



FONTANA GATE (GATE OF THE FOUNTAIN)*

* This building has disappeared

You find this place of interest in Cantù 2 - Stage 2

INFORMATION

Location: Fontana Gate stood a few meters after the square of the same name (currently Piazza Sirtori), on the street now called via Daverio.

DESCRIPTION

Fontana Gate, built during the Middle Ages, opened onto the north-western part of the circle of walls of Cantù, on the ancient Via Canturina coming from Como.

The door is mentioned for the first time in an act of January 5th, 1353, by which Mazolo de Mantegazzi di Cantù, in the name and on behalf of his wife Margherita Grassi, rented to Lampardino Grassi, another citizen of the borough, a house, as well as another house in ruins annexed to the same, and a vegetable garden, all placed in Cantù, close by Fontana Gate, bordering, on their western side, the walls of the borough. The gate is also mentioned in other documents between the XV and XVIII centuries; the testament, dated in 1669, of the rev. Gerolamo Maruti, provost di S. Teodoro, mentions that at that time there were traces of a moat; during the middle ages this moat probably bordered the wall circle around the borough, at least on its western side.

The Fontana Gate is also mentioned in the map published in 1835 by the rev. Carlo Annoni.

On April 6, 1592, the Dominican inquirer Pietro da Verona probably entered Cantù from this gate, coming from the convent of San Giovanni in Pedemonte in Como, on his way to Milan. On that very same day, the friar would have been killed near Seveso by mandate of the heretics Cathars Confalonieri from Giussano and Porro from Lentate; he was subsequently made Saint with the name of Saint Peter the Martyr.