

EUNIS RECTORS' CONFERENCE 2018

HISTORIC AND CITY
CENTRE OF PORTO

— WALKING TOUR

EDIFÍCIO DA REITORIA / RECTORATE BUILDING PRAÇA DE GOMES TEIXEIRA

The Rectorate building in Praça de Gomes Teixeira (Gomes Teixeira Square) lies in the heart of the historic centre, an urban area with a strong medieval imprint. It is surrounded by remarkable buildings such as the Clérigos monument (national monument), the building of the former Cadeia e Tribunal da Relação do Porto (Tribunal Jail and Court of Appeal of Porto), building of public interest, converted into the Centro Português de Fotografia (Portuguese Centre for Photography) in 1997, the former Hospital da Misericórdia (Misericórdia Hospital), today Hospital de Santo António (Santo António Hospital, national monument), the church of the former Convento dos Carmelitas Descalços (Convent of the Discalced Carmelites) and the Igreja da Venerável Ordem Terceira do Carmo (Church of the Honourable Order of Terceira do Carmo). Built and remodeled over more than one century, the building housed the Royal Academy of Maritime and Trade Affairs (1803-1837) and the Polytechnic Academy of Porto, its successor (1837-1911). The space belonged to the Colégio dos Meninos Órfãos (College of Orphaned Children), which remained there until mid-19th century. The College building resembled a convent, with four wings around a cloister and a church - Igreja de Nossa Senhora da Graça (Church of Nossa Senhora da Graça) - on the northern side.

In 1911, with the establishment of the University of Porto, this building housed the Rectorate, the Faculty of Sciences, with its museums and laboratories, and an Engineering School, linked to that Faculty. On 20 April 1974, a devastating fire destroyed part of the construction. This monument is currently home of the Rectorate of the U.Porto and the Museum of Natural History and the Science.



FONTE DOS LEÕES / FOUNTAIN OF LIONS PRAÇA DE GOMES TEIXEIRA

The Fonte dos Leões (Fountain of Lions) is a monumental fountain 8 metres wide and 6 metres tall, integrated in the water supply system of Porto during the 1880s. It was awarded to the french company “Compagnie Générale des Eaux pour l'Etranger”, also responsible for the construction of this public equipment. Approved in 1885, it came into operation from the next year on. The fountain, besides decorating the Praça dos Voluntários da Rainha (Voluntários da Rainha Square), provided the required ventilation and oxygenation of the water, and provided relief to pipes under pressure.



HOSPITAL DE SANTO ANTÓNIO / SANTO ANTÓNIO HOSPITAL **LARGO DO PROFESSOR ABEL SALAZAR**

The Hospital da Santa Casa da Misericórdia do Porto (Hospital of Santa Casa da Misericórdia do Porto) was built in Jardim da Cordoaria (Cordoaria Garden) during the reign of D. José I (King José I). Intended to replace the 16th century Hospital de D. Lopo de Almeida (Hospital of D. Lopo de Almeida), it was designed by the english architect John Carr (1727-1807), at the request of John Whitehead (1726-1802), consul of the british nation, a scientist, bibliophile and amateur architect, and of the reverend Henry Wood, chaplain of this foreign community between 1757 and 1768. John Carr conceived in 1769 a monumental square brick building with four façades and a central patio with a chapel, covering an area of 28.721sq.m. The first patients - 150 women - were admitted in 1799.



IGREJA E ANTIGO CONVENTO DE NOSSA SENHORA DO CARMO **CHURCH AND FORMER CONVENT OF NOSSA SENHORA DO CARMO** **RUA DO CARMO**

The Discalced Carmelites came to Porto in 1617. The intercession of Bernarda de Lacerda, a woman of great culture and devout of the Discalced Carmelites, ensured that ten monks remained in the city. The first stone of the Convento de Nossa Senhora do Carmo (Convent of Nossa Senhora do Carmo) was laid on 5 May 1619 and the building was completed in 1622 with donations from aristocrats, merchants and the City Council.

