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University of Michigan Vatican Archives Project

As a service to English speaking scholars who rely on the research resources of the Vatican, The Vatican Archives project of the University of Michigan over a period of 20 years (1984-2004) has worked to integrate in a single information structure basic series level information on the holdings not only of the Archivio Segreto Vaticano, but also the holdings of the archives of the Propaganda Fide, the Fabbrica di San Pietro, the Archivio de Stato di Roma (Papal States period), the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. The project also consulted other repositories such as Trinity College(Dublin) and the Archives Nationales (Paris) that for historical reasons have important Vatican archival material.

The principal result of the project was, [Vatican Archives, An Inventory and Guide to Historical Documents of the Holy See](#)¹ by Blouin, Coombs, Claudia Carlen, Elizabeth Yakel, and Katherine Gill, published by Oxford University Press in 1998. As well, approximately 1500 series description records were entered into RLIN, the bibliographic database of the [Research Libraries Group](#)².



Francis Blouin examining papal documents
in the Archivio Segreto Vaticano



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Note on Access

By the very nature of archives, all archival institutions evolve over time. This can be evidenced in the accessioning of additional material, the presentation of new finding aids, and the release of information previously restricted. Repositories of the Vatican certainly experience these changes. Until recently Vatican Archival repositories, open for research use, restricted all material dated after January 22, 1922 (the end of the pontificate of Benedict XV). Recently, however, it was announced that on February 15, 2003 (*Bollettino della sala Stampa della Santa Sede N. 0090*, February 15, 2002) that series of documents of the Holy See relating to Germany from 1922-1939 (the pontificate of Pius XI) would be opened for research. The documents would be made available through the services of the Archivio Segreto Vaticano. Series of particular interest include: *Baviera* (1922-1939) and *Germania* (1922-1939) from the archives of the Congregation for Extraordinary Ecclesiastical Affairs; and the *Archivio della Nunziatura Apostolica de Monaco di Baviera* (1922-1934) Guide 4.8.1, and *Archivio della Nunziatura Apostolica in Berlino* (1922-1930) Guide 4.41.1. Note that records 1931-1942 for the Nunciature in Berlin were destroyed in the bombing of Berlin in 1943. The archives of the Congregation for Extraordinary Ecclesiastical Affairs contains sensitive matters of a diplomatic nature and is generally not accessible for research purposes and was not inventoried in the Guide. The named series will be transferred from that archives to the Archivio Segreto. It is expected that all records in the Archivio Segreto Vaticano for the pontificate of Pius XI (1922-1939) will be opened to research by 2005.

After that, on December 17, 2002, it was announced that the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith will also make available, from February 15, 2003, its own records through 1939 on matters relating to Germany, Nazism, Fascism and the condemnation of racism.

With a decree of July 26, 2001, responsibility was delegated to the Vatican Library for the control, inspection, and protection of all goods related to books and archives of Vatican City and extraterritorial property of the Holy See. The same law mandated that within two years a summary inventory of all books, archive material, and museum items be prepared. It is still not clear what form this survey may take. It does offer the opportunity to see for the first time the full extent of archival holdings within the total framework of the Holy See.



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A. Brief Overview of the Administrative History of the Holy See

The historical documentation generated by the Holy See over the course of its history constitutes one of the most important sources for research on the history of Christianity, the history of the evolution of the modern state, the history of Western culture and institutions, the history of exploration and colonization, and much more. Though important, it has been difficult to grasp the extent of this documentation. This guide represents the first attempt to describe in a single work the totality of historical documentation that might properly be considered Vatican archives.



Interior courtyard of the Vatican

Although there are Vatican archival records in a number of repositories that have been included in this publication, this guide is designed primarily to provide useful information to English-speaking scholars who have an interest in using that portion of the papal archives housed in the Vatican Archives or Archivio Segreto Vaticano (ASV). As explained more fully below, it is the result of a project conducted by archivists and historians affiliated with the University of Michigan. The project, initiated at the request of the prefect of the ASV, focused on using modern computer database technology to present information in a standardized format on surviving documentation generated by the Holy See. This documentation is housed principally in the ASV but is also found in a variety of other repositories. This guide is, in essence, the final report of the results of this project. What follows is a complete printout of the database that was constructed.

The database structure used in compiling the information was predicated on principles that form the basis for the organization of the archives of most modern state bureaucracies (e.g., provenance). Fundamentally, that is, one cannot understand the true nature of archival material unless one understands the administrative divisions, functions, and processes of the organization that generated those archives. Thus, the conceptual framework for this guide is based on the organizational structure of the Holy See.

Historically, the Holy See (also called the Apostolic See) has functioned in several different capacities, leading to a very complicated structure of congregations, commissions, offices, and so forth; it is the central government of the Roman Catholic church; it has functioned as a royal court; it served until 1870 as the civil government of the Papal States; it has functioned since 1929 as the civil government of Vatican City. Numerous offices have been established and abolished over the years to meet the needs of these different functions. This guide presents a brief history of each of these various offices and then links each office or agency to its extant records.

The administration of the Holy See has a history that is long, complex, and for the early years not fully known. The extant records of the papacy reflect two general periods of development. The first, from the medieval period through the mid-sixteenth century, and the second from the mid-sixteenth through the early twentieth century. The latter part of the twentieth century saw further changes.

During the first period, the affairs of the Holy See were handled primarily by the Apostolic Chancery. As the Chancery became busier, other offices and specialized subdepartments were developed at various times. Among these were the Apostolic Camera and the Datary. Toward the end of this period, special commissions of cardinals began to be created to handle the ever-increasing number and complexity of questions to be examined. The first of these commissions with a permanent character was the Congregation of the Inquisition, set up by Paul III in 1542. This was followed by others.

In 1588 Sixtus V organized the extant commissions or congregations and established additional bodies. Sixtus's Curia was made up of fifteen congregations, each charged with part of the governance of

the church and its holdings. This action is considered the origin of the modern Roman Curia. In addition to the congregations, the Curia contained several other bodies, which over time became grouped into the Tribunals of Justice (the Roman Rota, Apostolic Camera, and Signature of Justice), Tribunals of Favor (the Signature of Favor, Apostolic Datary, and Apostolic Penitentiary), and Tribunals of Expedition (the Apostolic Chancery, Secretariat of Briefs, Secretariat of State, and Secretariat of Memorials).

As time passed and the requirements of the church changed, new congregations and other offices were created and old agencies were abolished (or suppressed, in the language of the church). The Curia was reformed and reorganized by Pius X in 1908. By this time, the agencies of the curia were grouped into three divisions: congregations (administrative), tribunals (judicial), and offices (ministerial). In 1967 Paul VI extensively reformed the Curia by creating five main divisions: the Secretariat of State, congregations, tribunals, secretariats (ecumenical offices), and offices. John Paul II, in 1988, once again modified the Curia.

As the administration of the Holy See evolved, so too did the role of the pope. The papacy developed a royal presence during the Middle Ages. A royal court of the pope took definite form at the time of papal residence in Avignon, France (1305-1377). The court comprised the offices of the papal chapel and the papal household. The court maintained its general form until the pontificate of Paul VI, who extensively reshaped the court, abolishing many of the trappings of royalty, in 1968.

The States of the Church, also known as the Papal States, took shape as a region under the civil control of the papal court during the Middle Ages. The popes authority over the territory rose and fell with the political fortunes of the various powers interested in Italy, but in the sixteenth century the Papal States became fixed as a territory in central Italy, from Bologna and Ferrara in the north to Terracina in the south. (Non-contiguous areas of the Papal States included Pontecorvo and Benevento in Italy and Avignon and the county of Venaissin in France.) The Papal States controlled this territory until the era of the French Revolution. From 1798 until 1814, the territory was first divided between the Roman and Cisalpine republics, then between the Kingdom of Italy and a restored Papal States, and finally between the Kingdom of Italy and the region around Rome, which was annexed to France. In 1814 the Papal States were restored to previous boundaries. Except for a period of republican rule in 1849, they survived intact until 1860. The papacy ruled this territory, which was a source of significant wealth for the work of the church. Administration of these lands and their inhabitants required all the accoutrements of government. Just as the spiritual power of the pope required an extensive bureaucracy in support, so too did his temporal power require a civil bureaucracy not unlike others of the states of Europe.

By the mid-nineteenth century, the political forces interested in a united kingdom in Italy gained considerable strength backed by effective armed force. In 1860 the armies of Pius IX (1846-1878) were defeated and all papal lands with the exception of those in Rome and its vicinity were annexed to the new kingdom of Italy. For the next ten years Pius IX accepted the protection of a French garrison. But with the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian War, the French withdrew and unification forces occupied Rome itself. On September 20, 1870, the remainder of the Papal States was annexed to Italy, and the pope's civil authority came to an end. The pope took refuge in the Vatican and considered himself a prisoner. The matter was resolved when the Vatican City was established as a sovereign state, under the terms of the Lateran Treaty of 1929, for the purpose of assuring the independence of the popes. The state continues to have a government separate from the administration of the Catholic church, but because of the states small size, the civil government of the state requires only a small administrative structure.

The bulk of the archives of the Holy See pertain to the latter periods of this history, that is, from the sixteenth century to the present. Moreover, as a result of the growing bureaucracy of the Curia, the court, and the Papal States, the records in the archives are divided and organized according to the activities and functions of the particular congregations, offices, tribunals, colleges, and so forth. These sorts of divisions are characteristic of archives generated by modern bureaucratic organizations.

This guide provides a comprehensive overview of extant historical documentation generated by the Holy See since the ninth century. Most previous guides have quite rightly emphasized the great holdings of medieval and Renaissance records in the Vatican Archives, such as the *Vatican Registers* and the contents of the original cabinets or "armaria." This guide has a different point of departure; it is organized around the bureaucratic structure of the Holy See from the time of its establishment under Sixtus V and is thus divided into the following sections: Part 1, College of Cardinals; Part 2, Papal Court; Part 3,

Roman Curia (Congregations, Offices, and Tribunals); Part 4, Apostolic Nunciatures, Internunciatures, and Delegations; Part 5, Papal States; Part 6, Permanent Commissions; and Part 7, which includes miscellaneous official material and separate collections of personal papers and organizational records. The organization of the first six sections reflect this post-1588 conception of the bureaucratic structure of the Holy See, though earlier material is included. In general the holdings and structure of the records generated by the Holy See in these more recent centuries are not as well known as those for the late medieval period. The seventh section lists some official records series that the project staff could not match with the specific offices and agencies that form the bureaucratic framework of the previous six. This seventh section also includes listings of personal papers of individuals acquired by Vatican archival repositories. Though designated personal papers, many of these collections have material that shed light on the official work of the Holy See. Also listed in this section are collections of records of institutions separate in organization from the Holy See but formed for a religious purpose. These institutions include religious orders, confraternities, and particular churches.

