



## NEW VILLA OR GASTEL

You can find this point of interest in Path 1 Stage 4

### INFORMATION

The point of interest is located next to the route but it is not visible because it is placed in the wide park. From the route it is possible to see only the entrance to the park, to the left as regards to Villa Erba gate.

**Position** The entrance to Villa Gastel is located along Regina Street in front of the city hall

**Paving material** Stone slabs

**Architectural Barriers** There are no architectural barriers

**The entrance** Villa Gastel is a private house, normally it is not possible to visit it

**Services parking** Parking available in the area, city hall, pharmacy, the Post

**Entertainment and Catering** Café, Shops

### DESCRIPTION

*(Silvia Fasana)*

Villa nuova or Gastel which belonged to the wide compound of Villa Erba, stands on the area of a thriving Benedictine nunnery of Cluneo devoted to S. Maria Assunta, built around the 12<sup>th</sup> Century and closed by the emperor Giuseppe II of Austria in 1784. In 1816 the building was bought by the general Domenico Pino and by his wife Vittoria Peluso, who the previous year had sold the nearby "Garrovo (then called Villa d'Este) to the Princess Carolina of Brunswick. In the building restructuring, they renovated almost all the interior but they did not change the structure with a square plan, with the central cloister, and they added some pediments and tympanums in neoclassical style. The family Pino on the other hand extended and embellish the external farm area, turning it into a wide English garden. After their death, the building, called Villa Nuova, was inherited by the general Cima della Scala, whose grand-daughter hosted famous characters like Giuseppe Giacosa and Arrigo Boito. In 1893 Luigi Erba, brother of Carlo (owner of the homonym pharmaceutical company of Milan) bought the old compound, but he decided immediately to build a new imposing villa at the lake, Villa Erba, built between the year 1894 and the year 1898, set aside from the older building which today belongs to the family Gastel.