



ITINERARY

**IMMORTAL WOMEN**

Sant Josep Cemetery

 **Mucc**  
Museu  
de la Ciutat  
de Castelló

## **SANT JOSEP CEMETERY**

Avinguda Cardenal Costa, s/n 12004 - Castelló de la Plana  
+34 964 210 075

### Opening hours

Summer: from Monday to Saturday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Winter: from Monday to Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Sundays and public holidays: from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## **TOURIST INFO CASTELLÓ**

Plaça de l'Herba, s/n 12001 - Castelló de la Plana  
+34 964 35 86 88  
castellon@touristinfo.net

### Opening hours

From Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., uninterrupted  
Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## **TOURIST INFO GRAU DE CASTELLÓ**










Passeig Bonavista, 28 12100 - Castelló de la Plana  
+34 964 28 36 21  
graocastellon@touristinfo.net

### Opening hours

From Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Saturdays and Sundays closed


## **SELF-GUIDED ITINERARY**

### **DETAILS**



-  Free admission
-  Walking itinerary
-  Accessible /   WC
-  Tour duration: 1 h 30'
-    Information items: map, audio guide and guide brochure

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

The itinerary can be followed by using an audio guide and a digital map or a paper guide.

-  The paper guide is available at the cemetery (there is a display stand by the main entrance) and at the **Tourist Info Office**

-   The audio guide and digital map can be downloaded to a mobile device from the website: **[www.mucc.es/donesimmortals](http://www.mucc.es/donesimmortals)**

-   The audio guide and tour map can also be accessed, without having to download files, from:  
**<https://audioviator.com/en/audioguia/immortal-women/>**

## IMMORTAL WOMEN

### ACKNOWLEDGING THEIR MEMORY

If we stopped to read the epitaphs around the cemeteries, we would notice how seldom the word *dead* appears, while we do see several euphemisms like *rested*, *ascended to heaven*, *passed away*... Anything just to avoid it. Because both this taboo word and cemeteries make us feel uneasy, reminding us about our fate.

With this tour of immortal women, we intend to accomplish basically two things:

On the one hand, to see the place as a museum dedicated to memory, where we can visit our loved ones, and as a great exhibition to appreciate the art that is scattered everywhere in the necropolis. After all, cemeteries have always had an important cultural and historical value; in fact, the story of a city could be told in terms of the people who rest in them.

On the other hand, we want to remember several women who, despite being unknown to most people, thanks to their work and behaviour, are a referent to women's progress in society in the way to achieve equality with men.

We can find prominent figures in the fields of science, culture or entertainment, along with others who were anonymous protagonists of historical events in the city or the cemetery itself.

Because, for centuries, women have been educated to care for the male members of their family: father, brothers, husband and sons;

in fact, we can gain an insight into the role of women in the 19th century from an article published in 1867 in the newspaper *El Imparcial*, where a list of what a woman must do for a happy home was included. Among the twelve tips it gave, it is possible to read things like: "Avoid contradicting your husband; do not meddle in his business; do not lecture your husband [...] respond to your husband's bad temper with love; give him freedom to come and go wherever he pleases" and even "do not let your husband lose face when it comes to knowledge, even if it makes you look foolish", etc. Despite this mentality, it was not until the 20th century that women mobilised to defend their rights. During the Second Spanish Republic and with the implementation of the 1931 Constitution, which established in article 43 that marriage was based on equality for both sexes, divorce, maternity insurance..., little by little, women achieved things that would have been unheard of sometime before.

However, with the arrival of Franco, women went back to being nothing but mere housewives, and their sole priority would be their house, raising kids and caring for their husbands' well-being. Because of that, the Feminine Section of Falange Española listed, among their 20 principles which should never be forgotten, the following: "Offer to take off his shoes; listen to him, let him speak first; remember his conversation topics are more important than yours" [...] "Remember he is the master of the house"..., besides anything to do with sexual intercourse.

Women were expected to be *objects* at the time, politically and economically excluded, to the extent that their possessions were owned by their husbands.

With democracy, women got their rights recognised in the same way as men, but true equality has not been achieved yet. Therefore, even though a lot has been accomplished, we will have to continue fighting to remove the discriminations that still exist in society.

## SANT JOSEP CEMETERY

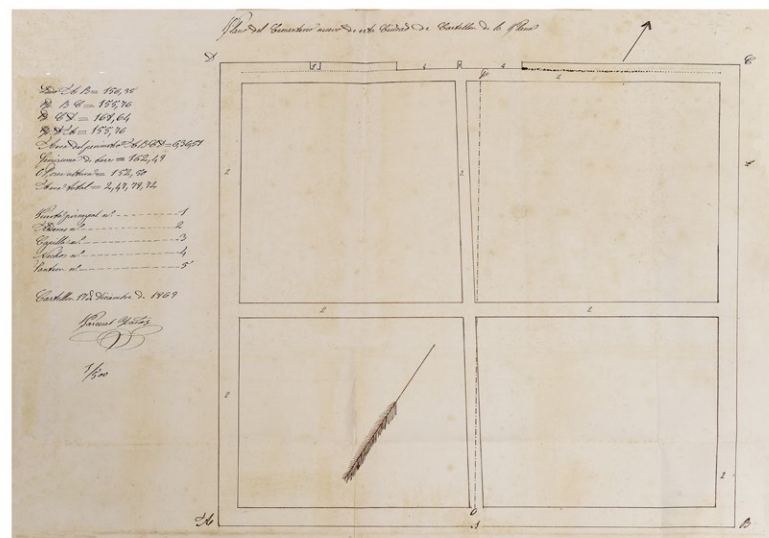
In 1859, a part of the Calvario Cemetery (located on the current Ribalta promenade) had to be expropriated for the construction of Zaragoza Road, and the City Council decided to find a place to build another cemetery further away from the city and with more capacity. The place chosen was a carob tree orchard on the other side of the Sec River, and the provincial architect, Vicente Martí Salazar, was commissioned to urgently construct the fence and the most basic facilities, even if it was on a provisional basis. Although the following year the building was already completed, it could not be opened, since no access road had been built. Finally, on 13th May 1861, it was inaugurated with a mass funeral. That first enclosure was square and had an area of 25,600 m<sup>2</sup>, with a perimeter corridor and another central cross-shaped one that divided the land into four square sections. At the back, opposite the main door, there was a small chapel and a group of niches on both sides. The four square sections had a front space of approximately five metres around the walkways, where infants were buried, and a mixture of different graves, from simple ones to some really flamboyant burial monuments, could be found at the centre.

In 1864, Martí Salazar died and, when Manuel Montesinos Arlandis took his position, he was commissioned to reform the cemetery project that his predecessor had designed, taking into account the regulations in force at the time.

In addition to this enclosure, there was another behind the consecrated Catholic cemetery, just behind the chapel. It was the unconsecrated cemetery, an area of 187 m<sup>2</sup> where those who “did not belong” to the Catholic Church, that is, those who were not baptised, suicide victims, freethinkers, masons, etc., were buried. In 1928, this enclosure was moved to the front area, where it is currently located, and many of the bodies buried there were also moved with the same tombstones; the rest of the bodies that the relatives did not claim were deposited in the ossuary of this new area.