The church dates back to the 18th century and is built on the east side of the convent, in mannerist and baroque styles.



IGREJA DA VENERÁVEL ORDEM TERCEIRA DO CARMO **TERCEIROS DO CARMO CHURCH**

The Igreja da Venerável Ordem Terceira do Carmo (Church of Venerável Ordem Terceira do Carmo), in rococo style, was designed by the painter, architect and professor from Viseu, José de Figueiredo Seixas, for the venerable Ordem Terceira do Carmo, which he joined along with his wife in 1760. The first stone of the temple, built on land once owned by the Discalced Carmelite monks, was blessed on 12 August 1756.



CAFÉ ÂNCORA D'OURO (CAFÉ "PIOLHO") / ÂNCORA D'OURO CAFÉ **PRAÇA DE PARADA LEITÃO**

The Café Âncora d'Ouro has been affectionately called "Café Piolho" for a long time. In fact, no one knows the reason for that, although there are many theories to explain the fact. This café used to be frequented by university students, but also by their teachers. During the dictatorial regime (1926-1974) it was there that took place the meetings of students against the government. Someone started saying that it was a "piolhice", pejorative term to designate the socialization between teachers and students.



LIVRARIA LELLO / LELLO BOOKSTORE **RUA DAS CARMELITAS**

This bookstore, considered one of the most beautiful in the world, was designed by the engineer Xavier Esteves in an eclectic style (combining art nouveau and neo-gothic elements). It was inaugurated in 1906 and restored in 1995 and 2016 by the architect Vasco Morais Soares. There are paintings on the façade by José Bielman (representing art and science). Inside there are busts of portuguese writers, a stained glasse ceiling with the ex-libris “Decus in Labore” and a beautifull art nouveau staircase.



CONJUNTO MONUMENTAL DOS CLÉRIGOS **HISTORICAL MONUMENT OF CLÉRIGOS** **RUA DE S. FILIPE DE NERY**

The historical monument of Clérigos, in baroque style and skilfully built on uneven terrain, was intended for poor clergymen. It is formed by an elliptical-shaped church and a rectangular chancel (1732-1758) integrated in the building of the Brotherhood of Clérigos, which, in turn, is linked to a bell tower. It is the work of the tuscan painter, decorator and architect Niccolò Nasoni (1691-1773), who supervised the works free of charge and was accepted as lay-brother of that Brotherhood, and is therefore buried in the temple, somewhere under the pulpits. The tower (1754-1763) - 76 meters high, with 6 dampers and 240 steps -, is the ex-libris of the city and has an excellent observation deck. It has 2 belfries and one of the largest carillons in the country. In the past, it was used as a commercial telegraph and a clock in Porto.



JARDIM DE JOÃO CHAGAS / JOÃO CHAGAS GARDEN **CAMPO DOS MÁRTIRES DA PÁTRIA**

The Jardim de João Chagas (João Chagas Garden), better known as Jardim da Cordoaria (Cordoaria Garden), is a public garden from the second half of the 19th century (1865) designed by the german Emile David (1839-1873). The triangular-shaped garden was totally renovated under the urban programme “Porto 2001 - European Capital of Culture” and is decorated by sculptures from different periods and styles.



CENTRO PORTUGUÊS DE FOTOGRAFIA **(ANTIGA CADEIA E TRIBUNAL DA RELAÇÃO DO PORTO)**

PORTUGUESE CENTER OF PHOTOGRAPHY
(FORMER JAIL AND COURT OF APPEAL OF PORTO)

LARGO AMOR DE PERDIÇÃO

The Cadeia e Tribunal da Relação do Porto (Jail and Court of Appeal of Porto) were established when the Philip dynasty ruled in Portugal. The initiative of the construction belongs to João de Almada e Melo and took place between 1765 and 1796. This austere and irregular polygonal monument has two noble façades, one facing east, towards Rua de S. Bento da Vitória, which has a fountain and a grander frontage facing the old Alameda do Olival, now Campo dos Mártires da Pátria (Mártires da Pátria Square). The three-storey building now hosts the Portuguese Center of Photography.



