

STORY: LOOKING AT LOIRO WITH DIFFERENT EYES

I am Manuel Fernández Pérez, native of Loiro and the driving force behind the Loiro na Memoria Association.

Upon my return from Switzerland, I found myself in a challenging situation: taking care of my father and facing the diagnosis of a significant visual impairment. This circumstances led me to reflect on how I could contribute to both my own well-being, and that of my hometown. Without thinking too much, I began the search for my family tree, thus discovering the personal stories of the inhabitants of my town, an activity that became my passion.

This marked the beginning of my quest and immersion to find photographic records throughout the town and the gestation of an idea to establish an association. Now we had a clear purpose.

We realized that we had enough material for a temporary exhibition, and with the collaboration of the Mayor at that time, we created a few panels. However, we felt that the presentation was too simple, and the photos lacked a narrative thread. They were isolated images. To enhance the exhibition, we searched for devices and utensils to decorate the space.



In December 2018, we launched the exhibition to the public, capturing the attention of residents and summer immigrants, especially those from Argentina, thrilled to see their ancestors. This motivated the community to contribute with more photos, opening the doors of their homes, unearthing memories, textiles, and curiosities, even rescuing a funerary mound from the last century, possibly the only one in Galicia in good condition.



With the success of the exhibition, discussions were held with the Town Council to create a permanent exhibition, thus consolidating the narrative of our history.

Recently, we expanded the exhibition to include the last 20 years of the 20th century, complemented with everyday objects such as toys, electronic devices, and household appliances. These elements transport us to a cherished past, a childhood when we were not yet orphans of human connection, before technology disconnected us.

I invite you to explore the experiences of our town through photography, the connection with history, and family.

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