

IFLA PRESENTS

Professional Units Virtual Events



IFLA PRESENTS

Challenges in the conservation of archival bindings - The National Archive of Torre do Tombo

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Portugal, Lisbon Torre do Tombo National Archive(ANTT)



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<https://antt.dglab.gov.pt/>

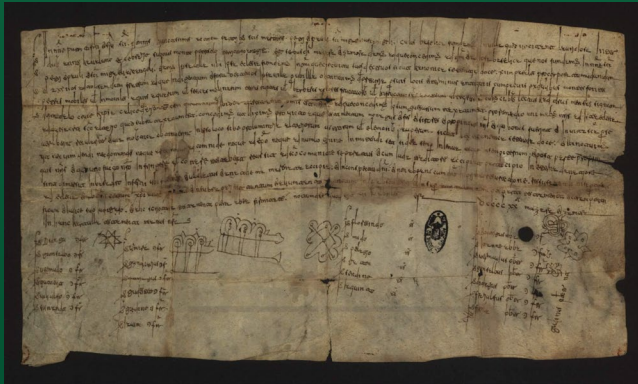
ANTT is a building that was built from scratch for its intended purpose, designed by the architect Arsénio Cordeiro, with gargoyles by sculptor José Aurélio. Inaugurated in December 1990, it is a classified national heritage building. It has 4 floors of storage and 3 floors of services divided into two distinct areas: the back office area and the public area, open to researchers and the general public. Classified as a monument of public interest since 2012. Area occupied by the building - 11 265m² (eleven thousand two hundred and sixty-five square meters), Useful area of the building - 54 235m² (fifty-four thousand two hundred and thirty-five square meters) .



Guarding the alphabet



The National Archive of Torre do Tombo (ANTT) holds a diverse universe of archival heritage, from the 9th century to the present day, in a wide variety of media, and fulfils its main mission of safeguarding, enhancing and disseminating this heritage



Ordem de São Bento, Mosteiro de São Pedro de Cete, mç. 1, n.º 1, 0882-03-27

PT/TT/MSPC/01/000001



"Livro de D. Mumadona"
[post. 1115]
Colegiada de Santa Maria Oliveira de Guimarães, liv. 1

PT/TT/CSMOG/L1

General regime for archives and archival heritage

Law n. 16/93, 23th january

Article 17° - Communication of archival heritage

1 - The communication of documentation held in public archives is guaranteed, subject to the limitations arising from the imperatives of preserving the species and without prejudice to the restrictions imposed by law.

Physical condition assessment

The Evaluation Panel establishes practical and simple parameters for the person performing the evaluation to select, in a system of numbers and colors that correspond to the degradation indexes for accessing the document and the reference code or symbol, and also provides a space for noting the observations of the evaluation.

→ It includes a scale from 1 to 4, which is interpreted by assigning a color to each number, depending on the state of the document.

ESTADO FÍSICO PARA ACESSO

Cota: _____

Observações: _____

ÍNDICE DE DEGRADAÇÃO	1 Verde	Acesso imediato	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
	2 Amarelo	Conservação/Acesso Pouco danificado	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conservação 2B
	3 Laranja	Acesso condicionado Danificado (condições especiais)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Com Acesso 2A
	4 Vermelho	Acesso negado Muito danificado	<input type="checkbox"/>	Com Acesso 3A
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Sem Acesso 3B
			<input type="checkbox"/>	4

