



1. GROUP OF FISHERMEN MARQUÉS DE VALLTERRA

TOURIST ROUTE THROUGH SOUTHERN VILLAGES – EL PERELLONET

 **TURISMO
DE BARRIOS**

GENERAL MAP OF THE ROUTE



LOCATION OF THE TOURIST ATTRACTION



**AJUNTAMENT
DE VALÈNCIA**

HISTORY

The urban core of El Perellonet currently occupies a narrow, elongated strip about 3.5 km long and 1 km wide between the sea and the CV-500 road (also known as Avenida de las Gaviotas or les *Gavines*, and "*carretera de Nazaret a Oliva*"). Until the 20th century, this area, situated between the rice fields and the sea, was practically uninhabited, temporarily used by fishermen from El Palmar who stayed in a group of shacks.

The opening of the gola (channel) of El Perellonet in 1903, which connects the Albufera with the sea, led to the construction of a house for the floodgates operator and his family. Subsequently, the construction of the road attracted more families who lived in shacks or modest houses near the mouth of the gola, working as fishermen or in the rice fields.

In the late 1940s, the Marqués de Vallterra, owner of some rice field plots, took steps to improve living conditions for the village residents. Under the direction of architect Carlos de Miguel González, he built a group of 27 houses and a small church on his property. These were paid for in installments by their future owners.

Thus, the Group of Fishermen of Marqués de Vallterra was inaugurated in 1953 (**photos 1, 2, 3, and 4**). Over time, some of the houses have been extensively renovated, significantly altering their original appearance. However, the curious original typology remains recognizable, featuring hyperbolic profile roofs with waves and a characteristic white and blue color scheme.

According to the Guide to Valencia Architecture (CTAV, 2007): "*In the early 1950s (...), new construction systems were experimented with, some used in hangars and industrial buildings, aiming to reduce costs and construction times. One of these was the Ctesiphon vaults (named after the great arch of the Sasanian palace of Ctesiphon, near Baghdad), first used in 1941 to create a 6.1 m span arch with a 3.1 cm thick sheet. (...) The English system was used by Carlos de Miguel, director of the magazine 'Arquitectura del COAM,' in the construction of this group of fishermen's houses in El Perellonet, a suburb of Valencia located next to one of the golas or channels connecting the Albufera with the sea. The complex, promoted by the Social Institute of the Navy, consists of a chapel located in the central area and 27 houses grouped in blocks with courtyards or linear blocks that develop, under self-supporting cement vaults extended over burlap fabric, a small program (kitchen-dining room, bathroom, and two or three bedrooms) with areas between 42 and 54 m².*"

During the 1960s and 1970s, the tourist boom filled almost the entire space between the golas of El Perellonet and El Perelló, the Nazaret-Oliva road, and the sea with apartment buildings and second homes. This resulted in the elongated current urban nucleus, where the original settlement area around the Group of Fishermen, north of the village, continues to be considered "el poble," the town. Here are located the pharmacy, the auxiliary health center, the local town hall, and the former school converted into a civic center.

The small church (**photos 5, 6, 7, and 8**) is dedicated to the Virgin of Carmen, the patron saint of fishermen and El Perellonet, and follows the same construction typology as the original group of houses. The wide wooden door features an arch with religious (the Holy Grail and Saint Anthony Abbot) and maritime themes. It has a bell gable with a bell, and inside houses an image of the Virgin of Carmen.



The festivities in honor of the patron saint are celebrated in the first half of July. During these festivities, besides a procession through the streets of the village, traditionally the image of the Virgin of Carmen was paraded on a boat in a maritime procession around the vicinity of the village. However, in recent years, due to a lack of boats, the procession on the water has taken on a unique form: the image is carried on a surfboard lent by one of the residents. Additionally, fireworks displays had to be discontinued to comply with regulations protecting the Albufera Natural Park.

On another note, the neighborhood association of El Perellonet has its "casal" (social club) in an old shack next to the Group of Fishermen **(photo 9)**. In the former school of the village, now a civic center, there is an interesting model depicting the appearance and activities of the old town **(photo 10)**.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Address: Group of Fishermen of Marqués de Vallterra, next to the beginning of Avenida de las Gaviotas or Les Gavines.

