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# LANDSCAPES AND MONUMENTS OF CASTELO BRANCO

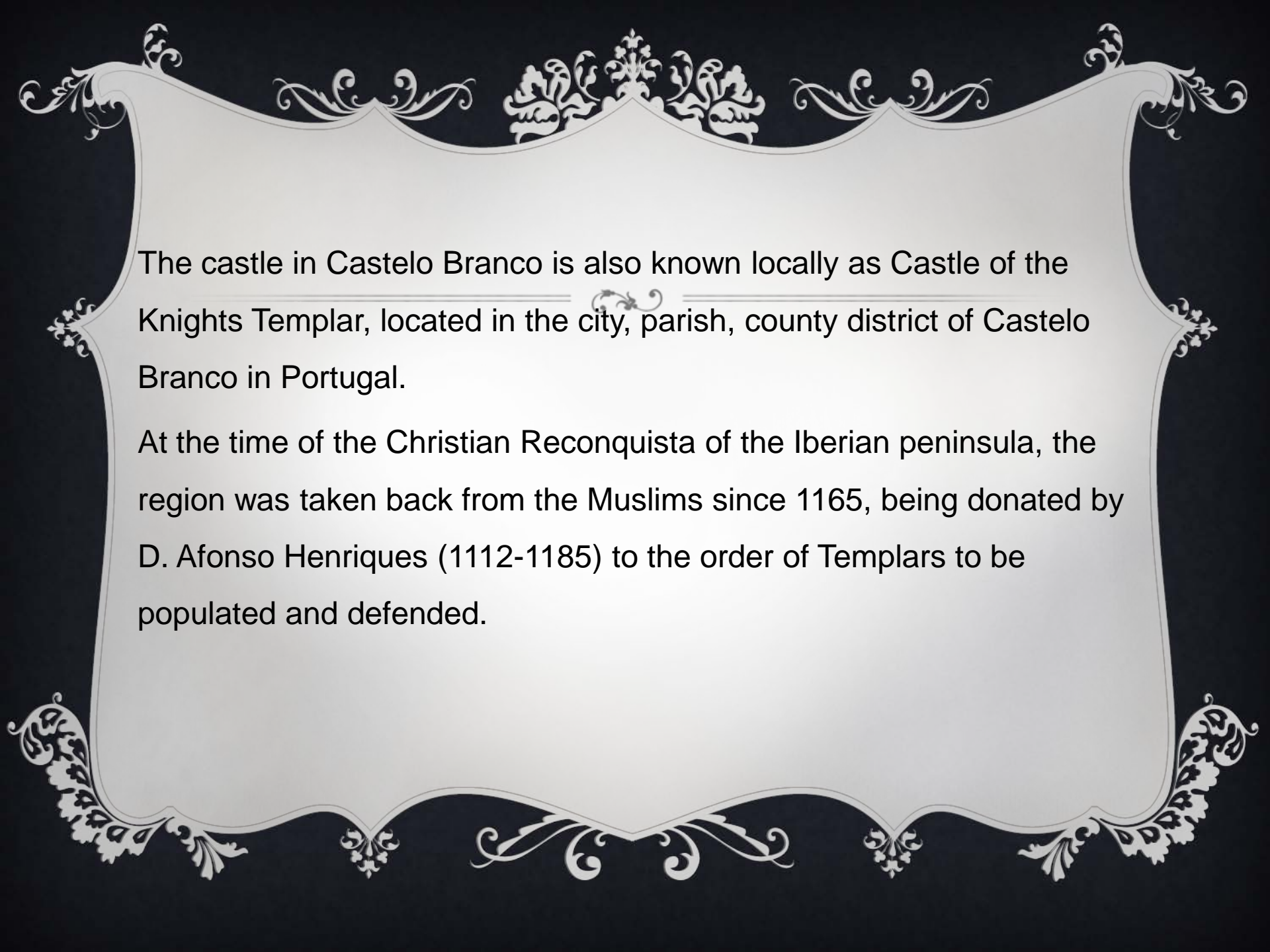


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# THE CASTLE





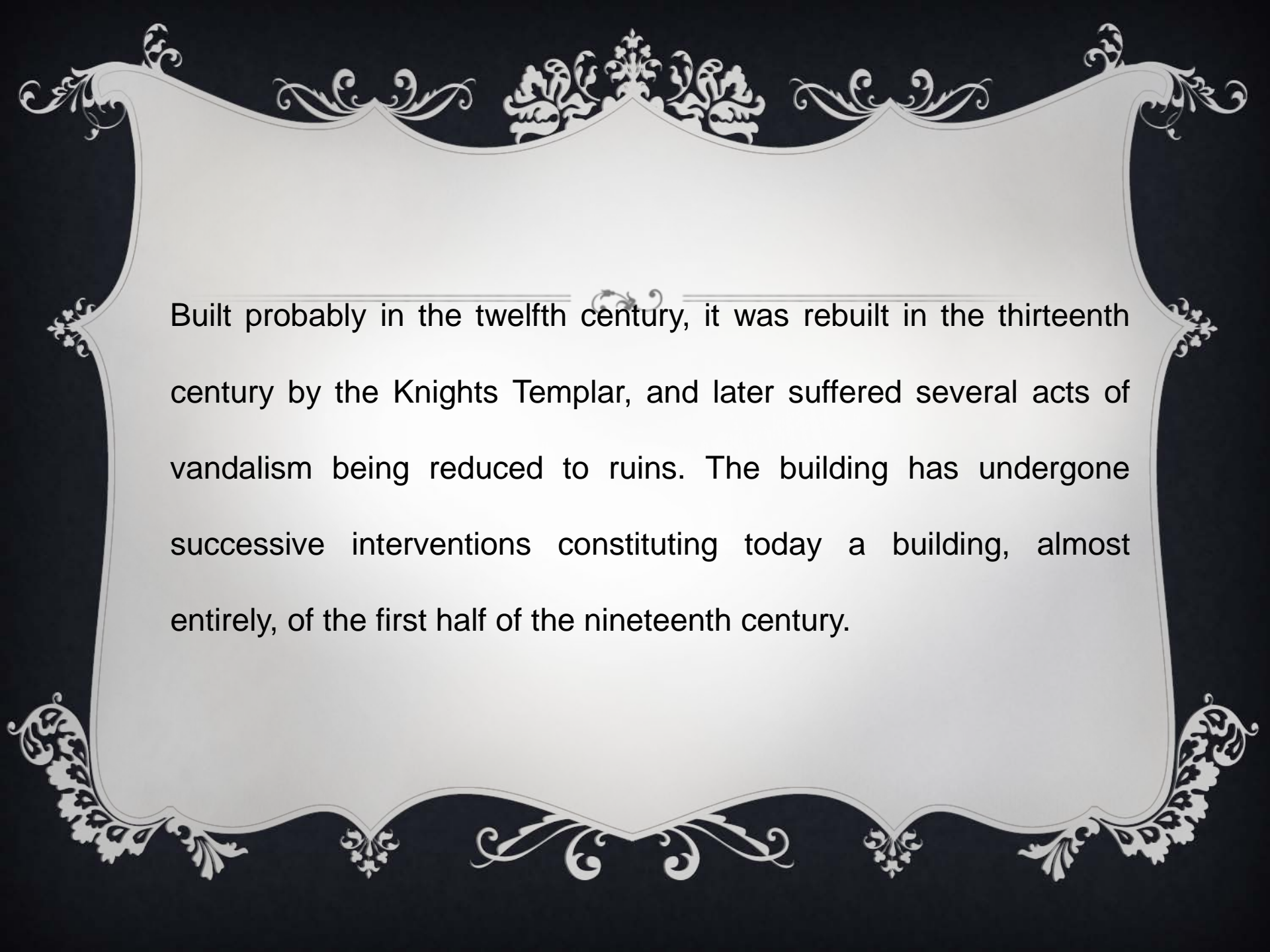
The castle in Castelo Branco is also known locally as Castle of the Knights Templar, located in the city, parish, county district of Castelo Branco in Portugal.

At the time of the Christian Reconquista of the Iberian peninsula, the region was taken back from the Muslims since 1165, being donated by D. Afonso Henriques (1112-1185) to the order of Templars to be populated and defended.



# ST. MARIA'S CHURCH






Built probably in the twelfth century, it was rebuilt in the thirteenth century by the Knights Templar, and later suffered several acts of vandalism being reduced to ruins. The building has undergone successive interventions constituting today a building, almost entirely, of the first half of the nineteenth century.



# BISHOP'S PALACE GARDEN





❖ The palace garden is located in Castelo Branco next to the ancient palace of the bishop.

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❖ Created in the eighteenth century by Bishop João de Mendonça, it is organized in a formal pattern, but with an abundance of statues. Baroque and often bizarre style, the saints and apostles line the hedges, stone lions are reflected in the lakes and monarchs keep the balustrades. The hated kings of 60 years Spanish rule are smaller in size.