Data: _____

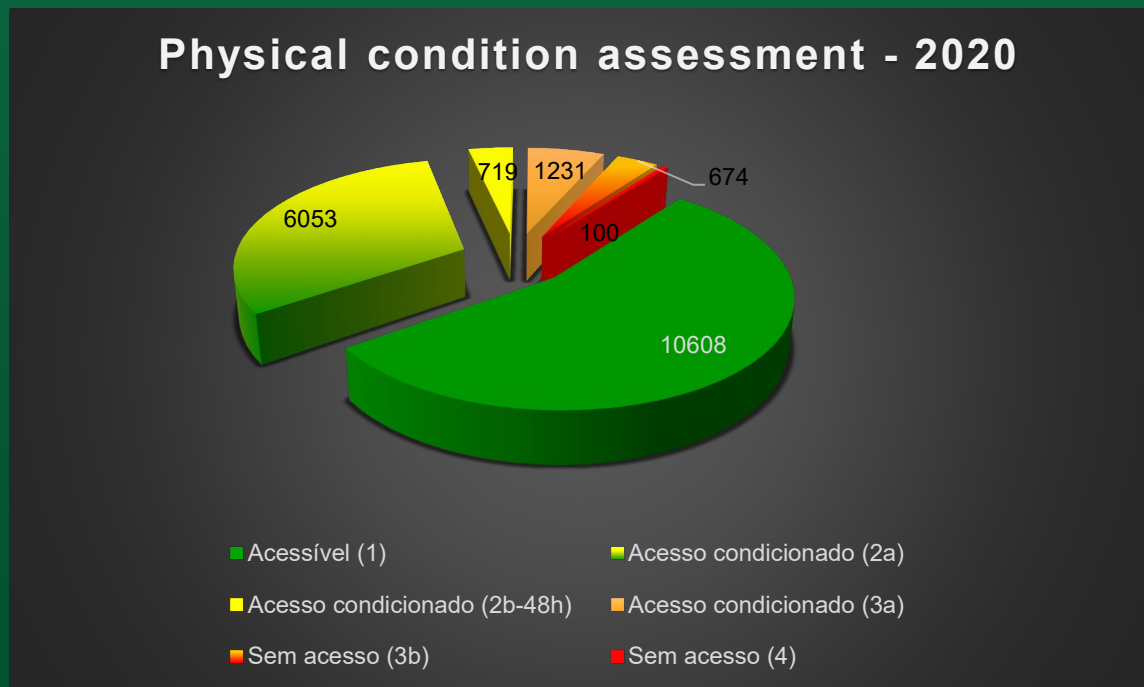
Técnico: _____

**NÃO RETIRAR
DO DOCUMENTO
OBRIGADO**

WHAT IT IS AND HOW TO APPLY THE MARKER OF PHYSICAL CONDITION

The evaluation of the physical condition of documents proposes the use of an instrument capable of collecting the data observed during the evaluation of the physical condition of the documents. This collection instrument will be the Physical Condition Marker, which contains a series of elements to quantify and qualify the physical condition of the document, so that when it is requested by researchers, we know in what state it is and whether or not it is available for consultation. This process will save time and will give us the advantage of knowing the condition of the documents and the opportunity to decide what action to take regarding their preservation in case of deterioration.

Result of the physical condition assessment for access



Storage

Today there are 140 linear km of shelves
The National Archive currently has more than 100 km of documentation



