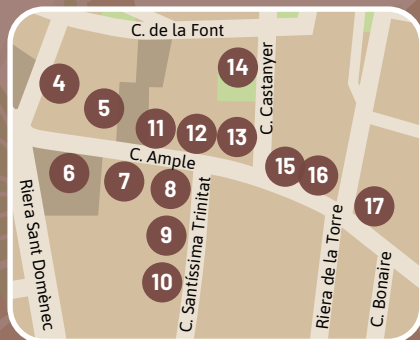
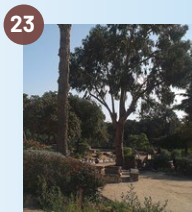
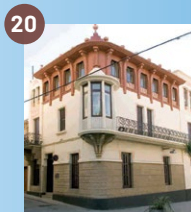
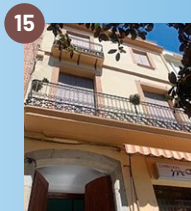
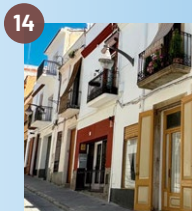
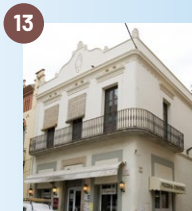
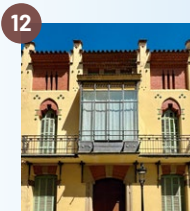
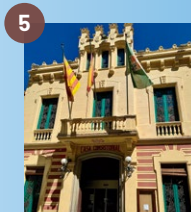
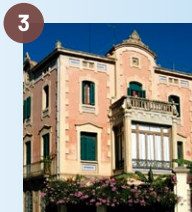
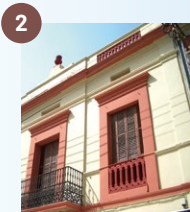
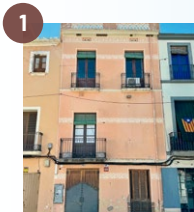


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Indiano heritage in Canet de Mar







Route Canet of the Indianos

1. House of Joaquim Gibert

Riera Gavarra, 11

A house with a ground floor and two storeys with balconies and a stone balustrade on the upper part. The very simple façade contains sgraffito bands with geometric motifs. It was the summer home of the Canet-born *americano* Joaquim Gibert.

Joaquim Gibert Codina (1843-1918) left to join his brother in Cuba at the age of thirteen. He worked in the bread business of Joan Font Pastor, also from Canet, and became a shareholder of the establishment. In 1875 Gibert returned to Canet and married Dolors Nogués. He was a customs agent for the *Compañía Transatlántica Española* (Spanish Transatlantic Company), and eventually became its owner. He died in Barcelona in 1918 and was buried in the Gibert pantheon in Canet cemetery.



2. House of Josep Móra Terrats

Riera Sant Domènec, 20

A neoclassical double-fronted mansion built between 1887 and 1888 for the *americano* Josep Móra. The building, with its classical lines, has a symmetrical ground and first floor and openings framed with mouldings, canopies and industrial stone balusters. At the rear of the building is the colonial-style courtyard with leafy palm trees and French-style landscaping.

Josép Móra i Terrats (1838-1918) went to Puerto Rico in the mid-19th century to work in the sugar mills (*ingenios*) run by his maternal uncles in the town of Ponce. Ten years later he was the owner of a warehouse-shop and also bought and sold land. In 1888 he decided to return to Canet but he was no longer used to village life and four years later he decided to return to Puerto Rico, where he died in 1918.



3. Negra Family House (Villa Amèlia)

Balmes, 1

An eclectic house with three façades, built in 1896 by the Barcelona master builder Joaquim Codina as a summer home for the Negra Vivé family. The façade is clad with a stucco that simulates exposed brickwork and contrasts with the blue ceramic elements that crown the building. The top of the façade that overlooks the Sant Domènec stream contains a medallion with his wife's initials, AV.

