

## Remaining City Wall and a City Gate

Bangkok was originally moated and walled with forts at intervals along it. The moat was formed by a canal dug at a distance of about two kilometers from the Royal Palace, leaving the river to the north of the city and rejoining it to the south. It is 7.2 kilometers long, and it is today called Klong Bang Lamphu and Khlong Ong Ang. Strong and solid walls were constructed along the inner side of this canal, being 3.6 meters high and 2.7 meters thick.

The city wall was built in the First reign. It spread over inner and outer of Rattanakosin Island. The city wall was constructed with 16 city gates, 47 small gates or in Thai calls "Chong Kud gate" and 14 forts at intervals along it. The city wall seen today locates in three places that exist in the city. First of all, the city wall that was constructed along the Grand Palace and Wat Phra Kaew.



**Walled with forts were constructed along the Grand Palace and Wat Phra Kaew**

Second, the city wall that was walled with Mahakan fort was constructed along Klong Ong Ang.



**View Mahakan Fort at Ratchadamneun Klang**

Finally, the city wall that opposite Bovonnivet Vihan Temple. This wall was constructed with the city gate that is only one gate remain (out of sixteen gates).



**The Ancient City Wall and City Gate**

The city gate that exists in the city when it was built in the First reign did not look like the restored one but it used to be the name of timber with red color paint. The present gate was resorted after the gate that was built in the fifth reign (1868-1910)

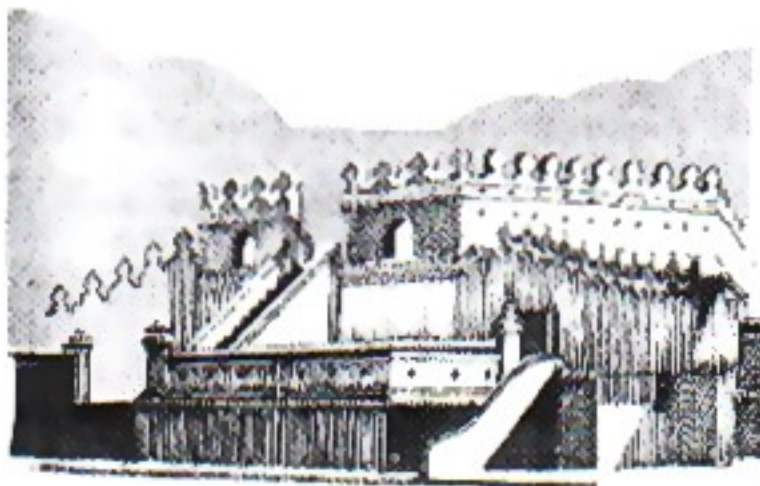
The forts that were constructed at intervals with the city wall have 14 forts. There were Phra Sumain, Yukornton, Mahaprab, Mahakan, Mootaluog, Seurtayan, Mahachai, charkphet, Phisua, Mahaluok, Mahayak, Phrachun, Phra-Ar-thit, and Isintorn. Nowadays, they still remain two forts. They are Mahakan Fort and Phra Sumain Fort or now it was named Suntichaipakran Fort (December 5, 1999). Suntichaipakran Fort was restored by Fine Arts Department in 1981.



**View Suntichaipakran Fort from the Chao Phraya River**



**View Suntichaipakran Fort from Phra Arthit Road**



**View of other broken forts**