISIT:** visiting the defenses of Cartagena, Punic Wall, Conception Castle and Christmas Fort.

This is the part where we visit to recommended sites in Cartagena. Through this explanatory visit, students will play a **game, "Attack!"** which combines mimicry tests, drawing and forbidden taboo words related to the visit. For high school students we include a game show-style activity.

It is important to break the children into groups identified with different civilizations so that they are motivated to work together as a team.

- ➔ **AFTER THE VISIT - ACTIVITIES FOR REENFORCEMENT AND EXPANSION:** sharing and feedback work with students to assess the visits and their conclusions.

For this final phase of the educational process of this plan, we have designed booklets for students. These are adapted to three different educational levels: 1st to 3rd grade elementary; 4th to 6th grade elementary; and high school. These include a series of tasks that help reinforce the content learned before and during the visit. This structuring of the educational sequence - before, during and after the visit - is intended to add greater meaning to the learning experience both from a conceptual as well as affective and collective point of view.

UNDERSTANDING CARTAGENA THROUGH ITS DEFENSIVE SYSTEMS

TEACHER'S GUIDE
WANT TO KNOW MORE?

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1. BRIEF HISTORY OF CARTAGENA AND ITS DEFENSIVE SYSTEMS
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3. CONCEPCIÓN CASTLE
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1. BRIEF HISTORY OF CARTAGENA AND ITS DEFENSIVE SYSTEMS

WHY CARTAGENA?



Aerial view of the bay of Cartagena. Cartagena Port of Cultures Archives

The natural harbor of Cartagena has been and continues to be an excellent refuge protecting the city from strong winds, storms and enemy attacks. The narrow entrance and surrounding mountains make it one of the safest ports in the Western Mediterranean. This is how each and every one of the civilizations that have inhabited the city throughout history saw it, be it Carthaginian, Roman, Byzantine, Visigoth, Muslim, Castilian or English.

Furthermore, since antiquity, Cartagena has been a prized and disputed territory due to its abundant natural and economic resources. Silver, lead and iron mines; raw materials such as salt and esparto; and manufactured products such as salted fish and the famed garum were exploited and sold by different peoples.

In short, a strategic port over which many people have wanted to exercise power and control. To prevent, resist and defeat enemy attacks and raids towers, walls and fortifications were built in different locations in the city and along the coast.

WHAT DEFENSIVE SYSTEMS CAN WE FIND?

Today, the city has an important and prodigious military heritage, the fruit of its 3,000-year history. This has allowed us to study and understand the evolution of the defensive systems of the port of Cartagena. Here is a brief review.

In ancient times, with the settlement of the Carthaginian city in 229 B.C., the first walled enclosure was built around Qart Hadast, the city founded by General Hasdrubal. This Punic Wall, functional and strategically placed, was used by the Roman people after their conquest in 209 B.C. at the hand of General Scipio. It is likely that the Romans reformed and reused it until the late second century B.C., later abandoning it to erect near another wall of which other pieces have begun to appear in the latest excavations carried out in Cartagena.

Following Roman domination, the Byzantines came to rule in the sixth century, beginning an occupation that would last more than a century. At this time it is believed that the walls were renovated or restored, as is reflected in the Comenciolo tombstone. Here the construction of monumental gates in the walls of Carthago Spartaria (the Byzantine name for Cartagena) was commemorated. Between 621 and 624, the city was conquered by the Visigoth king Suintila who destroyed the wall.

During the Middle Ages, around the eighth century, Muslims took possession of the territory and built their fortress on the hilltop of Concepción where the walled city was built and which was the highest point from which to defend against any enemy attack, whether by sea or land.



Illustration of Concepción Castle Archive of Simancas

During the Reconquista period towards the 13th century, Cartagena was in the crosshairs of Castile. It was conquered by Prince Alfonso in 1245, who was king (Alfonso X the Wise), who added value to the city and granted it special privileges. He commissioned the building of the keep reusing the Islamic enclosure as well as pilasters, columns and Roman inscriptions in the masonry.

In the Modern Age (15th century), Emperor Charles I, considering a draft submitted by the mayor of the village Dávalos, decided to reinforce the city's defenses by building a new wall known as the Wall of Deán to resist Berber raids. Later, during the reign of Philip II another earth wall was built in 1576, as at the time the port served as an occasional retreat from the royal galleys. It was also during this critical period when the king decided to build defensive towers along the coast; good examples include Santa Elena in La Azohía, Portman, Cabo de Palos or Christmas in Cartagena.

In the late seventeenth century Cartagena was chosen by Charles II as the wintering port of the Galeras in Spain, which is why strategic points were armed at the mouth of the harbor: The batteries of Trincabotijas, Santa Ana, Podadera and Christmas were built during this period.

DID YOU KNOW?

The 18th century began with the War of Succession when Cartagena was conquered by the British on behalf of the pretender to the Spanish throne, the Archduke Charles of Austria, in June 1706 who was in power for about six months.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 1726 under Philip V Cartagena became the capital of the Maritime Department of the Mediterranean Sea.

In 1766 Charles III ordered the fortification of the plaza which included the construction of the Wall, the castles of Atalaya, Galeras, San Julian and Moros, the Royal Hospital, the Artillery Armory, Barracks of Antiguones and the Arsenal, adding to all of this an unprecedented defensive employment and gunner on the coast.

Finally, during the 19th and 20th centuries, Cartagena witnessed major political events such as the Cantonal Revolution or the Civil War that put their defensive systems to the test. In the 19th century, new fortifications were built: San Leandro, San Isidoro and Santa Florentina, and the Fort of Santa Ana. In addition, Christmas Fort was remodelled and would be conceived and designed under the Defense Plan of 1860, I also known as the O'Donnell Plan for the then War Minister Leopoldo O'Donnell. During the first half of the 20th century under the Vickers Defense Plan, the last coastal batteries were built, which were Parajola, Cenizas and Castillitos among others. During the 90s the last defences were disarmed.

Of all the defenses we've explained here, this workbook shall focus on three of them: the Conception Castle and Christmas Fort. These three represent three very different eras, helping us to understand the architectural evolution of the fortifications, the armies and the city.

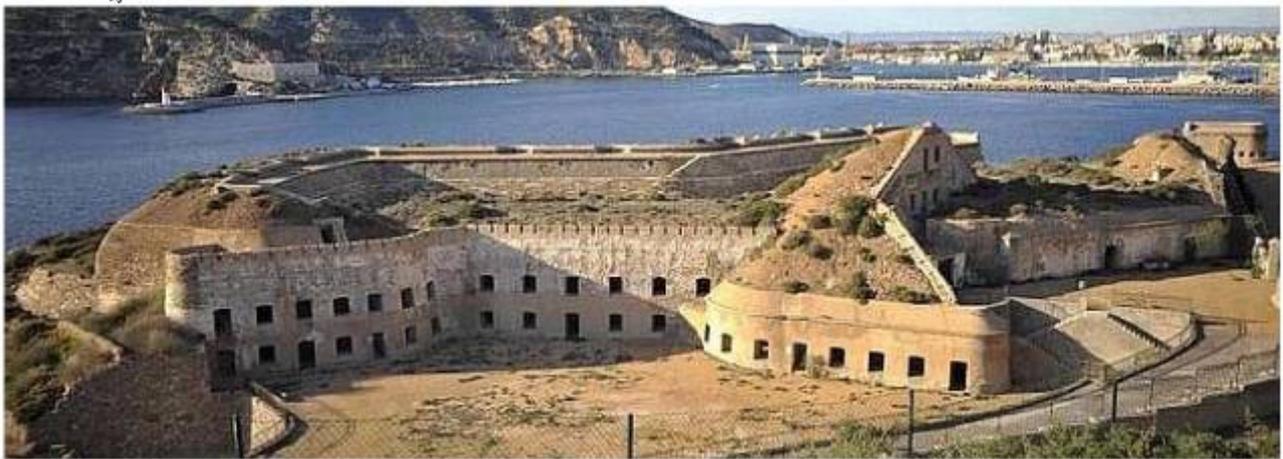


Photo of the batteries of San Isidro and Santa Florentina. Cartagena Port of Cultures Archives



2. PUNIC WALL

WHO WERE THE FIRST SETTLERS?

In the First Punic War the Carthaginians lost dominance in the Mediterranean to the Romans, which led to their retreat to the mainland to obtain the financial resources needed to support their ambitious expansion policy. The Barcine family was responsible for expansion into Iberia. They gained control of the south and east of the peninsula, establishing diplomatic alliances and pacts with other Iberian peoples.



The first general was Hamilcar Barca, founder of the dynasty, who convinced the Carthaginian Council to lead his fleet to these lands, which were fertile and rich in mineral resources. He managed to conquer the Guadalquivir valley, reinvigorate the Carthaginian troops by recruiting of Balearic and Iberian soldiers, and quell the constant uprisings of the rebellious natives. In 228 B.C. he died fighting the oretanos at Helike.

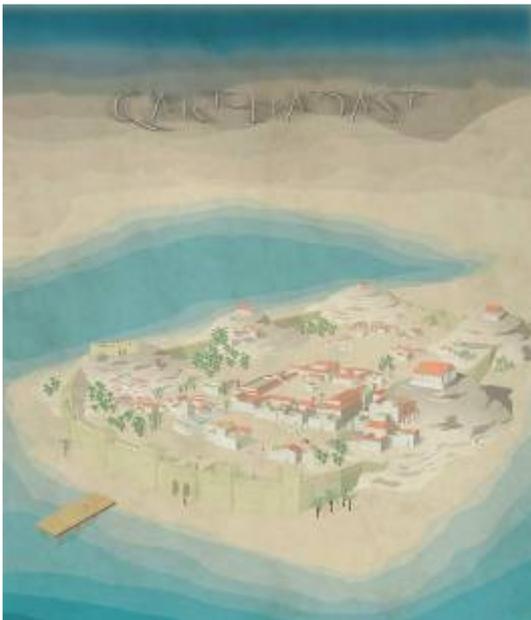


Upon his death his successor was his son Hasdrubal, who founded Qart-Hadast making it the Punic capital and commercial center of the Carthaginians on the peninsula. He was a general who preferred diplomacy rather than military action. He died apparently killed by a slave of the Celtic King Tago who wanted to avenge the death of his master.



The third and last Carthaginian general was Hannibal (son of Hamilcar and brother in law of Hasdrubal). He built a large army to face the Romans in the Second Punic War. Moved by their fighting spirit he set out on the legendary expedition across the Alps to conquer Rome, leaving his brother Mago in charge of the Carthaginian possessions in Iberia. Rome's response was immediate. A Roman army under Publius Cornelius Scipio conquered Qart-Hadast in 209 B.C. with a siege and finally an attack. With the loss of the city, Carthage lost its main supply port.

WHAT WAS QART-HADAST LIKE?



Cartagena experienced a 20-year golden age with the Punic foundation of Cartagena Qart-Hadast (New City) by the general Hasdrubal in 229 B.C. He founded a city with a political system and urban project to exploit the topographical features of the terrain. At that time, Cartagena was a peninsula surrounded by five hills and a lake or estuary north of the city that made it an even safer enclave.

The wealth generated by mining and intense trading activity allowed the city to grow and increase its population.

Ideal restitution of the city of Qart-Hadast. Cartagena Port of Cultures Archives

Temples were built to worship their gods. On the mountain of Concepción there was the Temple of Asklepios, the god of healing; on Despeñaperros lay the Temple of Hephaistos; San Jose was topped by the Temple of Aletes and Monte Sacro featured the Temple of Cronos. On the fifth hill, Molinete (called Arx Asdrubalis), the Palace of Asdrúbal was erected. Between Molinete and Concepcion the agora and its adobe dwellings were built. Hasdrubal, as a military commander, knew the importance of an effective system of defense and ordered the city to be surrounded by a walled enclosure.

WHAT DO WE HAVE LEFT?

Most of the Carthaginian findings that appeared in the archaeological excavations in recent decades are the remains of buildings related to domestic life, houses and warehouses. Small pottery, ivory and bone objects, as well as coins and jewelry, have also been found. These remains are quite scarce due to the subsequent superposition of the Roman city during which many constructions were covered up or destroyed. The exception is represented by the wall.

In 1987 the ruins of the ancient wall of Qart-Hadast were discovered in the lot next to La Milagrosa. The section of wall found and recovered in 2003 by Cartagena Port of Cultures has a length of 30 meters, and at some points a height of 3 meters has been preserved. It was found in the isthmus, the only land access area to the Punic city.

WHAT WAS THE FIRST DEFENSE?