ALL RECORDS GENERATED AFTER 1939, ARE CLOSED TO RESEARCH IN THE VATICAN ARCHIVES AND IN OTHER VATICAN REPOSITORIES. Therefore, the agencies created by the curial reforms of the Second Vatican Council and the reforms of Paul VI, John Paul II, and Benedict XVI have not been incorporated into this guide. Moreover, the structure of the government of the state of Vatican City created at the time of the Lateran Treaty of 1929 has not been incorporated into the guide.

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B. The Archivio Segreto Vaticano



Fran Blouin and Len Coombs
in the Archivio Segreto Vaticano

Over the years, the growth and complexity of an archive generally relates in an organic way to the development of the institution that generates the records in the course of its business. This kind of relationship is certainly evident in the records extant in the Vatican Archives. The name *Archivio Segreto* was to imply private rather than secret. It is derived from its organizational antecedent the *Bibliotheca Secreta*, which was an area in the then new Vatican Library that was to hold working documents of the church that were accessible only to officials.

In order to understand the holdings of the ASV, it is necessary to have a sense of its history and its relationship to particular events in the history of the Holy See. In the brief overview that follows, three periods are of particular importance: first, the early centuries of the church; second the organizational reforms of Sixtus V and the reorganization of the Roman Curia; and third, the tumultuous events of the nineteenth century, which had a direct effect on the nature and content of the archival collections.

Early Centuries. In his guide to the ASV, Rev. Leonard Boyle, op, points out that even the earliest popes retained letters, acts of martyrs, and other significant documents in a scrinium or chartarium. I Since the popes in these earliest centuries of the church did not have a permanent residence, the collected documents were simply handed from pope to pope. By 649, it is apparent that these collections had found a permanent home in the Lateran Palace in Rome. By the eleventh century, the collection is known to have been moved to the slope of the Palatine Hill near the Arch of Titus in the Roman Forum. Most of these early records were on delicate papyrus and have long since disintegrated. Innocent III (1198-1216) was the first pope to recognize the need for a regularized form of record keeping. Copies of letters sent were entered by hand in great registers. This action inaugurated the *Vatican Registers*, still among the most important records of the archives. This series is one of the principal sources for documents on the papacy between the years 850 and the reorganization of the papacy in 1588. From the perspective of the history of the nature of documentation, the *Vatican Registers* are important in that they were regular in format and durable.

Moreover, during this period the papacy began to grow to the point that distinct offices began to emerge and keep records on a regular basis. The Apostolic Camera, the Chancery, the Datary, various secretaries, and the Roman Rota, all have their origins in this period of growth. This organizational framework was not nearly as extensive or formal as that implemented by Sixtus V.

During the period prior to 1588, there were likely many other kinds of documents that constituted the archives. However, during the Middle Ages, particularly after Innocent IV (1243-1254), the popes moved around a great deal. In 1245, Innocent IV is known to have taken a part of the archives with him to the Council of Lyon, after which the records remained for a while stored in the monastery at Cluny. Benedict XI (1303-1304) had the archives placed in Perugia. Clement V (1305-1314) then had the archives placed in Assisi where they remained until 1339, when Benedict XII (1334-1342) had them sent to Avignon.

The archives remained in Avignon during the time of the Great Schism. Once the difficulties were resolved, Martin V (1427-1431) had the records transported by boat and wagon to Rome, where they were temporarily housed in S. Maria Sopra Minerva, then established in his family palace (Colonna) in central Rome. Though important historical records were returned to Rome at this time, including the *Vatican Registers*, the Avignon material, the paper registers known as the *Avignon Registers*, were not incorporated into the ASV until 1783.

The travels of significant records of the papacy attest to the rather

informal administrative structure that characterized the Holy See during the first fifteen centuries of its history. Records were moved around as needed by the various popes. Moreover, not all popes felt compelled to leave all their documents for their successors because of what Owen Chadwick calls the "family nature of papal government." It was not uncommon for popes to draw their assistants from trusted members of their families. At the death of a pope, then, the papers might be transferred to the family's archives rather than be kept centrally within an administrative division of the Holy See. Some of these materials, such as those from the Borghese, the Barberini, and the Chigi families have come to the ASV and the Vatican Library as personal family donations.³ Their presence as private manuscripts attests to this widespread practice even into the late seventeenth century.

Reforms of Sixtus V. The founding of the Vatican Library under Nicholas V (1447- 1455), marked the first step in bringing some control over the many volumes and documents in papal collections and in papal offices. Under Sixtus IV (1471-1484), specific quarters were established to house the great manuscript volumes and papers that would form the nucleus of the Vatican Library. At the same time he set aside a space called the *Bibliotheca Secreta*, which was to house documents of archival value. Documents considered of particular importance relating to privileges, grants, and claims were sent to the impenetrable and nearby Castel S. Angelo. Part of these documents form the current series in the ASV designated *Archivum Arcis*.

Throughout the sixteenth century efforts were made to bring together various collections of documents, including those of the Apostolic Camera, some which remained in private hands. In 1565, Pius IV (1559-1565) issued a brief that called for a search through papal offices as well as throughout all the Papal States for records and documents generated by the work of his predecessors.

By the late sixteenth century the church, in the aftermath of the Protestant Reformation and the resulting Council of Trent, was resolved to affect internal reform of its own institution and to standardize its practices and dogma in a way that would define what, in fact, Catholicism was in the face of strong Protestant challenges. As a part of this overall effort, Sixtus V (1585-1590) instituted a sweeping reform of the central administration of the church. In 1588, he created fifteen permanent congregations of cardinals, six to administer secular administration and nine to oversee spiritual affairs. His arrangement remained largely intact until the reforms of 1908, though some would argue that it was only as a result of the Second Vatican Council that the basic structure was changed. Though no direct link between the initiative of Sixtus V and the formal establishment of the Vatican Archives can be established, it seems clear that the emerging bureaucracy needed a place to deposit its inactive records.

The records generated by these new congregations were the result of standardization of procedures. The resulting files or dossiers were then clearly the records of the individual congregations and would not travel with individual prefects or administrators. These records then constituted the first components of the archives of the newly established administrative structure of the church. Since so many records have survived, clearly each congregation took responsibility for caring for its inactive files.

It comes as no surprise, then, that in 1610, Paul V (1605-1621) called for the return of archival material relating to the papacy. In December 1611 he prepared rooms in the Belvedere palace in the Vatican to receive the archives. Six months later an archivist was appointed. At about the same time Paul V formally divided the library and the archives into two separate institutions with separate administrations. Over the subsequent forty- five years, documents and registers began to arrive at the new archive. All the holdings of the old *Bibliotheca Secreta* were transferred. The *Vatican Registers* and other documents of great importance were transferred from the Castel S. Angelo, including the records of the Council of Trent. Financial documents from the Apostolic Camera were also received.

As the records arrived, they were placed in a series of eighty cabinets or armaria. Over the years specific documents became associated with their specific cabinet numbers. These eighty cabinets remain the organizational framework for these early records that are considered the "original Vatican Archives."⁴

In 1656, Alexander VII (1655-1667) ordered that within the Secretariat of State, individual secretaries could no longer keep inactive files. They were required to transfer the records to the archives. This new authority established the archives as a central depository within the Vatican for inactive records. Over the successive centuries, a variety of departments in addition to that of the Secretariat of State have chosen to deposit records with the ASV. However, it is important to note that not all have chosen to do so. There remain throughout the Vatican several archival collections under an administration wholly separate from the ASV. To the extent

possible, they are noted in this guide at the appropriate sections.

Chadwick emphasizes that this new central archive "owed nothing to the notion of helping scholars to write history. It was a business transaction intended to make the administration more efficient." In fact, the archives was a closed institution open only to those in the administration of the Curia who had need to consult the records. Because of its close association with the business of the church during its early existence, the ASV grew further apart from the library and in essence was a division of the Secretariat of State.

Nineteenth Century. As a result of three events, the nineteenth century was an exceptionally noteworthy period for the ASV. The first arose from the ambition of Napoleon to consolidate the archives of his empire in Paris. The second was a direct result of the establishment of a unified Italian state and the effective removal of all temporal power from the pope. Third, perhaps in reaction to the second, was the formal opening of the archives for research use.

The first events surround the transport of the archives to Paris. While the territorial ambitions of Napoleon Bonaparte are well known, his ambitions for a consolidated archive for his empire are often ignored. However, he did envision that the greatest art, manuscripts, and archives of his empire would be brought eventually to Paris. He planned a great central archive to be built in Reims (he later decided on Paris), where the archives of European capitals would be brought together. In December 1809, shortly after he arrested and imprisoned Pius VII (1800-1823), he dispatched one of his generals to Rome with instructions to bring to Paris the whole of the Vatican Archives.

The shipments via wagon began in 1810 and continued through 1813. In all, 3,239 chests arrived in Paris with very few lost. The inventory prepared by French archivists counted more than 102,435 registers, volumes, or bundles. The great central archives building was never realized, so the archives were stored in the Archives Nationales at the Palais Soubise.

With the defeat of Napoleon in 1814, the newly established authorities immediately ordered the archives returned to the Vatican. However, that was easier said than done. Napoleon had expended an enormous sum to transport the load to Paris. Defeated France did not have the resources to return the archives. There are many stories and legends about the fate of the archives during the years between the order for their return and the arrival in Rome of the last of the chests in December 1817.

Because of the costs involved, some analysis was apparently done on the relative importance of various records in the archives. The responsibility for managing this operation was assigned to Count Giulio Ginnasi, with Marino Marini in charge of the actual work with the documents. In 1816 Ercole Consalvi, cardinal secretary of state, wrote to various congregations asking that they "specify what material formerly in their custody might be abandoned in Paris and, presumably, destroyed." Those deemed of lesser importance were separated and may have been sold for scrap paper. Other parts of the archives—particularly many of the records of the Holy Office pertaining to the Inquisition—though considered by some of major importance, were deliberately destroyed by the papal commissioners dispatched to oversee the transfer and eager to see the legacy of the Inquisition extinguished. Some chests were sent via ship and suffered water damage. Other material, considered unimportant or damaged, never left Paris and remains in the Archives Nationales.