JUDIARIA NOVA DO OLIVAL / JEWRY NOVA DO OLIVAL **RUA DE S. BENTO DA VITÓRIA / RUA DE S. MIGUEL**

In 1386, D. João I (King João I) order the Jews scattered in Porto to move to an enclosed space, justifying the measure with security reasons. The jewish ghetto occupied an area of 30 strips of land for which the jews paid an annual fee of 200 maravedis. It was fenced off and had two doors. Later, the Jewsmoved to other areas of the city, considered now the first modern urban development in Porto. The population developed around a main axis (north-south), with perpendicular roads stemming from it. It was a town within a town. The edict of expulsion by D. Manuel I (King Manuel I), on December 1496, brought the end of the jewish quarters and many Jews abandoned the kingdom, while others converted to christianity. Recently, during some construction works at a house in Rua de S. Miguel, an “ehal” (ark) was found containing the Torah. This object was identified by archaeologists and historians of the Faculty of Arts of the University of Porto as one of the four existing ones in Portugal, dating from the late 16th or early 17th centuries.



MOSTEIRO DE S. BENTO DA VITÓRIA **S. BENTO DA VITÓRIA MONASTERY**

The first male benedictine monastery of Porto and at the same time the last of the old portuguese congregation was built after the royal authorization granted in 1598, near the gothic wall and the jewish quarters.

The project was designed by Diogo Marques Lucas. The construction and decoration phases lasted from 1604 to early 18th century. The result was a grand mannerist and baroque construction, known for its religious and artistic relevance, but also for the cultural activities held there: singing and music. The monastery served as a hospital during the French Invasions and during the Siege of Porto, when the monks abandoned it permanently.

Between 1984-1990, a small community of benedictine monks was resettled in this monastery and the District Archive of Porto and the National Orchestra of Porto were placed here.



IGREJA DE NOSSA SENHORA DA VITÓRIA **NOSSA SENHORA DA VITÓRIA CHURCH**

This baroque temple is situated at the junction of Rua de S. Bento da Vitória and Rua da Bateria da Vitória. This last name refers to a liberal battery during the Siege of Porto which shot at the D. Miguel supporters on the south bank of the rio Douro (Douro River). There is still a bullet in the side wall, near the south door. Facing a walled area, the church is an excellent belvedere from where we can see the historical centres of Porto and Vila Nova de Gaia. The Igreja Paroquial de Nossa Senhora da Vitória (Parish Church of Nossa Senhora da Vitória) consists of a single nave, a rectangular top and a bell tower set against the chancel.



SUSANA BARROS

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Susana Barros received a degree in Art History (1995) and a post-graduation in History of the City of Porto (2004) by the Faculty of Arts of the University of Porto.

She is working in partnership with the Palácio da Bolsa Tourism Department, the School of Education of the Polytechnic Institute of Porto, and the University of Porto Information Management Unit. She is co-director of the Senior University of Foz and teacher of training courses at this University as well as at the Senior University of the Portuguese Northern Teachers' Union and at the Inkultu Institute.

Susana Barros has been guiding historical-cultural visits since 2001, mainly in the historical centre of Porto, but also in Alto Douro Vinhateiro and in the historical centres of Vila Nova de Gaia, Braga and Guimarães. She has collaborated in the application dossier of the 'Alto Douro Vinhateiro' to Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO and in the 25 Years' Celebrations of the Commissariat for Urban Renewal of the area of 'Ribeiro-Barredo'.

Susana Barros is author of the book *A cidade dos Almas. Das reformas pombalinas à véspera das Invasões* (2010) and co-author of the artistic inventories of the Douro Sul, Douro Norte and Terra Fria Transmontana (1996-2005) and of the books *Douro, Rotas Medievais* (2000) and *Rotas dos vinhos do Douro* (2001), among other works.

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