Picture of the Punic Wall.
Cartagena Port of Cultures Archives

The Hellenistic casemate-style wall consisted of two parallel walls separated from by about 5 m. The stone used was sandstone from the quarries northwest of the city and the construction system incorporate "*opus quadratum*" made with blocks plastered with white mortar. The interior was partitioned by a series of transverse walls of "*opus africanum*" that reinforced the exterior walls and created spaces, casemates, to be used by soldiers. The roof was supported by thick wooden beams.

Apparently it had a height of over 10 meters distributed on 3 levels. The first level was used for as a general warehouse and stable; the second was used for housing and storage of food and weapons; and the third was the walkway where soldiers would ambulate with their weapons protected by the battlements of the outer wall. The various floors were accessed by wooden stairs attached to the interior wall where the entrances to the casemates were located as well.

Its construction was carried out in the late third century B.C. Following the conquest of the city by the Romans, who had to reuse it at first, it was abandoned in the second century.

WHAT WAS THE ARMY LIKE?

The Carthaginian army characteristic of the Punic Wars had clearly Hellenistic influences and its tactical unit in the phalanx was composed of about 16,000 men. It consisted of artillery, infantry and light and heavy cavalry. They used exotic weapons such as elephants and war chariots. The nobles were in command of the army and troops were organized in three classes based on their status: contingents were provided by the subjects of Carthage, allied military forces and hired mercenaries whose origin depended on where the battle took place. In the Punic army, exile was a very common practice in case of defeats.

The Carthaginian infantry soldier used light linen armor reinforced with sheets of bronze in the abdomen, a circular shield, bronze greaves on both legs, the falcata (a slightly curved short sword), a bronze helmet, a kilt with leather strips to protect the belly and the sarissa, a 6-meter spear that had to be used with both hands. The mercenary troops would carry their own weapons such as slingshots.

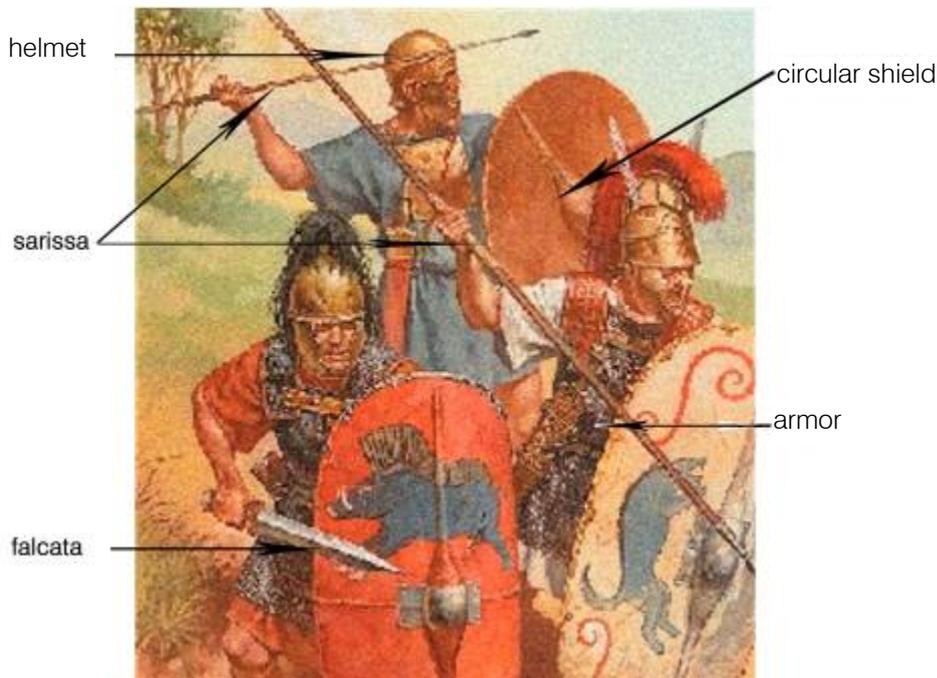


Image depicting how Punic soldiers
Cartagena Port of Cultures Archives

DID YOU KNOW?...

After the conquest of Hispania the bulk of the Carthaginian army was made up of troops from Iberia. These troops came from two different ethnic groups: the Iberian tribes of Levante and the southern peninsula, and the Celtiberian tribes of the interior. They were the most disciplined troops of the Punic armies.

3. CONCEPTION CASTLE



WHO OCCUPIED THE CITY IN THE MIDDLE AGES?



Image of Circled Privilege. Municipal Archives of Cartagena

The Middle Ages in Cartagena began with the Muslims in the 8th century. In the year 713, the Treaty of Tudmir was signed between the Visigoth Theodomir and Abd al-Aziz incorporating the peninsular Southeast under the rule of Damascus. Cartagena does not appear in the treaty, perhaps because it was not a city of great importance or because it was already controlled by the Arabs. The archaeological and documentary evidence is scarce but there are accounts indicating that the port of Cartagena was included in the trade routes of the Mediterranean Sea from the 10th century onward. It was known as Qartayannat al-Halfa (name of the city in the Muslim period) and had a small population.

After several attempts, in 1245 the Castilian Prince Alfonso took the city by sea and land, thus incorporating it into the crown of Castile. The strategic importance of the port was central to Castilian military politics. Both Fernando III and Alfonso X the Wise granted privileges to create the council and the council term in an attempt to promote repopulation and encourage trading activity at the port of Cartagena.

These same objectives explain the restoration of the Episcopal See and the creation of the Military Order of St. Mary of Spain for the naval fight against the Muslims in Cartagena. The Episcopal See was quickly moved to Murcia for fear of pirate attacks. Regarding the military order, several naval disasters in which nearly all the ships were lost persuaded the king to sign his dissolution and it was integrated into the Order of Santiago.

DID YOU KNOW?...

Alfonso X sought to emulate the Frankish Emperor Charlemagne by creating an empire as the Frank did. This is referred to as *fecho del imperio*. To extend their dominions beyond the seas, he created a new military order, the Order of St. Mary of Spain. It was founded in 1273 based in Cartagena.

WHAT WAS MEDIEVAL CARTAGENA LIKE?

Considering the limited documentary and material sources, it seems that Muslim Cartagena was a typical Islamic city. Situated on the hill of Concepción, it had a structure of labyrinthine streets with the typical constructions of a commercial city, i.e., mosques, baths, a port, etc. At the top of that hill the citadel was built, separated from the rest of the population by a wall. Neighborhoods and suburbs were expanding mainly along the northern and western slopes.

In Christian times the city continued to be limited to Cerro de la Concepción (Conception Mountain). At its peak, specifically within the Muslim palace, the keep which later became Conception Castle was built. The tower came to symbolize the power of the monarch and became Cartagena's main defense being located at the highest point. As with the Islamic city, Christian neighborhoods were situated along the slopes of the hill extending to the harbor. Houses were built over the ruins of the Roman theatre, but more importantly another significant building was built, the Church of St. Mary, which became the Cathedral and Episcopal See. Moving the See to Murcia caused its definitive range to be that of a church.

WHAT DO WE HAVE LEFT?

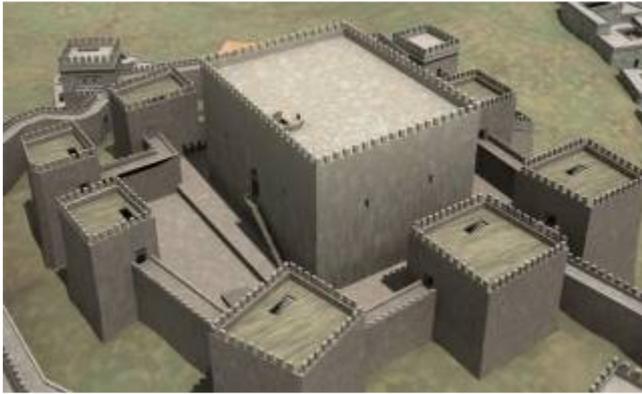


Image of Santa Maria Church. Roman Theater Museum of Cartagena

Of the medieval city described here only two buildings remain today. One is the church of Santa Maria, which is in ruins due to the bombings of the Spanish Civil War. The church has experienced many interventions throughout its history, the most significant occurring in the early 20th century led by modernist architect Victor Beltrí who revamped the entire construction.

The other remaining structure from this period is the Castillo de la Concepción (Conception Castle), a strategic point for Cartagena over centuries. Having lost its defensive function in the 18th century, the castle fell into decline and began a gradual process of ruin, which led the city to consider its demolition in the early 20th century. Fortunately, the project was not carried out, and during the administration of Mayor Alfonso Torres the entire hill became a huge public park with gardens, ponds and animals designed by architect Victor Beltrí. It is popularly known as the "Castillo de los Patos" (Castle of the Ducks) but its actual name is Parque Torres. Despite this major renovation the castle remained in ruins until the 80s, when there was an attempt to restore it. The final restoration was carried out in 2003 transforming it into the Centro de Interpretación de la Historia de Cartagena (Cartagena History Interpretation Center).

WHAT WAS CONCEPTION CASTLE LIKE?



Infographic of Castillo de la Concepción. Cartagena Port of Cultures Archives

The history of Conception Castle dates back to the Muslim period. Following Castilian conquest, King Alfonso decided to build the keep inside the courtyard of the old Islamic palace and reinforce the mud walls of the old walled enclosure. With these transformations the fortress became the city's main defensive point.

Its function was primarily defensive; access to the city both by land and by sea was controlled from this point. Moreover, it was the point from which people were warned of possible attacks by pirates or other enemies. The warning was made via smoke signals or bells so the population could take refuge within the walls of the castle. Other functions of the castle including being the headquarters and residence of the governor and a symbol of the power of the monarch.

The Norman-style keep, known as el Macho, is a typical Medieval fortification formed by the combination of a wall and a tower, creating the "zipper line" so common in that era. With a rectangular layout and walls 4 meters thick, it was built using blocks of gray limestone and pink travertine placed directly on the bedrock. In addition, materials from the Roman ruins found around the hill were reused, such as the inscription dedicated to serving Lucio Emilio Recto which serves as a lintel at the entrance or the fragment of the inscription of the Roman general Marcus Agrippa used in the interior pillar.

DID YOU KNOW?...

On some stone blocks carved symbols appear that correspond to the markings of the master masons. This was a resource used to identify the stones worked by each mason because they would charge per number of blocks placed.



Corbel detail. Cartagena Port of Cultures Archives

Its interior is accessed via a Gothic-Cistercian style gate. Once inside, the space is organized around a central pillar whose main function was to support the ribbed vaults. These vaults were demolished in the 19th century, leaving only their structural elements, i.e., ribs, keystones and corbels. The last two were decorated with plant, animal or heraldic motifs. Corbels with fleur de lis, the imperial eagle and a crowned face possibly depicting the Frankish Emperor Charlemagne are preserved. Light was provided by eight embrasures that opened up to the interior and that were distributed in pairs on each wall.

The ground floor contained the cisterns which were covered with pointed vaults and accessed through an open door a posteriori. Inside the wells can still see the water inlets and wellhead connecting the wells to the first floor from which the water would be removed. We can also observe the hydraulic mortar coating that covered the walls to prevent leakage and water contamination.

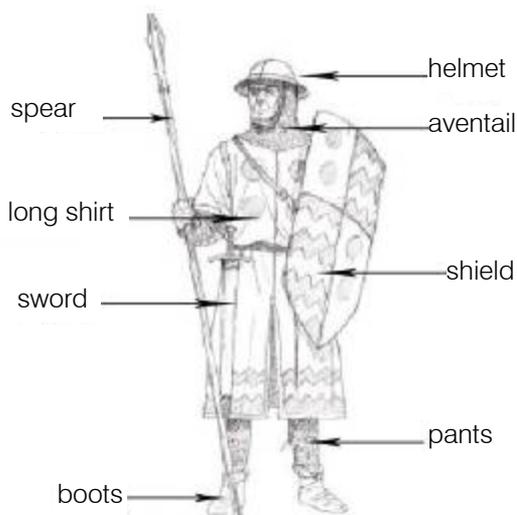
Apparently the tower remained unfinished at the time of its construction as it should have had a second floor with a total height of 17 meters. With its masonry markings and decorative elements the tower could be compared to the towers of Lorca, Moratalla or Aledo, although these defenses were indeed finished.

WHAT WERE THE ARMIES COMPRISED OF?

The armies in the Middle Ages were formed by **the clergy, the nobility and the serfs**. The clergy enjoyed tremendous power through the military orders of chivalry that were created. These orders were composed of men who were half monks and half warriors. For the nobility, one of their children was always destined to join the army by becoming a knight. The serfs or vassals were compulsorily recruited by their lords for battle.

