the STATE ARCHIVES in MILAN

Archives in Italy

Central Archives in Rome:

• Central State Archives
• Archives of Constitutional Organisms (Constitutional Court, President of the Republic, Parliament)
• Archives of Ministerial Organisms (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence)
Archives in Italy

National Archives:
• States Archives, located in the capital of each province (103) with local sections in smaller towns (35)

Archives in local governments:
• Municipalities (c. 8000)
• Provincial governments (c. 100)
• Regions: 21

Private Archives
• Business Archives
• Family Archives
• Archives of Associations
• Archives of Political Parties
• Archives of Trade Unions
• Archives of Universities
• Archives of Hospitals
Archives in Italy

Church Archives

- Vatican Archives
- Diocesan Archives: 219
- Parish Archives: 25,000
- Archives of Religious Orders

peripheral body of the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities

conservation of records of importance for historical and juridical purposes

the STATE ARCHIVES in MILAN
State Magistracies in Milan and its territory

Longobards, Visconti, Sforza, Hapsburgs of Spain and of Austria, Napoleon, Restoration, Risorgimento, Italian Unification

the STATE ARCHIVES in MILAN

• 40 linear kilometres of shelves

• over 180,000 “items” (files, volumes, scrolls, registers, maps etc.)

• 150,000 parchments, including the oldest document on parchment kept in Italian archives

Search room
6 days a week,
from Monday to Saturday
Palazzo del Senato

- Built in **1608** to be the seat of the **Collegium Helveticum** for the training of the Swiss Clergy
- **Architects:** Fabio Mangone, Francesco Maria Richini, Gerolamo and Giovanni Battista Quadrio, Leopoldo Pollack

The Swiss College was closed at the end of the 18th century. Structural changes were planned by the architects Giuseppe Piermarini and Marcellino Segrè. The building was the seat of several offices, including – under Napoleon – the **Senate of the Kingdom of Italy** (1809-1814) which gave the Palace its current name.

Since **1886**, the Palace is the seat of the **State Archives** with a **School of Archive Studies, Palaeography and Diplomatics**

**August 1943:** Milan suffered devastating bombardments. Huge damages to the Palazzo del Senato and to the archival fonds.

![An image of a bombing in Milan (1943)]
Hystory of the State Archives in Milan

• *Documents created during the dominations of the Visconti and Sforza families* (1277–1535), *the Spanish* (1535–1707), *the Austrians* (1707–1796, 1815–1859) *and the French* (1796–1815)

• *After the Italian unification* (1861): *collection of Archives from provincial Offices, such as the Cadastre, Prefecture, Police Headquarters, Courts, Military Districts, Notarial Archives…*

Duties and Purposes
of the State Archives

• *Archives Preservation for:*
  – *Historical research*
  – *Administrative research*

• *Surveillance of Provincial Offices*

• *Promotion:*
  – *Elaboration of finding aids*
  – *Exhibitions of documents*
  – *Conferences, seminars…*
Duties and Purposes of the State Archives

• Teaching Activities:
  – School of Archive Studies, Palaeography and Diplomatics
  – Guided tours
  – Training seminars

Services offered

• Search room
• Digital resources
• Library
• Photocopies and photographs
• Reference and research help

www.archiviodistatomilano.it
Two Longobard brothers, Sigirad and Arochis, give their sister Anstruda three golden coins as a *mundio* (i.e. a pawn), because she married a family servant.

12 May 721, Piacenza
1451, December 14: a letter to Francesco Sforza from cardinal Colonna, recommending a young man (Johannes de Riva) who wishes to serve the Milanese Court

The Dukes of Milan: Francesco Sforza and Bianca Maria Visconti
“Codicetto di Lodi” 1462
**GALLETTI - MANOSCRIPTI**

“libro a figure”

moralistic poems by Fazio degli Uberti (15th C.)

avarizia (avarice)  invidia (envy)  accidia (sloth)

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**CIMELI**

Ludovico Maria Sforza “il Moro” confirming exemptions to two Monasteries in Milan and Pavia. 1495, May 20
The Emperor Charles V invests Francesco II Sforza with the Dukedom of Milan (1530)

“Codice araldico Cremosano”
Heraldic insignia of the Dukes of Milan (17th C.)

“Codice araldico Teresiano”
Heraldic insignia of the Austro-Hungarian Empire (18th C.)
a land-surveyor working with a “tavoletta pretoriana”

Maria Theresa of Austria Holy Roman Empress

CADASTRE - MMD

CADASTRES
78,000 map sheets
15,000 registers
1718-1902

detail of a map from the Cadastre “TERESIANO” (18th C.)

detail of a map from the Cadastre “LOMBARDO VENETO” (19th C.)
NOTARIAL ARCHIVES
more than 58,000 folders and 5,000 registers
13th – 19th C.
collection continuously increased

a 16 C. deed

CIMELI
treaty with Napoleon’s signature

CLERICI DI CAVENAGO – STAMPE
Napoleon’s sister Carolina

Napoleon’s wax seal
the actress Adelaide Ristori (1822-1906), a passionate supporter of Italian unification

a message written in jail by Silvio Pellico (1789-1854), Italian patriot, to his friend Maroncelli with his own blood, and confiscated by a prison warder (1820)

detail from a military role, with the entry for a soldier discharged in 1910 but again enlisted in 1915

model for the uniform of a band, sent to the Prefecture for approvation (1895)
CAVAZZI DELLA SOMAGLIA

two genealogical trees of the Cavazzi family (18th and 19th C.)

GABINETTO di PREFETTURA

press clippings from foreign newspapers found in a private letter and confiscated by the Police (1928)
files concerning a Jew, Achille Ottolenghi, lawyer, who obtained to be “discriminated”, that is, dispensed with the limits imposed by the anti-Semitic laws (1939)

criminal records of a “violent Communist” (1949)

“a dangerous man, able to organize and lead revolts”
RESPIGHI

music score (*Vocalizzo*, 1930)

Ottorino Respighi and his wife Elsa Olivieri Sangiacomo (c. 1930)