Sant Josep Cemetery still maintains burial monuments and sculptures from the 19th century worthy of a museum, not to mention the cultural value of the tombstones which, with their epitaphs and allegories, tell us about the character of the relevant deceased person. Some can have quite an impact: Manuel Carrasco, Tomás Colón, Juan Bautista Aduara, the Cabedo family and even José Viciano, among others, were the sculptors who left their art scattered around the enclosure. Works from ceramists such as Juan Bautista Alós or Vicente Abad can also be found and, of course, burial monuments built by architects who designed emblematic buildings in the city, such as Francisco Tomás Traver, Godofredo Ros de Ursinos, Francisco Maristany, Luis Ros de Ursinos, José Gimeno Almela, Vicente Traver Tomás, etc.

Over the years, the cemetery was expanded and new square sections were added, until it was no longer possible to continue. Eventually another cemetery was built on the Enramada Road and it was known as the New Cemetery.



Map of the cemetery by Pascual Ibáñez, 1869  
File IES Francisco Ribalta





## JUANA GOÑI LICEAGA

Faithful to her beliefs

**Burguete (Navarra), 1848 - Castelló, 1922**

### Unconsecrated section, row 1, no. 1 (tombs)

Civil burials were a defiance to the Church, but sometimes and when close to dying, some people gave in their wishes for a civil burial as they were losing strength or to spare their loved ones having to go through the ordeal of visiting them in such a diminishing place (according to the Church and the affluent society). Among the religious non-conformists of the time, males were the ones who generally chose the civil option as a way and place to be buried. On the other hand, women usually opted for a consecrated Catholic cemetery and even attended mass. This wasn't the case for Juana Goñi who, faithful to her beliefs, had instructed that her burial had to be civil, just as her husband's had been.

Juana Goñi Liceaga was born in Burguete (Navarra) in 1848, and got married in 1870 to Basilio Lacort Larralde, an important military man and journalist, the greatest ambassador of republicanism in Navarra.

When she became a widow, Juana came to Castelló, where her daughter Josefa worked as a teacher in Herrero School. Despite the times she had to live through, Juana Goñi was not just someone's wife; in fact, not only did she share her husband's ideas, but she also collaborated with him professionally in *El Porvenir Navarro* and, after his death, she continued in charge of this newspaper.

She died on 4th August 1922 and her burial was a true display of sorrow, given that she was respected and loved by everyone. Accompanying the family were also the first deputy mayor Carlos Selma, the presidents of different corporations, teachers, councilmen and representatives of the Republican Party in the city.

Her grandson, Basilio Lacort García, is also buried in the unconsecrated site, in tomb no. 26.



## VICENTA ARMENGOT VILA

A teacher by trade

Castelló, 1836-1892

First square section, right.

Town Hall burial monument no. 83

By the end of the 19th century, girls' education was mainly focused on tending fathers, husbands and brothers. In fact, marriage was the goal for most of them and so they were mainly taught about sewing, or anything related to housework.

Vicenta Armengot's tombstone, from 1892, stands out because, apart from informational data, we can read about her profession. At the time, and up to many years later, when it came to epitaphs, women did not seem to have their own identity and were always referred to as *someone's wife or someone's widow...*

In a list of primary school teachers in public or private schools in Castelló, dated 1st June 1862, there are 26 teachers, 19 of which were women and 7 men. Nine of these schools were public and 17 private.

That year, Vicenta Armengot was working as a teacher in the private school located at 6 De la Nieve Square, but in 1880 she was the headmistress of a girls' school called La Casa de la Enseñanza, the first free school for girls from families without economic resources, founded on 2nd December 1793 by Isabel Ferrer Giner, at her own expense.

When Vicenta Armengot died on 13th January 1892, at the age of 56, Josefa Ramón Sanz (teacher with a degree and native of Castelló) occupied the vacant on a temporary basis.



## TERESA GIMÉNEZ SELMA

Trade unionist

Castelló, 1898-1990

### First square section, right, row 139, no. 21

During the Second Republic, the two main trade unions were UGT and CNT. Throughout this stage, women participated actively in trade unions, directing and managing a large number of societies, with full autonomy to solve problems, although it was the male fellow party members who dealt with financial matters. La Sociedad Obrera de Confeccionadoras de Alpargatas (Espadrille Makers Society), a section of UGT; La Buena Unión (Good Union), of a catholic nature; El Despertar Femenino (Female Awakening), linked to the workers' centre, etc., were some of these societies. During the Spanish Civil War, others were created such as Unión de Muchachas (Girls Union), Agrupación de Mujeres Antifascistas (Anti-Fascist Women Group) or Mujeres Libres (Free Women)... but in this case, the main objective was to help win the race. Women held positions that were until then only fulfilled by men. Thus, Unión de Muchachas, for example, fought for labour equality with men: the same salary, the same rights... Unfortunately, all the unions' achievements disappeared with the arrival of Franco.

Teresa Giménez Selma belonged to a family of espadrille makers and worked as an insole maker. From a very young age, she joined the Socialist Party and from the women's espadrille makers union of UGT she fought to improve the employment conditions for proletarian women; in fact, she represented them in the III Congress of the Espadrille Makers Federation, in 1924.

During the Civil War, she was the director of La Casa de Beneficencia de Castelló until Franco's troops entered the city. At that time, together with her husband Francisco Llorens Pachés, she settled in Ontinyent (València). When the war ended in April 1939, both were imprisoned, tried and sentenced to six years in prison, a sentence later reduced to four in 1943. She was in prison in Castelló and Bilbao, left in 1940 under a mitigated prison regime and, on 27th June 1941, she received parole.

Teresa Giménez' story is that of a determined woman, committed to proletarian women. She was one of the many victims of Franco's repression and died on 27th March 1990.

## DOLORES NEBOT MORTE AND ELISA ULL MARÍ

Victims of reprisals and shot

L'Alcora, 1907 - Castelló, 1940 / Borriana, 1913 - Castelló, 1939

### Catholic cemetery ossuary

Fortunately, in recent years investigations are being carried out about Franco's repression on women, with punishment, prison, contempt and loss of all the rights that had been achieved during the Second Republic. Returning to the role of submissive woman, mother and housewife was one of the new regime's aims. Many women were punished during the repression, but above all, the wives, daughters, mothers and sisters of male victims of reprisals were stigmatised as "reds" and had to suffer serious humiliations, such as haircuts, bribes, imprisonment and rape. Many, after the men were killed or imprisoned, became household heads, providing for their families as best as they could, suffering all kinds of hardships. Those imprisoned also suffered from hunger and ailments; some with their children by their side, others without them, if they were sent to exile to protect them from war.

During Franco's repression in Castelló, there were 26 women victims, 19 died in prison, three were cases of extrajudicial repression, one was assassinated as a result of the fight against the guerrillas and the other three were sentenced to death and shot.

Dolores Nebot Morte, *la Coles*, and Elisa Ull Marí were two of the three women shot.

Dolores was accused of several violent acts as well as belonging to CNT, she was considered a dangerous person opposed to the regime. On 15th April 1940, she was shot in the Sec riverbed, together with 36 other people, 30 of whom were buried in the unconsecrated cemetery and seven in the consecrated Catholic part. Among the latter was Dolores Nebot, who was buried in the second square section, on the right, row 113, grave 18. Years ago, her remains were moved to the ossuary.