Each soldier wore distinct clothing, depending on their lineage or according to their means except knights of military orders who wore uniforms. Usually knights belonging to the nobility fought on horseback equipped with armor and shields. They were the ones in charge of leading the battles. The serfs or vassals were the infantry and did not have any kind of protection.

Knights wore pants and long linen shirts. They wore an aventail on their head. Later they would cram into a padded coat worn under a coat of mail that was very expensive and heavy (15 or 20 kilos) and only worn by nobles. They would also have a shield with their emblem, a helmet, leather gloves, a sword, a leather belt and other weapons such as a dagger or spear. Finally, they wore boots made of leather to protect their feet.



Drawing of medieval soldiers' clothing.
Cartagena Port of Cultures Archives

4. CHRISTMAS FORT



WHAT WAS CARTAGENA'S SITUATION IN THE 19th CENTURY?

With the accession to the throne of Isabel II in 1843, two Royal Orders were promulgated for Cartagena and its defenses: the conversion of the city to a square of the first order and the creation of a Command of Engineers. These facts enabled the studying of possible solutions to defects in the land defense with the construction and improvement of several forts, according to the advances and techniques of the time. These projects materialized under the O'Donnell Plan.

During the Sexenio Revolucionario (1868-1874) the city saw two major historical events. The first was the entrance of the new King of Spain, Amadeus I of Savoy, into the country through the port of Cartagena in 1870, and the second was the proclamation of the Canton of Cartagena (1873) for six months by the federalists against the centralist policy of the First Republic. This uprising was led by Antonio Gálvez "Antoñete" giving the signal from the Castillo de Galeras.

The 19th century also marked resurgence for the city and unprecedented growth due to mining and trade. Significant urban projects were undertaken such as the Plan del Ensanche (Expansion Plan), which involved the draining of the lake, a focal point for epidemics for centuries, and the construction of the Alfonso XII pier. In addition, the bourgeois classes, which grew with this growth in prosperity, decided to build large mansions and palaces in the artistic style prevalent at that time: modernism.

WHAT DO WE HAVE LEFT?



Photography of Palacio Aguirre. Cartagena Port of Cultures Archives

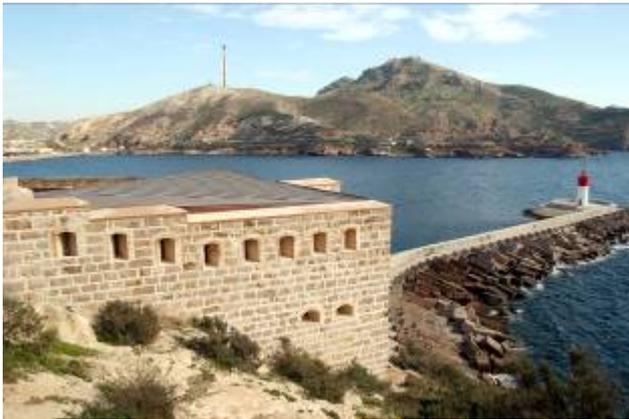
There are many vestiges of the 19th century in Cartagena today. Modernist and eclectic buildings, built in the late 19th and early 20th century, still stand throughout the center, with the most noteworthy examples being the Palacio Consistorial, the Gran Hotel and the Palacio Aguirre. They were designed by the great architects of the time, most notably Víctor Beltrí, who designed most of these buildings.

In general, the palaces retain their majestic and decorative façades today, with virtually nothing of their original interiors.

As far as forts and batteries built in this century go, the Fajardo Defensive Complex, the Batteries of Santa Florentina and San Isidoro, and Christmas Fort are among the most noteworthy. The first two were disarmed and abandoned by the army and have remained as such to this day. Christmas Fort remained abandoned for decades until the Ministry of Defense granted it to the City of Cartagena to be used for tourism purposes. Cartagena Port of Cultures began a massive restoration project to open it to the public in 2007 as a place to learn about the evolution of defensive architecture of the city and its coast.

WHAT WAS CHRISTMAS FORT LIKE?

A key element of the defensive system of the bay of Cartagena is Christmas Fort built in the mid-19th century. It originated in the seventeenth century when it was built as a battery



Photography of Christmas Fort. Cartagena Port of Cultures Archives

though the current construction is from 1860 under the O'Donnell Plan. Because of its position it crossed fires with the Santa Ana battery, which along with batteries of Trincabotijas and Podadera defended the entrance to the harbor. It was designed by Spanish military engineers in the neoclassical style with casemates. The building is layered and adapted to the topography of mountain. It is built of limestone and solid brick.

The interior is organized around a courtyard corridor with two levels joined by spiral staircases. On the right side of the courtyard are the bedrooms and kitchens. Behind are the latrines, and on the left side there are eight vaulted casemates. The magazine is located on the ground floor and at the top there is a large terrace. The 8 casemates are small rooms that housed the cannons. They were connected to each other through archways that housed niches for storing gunpowder and projectiles. These spaces were well ventilated thanks to large openings and doors that allowed smoke to be released after cannon was fired. The vaults of each casemate were reinforced with earth fill and stones more than two meters high to reduce the impact of projectiles. This system was known as bomb-proof vaults.

The fort was equipped with 17 pieces of artillery distributed among 8 casemates and the terrace which held 9 open air or barbette-style cannons. The artillery pieces that were used in the early part of the century included muzzle loaded and smoothbore iron cannons. With the advance of weapons due to the Industrial Revolution, the fort soon became obsolete and was reconverted in 1914 into a Salute Battery. It was in 1941 when the fort was disarmed and abandoned.

In the vicinity of Christmas Fort you can find the ruins of a watchtower, the so-called Torre de Navidad or Christmas Tower. It was built in the sixteenth century under Philip II to warn of possible Berber attacks.

WHAT COMPRISED THE 19th CENTURY ARTILLERY CORPS?

After the Carlist Wars the Spanish army underwent a series of changes: foreign troops were eliminated, the number of the Royal Guards was reduced, the infantry and artillery units were increased, and militia and regular forces were recruited.

As in other eras, civil society of the time was reflected in the army. The corporals and officers came from aristocratic families with long military traditions. NCOs tended to come from modest families, rising up through the ranks by seniority and merit of war. Soldiers were from poor homes who did not have the 1500 or 2000 pesetas needed to pay off the "quintos" draft for mandatory military service. In the frontier town of Arroyomolinos de Montánchez a "song of fifths" described it as so:

"If your number's up to hell with you,
you've got to go because
your mother doesn't have
the two thousand reals for you.
Off to the Moor's war
you'll fight for me."

DID YOU KNOW?

Beginning in 1812, the liberal Constitution enforced recruitment for all men even though it did not yet cover the whole country. This made Compulsory Military Service a constitutional duty. Each Quinta or Fifth was replaced by another at the end of their service. Hence the word "replacement".

Christmas Fort belonged to the artillery corps and was usually composed of 14 soldiers in peacetime, 12 gunners plus the officer and NCO in charge. In times of war the garrison could be increased to about 40 men.



The soldiers got up early at dawn; the reveille marked the start of the day. After they groomed themselves and put on their uniform, they lined up for the count, the hoisting of the flag and the distribution of the daily chores (cleaning, cooking, guard, maintenance of weapons, etc.). At noon they ate the communal meal (a broth of meat, potatoes and vegetables, the chusco or hard biscuit, and some wine) out of their bowls; after a break, they continued with their chores until the flag lowering ceremony at sundown. At night they entertained themselves by playing cards by candle and oil lamp light or wrote letters to their family or significant other. On weekends, those who were off-duty could go out and walk around Cartagena. The entire troop slept in a large dormitory. The officer had his own office, bedroom and bathroom.

Drawing of gunner. Cartagena Port of Cultures Archives

The gunners' uniform was made of blue cloth with two rows of 6 buttons and pants with a crimson stripe on the sides. They carried a breech rifle with bayonet. Officers typically carried a gun and a sword.

GLOSSARY

Agora: open space or plaza serving as a center of commerce, culture, politics, and social life in Greek cities.

Arsenal: establishment for the construction, repair and storage of weapons and ammunition. Naval arsenal: where ships are built and repaired.

Artillery: set of military weapons designed to shoot projectiles over long distances driven by an explosive charge. The military unit that handles artillery.

Aventail: flexible mesh curtain in a helmet that extends to cover the neck and shoulders.

Barbette: parapet designed to pull the artillery in open air.

Battery: set of artillery pieces placed next to each other to fire at the enemy. **Salute Battery:** battery used to celebrate honors and special events with a series of consecutive cannon firings without bullets.

Battlement: each of the lookouts at the top of the walls of ancient forts used to protect the defenders.

Berber: pirates who came from North Africa.

Bore: inner space of the barrel of a cannon. Smooth bore: a cannon barrel without grooves.

Casemate: solid, strong construction, usually vaulted, designed to house all types of defensive weapons.

“Chusco”: roll or piece of bread, especially dry and hard, which was distributed as ration to soldiers.

Cistern: reservoir to store rainwater collected through pipes. Usually it was fully or partly underground.

Citadel: fortified area within a walled city used as the residence of the governor and the garrison in charge of defending the city.

Coat of mail: metal protection formed by cast iron or steel rings arranged such that each ring is threaded to at least four other to create a fabric.

Embrasure: long narrow opening in a wall used to shoot from.

Estuary: narrow entrance to a bay.

Falcata: a steel sword of Iberian origin.

Garrison: troops that man a square, a castle or a warship.

Garum: Roman sauce of fish entrails fermented with salt, spices and oil. **Garum Sociorum:** garum was made in Carthago Nova using scomber or mackerel entrails.

Greave: piece of ancient armor that covered the leg from the knee to the instep.

Gun powder magazine: gun powder storage place of a ship, fort or other facility.

Helmet: part of ancient armor that guarded the head and face and consisted of the morion, visor and chest plate.

Hydraulic mortar: a conglomerate or mass composed of sand, lime and water, which was used to coat the walls of the tanks where there was water use.

Infantry: a fighting force on foot.

Keystone: stone with which an arch or vault is joined.

Latrines: in certain institutions such as camps and barracks, a place intended for defecation and urination.

Muzzle loading: action of charging firearm with the gunpowder and projectile by the mouth.

Opus africanum: contraction technique used in Carthaginian and Roman architecture characterized by the placement of large vertical pillar-like stones, alternating horizontally and filled with stone or rough ashlar.

Opus quadratum: ancient construction system where blocks of stone of the same height were placed in regular parallel rows.

Phalanx: heavy infantry corps, which comprised the main forces of Greek and Carthaginian armies.

“Quinto”: a young man from the time he is drafted to until he joins the military.

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ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

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www.aforca.org
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www.cartagenapuertodeculturas.com/ (see: November 27, 2013)
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(see: November 27, 2013)
- ⤴ www.mundohistoria.org/blog/articulos_web/ejercito_cartagineshttp://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ejército_de_Cartago (see: November 27, 2013)
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Text Authors: Ana Belén Gil Santa, M^a del Carmen Tello Pulido y M^a Raquel García Rincón.

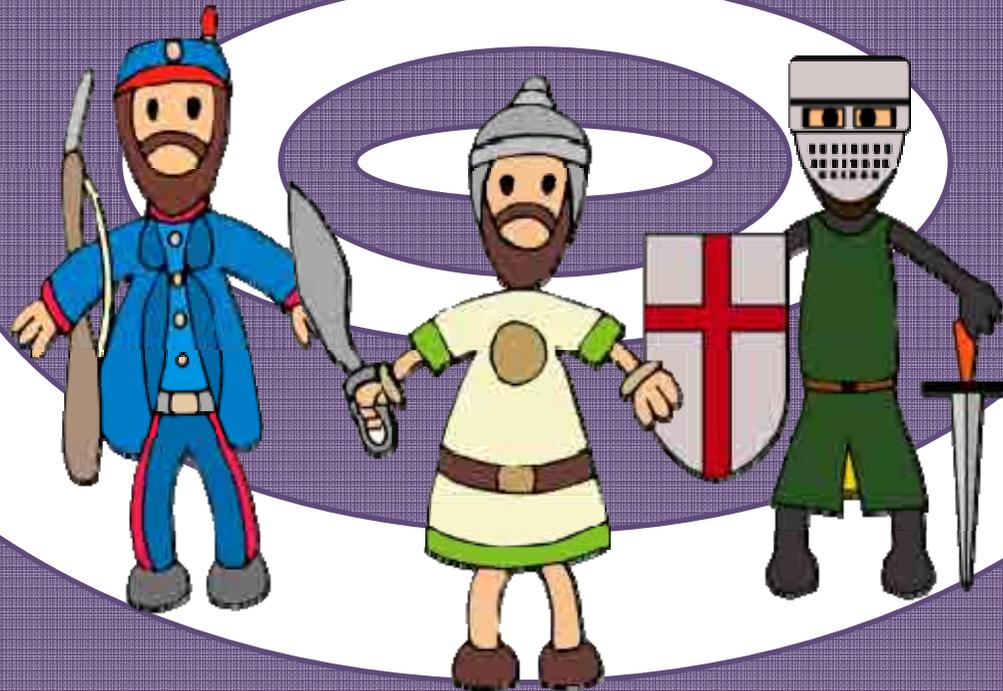
Coordination: M^a Soledad Pérez Bolumar.

