

*Analysis of summer residences as bourgeois and aristocratic  
architectural typologies in the province of Pontevedra (Galicia, Spain)  
1830-1936.*

This project aims to carry out an analysis of the bourgeois and aristocratic summer residences located in the province of Pontevedra (Galicia, Spain) from the point of view of the architectural typologies of country houses, villas, chalets, palaces, manor houses of the Modern Era and other types of constructions that have been built or modified between 1830 and 1936.

The established chronological framework responds to the beginning of the displacements of bourgeois and aristocratic families, known as the first bathers. In summer, they moved from their places of origin, in search of springs of mineral-medicinal waters for therapeutic purposes. These early shifts were fundamentally linked to the hygienist tendencies that had emerged at the beginning of the nineteenth century. However, scientific and medical advances and recent social trends related to leisure contributed to the loss of relevance of these treatments, turning spas such as A Toxa (O Grove) and Mondariz into centres of rest and enjoyment, with the incorporation of modern services and activities.

This new idle trend, marked by a clear seasonality, led to a greater number of displacements towards the coastal areas of the Rías Baixas from the 1860s onwards. This incipient tourism, based on heliotherapy and thalassotherapy, due to the stability of the chemical components of seawater, had already begun in England in 1830. Those now minted as holidaymakers began to see the need to build or modify their summer residences near the sandy beaches of the semi-rural areas near the cities of the province of Pontevedra, such as Vigo, Pontevedra or Vilagarcía de Arousa.

Afterwards, the families realize that they need to build or modify their summer residences in the coastal areas in the provinces of Pontevedra, such as Vigo, Pontevedra, and Vilagarcía de Arousa that has long sandy beaches. The social category and economic relevance of these families was significant when selecting the typology and architectural style of their residences, which generally respond to three major trends: the Second

Empire that originated in France, the country houses in England, and lastly, picturesque architectures that is similar to the alpine models. These three major trends were unrelated to traditional Galician buildings, but they have one common feature and that is eclecticism. Eclecticism is widespread in Galicia in the 19<sup>th</sup> century at the hands of architects and master builders such as Michel Pacewicz, Jenaro de la Fuente or José Franco Montes, among others.

Renovated according to the trend of the Second French Empire is the palace of Lourizán (Marín), owned by Eugenio Montero Ríos that was a former President in 1905 and Minister of Justice on several occasions. He bought the building in 1879 and made important exterior renovations in year 1909, which is the existing appearance of the building today. Master builder Jenaro de la Fuente oversaw this project. He modified the primitive manor house and transforms it into a palace with imposing eclectic characteristics. Another example of the Second French Empire trend is the country house that was also designed by Jenaro de la Fuente for Augusto González Besada (Poio), it is in front of the Lourizán Palace and has its similar characteristics and elements. Although, it was constructed differently when it comes to the body of the building, the access stairs share identical features which has the characteristic of the master builder's way of doing things.

On the other hand, one of the examples of an English trend is the palace of Castrelos or Quiñones de León (Vigo), it was built in the 17<sup>th</sup> century as a tower-house and was modified and converted in a palace in 1834, first date when was used as the summer residence for the marquises of Valladares. The most important exterior renovation was carried out in the 1870s by the VI Marquis of Valladares, who built the left tower and fortified the wall of the estate, including battlements, towers and sentry boxes, giving the building a marked historicist appearance. Its interior was modified at the beginning of the 20th century by the 8th Marquis of Valladares, who had worked at the Spanish embassy in London, where he met his wife, Maryanne Whyte. The couple commissioned the renovation to the Anglo-Irish architect Page Lawrence Dickinson, who moved away from the Galician decorative trends of the manors to approach the model of the English country house, with an open hall formed by three large arches that allows you to observe the monumental wooden staircase leading to the upper floor. The fortress of Monterreal (Baiona), owned by the politician José Elduayen Gorriti, who built a Tudor-style palace

on the ruins of the old fortress and monastery of the town, responds to the same characteristics.

Among the typologies of villas, chalets or houses of “indianos” it is possible to find diverse models that respond to eclectic trends such as the villa of Villa Echegaray (Marín), or to picturesque models such as Villa Pilar (Vigo), a small villa that belonged to the disappeared garden city of the city, the work of the architect José Franco Montes, who looked for Central European models. inspired by alpine chalets and gabled roofs, for the second home of the Indian Camilo Teijeiro.

Finally, the inclusion of "other types of constructions" is due to the existence of a summer residence that does not fit into any of the categories presented above, since it was formed inside the Monastery of Santa María de Oia (Oia) in 1870 by Bernardo Alonso, a resident of the town who had made his fortune in America. Although the interior layout of the house has not been preserved, as it was used as a prison for Republican prisoners during the Spanish Civil War, the access door is preserved, configured in the manner of a small chalet, respecting the original configuration of the primitive monastery.

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This line of research aims to carry out an analysis of the bourgeois and aristocratic summer residences located in the province of Pontevedra (Galicia, Spain) from the point of view of the architectural typologies of country houses, villas, chalets, palaces, manors of the Modern Era and other types of constructions that have been built or modified between 1830 and 1936.

