The Council of Europe



The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland

The Head Office of State Archives

Reconstitution of the Memory of Poland

Strasbourg 2004



The Head Office of State Archives



Reconstitution of the Memory of Poland



International Programme Reconstitution of the Memory of Poland

PROGRAMME ORIGINS

The Polish archive holdings belong to the most destroyed and scattered archive holdings of the world. It is to a significant extent due to the loss of independence in the years 1772-1795 and many successive wars, with the front lines passing through the Polish regions. Successive waves of emigration, as a result of which groups of citizens, actively engaged to regain independence, were taking up this activity benefiting from the hospitality of other states and nations, also contributed to this dispersion of archive materials. These emigration organisations were, in a way, substituting the structures of the non-existing state, taking over their functions. Therefore, the documentation they created is of a great importance for the knowledge about and studies on historical processes. The changes of state borders in the 20th c. also significantly influenced the state of the Polish archive holdings. The state, reborn in 1918, after the last World War emerged in a completely new territorial shape.

The fact of dispersion and destruction of archive holdings, reaching up to the extreme of 90% as in the case of losses that central state archives suffered as a result of the World War II, was revealed on an international forum thanks to the survey prepared on the request of UNESCO by the International Council on Archives in 1997. The survey aimed at the recognition of the problem of losses and transfers of archive holdings on an international scale, and, what seems of a great importance, the recognition of chances and possibilities to solve the accumulated problems.

The Polish data made the greatest impression as compared to responses having come from all the continents. The scale of the problem in regard to Poland was not realized even by the circles of professionals.

The above justified the decision to prepare a pioneer and pilot programme called *Reconstitution of the Memory of Poland*, based on the knowledge and skills of Polish archivists, and as a sign of solidarity among all the circles of archivists. The Programme was approved by the Council of Europe (Administrative Agreement 1201/439 of June 24, 1998).





The moral grounds for the project are obvious; it is to create the opportunity for the nation to become acquainted with the sources to its own history.



OBJECTIVE

The fundamental objective of the programme is to provide information about the sources on the history of Poland and the Polish nation over the period from 18th to 20th century, which is to contribute to obtaining replacement materials for documents irrevocably lost by Poland or scattered in other countries' holdings. Apart from its fundamental objective, the Programme is also to provide knowledge about the technical and organizational capabilities of creating a shared repository of (meta)data gathered from different archives.

That project was of a pilot character. The technology applied, thanks to its wide-spread promotion, has a chance to become an instrument used in many countries, own archival holdings of which are not sufficient to reconstruct the representation of their own history. There are many such countries, both in Europe, and elsewhere, in particular, in regions which used to be colonised by European powers.



EXECUTION

By now archive searches have been carried out in the following countries: Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Republic of Moldova, Russia, Ukraine. Thanks to archive searches in the central archives of these countries, Poland obtained the descriptions of over 2000 archival fonds and collections (about 3100 records in the data base) from 26 archives.

RESULTS

Results of archive searches carried out by Polish and foreign archivists are organized in the format of a database entitled Reconstitution of the Memory of Poland. On 16 March 2004, during the third meeting of the Council of Europe CD Cult Bureau, the representatives of The Head Office of State Archives in Poland officially inaugurated the availability of the RMP database in the Internet. The above-mentioned database is available on the website www.archiwa.gov.pl

- icon: Reconstitution of the Memory of Poland.

PARTIES INVOLVED

The Programme has been carried out by archivists from Poland and cooperating countries. It is being financed by funds provided by the Council of Europe, Federal Republic of Germany, Austria, France and Poland. The Programme has also received support from Die Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH and The Leopold Kronenberg Foundation.

The Internet version of the database has been created with the help of Warsaw University's Interdisciplinary Centre for Mathematical and Computational Modelling.

THE EXHIBITION

The main goal of the exhibition is to present outcome of the Programme *Reconstitution* of the Memory of Poland. The exhibition presents copies of the most important archival documents from the archival holdings of countries participating in this Programme. Our foreign partners from Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Russia and Ukraine selected the objects, preserved at these archives at which queries in search for Polonica were being carried out. These documents are specific for both attractive external form and historical significance of events.



AUSTRIA

1. Repository: Kriegsarchiv

Title: Kriegsministerium. Matriken-Hauptreihe

Dates: 1912

Language of documents: German

Scope and Contents:

Personal files of Karol Wojtyła (father of Pope John Paul II), who, serving in the Austrian Army in 1912, as the first class

accounting a non-commissioned officer (N.C.O.)

of the Imperial and Royal Infantry

Regiment No. 56 of the 3rd Company, sought the assignment to the civil service.

