

BON PASTOR

Fem memòria del barri de l'Estadella

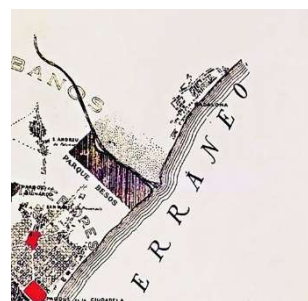
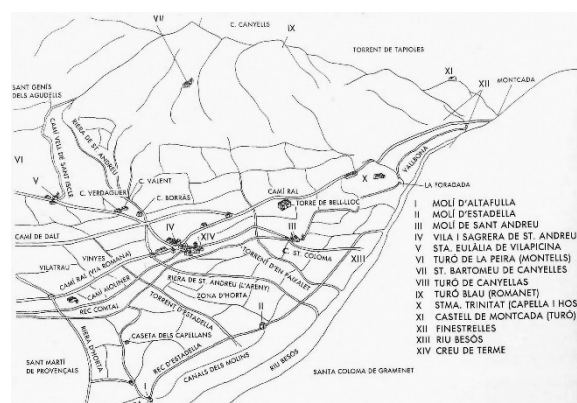
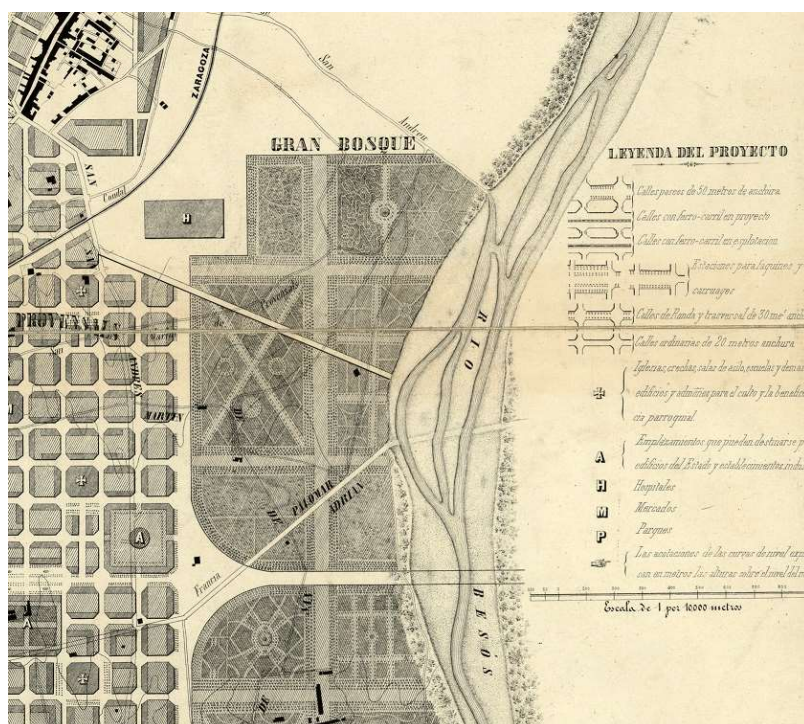
ENGLISH TRANSLATION

The Estadella

The earliest mentions date back to the 12th century, when the Rec Comtal irrigation system boosted the milling industry. The Rec crossed several tributaries of the Besòs River; the three most important, from north to south, were Sant Andreu, Estadella, and the Horta stream. The Estadella stream flowed down from Valldaura, and at a particularly fertile point, the Noval and Madriguera irrigation canals were built. In the early 20th century, the Estadella neighbourhood emerged at the junction of the two canals. It was the first residential area in what would later become the Bon Pastor neighbourhood.

On the banks of the Besòs, Ildefons Cerdà proposed a large park as the closing element of his Expansion and Renovation Project (1859). The project encompassed the area of the Estadella neighbourhood, the Sanchís factory and residential area, the former Carrer de la Mina and part of the blocks built in the 1960s and extended all the way to the sea.

