

Gascones es un pueblo pequeño, serrano, de profundas raíces agropecuarias. Su población apenas supera los 190 habitantes. Cuando nos adentramos en el casco urbano tenemos la sensación que el tiempo se ha detenido. Sus edificaciones conservan la tradición de la zona, de piedra y teja árabe. Pero esto se debe a un esfuerzo común de reconstrucción basado en el respeto por la tradición. En la última Guerra Civil el pueblo fue completamente arrasado a excepción de una casona que aún se conserva.

Paseando por sus calles podemos observar como se intercalan los edificios residenciales con otros tradicionales de carácter agropecuario que incorporan pequeños huertos en sus parcelas. También podremos descubrir la rehabilitación de dos elementos etnográficos: el potro de herrar, muy frecuente en todos los pueblos serranos y una singular noria de cangilones o "noría de sangre" utilizada para la extracción de agua subterránea mediante la fuerza animal.



1 Iglesia de Santo Tomás Apóstol

Es una iglesia parroquial de grandes dimensiones y líneas geométricas muy limpias. Su construcción es del s. XVII y la restauración, tras su parcial destrucción durante la Guerra Civil, de los años sesenta. La torre del campanario se restaura con posterioridad, a principios de los años 90.

Esta construida en piedra de mampostería con refuerzos de sillares en las esquinas del edificio y teja árabe en las cubiertas. Su planta es de cruz latina, con una sola nave a la que se accede desde un lateral de la llamada Plaza de la Iglesia. Este acceso está protegido por un tejadillo que hace las funciones de atrio cerrado en los laterales por uno de los brazos de la cruz y la antigua casa del cura. A los pies de la nave central sobresale el volumen de la espadaña culminada en una estructura rectangular rematada en un campanario.



Church of St. Thomas the Apostle

It is a parish church of large dimensions and very clean geometric lines. It was built in the 17th century and restored after partial destruction during the Civil War in the 1960s. The bell tower was later restored in the early 1990s.

It is built in masonry stone with ashlar reinforcements in the corners of the building and Arabic roof tiles. It has a Latin cross floor plan, with a single nave that can be accessed from one side of the so-called Plaza de la Iglesia. This access is protected by a small roof that acts as a closed atrium on the sides by one of the arms of the cross and the old house of the priest. At the foot of the central nave, the volume of the belfry stands out, culminating in a rectangular structure crowned by a bell tower.

It is a very basic infrastructure made up of 6 vertical posts, usually made of granite or gneiss stone, from which hung a system of straps whose function, is to immobilize the animals while they were shoeing or fixing their hoofs and hooves.

These wells are based on a system of gears that move a conveyor belt to which the buckets that collect the water are attached to raise it to the surface. It is a mechanical system that needs animal power to function. Normally a donkey was used, to whose harness a pole connected to the gear system of the waterwheel was attached. The animal began to revolve around it, putting the mechanism into operation.

The walls are made of adobe reinforced with masonry. At the corners the structure is reinforced by some ashlar. On its western facade you can see an old annex shed that has collapsed. This allows a better view of the building materials of the original building, since in this area of the wall lime or stucco was used to embellish the facade.

These constructions made of concrete and reinforced concrete, had as their mission the protection of strategic enclaves to defend the advance of the opposing army. Its dome structure with small windows open at different angles allowed its occupants to fire at the enemy from a protected position.

Architectural heritage

Gascones is a small, mountain village with deep agricultural roots. Its population barely exceeds 100 inhabitants. When we enter the village we have the feeling that time has stood still. Its buildings preserve the tradition of the stone and Arabic tile area. But this is due to a common reconstruction effort based on respect for tradition. In the last Civil War the village was completely razed to the ground with the exception of a large house that is still preserved.

Walking along its streets we can see how the residential buildings are interspersed with other traditional agricultural buildings that incorporate small orchards in their plots. We can also discover the rehabilitation of two ethnographic elements: the horseshoeing colt, very common in all mountain villages and a unique bucket wheel or "wheel of blood" used for the extraction of groundwater by animal force.