Elisa Ull Marí was born in Borriana. When she was killed, she was 26 years old and single. She was accused of belonging to UGT, having extremist ideas and inciting violence. On 15th August 1939, five people were shot, including Elisa, who was buried in the second square section, on the right, row 94, grave 18 of the Catholic enclosure, and, like Dolores, years later her remains were moved to the ossuary.



Ossuary

## ANTONIA LLOP Y RAMOS

The doubtful honour of being poor

Castelló, 1800-1861

### Sixth square section, block 6, row 3, no. 39

On 4th May 1861, the City Council decided that the new cemetery could be opened on the other side of the Sec river and appropriate instructions were given to continue the tradition. This tradition meant that the first corpse buried in this type of event had to be that of an extremely poor person who, besides, had been virtuous according to the opinion of the mayor and the priest. But interestingly enough, no one poor enough died and it took several days until, on 12th May, a woman named Antonia passed away in the charity hospital.

Antonia Llop y Ramos was born on 9th November 1800 in Castelló and died of metritis when she was 60 years old. She lived at 30 San Pascual Street, and belonged to a family of farm day labourers. When she died, she was Ignacio Nebot's widow.

The municipality took care of all expenses: a magnificent coffin, which took 15 days to be built; the shroud, which consisted of a costume of the Virgin Dolorosa, and the so-called "general" burial was chosen, which was the most expensive and lavish of the three types available. On the 13th, at five o'clock in the afternoon, the funeral procession left the parish church with an entourage consisting of 50 poor people housed in Casa de la Misericordia, 18 orphans from Sant Vicent Ferrer School, the clergy, the municipal corporation and, closing the entourage, the two music bands of the city. The luxurious coffin was led by six night watchmen of the City Council to the new cemetery. Behind this sumptuous procession, several citizens of all social classes and categories accompanied Antonia.

At six o'clock in the afternoon, she was buried in the third niche of the second section on the right, just in front of the entrance door and, to perpetuate the event, the inscription was made on the black marble tombstone:

ANTONIA LLOP Y RAMOS / BORN IN THIS CITY / ON THE 9TH OF NOVEMBER 1800 /  
DIED A WIDOW AND POOR IN HOSPITAL / THIS WAS THE FIRST BURIAL / THAT TOOK  
PLACE IN THIS CEMETERY / THE BURIAL WAS CELEBRATED WITH GREAT SOLEMNITY /  
ON THE 13TH OF MAY 1861

In 1948, to expand the access to the Old square section, 20 niches had to be moved to the sixth square section. Antonia's was among them.

## MATILDE SALVADOR SEGARRA

Composer

Castelló, 1918 - València, 2007

### Old square section, block 4, row 4, no. 80

Unfortunately, when painters, sculptors, musicians, etc. are mentioned, we always think of men; those we have been taught about in general knowledge studies. How many female musicians are we capable of naming? Evidently, there have been women with musical aptitudes throughout history, but they were relegated to delight only their family because of their gender. In addition, another factor to be considered was the fact that this art was only available to wealthy families who could afford a private education.

Matilde Salvador was born into a family of artists; it was her father, a famous violinist, and her aunt Joaquina Segarra, an important pianist, who took care of her musical education since she turned six. She played her first piece, the song *Com és la lluna*, when she was only 15 years old, and when she was 18, she gave her first piano concert in València. As a composer, she sang poems from Salvador Espriu, Bernat Artola, Xavier Caspe, etc. She authored the operas *La filla del Rei Barbut* and *Vinatea*, the latter being the first opera premiered by a woman at the Gran Teatre del Liceu of Barcelona in 1974. She also composed religious music such as *La Missa de Lledó*, in honour of the patron saint of the city, *La Missa de Perot* and the cantata *Les Hores*, among others.

Married to the composer Vicente Asensio, Matilde Salvador won important composition awards and tributes; among these recognitions are the Premi de Dones Progressistes de la Comunitat Valenciana (Progressive Women of the Valencian Community award) in 1995. A year later, the Huguet Foundation named her Valencian Citizen of the Year, and the Generalitat Valenciana granted her the Distinction to Cultural Merit in 1997. In 1998, she received the Medal of the Universitat Jaume I. In 2003, the City Council of Castelló named her Honorary Citizen, and in 2005, the Generalitat of Catalonia granted her the Cross of Sant Jordi.

Several cultural centres were named after her, such as the Institute of Secondary Education No. 8 of Castelló, as well streets and avenues in several towns of the province.

She taught at the Music Conservatory of València until she retired in 1989. She died in València on 5th October 2007.





## LOLA CABELLO MORENO

Flamenco singer

Málaga, 1905 - Castelló, 1942

Old square section, block 5, row 5, no. 11

The flamenco singer Lola Cabello was born in Málaga in 1905, but she soon moved to Barcelona, where she began her artistic career. She made her debut in a theatre in Barcelona when she was 20, but it was not until 1924 when she made herself known through Ràdio Barcelona, with the collaboration of her partner and guitarist Rafael Rejón. She mastered singing *fandanguillos*, *granainas*, *malagueñas* and *saetas*. As a result of working on the radio, recording and participating in films such as *El Relicario*, she became a much sought-after artist. She worked non-stop: theatres, cinemas or circuses, even during the Civil War she never stopped performing in variety shows at the Gran Teatre del Liceu of Barcelona. So that we get an idea of her popularity, in 1933 and 1935 she performed at Ràdio Associació de Catalunya on New Year's Eve and she was on the front page of *La Vanguardia* newspaper on 31st December 1933.

When the Civil War ended, she presented new shows and toured. In one of them, performing at the Teatre Principal de Castelló, she felt sick and died when she was 37 years old at the Provincial Hospital on 11th May 1942, at one o'clock in the afternoon, due to severe polioencephalitis. One of the world's best-known performers in the entertainment industry had died, one of the four stars of flamenco in the 1930s, along with Manuel Vallejo, El Niño de Marchena and La Niña de los Peines.

Years after her death, a songbook was published in her memory and her albums were played on radio stations until the fifties.



## BEATRIZ GUTTMANN GOLDBERGER

Painter

**Castelló, 1931-2014**

### Sant Vicent square section, burial monument no. 224

As in many other areas, women, despite their skills in the fine arts, have been forgotten by art historians for centuries. Many of them worked together with their male relatives, but anonymously, or had to limit this vocation to an entertainment when their house chores allowed them. An example of a versatile artist was Beatriz Guttmann.

Although she born in Castelló on 25th January 1931, she lived in Benicarló with her parents, both from Vienna, as her father worked there as an engineer. During the Civil War, she was with her mother in Vienna and, when she returned to Benicarló, she never stopped training: she studied Restoration and Carving at the Faculty of Fine Arts of València, became a drawing professor by the Institute of Educational Sciences of the Universitat Politècnica de València and in 1992 she completed a PhD in Fine Arts at the same university. She participated in several national and international conferences (Lisbon, Buenos Aires, Moscow...) and her work is exhibited in different Spanish museums, as well as in museums in many other countries.