Later, Léon Jaussely and Rubió i Tudurí maintained the park idea. The former, in his Connections Project (1903-1907), designed a large nursery for the City Council in Estadella, railway workshops, and a prison at La Maquinista; the latter expanded the park concept within his scheme of natural reserves along the Besòs and Llobregat rivers.



Images: 1 Fragment of the reduced copy and checked by the author, of the plan "Plano de los alrededores de la Ciudad de Barcelona, Proyecto de Reforma y Ensanche" by Ildefons Cerdà presented in April 1859 and approved by R.O. of June 7, 1859 © Historical Archive of the City of Barcelona — **2** in Checa, Martí; Travé, Carmen. (2007). Good Shepherd History of a neighborhood. Barcelona City Council. District of Sant Andreu. — **3** 1920. Fragment of the "Distribution Sketch of the Barcelona Parks System" © Historical Archive of the City of Barcelona.

Three models of working-class housing

The Madriguera irrigation canal marked the administrative boundary between Barcelona and Santa Coloma de Gramenet until the Santa Coloma part was annexed to Barcelona in 1945. The Estadella settlement was located within Barcelona's administrative boundaries.

On 30 June 1926 —as the idea of the Besòs Park began to fade— the urban development of Estadella or Madriguera was approved. The land was divided into plots, each with a **house and garden**, and the layout was defined: three streets perpendicular to the river and two cross streets, numbered from 1 to 5, divided into plots that were also numbered.

In 1933, the Barcelona City Council officially named the streets: Barri Vermell (no. 1), Estadella (no. 2), Mare Eterna (no. 3), Foc Follet (no. 4) and Formiga (no. 5). Residents who had acquired their properties illegally had to wait until 21 May 1934 to legalise their situation, after paying a fine.

Just 250 metres from the settlement, the Milans del Bosch affordable housing complex (*cases barates*) was built in 1929. A little over a kilometre away, between 1933 and 1936 the Group of Catalan Architects and Technicians for the Progress of Contemporary Architecture (GATCPAC) built the **Casa Bloc**, contrasting with the model of standardised housing estates.



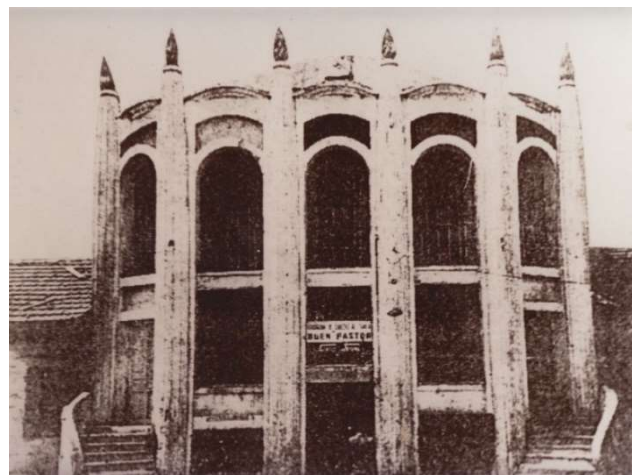
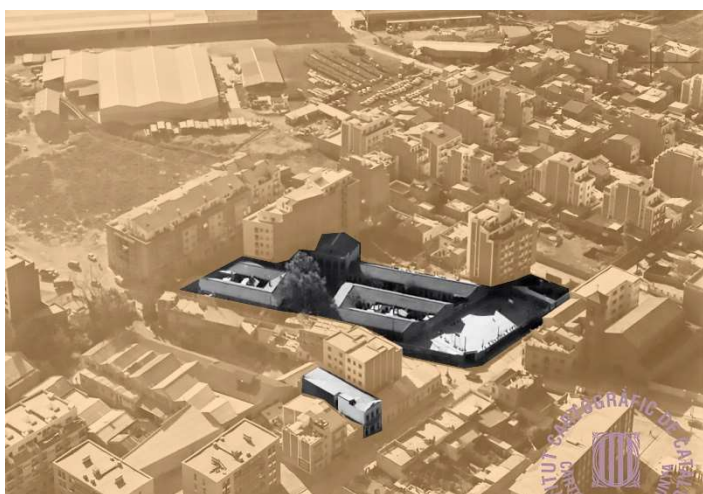
Images: **1** Fragment of the Topographical Plan of Barcelona, known as the Martorell Plan, 1933-1940 © ICGC — **2** 1929, File nº 3285 to construct a cover and house in street nº 2 of the Estadella neighborhood © AHCB — **3** Photos of original houses: 1936.- Estadella, 18; 1936.- Estadella, 10-12 © CER POLIS Fund — **4** Cover of AC Magazine nº11. Quarterly magazine published by the "G.A.T.E.P.A.C." Barcelona - Madrid - San Sebastián. Año tercero - Third quarter of 1933

