

1808
1809

Los Sitios
de Zaragoza

Piarists and the Luna family palace

The junction formed by the Streets: Avenida César Augusto, Calle Coso Alto and Calle Conde Aranda was known at the time of the Sieges as the Square called Plaza de las Estrébedes, the place where the defenders gathered to distribute themselves in the most necessary positions in the city's defence.

THE ORDER OF THE POOR CLERICS KNOWN AS PIARISTS IN THE SIEGES

The Piarist Schools played a major role in the Sieges of Zaragoza. This School already existed in its current site at that time and several of the most famous defenders attended its classrooms such as the Palafox brothers, Santiago Sas, Father Boggiero, Ignacio Jordán de Asso, Jorge Ibor, Pedro María Ric and Miguel Salamero, among many others.

The French troops did not manage to enter through the nearby Portillo Gate in any of the two sieges, thanks to which the school did not suffer major material damages. It fulfilled a great task as a shelter and hospital, since numerous parishioners wounded in the war and sick from the epidemics, came to the school to seek refuge in its church, where many military and religious defenders were buried.

In the sieges of Zaragoza, the current street of Calle del Conde de Aranda did not exist, hence the main gate of the School faced the rear section on a street called Castellana, which is Calle de Boggiero today.



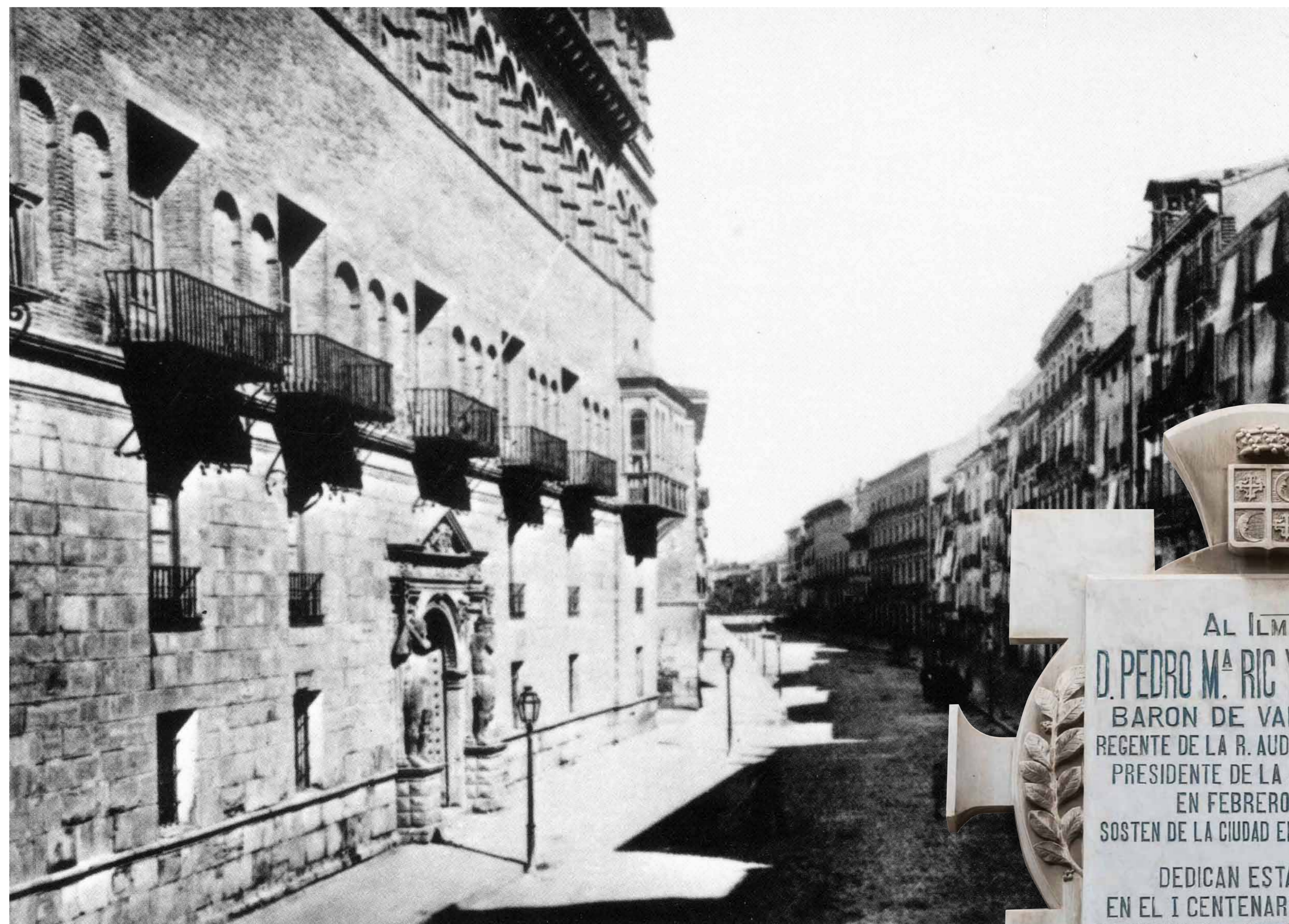
Commemorative plaque that was placed on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the Sieges in the School courtyard called Patio de las Tres Fuentes and in which it is still possible to distinguish the marks of the French shrapnel.

