

Patrimony education in the Historic Centre of Salvador de Bahia: A review about the Memorial of Brazilian Medicine

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Abstract. This paper brings the memorial of one material heritage in the Historic Centre of Salvador, Bahia, a site recognized as a human patrimony listed by UNESCO. It aims to show how the memory of the building known as the Sede Mater of the University Federal of Bahia, the Faculty of Medicine, which was founded in 1808, as the first institution of higher education to operate in Brazil and the only to operate in the State of Bahia for decades, is serving today as an important space for non formal education. The building became a university museum, receiving the title of Memorial of Brazilian Medicine. This heritage museum has a vast artistic and documentary collection about national history, as well as an imposing building of eclectic architecture, responsible for the environmental preservation of the largest green area in the Historic Centre of Salvador, Bahia. The Memorial of Brazilian Medicine stands out among one of the possible paths to get to know the patrimony history and how this place played a leading role in Brazilian history by training teachers, scientists and national leaders who participated in political conflicts, technological, scientific and social advances. The Memorial of Brazilian Medicine is part of the Health Cultural Circuit and the socialisation of the present knowledge shows interdisciplinary gaps for research.

Keywords. University, Museum, Interdisciplinary, Patrimony, Education

Introduction

The Historic Centre of the City of Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, is a site listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage due to its invaluable value for memory, social history and education. It is a monumental architectural complex where the first School of Surgery of Bahia was founded, created in 1808 by the Prince Regent of Portugal, Dom João. Since the 20th century, the first Higher Education Institution to operate in the country is known as the Faculty of Medicine of the University Federal of Bahia and had its architectural complex listed as patrimony by IPHAN on December 22, in 2015. In 1982, was created a university museum of the University Federal of Bahia known as the Memorial of Brazilian Medicine (MMB). It is an environment whose purpose is to keep, preserve and disseminate the scientific, artistic, historical and cultural heritage from the Faculty of Medicine of University Federal of Bahia. The MMB building stands out among other buildings at Largo do

Terreiro de Jesus for their unique construction, which several professionals worked to expand, rebuild and restore, after a series of accidents and transformations that occurred in the past. Throughout history, the Faculty of Medicine trained researchers and leaders who participated in important historical milestones, such as the Paraguayan War (1864-1870), the Slavery Abolitionist Movement (1888), the Proclamation of the Republic (1889), the War of Canudos (1896-1887-), the discovery of Schistosomiasis (1908), the Spanish Flu Epidemic (1918-1920) the World War II (1939-1945), the Brazilian Dictatorship period (1964-1985) and the most recent Covid-19 pandemic (2020). In this perspective, the City of Salvador was intertwined with science, which offered improvements in the sanitary field with better conditions for the development of the city allied with the flourishing of his own academic production. In the building of the Faculty of Medicine of Bahia, is the Bibliotheca Gonçalo Moniz, the Anselmo Pires de Albuquerque

Historical Archive and the Memorial of Medicine, that together compose the Memorial of Brazilian Medicine.[1]

A Health Cultural Circuit in the Historic Centre of Salvador

The Memorial of Brazilian Medicine is a place dedicated to the memory of health at the Historic Centre of Salvador. It composes the Health Cultural Circuit network, which includes two other museums: the Santa Casa da Misericórdia of Bahia and the National Museum of Nursing (MuNEAN). The composition of this circuit was made to dialogue with the public about the historical relations between these institutions in order to strengthen the identity memory of the patrimony. They are disseminated collectively with space for each place to present themselves individually, offering a cultural immersion about the local History of Health.

The Memorial of Brazilian Medicine (MMB)

The Memorial da Medicina Brasileira preserves memories of performance and participation in past events, the scientific advances and contributions to society. It is an interdisciplinary space for patrimony education, which considers the cultural mediation methodology to provide educational experiences outside the classroom. The Memorial of Brazilian Medicine mobilises a network of professionals and students who research and think about collaborative activities with the national and international public. It is composed of period furniture and visual arts decoration produced by artists trained at the University Federal of Bahia School of Fine Arts, one of the longest-lived educational institutions in the state. There is a display of scientific instruments that were used in the past medicine classes, decorations and medals for participation in historical milestones. The Memorial of Brazilian Medicine hosts the visit to the Architectural Complex that houses the Arquivo Histórico Anselmo Pires de Albuquerque and the Bibliotheca Gonçalo Moniz, being responsible for organising the visitation and offer cultural mediation. Its project was conceived in 1982 by the rector Luiz Fernando Macêdo Costa in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Faculty of Medicine de Bahia and is composed of six exhibition spaces following the didactic-scientific function, the safeguarding and dissemination of cultural heritage from its historical nature.