In any case 3,239 chests were used to get the archives to Paris but only 2,200 were used for their return, and these arrived over an extended period of time. As the material began to arrive in Rome, many of the congregations were upset with what was returned and what was not. Their complaints resulted in the replacement of Ginnasi. John Tedeschi notes that added work needed to be done; this was financed by the sale of some of the registers of the Holy Office. However, in all probably about one-third of the material sent was lost. Losses were particularly great among the records of the Apostolic Datary and the Holy Office. Tedeschi notes that "among the untold treasures that perished in Paris were the youthful writings of Tommaso Campanello and the defense testimony of Giordano Bruno."

With the incorporation of the Papal States into the new kingdom of Italy in 1870, documents of a civil nature identified in the ASV were transferred to the newly established Archivio di Stato di Roma. The division of the records in the archives was hasty and not always precise. As a result, records series for some congregations or offices are found in both archives. See, for example, entries in this guide for the Roman Rota and the Signatura Iustitiae. Particularly problematic are the financial records of the Apostolic Camera. Initially most of



Bentley Library archivist Len Coombs during pilot project

the cameral records were transferred. However, the Camera at times served both the temporal and spiritual interests of the pope. In 1918-1919 a significant portion of the cameral records was returned to the Vatican. Nevertheless material for the Camera is still found in both archival institutions.

A third event marks the transformation of the archives from an agency of institutional service to a research repository. On January 1, 1881, Leo XIII (1878-1903) opened the Archivio Segreto Vaticano to research use. He argued that the best defense for the church in addressing the charges of its critics would be to open the archives for the world to see. The church, Leo believed, had nothing to fear from a true history written from the actual sources. Documents created up to 1815 were made available. Scholars had no access to inventories or finding aids but rather had to rely on assistance from the staff archivists. But the archives were opened upon application. The archives then served for the first time as a center for research as well as a center for the administration of the inactive records of the Holy See.

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Historical Documentation Outside the Archivio Segreto

Not all papal documentation is found in the ASV. Partly as a result of historical forces and partly as a result of administrative convenience, the historical documentation of the Holy See is spread among a variety of repositories. In describing the locations of the various institutions that house such documents, it is important to make one distinction at the start. There is a great body of papal material found in most archives of the world. These documents are for the most part either documents received in an official capacity by an institution or government or manuscripts purchased by collectors and deposited in an archival repository or library.

This guide is concerned only with papal documentation generated by the Holy See that was intended to be retained within the offices of the Holy See. The principal repository for this material is the Archivio Segreto Vaticano. However, archival materials from the Holy See exist in a number of archival repositories. As a result of the division of the archives in 1870, the Archivio di Stato di Roma contains a huge collection of records regarding the civil administration of the Papal States. This guide integrates civil administrative material in the ASV and major civil administrative series (prior to 1870) in the Archivio di Stato di Roma.

Furthermore, as noted above, many other congregations maintain their own archives. Those whose records are described in this guide to the same level as the descriptions for series in the ASV are as follows:

1. The historical archives of the Congregazione per l'evangelizzazione dei popoli, formerly and popularly known as the Congregation "De Propaganda Fide." This is the congregation of the Curia that has responsibility for the missions of the church. The holdings of the historical archive of the Propaganda Fide are listed in this guide in the section "Roman Curia: Congregations." The archive is located in the historic headquarters of the congregation on the Piazza di Spagna in central Rome (address: Piazza di Spagna 48, 00187 Rome).
2. The archive of the Reverenda fabbrica di San Pietro. The Fabbrica is the agency of the church that was responsible for the construction of St. Peter's Basilica. It now has responsibility for the maintenance of the building among other duties. The holdings of this archive are listed in this guide in the section "Roman Curia: Congregations." The archive is located in a series of rooms within the basilica itself (address: Fabbrica di San Pietro, 00120 Vatican City).

There are many other congregations that maintain their own historical archive but whose holdings were not included in this survey and guide. Among those are the following that are known to have important holdings:

1. The Archive of the Sezione dei rapporti con gli Stati, formerly the Congregation for Extraordinary Ecclesiastical Affairs. This congregation is described in the guide in the section "Roman Curia: Congregations." Founded in 1814, the archive is therefore primarily a nineteenth-century collection of documents concerning a wide range of topics relating to the worldwide interests of the Holy See (address: Palazzo Apostolico, 00120 Vatican City).
2. The Archive of the Congregazione per il culto divino e la disciplina dei sacramenti, formerly the Congregation of Rites. This congregation is described in the guide in the section "Roman Curia: Congregations." It has responsibility for administering the process for determining the saints of the church. The holdings in its archive date from its founding in 1588. However a substantial portion of its records have been deposited in the ASV. Others can be found in the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris. The archive is located just outside St. Peter's Square in Rome (address: Piazza Pio XII, 00193 Rome).
3. The Archive of the Penitenzieria (Paenitentiaría) apostolica. This office predates the reform of Sixtus V and is described in this guide in the section "Roman Curia: Tribunals." (The name of this office was historically spelled Poenitentiaría, which spelling is used elsewhere in this guide.) It has had responsibilities for matters of conscience, certain questions regarding marriage, and for certain dispensations. Its archive spans most of its history with records as early as 1409 and on through the nineteenth century (address: Via

della Conciliazione 34, 00193 Rome).

4. The Archive of the Ufficio delle celebrazioni liturgiche del Sommo Pontefice, formerly Prefect for Apostolic Ceremonies (Prefettura delle cerimonie pontificie). This office has responsibility for arranging ceremonies, for example, for the consecration of bishops and for the reception of foreign sovereigns and ambassadors. This agency is described in the section "Papal Court." Its small archive includes material from the fifteenth century onward (address: Palazzo Apostolico, Loggia I del Cortile di S. Damaso, 00120 Vatican City).



Bentley archivist Tom Powers

5. The Archive of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, formerly known as the Holy Office. This archive is not open for consultation (address: Palazzo del S. Ufficio, Piazza S. Ufficio 11, 00120 Vatican City).

It is useful at this point to recall that the pope is and has always been the bishop of Rome. As such, the archive of the diocese of Rome, while pertaining to a local diocese, does have a special relationship with the general records of the Holy See. The archive of the diocese of Rome is located in the offices of the Vicariato next to the basilica of St. John Lateran (address: Palazzo Lateranense, Piazza S. Giovanni in Laterano 6, 00184 Rome).

In addition to the archives within the Holy See, there is significant papal archival material in three repositories not connected with the Vatican. These holdings have been incorporated into the structure of this guide and described in connection with their appropriate offices.

1. At Trinity College Dublin there is a collection of Lateran Registers and of registers from the Holy Office (address: College Street, Dublin 2, Ireland).
2. At the Archives Nationales, Paris, there is a collection of registers from the Camera, from the Congregation of Bishops and Regulars, and a few volumes from other offices. These were left behind when the bulk of the ASV holdings were returned (address: CARAN, 60 rue des Francs-Bourgeois, 75141 Paris, France).
3. At the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, there is a series of printed records from the Congregation of Rites (address: 58 rue de Richelieu, 75002 Paris, France).

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The Vatican Archives Project: Description and Methodology

The guide published by Oxford press and the supplement published by the Bentley Historical Library of the University of Michigan represents the first attempt to describe in a single work the totality of historical documentation that might properly be considered Vatican archives.



Although there are Vatican archival records in a number of repositories that have been included in this publication, this guide is designed primarily to provide useful information to English-speaking scholars who have an interest in using that portion of the papal archives housed in the Vatican Archives or Archivio Segreto Vaticano (ASV). As explained more fully below, it the result of a project conducted by archivists and historians affiliated with the University of Michigan. The project, initiated at the request of the prefect of the ASV, focused on using modern computer database technology to present information in a standardized format on surviving documentation generated by the Holy See. This documentation is housed principally in the ASV but is also found in a variety of other repositories. This guide is, in essence, the final report of the results of this project. What

follows is a complete printout of the database that was constructed.

The database structure used in compiling the information was predicated on principles that form the basis for the organization of the archives of most modern state bureaucracies (e.g., provenance). Fundamentally, that is, one cannot understand the true nature of archival material unless one understands the administrative divisions, functions, and processes of the organization that generated those archives. Thus, the conceptual framework for this guide is based on the organizational structure of the Holy See.

Historically, the Holy See (also called the Apostolic See) has functioned in several different capacities, leading to a very complicated structure of congregations, commissions, offices, and so forth; it is the central government of the Roman Catholic church; it has functioned as a royal court; it served until 1870 as the civil government of the Papal States; it has functioned since 1929 as the civil government of Vatican City. Numerous offices have been established and abolished over the years to meet the needs of these different functions. This guide presents a brief history of each of these various offices and then links each office or agency to its extant records.

THE INITIAL PROJECT, 1989-1998

The idea for the Vatican Archives project arose from my own questions as a first-time user of the various sources in the index rooms of the ASV. At the invitation of the Prefect of the archives, Rev. Josef Metzler, OMI, and assisted by Msgr. Charles Burns of the archives staff, a group under the auspices of the Bentley Historical Library of the University of Michigan was brought together to consider the applicability of standardized descriptive techniques to the existing access system at the Vatican Archives and to the access systems at related repositories holding Vatican archival material. The purpose of this project has been to make the organization of extant papal archives better understood among scholars whose primary language is English and to explore the use of computer-based technology to achieve this end.

A user normally begins using the ASV by visiting the index room of the archives, where there are three categories of finding aids that together are known as the numbered "indici" to the collections. First, there are the modern indici (numbered 1000 and above), which have been prepared over the past eighty years or so. These are modern access tools to most of the major series in the archives. They

resemble modern provenance-based finding aids found in all major archives. Those in the ASV reflect extraordinary scholarship on the part of the archives staff and are exceptionally valuable tools. As noted in specific sections of this guide, there are some modern indici, not numbered, which for one reason or another are kept in reserve at the reference desk.