The established chronological framework and the selected study region respond to the beginning of the displacements of well-to-do families in search of mineral-medicinal water springs. Due to scientific changes and the new social conception of leisure, large spas such as A Toxa (O Grove) and Mondariz will become centres of pleasure and enjoyment with a marked seasonality. For these reasons, around 1860, they also began to move towards the coastal areas of the Rías Baixas, where bourgeois and aristocratic

families saw the need to build or modify their summer residences near the sandy beaches of the semi-rural areas near the cities of the province of Pontevedra, such as Vigo, Pontevedra or Vilagarcía de Arousa.

The social category and economic relevance of these families was decisive when selecting the typology and architectural style of their residences, which generally respond to three major trends: the French influence, linked to the Second Empire, the English trend of country houses and, ultimately, picturesque architectures with novel elements far from the Galician building tradition. like alpine models. But the common feature of all of them is the marked eclectic presence that characterized this century, mainly in Galicia, at the hands of architects and master builders such as Michel Pacewicz, Jenaro de la Fuente or José Franco Montes, among others.

### **Brief curriculum**

I started PhD studies in 2021 under the PhD Program in History, Geography and Art History at the University of Santiago de Compostela. In 2022, I was the beneficiary of a non-work research grant offered by the Pontevedra Provincial Council and the FUNPROMAR and FUNDAMAR foundations. In 2022 I started a predoctoral contract in the Department of Art History of the University of Santiago de Compostela, in which I am listed as a teaching and research staff.

In relation to the academic activities, I participated in the I Predoctoral Research Conference of the Department of Art History with the proposal "Analysis of summer residences as bourgeois and aristocratic architectural typologies in the province of Pontevedra (1860-1936)" and in the organizing committee of the II edition of these. Also, I presented a paper to the IX Meeting of Young Researchers, organized by the three universities of Galicia, with the proposal "Analysis of summer residences as bourgeois and aristocratic architectural typologies in the province of Pontevedra: the palace of Lourizán". Furthermore, I participated in the VIII International Congress of Young Researchers Hispanic World: culture, art and society with the proposal "The Montero-Villegas family as artistic promoters in their summer residence in Lourizán" and in the XXIV Congress of the Spanish Committee of Art History. Landscapes. Natura Potentior

Ars: nature and sciences for a discipline of the 21st century with the proposal "The garden of the Quiñones de León palace: from private garden to park for public use".

With regard to other contracts and research transfer, I carried out, together with a team of three art historians, the historical-artistic report on the Palace of Lourizán, financed by the Ministry of Culture, Education and University Planning of the Junta de Galicia.

## **Extended curriculum**

- **Academic training**

Academic degree
Title
Center
Ending year

PhD [E5061V01] [in progress].  
PhD in History, Geography and History of Art.  
University of Santiago de Compostela.  
2024

Academic degree
Title
Center
Ending year

Master.  
Interuniversity Master in Management of Artistic and Architectural Heritage, Museums and Art Market.  
University of Santiago de Compostela and University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria.  
2021

Academic degree
Title
Center
Ending year

University degree.  
History of Art.  
University of Santiago de Compostela.  
2021

- **Scholarships**

Granting institution	Provincial council of Pontevedra, FUNPROMAR and FUNDAMAR.
Purpose of aid	Non-work research grant.
Start date	6/07/2022
End date	6/11/2022

- **Congress and seminars**

Title of the contribution	Analysis of summer residences as bourgeois and aristocratic architectural typologies in the province of Pontevedra (1860-1936).
Event title	I Predoctoral Research Conference of the Department of Art History
Organising institution	Department of History of Art of the University of Santiago de Compostela.
Venue	Faculty of Geography and History of the University of Santiago de Compostela.
Date of celebration	11/05/2022

Title of the contribution	Analysis of summer residences as bourgeois and aristocratic architectural typologies in the province of Pontevedra (1860-1936): palace of Lourizán.
Event title	IX Meeting of Young Researchers.
Organising institution	University of Coruña, University of Santiago and University of Vigo.
Venue	Faculty of Biology, University of Santiago de Compostela.
Date of celebration	11/05/2022

Title of the contribution	Llauger in feminine. Sereas stay 2022.
Event title	XVIII Informative Conference on the Role of Women in the Fishing and Canning Sector. Researcher in Feminine.
Organising institution	FUNDAMAR and FUNPROMAR.
Venue	Headquarters of Provincial Council of Pontevedra in Vigo.
Date of celebration	24/10/2022

Title of the contribution	The Montero-Villegas family as artistic promoters in their summer residence in Lourizán.
Event title	XVIII International Congress of Young Researchers Hispanic World: Culture, Art and Society.
Organising institution	University of León.
Venue	Faculty of Philosophy and Letters, University of León.
Date of celebration	03/05/2023-05/05/2023

Title of the contribution	The garden of the Quiñones de León Palace: from private garden to park for public use.
Event title	Landscapes. Natura Potentior Ars: nature and sciences for a discipline of the 21st century. XXIV Congress of the Spanish Committee for the History of Art.
Organising institution	Spanish Committee for the History of Art-Complutense University of Madrid.
Venue	Faculty of Geography and History, Complutense University.
Date of celebration	12/06/2023-17/06/2023

▪ **Contracts and research transfer**

Title of the project	Historic-artistic report on the Palace of Lourizán
Funding entity	Ministry of Culture, Education and University Planning (Xunta de Galicia)
Typo of call for proposals to obtain funding	By Administration
Start date	26/12/2022
End date	26/12/2022
Winning company	Mario Crecente y Asociados Consultores, S.L.P. [NIF. B15773609]
Number of researches	3
Responsibility	Art Historian (Collaboration contract)