She was the promoter and founder of the Red Cross Blood Bank, curator of the Museu Popular d'Art Contemporani de Vilafamés and part of its Governing Board as secretary. In 2007, the City Council of Castelló and the different women's associations named her Woman of the Year.

With regards to her painting, she had a very personal style and has sometimes been described as abstract. Her creativity however went much further: works using the collage technique, ceramic sculptures and jewellery design were arts in which she also excelled. One of her works is the ceramic marble titled *Diálogos con el agua* (*Talks with the water*), located in Gobernador Street in Castelló, next to Obispo Pont i Gol Square.

She died in 2014 at the age of 83 due to a cardiac failure.



## PALMIRA PLA PECHOVIERTO

Pedagogue and member of the Spanish Parliament

**Cretas (Teruel), 1914 - Castelló, 2007**

### Sant Vicent square section, block 13, row 1, no. 6

Pedagogue, teacher and politician, she was born on 31st March 1914 in Cretas. She studied Teaching in Teruel and later joined the Professional Teaching Plan during the Second Republic. In 1931, she joined the Socialist Youth Party and began teaching workers of Casa del Pueblo de Teruel in the evenings. She learned the most innovative pedagogical techniques at that time, related to the Free Institute of Education, based on the school requirement according to each student's capabilities and, above all, on the awareness of individual and collective responsibility.

During the Civil War, she worked as a teacher and delegate of school camps in Aragón. She was a member of the Teaching Workers Federation and also treasurer of the FETE-UGT and the Federation of Socialist Groups, as well as secretary of the Unified Social Youth of Aragón.

Given the advance of the extremist group, she had to escape to France with other teachers. There, she headed to Saint-Jean-du-Bruel camp and finally escaped to go to Paris. In 1945, she acted as a delegate in the Congress of the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE) in exile. In 1946, she married Adolfo Jimeno and one year later both settled in the town of Maracay (Venezuela). There, they founded the Calicanto Institute, where she taught until she returned to Spain in the 1970s.

She first worked as a teacher in Valdealgofra (Teruel) and, in the first democratic elections of 1977, was elected member of the parliament, representing Castelló in the candidacy of the PSOE. She was one of the 27 women who were part of the legislature that passed the Spanish Constitution, one of the so-called "mothers of the Constitution." She was later a Culture Councillor in Benicàssim. After the Calicanto Institute was sold, she created a fund to help Venezuelan university students to study in Spain, the Adopal Foundation, which in 1992 was absorbed by the Universidad Carlos III Foundation.

In 2004, she published her work *Momentos de una vida* and, in parallel, created the Palmira Pla Foundation with the aim of helping the most disadvantaged sectors: the elderly, children, etc.

She died on 27th August 2007 in Castelló.



## CRISTINA ALLOZA SANZ

Writer

Castelló, 1922-2009

### Santa Maria square section, section 1, row 5, no. 58

Throughout the 20th century, the literary work carried out by women writers increased and began to be placed on an equal footing with that of men. Publishers started to value and become interested in their work, since they were able to create in any literary genre. Before, it was not easy for women to access a world that was considered only within the reach of men. Thus, women tried to publish using their husbands' name or using pseudonyms, as the poetess Angelina Abad from Vila-real did for several years.

Daughter of the doctor, poet and painter Maximià Alloza, one of the signatories of the 'Normes de Castelló', Cristina Alloza Sanz was born on 29th December 1922 in Castelló and since she was very young, while studying high school, she began to write, especially novels. In 1949, she published the work *Encontré mis blasones* and in 1951, *Más allá de las nubes*, a novel that was about to be adapted into a film. She worked at the Tax Office Delegation; later, at the Labourers Group and, finally, at the Ministry of Agriculture Delegation. She collaborated for several years with the magazine *Festividades* and other publications, where she wrote short stories on Magdalena subjects.

She was a pioneer in the crime mystery novel genre that takes place in different parts of the city of Castelló, and which is so successful nowadays, with her work *La gran esmeralda*, which was published in 1969 by the Armengot book store and the Junta Central de Festes (Central Festival Board).

Cristina Alloza died on 20th August 2009 at the age of 86.



## JOSEFINA LÓPEZ SANMARTÍN

Journalist and senator

**Barcelona, 1919 - Castelló, 1989**

### Sant Cristòfol square section, block 2, row 2, no. 11

During the Civil War, many women were members of different parties and got involved to help fight fascism. Many of them had to go into exile once the war ended and did not come back. Those who did, mostly tried to have a quiet life; others continued fighting for their ideas.

Born in 1919 in Barcelona, Josefin López was a member of the Spanish Communist Party since 1932 and also joined the Unified Socialist Youth in 1936, where she was part of the National Executive Commission. When the war ended, she went into exile and was taken to a concentration camp in Oran (Algeria), from where she was freed and taken to the Soviet Union. There she studied Slavic and received a doctorate at the University of Moscow. In Moscow and for 25 years, she worked as a journalist for Radio España Independiente, popularly known as La Pirenaica.

She returned to Spain in 1967 and she studied a degree in Philosophy and Literature at the University of Madrid. During the transition she was a councillor of the City Council of Castelló representing the Communist Party of the Valencian Country in 1979 and the Socialist Party of the Valencian Country in the municipal elections of 1983. She was a member of the Women Democratic Movement, then she became general director of Social Welfare of the Council of the Valencian Country between 1979 and 1982. In 1986 general elections, she was elected senator for the province of Castelló representing the PSPV-PSOE. Within the Senate, she was a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Industry and Energy, as well as member of the Senate Committee on Relations with the Ombudsman and Human Rights.

She died on 6th January 1989.



## ISABEL MARTÍNEZ BLAYA

Militiawoman

La Vall d'Uixó, 1914 - Castelló, 1989

### Sant Cristòfol square section, block 2, row 1, no. 41

Before the absence of a republican army at the beginning of the Civil War, columns of militiamen were improvised and, voluntarily, they fought against the insurgents. They were mainly civilians that belonged to political parties and unions. The militiawomen's role is probably one of the least known ones. Determined women who not only wanted to defend the Republic, but also wanted to prove their worth in unthinkable situations, such as at the battle front. But even though they collaborated actively in some combats at first, they were slowly relegated to healthcare and administrative tasks. In fact, the discredit they suffered at the end had nothing to do with the role of heroines they played at the beginning.

Isabel Martínez Blaya, born in La Vall d'Uixó, was linked to the Socialist Youth since she was very young. At the beginning of the war, when she was 22, she joined as a militiawoman and went to Teruel with the Matteotti Battalion to fight with a rifle, rejecting any discrimination and, like many of her companions, she was taught how to use firearms. She was one of the driving forces of the antifascist youth organisation Unión de Muchachas (Girls' Union). This organisation tried to unify the left-wing female youth to help the Popular Front win the war. Isabel was concerned about evacuee women and helped so they could get a job to help support their families. During the war many women in this organisation worked in jobs that until then had been undertaken by men. Isabel, a convinced feminist, defended that women and men performing the same job had to be paid the same.

Unfortunately, the fascists' victory destroyed what women had achieved during the Second Republic.

Isabel died on 18th March 1989 at the age of 74.



