

## 7. Carros Americanos

The carriages were similar to American streetcars running on rails and drawn by either two or three horses. They were used almost exclusively to transport visitors to and from the Praça da Constituição (later to be called Largo da Restauração) and the Pombal train station.

The aim is to describe the full route illustrated with original photographs. The paragraph numbers appear on the map showing photograph location and direction. The route is shown as a red line.



1. Visitors would arrive by ship and be ferried to the pier. From there just a short walk along the pier and across the Avenida do Mar to the entrance to the city.



2. The tree-lined Avenida Zarco leading to Praça da Constituição at the top left hand corner. Visitors to Funchal at Christmas will know this to be the place where a large traditional nativity scene is built on the fountain in the square. These pictures are all before the statue of Zarco was erected.



3. This view, looking down the avenue toward the sea, shows a car waiting at the top of Avenida Zarco. Judging by the many spectators this may well be the inaugural trip. From here the car would turn right at the Golden Gate Cafe into Avenida Arriaga and on the way to the railway station.



4. A view from the Cathedral steps. The cars would travel in front of the Golden Gate Cafe along the Avenida Arriaga toward the camera and turn left to pass in front of the Cathedral.



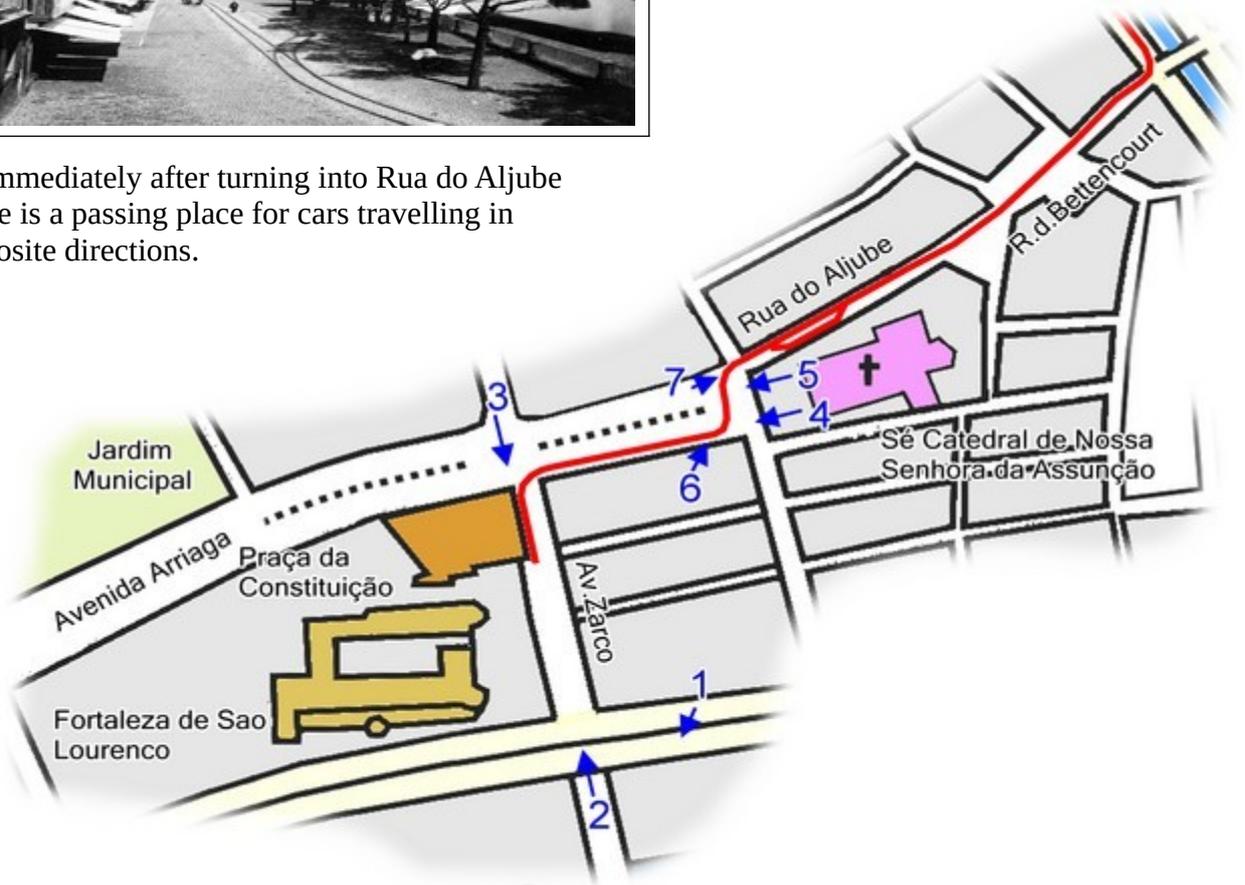
5. Similar to No.4 but slightly further to the right and looking back down the Avenida Arriaga toward where the statue of Zarco stands today.