# THE CATHEDRAL OF CASTELO BRANCO





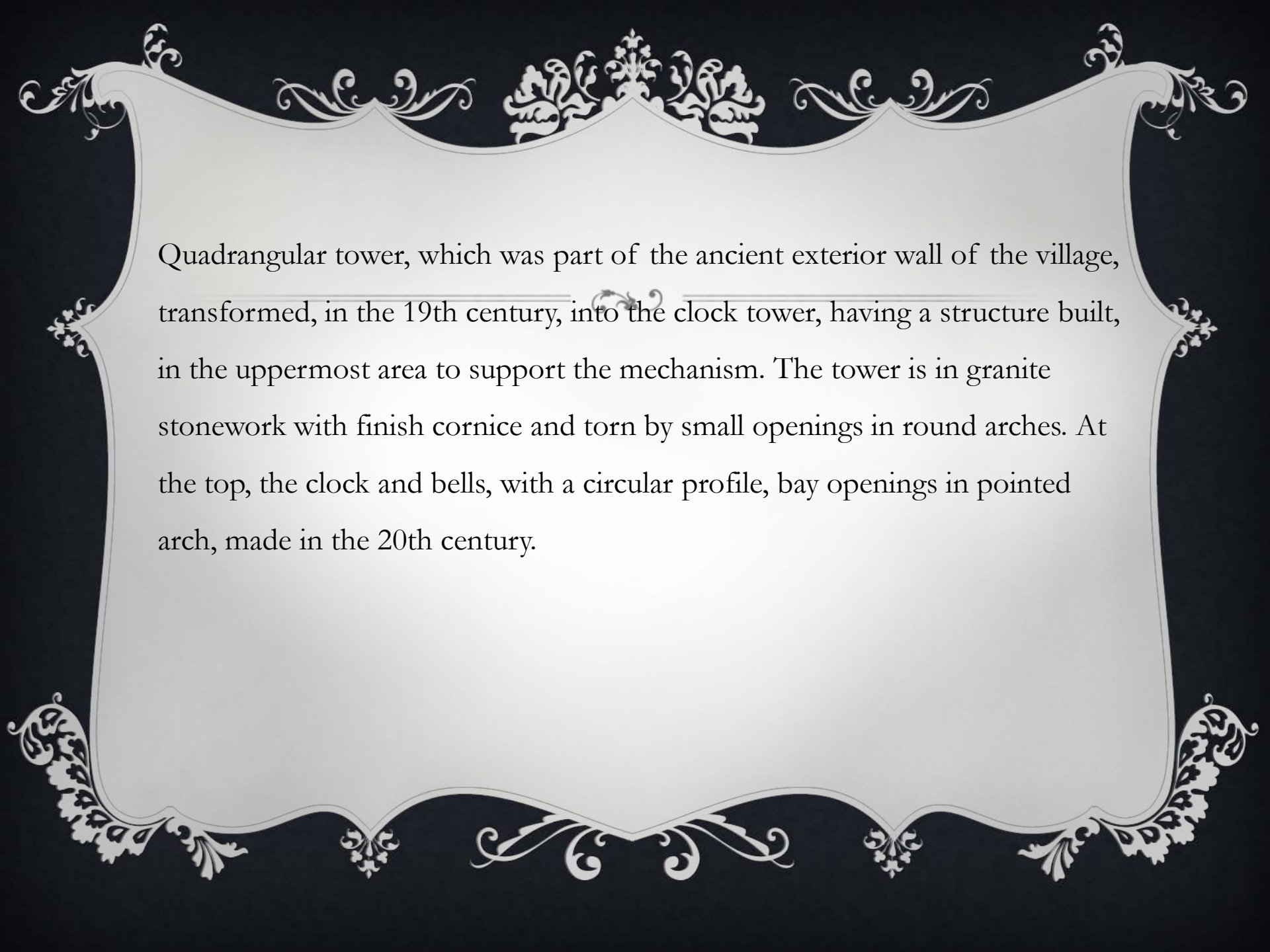


The church of St. Miguel, also referred to as the main church and Castelo Branco cathedral, located in Castelo Branco. The major architectural interventions occurred in 1682, visible in the lower two levels of the facade, baroque nature, and in 1691, with the introduction of paintings by Bento Coelho in eight chapels. In 1771, with Castelo Branco becoming a diocese, the church status is risen to cathedral and receives at this point improvement works. In 1785 the chapel is rebuilt and in 1791 Pedro Alexandrino paintings are introduced in the altar piece (1785) and the chapel of the holiness.