Layout and design: Ana Belén Gil Santa.

Images: Photo Archive provided by Cartagena Port of Cultures.



ATTACK!!

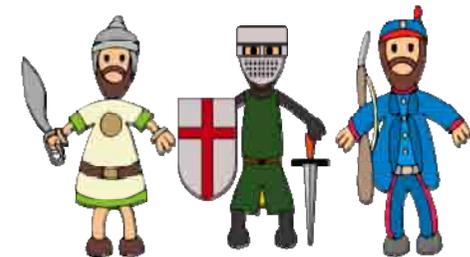
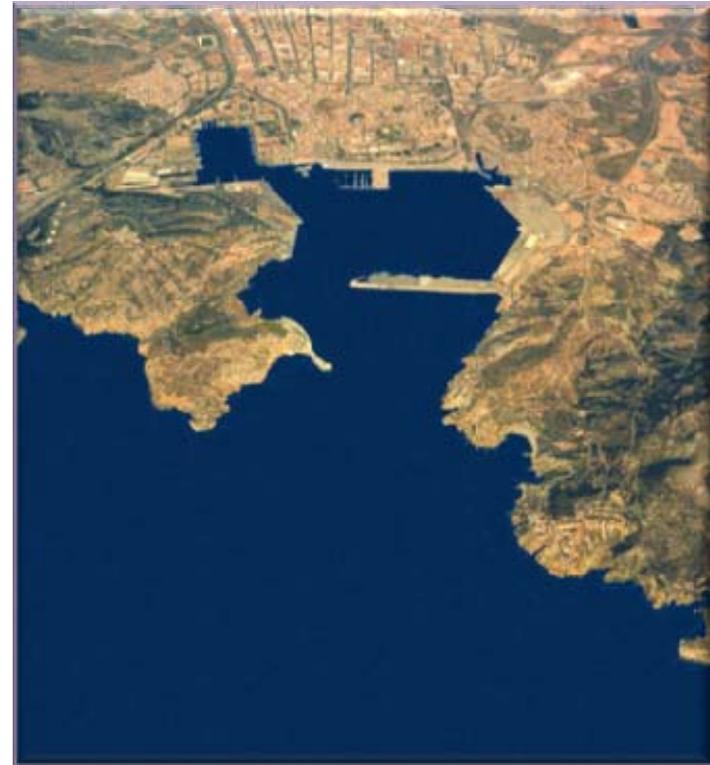


Cartagena and its defences

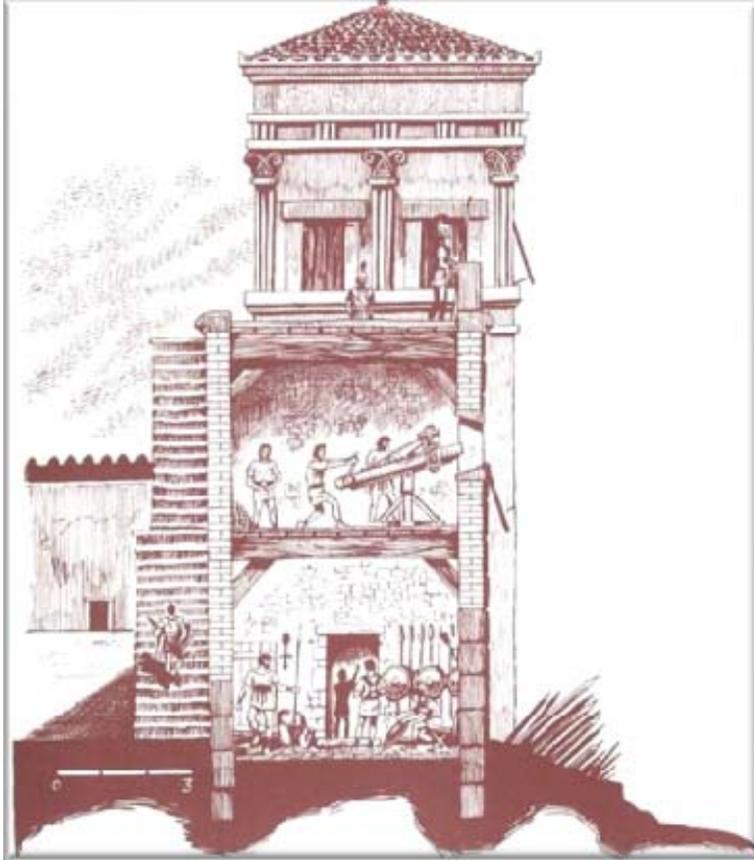


Why Cartagena?

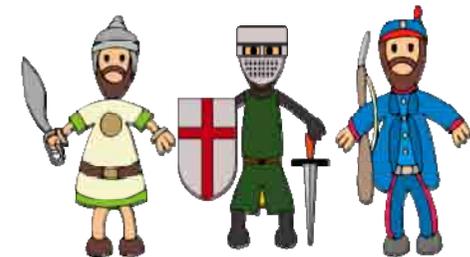
- × A city with many natural resources: mining, fishing, salted products such as garum, etc.
- × Its port was a safe haven in the Mediterranean Sea.
- × All the civilizations built their defenses: Carthaginians, Romans, Byzantines, Muslims, etc.
- × Let's see a few: Punic wall, Conception Castle and Christmas Fort.



punic wall

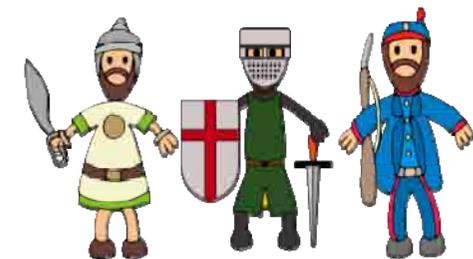


- × Qart-Hadast (= new city) was the name of Punic Cartagena. The general Hasdrubal founded it in 229 B.C.
- × The most noteworthy ruin from the Carthaginian city is the Punic Wall:
 - × It had 3 levels and had a height of 10 meters.
 - × Two parallel walls with "Casemates" inside for the soldiers.



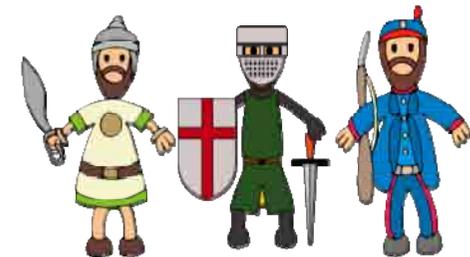
punic wall

- × The Carthaginian army was comprised of phalanges of 16,000 soldiers.
- × The generals were nobles and soldiers were hired in the countries where they fought.
- × The soldiers' weapons included:
 - × Circular shield
 - × Breastplate
 - × Falcata - short sword
 - × Sarissa – very long spear

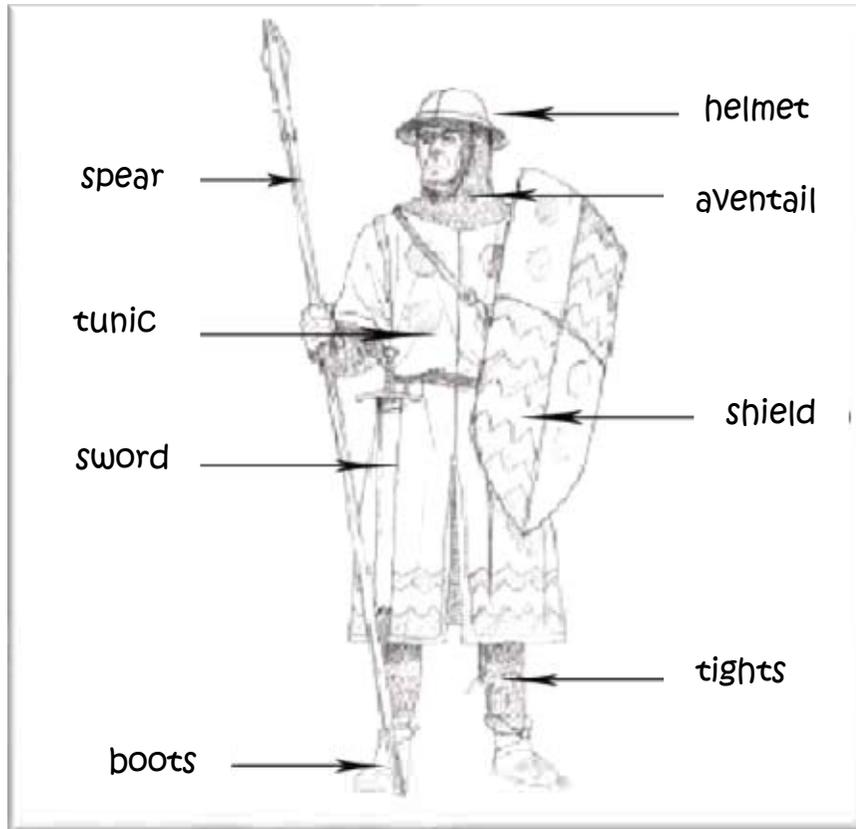


concepción castle

- × In 1254 the city was conquered as the Muslims were defeated by Christian troops.
- × King Alfonso X "the Wise" commissioned the building of Concepción Castle.
- × Parts of the Castle that remain:
 - × Keep
 - × The cisterns
 - × Soldiers' rooms



concepción castle

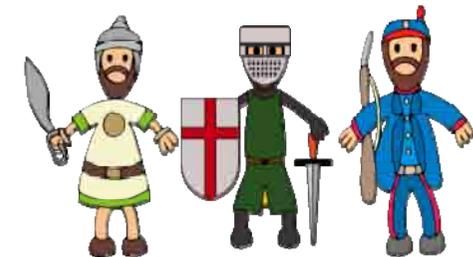


* Knights

- * Came from nobility
- * They rode on horseback
- * Their weapons: helmet, spear, shield, sword and armor

* Infantry

- * They were serfs and peasants
- * They fought melee with almost no protection
- * Their weapons: bows and crossbows



Christmas Fort

× In the nineteenth century under the O'Donnell Plan Fortresses were built and renovated.

× Christmas Fort was remodelled:

× It had Casemates, a powder magazine, a kitchen and latrines.

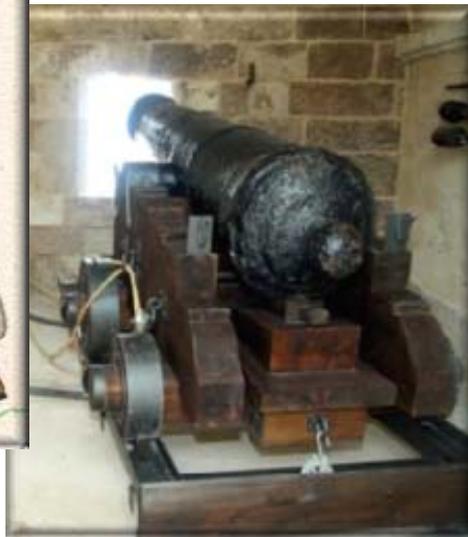
× It had 17 Cannons.

× 14 soldiers lived there in peacetime, 40 during wartime.

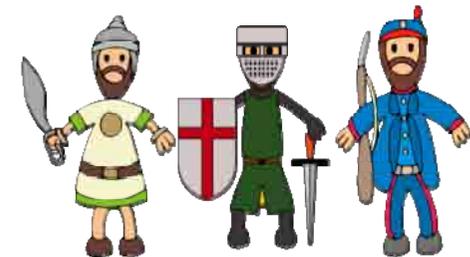
× In its later years it served as a "safe battery".



Christmas Fort



- × The troops at Christmas Fort were part of the artillery corps.
- × The officers were from the upper classes, NCOs from the lower classes and soldiers from the poorest classes.
- × The uniform was navy blue with red stripes on the pants.
- × The officer carried a sword and revolver, while soldiers carried a rifle.



UNDERSTAND CARTAGENA through its DEFENSIVE SYSTEMS

ATTACK!!



STUDENT WORKBOOK

Elementary School Grades: 1, 2 and 3

Authors: Ana Belén Gil Santa, M^a del Carmen Tello Pulido y M^a Raquel García Rincón

Coordination: M^a Soledad Pérez Bolumar



PROYECTO DIDÁCTICO COLABORATIVO





Good morning boys and girls! I'm going to tell you briefly about the history of the city of Cartagena... Are you ready?

