



The Revolution of Maria da Fonte first started in the parish of Fontarcada in the spring of 1846, and was led by hundreds of women from the Póvoa de Lanhoso lands, using the pretext of contesting the *so-called* "Health Laws", this way challenging the new liberal authorities. The confrontations quickly replicated throughout the Minho region, and eventually throughout the country, and this Revolution would culminate with the resignation of the nation's Government, by Queen's order.

Maria da Fonte – woman and heroine – would, over the years, become the greatest symbol of the struggle for justice and equality in Portugal, and the first tribute statue was erected in 1920, in Lisbon, by the centenary of the Portuguese *Liberal Revolution*.

In the town of Póvoa de Lanhoso, despite previous attempts, the first statue dedicated to her was only erected in 1978, by the known sculptor Jorge Ulisses. On May 29th 2022, this statue was brought to this location, the exact point where the first confrontations took place and the Revolution started.