



# The Lalín Museum “Ramón María Aller Ulloa”. The first astronomical observatory in Galicia.

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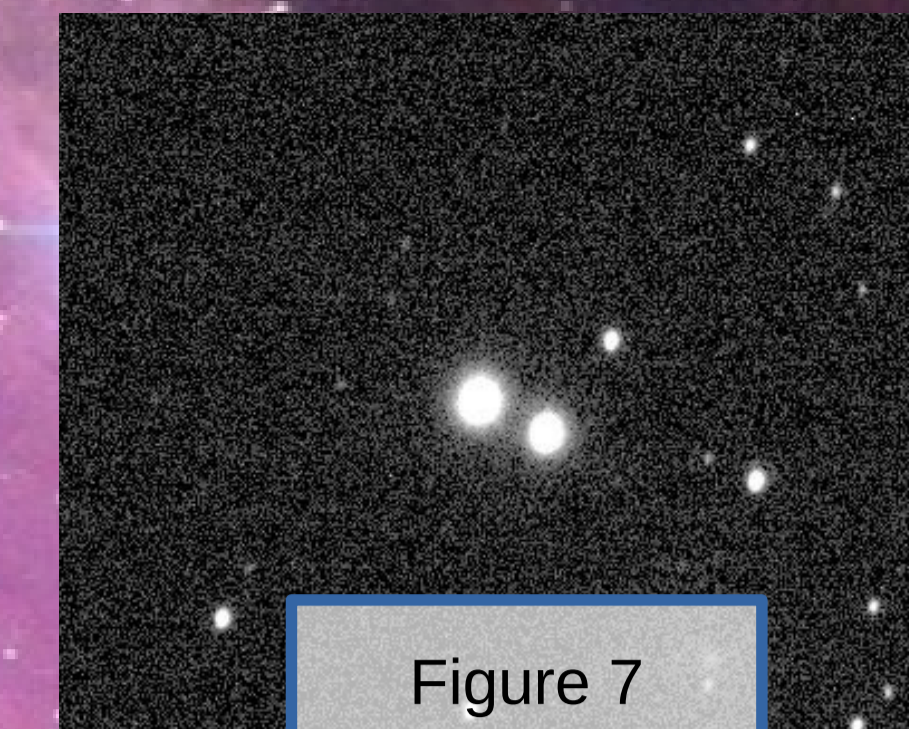


Figure 7



Figure 4



Figure 6

The first astronomical observatory in Galicia is located in Lalín, a beautiful town in the province of Pontevedra, in the heart of Galicia. It is located in the house (Figure 1) where the wise astronomer and priest Mr. Ramón María Aller Ulloa (1878-1966) (Figure 2), a pioneer of astronomy in Galicia and Spain, lived.

This house was built at the end of the 19th century and converted into a Municipal Museum in 1989 (Figure 3), where his office, bookstore and several of the instruments he used in the early years of his astronomical research are preserved. It was precisely in the galleries of this house where he began his first observations. In 1912 he began to build two block towers (Figure 4) that would be completed in 1917. One of them housed the telescope and the other a theodolite that his benefactor María Lajosa had given him in 1903. After the death of his uncle Saturnino Aller in 1923 and with the usufruct of his assets, he built what would be his third observatory (Figure 5), with Mr. Ramón being the one who carried out the project and directed the work, completed in August 1924. In April of the following year he acquired a 12 cm refractor of 180 cms of focal length to the Steinel house in Munich (Figure 6).

Mr. Ramón Aller Ulloa carried out various investigations from this particular observatory, which was the first in Galicia and collaborated with the main directors of the observatories in Spain. From 1911 to 1920 Mr. Ramón acted as director of the private observatory of Luís Ocharan Mazás in Castro Urdiales (Santander).

He excelled in two lines of research: the study of visual double stars, and in the methods of determining coordinates based on observations of passages through two verticals, but he observed almost all the astronomical phenomena within the reach of his personal instrumentation. He discovered four double stars named after him (Figure 7). He published his first book in the year 1918, titled en. *Algorithms. Fundamental principles of the science of numbers*. The impression was assumed by his uncle Saturnino Aller. His second publication was en. *Introduction to Astronomy* in the year 1943 and in 1948 he published en. *Astronomy with the naked eye*. He wrote more than seventy articles in scientific journals (Yearbook of the Madrid Observatory, SADEYA Magazine, Ibérica, Revista Matemática Hispano-Americana, Astronomisch Nachrichten, L'Astronomie, Arquivos do Seminario de Estudos Galegos, Revista de Geofísica, Urania, Publications of the Observatory of the University of Santiago). He also published eight essays in the magazine "Logos" and more than twenty articles in magazines and the Galician press. He also was supervisor of several doctoral theses.

From the year 1939 he was professor of Mathematical Analysis and Analytical Geometry at the University of Santiago de Compostela. In 1943, he was appointed director of the University Observatory where his professional life ends.

