

OWHC REGIONAL SECRETARIAT FOR SOUTHERN EUROPE AND MEDITERRANEAN

MOSTAR MEETING - 3, 4 JULY 2023

**Conservation and Restoration
Workshop Municipality of Évora**



ARTS AND
CRAFTS
WORLD
HERITAGE
CITIES

ÉVORA
Câmara Municipal




Convent of Our Lady of Remedies



The third foundation of friars of the bare foot Carmelite Order in the kingdom of Portugal, the history of this Convent and its friars dates back to the late 16th century.

Requalified by the Arch. Vitor Figueiredo in the late 20th century, according a program established by the City Council of Évora, creating a solution of multi-purpose spaces dedicated to culture and heritage.

With the extinction of the religious Orders in Portugal, the Convent was assigned to the Municipality of Évora in 1839 by Royal act of D. Maria II there to be installed the new municipal cemetery.



Part of this building (the church) hosts the Regional Conservatory of Évora, with musical performances and teaching activities.

The remaining area hosts municipal services, assigned to culture and heritage. Among them is our Conservation and Restoration Workshop.

Permanent Exhibition – Interpretative Megalithic Center.

Temporary Exhibitions – Related with Immaterial Heritage.

The Convent was classified as Monument of Public Interest in 2015.

THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION WORKSHOP

Created in 2011 by the
need to constitute a
specialized unit that:

- Promoted the use of good practices in the conservation of the cultural heritage of the municipality
- Managed the conservation and restoration of the mobile and immobile heritage owned by the municipality, or under its tutelage.

The current team: 1
conservator-restorer and
1 historian



ABOUT CRW

Lines of action:

Documentation, research, preservation and diffusion of information

We have developed work in different areas:

archaeological objects, paintings, sculptures, stone and paper conservation, traditional building materials and techniques...

Started tours of the historic cemetery of Our Lady of the Remedies – *it's history and symbolism*

the safeguarding and understanding of cultural property, in it's tangible and intangible integrity;

Develop historic and technical studies; Define the methodologies and materials to apply;

Identifying alterations and damages; Promote a preventive conservation practice to monitor conditions, avoiding or delaying deterioration;

Give guidance about handling, transport and display of cultural

display of cultural



CTS



Before the intervention



After the intervention



DORDIO GOMES ÉVORA, OIL ON PARTICLE BOARD, 1963



DORDIO GOMES (1890
-1976)

THE INTERVENTION

- Intervention starts with the analysis of the painting and the painter - materials and technique;
- Identification of anomalies and their causes.

The ground layer had delaminated from the wood panel, creating loss areas.

The main anomaly

Detail of cracked and damaged paint

Flaking



After removing grime from the surface, it was applied animal glue directly over the cracks, and heat was applied with a heated spatula.



The primary aim was to stabilize the layers of the painting.

FLAKING

The primary aim was to stabilize the layers of the painting.

Detail of cracked and damaged paint



After the intervention



Alentejo's Customs and Traditions : Bridging the material and immaterial worlds



- Woman (before manual harvesting the wheat)
- The shepherd

Both from 1955



CAPELA E SILVA (1884 - 1972)

Woman
(before
manual
harvesti
ng the
wheat)
1955



Before



After

The
shepherd
1955

Before

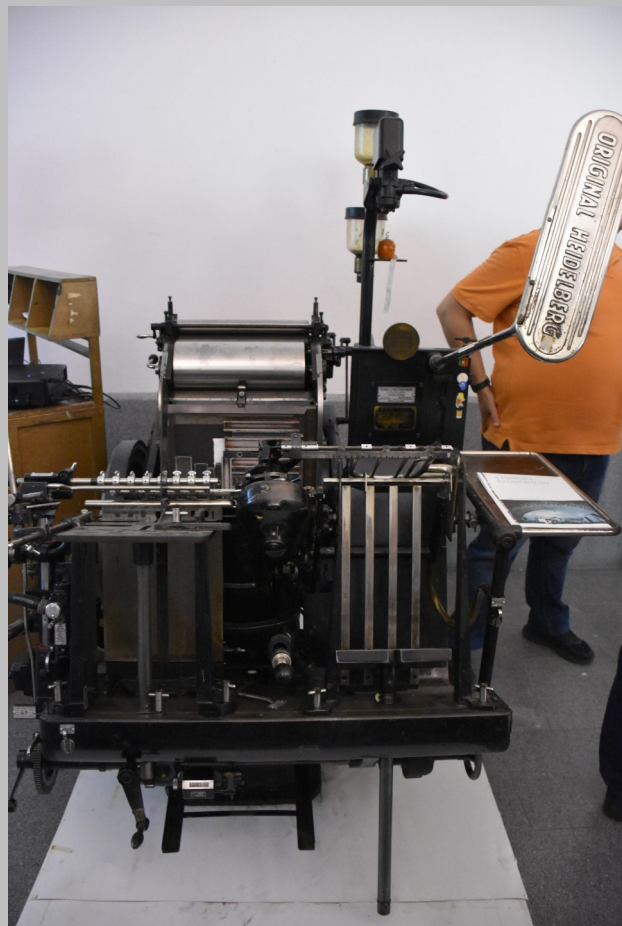
After

LIONS FOUNTAIN

The primary aims were to stabilize mortars (lime), clean stones (marble and granite) and refinish lime painting (whitewash).



TYPOGRAPHY WORKSHOP





GOOD PRACTICES

- Developing quality standards for interventions guided by international conservation charters and conventions: All interventions must respect the historic, aesthetic, authenticity of cultural property;
- Offering guided tours to bring awareness of heritage values (Convent and cemetery) and include the community and visitors in the safeguarding process of heritage preservation;
- Update heritage inventory and monitorization: first steps to preserve cultural property;
- Building and strengthening links with national and international partners (E.g. Hercules Laboratory – science and technology, enhancing the understanding of cultural heritage);



GOOD PRACTICES

- Multidisciplinary approach: staying connected with co-workers from different areas like archaeology, woodworking, architecture, museology, traditional masonry, education, ...
- Advising citizens of the Municipality of Évora about the conservation and caring of their heritage assets (movable and immovable);
- Involving students of the University of Évora bachelor's degree in Cultural Heritage History by hosting short-term internships in the CRW.



Thank You!

MUNICIPALITY OF ÉVORA
CULTURE AND HERITAGE DIVISION
CMEVORA@CM-EVORA.PT

DÉBORA FORTUNATO, CONSERVATOR-RESTORER
DFORTUNATO@CM-EVORA.PT



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