Second, there are indici (numbered up to 999) that were, for the most part, prepared prior to the opening of the archives for research in 1881. These fall into two subcategories. (1) There are several summary registers and inventories that were selected by the ASV staff and pulled from the stacks and placed in the Index Room to serve users as indici to the collections. In most cases these particular indici were prepared at the same time as the records themselves and were designed for administrative retrieval of particular records series. Written in diverse hands and often of unpredictable format, these can be much more difficult to use. Because there have been many changes in the archives over the years, most notably the losses during the Napoleonic era, many of these older indices are inaccurate with regard to the current contents and organization of the record series they purport to describe. However, these may provide the only evidence of documents that no longer exist. (2) There are some early inventories of documents prepared by early archivists. Particularly important are those that list the contents of the original cabinets or armaria of the ASV.

Third, there are a variety of specialized indices that are not provenance-based but rather reflect the interests or the energies of a particular archivist in relation to particular documents or subjects. The most important of these is the Schedario Garampi, prepared in the late eighteenth century by Giuseppe Garampi, which presents a sometimes chronological listing of select documents in the "miscellaneous cabinets" of the archives. There are many others as well. These specialized indexes rarely indicate indexing criteria nor do they indicate if they cover all or part of a series.

Another important group of access tools are various published works in many languages that explore a particular dimension of the archives. These publications fall into a number of categories. First, there are the major studies of particular records series in the archives such as Katterbach on the supplications, Hoberg on the Rota, or Pasztor on the Fondo Moderno. Second, there are the major national guides that highlight documents in a variety of series that cover a specific country, done under a variety of auspices. These point to specific material of a particular national interest. Third, there are many editions of particular documents or sets of documents. These are directed in some cases toward analysis and publication of specific items or more general descriptions of major documents relating to a particular subject area. Some of these items are in the index room of the ASV or in a separate room in the ASV devoted to related printed works.

As noted above, proper administrative practice required the development of inventories and indexes to record series. These access tools were created at the same time as the documents themselves. Many of these are located in the stacks as part of the records series to which they pertain and are not considered by the ASV to be official "indici." These particular indici were created to facilitate administrative retrieval. These can be a chronological listing of items received or an alphabetical listing by correspondent or diocese. In some cases this kind of material has been pulled from the stacks and placed in the Index Room for the convenience of researchers. The protocol books for the Congregation of Bishops and Regulars and those for the Fondo Moderno of the Secretariat of State are examples. These are in the Index Room but are not part of the numbered indici.

A researcher who arrives at the ASV is presented with an array of items designed to provide access to specific archival material. While a list of the indici is available, there has been no overall schema readily apparent to the user to give that user a sense of the entire archives and how the various levels or groups of finding aids fit. At that most general level of inquiry, that of a general inventory, a standardized system assembled via a structured database seemed to hold the greatest potential for organizing and presenting relevant information. A structure would be designed to receive information on the ASV and then to receive information on Vatican materials located in other Vatican and related repositories.

The University of Michigan group approached the problem rooted in a fundamental sense of what in fact an archival collection is. This basic idea was stated best in a report of the Association of Canadian Archivists:

Archives are chiefly the non-current substantive records of the institutions or individuals they document. Administrative records are created in the first instance to serve a specific purpose. Once that purpose has been accomplished, they may have a secondary value as reference material, and later historical source material. Their usefulness is enhanced if the relationship to the original transaction remains apparent.

It was this latter relationship that was particularly difficult to determine in the current access system at the ASV. In order to realize the full potential of the finding aids in the ASV, it seemed essential to clearly present to the user the essence of this fundamental relationship between the Vatican as an organization and the documents that it had generated over a period of a thousand years. Because of the diversity of subject matter covered in the records of the ASV, a thorough subject guide would be extremely difficult to achieve in a reasonable amount of time. Therefore, the relationships between the function of the office, the activities devised to carry out that function, and the records that result, are of critical importance toward an understanding of the nature of the material. Thus, if a user understands the role of an agency and the activities of its offices, one can anticipate the range of subject matter covered in its activities.

Published guides have been the traditional vehicle through which this relationship has been presented. IS Comprehensive guides to the ASV do exist but none of these is nearly complete nor is any specifically or completely based on the fundamental relationship between the organization and the records generated. The staff of the Bentley Library at the University of Michigan designed a provenance-based system that would answer the following three basic questions:

1. what is the Vatican and what administrative agencies have formed the organization of the Vatican over time? ,
2. which of those agencies have deposited records in the archives and which have not?, and
3. for those records that have been deposited in the archives, what are the characteristics of the record series and what sorts of finding guides exist both within the archives collection and outside it?

The responses to these not insignificant questions would then be assembled into a computer database. At this point the idea of using the computer was less important than a clear sense of the relationships to be described and the level of description to be attained. It was therefore essential to define a specific layer of description to be done, to be sure that all materials in the various archival collections were visited, and then to be completely consistent in all work subsequently done. This consistency, which is essential to any guide, becomes vital to an electronic-based system.

The project that resulted from this proposition has been divided into two phases. The first was designed to build the basic structure of the database to include every record series housed in the ASV and related repositories. This was successfully completed in the spring of 1991. The second phase was designed to enhance the descriptive structure in a way that would provide some analysis of various dimensions of the archival holdings. This phase was completed in 1995.

The first phase of the project was launched in the fall of 1989. Two members of the University of Michigan project staff spent eleven months at the Vatican surveying the entire holdings of the ASV and creating a hierarchical structure for recording the information. At the same time two other staff members worked in Ann Arbor to research the evolution of the administrative functions of the Holy See from the medieval period through the twentieth century. The system then devised (essentially modern descriptive archival methods) links a sense of the Holy See as an organization with the records produced by that organization over time. This approach then required the preparation of two separate databases that eventually were linked. This work then provided the model for subsequent work at the Archives of the Propaganda Fide, the Archives of the Reverenda Fabbrica di San Pietro, the Archivio di Stato di Roma, Trinity College, the Archives Nationales, and the Bibliotheque Nationale.



At one level, the staff prepared histories of each department or agency of the Holy See that was were identifiable through standard sources on the history of the papacy and of the church. More than 450 agencies that functioned between the years 800 and 1960 were identified. While the histories for the most part have been drawn from general secondary sources, in those cases where the agency was particularly important or unusually complicated, the staff consulted the original bulls to clarify function, purpose and organizational evolution. The emphasis in the agency histories is on function and competencies. Archival access is based on the assumption that if a user understands the function of an agency, the method of its operation, and the types of documents it generates, then that user can predict what sort of topics might be covered in those records.

There exists an enormous body of scholarship on the history of the

agencies of the Holy See, particularly for the Roman Curia. To digest and present the various interpretations of the role and function of the important agencies of the Holy See was far beyond the scope of this project. The histories presented in this guide are essentially official histories drawn from the documents that have authorized the creation or the refinement of a particular office. Users of this guide should be aware that the official documents do not always reflect or indicate the full history of a particular era in the evolution of an office. Users are encouraged to probe the broader corpus of research on the history of those particular divisions that are of interest. Some bibliographic pointers exist within the histories of the more complex agencies. However, those citations are by no means exhaustive.

At a second level, the project staff at the Vatican worked through every shelf in the ASV to identify specific record series. These are clearly identifiable units composed of related material usually generated by a single organizational entity and usually as a result of a specific function or transaction. Our challenge was to make a census of the holdings of the archives using standardized descriptive fields. Because of the vastness of the task we emphasized only general descriptive attributes and did not emphasize the content of the particular series. In the ASV approximately eleven hundred series were identified. To assemble the information the project staff then entered basic descriptive data in USMARC-AMC format for each of the record series (United States Machine Readable Cataloging-Archival and Manuscripts Control-note that with the integration of formats the term AMC is no longer used). The basic USMARC record for an archival record series includes the following types of information: (1) name of the organization generating the particular record series, (2) name of the particular record series, (3) the inclusive dates of the series, (4) bulk in linear meters, (5) basic information on the way the series is organized, (6) information on the scope and content of the material in the series, (7) the existence of any finding aids or indexes to the particular series, and (8) various index terms.

In 1991, this database was loaded into the archives and manuscripts section of the Research Libraries Information Network (RLIN), the principal database of the Research Libraries Group, located in Mountain View, California, to assist scholars who have an interest in locating historical documentation generated by the Holy See. The information regarding the ASV contained in this guide has been available to scholars through the RLIN network since 1991. Although some additions and corrections continue to be made, it is very important to note that no provision has been made for the maintenance of this database. The condition and definition of the series that constitute the holdings of the various repositories continue to evolve. The ASV itself will likely at some point develop a system of description that will be detailed and current. Because of this inevitable evolution, some of the specific data in the RLIN version will need to be withdrawn.

At this point, the database is available at most major research libraries in the United States and selected European libraries. The best point of entry is to call up the master record (ID VA TV878-A), which explains the structure of the information in RLIN. The database offers the following advantages to users who wish to explore this information: (1) it is possible to explore the links and cross references in a more direct way; (2) the relationship between the record series and the agencies that generated those series is presented in a more layered hierarchy; (3) it is possible to limit searches by a specific date or a specific set of inclusive dates; (4) there is the possibility for limited subject and geographical based searches; and (5) there is the limited possibility for form and genre searching. At this writing, scholars are best advised to consult the database with the assistance of a reference librarian. However, it is possible to obtain individual request accounts for the RLIN network. Researchers interested in such accounts should consult a librarian at an RLG member institution.

The database and now this guide will assist users of the various archives in determining what agencies of the Holy See existed over time, which of those agencies generated records that survive today in the ASV and elsewhere, what kinds of records were generated, and how best to locate material in a particular record series through existing published and unpublished finding aids.

In order to accomplish the core of this work, the prefect of the ASV extended to the project staff the extraordinary privilege of access to the stacks of the ASV. The logic of the placement of material on the shelves of the stacks proved particularly helpful in reconstructing the relationships required in the dual-tiered database. The stacks of the ASV contain nearly 20 linear kilometers of records dating from about 850 through to the late twentieth century (materials generated after 1922 are closed to research). As has been noted, the archival holdings of the congregation "de Propaganda Fide" and of the Fabbrica di San Pietro lie outside the ASV. Because of the particular historical importance of these two offices, their holdings were incorporated into the structure of the database at the same level as applied to the ASV. Project staff were given access to the stacks of these repositories as well. At the archives of the Propaganda Fide, however, access to

unprocessed material was limited.

