



Mapa: Secomandi / Meireles. Foto: V H Mori, p. 80/81, fonte INPE

The military protection architecture to the maritime accesses of the former Captaincy of São Vicente is based on a legacy of six colonial fortifications arranged in three curtains of defense, built in pairs and on opposite sides to cross fire over the maritime accesses:

to the North Fort São João (1551) and Fort São Felipe (1557), replaced by Fort São Luis

(1770), performing an advanced coverage of the maritime access to the “village” of Santos, using the channel of Bertioga;

to the south, at the mouth of the estuary that leads to the same “village”, the Spaniards built

Santo Amaro Fortress (1584) and the Portuguese, two advanced sentinels, Fort Augusto (1734) and Góes blockhouse (1767), and

for close defense were built Fort Nossa Senhora do Monte Serrat (1543) and Fortress Vera Cruz do Itapema (1738).

To provide military logistical support to the fortifications the “Casa do Trem Bélico – was built in the center of the “old village” of Santos (1734).