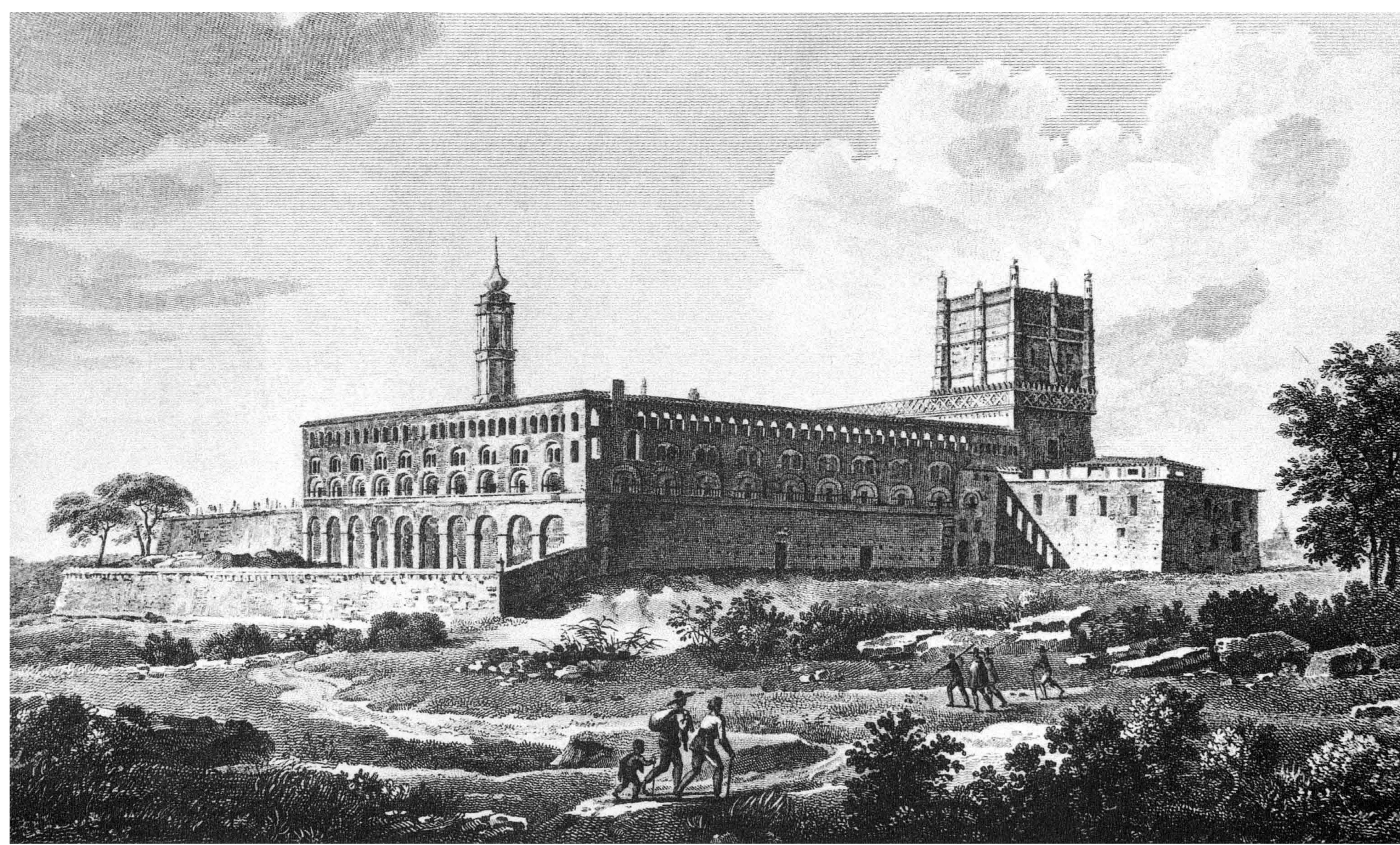


1808
1809

Los Sitios de Zaragoza

Santa Engracia square

In this site and up to the Huerva Riverbank, which currently extends underground below the Promenade called Paseo de la Constitución, the Hieronymite Monastery of Santa Engracia was built, a majestic building very near to the gate of the same name.



Exterior view of the Santa Engracia Monastery in 1906, taken from the right side of the Huerva River (Drawing by Luis Fernando Le Jeune and engraving by Benoist for the *Viaje por España (Trip through Spain)* by Alejandro Laborde).

THE SANTA ENGRACIA MONASTERY IN THE SIEGES OF ZARAGOZA

On the same day that the French arrived in Zaragoza on 15 June 1808, the Santa Engracia gate was one of the three points of attack against the city, jointly with the Carmen and Portillo gates. The Monastery's thick walls and its close proximity to the gate with the same name meant that it was a major position for the defence. However after intense bombardments and fierce battles, the defence of this zone was weakened and the French Army managed to invade through the Santa Engracia Monastery and garden on 4 August, advancing up to the current Plaza de España where they were halted by the defenders.



Postcard of the Santa Engracia Gate. Zaragoza. Archivo Municipal de Zaragoza, 4-1_0000177

An artillery battery was installed by the besieged citizens in the surroundings of the current Santa Engracia church, supported on the parapet of the Huerva River.



Engraving by Gálvez y Brambila. Explosion at the Santa Engracia Monastery: On the date of 4 August 1808 as a result of having been mined by the French troops.