Higini Negra Mansió (1853-1938) was born in Havana, where his family, originally from Hostalric, had businesses. He studied law at the Royal University of Havana and later achieved his doctorate at the University of Barcelona. In 1885 he married the poetess Amèlia Vivé i Picassó, with whom he had five children. He often travelled to Cuba where he continued to be a limited partner in business partnerships.



4. House of Font Pastor

Ample, 3

A house with a ground floor, two openings with lowered arches built in stone from Gerona. The building, designed by the master builder from Canet, Joan Codina, has two floors with balconies with mouldings and canopies. The walls of the first and second floors were completely stuccoed with geometric motifs in ochre and bluish tones.

The house was the residence of the *americano* **Joan Font Pastor (1831-?)**. Born in Canet, at the age of 19 he went to Cuba to work with the Busquets family and over the years he made his fortune in the bread business and the colonial trade. In Havana he was always single and lived with his sisters and a niece. They returned to Canet in 1870 and, years later, he married Dolors Medir Pica.



5. Town Hall and Town Schools

Ample, 9 / Font, 8

The Town Hall of Canet de Mar and the Town Schools are two works of eclectic style. They were designed by the Matarò architect Emili Cabanyes Rabassa between 1903 and 1906 thanks to the testamentary legacy of the *americano* Eusebi Golart.

Eusebi Golart i Llauger (1829-1895) was born in Canet and at a very early age embarked on the adventure to the Americas. When he returned, he invested many of his assets in shipping and industrial foundries. When he died, he left a legacy for public improvements in Canet, thanks to which the Town Hall, the building of the old schools on Carrer de la Font, and the park of the Santuari de la Misericòrdia (Sanctuary of Mercy) (1895-1896), among others, were built.



6. House of Vicenç Solsona

Ample, 18

A house commissioned by the *americano* Vicenç Solsona Roura. It is a neoclassical house with a ground floor and two upper storeys, with openings with moulded canopies and ornamental elements with palm leaves.

Vicenç Solsona Roura (1825-1885) made a fortune from coffee plantations in Maricao, Puerto Rico. In 1885 the property passed into the hands of his daughter Victòria Margarida Solsona Serra (1860-1948), born in Sabana Grande, Puerto Rico, and married to the doctor from Canet, Lluís Oms Puig.



7. House of Font Medir

Ample, 18

A mansion owned by the *americano* **Joan Font Pastor**, built in 1875 by the master builder Salvador Medir Pica, who was also assistant to the architect Elies Rogent in the construction of the University of Barcelona.

Joan Font, who lived with his sisters at Carrer Ample, 5, had this mansion built after his marriage to Dolors Medir Pica. The building has a neoclassical layout, with a double-width body and three levels clad in stone from Gerona. The interior has wall paintings with geometric and plant motifs in all rooms. The rear garden, surrounded by a gallery with floral capitals, is also interesting.



8. House of Josep Busquets

Ample, 22

A double-bodied, three-storey mansion in neoclassical style, built in the early 1870s as the Busquets family residence. The walls of the ground floor are clad in stone from Gerona, with serial work of palm branches cut into the stone. The building, designed by Salvador Medir, is crowned with a lookout tower that further increases the height of the building. The interior is remarkable for the ornamental painting of the ceilings and walls decorated with geometric and plant motifs.



Josep Busquets Llinàs (1835- 1905) arrived in Cuba in 1852 with his uncle Mariano Llinàs and the rest of the brothers soon followed. The Busquets Llinàs family opened a bakery and devised a way of making bread that was more resistant to damp, which made them suppliers to the army. In the mid-1860s he returned to Canet de Mar with his wealth and married his cousin Florentina Codina Busquets in Rome. Busquets was a provincial councillor for the district of Arenys for the Conservative Party from 1892 to 1905 and was one of the most influential people in Canet de Mar.

9. House of Joan Busquets

Santíssima Trinitat, 2

A neoclassical house built in 1886 as the summer residence of the *americano* Joan Busquets. It is a three-storey, double-fronted mansion with façades of stone from Gerona, geometric and floral elements and windows with moulded canopies. Of great interest inside are the geometric stuccoes in the fireplaces of the wainscoting, as well as the mural paintings in the rooms and the porched garden.



