


Torre Benissahat

Benissahat Tower

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ExploraVall



“Torre Benissahat” - Benissahat Tower

The tower is the only remaining vestige of the former agricultural farm of “Benissabat” and the oldest building in the town in use. The agricultural farms were, from west to east, L'Alcúdia, Benigafull, Seneja, Benissahat, Seneta and Benigasló. They all depended on the Castle de Uixó, which we can see looking north, at the end of “Assumption Street”.

The tower dates from the 12th century and it was already mentioned in the “*Llibre del Repartiment*”, where it is said that it has been donated on the 1st October, 1248 to Ramon Despedriz and his wife.

The tower has an L-shaped plan, with a ground floor and two upper floors, as well as a sloping terrace, topped with tiles. Masonry and brickwork were used in its construction. Nowadays, it has been transformed into a residential house and preserves all the typical elements of the 12th century construction. The tower has been declared an Asset of Cultural Value.

The north face of the tower, faces “Trinidad Street”, which connected the “Seneta” farm, the “Benissabat” farm and the “Barri dels Ollers” (local name for Potters' Quarter), formed further up the street. The potters did not need water from “Font de Sant Josep” (Saint Joseph's Spring), using only the water from the ravines of “L'Horteta and L'Anoueret”.

The potteries grew from the 17th century onwards and were one of the most characteristic economic activities of the city of la Vall d'Uixó, for four centuries, but their decline was accentuated in the last decades until their total disappearance, at the beginning of the present century.

Images from the exhibition “*Mans en l'aigua*”, by the Vallers Studies Centre.