## PIEDAD ORTELLS AGUT

The first female lawyer in Castelló

**Castelló, 1921-2007**

### Sant Antoni square section, block 6, row 3, no. 10

If access to university education was complicated for women, it was even harder for them to apply these studies in jobs that had been undertaken only by men until then. The few professions with studies that were socially accepted were teachers and nurses.

One of the pioneers to obtain a law degree was Piedad Ortells Agut, born in 1921 in Castelló, daughter of the lawyer José Ortells Agut. She obtained her degree in 1949 from the University of València and was the first practising lawyer in Castelló and, for over 29 years, the only one.

In 1984, she became a member of the regional parliament in the first Corts Valencianes (Valencian Parliament), was the first president of a parliamentary party (Liberal Party) in the provincial sphere, secretary of the Sindicato Arroceros de Castelló (Rice Union), secretary of the Patronato de Protección de la Mujer (Women's Protection Board), president and legal adviser of the Provincial Housewives' Association, founder of the Widows' Association and member of the Patronat de Nostra Senyora de la Mercé for the Redemption of Penalties for Work of the Castelló prison. She was honoured with the Merit Medal for Services to the Legal Profession by the General Council of Advocacy of Spain.

Not all the women who started university careers completed them or worked in that field, but they were women who, like Piedad Ortells, were ahead of their time and, thanks to their perseverance and work, managed to make their way in a world ruled exclusively by men. They demonstrated that it was possible to conciliate work and family life. In fact, Piedad had five children and for many years she looked after her sick husband.

She died on 19th August 2007 at the age of 86.



## ELISA BALAGUER GONEL

The first female driver

Vinaròs, 1895 - Castelló, 1980

### Old square section, burial monument no. 217

Even though anyone can get a driving license nowadays, very few people could have access to them a century ago, when they started to be issued. In fact, the regulations of 24th July 1918 indicated that, among the different documents that applicants had to submit, if they were minors or *females*, they had to be accompanied by the corresponding paternal or marital authorisation. From 1909 to 1944, 6,193 driving licenses were issued in Castelló and only 33 of them were for women. Elisa Balaguer Gonet was the first one of them since, a few months before the dictatorship of Primo de Rivera, she passed her driving test, exactly on 28th March 1923, with number 390. The truth is that only women who belonged to well-off families could afford to take their driving test, but whatever the case, they paved the way for women to access an exclusively man's world up to that time.

Daughter of Francisco Balaguer Ferrer and Antonia Gonet Piñón, Elisa was born in Vinaròs, where she lived until she was six years old and then, after her father's death, she moved to Castelló with her siblings.

Elisa was a woman ahead of her time and she was not only pioneer in driving, she also attended the painting academy of Vicente Castell and, some time later, she studied at the Superior School of Fine Arts of San Fernando in Madrid, thanks to the scholarship granted by the Diputació de Castelló (Provincial Government of Castelló).

Later, she gained the position of Secondary School Drawing Teacher after taking a public examination. She taught at the secondary schools of Plasencia and Logroño, then she took another public examination in 1945 and moved to the Francesc Ribalta High School in Castelló, where she taught until retirement in 1965.

In collaboration with her sister Antonia, she created the Balaguer Gonet Foundation, a project devised by her brother Francisco before he died, to collaborate with grants for master's students, postgraduate courses, etc.



## MARÍA LIDÓN SABORIT SOLSONA

A matter of conscience

Castelló, 1/1/1901 - 18/4/1901

### Old square section, block 1, row 4, no. 1 (infants)

On 28th December 1900, the City Council of Castelló unanimously approved to celebrate the arrival of the new century with several acts: music and bell ringing, the transfer of Virgin Mary from Lledó to the house of the Countess of Pestagua, in María Agustina Square, and from there a procession to the main church, where she remained until the following Sunday. Bread was distributed to the poor at the Teatre Principal where one of the most awaited events, the baptism of the first poor boy and poor girl born in the new century, was held. This act had to be postponed because, despite the fact that the girl María Lidón Saborit Solsona was born on the first day at 2:10 p.m., the male children born were not poor enough. Finally, on the 6th day, at 3:30 p.m., Manuel Joaquín Queral Gómez was born, son of a newspaper seller. The double baptism took place two days later with the mayor and his wife acting as godparents. There was also a splendid banquet at the Town Hall, where the children's parents received an important monetary donation, in addition to the 635 pesetas that were deposited in the bank so it could be handed to the children when they reached the legal age with the accumulated interests.

The consistory awarded the boy and the girl in the same way; however, teacher Canós volunteered to teach only the boy from the age of 6 to 13 and promised to look after him half-board, from morning until dinner time.

Despite the toast with champagne made by the mayor and those present to the new-borns' life, the girl died four months later, on 18th April 1901. The City Council took care of the niche and the tombstone with the corresponding inscription.

FIRST BIRTH OF THE 20TH CENTURY

SHE DIED ON 18TH APRIL 1901

DEDICATED BY THE HONOURABLE CITY COUNCIL TO ITS ADOPTED DAUGHTER.



## ÁNGELA MORENO GÓMEZ

A victim of gender violence

**Manzanillo (Cuba), 1870 - Castelló, 1922**

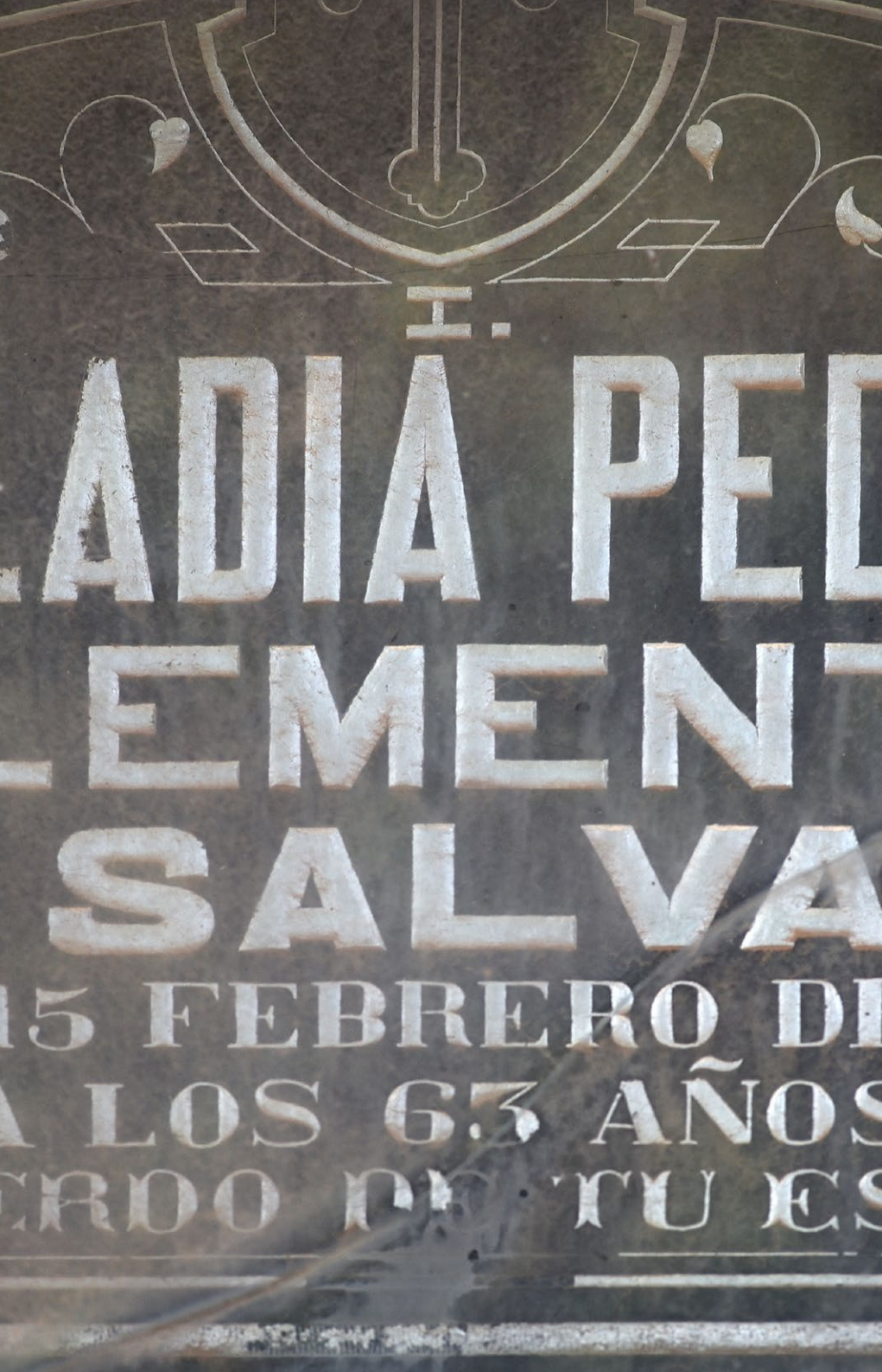
### Old square section, section 1, row 5, no. 48

