



THE TOWER OF MANGANA

The earliest pieces of information about the tower come through the painter Antón Wyngaerde, who left his drawings in 1565.

In 1532, the artist Esteban Limosín fitted an iron cross and a weather vane on the top of a small cupola.

The architect Juan Andrea Rodi, at the end of sixteenth century, did some work on the old tower. The tower remained the same, though.

Lightning struck the tower at the very end of the eighteenth century. This fact, together with the attack of the city by the French troops, made the architect Mateo López carry out repairing work on it.

In the second half of the nineteenth century, they decided to change the ornamental top, which was in bad condition even though previous restorations had been done.



In 1926, the shape of the tower would remarkably change with the neomudéjar alteration carried out by the architect Fernando Alcántara. He removed the cupola, adding a bellfry.



The walls were covered with a rich and colourful decoration inspired in Arabian motifs, mainly North African ones.

But this picturesque neomudéjar tower would change yet again into a new design.

Mangana suffered this new redesigning in 1970. The aim was to distinguish the tower, being considered one of the most emblematic symbols of the city of Cuenca.

In the year 1968, Víctor Caballero's project meant to make the tower a fortress in a military style, never considered when it was built as a part of the old city wall. Caballero's main purpose was to strengthen the tower.



Nowadays, it is the clock of the city that constantly reminds us, with its monotonous bells, of how quickly time goes by. In the same square, we find the monument to the Constitution by Jorge Torner.