Joan Busquets Llinàs (1830-1909) went to Cuba in the mid-19th century with his parents and siblings, where his brother Josep had already settled. They worked in the bread business and promoted the importation of flour from the United States, which broke the monopoly of the island suppliers. Joan Busquets returned to Catalonia in 1863 with the whole family and invested his fortune in many properties. In Barcelona he lived in Plaça Reial, and in Canet he bought the Grau estate and also built a summer mansion on Carrer Santíssima Trinitat. He was mayor of Canet during the Revolution of 1868 and was elected provincial councillor for the district of Arenys from 1888 to 1892 for the Conservative Party.

10. House of Marià Busquets

Santíssima Trinitat, 6

This house was built by the master builder Joan Codina in the early 1870s as the residence of the *americano* Marià Busquets. It is a two-storey mansion with attic, with simple canopies and a wrought-iron balcony. The façade was originally stuccoed with geometric and floral motifs.



Marià Busquets Llinàs (1837-1904) went to Cuba with his parents and siblings. They worked in the bread business and managed to make a real fortune. He returned to Catalonia and married his cousin Francesca Codina Busquets in 1869 and Maria Trinitat Simon Vidal in 1871.

11. House of Alsina Llauger

Ample, 21

A terraced house owned by the *americano* Josep Alsina. Eclectic in style, with a ground floor and two storeys, the façade has a continuous balcony, ceramic cladding and Arabesque openings. It is topped by a stepped crown with Mudejar-style ceramics.

Josep Alsina Llauger (1841-1917) went to the Americas at a very young age and became rich in the sugar industry and coffee plantations. He returned to Catalonia in the late 1870s, where he invested his fortune in properties in Barcelona and Canet. He married his second cousin Antònia Soler Roca, 16 years younger than him, and they lived between Barcelona in a building on Carrer Sant Pere més Alt, and Canet, where he built the summer house on Carrer Ample. He also bought the Can Gofau estate. Between 1887 and 1891 he was mayor of Canet de Mar for the Conservative Party.



12. House of Jaume Puxan

Ample, 27

Modernist mansion of the *americano* Jaume Puxan. It was built between 1913 and 1914 along the plans of the Barcelona architect Francesc Fargas i Margenat. Fargas designed a symmetrical façade, with a central entrance on the ground floor and an iron tribune on the first floor, decorated with brick cladding, sgraffito elements and ceramic pieces.



Jaume Puxan Carbó (1855-1924) left for Havana with his family in the mid-1860s. In Cuba he worked in the Busquets' bakery and when these returned to Canet, they transferred to him the business of supplying provisions to the island's military quartermaster's office. He returned in August 1898, so he was one of the last *americanos* from Canet to leave the island before the colony was lost. Puxan married Maria de la Concepció Llibre Pujadas (1879-1955) and they took up residence in Barcelona, but they also spent time at the old family home in Canet, on the site of which he had the new summer mansion built between 1913 and 1914. He was a member of the Conservative Party and was mayor of Canet de Mar in 1905-1906.

13. Canet Casino

Ample, 29

With the construction of the six houses developed by the *americano* Josep Castanyer in the centre of Canet, the street named after him was opened, based on a project by the master builder Salvador Medir Pica. As a result, in 1881, the former settlers decided to erect the building of the **Societat Casino Canetense** on the other side of the road. The project was commissioned to the master builder Gaietà Roger, who designed a façade with a colonial air, with openings with canopy and walls painted with geometric and plant motifs. Between the centuries, the Casino became the most elite entity in Canet and was also the headquarters of the Conservative Party, known as the “party of the *americanos*”. With the disappearance of the *indianos*, the institution closed its doors in the early 1920s.



14. Castanyer Houses

Carrer Castanyer, 4-16

The Castanyer houses are a group of six simple houses, with a ground floor and first floor, built between 1880 and 1881 by the *americano* Josep Castanyer as rented dwellings.

