

Museo Arqueológico - Etnológico Gratiniano Baches



Pilar de la Horadada



The office of Mr. Gratiniano Baches is also a part of the museum's permanent exhibition. He was the first person to begin archaeological studies in Pilar de la Horadada, in the early 20th century.

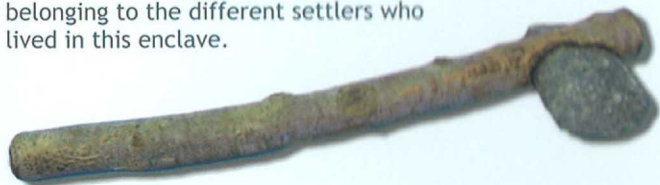
This Council Museum opened its doors in 1994 thanks to private donations and deposits. This museum's collection is currently divided in five sections: environment, fossils, archaeology, ethnology and numismatic.



We must highlight, within the fossil section, a syrenid skull fossil: a great herbivore aquatic mammal that lived in the "Rio Seco", in the Pliocene period, more than six million years ago.



The archaeological section exhibits important pieces belonging to the different settlers who lived in this enclave.



Prehistory is represented by works belonging to cut and polished stones used as different utensils for different tasks. We must stand out a polished stone axe.



During the Roman Period several types of ceramics were manufacture, amongst them, amphorae used basically for transport and common ceramics, used as everyday dishes, such as a cooking pot with a lid.



Precious stones were already a part of the Romans' jewellery, a lion decorates this gem and both magic as therapeutic effects were attributed to it.



Pilar de la Horadada, probably known at that time as “Thiar’s Mansion”, was a place of rest and a trading post, situated at the foot of the Via Augusta, one of the oldest Roman roads in Hispania, previously known as the Via Heráclea. This miliarium, situated on the roadway in late Roman times, indicated the destination point in miles.

The museum also coordinates other tasks, which are directly related to its management, such as the scientific research carried out through archaeological excavations, which are so important to increase the museum’s collection.



The numismatic section offers quite a large collection as far as coins are concerned: from the Iberians to the present time, not only from Spain but also from other countries of the world. A denarius from the Roman emperor Alexander Severus (222-235 A.D.)

Last but not least, ethnology shows us a wide variety of traditional utensils reflecting the local families' daily lives over two hundred years ago.



In this section, we exhibit the importance of the esparto plantations in our council, which was a part of the Campus Spartarius. From time immemorial esparto growing has rendered possible some very characteristic objects, which are now on show.

A few well-preserved elements from a self-providing farming economy have reached us, such as this 19th century silex thresher.