Sanchís residential area. A neighbourhood of cooperatives

In 1930, in the municipality of Santa Coloma, the industrialist Sanchís built a residential area bearing his name next to his factory, which had been established in 1907. At the heart of the area stood the “chapel” known locally as **Centro Blanco**, which over time became the headquarters of urban social movements, most notably the Head of Households Association. In 1976, it changed its name to the Bon Pastor Neighbourhood Association and was expelled from the Centro Blanco. The City Council eventually purchased the land where the Civic Centre and Library were later built.

In this area, Sanchís also constructed a residential building for his family and, on the former Carrer de la Mina, the headquarters of the La Paloma Cooperative. This building later housed the San Jorge Academy and is now used for a different purpose.

In 1975, the Buen Pastor Workers' Cooperative was founded with the goal of breaking the price monopoly held by the municipal market and certain local shops. It was first located on Carrer de Tàrraga, and later moved to Carrer de la Mare Eterna, 7. In 1982, the Copastor Cooperative was also established in the Estadella neighbourhood.



Images: 1. Fragment of an aerial view of the neighborhood in the middle of the 1960s. You can see the Sanchís colony with the "Centro Blanco" © ICGC — 2 i 3. El Centro Blanco with the sign of the Asociación de Cabezas de Familia and the boletín of the association celebrating de consultancy construction © CEAV Fund — 4. Academia San Jorge the former premises of the La Paloma Cooperative: Altar and carpet of flowers for Corpus Christi in the 1960s © Fernando Blaya Fund.

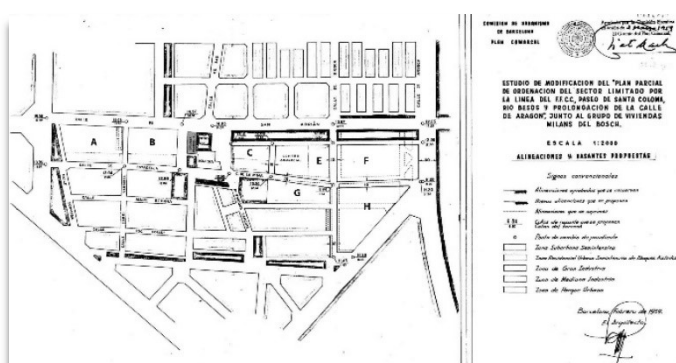
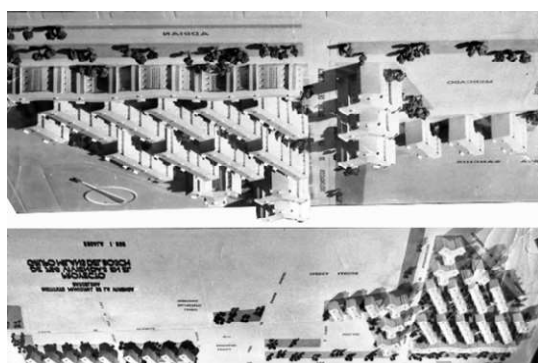


New models of working-class housing: detached blocks and vertical extensions to buildings divided by party walls

The 1953 County Plan brought significant changes to the Bon Pastor area as a whole. The Plan established large zones designated for small and medium-sized industry, called for the transformation of the low-income housing estate, and in the case of Estadella, divided the area into moderately dense city outskirts – which allowed for the **vertical growth along the party walls** of the small 1930s houses – and urban residential areas with **detached housing blocks**.

