



"National Monument. Photographic Collection ruins Engenho São Jorge dos Erasmos - Advanced Base of Culture and University Extension - USP - Santos"

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On the islands of São Vicente and Santo Amaro, several mills were established: Madre de Deus, São João and São Jorge dos Erasmos (the most important in Brazil and run by water). It came from a society created by Martim Afonso de Souza, who sold his share to Erasmo Schutz, from Antwerp, hence the name of Engenho dos Erasmos. The mill was burned in 1615 by the Dutch corsair Joris van Spilbergen.

For a long period, the port was dependent on the salt market. At the time, the Captaincy of São Vicente became the Captaincy of São Paulo, and Santos became *the Port of Salt*.

With the discovery of gold, trade was initially shipped through the Port of Santos, whence the name *Port of Gold*, and the Captaincy of São Vicente was named the *Captaincy of São Paulo and Gold Mines*. In 1706, Garcia Paes opened the "New Way", and the gold from *Minas Gerais* began to be shipped through Rio de Janeiro. This put the Captaincy of São Paulo in decline between 1748 and 1765, making it lose even its autonomy.