Fig. 1 - The Arrival of D. João in Bahia in 1808, oil on wood, 220 x 800 cm made by Carlos Bastos, 1982. Director's Room of Medicine Faculty from University Federal of Bahia. Photo by Benedito Cirilo.

Bibliotheca Gonçalo Moniz (BGM)

The Bibliotheca Gonçalo Moniz is the oldest library in the Federal University of Bahia and was created to support the teaching activities from the Faculty of Medicine in order to assist students in the newly higher education studies at Bahia. The Library existed since 1836 when one first shipment of 400 books arrived from Paris, purchased by the Faculty's board. In early decades, the amount of books had a modest growth with donations made by teachers and doctors and leaders, including the Emperor Dom Pedro II [2]. Professor Gonçalo Moniz was honoured and established as patron of the Library in 1944, in recognition of his bibliographic work and restoration of the library's collection after a major fire in 1905 [3]. The BGM comprises more than 100.000 books, scientific magazines, periodicals and theses, published since the 19th century, with the largest number of works in the field of Medicine, there is also a presence of many works on health sciences, chemistry, physics, botany, biology, history, sociology, anthropology, linguistics and literature.



Fig. 2 - Bibliotheca Gonçalo Moniz. Photo by Benedito Cirilo.

Arquivo Histórico Anselmo Pires de Albuquerque (AHAPA)

The Arquivo Histórico Anselmo Pires de Albuquerque comprises the Faculty of Medicine of Bahia Historical Collection from its early years until the 1970s. It consists of important documentation on

the training of doctors who passed through the institution, their enrollments, personal bulletins, notebooks, performances, photographs, administrative and probative information of rights, as well as records of participation in historical events such as the Paraguayan War (1864-1870), the Slavery Abolitionist Movement (1888), the Proclamation of the Republic (1889), the War of Canudos (1896-1897), the discovery of Schistosomiasis (1908), the Spanish Flu Epidemic (1918-1920) the World War II (1939-1945), the Brazilian Dictatorship period (1964-1985) and the most recently Covid-19 pandemic (2020), which customise the history of medicine. The documentary typology comprises Register of Meetings, School Transcripts, Enrollment Records, Diplomas and Personal Bulletin. The collection is currently available for research queries and is in the process of being digitised. Anselmo Pires de Albuquerque was a clerk and is known as the first archivist in Bahia.



Fig. 3 - Arquivo Histórico Anselmo Pires de Albuquerque. Photo by Benedito Cirilo.

Patrimony Education

There are many possibilities to think about teaching and learning within the Memorial of Brazilian Medicine and one of them is the beginning of the educational system in the Brazilian territory. The Historic Centre of Salvador of Bahia was the first capital of the country, seat of the Portuguese Government from 1549 to 1763. The Historic Centre of Salvador have as its main element the constructions of colonial period from a hierarchical and essentially agrarian society. The patrimony environment promotes reflections on the formation of national institutions and the origin of the conflicts that marked Salvador, Bahia and Brazilian society. The installation of the School of Surgery in the Historic Centre revolutionised hygiene and education conditions, contributing as a civilising milestone. However, scientific knowledge has not been developed in an equitable way. For that reason, the Memorial of Brazilian Medicine, can promote important reflections about the participations for the construction of science and education in our territory, using patrimony education as an access to the understanding of the historical processes that occurred in the foundation of the educational system and health system. For this, the memories of figures who stood out when facing conditions of