- 1. Qualification data of a N.C.O. aspiring to employment in the public service.
- 2. A sheet from the main point register.
- 3. Specification of conduct.
- 4. Sample handwriting.

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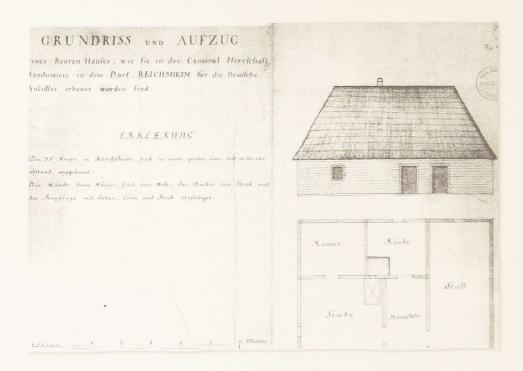
2. Repository: Hofkammerarchiv Title: Kartensammlung

Fond number: Rb 186 1; Dates: 1784 Language of documents: German

Scope and Contents:

A drawing and a section plan of a model peasants' house for the region of Galicia dated 1784.

The house was appropriated for German settlers brought to Galicia due to colonizing operations of Emperor Joseph II.



3. Repository: Kriegsarchiv Title: Karten und Plansammlung Fond number: G I; Dates: 1772

Language of documents: German, Polish

Scope and Contents:

A plan of Warsaw with a view of 17 buildings made by Rizzi Zannoni in 1772.



4. Repository: Kriegsarchiv

Title: Karten und Plansammlung

Fond number: G I; Dates: 1809

Language of documents: German, Polish

Scope and Contents:

A site plan of the city of Cracow and its suburbs of 1809.

5. Repository: Hofkammerarchiv

Title: Kartensammlung

Fond number: Rb 705; Dates: 1813 Language of documents: German

Scope and Contents:

A drawing and a plan of a blacksmith's shop with two tied apartments at the salt mine in Wieliczka. The salt mine in Wieliczka was the main rock-salt production site in the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy.



FRANCE

1. Repository: Centre historique des Archives Nationales Title: Monuments historiques. Papiers des princes du sang

Fond number: K 540, nr 14/1; Dates: 12.06.1645

Language of documents: French

Scope and Contents:

A document issued by Władysław IV, King of Poland, for Gerard Denhoff, Palatine of Pomerania, authorising him to enter into marriage bonds with Luiza-Maria Gonzaga, Warsaw, 12 June 1645.



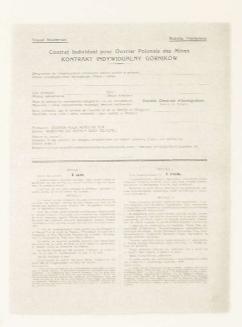
Repository: Centre historique des Archives Nationales Title: Agriculture. Émigration polonaise

Fond number: F¹⁰ 2753-2754; Dates: 1929

Language of documents: French

Scope and Contents:

An individual bilingual contract for a coal-mine worker, 1929.



3. Repository: Centre historique des Archives Nationales Title: Monuments historiques. Papiers des princes du sang

Fond number: K 566 nr 10; Dates: 12-22.05.1666

Language of documents: French

Scope and Contents:

An agreement concluded between Emperor Leopold I and Luiza-Maria Gonzaga, Queen of Poland, pertaining to duchies in Opole and Raciborz. Vienna and Warsaw, 12-22 May 1666.

4. Repository: Centre historique des Archives Nationales Title: Minutier central des notaires de Paris

Fond number: etude IV, liasse 386; Dates: 30.01.1715

Language of documents: French

Scope and Contents:

A power of attorney granted by Maria Kazimiera, Queen of Poland on life estate, for her treasurer Francis Boucheron, authorising him to collect revenues from the town hall in Paris. 30 January 1715.

Queen's black seal and signature.

5. Repository: Centre historique des Archives Nationales Title: Administrations financières et spéciales. Contrôle général des finances

Fond number: G⁷ 541 B, plaquette 2, nr 1; Dates: 15.05.1722

Language of documents: French

Scope and Contents:

A letter written by Stanisław Leszczyński, King of Poland in years 1704-1709 and 1733-1736 and Duke of Lorraine in years 1736-1766, with his own hand, pertaining to the transfer of 1000 livres (coins) by regent of France Phillippe duc d'Orléans, to the mint in Strasbourg. Wissemburg, 15 May 1722.

