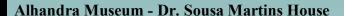


GUIDE Nr. 7 - HISTORICAL NUCLEUS OF ALHANDRA

Alhandra, keeps its urban fabric, characteristics of this riverside town, which disappeared, somehow, from other locations in the county. The big traditional lines of communication: Tagus river and the road that gives access to the capital, as well as the railway station and the highway, influenced in a profound and direct way, its evolution from the last century until nowadays, allowing this parish to have a big industrial concentration and population explosion, that distinguish the coastal areas. The harmony of some streets and squares, and the former wharf area must be enhanced.

Wharf

Alhandra wharf, is one of the most important wharves of Vila Franca de Xira region, being used as a landing point to the penetration for other locations further inland. The main products transported through Alhandra wharf, were wheat, wheat straw, mutano (bunches of raw pine) for the tilery and exportation, wine and fruit, mainly, grapes and melon.



Inaugurated on the 3th March 1985, its assets are all of Alhandra parish, which history is passed through the exhibition of documents, books, paintings, photographs, work instruments, everyday objects and private collections. The social and economic aspects, industrialization, associations, the figures of Sousa Martins, Salvador Marques, Soeiro Pereira Gomes and Francisco Filipe dos Reis, are well clear in this museum.

7th March Square

Former Praça do Município, it has since 1908, the statue that is a tribute to one of the most striking figures of Alhandra - Dr. Sousa Martins (1843-1897). The square designation, intends to remind the birth of Dr. Sousa Martins. Once, it had a pillory, symbol of administrative and judicial autonomy. The Renaissance pillory was removed in 1893. Close to this square, where once was the Misericórdia Church, religious temple with some grandiosity, which was demolished by the end of nineteenth century, is Alhandra market.



Pillory

Due to the architectural simplicity of the column and its supplements, one can adopt the hypothesis that this pillory have been erected in D. João III kingdom, and not in Manueline period, as the other pillories of the County. In 1893, was dismounted and the Alhandra pharmaceutical, Abel Pereira Botto, picked up the pieces and placed them in Quinta dos Bichos. After a cleaning and preservation intervention in 2000, it was intended to redeploy the pillory in 7th March Square, location of its origin. It is classified as Property of Public Interest (Dec. N.º 23 122, DG 231, of the 11th October 1933).







GUIDE Nr. 7 - HISTORICAL NUCLEUS OF ALHANDRA

Nossa Senhora da Guia Chapel

Erected in 1611, by brothers Francisco Annes Trancoso and Jerónimo Trancoso, have been the place where were kept a big part of the Parish Church assets, saved in the fire that hit it in 1887.

S. João Baptista Parish Church

Founded by Cardinal D. Henrique in 1558, was considered a majestic temple, due to its artistic quality and to the prominence of its implantation. In 1887, has suffered a violent fire. Totally rebuilt, it has an architecture of simple lines, depurated by decorative elements. The castle traces, located in the highest area of the village, where is placed this religious property, have been hidden by the growing itself and by the urban fabric renewal.



Sociedade Euterpe Alhandrense, was founded in 1862. Music is one of the main activities with the band, orchestra and choir. In the front square of it, is the Soeiro Pereira Gomes monument, of João Duarte and João Afra, which is also a tribute to all the children of the men who have never been kids.





Bandstand

Located in the garden of Soeiro Pereira Gomes Square, was inaugurated on the 22nd April 1934. Its construction was only possible, due to a public subscription of Alhandra population, organized by a commission (Francisco Cardoso, Adriano Peniche, Joaquim Angélico da Silva, Danton Cardoso and Augusto Bértholo), who besides the found raising, also achieved compliance of many village workers to erect the bandstand in their rest days and overtime hours, until 23 or 24 o'clock.



On the 01st March 1886 was constituted a public limited company, which thanks to the effort of the locals, has proposed to gather some money through public subscription, and started the construction of Salvador Marques Theatre. Inaugurated in 1905, it had theatrical activity until the thirties of the twentieth century. In 1937, Soeiro Pereira Gomes and Manuela Câncio Reis, brought to scene the comedic revue *Sonho ao Luar*. In the fifties, it started working as a cinema.