Also, because of the importance of the Papal States to the Holy See, the project staff incorporated existing descriptive information on the holdings of the Archivio di Stato di Roma that pertain to the government of the Papal States up until their demise as an arm of the Holy See in 1870. Citations used to describe records from the Archivio di Stato come from the Archivio di Stato di Roma section, by Edvige Aleandri Barletta and Carla Lodolini Tupputi, of the *Guida Generale degli Archivi di Stato Italiano*, edited by Piero D'Angiolini and Claudio Pavone (Rome, 1986). The project staff is grateful to the Italian Ministry of Cultural Affairs (Beni culturali) for permission to quote extensively from this guide for this purpose.

A second phase of the project was devoted to specific analytical work. This work focused on three particularly complex areas. First, the traditional application of the USMARC format simply notes whether or not finding aids exist. Because of the complex structure of extant inventories, protocol books and traditional indices at the ASV, the decision was made to include extensive analytical work on the nature of existing finding aids. Second, because the nature of records in the archives is not always clear from the title, work was done to present some sense of the scope and content of select records series. Third, many aspects of the ASV have been studied intensively by scholars around the world since it was opened for research in 1881. As a result, there is a huge bibliography that addresses particular aspects of one or another records series. We were able to identify a considerable selection of the relevant titles. The selection focuses on books and articles which have specific information on the organization or the content of particular series. The *Bibliografia dell' Archivio Vaticano* (6 vols.) provides the most comprehensive bibliographic overview of scholarship which draws from the holdings of the ASV.²⁶ However, a truly definitive bibliography would be difficult to assemble.

THE SUPPLEMENTAL PROJECT, 2002-2004

In 1997 as the guide, *Vatican Archives, An Inventory and Guide to Historical Documents of the Holy See* (Oxford University Press, 1998) hereafter referred to as the Guide, went to press, it was announced by the Holy See that the historical archives of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF) would be open in 1998 for research for the first time since the founding of the Congregation in 1542. In the Guide, the contents of this archive could only be a matter of speculation. See 3.1.26.1. In 2002, Mons. Alejandro Cifres, Director of the Archives, gave permission to do an inventory of its holdings in a format consistent with the other repositories included in the Guide. This supplement is the result of that work. In addition to the administrative records of the CDF as currently defined, The CDF archives holds the records of two predecessor congregations:

1. The Holy Office, called the Suprema Sacra Congregatio Romanae et Universalis Inquisitionis until 1908 and
2. the Sacra Congregatio pro Indice Librorum Prohibitorum whose functions were absorbed into the Holy Office in 1917.

These branches of the organization of the Holy See formed in the wake of the Council of Trent were concerned with doctrinal orthodoxy. The records in the archives include, but by no means are limited to, the administration of the counter-reformation Inquisition and the procedures for compiling the Index of Forbidden Books. The CDF archives also contains the entire archive of the agency of the Holy Office in Siena. These records of one subordinate office were transferred to the CDF archives in 1911. The series is noted at the end of this supplement. Though the CDF archives has been closed, some records of the congregation and its predecessors found their way to other repositories. These were noted in the Guide and are only given brief reference in this supplement.

The information on the records series in the archives is presented in the original format of the Guide. The preparation of the supplement is a part of the Vatican Archives Project of the University of Michigan that is described in the Guide pp. xxiv-xxxiv. This project was predicated on the idea that, properly constructed, a guide could present an integrated sense of totality of the corpus of documentation that is properly the archives of the Holy See, though those archives are spread among a variety of institutions both within and beyond the current jurisdiction of the Holy See.



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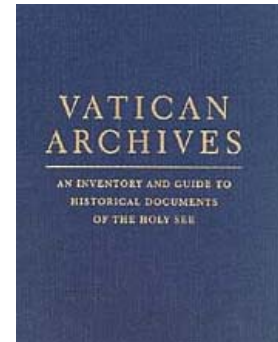
How to Use This Book

Vatican Archives, An Inventory and Guide to Historical Documents of the Holy See was prepared by historians and archivists affiliated with the Vatican Archives Project of the University of Michigan at the invitation of the prefect of the Archives, who was consulted at every stage of this work. This project could not have been accomplished without important special permissions granted the project staff by the prefect. Because of the press of other responsibilities, the June 1996 staff of the ASV did not participate in this project in any official way, though many members of the staff

were helpful in answering a variety of questions. As a result, users of this guide should be aware that while this work was authorized by the prefect, it is not an official inventory of the archives, though it was the hope of the prefect that this work might form the basis for an official inventory at some point in time. This guide is in essence the product of a research effort to understand the evolution of the corpus of papal documentation and the various extant instruments that assist in utilizing that documentation. Members of the project staff surveyed every shelf of the ASV, therefore what follows does represent a complete overview of the holdings of the ASV as seen by the project staff during the academic year 1989-1990 (with a brief follow-up visit in 1993) when the inventory was done. In 1990 and in 1993 a similar inventory of the Archives of the Propaganda Fide was completed. In 1994 a survey was conducted of the holdings of the Archives of the Fabbrica. In 1996 surveys were conducted of the materials in Paris and Dublin.

In 2002, Mons. Alejandro Cifres, Director of the Archives of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, gave permission to do an inventory of its holdings in a format consistent with the other repositories included in the original Guide. The supplement is the result of that work. In addition to the administrative records of the CDF as currently defined, The CDF archives holds the records of two predecessor congregations: 1. The Holy Office, called the Suprema Sacra Congregatio Romanae et Universalis Inquisitionis until 1908 and 2. The Sacra Congregatio pro Indice Librorum Prohibitorum whose functions were absorbed into the Holy Office in 1917. These branches of the organization of the Holy See formed in the wake of the Council of Trent were concerned with doctrinal orthodoxy. The records in the archives include, but by no means are limited to, the administration of the counter-reformation Inquisition and the procedures for compiling the Index of Forbidden Books. The CDF archives also contains the entire archive of the agency of the Holy Office in Siena. These records of one subordinate office were transferred to the CDF archives in 1911. The series is noted at the end of this supplement. Though the CDF archives has been closed, some records of the congregation and its predecessors found their way to other repositories. These were noted in the Guide and are only given brief reference in the supplement.

In using this guide, it is important to note that this is an archival guide. In order to realize the full potential of the information contained therein, it is important for the user to enter into an archival mindset. The introduction to this volume provides a historical and analytic framework for the entries in the guide. It is particularly important to read this introduction. Users unfamiliar with archival access frequently expect specific subject access to the material contained in the archives. Scholars used to libraries are familiar with searching subject lists and terms. The search process in an archive is more like the process of searching an office directory to find the individual in an organization whose responsibilities bear most closely to the kind of information desired. That is, one needs to read historical accounts to learn the nature of the function and activity of a given office. Then, based on that background, the user can start to predict where particular kinds of information might have been kept and the types of activities that were performed. This can then be used in conjunction with information in the series listings such as dates and types of



documentation. For example, we know that in the seventeenth century the Datary had responsibility for various kinds of appointments to offices in the Vatican administration. We also know that documents labeled "consensus" pertain to this function. So we can predict that in that series, there will be the kind of information relating to the process of application for positions.

The entries in this guide are of two types designed to facilitate archival thinking about the documentation of the Holy See:

1. AGENCY HISTORIES

The histories appear at the beginning of various sections and provide background on the office, agency, institution, family, or person that generated the documentation listed for that section. The history is designed to provide a user with basic elements of structure and function. When one agency was disbanded and another substituted, that information is noted to the extent that project staff was able to trace such relationships. Each entry presents the following fields:

Name of Agency:

The name is usually in Latin unless the only authority for the name of the agency is in Italian. Agency names are indexed in the rear of the guide by their commonly cited names in Italian, Latin, and English.

History:

The agency histories in this guide are designed to provide a brief overview of the structure and function of an office over time. The histories are drawn from general secondary sources and from the official bulls and other documents that mark official notice of change or direction. Often added to the agency history note is information about other agencies that contain records related to the particular agency under consideration.

References:

For some of the most important agencies of the Holy See, there is a substantial body of scholarship and in some of those cases, there is some disagreement over the precise role and function of a particular office. The agency histories in this guide provide a basic historical background but do not attempt to present a complete historiography. References, where provided, are designed to point users toward the broader corpus of historical scholarship regarding particular offices. These entries are, however, only selective.

2. SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

The series descriptions are the descriptions of the records generated by a particular agency. The project staff made every effort to determine what record series were most appropriate to each particular agency. Nearly all series consulted were assigned to a particular agency. Some of the assignments, particularly in Part 7 of the guide, are tentative. When series appeared to contain records created by more than one agency a cross-reference was provided. In some cases despite the best efforts of the project staff, series could not be assigned to particular agencies. These are noted in the miscellaneous section in Part 7.

It is difficult to define the word *series* in the context of this work. It is best to think of a series in this case as a discreet physical unit of documentation that was generated in the course of carrying out an activity or group of activities. In some cases, like the *Datary Supplications*, the series is composed of a series of volumes in chronological order, each of which is similar in form to the other. In other cases, such as the nunciature material of the Secretariat of State, a series is a known grouping of records that is in fact composed of several subseries. Also in some cases, a set of series identified separately in the guide is also known as a single entity. The *Fondo Modemo* of the Secretariat of State is an example of this. It is noted as a single series but in addition its four components are noted separately as series. When this occurs it is clearly noted. There are yet other cases where "series" are merely miscellaneous groups of somewhat related material brought together physically on particular shelves in the stacks. These cases, too, are specifically noted.

The structure of these records is as follows:

Name of series:

To determine the name of the series the project staff first consulted the series list in the Index Room of the ASV or other repository. If the series had an official designation, that designation was assigned to the series. If the series did not appear in the list in the Index Room, the staff determined the title of the series from the labeling on the spines of the volumes or from the boxes or buste. If that could not be determined, the project staff assigned a title to the series. These supplied titles are clearly noted in brackets in the entry. In some cases, the project staff encountered miscellaneous material on a shelf that had no official designation. These were assigned the title *Miscellanea*, with a designation of the location of the material in 1990. These miscellaneous materials were found in two areas of the

archives, the Scaffale di Ferro (SF), which is a two-story area of metal shelving placed in rooms that at one time used as a picture gallery, and the Soffittone (V), which is the attic of the Belvedere. Series are listed alphabetically by title within each agency. Titles are for the most part in Italian or Latin. If a title was found in both languages we used the Latin. For the series in Dublin, the titles are in English; those in Paris are in French. They are not grouped by repository.

