

- In the centre of the garden there was a fountain, because water is the origin of everything and symbol of plurality. Said fountain was presided by Triton, the mythical god of the sea, capable of raging or calming the waters, which was represented life-size and around him were four pyramids with water flowing out of the top.

- In the same area, were four other statues. Number four is symbolic and principle of spatial planning: Diana and Apollo, twin siblings and symbols respectively of moonlight and sunlight and the statues of Baco, representing the gifts of the Earth, and Pluto, who as King of the Underworld is accompanied by two dogs, work of Konrad Rudolf, author of the baroque doorway of the València Cathedral, in reference to the cerberus that guarded the terrible Tartar, and is a representation of the other world, of the beyond.

Due to Pontons being a supporter of King Felipe V in the War of Succession, the estate was confiscated by the followers of the archduke Carlos and in fact was his residence (as King Charles III) during his stay in the capital in 1706 and 1707.

This led to the construction of a Throne Room there with portraits of all the Hispanic monarchs of the house of Austria, as well as Jaime I and Fernando el Católico, and other noble supporters of the cause.

After the war ended with the victory of Felipe V, Pontons, who died in exile and did not return to València, willed the house and garden to the King. The monarch donated the property to the Earl of Bourk. The sales ended, after having different owners, in the heirs of an archbishop of València.

The sculptures of the Pontons Garden remained in the garden while owners changed and diverse activities took place.

At the end of the XVIII century the dogs created by Konrad Rudolf, were no longer there, and the statues of Flora, Ceres and Baco, disappeared.

The six remaining sculptures, Triton, Neptune, Venus, Apollo, Diana and Pluto, stayed in the property until 1818, when Captain General Elío, president of the Royal Board of Police, bought them from the owner.

Five Major Guilds of Madrid, for them to be located in the Santo Domingo Promenade, now the Glorieta. The sculptures then acquired the status of public works, a status they still have today.

This way, the sculptures became ornaments in La Glorieta (where the Fountain of Triton is nowadays), el Parterre (where the Neptune sculpture is) and the Jardines del Real (where Venus, Diana, Pluto and Apollo were until 2014 when they were moved to the Museum of the City and restored after suffering multiple acts of vandalism).

In the mid XIX century the house, which had been used as a military hospital during the War of Independence, was in a state of decline. It would come to an end in the 1930s, in ruins; the site housed a bullfighting school until the whole area was redeveloped in the mid XX century.

Nevertheless, the memory of the farmhouse and the garden of Pontons endured in the collective imagination of Patraix (as used in the popular saying “Jesus, Patraix, the Garden of Pontons and the Baix road”, in referral to the locations crossed by the railway from València to Utiel; It was customary to use it as a mocking retort when someone sneezed and someone else politely replied "Jesus"-bless you-).

After years of demands, the City Council produced in 2018 four replicas of the sculptures of Venus, Diana, Apollo y Pluto, and placed them in the garden located between Chiva Street and Tres Forques Street, which takes up part of the site of the old Garden of Pontons. The garden was officially named “Garden of Pontons” in 2021.

General information

Address: Park between the streets Tres Forques, Mariano Ribera and Chiva.

Accessibility

Access: Multiple entrances through Tres Forques, Chiva and Mariano Ribera street without steps.

Parking: Parking space reserved for persons with reduced mobility in calle Chiva, 4