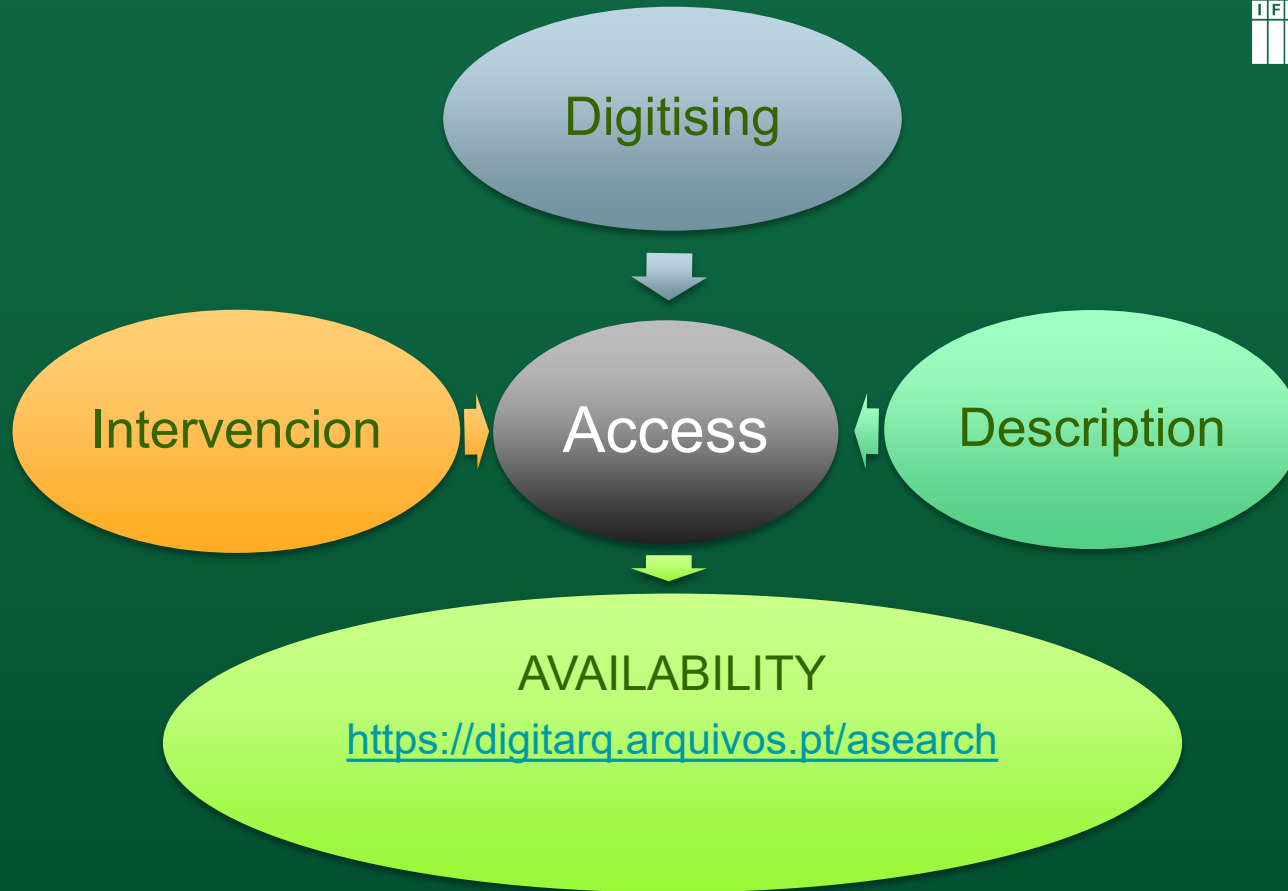
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What are the biggest challenges facing this conservation and restoration service

- ❑ Drawing up physical condition assessment criteria to ensure the integrity of the documents;
- ❑ Implementing good practices for assessing physical condition and access to documents
- ❑ Conservation intervention within 48 hours to ensure access to documents at risk
- ❑ Internal and external training
- ❑ Develop projects with internal and external specialists, but tailored to the needs of the document types





Archival Binding: our conservation solutions

In archive the sewing and binding systems follow common typologies. A careful observation reveals variations in terms of materials and execution methodologies, adapted by the “binder” according to the desired objective or his technical expertise.