6. Repository: Centre historique des Archives Nationales Title: Maison do roi. Argenterie, Menus-Plaisirs et affaires de la Chambre.

Fêtes et cérémonies

Fond number: O1 3262, dossier 2; Dates: 12.06.1766

Language of documents: French

Scope and Contents:

A projection of a catafalque made in the Notre-Dame Cathedral for Stanisław Leszczyński, King of Poland, 12 June 1766.

7. Repository: Centre historique des Archives Nationales

Title: Instruction publique et Beaux-Arts. École polonaise des Batignolles

Fond number: F¹⁷ 9084; Dates: 1845 Language of documents: French, Polish

Scope and Contents:

Ministry of Education: a bilingual (in French and in Polish) curriculum of a Polish

state school in Batignolles, 1845.

8. Repository: Centre historique des Archives Nationales

Title: Sénat conservateur, Chambre des pairs, Cour des pairs. Session de 1864

Fond number: CC 481/6, nr 530; Dates: 1863

Language of documents: French

Scope and Contents:

A petition concerning the Polish case (President: Prince Harcourt) to the benefit of Poland, submitted to the Upper Chamber of the Parliament during the 1863 session: signatures of Odilon Barrot, de Montalembert, member of the Chopin family, 31 October 1863.



GERMANY

1. Repository: Geheimes Staatsarchiv Preussischer Kulturbesitz Title: Familienarchiv Sobieski

Fond number: I HA Rep. 141; Dates: 1464

Language of documents: Latin

Scope and Contents:

A document of 11 December 1464, in which the Princes of Mazovia: Konrad, Kazimierz, Bolesław and Janusz confirm the waiver of estates, inherited by Katarzyna of noble birth, daughter of Tomasz of Lenszewo, and the spouse of Junosza of Jaczwańsk, from her father and mother, to the benefit of her own brothers: Jan, Jakub and Tomasz. A hanging seal of Prince Bolesław,

A hanging seal of Prince B the father of the issuers of this document, missing. It is the oldest document in this collection.



2. Repository: Bundesarchiv Abteilung Berlin Title: Osteuropainstitut Breslau. Krakau Fond number: R 8033: Dates: 1939-1944

Language of documents: German

Scope and Contents:

Materials of the Institute of Eastern Europe in Wrocław (Breslau).

Pictures from the period of the German occupation depicting Polish valuable historical buildings, their interiors, objects of art. A picture of a street scene at Adolf-Hitler-Platz 27 in Cracow (formerly Potocki Palace, a view from the east).



3. Repository: Bundesarchiv Abteilung Berlin

Title: Reichsgesundheitsamt. Staatskommissar für die Gesundheitspflege im Weichselgebiet

Fond number: R 86; Dates: 1892-1907

Language of documents: German

Scope and Contents:

Materials of the Reich Health Care Office. A map of riverside lands along the Vistula river in the province of Western Prussia from Szylno to Gdańsk (Danzig) with information on the number of sick and dead persons during the epidemic of cholera in 1894.



4. Repository: Geheimes Staatsarchiv Preussischer Kulturbesitz;

Title: Regierung zu Bromberg

Fond number: HA Posen, Rep. 30; Dates: 1909

Language of documents: German

Scope and Contents:

Statistics concerning the development and retreat of the German element in the Province of Poznań, and resulting information on the employment of Germans and Poles in the County of Żnin in 1909. The analysis refers to the results of the population census conducted in the County of Żnin in the years 1907-1908, which was to provide data on national and ownership relations of that time in the Province of Poznań. The purpose of the study was a rational allocation of funds to support the German way of life on these lands, which was connected with the implementation of the Prussian Settlement Law of 1886.

5. Repository: Bundesarchiv. Militärarchiv

Title: Nachlass Hans von Beseler Fond number: N 30; Dates: 1917 Language of documents: German

Scope and Contents:

Private archives of Hans von Beseler, the German Governor of Poland in years 1915-1918. Information from the Head of the General Staff of the Field Army to the General Governor on the future of Poland, dated 16 April 1917.

6. Repository: Bundesarchiv Abteilung Berlin

Title: Reichswirtschaftsministerium. Die Eisenbahnen in Polen

Fond number: R 3101; Dates: 1917-1920

Language of documents: German

Scope and Contents:

Materials of the Reich Ministry of Economy. Appraisal of value and economic significance of railways in Poland; a map of the Polish railway of November 1917.