Did you know?... Cartagena has always been a highly desired city because of its many natural resources, including silver, lead and iron mines, salt, esparto and fishing.



Moreover, **its port** has always been very well protected from wind and enemy attacks because it is surrounded by mountains. It was a safe haven for boats. This is why throughout its history many people have wanted to control and defend the city. For this purpose they built towers, walls and Castles. There are still some standing. Let's look at three of them, shall we?



We begin with the oldest wall that has been found, the **Punic Wall**. It was built buy the Carthaginians over 2,300 years ago. A wall over 10 meters tall that surrounded the city, *Qart-Hadasht*, which was the name of Cartagena at that time and meant "new city".



Hundreds of years later, in the Middle Ages, King Alfonso X the Wise commissioned **Conception Castle**, of which today we can observe the main tower where the "alcaide" or warden of the city lived and from where the entire city was defended from any attack by land or sea.



And finally in the 19th century at the entrance to the port a new fortress was built, **Christmas Fort**. From there the soldiers, with the help of their weapons and most importantly their 17 Cannons, guarded the entry and exit of ships in the bay of Cartagena.

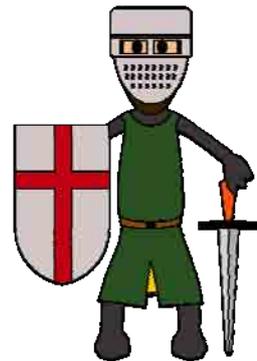


Hey boys and girls! There's more to tell... Do you know what the armies of these three defences were like?... I belonged to one of them. Do you know which one?

The **Carthaginian army** was composed of phalanges, each of which had about 16,000 soldiers. The commanding generals were noblemen, while the soldiers were usually recruited in the countries where they fought. Soldiers carried a circular shield, a breastplate, a short sword and a long spear called a sarissa.



The **Medieval army** was made up of knights and infantry. The knights came from nobility and fought on horseback. They were well protected with armor, helmets, spears and shields. However, the infantry was composed of servants who had to fight on foot melee-style, since they had no protection.



The corps of **artillerymen** or gunners occupied **Christmas Fort**. As in other times the commanding officer of the troops was from the upper classes and families with a military tradition, NCOs belonged to the lower classes, while soldiers came from poorer classes. Their uniform was navy blue with red stripes on the pants. The official would carry a sable and revolver, while soldiers carried a rifle.



ACTIVITIES

1. Match the different parts of the Punic Wall. Place the words below in the spaces indicated in the drawing:

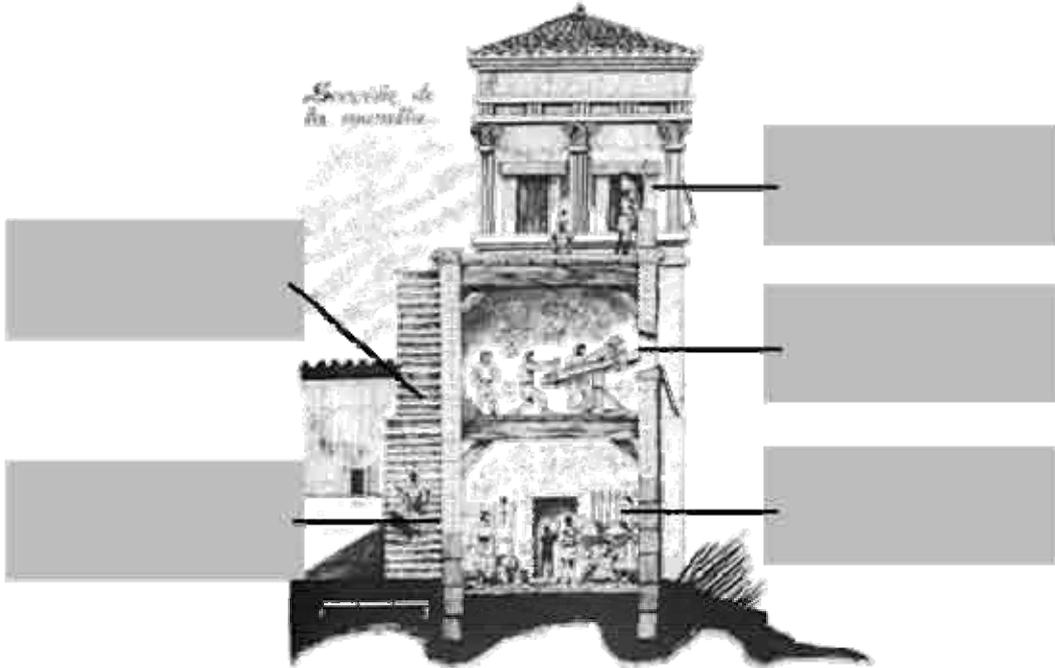
Casemate

stairs

stables

living quarters

footpath



* Illustration of Bocanegra

2. Search the puzzle for the following words related to the visit to Cartagena: wall, castle, fort and Cartagena.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P | W | L | O | K | S | U | M | V | R | E | I |
| U | C | A | R | T | A | G | E | N | A | B | H |
| Z | Q | S | L | O | R | F | D | I | W | K | U |
| A | O | B | R | L | C | E | T | M | A | P | L |
| L | K | V | A | S | L | R | E | U | G | Q | I |
| H | F | U | N | T | S | D | B | O | A | S | M |
| I | K | J | S | O | Z | T | V | T | P | E | R |
| P | B | A | G | F | U | R | Z | R | I | C | S |
| U | C | K | D | C | T | O | L | O | J | A | V |
| M | P | J | I | K | E | M | A | F | S | L | I |

3. Mark the correct answer with an "x":

- ▲ What Carthaginian general commissioned the Punic Wall?
- Alberto
 - Hasdrubal
 - Antonio

- ▲ **What king commissioned Conception Castle?**
 - Juan Carlos I
 - Alfonso X the Wise
 - The Catholic Kings

- ▲ **What was the purpose of Christmas Fort?**
 - To look at the sea
 - For defense
 - To live comfortably

- ▲ **Which Carthaginian general founded Qart-Hadast?**
 - Hannibal
 - Hasdrubal
 - Hamilcar

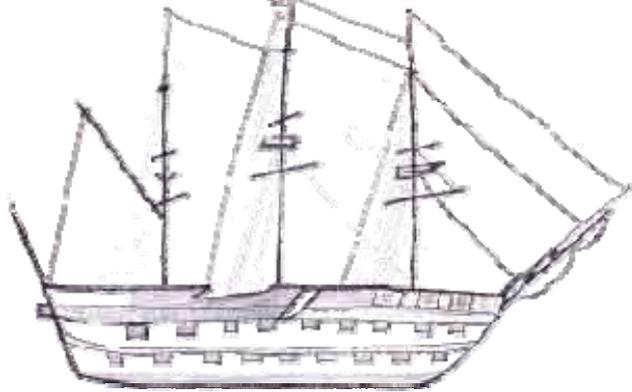
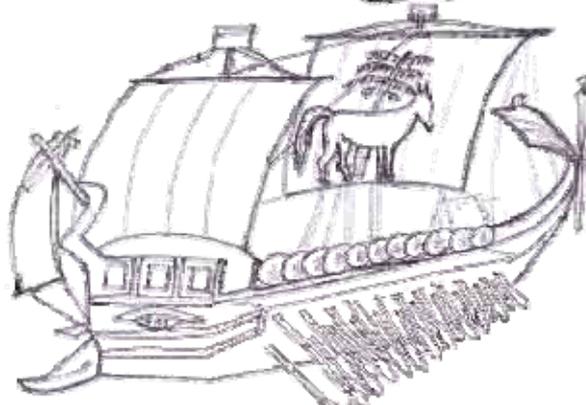
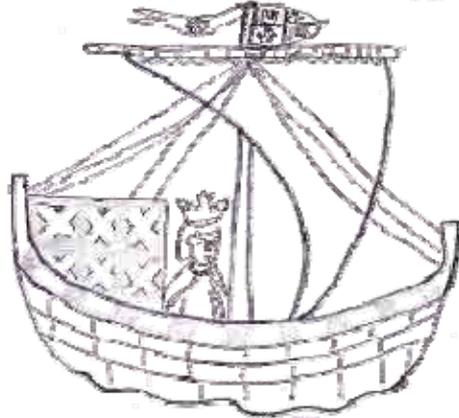
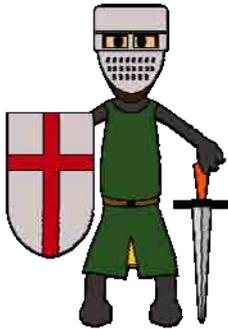
- ▲ **Who was the weapon used by the Carthaginian soldiers?**
 - Katana
 - Falcata
 - Sword

- ▲ **Who would fire the cannons at Christmas Fort?**
 - Artilleryman
 - Knights
 - Carthaginians

4. Look at the map and writes the names of the following locations in the boxes: Punic Wall, Conception Castle and Christmas Fort.

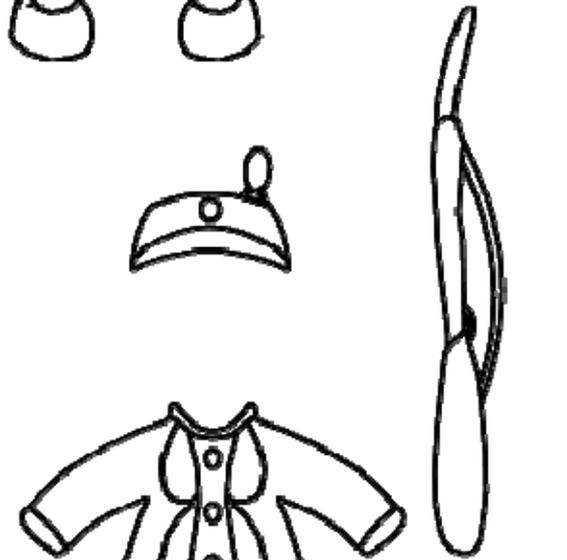
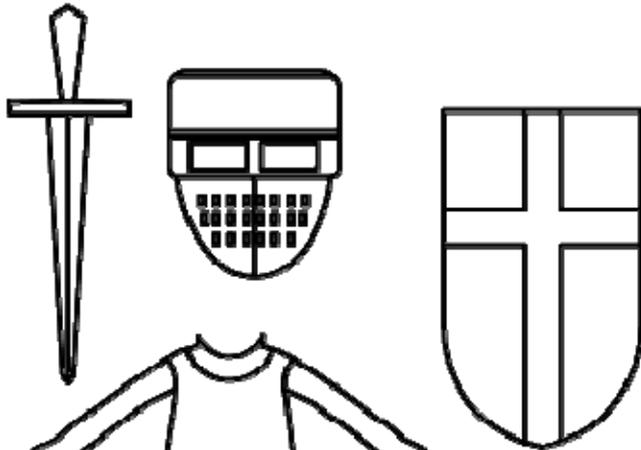
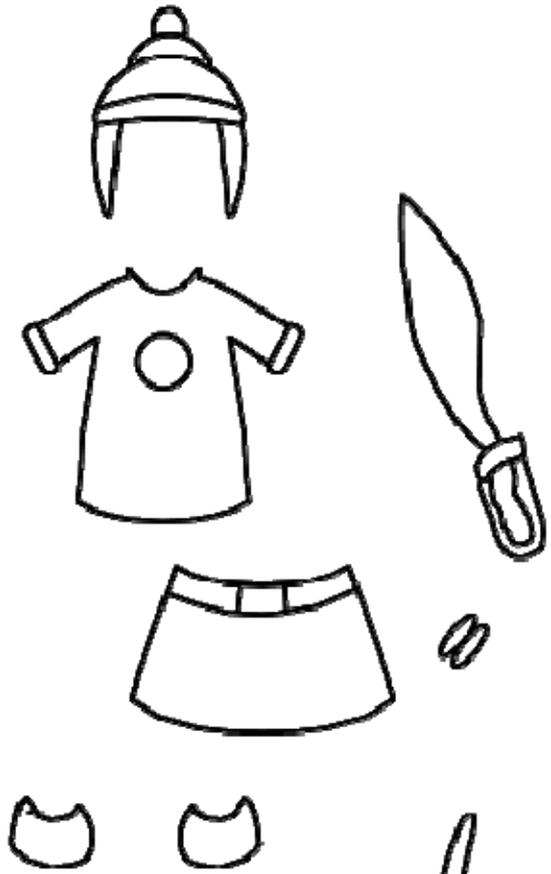
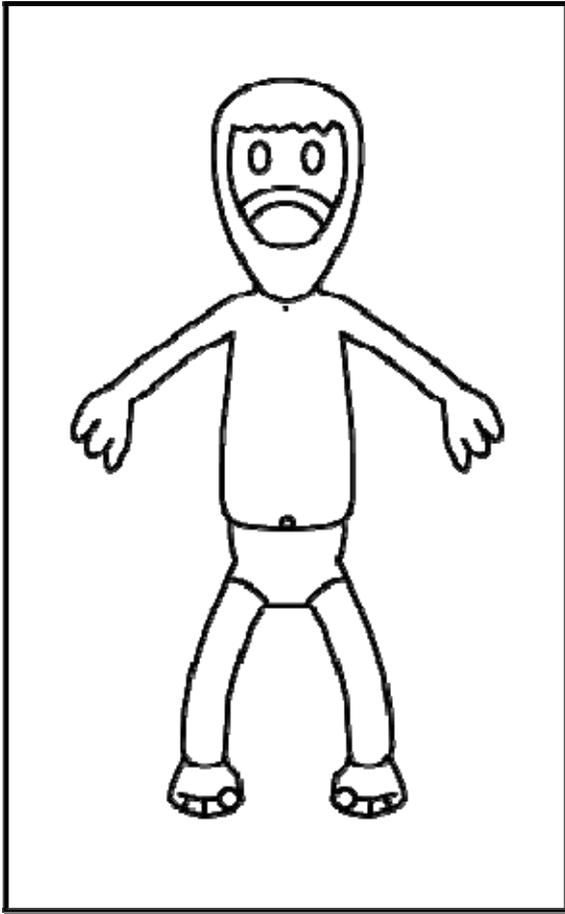