CAPTAINCY GENERAL OF ARAGON

The Renaissance palace of the Luna Family, today, the Provincial Court of Zaragoza, was the headquarters of the Captaincy General of Aragon during the Sieges.

On 24 May 1808, the popular uprising was sparked in Zaragoza. The Captain General of Aragon at that time, Jorge Juan de Guillelmi y Andrada, was apprehended by the rebels for not providing weapons to them and accused of being a French sympathizer, he was taken as a prisoner to the Aljafería Palace, where he remained during the two sieges.

Palafox was designated Captain General by popular pressure and from the Palace balconies, he heard the shouts of loyalty from the Zaragoza people who acclaimed him from the street.

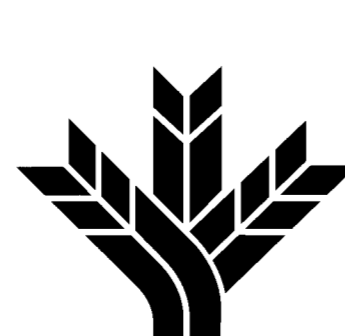


Palacio de los Luna. Archivo Municipal de Zaragoza, 4-1_0203.

It commemorates Pedro María Ric, Baron of Valdeolivos, Regent of the Royal Court of Aragon.



English
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CAJA RURAL
DE ARAGÓN



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AYUNTAMIENTO

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Palace Estate of the Counts of Morata in Zaragoza, also called the Palace of the Luna family, is a Renaissance building constructed in the 16th century commissioned by Pedro Martínez de Luna, the first Count of Morata and Viceroy of Aragon.



D. Pedro María Ric y Monserrat, Regente de la Audiencia de Aragón. Archivo Municipal de Zaragoza, 4-1_02181.

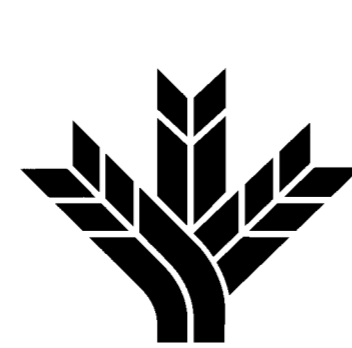
PEDRO MARÍA RIC Y MONSERRAT, BARON OF VALDEOLIVOS

(Fonz, 1776-1831). First-born son of the 2nd Baron of Valdeolivos, Miguel Esteban Ric y Pueyo de Urríes and Ana María Montserrat y Ustáriz. He studied at the University of Huesca, where he became a professor and dean. In 1795, he was the Mayor appointed criminal judge in the Royal Court of Aragon and was subsequently promoted to the posts of Hearing Judge (“oidor”) and Governor of the Criminal Court On 1 October 1808, he married the Countess of Bureta.

On 2 January 1809, he inaugurated the Court of the Royal Audience acting as Regent: he had replaced Villa y Torre in obscure circumstances during the first Siege. President of the Government Board on 19 February 1809 who surrendered the city. President of provisional “Government Board” authorised by Marshal Lannes on 22 February 1809, however he fled from the city to his country estates of Fonz. And subsequently to Cádiz. Landowner council member for the Higher Government Board of Aragon in the extraordinary Courts. He was a member of the Constitution, Justice, individual Freedom, Court of Justice and Honour commissions. He voted in favour of the Inquisition, national sovereignty and freedom of the press. Finally, he retired in his native town, where he passed away at the age of 54.



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