



Map of All Saints' Bay. attack by the corsair DuguayTrouin against Rio de Janeiro in 1712. Le Brésil, 1909. Map of the former village of São Vicente. Sixteenth Century Codex of Ajuda's library Lisbon Portugal (FERREIRA, p. II).

7_ SEA INCURSIONS

... And all this fantastic history of territorial conquests and population started in the former Captaincy of São Vicente.

“D. João III, in 1530, sent a powerful expeditionary force, under the command of Martim

Afonso de Souza, with the title of Captain-General and a royal document that granted him the ownership of that territory, to which was given the name ‘Brazil’”

The east coast of America, to the south of Ecuador, has few safe bays to shelter ports and their formats. The three best bays at the east of Tordesillas, – Todos os Santos, Guanabara and Santos –, were occupied by the Portuguese in the early days of the colonization.

This favorable geographic morphology, suitable for the settlement of sheltered harbors, was defended by elaborate systems of colonial fortifications, resistant to naval artillery of other colonizing powers, the corsairs and the pirates, and with the construction technique appropriate to last centuries.