

A BUCOLIC CHAPEL IN THE WEST OF THE STATE OF SANTA CATARINA (BR): HISTORY, ARCHITECTURE AND HERITAGE

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RESUMO

Religious architecture is intrinsically linked with the formation of cities and society. If we take a look at the history of cities in Brazil and in the world, we soon realize the central figure of the church in the construction and evolution of urban dynamics and social identity. Usually built in high places, privileged and prominent, churches or chapels expressed faith and religiosity of the people and from it was developing the economy, leisure and socialization. Accompanying this dynamic, religious buildings built in the period of occupation of the West of Santa Catarina and the creation of the cities that make up the region were mostly made of wood, and many of them lost their identity over the years, have disappeared or been replaced by buildings in masonry. However, some are still preserved even with the development of cities and with new construction systems, such as the São Cristóvão Chapel in the municipality of Formosa do Sul, West of the State of Santa Catarina (BR). In this way, the research aimed to present a synthesis of the history of the São Cristóvão Chapel, analyzing its architectural structure and proposing guidelines to ensure its conservation and preservation. The methodology was based on an exploratory research with deductive method and bibliographic and documentary design combined with a case study and data collection through the application of a questionnaire. The small municipality of Formosa do Sul had its colonization started around the 1950s with the arrival of European descendants from Rio Grande do Sul. Built in the 1960s with vernacular architectural style, the Capela São Cristóvão has remarkable characteristics of Italian and German colonization. Its materiality is predominantly in sawn wood and has a simple architectural program that develops in a ground floor plan with an area of about 380m². The guidelines proposed in the research may guide public and private conservationist and preservationist actions associated with policies to encourage tourism linked to religious architecture. In addition, the questionnaire applied showed results that demonstrate that 96.3% of the sample believes that the chapel should be preserved with its original characteristics for future generations and 77.80% approve the creation of a Tipping Law by the municipality to ensure the conservation and preservation of the chapel. Its chronological value is undeniable, religious and architectural and in the case of one of the few wooden buildings preserved in the municipality from the period of colonization, its relevance is evident. The building, besides its architectural importance for local and regional history, reflects the traditions and cultural knowledge of the

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people and safeguard such heritage constitutes a striking link between past, present and future.

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