2 Potro de Herrar

Los potros de herrar son la herencia de las tradiciones de la vida diaria de los pueblos de la Sierra de Madrid. Estas construcciones responden a la necesidad que había de herrar y curar a las bestias de carga que se utilizaban para los trabajos diarios en el campo. No hemos de olvidar que Gascones está atravesado por la cañadas y cordeles que servían de vía de paso a los diferentes rebaños en busca de los pastos frescos según la estación del año.

Es una infraestructura muy básica que se compone de 6 postes verticales normalmente de piedra de granito o gneis de donde colgaban un sistema de cinchas cuya función es immobilizar a los animales mientras se herran o arreglan sus cascos y pezuñas.



Horseshoeing Frame

The Horseshoeing Frame are the heritage of the traditions of daily life of the people of the Sierra de Madrid. These constructions respond to the need to shoe and heal the beasts of burden that were used for the daily work in the field. We must not forget that Gascones is crossed by different roads that served as a passage for the different herds in search of fresh pastures according to the season of the year.

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Gascones



Introducción

* Gascones se funda en la Comunidad de Villa y Tierra de Buitrago, siendo poblado de ganaderos de esta villa que se asentaron en el lugar con ocasión de apacientar a su ganado.

* Dentro de la Tierra de Buitrago, Gascones pertenece al cuarto de los Aledaños, junto a Gandillas, Cincovillas y los actualmente desaparecidos Palomar y La Cabezada. En 1368, Buitrago y toda su Tierra es dada en Señorío a Pedro González de Mendoza, predecesor de los duques del Infantado, bajo cuya tutela estará Gascones hasta mediados del s. XIX en la que desaparecen los señoríos municipales de España.

* Hasta el s. XVIII compartían, lo que hoy es el término municipal de Gascones los actuales de La Cabezada, Palomares y el dicho Gascones.

* El nombre de Gascones debe su origen a la fundación del municipio por personas del otro lado de los Pirineos. "Gascon" es sinónimo de francés y natural de Gascuña. En la Edad Media se conocía como gascones a aquellos extranjeros de más allá de los Pirineos.

Introduction

* Gascones was founded in the Community of Villa y Tierra de Buitrago, being populated by cattle ranchers of this town who settled in the place on the occasion of grazing their cattle.

* Within the Land of Buitrago, Gascones belonged to the fourth of the Aledaños, along with Gandillas, Cincovillas and the currently disappeared Palomar and La Cabezada. In 1368, Buitrago and all its land was given in Señorío to Pedro González de Mendoza, predecessor of the Dukes of the Infantado, under whose tutelage Gascones would be under until the middle of the 19th century, when the municipal lordships of Spain disappeared.

* Until the 18th century, what is now the municipal district of Gascones was shared by the present ones of La Cabezada, Palomares and the said Gascones.

* The name Gascones owes its origin to the foundation of the municipality by people from the other side of the Pyrenees. "Gascon" is synonymous with French and native of Gascony. In the Middle Ages, foreigners from beyond the Pyrenees were known as Gascons.

4 Antigua Casona Tradicional

En el extremo norte del casco urbano aún se conserva en pie la única casa que sobrevivió a la Guerra. Es una estructura muy sencilla en forma de rectángulo y cubierta a cuatro aguas de teja árabe.

Los muros son de adobe reforzado con mampostería. En las esquinas la estructura está reforzada por algunos sillares. En su fachada oeste se puede ver un antiguo cobertizo anexo que se ha derruido. Esto permite observar mejor los materiales de construcción del edificio original ya que en esta zona del paramento se utilizó cal o estuco para embellecer la fachada.



Old Traditional House

At the northern end of the town centre, the only house that survived the war is still standing. It is a very simple structure in the shape of a rectangle with a four-sided roof of Arabic tile.

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