

Busche Wall



Canadian Wall



The History of Walls

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Some Examples



Theodosian, Istanbul



Machu Picchu, Peru



Puerto de la Macarena, Spain



The Great Wall of China

Key Concepts

- Walls are for usually either keeping people out or keeping people in
- Walls are generally built with very heavy and bulky materials
- Walls cause separations of either rich and poor, neighbor and invader, bad and good, and believer and non-believer
- Walls have never been 100 percent effective in accomplishing their goal
- Walls sometimes separated a leader from those they lead
- Finally, no wall has ever been put in place that has not been breached
- Now most are being built to curb immigration

When Were the First Walls Built

1. During the 21st century B.C., the ancient Sumerian rulers Shulgi and Shu-Sin constructed a massive fortified barrier to keep out the Amorites, a group of nomadic tribesmen who had been making incursions into Mesopotamia
2. The first walls were city walls and they originated with the very first cities, like Jericho, the city of the Bible, which was first constructed sometime in the tenth millennium B.C., as many as 12,000 years ago
3. Ancient Walls of Mesopotamia. The oldest walls found still in existence so far are those of the temple of Gobekli Tepe in Urfa, southeast Turkey which date to 11,500 years ago
4. The Romans built massive walls to defend their cities and sometimes their military camps. The method with which these walls were built changed as construction methods evolved. Initially walls were built using tightly-fitting massive irregular stone blocks similar to the walls built by the Myceneans
5. In all cases, defense against invaders was the reason for the walls

Walls of Jericho



Let Us Look at Some Detail



Great Wall of China

- The history of the Great Wall of China began when fortifications built by various states between 771 and 476 BC and warring states between 476 and 221 BC and were connected by the first emperor of China
- Number 2 Qin Shi Huang to protect his newly founded Dynasty that lasted from 221 BC to 206 BC
- They were built of rammed earth, using forced labor and by 212 BC ran from the coast to Southern Manchuria.
- The Great Wall is really The Great Walls built by the dynasties of Qi defending the south, Yan to defend against Qi, Zhao to defend against nomadic cavalry, Qin to defend against nomads that were further north.
- Many others followed later and built small sections and repaired the wall where necessary.

Great Wall of China Segments



Purpose of the Great Wall or Great Walls of China

- To keep invaders out
- Unfortunately, the walls that had ends on each side enabled the invaders to ride around the walls and let them capture land and people by not trying to breach the walls but bypass the walls.
- We could go on and on but this is an example of one way to outsmart a wall.