inequality are rescued and have their scientific knowledge used to understand other fields of knowledge, such as the humanities, expanding possibilities for interdisciplinary dialogues, which comprises a holistic perception of health from the encounter of alterities throughout different times. In this environment, it is possible to dialogue between the less specialised subject and the more specialised subject, promoting transversal and epistemological debates. This expanded knowledge of scientific concepts for all levels of education, makes it possible to overcome internal and external boundaries in educational practices [4]. In this perspective, the exercise of citizenship can be recognized as a new sphere of knowledge in a decolonial nature, with decoloniality being an important theme due to the social inequality - that was primarily caused by the colonial past and still in the present sustaining frontiers to the equal participation of all classes of people population in the access of higher education - which is perhaps the biggest problem in Brazil, since it is observed that despite legislative advances, the process of liberation from Portuguese rule and the Proclamation of the Republic, the independence generated a series of dependencies of a political and economic nature, for not guarantee equal conditions of autonomy for all people [5]. The Memorial of Brazilian Medicine has essential information to understand emancipatory historical processes, such as the black presence in groups of Medicine graduates before the Law of Ventre Livre and Eusébio de Queiroz, and how they presences in the institution of higher education contributed to the process of slavery abolition, as the presence of Professor Luís Anselmo da Fonseca and Juliano Moreira [6]. The issue of the Institution's corpus has been questioned and studied by previous Memorialists from the Faculties of Federal University of Bahia. In this way, the Faculty of Medicine is a space that encourages the interdisciplinary studies of health beyond medicine itself. The rescue of memory is one of the tasks that gain space in this patrimony site, thinking of educational approaches about the absences and processes of social conflicts, which throughout history has faced lack of adequate relevance to portray these narratives. With regard to the number of trainees and the predominantly male composition of students and teachers, it is observed that significant changes slowly took place after the Leóncio de Carvalho Reform, in article 24 of the regulation of Decree 7.247, of April 1879, which guaranteed the freedom and the right of women to attend college courses and obtain an academic degree - but only in 1884 did women enter higher education, they were: Rita Lobato Velho Lopes, Ermelinda Lopes de Vasconcelos and Antonieta César Dias. Rita Lobato Velho Lopes became the first female medical student at the Faculty of Medicine of Bahia and the first female doctor to graduate in Brazil, on December 10, 1887. In the case study of the female presence in the oldest teaching school higher education in Brazil, I found a article published by doctors Cristina Fortuna and Eliane

Azevedo [7] in 1989, at Faculty of Medicine of Bahia, that shows that despite legislative security, the presence of women still faced limitations from cultural values and prejudices - female presence was only allowed in the company of a legal guardian as a father, brother or husband. On the racial issue, it was only in 1909 that Maria Odília Teixeira, the first black and women doctor to graduate in the century became a professor at the Federal University of Bahia in 1913. In the teaching staff, the female presence occurred even later: the first female professor at the Faculty of Medicine was Dr. Carmem Mesquita, graduated in 1930 and she served as a substitute for the effective head of Internal Medicine; and Dr. Ophelia Gaudenzi, in 1936, was appointed assistant to the chair of Anatomy. They two were the first women to gain positions on the faculty of the most traditional Faculty of Medicine and after the first half of the 20th century, the female presence reached the Congregation. In the position of director of the Faculty of Medicine of the University Federal of Bahia, only one woman occupied the position, Dra Lorene Louise Silva in 2011 to 2015. Once I am a woman, the gender issue especially caught my attention and I observed that the Memorial of Brazilian Medicine and the Faculty of Medicine staff today are mostly formed by female students and employees, which represents a great advance and social milestone in history with a current more equitable scenario. [8]

Nature Preservation

According to the Memorialists, despite the influence of foreign countries on the teaching of Medicine in Bahia, the local doctors did not limit themselves to repeating foreign doctrines. There were chemistry cabinets which carried out some medical experiments satisfactorily. The need for a botanical garden is explained by the tropical development of the pharmaceutical industry and the creation of herborization resulting in the faculty garden, because in search of greater self-sufficiency, it was desirable for doctors to acquire knowledge of medicinal flora and the cultivation of these plants in order to prepare prescriptions [9]. Most knowledge of medicinal plants is the heritage of indigenous peoples and some important plants from the native Brazilian flora are preserved in the Garden that surrounds the Patrimony Architectural Complex. In addition to the historical and social aspects, the garden of the Memorial of Brazilian Medicine, houses the largest green area in terms of ambiental environmental preservation located at the Historic Centre of Salvador de Bahia. It has in its extension, a botanical diversity of century-old palm trees, flowers and native trees, such as Urucum and Pau Brasil. Currently, extension activities have been carried out with the Institute of Biology from the Federal University of Bahia, for dating and cataloguing the species that inhabit the garden's ecosystem.



Fig. 2 - The Garden. Photo by LabFoto from FACOM-UFBA.

Consideration

Currently, the Memorial of Brazilian Medicine structures are articulated to offer teaching, research and extension activities with the University Federal of Bahia, being important for sharing historical and heritage knowledge with the public from inside and outside the university community. The socialisation of knowledge enables approximation to interdisciplinary dialogues. One visit into the Memorial of Brazilian Medicine stands out in the breadth of humanity and scientific knowledge developed in line with the educational system and the citizenship, occupying beyond the patrimony site, the world of social identity.

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