There is a number of different typological entites with the common trait of a limp or semi-limp binding cover



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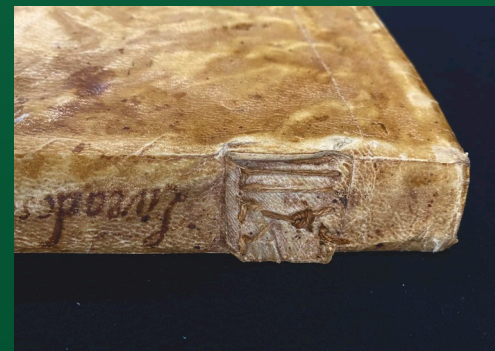
PT/TT/MSLIV/2775
1676



PT/TT/MSLIV/0256
1564



PT/TT/MSLIV/0274
1740



Mosteiro de São Dinis
de Odivelas, liv 1 e 45
Códices Factícios
1263/1831

Our challenges

**Allow access to
information**



**Adapt without
significantly
changing the
binding system**

**Understand the specificities
in the workmanship of
documents and bindings**

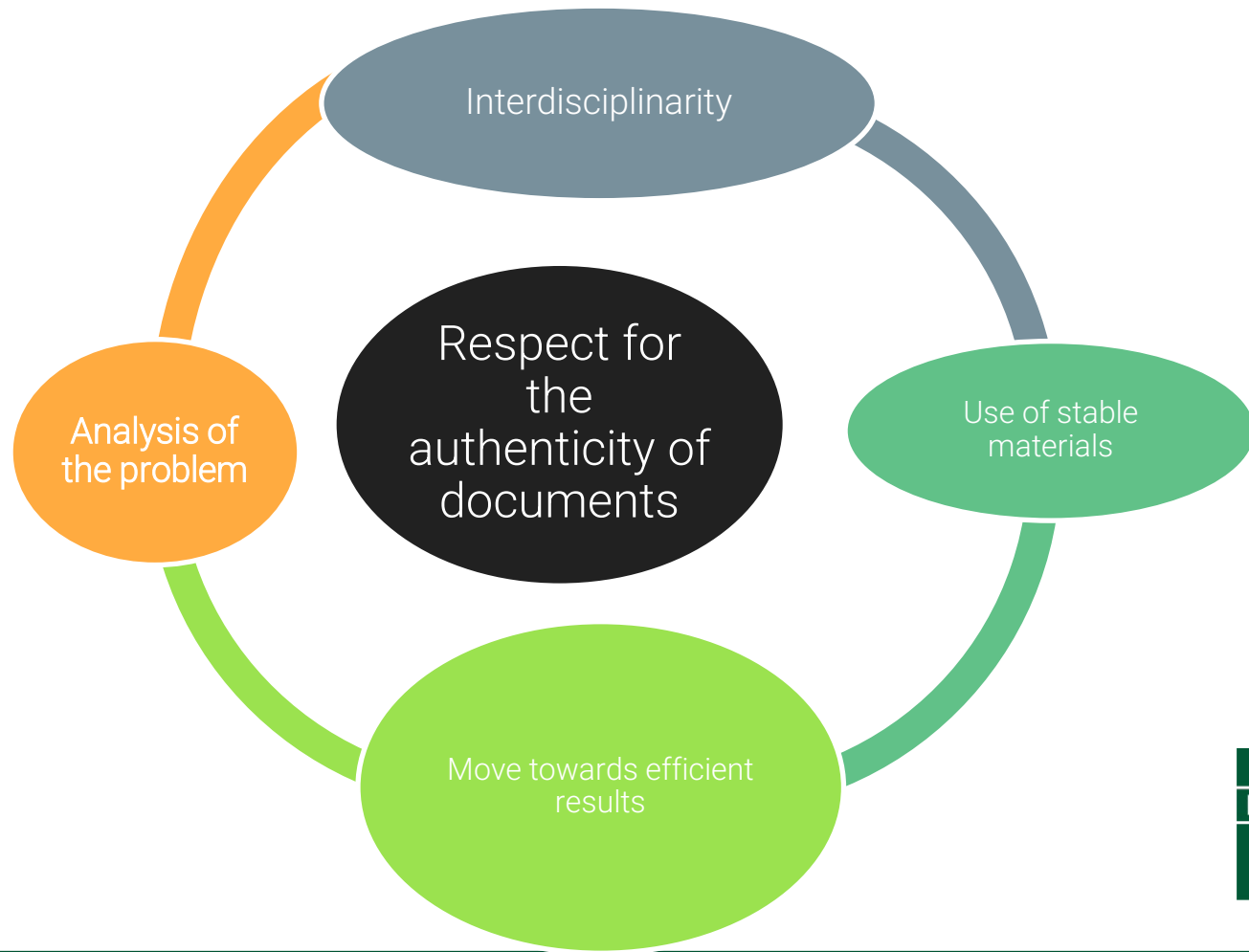


**Observe and record all
details during the
intervention**

**Reuse or not of
existing materials**



**Evaluate the resistance
of the original materials,
Consider the use of
different materials**



Preserving all the materials that we couldn't use in the storage box with the document



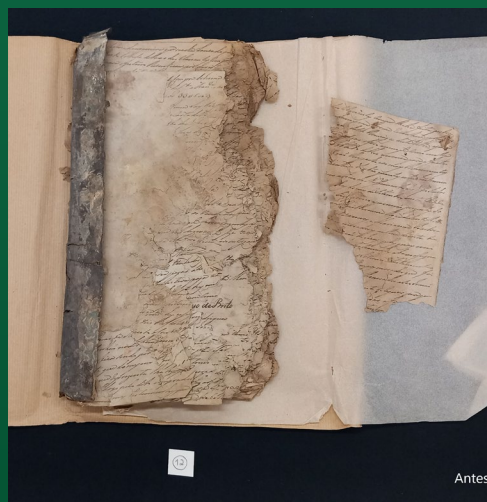
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Contos do Reino e Casa, Núcleo Antigo 810 (PT/TT/CRC/B/15/810)