5. First, use arrows to match each soldier to the type of boat from his era:



Then draw a type of boat from the era in which you live:

6. Color in and dress your soldier with the clothing of the time:



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Illustrations: Francisco Manzano, Ana Belén Gil Santa and M^a del Carmen Tello Pulido.

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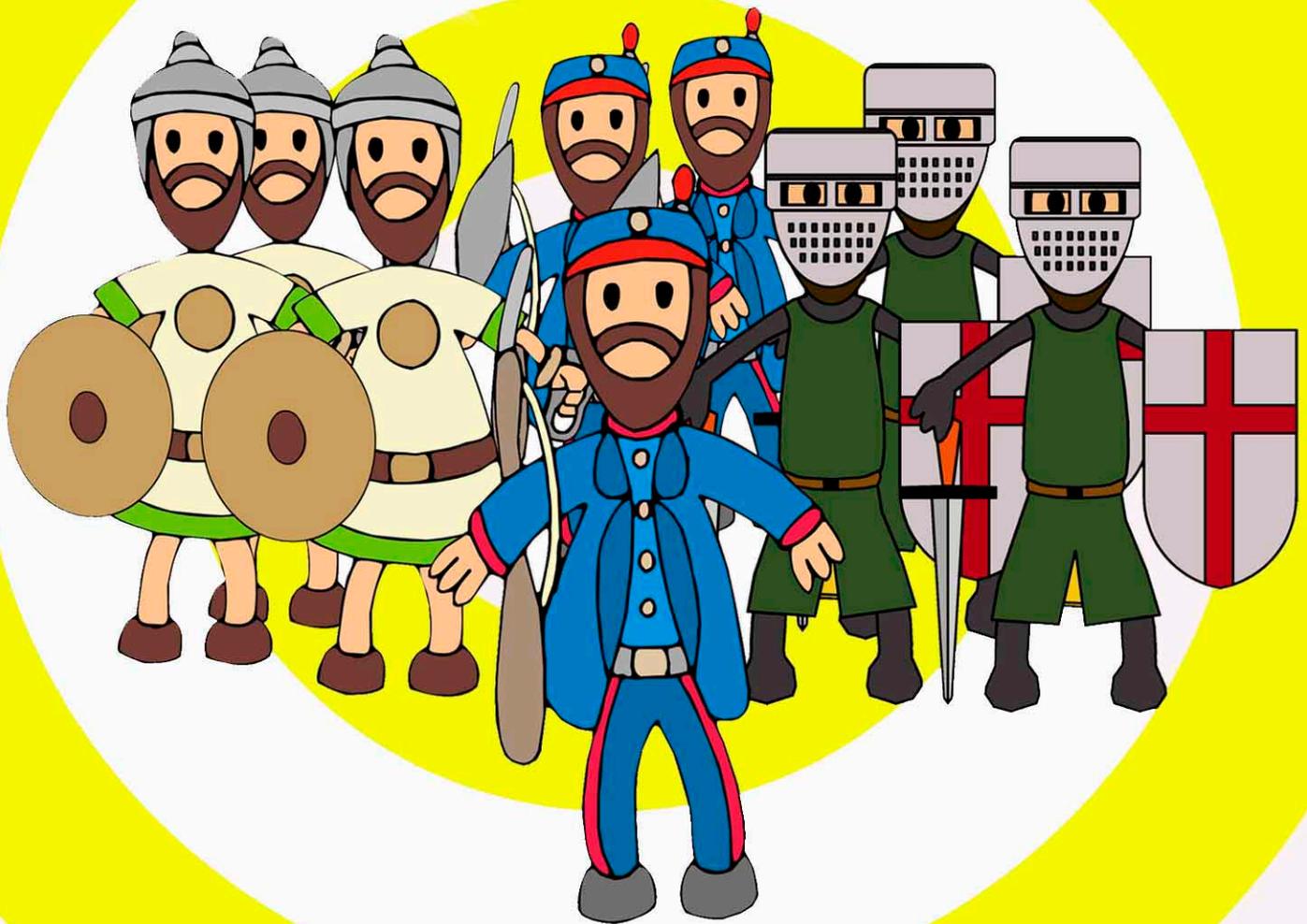
Images: Photo Archive provided by Cartagena Port of Cultures.



UNDERSTAND CARTAGENA

through its DEFENSIVE SYSTEMS

ATTACK!!



STUDENT WORKBOOK

Elementary School
Grades 4, 5 and 6

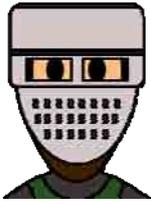
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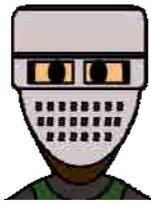
We start with the oldest wall ever found, the **Punic Wall**. It was built by the Carthaginians more than 2,300 years ago. It was a wall more than 10 feet high surrounding the entire city of Qart-Hadast, the name of Cartagena at the time that means "new city".



Hundreds of years later, in the Middle Ages, King Alfonso X "the Wise" commissioned **Conception Castle**. From it we still have the main tower where the warden or mayor of the city lived and from where the entire city was defended from any incoming attack whether by land or sea.



And finally, in the 19th century at the entrance to the harbor a new fortress was built **Christmas Fort**. From there the soldiers, with the help of their weapons and especially the 17 cannons, would guard the entrances and exits of boats at the bay of Cartagena.

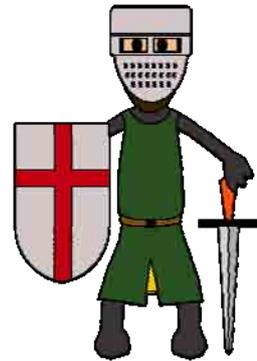


Hey boys and girls! There's more to tell... Do you know what the armies of these three defenses were like?... I belonged to one of them, Do you know which one?

The **Carthaginian army** was composed of phalanges, each of which had about 16,000 soldiers. The commanding generals were noblemen, while the soldiers were usually recruited in the countries where they fought. Soldiers carried a circular shield, a breastplate, a short sword and a long spear called a sarissa.



The **Medieval army** was made up of knights and infantry. The knights came from nobility and fought on horseback. They were well protected with armor, helmets, spears and shields. However, the infantry was comprised of serfs who fought in a melee without any armor.



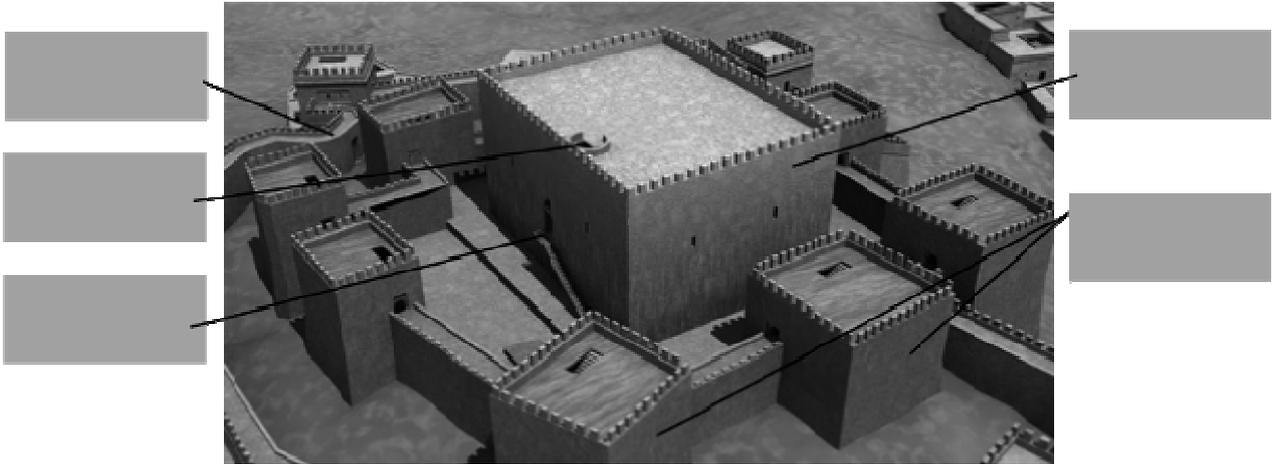
The corps of **artillerymen** or gunners occupied **Christmas Fort**. As in other times the commanding officer of the troops was from the upper classes and families with a military tradition, NCOs belonged to the lower classes, while soldiers came from poorer classes. Their uniform was navy blue with red stripes on the pants. The officer would carry a sword and revolver, while soldiers carried rifle.



ACTIVITIES

1. Write the different parts of Conception Castle. Place the words below in the spaces indicated in the drawing:

wall keep access watchtower spiral staircase



* Drawing: based on an infographic of the Castle.

2. Search the puzzle for the following words related to the visit to Cartagena:

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | W | L | S | T | A | I | R | C | A | S | E |
| E | C | A | R | T | O | G | S | L | A | B | H |
| W | Q | S | L | O | R | F | A | I | W | K | U |
| O | O | B | R | L | C | R | T | M | A | E | L |
| T | K | V | A | S | I | R | E | U | G | E | I |
| H | F | U | N | P | S | D | B | O | A | P | M |
| C | K | J | S | O | Z | T | V | T | P | E | R |
| T | B | A | G | F | U | R | Z | K | I | C | S |
| A | C | K | D | C | S | S | E | C | C | A | V |
| W | P | J | I | K | E | M | A | F | S | L | I |

3. Mark the correct answer with an "x":

- ▲ **When did construction of the Punic Wall begin?**
 - Between the 16th century and 17th century
 - 10th century
 - End of the 3rd century B.C.
- ▲ **What is the function of a castle?**
 - Worship space for the inhabitants of a city.
 - Place to store food to feed the population.
 - Place to seek shelter and defend against enemy attacks.

- ▲ **If you had to choose a site to build a Castle, where would you build it?**
 - In a natural passageway between two cliffs.
 - In the middle of a plain so that it was well connected.
 - In a natural hill, where it was more difficult for their enemies to access.

- ▲ **Who founded Qart-Hadast?**
 - Hasdrubal.
 - Scipio.
 - Kronos.

- ▲ **What do you call the container where rainwater was stored in Conception Castle?**
 - Citadel.
 - Cistern.
 - Battery.

