



MASSÓ MUSEUM

**TAMING THE SEA AND
EXPLOITING ITS RESOURCES**

XUNTA DE GALICIA

THE MUSEUM THAT GREW INSIDE A CANNING FACTORY

The Massó Museum is situated close to the port of Bueu, on the Pontevedra estuary, and housed in the industrial sheds that remained after the canning complex of Massó Brothers Ltd. was demolished.

This company, which at one time had 2000 employees in its factories, played a significant role in the economic and social development of the Morrazo peninsula last century, but its influence went beyond the local area to become a genuine business phenomenon over several decades.

The current Massó Museum has its origins in the collection devoted to the history of navigation built up from the beginning of the 19th century by this family of industrialists. The museum opened in 1932 and over several decades it grew inside the factory premises in spaces no longer used for production activity, as new sheds and Cangas industrial estate were built.

From the beginning it had a room dedicated to the historical heritage of the family industry. Over time, artifacts from fishing and the canning and whale-meat processing industry add to the museum's contents.

In 1994, after closure of the factory in Bueu in 1992, the collection and part of the old fish-canning buildings housing the museum at the time were acquired by the Galician Government.

► Letterhead of the Massó Hermanos S.A. company, around 1927



TAMING THE SEA AND EXPLOITING ITS RESOURCES

The permanent display tells the story of two major complementary subjects: taming the sea and exploiting its resources.

In the room devoted to the taming of the sea, the collection, consisting essentially of navigation instruments, maritime maps, models of boats, old books and historical documents, introduces the public to those subjects, the knowledge and historical circumstances that allowed navigation and trading by sea to develop from the Times of the Discoveries. This room holds the original museum contents and so in itself is a part of the museum.

The area devoted to exploiting maritime resources begins in Roman times, with the port and the salting and ceramics works of Pescadoira. A connection is made between that period and the time of redeveloping the salting industry (between the 18th and 19th centuries), thanks to the initiative of Catalan pioneers. A social and economic phenomenon in which the Massó saga and the town of Bueu, with more than 20 saltworks in the past, played a very prominent part.

Industrial development in the 19th and 20th centuries, which in Galicia was closely linked to the maritime sector, was never far from the Massó company in relation to the canning and whale-meat processing activity, with its economic and social implications, without forgetting the cultural legacy of this line of business-people.

► Painting by Urbano Lugrís to decorate the employees' canteen in the Massó Hermanos S.A. factory in Bueu, around 1945





Sardinias Seleccionadas
sin espina, con trufas
en aceite puro
de oliva

MASSÓ HERMANOS
- VIGO - ESPAÑA -
"NUESTRO NOMBRE ES UNA
GARANTÍA DE CALIDAD."



OPENING TIMES

Tuesday to Saturday

From october to may

From 10:00 to 20:00 h

From june to setember

From 10:00 to 21:30 h

Sundays and public holidays

From 10:00 to 14:00 h

Monday

Closed

CONTACT

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