From 1955 onward, the Barcelona Urban Planning Committee acquired numerous plots of land, enabling the expansion of the Estadella neighbourhood towards the Besòs River and the construction of several detached blocks parallel to Carrer de Sant Adrià, in compliance with the Decree of 27 May 1955 on housing construction by industrial companies and the 1959 Social Emergency Plan. The development resulted in around 760 new homes and significant population growth.

One of the plots was granted to the Church to build a parish school, completing the parish complex that had begun decades earlier with the construction of the rectory, the girls' school, the Hogar Obrero community centre, the dispensary and the church. Another plot became a market.



Images: 1 to 2 Views of the neighborhood in the middle of the 1960s. You can see the transformation of the one-story houses into buildings of 4 or more stories © ICGC — **3** 1959 Cover of a document on Modifications to the Plan Partial Plan of Ordenación del Sector limitado by the line of the FF.CC., paseo de Santa Coloma and prolongación de calle Aragón (Rectified). The reservation for the place is appreciated. — **4** Mid-1960s, aerial view of the growth of Estadella with indication of the different blocks of large companies. © Photo ICGC

Struggles for urban equality

In the context of the 1976 Metropolitan General Plan (PGM), residents of Bon Pastor began mobilising to demand traffic lights, a local health clinic (1974–1976), a cultural centre —which later became the Civic Centre (1976–1989)— a sports facility, green spaces, and improvements to streets and public transport.

As a result of these efforts, several streets and squares were created: Mossèn Joan Cortinas (1984), later remodelled in 2019; Félix Rodríguez de la Fuente (1987); and Robert Gerhard (1991), which was redesigned between 2004 and 2008 as part of the PERI urban redevelopment plan for the former Sanchís residential area. The redevelopment is still ongoing, particularly in relation to the factory's residential building.

Despite the dates of their construction, Plaça de Robert Gerhard was officially named in 1992, Plaça de Félix Rodríguez de la Fuente Square in 1991, and Plaça de Mossèn Joan Cortinas had to wait until 1996. Eventually, the construction of new facilities breathed new life into Estadella: the Civic Centre (1989), which was expanded between 2013 and 2015; the Library (2004); and the Molinet Football Field, now out of use and awaiting redevelopment under the modified General Plan for the La Mercedes site.

Public transport improvements included additional bus lines and, after nearly four years of construction, the long-awaited arrival of the metro in 2010.

Questions still remain regarding the explosions at the Sanchis factory in 1981 and 1982, which killed several people and destroyed the Workers' Cooperative's premises at Carrer Mare Eterna, 7.

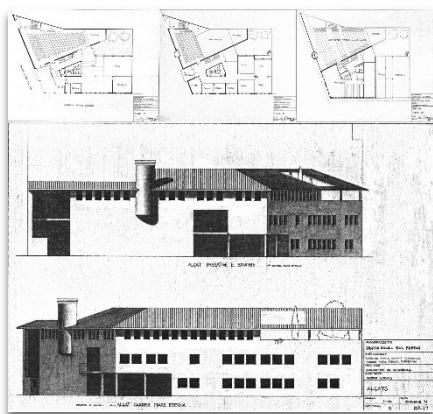


Images: 1 to 3 Three aerial views of Plaça Fèlix Rodríguez de la Fuente before its final development. © ICGC — **4** Demonstration against the explosions © El Noticiero Universal 26th of may 1982 — **5** Leaflet claiming the civic center, 1988 © CEAV — **6** Neighborhood project for the Ateneu Popular de Bon Pastor, architect Xavier Vitoria, 1977 © Xavier Vitoria — **7** Cover of La Carraca magazine published by the Bon Pastor pro-metro commission — **8** Sticker to celebrate the arrival of the metro to the Bon Pastor

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La **L9** entra a Barcelona
pel **BON PASTOR**



Associació de Veïns i Veïnes Bon Pastor