Date: 1508

- Authenticity;
- Respect for materials;
- Maintaining their function

PT/ADSTB/NOT/2CNSTB04/001/0006
1815



Antes

Quarter leather binding, cardboard,
hand painted paper cover.

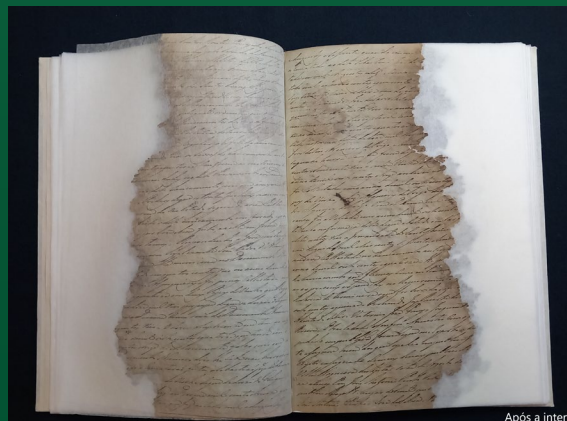


Reinforcement of the paper cover with handmade paper,
"Arte&Memoria" reproduction of 18th century European paper,
cotton/ hemp, pH -7.3 – 8.4
Starch and 3% neutral PVA

Maintaining function – new materials



Eterno board
– 100% chlorine free
Lignin free
pH 7.5 – 9,5
Acid free
Alkaline buffer
No optical brightening agent



Lamination with
tengujo paper
with kozo fibers,
8.6 g/m²

Tylose MH 300
P2 in etanol
solution / Klucel
G 300mP in
etanol

Respect for materials -maintaining their function

Hidden interior wooden back plates



PT/ADSTB/NOT/1CNSTB04/001/0009
1674
Setúbal Archive

New cover with handmade paper
"Arte&Memoria" reproduction
of 18th century European paper,
cotton/ hemp, pH -7.3 – 8.4

