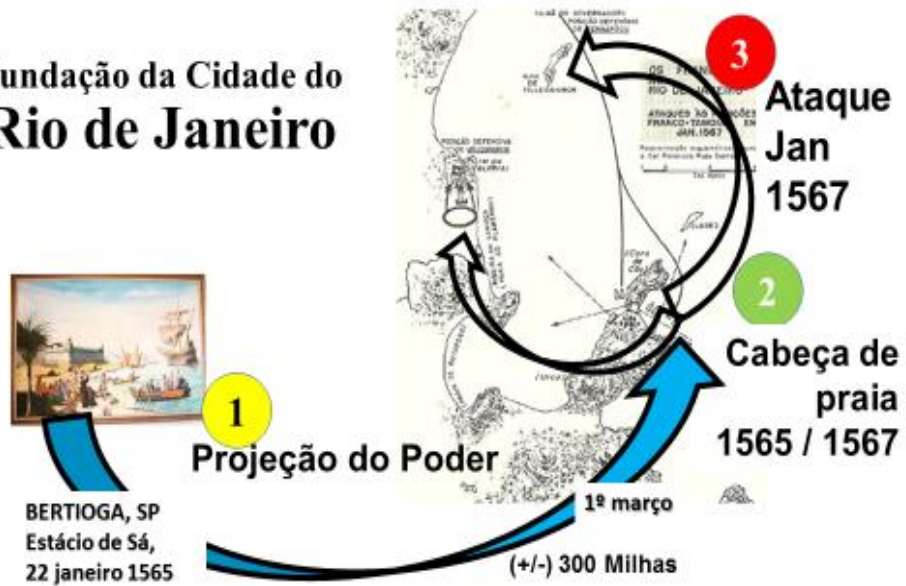
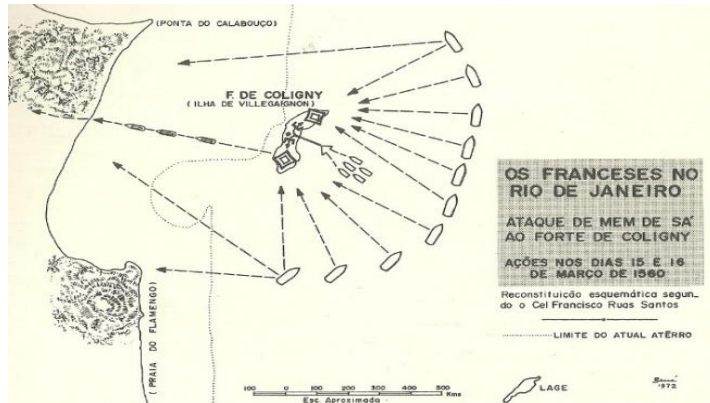


Fundação da Cidade do Rio de Janeiro



In 1563, Estácio de Sá, the nephew of Mem de Sá, came from Portugal with warships and strict orders to expel the invaders. Starting from Salvador at the beginning of 1564, he was taunted by the Tamoios in Guanabara Bay and headed for the Captaincy of São Vicente. On January 22, 1565, Estácio de Sá's expedition, with the support of Nóbrega and Anchieta left Fort Santiago (today Fort São João in Bertioga) with five ships and sailed towards Guanabara Bay. On the 1st of March, the expedition arrived at the swamps between Sugarloaf and the Morro Cara-de-Cão and began constructing fortified defense works and the first houses in the "old town", in what would become the city of Rio de Janeiro.



Attack drawing: Mem de Sá / Coligny Fort, 1560, and Estácio de Sá, 1567. (EME, pp. 41/42)

After two years of struggle, offensive actions by Estácio de Sá began on March 20, 1567 with reinforcements arriving from Portugal under the command of Cristóvão de Barros and the Captaincy of São Vicente. In the presence of Mem de Sá, combat took place in Uruçu Mirim (today, Flamengo Beach) and then against the Fort of Paranapuã on Maracajás Island, today known as Governador Island. The French did not resist, and some settled in the region of Cabo Frio. The success of this military venture indirectly guaranteed the territorial, linguistic, and religious unity of the colony. But Estácio de Sá had been hit in the face with an arrow, and died shortly thereafter.