

THE LIBRARY: ENPARAN TOWER

HISTORY

The Enparan tower is very important because of its history.

The library of Azpeitia, as known as The Enparan Tower too, was built in 1320. It is located next to the Urola river because it was a mill in the beginning.

The tower has been destroyed many times:

In 1456, the monarch Enrique IV of Castilla ordered to cut its roof, in other words, to remove the roof. However, in 1535, after one century, the tower was renovated because of its importance. Furthermore, in the XVII, two new lateral bodies were built.

From the beginning until 1960, the Enparan family lived there. They were as important as Oñatz, Loiola and the Antxieta families. They were so important that they even had a chair in the noble of the King of Castilla.

This family acted in some rebellions in the area of Urola.

Finally, in 1970, the KUTXA bank recovered the tower, which was almost fallen, and repaired. According to the website, since the 23rd June 1977, the Enparan Tower is the Azpeitia's library.



THE WAR BETWEEN FAMILIES

Two groups appeared in Gipuzkoa in the XII century, what is more, they became enemies because both wanted to control the country. The families that lived in Azpeitia supported Oinatz family, but their Zarautz, Zumaia, Azkoitia and Ireta neighbours were in favor of the Gamboa family. The mayor of the town was from the Oinatz family but the most important families of the village belonged to the other side.

In 1456 Enrique IV ordered to demolish the top of the Enparan tower to end with the power of the Basque lords. Repairs began in 1535, but the most important transformation was made by Manuel de Enparan in 1750.

During the second Carlist war Carlos chose this tower as his residence in Azpeitia, this shows its power.

Despite the difficulties, Enparan family cared for this monument, solving problems and defending what was theirs.

THE TOWER NOWADAYS

Nowadays The Enparan Tower House is the library of Azpeitia. It was opened in 1977. At the beginning the top floor was used as an auditorium that people used to play the piano. Recently, they have renewed all the floors and there are new rooms to work. They are also renewing the children's room.

There are a lot of activities to do in the library. For example, you can get information, you can do your homework and you can even surf the internet.

You don't have to pay to go there, it's free. However, if you want to take books, you need a card.

If you like going to speeches, this is the appropriate place because there are some of them during the year. Moreover, your children can go to listen to the storytellers. In Itziar's opinion, these stories are very interesting.

To sum up, we would like to emphasize this tower's reputation despite its small size.



By: Irati, Itziar and Judith