

MEDIEVAL DEFENSE WALLS FORTIFICATIONS MÉDIÉVALES



The construction of defense walls started under the reign of Philippe Auguste and was completed circa 1285-1288. The layout of the medieval precincts had to be altered to include the area of Saint-Vincent, which reduced its defensive power. Eight reinforcing rams were added during the 16th century to reinforce the walls; the one at *Porte de Meaux* is the only one visible of the eight today. We can still see the platforms that connected the rams: *remparts de l'escalade, de Saint-Vincent, de Bellevue, passage des Carmes* as well as the Montauban.

Numerous towers staked out this defense line; the only remnant is the tower 'du Jeu d'Arc' (bow game), located between the Montauban and the *Rempart des Otages*. Wide and deep moats encircled the fortifications. The river Nonette, Southwards, was deviated and harnessed to create a water line at the bottom of the ramparts. The medieval precincts resisted numerous sieges, namely during the Hundred Years' war, in 1918 and at the troubled time of the League.