References: Docobo Durántez, J. A. *Ramón María Aller Ulloa: Astrónomo e matemático*. Ouvirmos, 2014. Doportó Regueira, C. *La proyección humana de D. Ramón María Aller Ulloa, su legado científico y la Casa Museo de Lalín*. Tesis doctoral. Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, 2017.

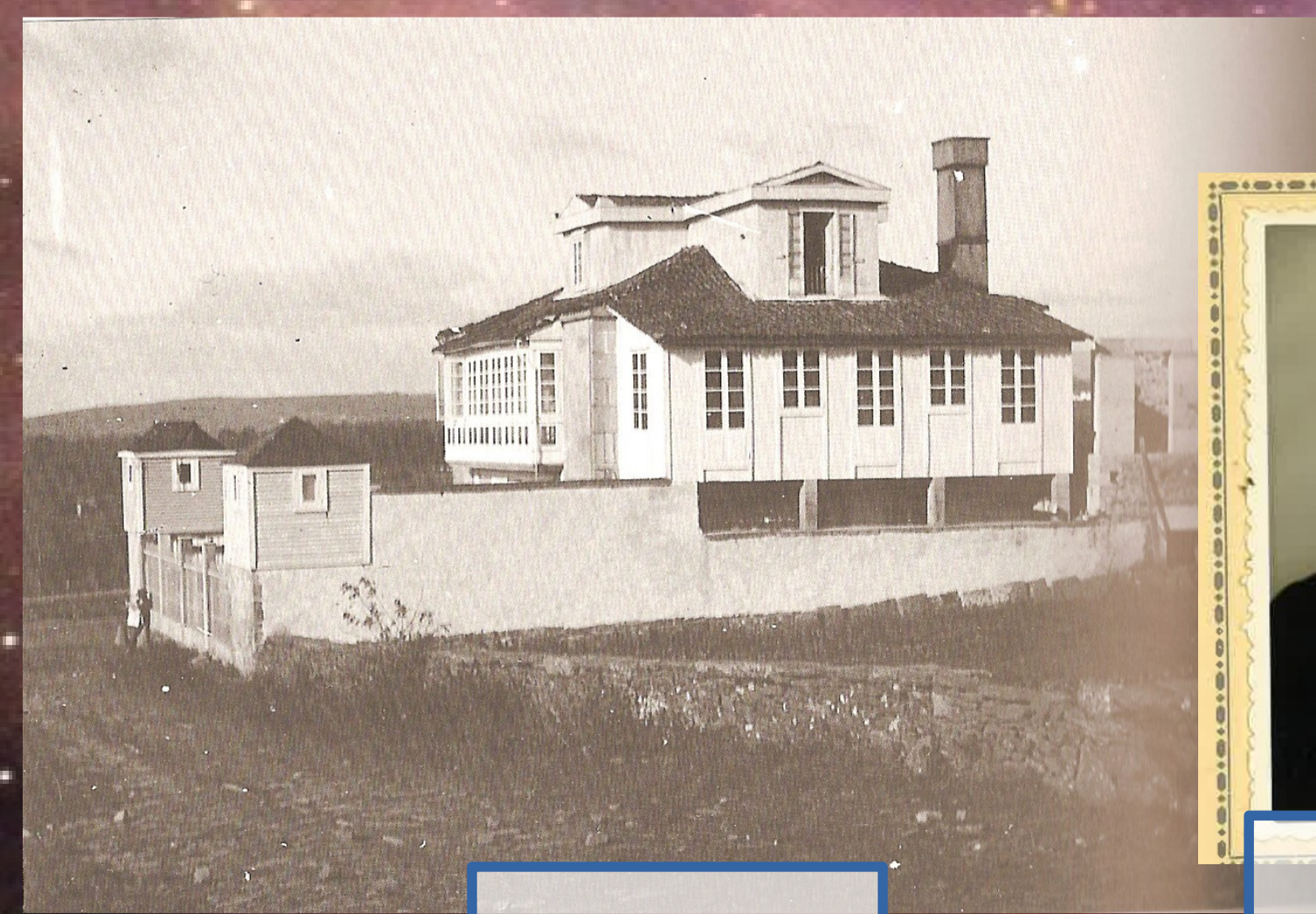


Figure 1

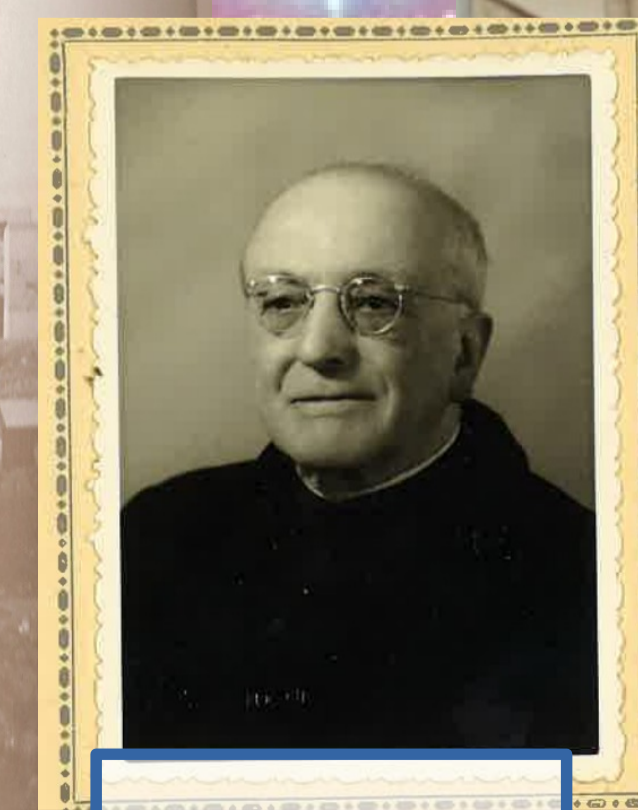


Figure 2

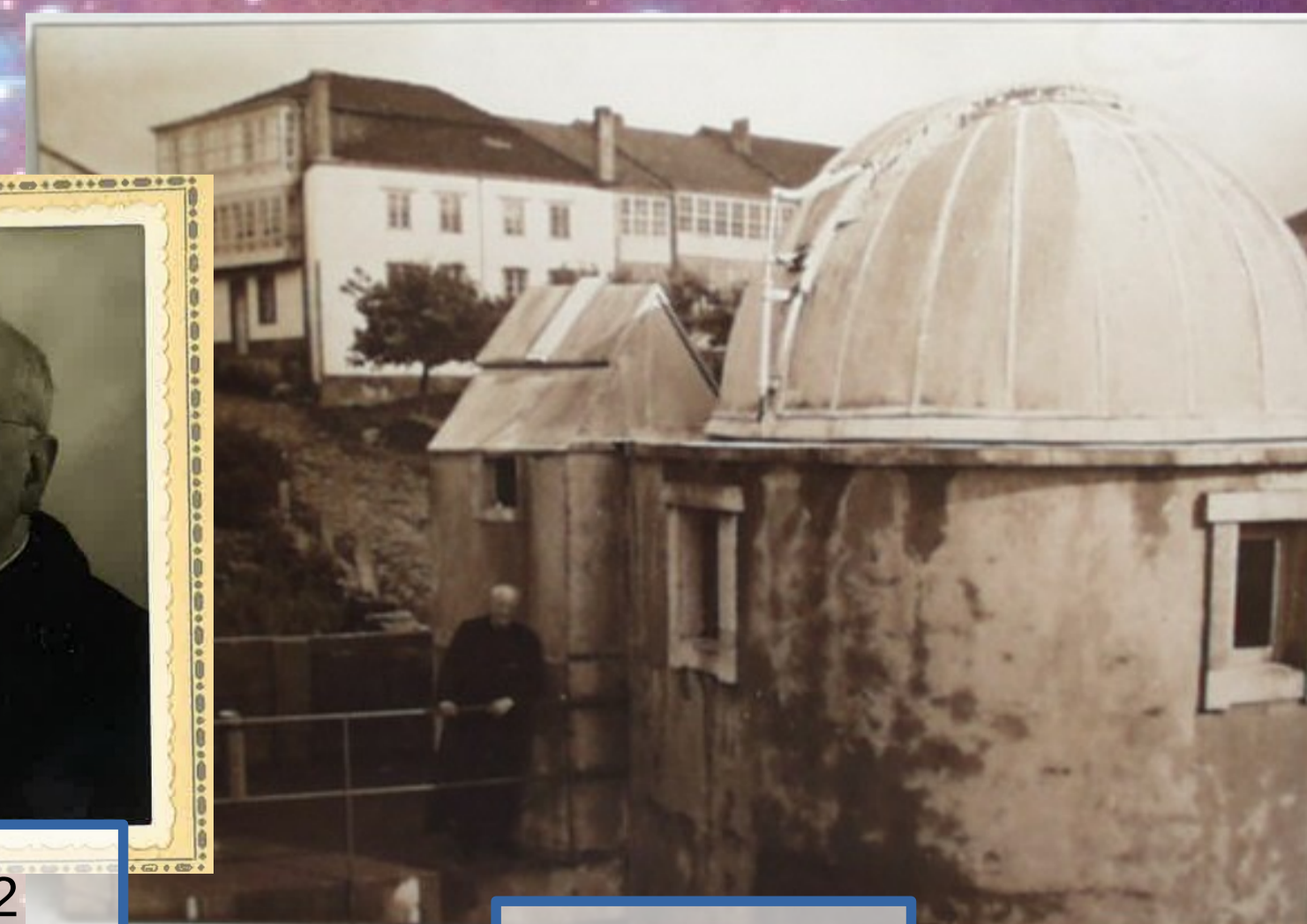


Figure 5



Figure 3