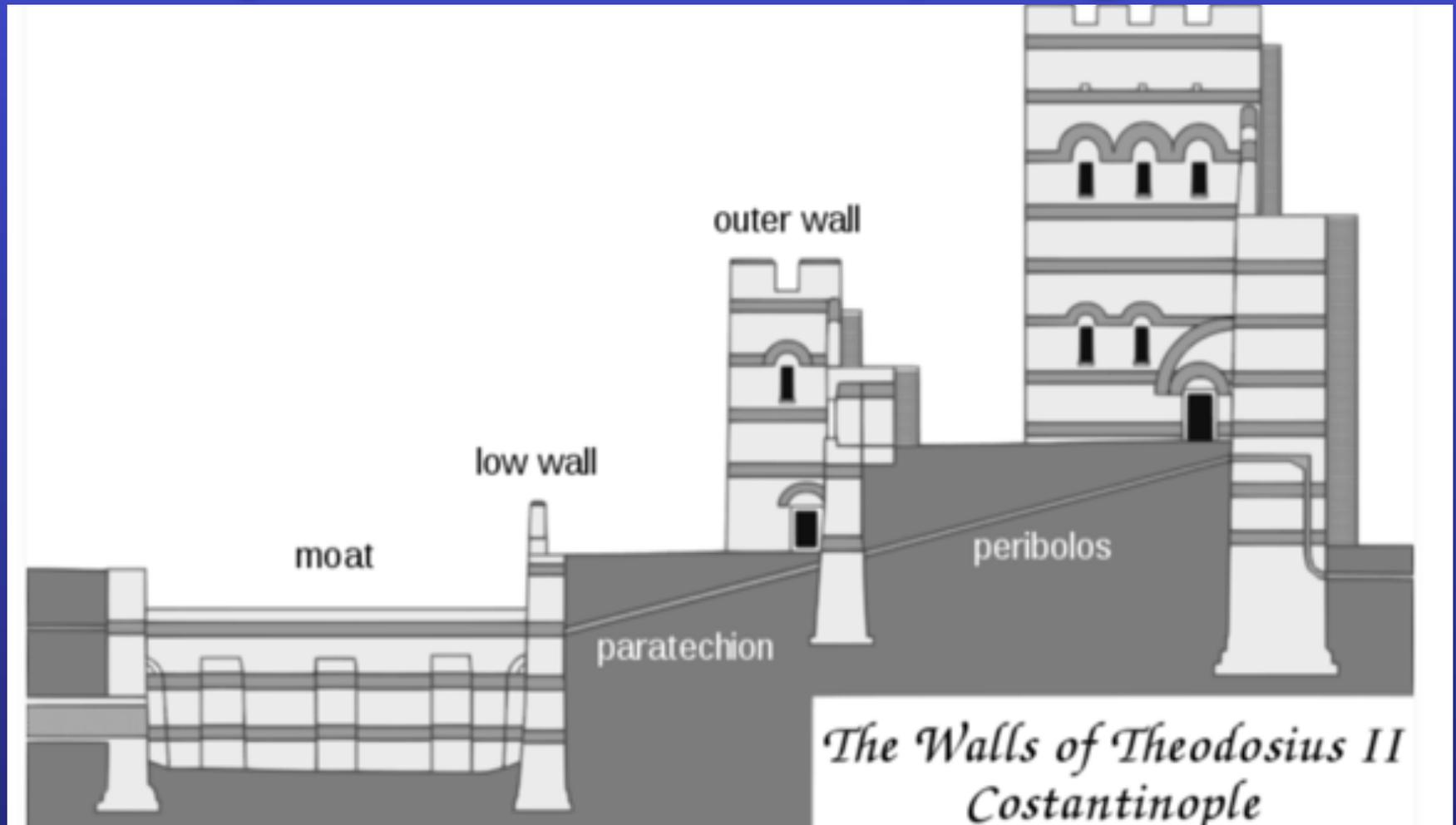
Some More History



Theodosian Walls

1. Attackers first faced a 20-metre wide and 7-metre deep ditch which could be flooded with water fed from pipes when required
2. Walls were completed in 413 AD and were used to protect Constantinople
3. Made the city impregnable to enemy sieges for 800 years
4. Even though the city is named after Constantine the First it is Emperor Theodosius the Second who is most associated with the city walls

This Drawing Shows Why They Were So Impregnable



This Video Gives Some History



Wall around Seville



Puerta de la Macarena (Seville)

- The Walls of Seville were built in the time of Julius Caesar to replace a stockade that existed and then was expanded by Augustus
- The Puerta de la Macarena was built to honor Macrea, daughter of Hercules
- The walls and the city have lasted to the present day and is famous still today and is celebrated by crowds during Holy Week in Seville
- This wall is primarily known because of its beautiful gate

The Music and the Beauty

The image shows a YouTube video player interface. At the top left, there is a yellow circular logo with a camera icon and the text "SEVILLA FLASH". To its right, the video title "Puerta de la Macarena" is displayed. On the top right, there are two icons: a clock icon labeled "Watch later" and a share icon labeled "Share". The main area of the player is black with the title "Puerta de la Macarena" in white text. Below the title, there is a smaller version of the "SEVILLA FLASH" logo. At the bottom left, there is a "Pause (k)" button. The bottom bar contains a play/pause icon, a volume icon, a progress bar showing "0:00 / 1:05", a settings gear icon with "HD" next to it, the "YouTube" logo, a comment icon, and a full screen icon.