Josep Castanyer Salicrú (1845-1897) was born in Canet and left at a very early age for Cuba, where he worked in the sugar business in the province of Matanzas with his brothers Salvador and Joaquim. Castanyer married the Cuban María Adelaida González de la Torre and in 1875 they came to live in Canet. Apart from the Castanyer houses, the *americano* invested part of his capital in a large neoclassical mansion designed by the master builder Salvador Medir, on the corner of Carrer Ample and Carrer Castanyer. Unfortunately, the mansion was demolished in the 1960s.



15. House of Francesc Boher

Ample, 33

The house of the *americano* Francesc Boher Pla was built by the master builder Josep Codina from the remodelling of an 18th century house. Despite being a single-bodied house with a simple façade, its interior decorative elements stand out, such as the fire-stuccoed staircase wainscoting and the mural paintings on the ceilings of some of the rooms.

The Canet-born **Francesc Boher Pla (1829-?)** made his fortune in Cuba in the mid-19th century with the production of industrial bread. He lived in the wealthy "Monserrate" neighbourhood in Havana and gradually repatriated his assets in the 1870s. He returned to Canet and in 1879 he married his cousin Semproniana Roig i Pla. Boher was a founding member of the Casino Canetense and a councillor for Canet de Mar with the Conservative Party.



16. La Moderna, house of Jaume Viñas

Ample, 35

A house with ground floor and two storeys, owned by the *americano* Jaume Viñas. The building is the renovation of an existing old town house, with a second storey added. The treatment of the wooden shutters on the ground floor and the shelves inside the shop are of great interest.

Jaume Viñas Pera (1859-1938) was a young man from Canet who went to Havana where he worked in the bread business of the Busquets family. He returned to Canet in 1898 and married Joaquina Vivó Misser, 16 years younger than him, two years later. In 1906 he set up the "La Moderna" grocery shop and was also one of the shareholders of the Romagosa knitwear factory. He was a councillor for Canet de Mar with the known as the "party of the *americanos*" (Conservative Party) in 1890-1891 and 1896-1897.



17. House of Cabané

Vall, 5

A neoclassical style house with a ground floor and two storeys, owned by the *americano* Antoni Cabané Menció. The stone cladding on the ground floor and the terracotta relief's on the façade are particularly noteworthy.

When **Antoni Cabané Menció (1863-1916)** returned from Havana, he bought several properties and built his house on Carrer Vall. On the ground floor, Cabané opened an establishment where he sold cigars and colonial products and also invested his capital in shares in the Romagosa factory. He married Maria Riera Gustà and they had no children. He was a councillor for the Canet de Mar on several occasions for the known as “*Americanos party*”.



18. House of Pau Font Torres

Vall, 67

A neoclassical mansion located on the seafront, built in the 1860s for the *indiano* Pau Font Torres. The house is conceived as a summer mansion with a ground floor, first floor and attic, with openings with stone tympana and palm-leaf engravings.

Pau Font Torres (1846-1933) was an *indiano* from Barcelona who, together with his brothers, made his fortune in Cuba. When he returned to Barcelona, he married Dolors Roura i Carnesoltes from Canet, and they built their summer house on a plot of land owned by his wife on the seafront.



19. House of Josep Colomer

Gram, 19

Casa Colomer is a house reformed in the 1920s by the master builder Josep Cabruja Feliu. The original property was an 18th century frigate house which in the 19th century was transformed with a neoclassical façade and lookout tower. Years later, the businessman Josep Colomer carried out a complete refurbishment with a *noucentista* air, inspired by the early 20th century Catalan artistic movement.

Josep Colomer Pujadas went to Chile in the late 1880s, where, after making money, he established regular shipping of guano, a highly-prized fertiliser for agriculture. He returned to Catalonia and after renovating the house on Carrer del Gram, he offered Canet Council to have the land next to the Cooperativa building developed and landscaped at his own expense. In gratitude, the Council named the new space Plaça Colomer.



20. House of Alsina Roig

Carrer Abell, 2

The summer residence of the *americano* Josep Alsina Roig, designed between 1908 and 1909 by the architect Eduard Ferrés i Puig in Viennese Secession style. The house was designed in three sections of varying heights: the central section, with a circular tribune, topped by a gallery of exposed brick and decorative spheres, and the secondary sections in a more Viennese art nouveau style.