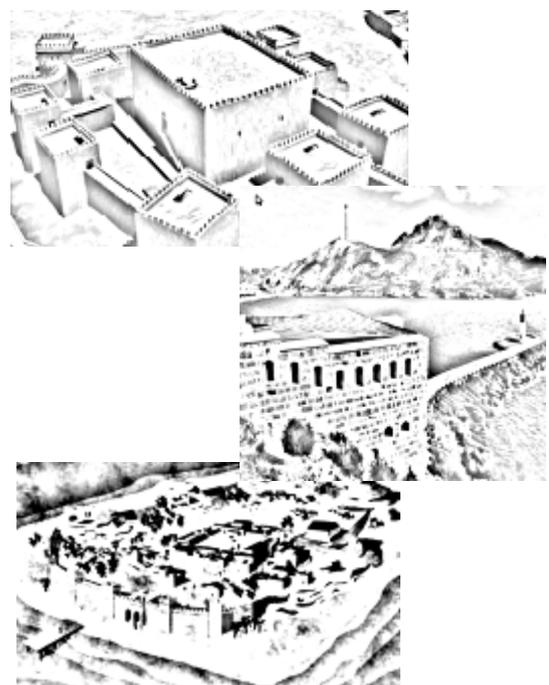
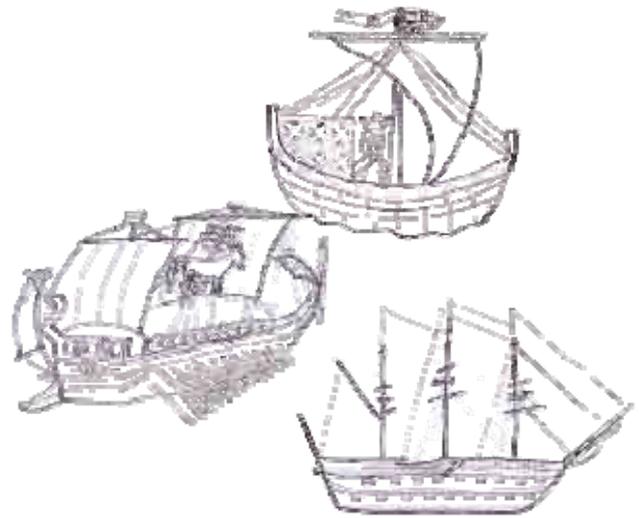
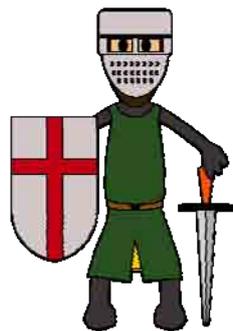
- ▲ **When was Christmas Fort built?**
 - 1860.
 - 2002.
 - 420 BC.

- ▲ **What is the name of the place where cannons were placed at Christmas Fort?**
 - Powder Magazine.
 - Barbette.
 - Casemate.

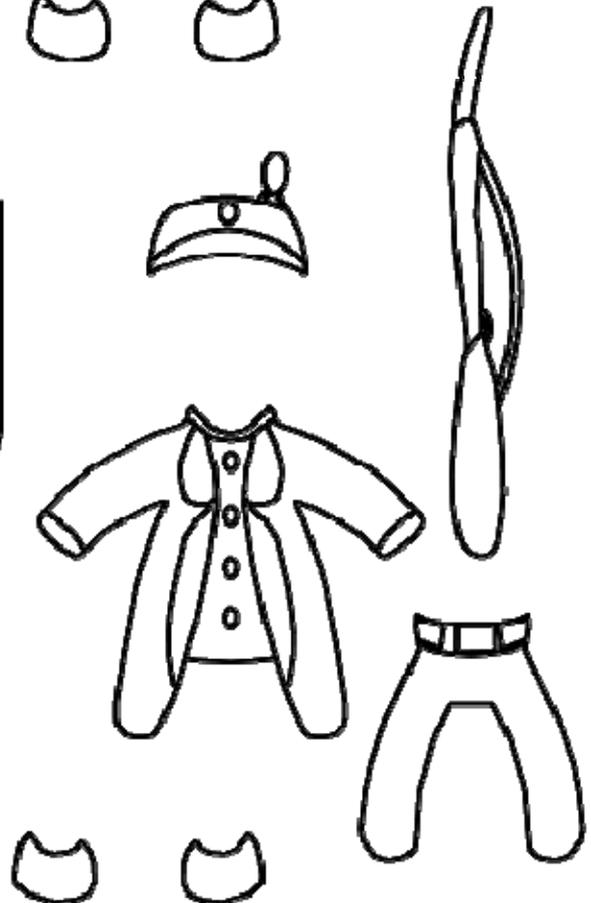
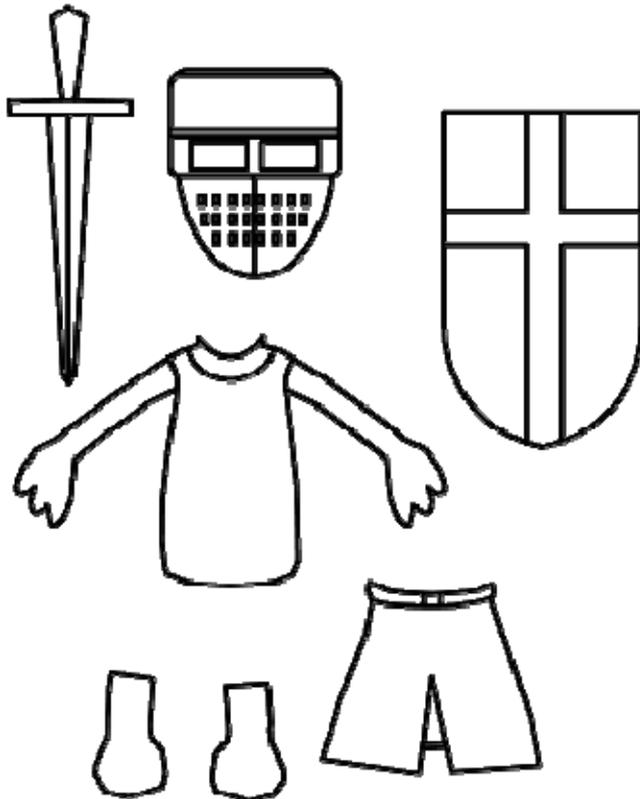
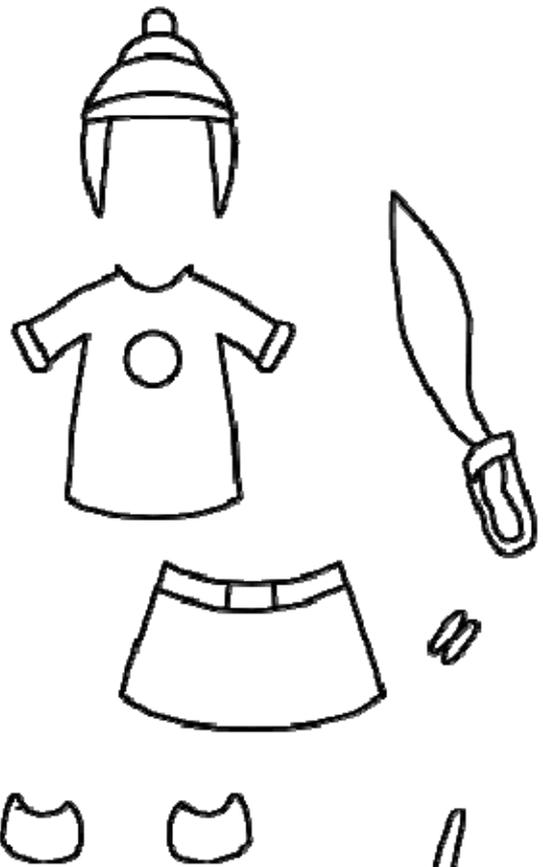
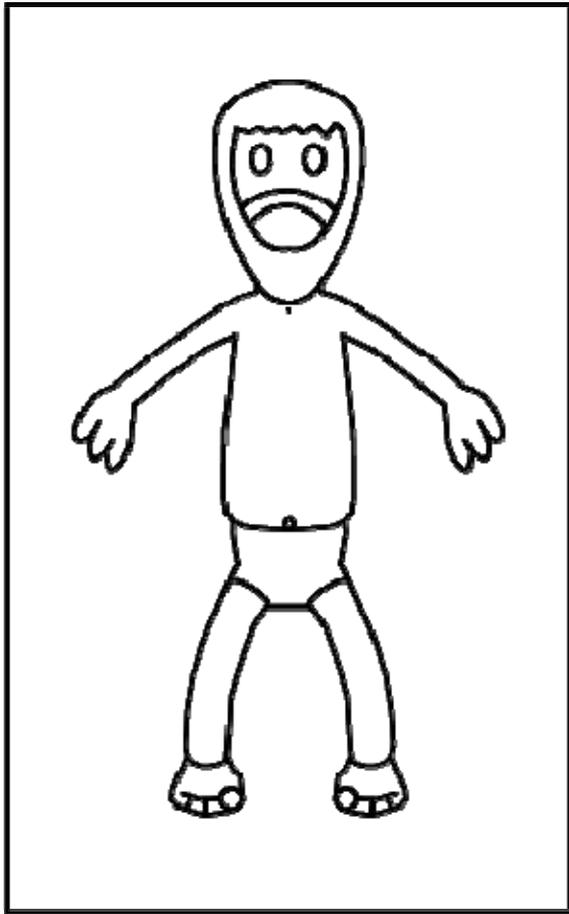
4. Look at the map and write the names of the following locations in the boxes:



5. Using arrows match each soldier with one of the drawings of each group that identifies him:



6. Color in and dress your soldier with the clothing of the time:



Text authors: Ana Belén Gil Santa, M^a del Carmen Tello Pulido and M^a Raquel García Rincón.

Coordination: M^a Soledad Pérez Bolumar.

Illustrations: Francisco Manzano, Ana Belén Gil Santa and M^a del Carmen Tello Pulido.

Layout and design: Ana Belén Gil Santa.

Images: Photo Archive provided by Cartagena Port of Cultures.



UNDERSTAND CARTAGENA

through its DEFENSIVE SYSTEMS

ATTACK!!



STUDENT WORKBOOK

High School

Authors: Ana Belén Gil Santa, M^a del Carmen Tello Pulido y M^a Raquel García Rincón

Coordination: M^a Soledad Pérez Bolumar



PROYECTO DIDÁCTICO COLABORATIVO





Good morning boys and girls! I'm going to tell you briefly about the history of the city of Cartagena... Are you ready?

Did you know?... Cartagena has always been a highly desired city because of its many natural resources, including silver, lead and iron mines, salt, esparto and fishing.



Moreover, **its port** has always been very well protected from wind and enemy attacks because it is surrounded by mountains. It was a safe haven for boats. This is why throughout its history many people have wanted to control and defend the city. For this purpose they built towers, walls and castles. There are still some standing. Let's look at three of them, shall we?



The **Punic Wall** is the oldest of the defenses that are preserved in Cartagena. It was built by the Carthaginians in the late third century B.C. It was a wall around the entire city, *Qart-Hadast*, the Punic name for Cartagena meaning "new City", and the fragment that was found was that which protected the entrance to the city by land. It was divided into casemates or small rooms used by soldiers as stables, living quarters or a place to store weapons. It had a height of over 10 meters distributed on 3 levels.



Another one of the oldest forts is **Conception Castle**. This medieval defense was commissioned by King Alfonso X "the Wise" in the 13th century. The king ordered the construction of a keep in the middle of the courtyard of the old Islamic citadel. Not only did they reuse the Muslim defensive enclosure; they also used the abandoned Roman ruins as quarries, recycling columns and inscriptions. The keep had 3 levels: the subterranean reservoirs, the main floor where the "warden" of the city lived, and the terrace from which the entire city was defended from attack. The building was covered by ribbed vaults whose architectural elements were decorated with plant, animal and heraldic motifs.



Finalmente en el siglo XIX, y a la entrada del puerto, se construyó una nueva fortaleza, el **Fuerte de Navidad** para controlar la salida y entrada de los barcos a la bahía. Se trataba de una pequeña defensa para 14 soldados en tiempos de paz o 40 en tiempos de guerra. La entrada se hacía directamente al patio, alrededor del cual se encontraban los distintos espacios:

habitaciones, cocinas, letrinas y, lo más importante, las Casamatas que albergaban los cañones. En total disponía de 17 piezas de artillería, 8 en la parte baja más 9 en la parte superior. El fuerte en sus últimos años de vida se utilizó como batería de salvas desde la que se daba la bienvenida o despedida a los barcos que entraban en el puerto.

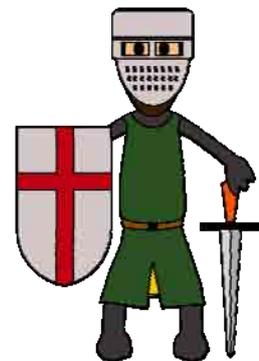


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The **Medieval army** was made up of knights and infantry. The knights came from nobility and fought on horseback. They were well protected with armor, helmets, spears and shields. However, the infantry was composed of servants who had to fight on foot melee-style, since they had no protection.

