



Castle of Lanhoso

Perched atop a huge rocky outcrop, the Castle of Lanhoso dates back to the late 10th century or early 11th century. Its initial structure was comprised of two spaces: An enclosure surrounded by a peripheral wall, which ran along the edges of the outcrop, with an entrance door to the east; and a walled alcazaba (stronghold) with three equidistant turrets, erected on the south face.

This structure was rebuilt by Bishop Pedro of Braga, as documented in the inscription engraved on one of the Castle's stories. The reform conducted by the prelate of Braga respected the plan of the original edification. It was here that, in 1120-1121, Teresa, Countess of Portucale, took refuge, fleeing the armies of Urraca and Diego Gelmires, Bishop of Compostela.

Later on, under King Denis, the three towers were demolished and the keep was erected. Abandoned since the 15th century, its ruins were accelerated with the construction of the Shrine of Our Lady of Pilar, in 1680.

It underwent a thorough restoration by the Directorate-General for National Buildings and Monuments from 1938 to 1940. During the works to build the access road to the Castle, remains were found of an important romanised castrum settlement, whose occupation dates back to Suevian times.