7. Repository: Bundesarchiv Abteilung Koblenz

Title: Einwandererzentralstelle Litzmannstadt. Polentum im Generalgouvernement

Fond number: R 69; Dates: 1940-1941 Language of documents: German

Scope and Contents:

Materials of the Immigration Headquarters in Łódź concerning the Polish element in German-occupied Poland in the years 1940-1941. Correspondence of the Head of Security Police and Security Services and Divisions of the Immigration Headquarters in Lublin dated 17 October 1940 on *Operations of unknown forces against the displacement of Volksdeutsche from the region of Warsaw*. Suspicions of the SS Head concerning the influence of Polish priests on persons resisting the displacements.

8. Repository: Bundesarchiv Abteilung Berlin
Title: Umwandererzentralstelle Posen. Erfassung von Arbeitskräften unter

der polnischen Bevölkerung des Warthelandes Fond number: R 75; Dates: 1942-1943

Language of documents: German

Scope and Contents:

Materials of the Displacement Headquarters in Poznań. A note from a meeting at the President of the National Labour Office in Poznań on 23 February 1943 on the displacement of 3400 Polish farmers in France within *Z-Hofaktion* operation and the operation of merging Polish small farms to be allocated to displaced persons of German origin in the Land of the Warta River.



ITALY

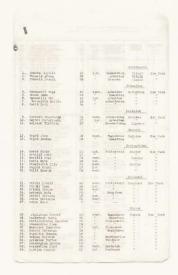
1. Repository: Archivio di Stato di Trieste Title: Governo marittimo in Trieste (1850-1923)

Fond number: busta 875, fascicolo 3, protocollo 33053/1912; Dates: 1865

Language of documents: Italian

Scope and Contents:

Materials of the Maritime Board in Trieste. A list of emigrants leaving Trieste for North America on board of a steamer ship *Karpaty* on 13 November 1865.



2. Repository: Archivio Centrale dello Stato
Title: Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri, Gabinetto 1922
Fond number: busta 687, fascicolo 14.8.3138; Dates: 1922
Language of documents: Italian
Scope and Contents:
Materials of the Presidium of the Council of Ministers.
A telegram of condolence from Mussolini dated 19 December 1922
in connection with a mourning ceremony in honour

of Gabriel Narutowicz, the murdered President



Repository: Archivio di Stato di Trieste Title: Direzione di polizia di Trieste, atti presidiali risevati (1814-1918) Fond number: busta 249, protocollo 2407/1865; Dates: 1865

Language of documents: Italian

of the Republic of Poland.

Scope and Contents:

Secret presidential records of the Police Board in Trieste dated 1865 concerning the expulsion of a Polish fugitive Józef Tempiski from Austrian lands.

4. Repository: Archivio Centrale dello Stato Title: Archivio Alberto De Marinie

Fond number: busta 1, fascicolo 1; Dates: 1920

Language of documents: Italian

Scope and Contents:

Materials from Alberto De Marinie Archives. A letter dated 6 July 1920 from Mgr Achille Ratti, the nuncio apostolic in Poland, who later became pope Pius XI (1922-1939).

5. Repository: Archivio Centrale dello Stato

Title: Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri, Gabinetto 1937-1939

Fond number: busta 2427, fascicolo 4.12.4188; Dates: 1938

Language of documents: Italian

Scope and Contents:

Materials of the Presidium of the Council of Ministers. A telegram from the Office of Ceremonies dated 4 March 1938, with the agenda of Józef Beck, the Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs, official visit to Italy.

6. Repository: Archivio Centrale dello Stato

Title: Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri, Gabinetto 1937-1939

Fond number: busta 2264, fascicolo 2.5.5018; Dates: 1938

Language of documents: Italian

Scope and Contents:

Materials of the Presidium of the Council of Ministers. A telegram from Galeazzo Ciano, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, dated 7 June 1938, and a letter of the Governor of Rome dated 6 June 1938 in connection with the transport of mortal remains of martyred saint Andrzej Bobola from Rome to Poland.

RUSSIA

Repository: Russian State Archive of Early Acts Title: Dieła o Polsze i Litwie

Fond number: 12, opis 1, dielo 32; Dates: 1662

Language of documents: Polish

Scope and Contents:

A letter from Hetman Stefan Czarniecki on citizens' complaints

against the behaviour of soldiers, Lvov 1662.