Despite the institutional policies to eradicate gender violence, this continues to be a burden for society and, often, the media reports some fatal outcome.

Ángela Moreno, born Cuban, was the daughter of Pascual Moreno Chabrera, a soldier by profession who left Spain to fight in Cuba, where he married Gertrudis, a 15-year-old Cuban woman. When Gertrudis died, Pascual returned to his village, Vila-real, with his seven children, a large number of medals and a trunk full of gold coins, which was the result of 22 years of looting after the battles in which he participated. When he was 58, he married again with a young 18-year-old woman and they had six more children.

Angela, one of the daughters of the first wife, got married and had a son, but unfortunately, she became a widow. Her brother-in-law married her out of interest, since he knew that sooner or later, she would inherit a large amount of money. But, as it happened, his father-in-law disinherited the children from his first wife and left everything to the children he had with his second wife. This infuriated Montoya, which was the son-in-law's name, and Angela endured continuous beatings from 1906 until 14th January 1922, when she could not take it anymore and hit him twice with an axe while he was sleeping. But before dying, the man caused her several minor injuries that led to a diabetic coma and, on 12th March 1922, she died at the age of 52.

The press at the time and the general population were outraged by this event: the victim was him, the poor thing, and she was described as a woman with little patience, since she killed him "just for a couple of beatings". The fact is that gender violence was not punishable by justice or society at that time, and it was even considered normal.



## ELADIA PEDRÓS CLEMENTE

A pioneering teacher

**Cantavieja (Teruel), 1854 - Castelló, 1917**

### Old square section, block 2, row 4, no. 95

In 1798, in addition to the state school for orphaned children founded by Bishop Climent and the girls' free school known as La Casa de la Enseñanza, sponsored by Isabel Ferrer, two more schools for boys and one for girls were established. The boys' schools were the Escuela del Real, located in the suburb of San Francisco, and the Escuela del Hospital, located in the suburb of San Félix, together with the girls' one, called Escuela de las Balsas.

Eladia Pedrós, teacher of Primary Education of Castelló, taught at this school. On 8th November 1892, she applied for the vacancy left by the owner who taught at the school known as Escuela del Centro when she moved to Bilbao. Three days later, the Local Board of Primary Education informed her that her request had been approved and, on the 17th, the temporary teacher of the Escuela del Centro, Rosario Gual, moved to the Escuela de las Balsas.

Eladia fought for art crafts to be included in teaching since, in her opinion, these tasks helped children develop their imagination and prepared them to take advantage of all their natural skills, both in the intellectual and technical areas, thus being better prepared to access the job market in future.

She died on 15th February 1917 at the age of 63.



### EDUVIGIS TENA PASTOR

The first female local councillor in Castelló  
Castelló, 1875-1950

#### Old square section, block 2, row 1, no. 107

The New Municipal Statute promulgated on 8th March 1924 during the dictatorship of Primo de Rivera, led to the entry of women into the world of politics and, although their tasks within the City Council were a mere continuation of the household activities, in addition to other very specific tasks, such as charity issues, for the first time they were given visibility in a place that, until then, had been taken exclusively by men. Nonetheless, these women came from a very specific social environment: catholic and close to the regime ideas; after all, what was expected of them was that they educated under that ideology.

7th January 1925 was a historical day for the city of Castelló. For the first time, women held political positions; in fact, initially there were four: Eduvigis Tena Pastor, María de los Desamparados Ibáñez Laguda, Ramona Fabregat and María Alegre Vilar, and years later, Dolores Erdozaín Lacort. The former, as the fourth deputy mayor, and the others as councillors. On that day, Governor Pablo de Castro y Santoyo, as well as the new mayor, Salvador Guinot, in their welcoming message to the new City Council, thanked women for "the sacrifice of accepting the position" and the governor pointed out that this "intrusion" of women in the world of politics was "necessary".

Eduvigis was the prioress (secular) of the Third Order of Carmen de Santa María. She died on 22nd July 1950 at the age of 75.

It was not until the sixties when women would return to the municipal city council acting as councillors, although we had to wait until 13th June 2015 for a woman, Amparo Marco, to be elected mayor of Castelló.

## MARÍA PILAR GIL MONTANER

The first female pharmacist

Vila-real, 1901 - Castelló, 1993

### Old square section, block 3, row 3, no. 62

At the end of the 19th century, women's access to university took place much later than that of men. The first woman to enrol was María Elena Maseras in Barcelona in 1872, but she had to overcome many obstacles and difficulties, since there was not even any legislation on this fact because, at that time, it was unthinkable that a woman would want to access a liberal profession.

The Royal Order of 11th June 1888 provided that when women applied to enrol in official education, they had to check with the Authorities to study each case. In addition, having an education did not enable them to work in that field. Fortunately, on 8th March 1910, another royal order put an end to the obstacles that had existed until that moment.

In Castelló, the first women to complete their studies chose professions related to health and began to work as of the 1920s.

Pilar Gil Montaner was born on 6th October 1901 in Vila-real. She was the daughter of Nicolás Gil, a telegraph officer, and Consuelo Montaner, a housewife who belonged to a religious family of eight children. She finished her pharmaceutical studies in Barcelona in 1924, when she was 22, but did not join the Pharmacists' Association until 1928.