6. Past the Cathedral steps and the track turning into Rua do Aljube.



7. Immediately after turning into Rua do Aljube there is a passing place for cars travelling in opposite directions.





**8.** After Rua do Aljube the track continues along Rua do Bettencourte and then turns sharp left and follows a route up the left hand side of Ribeira de Santa Luzia on Rua do Príncipe (today Rua 5 de Outubro). At the time of this photograph the road only went a short distance along the river so it was necessary to cross to the other side at the bridge Bom Jesus. To allow cars to cross there are crossing places, similar to the one near the Cathedral, one on each side of the river. (see map).



**9.** Once over the river the route continues upward on Rua da Princesa (today Rua 31 de Janeiro) to Rua das Dificuldades. (Toward the camera)

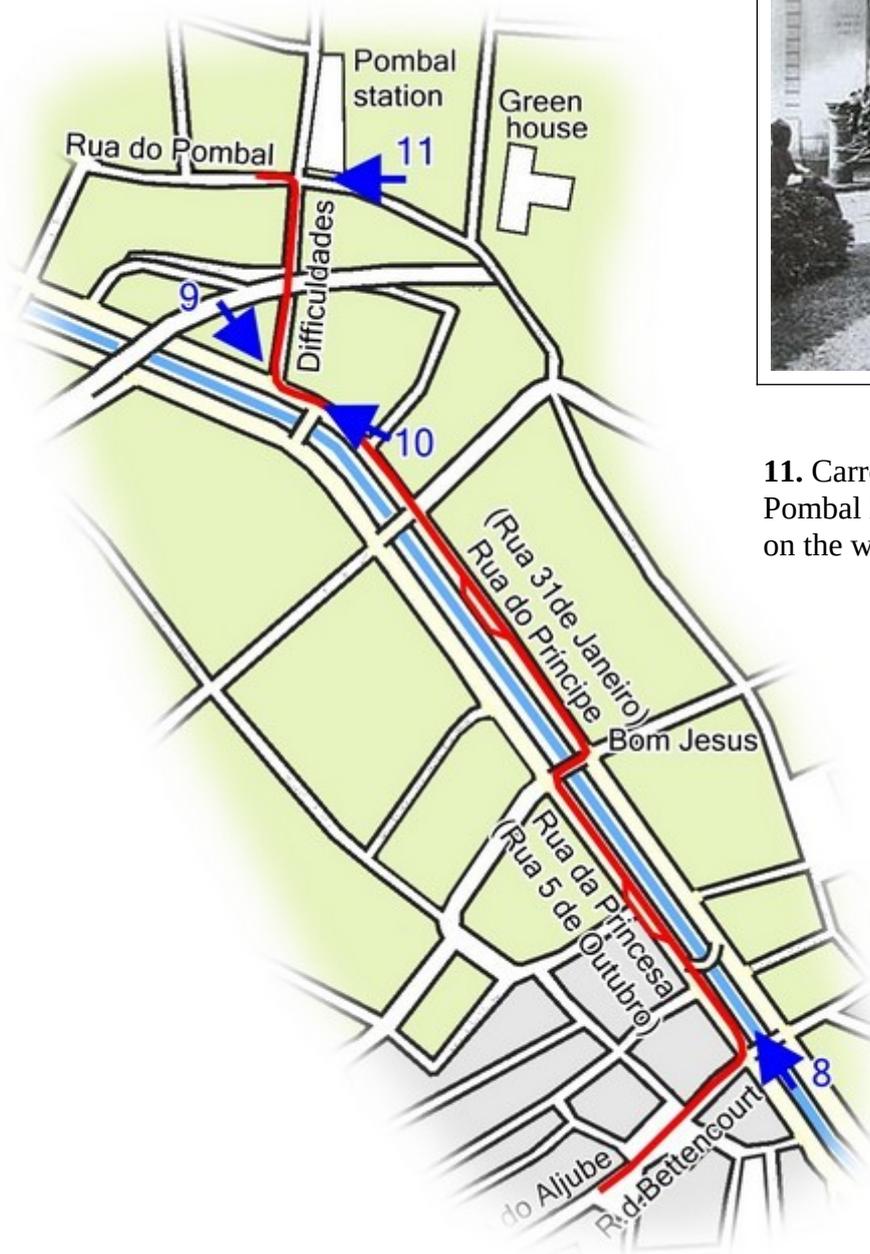
This picture was taken looking down Rua da Princesa toward the sea and at the bend in the river close to the entrance to Rua das Dificuldades.

This is where the cars will turn right to travel up the hill to the station (presumably with difficulty?).

In this picture the track is just visible on the extreme bottom left hand side.



**10.** Just visible on the right hand side and before the trees the track can just be seen to turn between buildings into Rua das Dificuldades.



11. Carros turning out of Rua do Pombal into Rua das Dificuldades on the way back to the city.

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