The church is located at number 14.

ACCESSIBILITY

Access: Square accessible via ramps. There are steps at some points.

Parking: There are several accessible parking spaces (PMR) throughout the urban area, including at Group of Fishermen Marqués de Vallterra (access number 22), Avenida Gavines (access number 13), and Calle Sotavent (access number 1).





PHOTO 1 and 2. Group of Fishermen of Marqués de Vallterra today.



PHOTO 3. Original appearance of the houses in the 1960s (elperellonet.com).

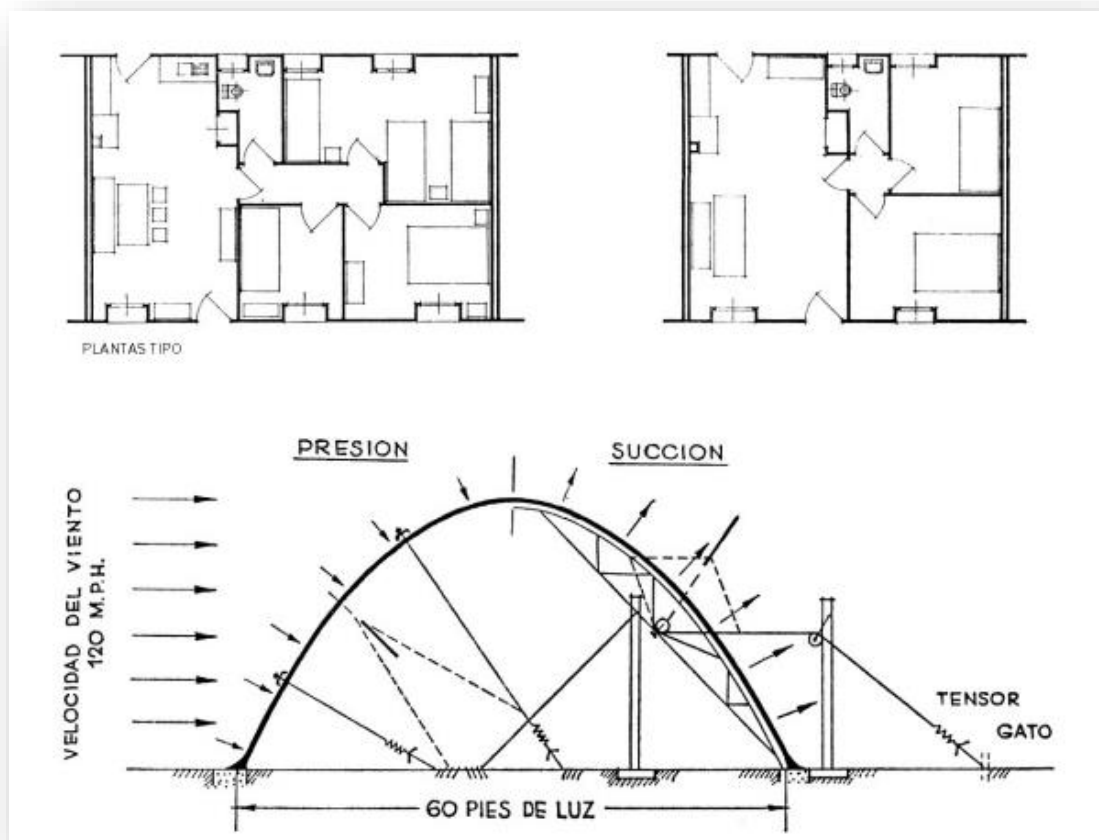


PHOTO 4. Typical layouts and structural diagrams of the houses. (Mercedes Navarro, brutalmentvalencia.wordpress.com)





PHOTO 5 and 6. Church of the Virgin of Carmen





PHOTO 7. Detail of the entrance arch of the church



PHOTO 8. Interior of the church (photos: elperellonet.com)





PHOTO 9. Barrack, current headquarters of the Perellonet falla



PHOTO 10. Recreation of the old village of El Perellonet. Civic center (former schools)

