

## TALARRUBIAS

### CHAPEL OF THE VIRGEN DEL CARMEN - TALARRUBIAS (BADAJOZ)

#### DESCRIPTION

The Capilla del Carmen is located in the urban centre of Talarrubias, forming part of the municipality's historical religious heritage. This building, originally linked to an old hospital, constitutes one of the most singular spaces from an artistic point of view, especially notable for its interior dome. It is a building of great symbolic and architectural value, whose historical evolution and recent restoration have reinforced its role within the local heritage.

#### HISTORY

The chapel was built at the end of the 16th century by Don Alonso Luengo y de Yegros, forming part of an adjoining hospital previously founded by his grandparents Alonso Yegros and Catalina García, today converted into a municipal hostel. This hospital, originally intended to assist the sick and travellers, has now been converted into a municipal hostel, thus maintaining its vocation of public service.

In 1793 the building underwent reconstruction thanks to contributions from devotees of the image of Jesús Nazareno, which is still preserved inside, and at that time its striking dome was built. Over time, the chapel has undergone different uses and names, originally being known as the Capilla de Nuestra Señora de la Paz y San Ildefonso. As a curious note, its current best-known name of "el Carmen" derives from the phonetic alteration of "el camerino", a construction typical of this type of chapel in the 18th century.

In 2025 it underwent a major restoration intervention promoted by the Junta de Extremadura, enabling its comprehensive recovery through structural consolidation works, restoration of façades and interiors, improvement of facilities and resolution of damp-related problems, guaranteeing its future conservation.

#### HISTORICAL AND ARTISTIC DESCRIPTION

The building presents a stylistic combination typical of the late 18th century, in which the transition between Baroque and Rococo can be appreciated. Externally, the chapel displays a brick façade with sober lines and restrained composition, in harmony with the surrounding urban fabric. The façade does not anticipate the decorative richness of the interior, following a very common scheme in this type of construction, where true artistic exuberance is reserved for the interior space.

Inside stands the most outstanding element of the ensemble: a dome decorated with elaborate plasterwork, in which the Baroque language evolves towards lighter, curved

and ornamental forms characteristic of Rococo. Vegetal motifs, dynamic mouldings and relief decorative elements combine to create a space of great visual richness and strong devotional character.

This contrast between a relatively sober exterior and an intensely decorated interior gives the building remarkable historical and artistic interest. The dome has become one of the most representative examples of this type of decoration locally and a reference point for the study of the evolution from Baroque to Rococo in the religious architecture of Talarrubias.

### **NOTABLE FIGURES RELATED TO THE POI**

Particularly noteworthy is Don Alonso Luengo Yegros, promoter of the construction of the chapel in 1792. Likewise, popular devotion to Jesús Nazareno has been decisive in the conservation and evolution of the building, especially during its reconstruction at the end of the 18th century.

### **MOVABLE HERITAGE**

The image of Jesús Nazareno is preserved inside, a devotional element directly linked to the history of the building.

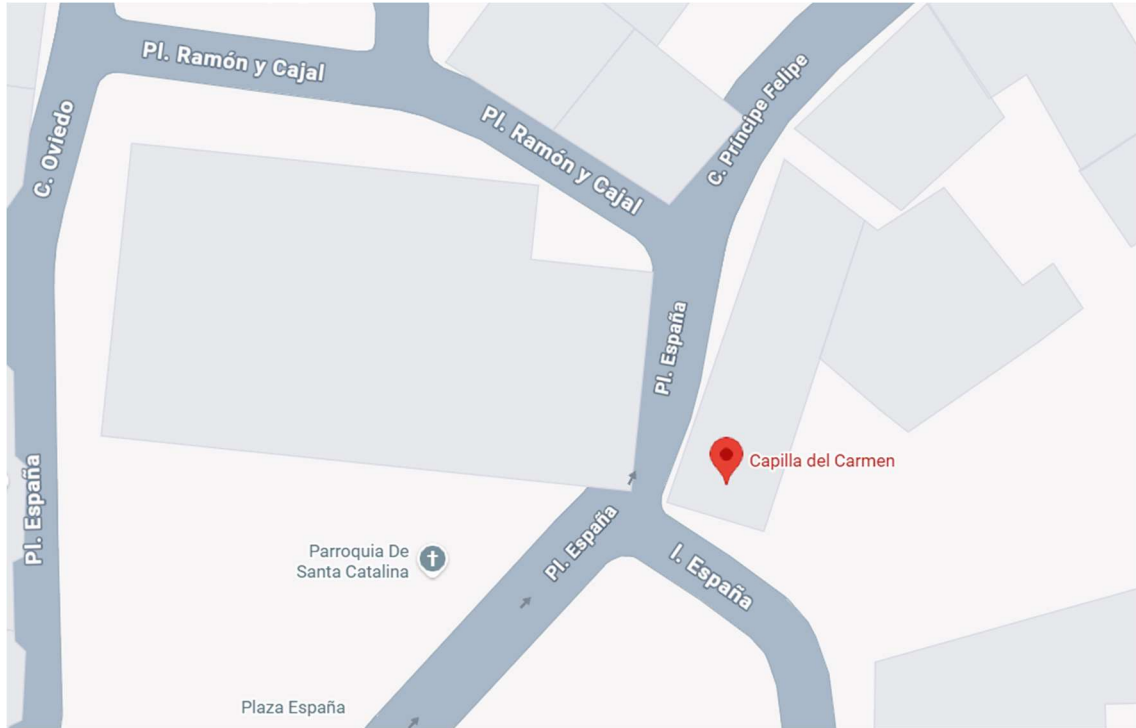
In addition, the recent intervention included the protection and conservation of altarpieces, images and other associated liturgical elements, although no specific pieces are detailed in the available sources.

