El Palacio Vivel Vivel's Manor House -Cultural Centre

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"El Palacio Vivel" - Vivel's Manor House

Above, view of the Vivel's Manor House in the 1960s. You should note the large garden that surrounds it.

In the bottom image, the canal that carried the water, next to the house's garden, and the wall of the "Orchard of Saint Augustus" that was right in front of it. Some workers are installing a pipe parallel to the canal. (Images courtesy of Sergi Castelló)

The manor house was built in 1922 by the engineer Vicente Sanchís Tarazona and his wife, Rosario Creixach Domínguez for their daughter, Rosario Sanchís Creixach, on land that was then on the outskirts of the city, bordered to the north by the Saint Joseph's canal and to the south by the former "Hort dels Soguers" (orchard for rope manufacturing). Its architecture is in the so-called "casticista" style (a Spanish traditionalist style), with abundant wrought iron work on the balconies and windows together with the use of tiles on the balcony supports. The roof is finished with imposing eaves. Of particular note is the tower located at the corner of the building, covered by a pitched roof and the rear gallery, with pointed arches, with a certain medieval look. The only original building of the house is the chapel, on the first floor, with neogothic details and dedicated to Saint Joseph. On the facade, under the Sanchís-Creixach coat of arms, you can see the double access to the manor house, one for the noble area and another, smaller, for the service area. To the left of the main building are the old stables, which can be accessed through a semi-circular arch. The building was surrounded by a botanical garden that occupied almost the entire block where it was located. During the Spanish Civil War, the Republican authorities confiscated the property and rehabilitated it as a residence for refugee children and a hospital for blood collection. After the restoration and enhancement of the building, the Vivel's Manor House is managed by the City Council of la Vall d'Uixó, being an important cultural centre, hosting exhibitions, concerts, book presentations, courses, among others, as well as housing a permanent archaeological exhibition room.



The title of Marquis of Vivel dates back to the 19th century, during the reign of Queen Isabel II and it refers to the town of *"Vivel del Río Martín"*, located in the region of *"Las Cuencas Mineras*" of the province of Teruel. The heir to the title, José María Martínez-Agulló y Márquez, married Rosario Sanchís Creixach in 1928 and the manor house became their residence.