SEVILLA FLASH

Puerta de la Macarena

Watch later Share

Puerta de la Macarena

SEVILLA FLASH

Pause (k)

0:00 / 1:05

YouTube

Machu Picchu

- Most Archaeologists believe that Machu Picchu was constructed as an estate for the Inca emperors Pachacutec who served in the middle of the 1400s and Tupac Inca Yupanqui who led them in the last quarter of the 1400s. This estate is often referred to as the lost city of the Incas.
- The Incas built the estate around 1450 but abandoned it a century later due to the Spanish Invasion. It was built in the classical Inca style with polished dry stone walls.
- It was not brought to the attention of the world until 1911. Incas built the estate in 1450 but abandoned it later because of the Spanish Conquest.
- It was not invasion that caused the demise of the Incas but probably smallpox. Walls in this case kept no-one out nor kept no-one in.

Here Is What It Looks like



Here is some History



Alcatraz, California USA



Alcatraz Purpose and History

- Located in San Francisco Bay about 1.25 miles offshore and was originally developed with facilities for a lighthouse, military fortification and prison and finally became a federal prison.
- It was first discovered by the Spaniards in 1775 and they called it the Island of the Pelicans.
- Earliest recorded owner was Julian Workman who was given the island by the Mexican governor in 1846.
- In 1850, John Fremont bought the island for 5 thousand dollars in the name of the US government.
- Legal battles continued until the 1890s and Fremont never got a cent.
- Military wanted to post military batteries to protect approaches to San Francisco Bay
- Studies in 2018 using ground penetrating radar and laser scans found the remains of ammunition magazines and tunnels below the penitentiary that was built later.

Military and Federal Prison History

- In 1859, because of the isolation by cold, strong, and large currents of the waters in San Francisco Bay this was a perfect place to house civil war prisoners and POWs.
- The purpose changed forever from coastal defense to a prison.
- In 1898, the population increased from about 26 to over 450 prisoners.
- In 1934 it was turned into a federal prison and the first prisoners arrived in October by traveling initially by railroad from Leavenworth KS and were 137 in number.
- During the 29 years in use, the jail held some of the most notorious criminals in American History.
- During its 29 year history 36 prisoners made attempts but all died from drowning, six were shot and 5 are listed as missing and presumed drowned
- Notice I said “presumed” not confirmed. Did the wall work, maybe but also maybe not.

A Little Story About the Island



The Berlin Wall

- In an effort to stem the tide of refugees attempting to leave East Berlin in 2009, the communist government of East Germany begins building the **Berlin Wall** to divide East and West **Berlin**. Construction of the wall caused a short-term crisis in U.S.-Soviet bloc relations, and the wall itself came to symbolize the Cold War.
- By 1961, Cold War tensions over **Berlin** were running high again. For East Germans dissatisfied with life under the communist system, West **Berlin** was a gateway to the democratic West. Between 1949 and 1961, some 2.5 million East Germans fled from East to West Germany, most via West **Berlin**.
- In 1989 a series of revolutions in nearby Eastern Bloc countries—Poland and Hungary in particular—caused a chain reaction in East Germany that ultimately resulted in the demise of the **Wall**. ... The "fall of the **Berlin Wall**" paved the way for German reunification, which formally took place on 3 October 1990.
- In the West, the **Berlin Wall** was regarded as a major symbol of communist oppression. About 5,000 East Germans managed to escape across the **Berlin Wall** to the West, but the frequency of successful escapes dwindled as the wall was increasingly fortified. ... In 1990, East and West Germany were formally reunited.

