History

The Historical Archives of the Chamber of Deputies were established in 1848, less than a month after the first sitting of the Chamber of the Kingdom of Sardinia, when an official Librarian-Archivist was appointed.
The Archives were later separated from the Library of the Chamber and attached to the Offices of the General Secretariat of the Chamber of Deputies: they changed their location as the seat of government in the Kingdom of Italy moved from Turin to Florence and finally to Rome.
In the post-WW2 period, the archival section consisting of the originals of the institutional documents produced and acquired by the Chamber of Deputies gradually became a separate and autonomous entity as distinct from the archive of current records, i.e. the reports of proceedings and documents produced during the ongoing parliamentary term.

Under Law No. 147 of 3rd February 1971, the Historical Archives of both Houses of Parliament were formally established with a well-defined institutional status, in keeping with the principle of constitutional autonomy of the Houses enshrined in the Constitution of 1948.
Specific "Rules of the Historical Archives" and "Rules for the Admission of the Public to the Historical Archives" regulate their organisation and functioning. Since 1982, the Historical Archives have been housed in Palazzo San Macuto.

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Camera dei deputati
Historical Archives

Address
Piazza S. Macuto, 57
00186 Rome

Visiting the Historical Archives
Applications for cultural visits, applications for admission to the Study and Documentation Room
ars_segreteria@camera.it

Opening hours
(closed in August)
Monday to Friday 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Secretariat
+39 06.67.60.38.80

Camera dei deputati

Historical Archives of the Chamber of Deputies

archivio.camera.it

Functions

The Historical Archives acquire, catalogue, preserve and restore documents produced or acquired by the Chamber of Deputies in the exercise of its institutional functions. It may also acquire private holdings, collections and memorabilia relating to political and parliamentary history.
The Archives provide assistance to MPs, Chamber of Deputies staff and external users that wish to consult its holdings.
They promote study and research activities, nationally and internationally, pertaining to the archival resources of the Chamber of Deputies and related publications (e.g. documentation dossiers; collections of essays; records relating to parliamentary history), as well as educational initiatives, study visits and documentary exhibitions.
The Archives participate in the declassification of documents that have been generated or acquired by parliamentary committees of inquiry and submitted to the archives for safekeeping, upon the conclusion of the committee work.
They are responsible for updating their own website: *archivio.camera.it* through electronic inventories and records. **They also contribute documentary materials to the History Portal of the Chamber of Deputies**: *storia.camera.it*.
The activities of the Historical Archives are based on the **Rules** approved by the Bureau of the Chamber of Deputies, which are published at:
archivio.camera.it/archivio/regolamento

The Study Room (Sala di studio)

Access to the Study Room of the Historical Archives is restricted pursuant to the **Rules of Admission**, which can be consulted online at:
archivio.camera.it/archivio/regolamento-ammissione

Under the Rules of Admission, the Study Room is open to Italian and foreign scholars and researchers who are at least eighteen years of age.

The **analytic digital inventories** of the documentary resources of the Historical Archives can be consulted online at: *archivio.camera.it/patrimonio*

Parliamentary archives

The Chamber of Deputies under the Kingdom of Italy (1848-1943)

Parliamentary Assemblies during the constitutional transition (1944-1948)

The Chamber of Deputies under the Republic of Italy (1948-)

Private archives

The Historical Archives may acquire archival holdings and documents from current or former Members of Parliament, former officials of the Chamber of Deputies and other private collections (Rule 11 of the Rules of the Historical Archives).

Architectural records of the buildings of Parliament

- The Ernesto Basile Archive
- Records and documents from the public competition for the construction of the new building for the offices of the Chamber of Deputies, 1967

Sundry archives and records

- Audio-visual recordings of parliamentary sittings
- Audio-visual recordings of testimonies related to political and parliamentary events
- Graduate theses supervised by MP Aldo Moro at the Faculty of Political Sciences of "La Sapienza" University of Rome

Photographic stocks and archives

- Photographic collection of the Protocol Office
- Cantera - Luxardo Collection