### **INTANGIBLE HERITAGE**

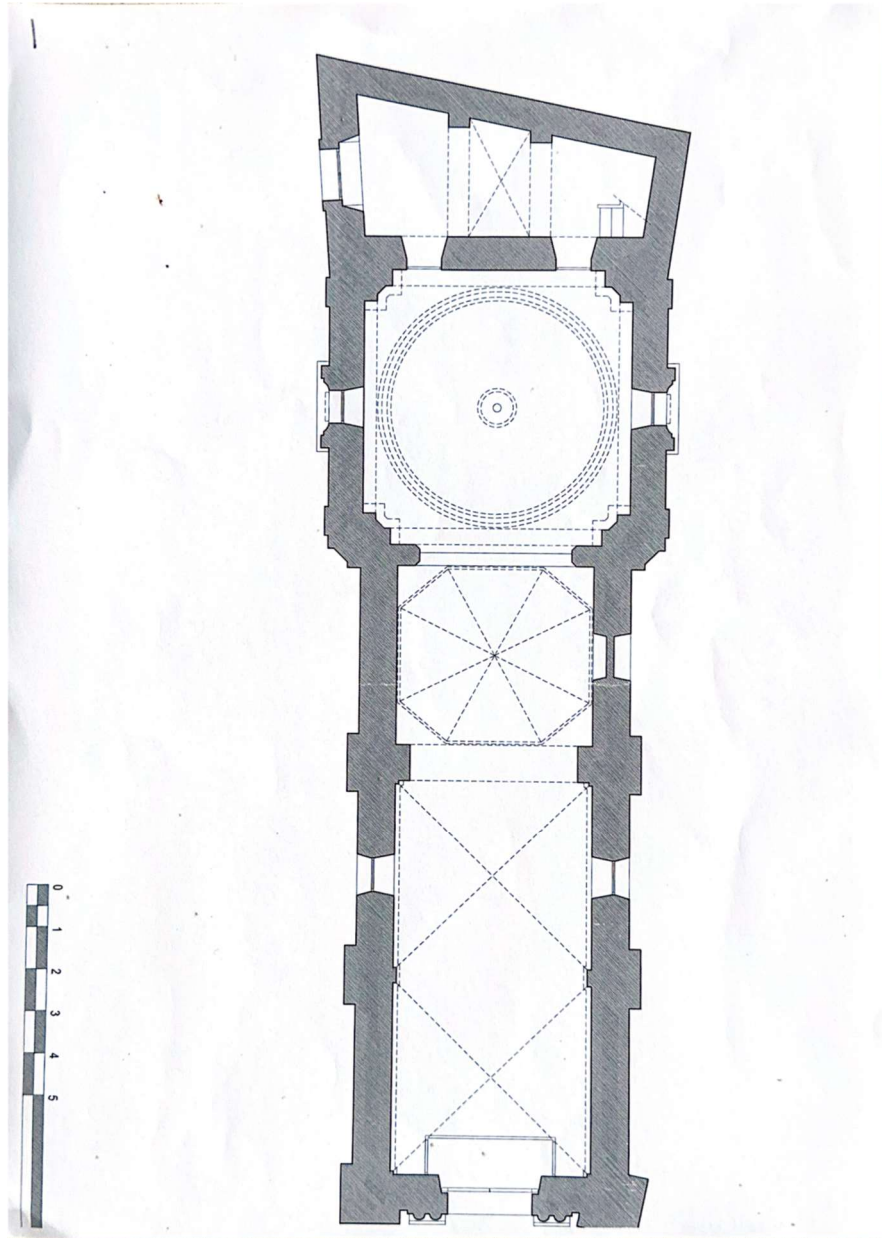
The chapel maintains a strong connection with the popular devotion of Talarrubias, especially around the figure of Jesús Nazareno.

Its original use as a hospital chapel and its later transformation into a heritage and cultural space reflect the evolution of the building's social functions, which today continues to be a symbolic and cultural landmark for the community.

## LOCATION MAP



FLOOR PLAN



## GRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION



The building features a typology that places it between the Baroque and Rococo styles.



The chapel has a brick facade with sober lines. © ARZOBISPADO DE TOLEDO. TOLEDO. ESPAÑA



Dome decorated with plasterwork. © ARZOBISPADO DE TOLEDO. TOLEDO. ESPAÑA



Image of the interior of the temple. © ARZOBISPADO DE TOLEDO. TOLEDO. ESPAÑA