**Palace Walls and Gates**

*Built in the architectural style characteristic of King Narai’s period.*

Phra Narai Rajanivet has a rectangular plan and covers an area of approximately 42 rais (about 17 acres). It was built facing the town with its rear adjacent to the Lop Buri River. The wall of the palace was made of brick and mortar with battlements along the ridge. It stands five meters high from the ground to the top of the battlements. That is as tall as the wall of Ayutthaya. Seven turretsare located at the corners and in the middles of the wall to protect the palace.

The palace consists of outer, central, and inner courts, separated from each other by high walls with battlements similar to the palace wall. There are 11 gates, including the main entrance and court gates. They were built in the architectural style characteristic of the period, with large pointed arch doors and four-gabled roofs. The gables were decorated with plaster stucco in a triangular Krachang pattern developed from the lotus shape.

On the arch doors and walls, especially those of the central and inner courts, there are rows of approximately 2000 small pointed arch niches for placing oil lamps that illuminated the palace at night. According to French records, onimportant days such as New Year’s Day, lanterns were placed along walkways and hung on trees in the palace at night in addition to oil lamps in the wall niches.

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