She started running a pharmacy in Nules, later worked as a chemist at the Provincial Institute of Hygiene, a building that in 1938, and due to a bombing, lost much of its structure, and at the Pharmacy Service of the Provincial Hospital of Castelló.

In 1937, she was a member of the Trade Union of Workers of Health and Social Welfare of Castelló (linked to UGT), which had 33 members and only 8 of them were women.

Pilar did not get married. Erudite and an arts lover, she was very integrated into the cultural circles of Castelló. She died on 17th June 1993.





## NATALIA JIMENO GIL

The first transfer to the new cemetery

Castelló, 1838-1858

### Second square section, right, section 1, row 3, no. 25

The previous Calvario Cemetery, inaugurated in 1804, lasted only a few years before a part of it was expropriated in 1859 to build the road to Zaragoza, which had to connect with Zapateros Street, currently Colón Street. The area was no longer big enough for the population at the time and, in addition, it increased the risk of epidemics.

When the new cemetery was inaugurated in 1861, the remains of the people buried in the previous cemetery had to be moved, but this could not be done immediately, and it was necessary to wait a few years according to the legislation in force at that time. During this time, wealthy families began to request moving their deceased ones, either to the niches, or acquiring a few metres of land to build a family vault.

Finally, thanks to *Gaceta de Madrid*, the *Official Gazette of the Province* and a municipal edict, the people became aware that the unclaimed remains would be moved from the old cemetery to the common ossuary of the new one. The removal started on 18th November 1868, but before that, a requiem mass was celebrated. Later, there was a "general" burial, that is, the most lavish of the moment, with an entourage headed by representatives of the City Council, the clergy and the authorities, all of them accompanied by music.

The first transfer took place in 1865 and it involved the remains of Natalia Jimeno Gil, a 20-year-old girl who died on 20th March 1858. The following inscription can be read on her tombstone:

HERE LIES  
MS. NATALIA JIMENO Y GIL  
MAIDEN, WHO DIED ON 20TH MARCH 1858  
WHEN SHE WAS 20 YEARS OLD  
HER MORTAL REMAINS WERE THE FIRST  
EXHUMED AND MOVED FROM THE OLD TO THIS NEW CEMETERY  
ON 28TH JANUARY 1865.  
D. O. M.



## ELVIRA IRULEGUI GALINDO

Aiding the victims of the Cuban war

Albocàsser, 1845 - Castelló, 1921

### Second square section, right, burial monument no. 118

In 1898 the United States Congress declared war against Spain and, after the defeat of the Spanish fleet on 1st May at the Battle of Manila Bay, some women helped soldiers and their families as much as they could.

Elvira Irulegui Galindo was born in Albocàsser in 1845. She belonged to a well-off family and married Federico García Caballero de Campoamor, nephew of the Governor of Castelló, Ramón de Campoamor. Elvira was the honorary president of the Board of Ladies of the Red Cross of Castelló and, along with other women of this association, she undertook a really important civic and social task: they visited towns to increase the number of partners, they were in charge of preparing food bags and medicines that were distributed to the soldiers who passed through Castelló station, they took upon themselves to include the name of the repatriated soldiers who were from the regions of Castelló in the press, they organised home assistance for those who returned sick and, in addition, they made collections, raffles and theatre evenings to support financially the families of dead soldiers.

In those years, when women were exclusively devoted to household chores, this frenetic activity of Elvira and her companions helped them leave the charity-related social circles and showed that they were perfectly capable to carry out projects that until then had been developed only by men.

Her husband had died on 29th April 1878 and her daughter the following year, when she was just 19 years old. Elvira Irulegui died on 2nd April 1921. Her funeral was followed by personalities from the city's political and social spheres. The press echoed the act and reported on her qualities, the strength she showed after going blind during the last years of her life and the serious illness that caused her death. She even wrote the text of her own obituary.



### JOAQUINA P. P.

The anonymous tomb

Town in València, 1828 - Castelló, 1911

#### Second square section, right, row 540, no. 1 (infants)

A cemetery is a place full of messages that most people do not understand because they do not know the meaning of this funerary language, still very attractive to the visitor, even if unknown. Epitaphs are sepulchral inscriptions that honour the deceased and help us to know a little about their personality, particularly their religious beliefs.

There are different types of epitaphs: short, long, in prose, verse, narrative, biographical, neutral, sad, etc., and, as has already been said, the number of euphemisms used to avoid the taboo word *dead* stands out.

This tomb, popularly known as the “anonymous tomb”, is striking because its epitaph is a dialogue that the deceased maintains with the mortals and reminds them of their sad fate. Despite most people assuming that it is a man, since the death occurred in 1911, and unfortunately women remained overshadowed by men in those years, it was finally found out that the tomb belonged to Joaquina P. P., a single woman who died when she was 83 years old.

This is the epitaph:

MORTAL, THINK THAT WHOEVER YOU WERE  
I WAS WHAT YOU ARE  
THERE IS NO AGE SET: MAYBE TODAY YOU WILL BECOME WHAT I AM  
MY NAME IS NOT EVEN IMPORTANT TO YOU:  
THE ONE WAITING FOR YOU IS RESTING HERE  
1828-1911



## FRANCISCA GARCÍA MIR

Trade unionist, feminist and victim of reprisal  
Castelló, 1897-1986

### First square section, left, row 46, no. 12

Francisca García Mir, *Parrusa*, belonged to the orange industry, very important in Castelló; in fact, there were several women's unions engaged in this work. Already in 1913, the society *El Despertar Femenino* (Female Awakening) -socialist-, had approved its first regulation. The aim was not only to improve the female members' working conditions, but also those of the female workers in other sectors. Thus, they claimed a fairer wage with respect to men's and fought against the mistreatment and abuse of masters and managers. From the age of 16, women could already join this union, but they could not vote in the meetings until they turned 18, although they were listened to. Even if the whole board consisted of women, the party men were those responsible for the financial issues.

Francisca was president of the Workers Centre of Castelló linked to the Socialist Party or UGT, where the women involved in the collection of oranges were registered.

She was married to Pascual Lavall Juncosa and, once the war was over, both her and her husband were accused of helping the rebellion. Moreover, Francisca was accused of attending anti-fascist demonstrations and participating in several violent incidents. Even though both denied the charges, they were finally sentenced to death. This sentence was commuted to twenty years and one day in 1946, although a year later she was finally released. Francisca died on 6th August 1986 at the age of 89.

Francisca, committed to fighting for equality between men and women, was another victim of Franco's repression.