Josep Alsina Roig was a man from Canet who went to the Americas. Having settled in Havana, he engaged in the production and trade of liqueurs. He came to Canet to spend some time in 1888 but returned to Cuba. He was very involved in the Sociedad de Beneficencia de Naturales de Cataluña (a charity society to assist Catalan emigrants), and in 1893 he was on its board. At the end of the 19th century, he finally settled in Canet.



21. Passeig de la Misericòrdia

(Path of Mercy)

The Passeig de la Misericòrdia began to take shape at the end of the 19th century. In 1885 the master builder Salvador Fors offered a plan of the project after it was proposed to open a road between the sanctuary and the village. In 1903, planning began and between 1906 and 1910 the *americano* **Josep Móra Terrats (1838-1918)** gave the necessary space to develop the new avenue, following the project of the engineer Jaume Andreu Alsina.



22. Santuari de la Mare de Déu de la Misericòrdia

(Sanctuary of Our Lady of Mercy)

Plaça del Santuari, s/n

In the mid-19th century, the people of Canet wanted to build a new chapel to Our Lady of Mercy, but a larger one than before. The Sanctuary administration agreed to commission the project to the architect Francesc Daniel Molina and to pay for the work they decided to ask for donations from Cuba and Puerto Rico, where there were more than 80 wealthy people from Canet. Although everyone made different contributions, the testamentary legacy of the *americano* Carles Pascual Puig was decisive in getting the work under way. Pascual left a third of his fortune, which was equivalent to 130,000 Spanish pesetas at the time.

Carles Pascual i Puig (1801-1853) was born in Canet de Mar and left at an early age for Havana, where he worked on large coffee and sugar plantations. Pascual was one of the great protectors of the Sociedad de Beneficencia de Naturales de Cataluña (a charity society to assist Catalan emigrants) and one of the wealthiest members of the colony of people from Canet in Cuba.



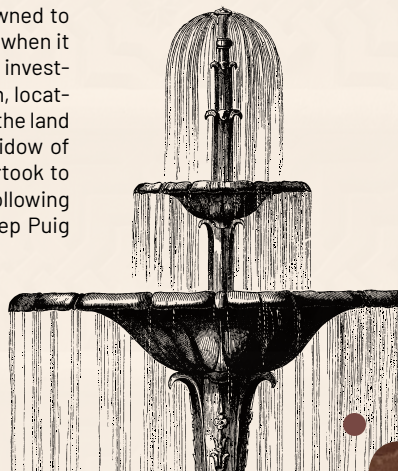
23. The park of the Santuari de la Misericòrdia (*Sanctuary of Mercy*)

Plaça del Santuari, s/n

The park of the Santuari de la Misericòrdia is a landscaped space that levels the sloping hillside. It is an organic landscaping and beautification project designed by the architect Josep Puig i Cadafalch, with benches and tables in granite stone and water basins with fountains.

The architect planted Mediterranean vegetation, carob trees, cedars, eucalyptus and shrubs and wanted to give the development a spiritual sense by designing a rosary with different monuments and chapels dedicated to the mysteries of the life of Christ and Mary Most Holy, those of joy, those of sorrow and those of glory, of which only two were made.

The Canet-born **Joan Baptistapau Jover (1809-1892)** made his fortune in Cuba with sugar and coffee plantations, but he never returned to Canet. When he died, he left an estate he owned to the Administration of the Santuari de la Misericòrdia and when it was sold, it brought in 6,000 Spanish pesetas, which were invested in the purchase of the old Can Torrus vegetable garden, located next to the Sanctuary. In September 1895, the deed to the land was signed and, shortly afterwards, Teresa de Palau, widow of the *americano* **Eusebi Golart Llauger (1829-1895)**, undertook to pay for the development and landscaping of the place following the project she had commissioned to the architect Josep Puig i Cadafalch.





Ajuntament de Canet de Mar



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Texts: Carles Sàiz i Xiqués. CEDIM

Photographs: Municipal Archive of Canet de Mar (AMCNM)

Acknowledgements: Iolanda Serrano, Xavier Mas and Gemma Martí