



Fort Monte Serrat,  
Salvador, BA. V H Mori.  
Forte Presépio, 1616, Belém, PA  
Collection Fuceb.



*So we shall “look” at the string of fortifications that permeates the vast perimeter of the America of Portuguese origin by the epic side of a fantastic history of settlement and territorial conquests, by navigators in rough seas, and by the Bandeiras de Limites in the wild west, way beyond the imaginary line of Tordesillas, both at the behest of the Portuguese government.*

We start, then, searching for a profile that is still present in the form of impressive stone walls, in search of a historical closeness between the navigators and the Bandeirantes and, thus, recover this slant, which rarely has been exploited in the studies on the formation of our nationality.

The historical facts related to the incursions by land and sea that were carried out by important seafarers and also by hinterland explorers are in the majority, related to the period of union of the Iberian crowns (1580 to 1640) and its reflections after the political and strategic defeat of the *Invincible Armada* (1588). Such historical events played a major part in causing the incursions into Latin America, by English, Dutch and French corsairs, enemies of Spain.