For series in the ASV, titles were often transcribed from the spines of volumes or from handwritten labels on boxes or buste. In this process we often encountered a mixture of languages, unusual abbreviations, and idiosyncratic, wrong, or antiquated spellings. Every effort was made to transcribe these as we found them.

In this guide series titles always appear in italics when found in the body of descriptive texts. This is designed to facilitate location in this volume. Among the indexes in the back of this guide there is a complete alphabetical listing of the series that are listed in this volume along with their numerical designation in this guide.

Database ID:

The information contained in this guide exists in database form and is accessible in the RLIN database of the Research Libraries Group (U.S.A.). This database is accessible through major colleges and universities in the United States and in the United Kingdom. The specific database ID will get a user to the comparable record in RLIN.

Inclusive Dates:

Inclusive dates include the earliest document in the series and the latest document. In many cases, there is a stray early document that leads to a conclusion that a given series seems to cover a longer period than in fact is the case. In this case there can be two date designations: inclusive dates that give the entire chronological range and bulk dates that give the researcher the dates from which most of the materials originate. When this was evident to the project staff, it was also noted in the organizational note. When we were not sure of a date it is in brackets. A date in brackets with a question mark, for example, [18-?], means that we are not even sure of the century. When there is no question mark, for example, [18-], it means that we are sure of the century but not of the exact years. We did note the existence of material generated after 1922 even though under current Vatican policy, that material remains closed to research use. Note that a chronological index is provided in the back of this guide that facilitates locating those series containing material created during a particular century.

Bulk:

To as great an extent as possible the project staff attempted to measure the amount of material in a collection in terms of linear meters. This was done by measuring the amount of shelf space taken up by the series. This only measures the width of the collection. Some series are composed of rather small volumes. In other cases the series is rather tall. That dimension was not taken into consideration. We also present the number of volumes, boxes, cassette, pacchi, and/or buste in this entry. In cases where there is a notation of number of volumes, it should be noted that it is not uncommon in the ASV for a number to be assigned to more than one volume (e.g., 109a, 109b, 109c). In these cases we have noted that a collection has, for example, 467 numbered volumes. That means that volume 467 is the last volume in the series.

Because of skipped numbers, missing volumes or multiple numbers, this may not be an accurate representation of the actual number of volumes in the series. The measurement in linear meters is a better indication of bulk.

Organization

The organization field gives the researcher three types of information.

First, there is an indication of how the material divides within the series. It is here that subseries are noted, often with inclusive dates. In some cases where the series is a true miscellany, select items are listed. Second, a note may be given concerning how materials are filed within a series or subseries, for example, alphabetical or chronological. Third, there are notes concerning missing volumes, numbering irregularities, and so forth. Organizational information is not given for material generated after 1922.

In the ASV when we listed titles of individual volumes, boxes, or buste, titles were often transcribed from the spines of volumes or from handwritten labels on boxes or buste. We often encountered a mixture of languages; unusual abbreviations; and idiosyncratic, wrong, or antiquated spellings. Every effort was made to transcribe these as we found them.

Scope:

The purpose of the scope note is to give some indication of the contents of the series. Scope was a secondary concern of this

project. Scope information was derived from a number of sources and by observation in some cases. The bibliographical references with each series often will provide additional information on a specific series.

References:

References fall into two categories. The brief citations in the reference section are to several standard guides to the ASV and other collections of papal documentation.

The brief citations are designed to indicate to the user of this guide the extent to which a series has been generally known to have existed. If there is no reference listed for a particular series, then it is one that has not been noted in these standard sources. In addition, in this section there can be more specific references to particular articles or books that relate to the series. These entries are not comprehensive bibliographies. Note in particular that some of these citations are not complete particularly for those items that are part of large series of publications. The bibliographic entries in this guide have been designed to provide enough essential information on a given work so that a user can consult an online bibliographic utility to obtain full cataloging and/or citation information.

The four standard guides to the Vatican Archives are:

- L. E. Boyle, *A Survey of the Vatican Archives and of Its Medieval Holdings* (Toronto, 1972);
- L. Pasztor, *Guida delle fonti per la storia dell' America Latina negli archivi della Santa Sede e negli archivi ecclesiastici d'Italia* (Vatican City, 1970);
- L. Pasztor, *Guida delle fonti per la storia dell' Africa a Sud del Sahara negli archivi della Santa Sede e negli archivi ecclesiastici d'Italia* (Zug, 1983);
- K. A. Fink, *Das Vaticanische Archiv Einführung in die Bestände und ihre Erforschung* (Rome, 1951).

Also important for its list of recent holdings of the ASV is T. Natalini, S. Pagano, and A. Martini, eds., *Archivio segreto vaticano*, (Florence, 1991). A valuable earlier survey is L. Macfarlane, "The Vatican Archives: With Special Reference to Sources for British Medieval History," *Archives* 4 (1959): 29-44, 84-101. In addition to these standard general works, there are guides for specialized aspects of the documentation for the Holy See that are referred to in the reference notes: For the Propaganda Fide: N. Kowalsky and J. Metzler, *Inventory of the Historical Archives of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples or "de Propaganda Fide"*, 3d enl. ed. (Rome, 1988). For the series that remain in Paris: J. Favier, *Les Archives Nationales: État General des Fonds*, (Paris, 1978-), and J. Favier, *Les Archives Nationales: État General des Inventaires*, (Paris, 1985-). For the material in the Archivio di Stato di Roma: P. d'Agiolini and C. Pavone, *Guida generale degli Archivi dei Stati Italiani* (Rome, 1981-), and A. Lodolini, *L'archivio di Stato di Roma: Epitome d'una guida degli archivi dell'amministrazione dello Stato Pontificio* (Rome, 1960).

Finding Aids:

Every effort has been made by project staff to locate and describe all known inventories and indici for the various series described in this guide. This is particularly true for material in the ASV, the Propaganda Fide, the Fabbrica, Trinity College, and the Archives Nationales. For material in the Archivio di Stato di Roma we relied on the descriptions of the finding aids as presented in the D'Angiolini/Pavone guide. In the finding aids section we have listed all official indices and inventories prepared by the staffs of each repository. For the ASV, we have also made every attempt to locate and describe those inventories and descriptions that have been prepared by scholars not affiliated with the archives. These are published for the most part and copies of many, but not all of these are located in the index room of the ASV. In addition, at the ASV there are several inventories that have been prepared by staff, but for one or another reason are not located in the index room of the ASV. These are noted where they were seen by project staff.

This section also includes information about those indexes that were generated at the time when the records were created. These in some cases are located with publicly available indici and in other cases with the records series themselves in the stacks of the particular archival institution. In addition to identifying finding aids, we have also presented an analysis of the sources identified by explaining limitations, strategies for use, and degree of completeness.

When an entry contains no finding aid entry, that is an indication that no inventory was located by the project staff.

Notes:

The note field is to provide a variety of information. In some cases this relates to the provenance of a collection. In others it may indicate that a portion of the collection appears on microfilm or the like. To provide information on the continuity in record keeping, the note field also informs the user when a series has a direct predecessor series or a specific successor series.

Location:

The location field indicates where the records are physically located.

There are several caveats to remember as you use this guide:

1. Access to material in Vatican repositories, even before 1922, may be problematic in those cases where no finding aids exist. Not all material in the repositories examined has been fully processed and the lack of a numbered ASV indice is an indication of this.
2. Users will very likely find variations and changes in the status of some of the series since the preparation of this guide. This is particularly true of the material in the Datary series, but also with the various groupings that we called miscellanea.
3. A few books and articles listed in the references section within the series descriptions and in the bibliography could not be verified in standard bibliographical sources, although their existence was noted through photocopies, detached parts, or consultation with other researchers. These titles are listed along with a note to that effect.
4. In a few cases the names of particular congregations or offices appear in another agency's history but do not appear in the general index to agencies listed in this guide. In those cases we simply could find no records or information about that particular congregation or office.
5. In many cases we present the history of an agency and then note that no records for that agency could be located. This means that during the course of our survey of the ASV, the Fabbrica, the Propaganda Fide, and the *Guida generale* of the Archivio di Stato di Roma, we could not locate any records that were clearly generated by that agency. We stop short of saying that records do not exist. In some cases they may be subsumed by other series. This is particularly true in the series of the nunciatures. In other cases there may indeed be no records. Readers are urged to read the agency histories carefully.
6. Because of the international nature of the institutions and holdings described in this guide, we have freely used words from Italian, Latin, and in some cases French. We have not italicized these words unless they appear in a formal title of a published work or document.
7. As with all complex organizations, the Holy See has changed over time. To the extent possible we have tried to incorporate information relating to predecessor and successor offices. We have also tried to the same extent to link record series to antecedents and subsequent series.
8. As with most offices, the filing system for documents in Vatican offices was not perfect. Occasionally items are misfiled or deposited with offices that in retrospect may seem inappropriate. It is therefore useful to have a sense of all documentation that existed for a particular date. This guide contains chronological indexes for that purpose. It is also possible to conduct a chronological search in the RUN database from which this guide has been derived. Note also that dates of dossiers can be deceiving in that often earlier supporting documentation can be attached to the particular document from which the date of the dossier has been determined.
9. Where we know microfilm copies exist, we have so noted that information. However, we did not do a complete survey of all microfilm copies that exist for the documents described in this guide. Researchers should consult the repositories directly for information.

It is important to note that access to archives of the Holy See (including the ASV) is a privilege granted upon application to the prefect. It is essential to write a letter in advance of a visit that states the purpose of the research and the series to be consulted. It is also important to have a signed response in hand prior to arrival at a Vatican archival repository. The State Archives of Rome is an agency of the Italian State. An exchange of letters is advisable at state archives as well.



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Sample Entry

Sample entry from *Vatican Archives, An Inventory and Guide to Historical Documents of the Holy See* (Supplement #1) for Archives of the Congregation for the Index of Forbidden Books.

3.1.20 Congregatio pro Indice Librorum Prohibitorum

The origin of this congregation can be found in a special commission of conciliar fathers appointed by the Council of Trent in its eighteenth session (Feb. 26, 1562). The specific task of the commission was to provide for the compilation of a new index of forbidden books and to revise the list published by Paul IV in 1559. In fulfilling this task the commission also drew up guidelines for readers. Pius IV approved and published the rules and so-called Tridentine Index in 1564 (constitution *Dominici gregis*, Mar. 24, 1564).