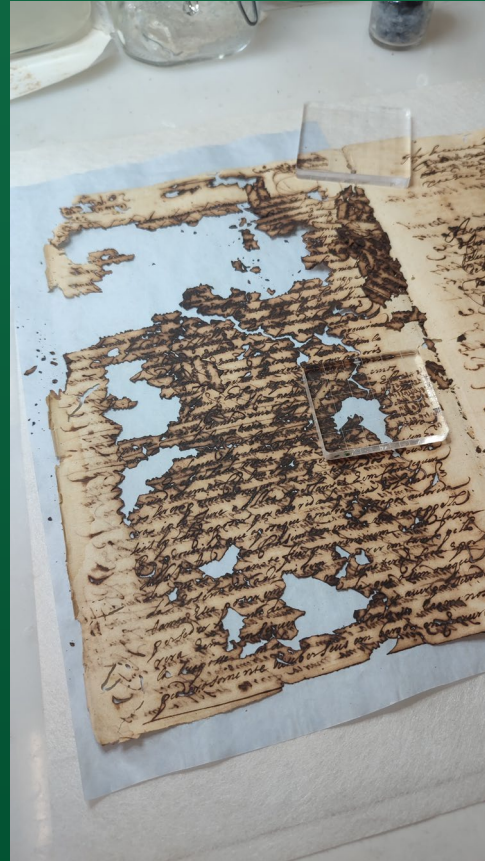
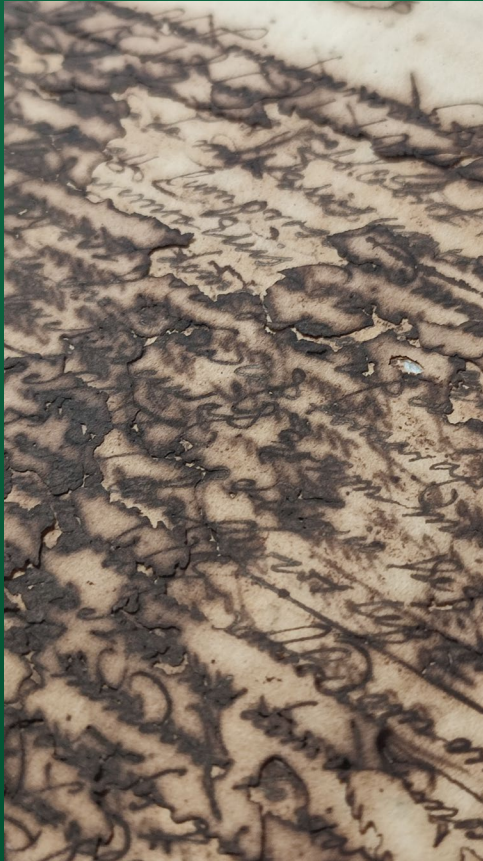
Evaluate the resistance of the original materials, Consider the use of different materials

Santa Clara do Funchal, liv. 7 (PT/TT/CSCF/008/0007)
Date: 1700



Textile covers overlapping ancient parchment covers with
card board.

Allow access to information. Move towards efficient results



Lamination with tengujo paper
with kozo fibers, 8.6 g/m²
Tylose MH 300 P2 in etanol
solution / Klucel G 300mP in
etanol

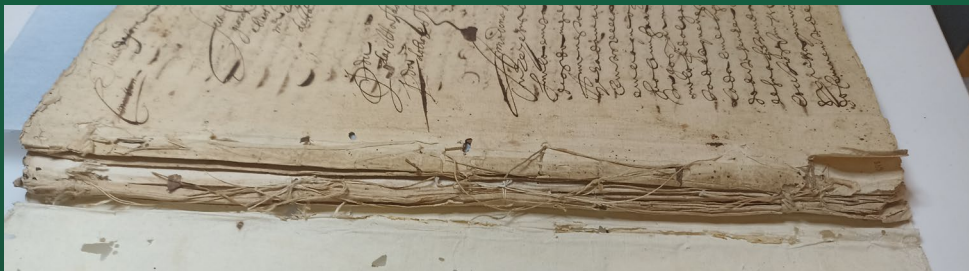
Santa Clara do Funchal, liv. 7
(PT/TT/CSCF/008/0007)