Map

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### 1 JUANA GOÑI LICEAGA

Burguete (Navarra) 1848  
- Castelló, 1922  
Faithful to her beliefs  
Unconsecrated section,  
row 1, no. 1 (tombs)

### 2 VICENTA ARMENGOT VILA

Castelló, 1836-1892  
A teacher by trade  
First square section, right.  
Town Hall burial monument no. 83

### 3 TERESA GIMÉNEZ SELMA

Castelló, 1898-1990  
Trade unionist  
First square section, right,  
row 139, no. 21

### 4 DOLORES NEBOT MORTE / ELISA ULL MARÍ

L'Alcora, 1907 - Castelló, 1940  
Borriana, 1913 - Castelló, 1939  
Victims of reprisals and shot  
Catholic cemetery ossuary

### 5 ANTONIA LLOP Y RAMOS

Castelló, 1800-1861  
The doubtful honour of being poor  
Sixth square section, block 6,  
row 3, no. 39

### 6 MATILDE SALVADOR SEGARRA

Castelló, 1918 - València, 2007  
Composer  
Old square section, block 4,  
row 4, no. 80

### 7 LOLA CABELLO MORENO

Málaga, 1905 - Castelló, 1942  
Flamenco singer  
Old square section, block 5,  
row 5, no. 11

### 8 BEATRIZ GUTTMANN GOLDBERGER

Castelló, 1931-2014  
Painter  
Sant Vicent square section,  
burial monument no. 224

### 9 PALMIRA PLA PECHOVIERTO

Cretas (Teruel), 1914 - Castelló, 2007  
Pedagogue and member of the  
Spanish Parliament  
Sant Vicent square section, block 13,  
row 1, no. 6

### 10 CRISTINA ALLOZA SANZ

Castelló, 1922-2009  
Writer  
Santa Maria square section,  
section 1, row 5, no. 58

### 11 JOSEFINA LÓPEZ SANMARTÍN

Barcelone, 1919 - Castelló, 1989  
Journalist and senator  
Sant Cristòfol square section,  
block 2, row 2, no. 11

### 12 ISABEL MARTÍNEZ BLAYA

La Vall d'Uixó, 1914  
- Castelló, 1989  
Militiawoman  
Sant Cristòfol square section,  
block 2, row 1, no. 41

### 13 PIEDAD ORTELLS AGUT

Castelló, 1921-2007  
The first female lawyer in Castelló  
Sant Antoni square section,  
block 6, row 3, no. 10

### 14 ELISA BALAGUER GONEL

Vinaròs, 1895 - Castelló, 1980  
The first female driver  
Old square section,  
burial monument no. 217

### 15 M. LIDÓN SABORIT SOLSONA

Castelló, 1/1/1901 - 18/4/1901  
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row 4, no. 1 (infants)

### 16 ÁNGELA MORENO GÓMEZ

Manzanillo (Cuba), 1870  
- Castelló, 1922  
A victim of gender violence  
Old square section, section 1,  
row 5, no. 48

### 17 ELADIA PEDRÓS CLEMENTE

Cantavieja (Teruel), 1854  
- Castelló, 1917  
A pioneering teacher  
Old square section, block 2,  
row 4, no. 95

### 18 EDUVIGIS TENA PASTOR

Castelló, 1875-1950  
The first female local councillor  
in Castelló  
Old square section, block 2,  
row 1, no. 107

### 19 M. PILAR GIL MONTANER

Vila-real, 1901 - Castelló, 1993  
The first female pharmacist  
Old square section,  
block 3, row 3, no. 62

### 20 NATALIA JIMENO GIL

Castelló, 1838-1858  
The first transfer to the  
new cemetery  
Second square section, right,  
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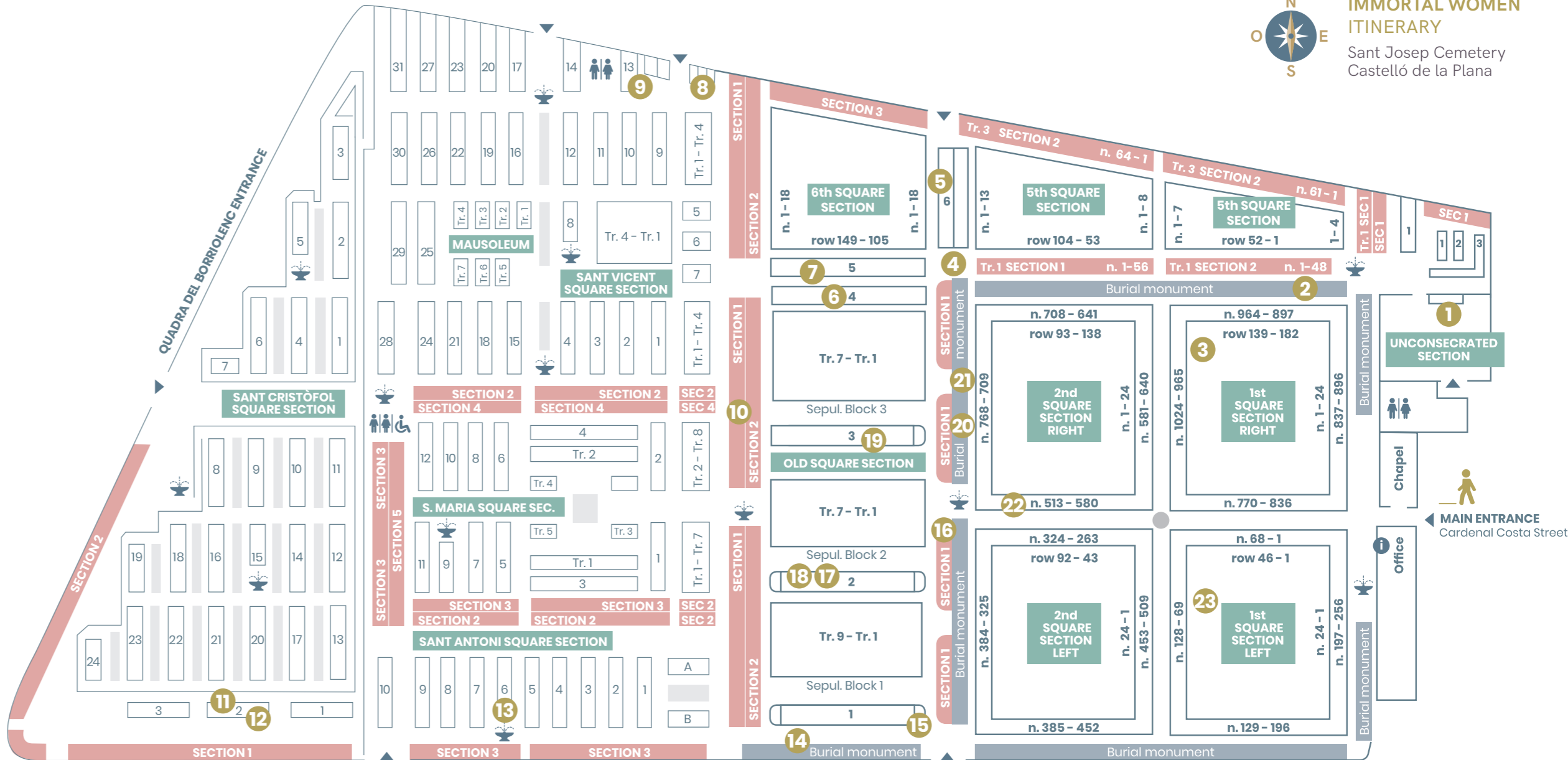
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Castelló, 1897-1986  
Trade unionist, feminist  
and victim of reprisal  
First square section, left,  
row 46, no. 12



## IMMORTAL WOMEN ITINERARY

Sant Josep Cemetery  
Castelló de la Plana



GUIDE BROCHURE SHOWCASE



ACCESS



FOUNTAIN



TOILETS



ADAPTED TOILETS

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