

Cuatro Caños Fountain

The fountain is located in what was, in medieval times, the centre of the town: the original site of the Town Hall and the place where the market, Corpus Christi dances and even bullfights were held in the 16th century. The square was then known as the Plaza del Mercado or the Plaza de Arriba.

This monumental fountain is one of the symbols of the Pastraneros. From an octagonal basin rises a pillar supporting a half sphere in the shape of a wineglass which is, as Cela would say, "topped by a chess pawn". Four sculptured masks are aligned with the four cardinal points, representing the four stages of man, from which protrude the four water tubes.

It was Ruy Gómez de Silva who in 1567, before buying Pastrana, invested in the town and donated 1,000 reales to the Town Hall to replace a fountain that had a rectangular basin with a monumental fountain. It was not until 1588 when the fountain was actually built, according to the plans of the master builder Francisco de Tuy.

In 1731 the fountain was remodelled and decorated further; on this occasion Francisco Ruiz was the master builder. Not until 2002 did Carlos Clemente, one of the architects responsible for the restoration of the Palacio Ducal by the University of Alcalá, carry out another restoration. In 2022 it was cleaned professionally by the Pastranero restorer Alejandro Pajares Gutierrez.