



Billiard room

A PLACE WITH HISTORY

The Figueiroense Club – Culture House is an emblematic building in the town of Figueiró dos Vinhos, a structure full of history and many stories, constructed in the year 1895. It is the first town building to be illuminated with acetylene lamps. Its origin involved distinguished personalities from Figueiró dos Vinhos, who on May 1, 1887, established the Recreational Association. The building was equipped with a stage for performances, a ballroom that could be transformed into an audience area, a theater, a library, a billiard and games room, becoming a reference for socio-cultural activities in Figueiró dos Vinhos. It attracted artists, politicians, and professionals who spent much of their time there in lively gatherings. Various performances took place in this venue, including theater, local and national vaudeville shows, dances, and later, cinema.

The stage curtain was painted by the scenographer Machado and sponsored by the painter José Malhoa. In their reference works on theaters, Raúl Proença and Sousa Bastos mention that the ceiling of the billiard room was painted by José Malhoa. Also, the sculptors Simões de Almeida Júnior and Simões de Almeida (nephew), donated sculptures to the Figueiroense Club, which can now be seen in the Museum and Arts Center.



Games room



Library



CULTURE
HOUSE
Figueiroense
Club



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Figueiró dos Vinhos

A RENOVATED AND INCLUSIVE BUILDING

The Culture House is a integrative cultural space, designed for cultural and recreational events, such as shows, theatre plays and cinema. Besides the auditorium, there is also a multipurpose hall, which is adequate for training sessions, workshops, and may as well be used as an exhibition space, thus enriching the local and national panorama.



The hall has a stage with a total area of 8,20 metres wide by 7,10 metres long, and direct access to the dressing rooms. It features sound, light and projection equipment. The Culture House has 169 seated places and 4 allocated spaces for wheelchairs.

The Culture House now has sanitary facilities prepared for people with reduced mobility and an elevator to access the auditorium. There is also a resting area for guide dogs.



The Municipal Council acquired, reconstructed, and completely renovated its interior, transforming it into the current Figueiroense Club - Culture House, inaugurated on March 21, 2000.

New times bring new challenges and the need to adapt, projecting it for another century of existence, modernized through community funds - CENTRO2020 through an application under the Urban Rehabilitation Action Plan (PARU), responding to various existing audiences, with respect for differences, in a discreet and effective manner, positioning itself as an inclusive and accessible space for all who use this venue as a "stage" or as an audience, allowing the development of more ambitious artistic projects.

The recently executed works aimed at improving the space through conservation and improvement of the building in general, with the main goal of optimizing its energy efficiency and improving access for people with reduced mobility. The exterior frames were replaced with more efficient double-glazed ones, LED lighting was applied, and security measures were implemented. The building was adapted to comply with accessibility standards for people with reduced mobility, including the construction of an access ramp, the creation of an accessible restroom, an elevator platform, as well as a space for assistance dogs, properly marked. It also allows accessibility to content in English and Braille.