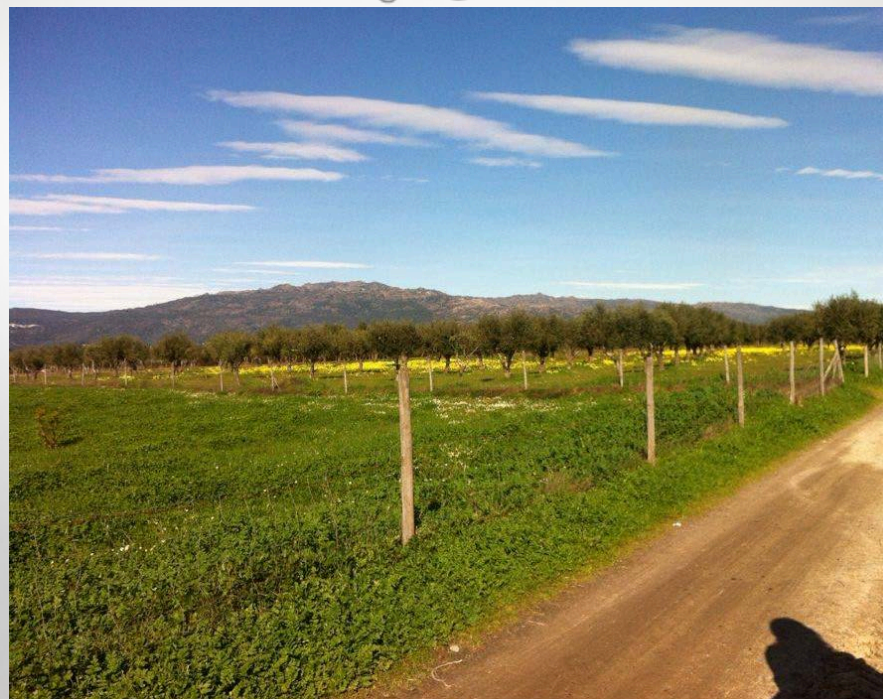
CLOCK TOWER





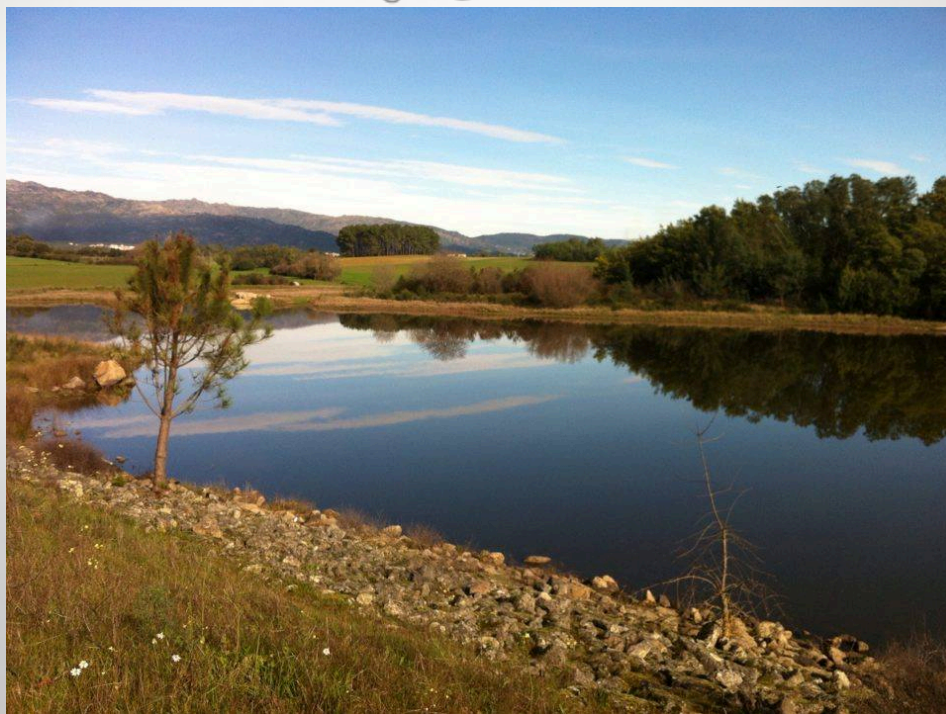
Quadrangular tower, which was part of the ancient exterior wall of the village, transformed, in the 19th century, into the clock tower, having a structure built, in the uppermost area to support the mechanism. The tower is in granite stonework with finish cornice and torn by small openings in round arches. At the top, the clock and bells, with a circular profile, bay openings in pointed arch, made in the 20th century.

# LOURIÇAL DO CAMPO





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