English
Français
Mapa/Map/Carte



CAJA RURAL
DE ARAGÓN



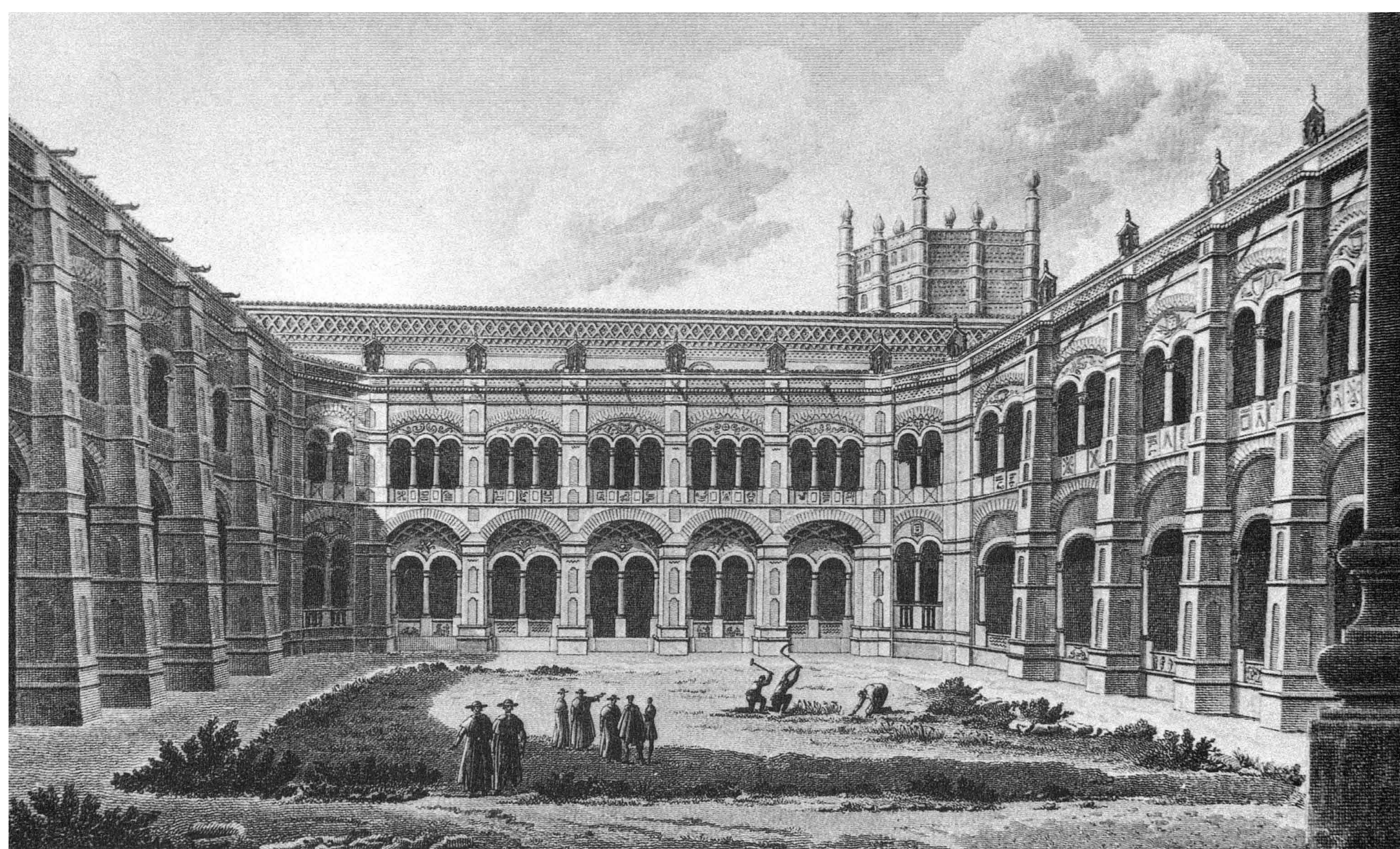
Zaragoza
AYUNTAMIENTO

1808
1809

Los Sitios de Zaragoza

Santa Engracia square

The Santa Engracia Monastery was located at the same level as the current Post Office building and provided access to Calle de Santa Engracia, today called the Paseo de la Independencia (Independence Promenade). This zone was the scene of bloody skirmishes during the French invasion in the War of Independence.



View of the large cloister of the Santa Engracia Monastery in 1806 (Drawing by Luis Fernando Le Jeune and engraved by Benoist for *Viaje por España (Trip through Spain)* by Alejandro Laborde).

PASEO DE LA MINA

The French army lifted the first Siege in August 1808 without having conquered the city; however they mined this entire zone in their retreat. One mine extended parallel to the Huerva River from the gate called Puerta Quemada (Burned Gate) up to Santa Engracia, the zone that is now named Paseo de la Mina. With its explosion, the monastery was completely destroyed, except the front façade of its church.



Engraving by Gálvez y Brambila. Ruins of the Santa Engracia patio caused by the explosion on 13 August 1808: The next day, the French abandoned the siege.

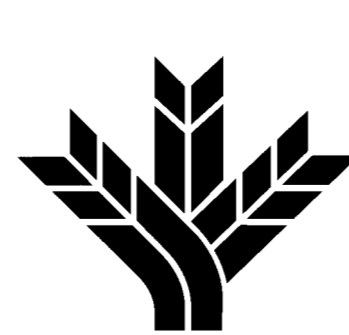
Napoleon's troops departed from Zaragoza after the lifting of the first siege on 13 August 1808.



Anonymous xylography (wood-block printing) from the mid-19th century, based on an original drawing by Mr. Carlos Mújica y Pérez.



English
Français
Mapa/Map/Carte



CAJA RURAL
DE ARAGÓN



Zaragoza
AYUNTAMIENTO