Authenticity



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Adapt without significantly changing the binding system



Remake the primary binding
Is it possible? – diversity of stitches

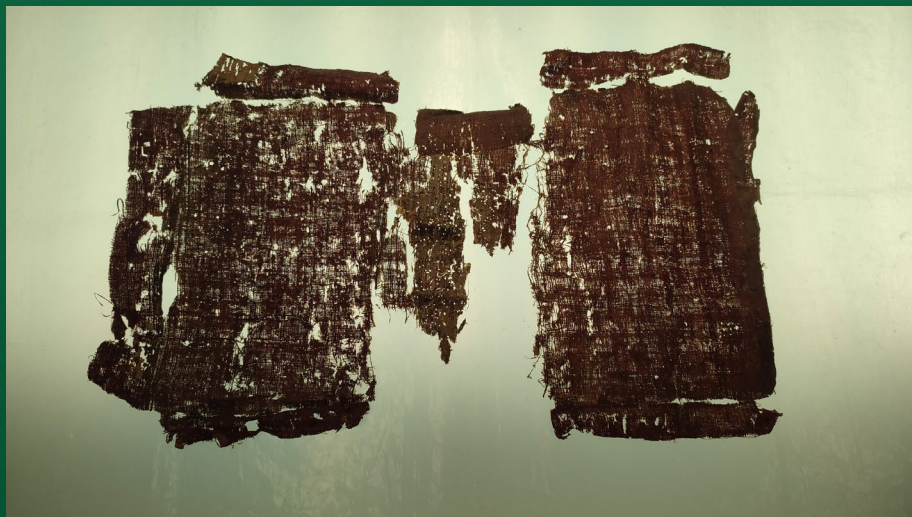
Remake secondary binding, main binding
Is it possible?
-Yes



Santa Clara do Funchal, liv. 7
(PT/TT/CSCF/008/0007)

Evaluate the resistance of the original materials. Consider the use of different materials.

Santa Clara do Funchal, liv. 7
(PT/TT/CSCF/008/0007)



After careful cleaning



Reinforcement of the textile cover

Adapt without significantly changing the binding system



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Santa Clara do Funchal, liv. 7
(PT/TT/CSCF/008/0007)



Understand the specificities in the workmanship of documents and bindings



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Leather semi-limp binding



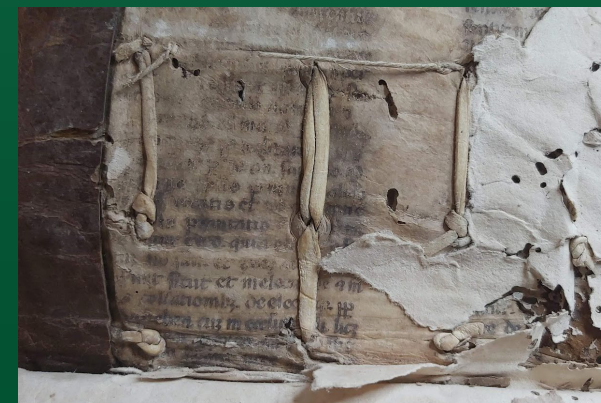
Núcleo Antigo nº 605 (PT/TTCRC/B/9/605)
1514



Lining of the covering with reused parchment and paper board



Remake



Preserve

Núcleo Antigo nº 605 (PT/TTCRC/B/9/605)

Evaluate the resistance of the original materials



Ancient reuse of materials – lining with 14th century illuminated parchment



Removal of card pasteboard

Interdisciplinarity



Constituição Política da República
Portuguesa (PT/TT/CP/6)
1838

Removal of card pasteboard

Interdisciplinarity



Constituição Política da
República Portuguesa
(PT/TT/CP/6)
1838



Removal of card pasteboard



THANK YOU

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