With the constitution *In apostolicae* (Apr. 4, 1571), Pius V created the Congregation of the Index, whose chief duty it was to attend to the prohibition of books dangerous to Catholic doctrine. This was a turning point for the Congregation of the Roman and Universal Inquisition, which had difficulty in exercising vigilance over the many new works that were being published.

Gregory XIII confirmed the work of Pius V and gave the newly established congregation a more definite form (constitution *Ut pestiferarum opinionum*, Sept. 13, 1572). The constitution *Immensa aeterni Dei* (Jan. 22, 1588) of Sixtus V stabilized the congregation and extended its jurisdiction even to the person of the authors, but only as related to their works. The new index with which the congregation had been charged was printed in 1590 but did not receive adequate distribution because of the death of the pope.

By order of Clement VIII (1592-1605), the congregation set to work on a new catalog, to which Robert Bellarmine and Caesar Baronius contributed. The work was ready in 1596. Instructions for the procedures for the preparation of this catalog had been provided by Clement himself.

Benedict XIV (constitution *Sollicita ac provida*, Jul. 9, 1753) stabilized the work of the congregation and determined more clearly the procedures to be followed in condemning books. Leo XIII, in order to adapt the procedures and regulations to the times, published the constitution *Officiorum ac munerum* and some *Decreta generalia* (Jan. 25, 1897). All preceding decrees relative to the prohibition of books were abolished; the *Decreta generalia* were to be substituted for them. The Congregation of the Index was to be guided by these new decrees except that in the censorship of books the constitution *Sollicita ac provida* of Benedict XIV would continue in force.

The last innovations relative to this congregation were introduced by Pius X with his constitution *Sapienti consilio* (Jun. 29, 1908). This document indicated a further right as well as duty assigned to the congregation: (1) to investigate whether writings deserving of condemnation were being circulated; and (2) to remind bishops of their obligation to call to the attention of the Holy See such writings.

Benedict XV with his motu proprio *Alloquentes* (Mar. 25, 1917) suppressed the Congregation of the Index and transferred its functions back to a simple section under the Congregation of the Holy Office.

Note on the archives:

For the archives of this Congregation there exists a single inventory prepared circa 1917 by Fr. Tommaso Esser. By then the Congregation had been suppressed and its records were transferred to the Holy Office as a historical archive. This inventory is titled "Inventario della Segreteria della S. Congregazione dell'Indice." In the entries below it is referred to simply as the "Inventario."

The CDF also maintains the Fondo librario dell'Indice. This is a collection of an undetermined number of book and pamphlets that were submitted to or obtained by the Congregazione dell'Indice in the process of its work reviewing the content of specific published texts. These volumes in some cases contain interesting marginal notations. Note also at the time of the preparation of this supplement, the Vatican Apostolic Library had begun a project to identify all books in its holdings that were transferred to it by the Congregation. Other books of the Congregation were sent to the Biblioteca Casanatense in

Rome.

RECORDS of the congregation consist of the following series:

Series listed in the original Guide:

3.1.20.1 Index alphabetic: Generalis

Inclusive Dates: ca. 1690-1727.

Extent: .5 linear m. (6 volumes).

Organization: Alphabetical by personal or corporate name, or primarily by type of case (e.g., ad notationes, apologia, etc.).

Location: Archivio Segreto Vaticano.

Series identified in this supplement to the Guide:

3.1.20.2 Acta S. C. Indice

Inclusive Dates: 1571-1917.

Extent: . 5 linear m. (21 vols.).

Organization: Volumes are chronological.

Scope: These are registers of official acts and decrees of the congregation.

Note: The First Volume is titled " Registrum..."

Finding Aids: Inventario section I pp. 17-22 provides interesting background on the origin of the series that it calls "Diarii."

Location: Archivio della Congregazione per la Dottrina della Fede

3.1.20.3 Atti e documenti

Inclusive Dates: 1802-1897.

Extent: 1 linear m. (8 vols.).

Organization: Volumes are chronological.

Scope: This is a series of documents that actually belong with the Protocolli (3.1.20.12) but when they were found the Protocolli for those years were already organized and bound. This series is in essence more Protocolli.

Finding Aids: See Inventario p. 31 (Section II).

Location: Archivio della Congregazione per la Dottrina della Fede

3.1.20.4 Cataloghi delle biblioteche dei monasteri e conventi

Inclusive Dates: 1599-1600

Extent: 61 vols.

Organization: Organized by religious order and monastery.

Scope: These are inventories of the contents of libraries.

Note: These were transferred to the Vatican Library in 1927.

Finding Aids: See *Codices Vaticani Latini 11266-11326* "Inventari de biblioteche religiose Italiane alla fine del cinquecento" prepared by Maria Magdalena Lebreton and Aloisius Fiorani [Vatican City: Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, 1985]. This volume consists of transcriptions from the lists of volumes arranged by specific monastery. There is an extensive index to the lists by name and location.

Location: Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana

3.1.20.5 Causes celebres

Inclusive Dates: Mostly [18--].

Extent: 1 linear m. (10 vols. and one envelope).

Organization: Organized by specific case: 1. Lamennais, 2. Lovanio, 3-4. Gunther, 5. Rosmini (plus one envelope), 6. Catechismi, 7. Bibbia, 8. Atti (material prepared for the first Vatican Council) 9. Muller, 10. Olier.

Scope: These are files relating to particularly complex cases. The files are duplicated in the series Duplicati delle posizioni (3.1.20.8).

Finding Aids: Inventario pp. 31-32 (Section II) lists volumes 1-8. The Muller and Olier volumes were likely added later.

Location: Archivio della Congregazione per la Dottrina della Fede

3.1.20.6 Copie delle diverse edizioni dell'indice

Inclusive Dates: 1590-1948.

Extent: 1 linear m. (73 vols.).

Organization: This is a chronological set that includes some duplicates.

Scope: These are a collection of printed editions of the Index. In general the books were listed alphabetically by author.

Finding Aids: Inventario pp. 51-72 (Sections XXXV-XXXVI) gives a detailed description of volumes issued prior to 1900.

Location: Archivio della Congregazione per la Dottrina della Fede

3.1.20.7 Duplicati dei decreti

Inclusive Dates: 1841-1916.

Extent: 2 vols.

Organization: Chronological

Scope: These are printed decrees that announce the placement of books on the index.

Finding Aids: See Inventario p. 50 (Section XXXII) for a description.

Location: Archivio della Congregazione per la Dottrina della Fede

3.1.20.8 Duplicati delle posizioni

Inclusive Dates: 1817-1916.

Extent: 6 linear m. (34 vols.).

Organization: 22 of the volumes are chronological and duplicate the posizioni from the protocolli volumes (3.1.20.12). In addition there are 12 volumes that are case specific. They contain duplicate material from the "causes celebres" series (3.1.20.5).

Scope: These copies were made to facilitate consultation on cases among the members of the congregation. After 1828 all duplicati are

printed.

Finding Aids: See Inventario pp. 48-49 (Section XXXI).

Location: Archivio della Congregazione per la Dottrina della Fede

3.1.20.9 [Index Librorum Prohibitorum Miscellanea.]

Inclusive Dates: ca. 1582-1664.

Extent: 2 linear m. (45 vols.).

Organization: In many cases the volumes in this series are incomplete parts of series or small separate series that were created for a short period of time. Included are the following: 1. Epistolae Archiepiscoporum, Episcoporum, Inquisitorum, 1596-1606 (7 vols.); 2. Registrum Litterarum, 1582-1664 (4 misc. vols.); 3. Licentiae, 1596-1664 (3 vols.); 4. Misc. Acta, 1681-17-- (7 vols.); 5. Index Authorum, 1576 (1 vol.); 6. Indice dei Libri Prohibiti, 1615-1627 (1 vol.); 7. Index Librorum Prohibitorum, 1595 (1 vol.); 8. Index Librum, 16-- (1 vol., incomplete); 9. Censure (4 vols.).

Scope: The index volumes list authors and works. The Censure volumes contain interesting evaluations of works and performances. Licentiae are applications for dispensations to read or to own forbidden material. See 3.1.20.13 for a later series of licentiae. Misc. Acta are abstracts of acta from the early years of the congregation done principally by secretary Bianchi between 1684 and 1707. The "Epistolae Archiepiscoporum" are letters from archbishops and bishops to the secretary of the congregation.

Finding Aids: The Inventario pp. 33-40 (Sections III-XXIX) lists each volume and provides an explanation and description.

Location: Archivio della Congregazione per la Dottrina della Fede

3.1.20.10 Minutario

Inclusive Dates: 1894-1900.

Extent: 1 vol.

Organization: Chronological.

Scope: Register of outgoing letters.

Location: Archivio della Congregazione per la Dottrina della Fede

3.1.20.11 [Miscellanea]

Inclusive Dates: [17--] and [18--].

Extent: .5 linear m. (4 buste).

Scope: This is a miscellaneous collection of documents not bound in the protocolli (3.1.20.12) to which they belong; neither in the atti (3.1.20.3); apparently they had been overlooked previously; partly duplicates of documents in the protocolli.

Location: Archivio della Congregazione per la Dottrina della Fede

3.1.20.12 Protocolli

Inclusive Dates: 1571-1917.

Extent: 16 linear m. (143 vols.).

Organization: Chronological by secretariat of the congregation.

Scope: This is an important set of documents that includes letters and decrees referring to the evaluation and condemnation of books. This is a parallel series to the Acta S. C. Indice (3.1.20.2).

Finding Aids: The Inventario, pp. 25-31 (Section II) lists the name and term of each secretary. It also explains in more detail the nature of the protocolli. There is an alphabetical index at the start of each volume.

Location: Archivio della Congregazione per la Dottrina della Fede

3.1.20.13 Registri moderni delle licenze concesse

Inclusive Dates: 1833-1927.

Extent: .5 linear m. (20 vols.).

Organization: The registers are not consistent in format over time.

Scope: These are registers of licenses to keep or read forbidden books granted by year. See 3.1.20.9 for earlier licentia. After the abolition of the Congregation of the Index, this series was continued by the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith.

Finding Aids: The Inventario, p. 51 (Section XXXIII) notes 16 volumes, 1833-1920's. Four volumes later added to the series are not listed.