How it All Started



Walls Against Immigration

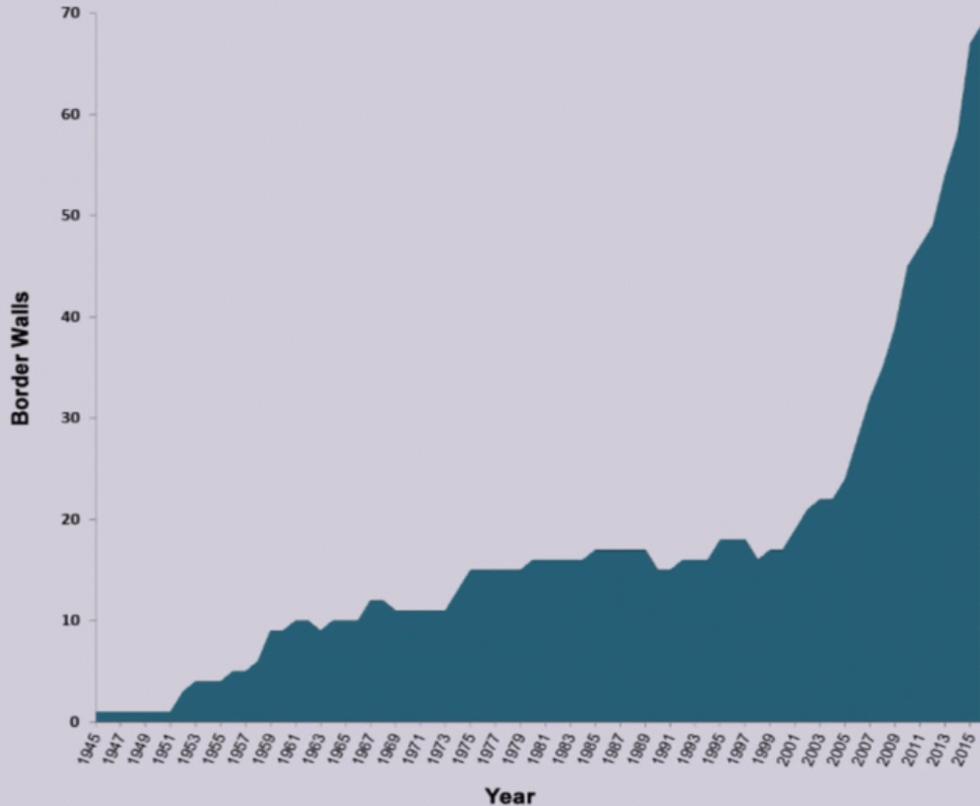
- It *is* an ancient idea. People have been building walls since the tenth millennium B.C.
- As for immigrants, oddly enough Rome was very open to immigration. In fact, it was an issue in Rome going back to the first century B.C., when people were arguing, “Do we have too many immigrants moving into this city?”
- It remained an issue for hundreds of years but Rome remained a city of immigrants. At the same time, Rome was building walls for a very different, military purpose. They were worried about invasion, which is in a way a different kind of immigration, an immigration of armed masses coming across the border.
- I would make the case that there would be no writing and nothing as complex as gunpowder without first the construction of walls. The ancient human need for security is one of the fundamentals of life and has to be achieved before we can achieve other things.
- Chinese peasants were encouraged to dismantle the wall to use the stones for a more productive purpose after it was built and stood there for a while.

Walls and Immigration

- In 2015, borders and walls seemed to burst onto the global agenda in the context of migration and halting spontaneous movement. Countries as diverse as Austria, Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Kenya, Saudi Arabia, and Tunisia announced or began work on new border barriers. This trend has continued at a high pace in 2016, with Bulgaria, Hungary, and Austria expanding their fences, Norway building a fence on its Russian border, the United Kingdom funding a wall in Calais, France, and Pakistan building a fence on its border with Afghanistan.
- The surge in interest in border walls and fences is not simply a media creation but rather represents a very recent historical trend, arising in response to the growth in spontaneous international migration.
- In the 21st century, the purpose of borders has changed, leading to a surge in construction of border barriers.
- By the middle of the 20th century, most countries had stabilized their borders and generally did not expect a territorial invasion by a neighboring army.
- Instead, borders became the invisible lines that marked different economic, political, and cultural systems, embodied in the nation-state and it means that the concentration world wide is limiting immigration.

The Change in Purpose is Obvious

Figure 1. Number of Border Walls Globally, 1945-2015



Source: Update by Élisabeth Vallet, Zoé Barry, and Josselyn Guillarmou of statistics included in Élisabeth Vallet, ed., *Borders, Fences and Walls: State of Insecurity?* (Farnham, UK: Ashgate Publishing, 2014).

I Guess We Are Bound To Be Like Others

- If walls did not work in the past and today only work to divert, not prevent, migrant flows—while simultaneously having a grave human cost—why have so many gone up in the past 30 years? They are effective as symbols that demonstrate that politicians are doing something to address the perceived threats brought by unauthorized movement.

It Appears That All Nations Are Building Them Even Us



Questions?

