

Qaitbay Citadel, a crucial fort on the Mediterranean coast, was constructed by Mamluk sultan Qaitbay between 1477 and 1479 AD on the ruins of Alexandria's Lighthouse. It served as Alexandria's primary defense against naval attacks. The citadel, built with limestone, covers an area of 17,550 square meters and is surrounded by an outer wall with defensive towers. An inner wall encloses the courtyard, containing various rooms used as barracks and storage. The citadel's entrance leads to the courtyard, where the main tower is located in the northwest. This massive, three-story square fort has half-circular towers at each corner with protruding balconies for defense. A nearby tank provided water for soldiers and horses. The citadel's strategic location has attracted attention from rulers throughout history. The building underwent expansion and conservation efforts in 2003.