Location: Archivio della Congregazione per la Dottrina della Fede

3.1.20.14 Voti

Inclusive Dates: [18--] and [19--].

Extent: .6 linear m. (3 vols., 9 buste).

Organization: This series consists of a variety of items: Voti Vari, 1850-1860 (2 vols. Chronological, printed); Voti Stampati (3 buste alphabetical); Voti Scritti (2 buste); Voti, 1918-1934 (1 busta); Notizie (1 busta of misc. newspaper clippings); Loisy, 1900-1902 (1 busta); Trullet, 1860-1867 (1 busta); "Adventus Messiae," ca. 1816 (1 vol.).

Scope: These are collections of printed and manuscript reports by consultores to the congregation. The consultores were appointed to read material and provide an evaluation. The buste "Loisy" and "Trullet" refer to specific cases.

Location: Archivio della Congregazione per la Dottrina della Fede





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A great number of individuals and institutions were of enormous help in formulating the project and in helping the work to completion. The idea for this project first emerged as the result of a short research trip to Rome funded by the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies at the University of Michigan. Once the idea took hold, the Office of the Vice President for Research at the University of Michigan provided a grant to test the proposed methodology among the diplomatic holdings of the ASV. Support for the first phase of the project was provided by the Getty Grant Program with matching funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities, a federal agency. Support for the second phase of the project was provided by the Lilly Endowment, Inc., The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. At the start of the second phase, the



Project historian Katherine Gill
and archivist Elizabeth Yakel

Homeland Foundation of New York provided funding for a conference at the Pierpont Morgan Library in New York City that drew together archivists who are familiar with database construction and scholars who use the ASV. Final editing of the work was funded jointly by the American Friends of the Vatican Library and the Homeland Foundation. To these offices and foundations we submit this final report of our work with a profound sense of gratitude.

Deborah Marrow and Jack Meyers at the Getty Grant Program; Jane Rosenberg, George Farr, Jeff Field, and Barbara Paulson at the NEH; Edward Queen and Fred Hofheinz at the Lilly Endowment; Richard Ekman at the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; Msgr. Eugene Clark and Patricia Donahoe at the Homeland Foundation; Msgr. Francis Canfield and the members of the board of the American Friends of the Vatican Library were all of enormous assistance in helping to focus and sharpen the thrust of what at the start seemed an overwhelming project.

The project staff proved a team in the truest sense of the term. Each member brought a particular expertise without which the project could not have succeeded.

Elizabeth Yakel, currently a doctoral student at the University of Michigan and formerly the archivist for the Archdiocese of Detroit, compiled the basic MARC record for each of the series in the ASV and for the Archives of the Propaganda Fide. Her clear sense of fundamental archival principles and their application to the complexities of the Vatican Archives was the critical factor in the ability of the project staff to complete the work thoroughly and in a timely manner. Her intelligent applications of the spirit as well as the letter of the USMARC-AMC format have resulted in a comfortable integration of the Vatican archival material into a database designed for modern archival records.

Leonard Coombs, associate archivist at the Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan, had charge of the database itself. He reviewed all entries before entering the information to be sure they were in a consistent form. He carefully determined the strategies for entering the information first in a personal computer and later into the mainframe computer of the Research Libraries Group. He prepared many of the agency histories and worked with Sr. Carlen in all phases of this work. Moreover he determined the structure of the indices and the choice of the index terms. In all this he worked steadily and patiently as the project began and grew. The printed version of the database required another intensive round of checking and standardizing of the information gathered. The careful attention to consistency in presentation that characterizes this volume is another of his fine accomplishments.



Vatican Project staff l-r: Sister Claudia Carlen, Elizabeth Yakel, Len Coombs, Tom Powers, Fran Blouin

Sr. Claudia Carlen, IHM, has devoted a significant portion of her sixty-five years of service in the Catholic church to the study of papal documents. For this project she conducted painstaking research on the histories of the most complex agencies of the Holy See through the standard sources and through the appropriate papal bulls. She also prepared histories of the various individuals and families who

deposited private papers in the ASV. Her combination of experience and persistence was the prime factor in the completeness of the histories contained herein.

Katherine Gill, now assistant professor of history at the Yale Divinity School, served as principal historical adviser to the project. She advised on the scope and content of particular series in the ASV as well as on the structure of the most complex parts of the ASV holdings. As a graduate of the Scuola vaticana di paleografia, diplomatica e archivistica, she had a thorough knowledge of the types of documents in the archives. A specialist in medieval history, she had an extraordinary ability to comfortably read sample documents. Her understanding of the complexities of the archives as well as her interest in communicating the results of this project to the scholarly community that makes use of these archival materials was important to this overall effort.

The project gained much from the dedication of those who worked in a supporting role. At the Bentley Library, Thomas Powers worked on the initial pilot project and helped develop the basic argument that modern archival descriptive principles would prove useful in this work. This project generated complex administrative demands and resulted in a very complex text. Diane Hatfield patiently coped with the administrative challenges and Kimberlee Mayer worked carefully with the text. Linda Powers assisted with the greatest care in the preparation of the bibliography, data entry, and in the adaptation of the information on records in the Archivio di Stato di Roma. Lisa Gibbon assisted with the use of Latin titles and terms. Ben Alexander helped in the initial surveys. The members of the Bentley Library Administrative Committee, Bill Wallach, Marjorie Barritt, Nancy Bartlett, and Thomas Powers, helped keep the core work of the Bentley Library running smoothly as this project progressed.

Many individuals and institutions were of great help, most importantly, at the Archivio Segreto Vaticano. Rev. Josef Metzler, OMI, prefect, first suggested and encouraged the need for a comprehensive view of extant papal documentation. He launched our efforts to seek outside funding to accomplish his vision. Throughout the ten years of our work on this project he was always encouraging and appreciative of our work. He encouraged its appearance in both digital and printed form. We are particularly grateful for the privileges he extended that facilitated this work beyond measure. We hope this work will serve as an appreciation for his interest in making the research resources of the Archivio Segreto Vaticano accessible to scholars worldwide. Project staff always appreciated conversations with other members of the staff of the archives, most notably Germane Guild and Msgr. Charles Burns. Mr. Saver and his staff in the reading room were unfailingly helpful in the many requests a work of this kind entails.

At the Archives of the Propaganda Fide, Rev. P. Saris Tabard was extraordinarily helpful in the early stages of our survey work. We only regret that he had moved 01 before the project work at that archives could be completed. At the Propaganda Fide Mr. Giovanni Fosci and his assistants were always ready to retrieve what was needed.

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At the University of Michigan, John D'Arms, Raymond Grew, and Alfred Sussman provided critical advice as this project took its initial form. Sidney Fine, chair, and Farris Womack, Walter Harrison, James J. Duderstadt, John D'Arms, Gilbert Whitaker, and Robert Warner, members of the Executive Committee of the Bentley Historical Library, were a source of constant encouragement as the project took shape and developed. In the provost's office, Mary Ann Swain, John D'Arms, and the late Susan Lipschutz, to whom I reported in succession over the life of this project, were extremely supportive of this effort. At the School of Information, Dean Daniel Atkins and my faculty colleagues were helpful in the conceptualization of this effort.

At the American Academy in Rome, Sophie Consagra, then president in the New York office, saw the need for this work and was particularly important in helping identify a community of scholars who could verify the significance of the project and validate its methodology. At the

Academy itself, Jim Melchert, then professor in charge, and Darby Scott, professor of classical studies, welcomed this project to the academy in its early stages. Members of the staff including Pina Pasquantonio and Pat Weaver helped facilitate two periods of residence. Christina Heumer, librarian at the Academy, was helpful as well. Also in Rome Carl Nylander of the Swedish Academy and of the Unione was particularly encouraging as this project became a real possibility.

At the Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America at Columbia University, Maristella Lorch and Andrea Bartoli extended several invitations to lecture and explore these ideas with interested scholars and archivists. I am particularly grateful to the Academy, to Elaine Sloan and Patricia Molholt at the Columbia University Library, and to Jonathan Cole, provost of Columbia University, for the invitation to be in residence at Columbia for two months, which provided time away to focus on the preparation of this work for publication.

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In Paris, Paule Rene-Bazin extended an invitation to me to lecture on this project at the Stage Technique Internationale at the Archives Nationales. Conversations with Bernard Barbiche, Olivier Gytjenin, and Bruno Delmas at the Ecole Nationales des Chartes in Paris were very helpful. Olivier Poncet at the Ecole Francaise de Rome offered several helpful suggestions and assisted in the preparation of the list of the ASV indici. The staffs of the Bibliotheque Nationale and of the Archives Nationales were of great assistance in working with their respective papal holdings. I am also grateful to the staff of the Manuscripts Division of the Library at Trinity College Dublin, who facilitated a brief but efficient visit.

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The publication of this report was unforeseen in the initial stages of the project. I am grateful to Oxford University Press for agreeing to take on this text in its entirety and in its complexity. Claude Conyers, Jeff Edelstein, and Marion Osmun proved superb editors. The initial destination for this information was the database of the Research Libraries Group (i.e., RLIN). I am grateful to Jim Mahalko, president, and to all the staff for their interest in receiving this information. I am particularly grateful to the programming staff who downloaded the information in a way that facilitated an easy transition from database to standard book format. Also I extend appreciation to Frederick Honhart of Michigan State University who made his MicroMARC software available to us for initial preparation of the information for inclusion in RLIN.

In the final editing stages, Daniel Williman of the faculty of Classics at the State University of New York at Binghamton agreed to review the entire sections on the Curia Romana. His deep knowledge of history of the Holy See prior to the Council of Trent was particularly helpful. He suggested many revisions of our presentation of these early documents that have added precision and clarity to that portion of

this work. I am particularly grateful to him for this assistance.

The Vatican Library is administratively separate from the Vatican Archives. Rev. Leonard Boyle, op, prefect of the library, through his general commitment to enhance the presence of the Vatican as a central locus for scholarship, was a constant source of encouragement and inspiration at every stage of this work. His own work on the holdings of the archives stands as the critical point of entry for any student interested in the medieval holdings of the archives. We can only hope that this project is a worthy complement to that extraordinary book. Also at the library, Paul Weston was available to consider matters relating to the structure of the database and its compatibility with efforts under way to create a comprehensive database for the holdings of the Vatican Library.

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