Repository: Russian State Historical Archive in St. Petersburg Title: Dokumienty licznogo proischożdienija, nie sostawlajuszczije otdielnych fondow

Fond number: 1101, opis 1, dielo 82; Dates: 15.11.1724

Language of documents: Polish

Scope and Contents:

A safe conduct issued for Antoni Przyjałgowski by the King of Poland Augustus II on 15 November 1724.



3. Repository: Russian State Archive of Early Acts

Title: Snoszenija Rosii s Polszej

Fond number: 79, opis 2, dielo 92; Dates: 1654

Language of documents: Latin

Scope and Contents:

A letter from the representatives of Polish nobility to the Russian Tzar Alexei Mihailovich Romanow, 1654.

Repository: Russian State Historical Archive in St. Petersburg

Title: Dokumienty licznogo proischożdienija, nie sostawlajuszczije otdielnych fondow

Fond number: 1101, opis 1, dielo 136; Dates: 1768

Language of documents: Latin

Scope and Contents:

A document issued by King Stanisław August Poniatowski certifying the grant of the village of Stepankowce in Podolia to Ferdynand Wołyniecki, 1768.

Repository: Russian State Archive of Early Acts

Title: Kollekcija awtografow kn. A. B. Łobanowa-Rostowskogo

Fond number: 1477, opis 1, dielo 12; Dates: 1815

Language of documents: French

Scope and Contents:

A letter of Maria Walewska to Anna Mostowska, Paris 1815.

Repository: Russian State Navy Archive in St. Petersburg

Title: Griejgi: Aleksiej Samuiłowicz (1775-1845) i Samuił Karłowicz (1736-1788), admirały

Fond number: 8, opis 3, dielo 151; Dates: 1813

Language of documents: Russian

Scope and Contents:

Plans of the distribution of the Russian fleet squadron around Gdańsk (Danzig).



7. Repository: Russian State Archive of Early Acts

Title: Dieła o Polsze i Litwie

Fond number: 12, opis 1, dielo 301; Dates: 1828

Language of documents: French

Scope and Contents:

A manuscript of The First Letter on Music by Michał Kleofas Ogiński, Florence 1828.

8. Repository: Russian State Archive of Early Acts

Title: Dieła o Polsze i Litwie

Fond number: 12, opis 1, dielo 304; Dates: 1828

Language of documents: Scope and Contents:

The score of the one of polonaises by Michał Kleofas Ogiński.

9. Repository: Russian State Navy Archive in St. Petersburg

Title: Gławnyj morskoj sztab, 1884-1918

Fond number: 417, opis 1, dielo 2880; Dates: 1903

Language of documents: Russian

Scope and Contents:

Plans of the Neuwasser and Gdańsk (Danzig) fortress.



UKRAINE

1. Repository: Central State Historical Archive of Ukraine in Kiev Title: Mniszky (Mniszchowie)

Fond number: 250, opis 1, sprawa 325; Dates: 1662

Language of documents: Latin

Scope and Contents: Screening of starosties of the Province of Poznań.



Repository: Central State Historical Archive of Ukraine in Lviv Title: Rymo-katolyc'ka mytropolyczna konsystorija, m. Lwiw Fond number: 618, opis 1, sprawa 107; Dates: 1788

Language of documents: Latin

Scope and Contents:

A list of priests of the Roman Catholic denomination who served in Bukovina.



3. Repository: Central State Historical Archive of Ukraine in Kiev Title: Mniszky (Mniszchowie)

Fond number: 250, opis 2, sprawa 191; Dates: 1672-1714

Language of documents: Polish

Scope and Contents:

A collection of the Seym (Polish Parliament) speeches of Polish magnates.

4. Repository: Central State Historical Archive of Ukraine in Kiev Title: Mniszky (Mniszchowie)

Fond number: 250, opis 2, sprawa 2; Dates: 1731

Language of documents: Latin

Scope and Contents:

A certified copy of a letter from King August II to Jerzy Mniszech.

5. Repository: Central State Historical Archive of Ukraine in Kiev Title: Mniszky (Mniszchowie)

Fond number: 250, opis 2, sprawa 189; Dates: 1763

Language of documents: Polish

Scope and Contents:

An excerpt from the Constitution of the Seym of 1763 held in Lublin.

6. Repository: Central State Historical Archive of Ukraine in Lviv Title: Literaturne Towaristwo im. Adama Mickiewicza m. Lviv 1886-1939

Fond number: 202, opis 1, sprawa 34; Dates: 1898

Language of documents: Polish

Scope and Contents:

Programme of the official unveiling of the monument of Jan III Sobieski in Lvov on 20 November 1898.