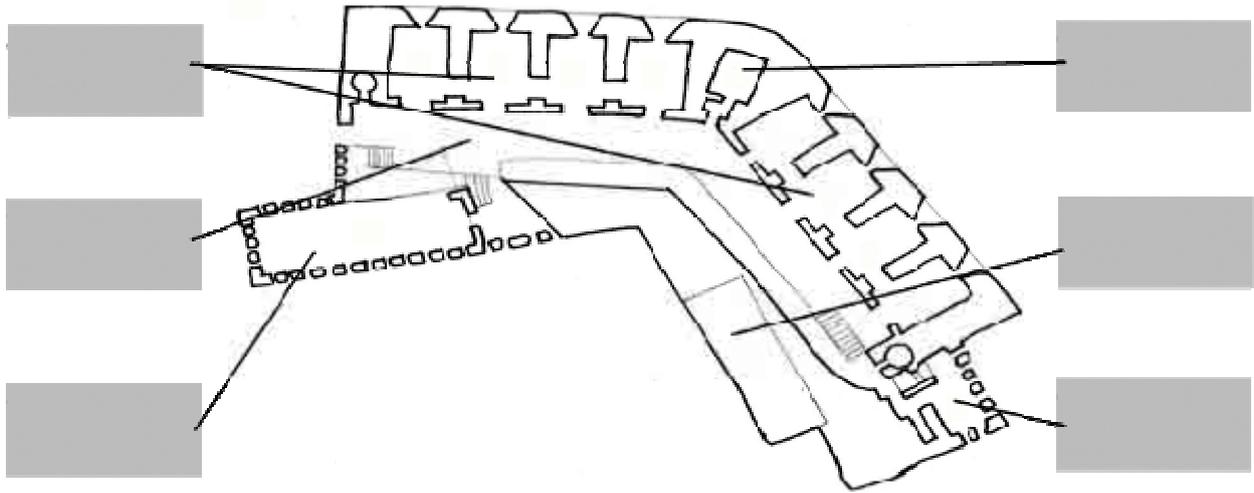


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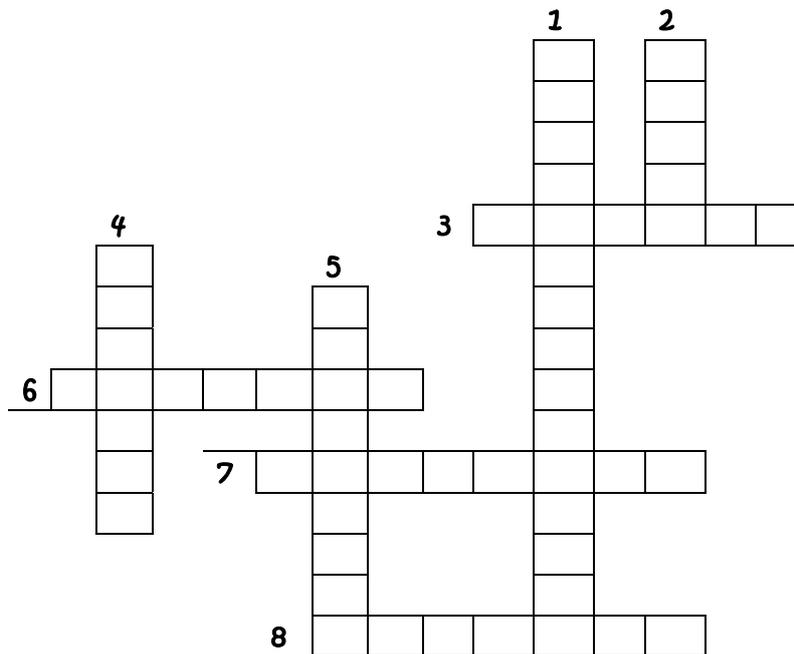
ACTIVITIES

1. In the boxes write the names of the different parts or rooms of Christmas Fort.



* Drawing of the layout of Christmas Fort.

2. Complete the following crossword puzzle: The words are related to the visit to Cartagena.



Vertical

- 1. Place for storing gunpowder.
- 2. Roman sauce made with fish, salt, oil and spices.
- 4. Muslim fortified space.
- 5. Narrow inlet at the mouth of the harbor.

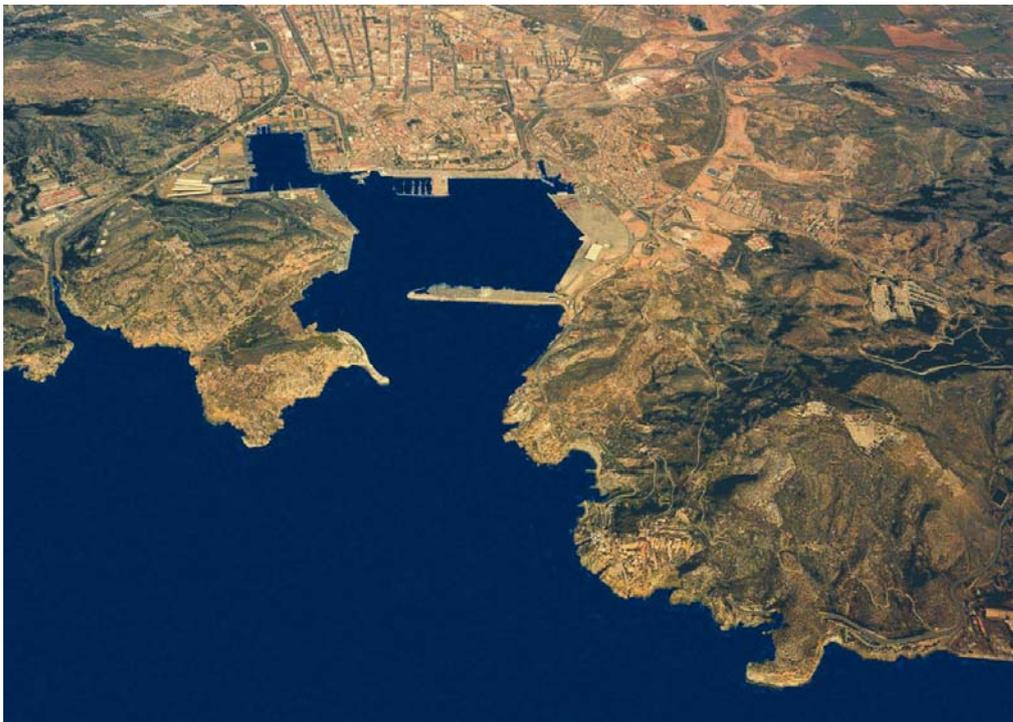
Horizontal

- 3. Component of ancient armor that protected the head and face.
- 6. Steel sword of Iberian origin.
- 7. Place that housed cannons.
- 8. Place for water storage.

3. Mark the correct answer with an "x":

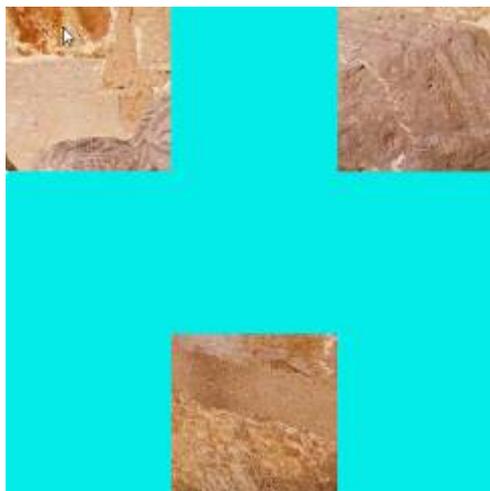
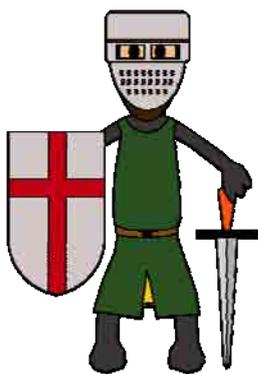
- ▲ On what hill was Hasdrubal Palace located?
 - Concepción
 - Molinete
 - San José
- ▲ What was the name of the construction system used to build the Punic Wall?
 - Ribbed vaults
 - Opus quadratum
 - Decorated keystones
- ▲ What was the name of the Naval Order created by Alfonso X in Cartagena?
 - Santiago
 - Del Temple
 - Santa María
- ▲ By what name is Concepcion Castle popularly known?
 - The Castle of Alfonso X
 - Castle of the ducks
 - Keep Castle
- ▲ What type of vault covers Christmas Fort?
 - Ribbed vaults
 - Proof vaults
 - Cannon vaults
- ▲ How many pieces of artillery were there at Christmas Fort?
 - 19
 - 17
 - 11

4. Locate and write on the map the following: Mediterranean Sea, city of Cartagena, port, estuary and Christmas Fort.



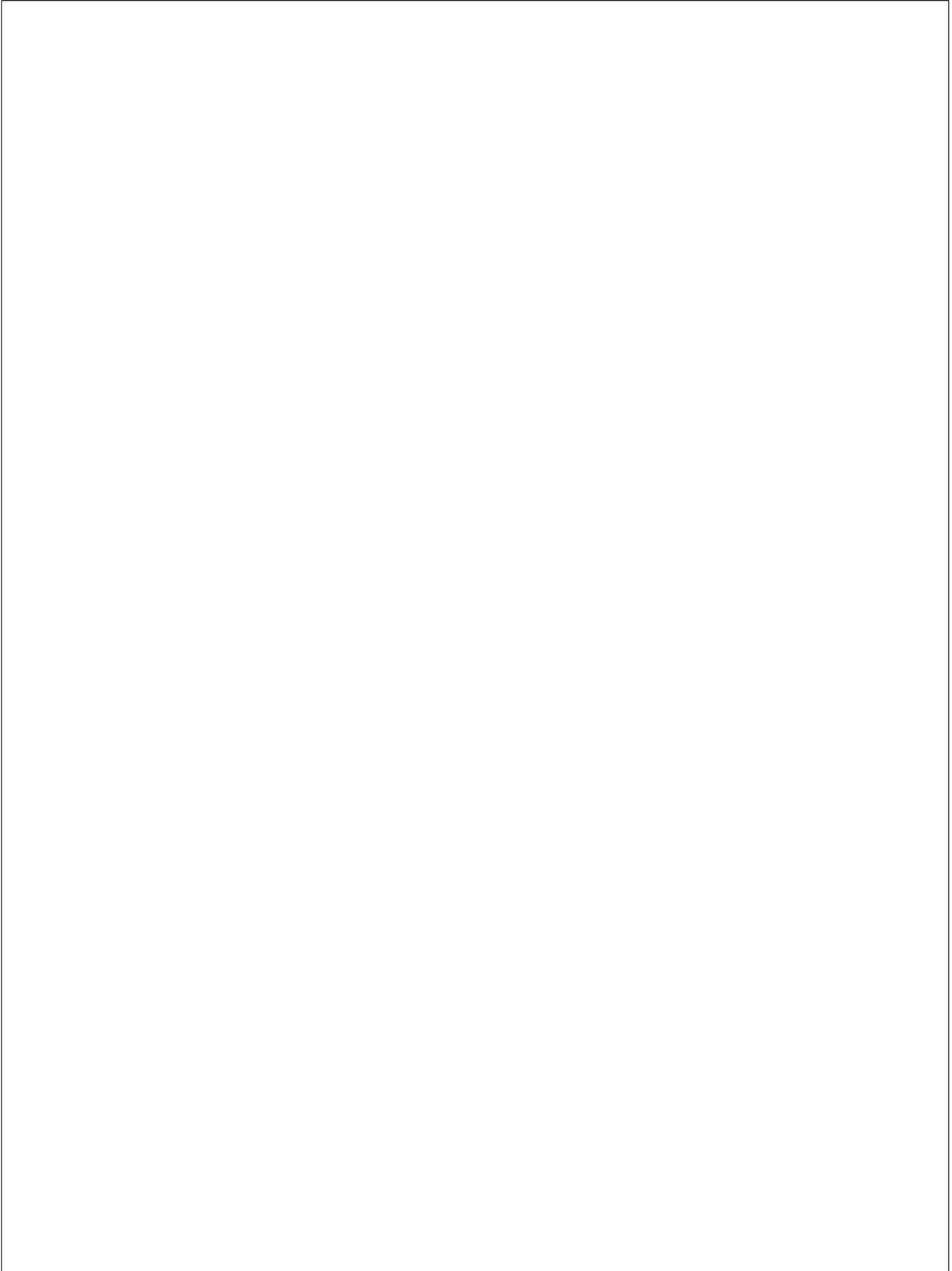
5. Identify the image hidden behind the colored boxes below and write its name. Then match each soldier to the image that corresponds to his era.







6. Draw a cartoon that represents "a day in the life of a soldier in Cartagena" in your favorite era, such as Punic, Medieval or Artillery.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a student to draw a cartoon. The box occupies most of the page below the instruction.

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