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Secondo: non conservare. Per una ricostruzione dell’archivio del monastero di San Silvestro in Capite a Roma.

Antonio Montefusco

The article relates events in the history of the archives held at the San Silvestro in Capite monastery. From a close analysis of these events, the institution emerges as being strictly concerned with the preservation of its own past and its own documents, of which several inventories exist and which have also been the object of much historical research. The essay takes into account the historical background caused by the transfer of the capital of the Kingdom of Italy to Rome, and with access to unpublished sources and a memoir written in the XIX century by a nun from the monastery, recreates the events of the State’s expropriation of these resources.

I confini dei possessi del Monastero Sublacense nel medioevo (secoli X-XIII)

Paolo Rosati

Examination of the successive mediaeval boundaries of Subiaco opens up new opportunities for archaeological and topographical research. Geographical and spatial analysis, the use of modern technologies and the philological study of the termina of the territorium Sublacensis, have made it possible to determine the mediaeval frontiers of this monastic area (X-XIII centuries). These limites were described in the documents along with the itineraria, using reference points (rivers, bridges, Roman aqueducts, mountain peaks) which, it was thought at the time, were clearly visible and would not change, and, as a result, they are still topographically important today. The essay analyses the historic reasons why the San Benedetto and Santa Scolastica monasteries expanded or relinquished their territories. Topographical analysis has enabled us to establish the exact extent of the lands belonging to the castra, castella, roccae, monasteria, ecclesiae and fundi within the territorium sublacensis and has made it possible to reconstruct the political landscape between the X and XIII centuries.

L’acqua Crabra: un fiume scomparso. Vicende del confine naturale tra Roma e la Civitas Tusculana

Emiliano Bultrini

From the second half of the XI century the Counts of Tusculum, banished from Rome’s political life, poured their resources into the city-state of Tusculum, transforming it into a political and economic centre of major importance. It was then that the large river known as the Acqua Crabra,
which crossed the southern part of the countryside around Rome, regained its function as a frontier and as the strategic boundary dividing the territory of the Roman municipality from the Tenimentum Tusculanum. This essay relates the historical events surrounding the river, in particular the rerouting that took place in 1122 and the political and military consequences that followed.

Dalla Roma del primo Rinascimento. Tipologia delle notizie contenute nelle suppliche alla Pentitenzieria Apostolica 1439-1484
Arnold Esch

This paper presents documents from the archives of the Paenitentiaria Apostolica (inaccessible for a long time and thus containing a lot of material unknown to academic research), documents about Roman life during the years 1439-1484. They are petitions from both clerics and laymen who had offended against canon law, addressed to the Pope and requesting absolution, and they go well beyond the ecclesiastical sphere. In this paper they are arranged in categories in order to make clear which kind of information they offer. Their narrationes bring to life a whole variety of situations. There are fugitives from the Balkans fleeing from the invading Turks, pilgrims stealing relics from Roman churches, crusaders who only got as far as Rome; there are quarrels inside Roman monasteries or at the Campo dei Fiori, street battles among different parties shouting 'Borgia!'; there is the priest from England in St. Edmund's hospital at Trastevere, etc. Not much information, maybe, in terms of historical importance, but colourful pictures of Roman life in the Early Renaissance.

Jacques Courtois nella Casa Professa della Compagnia di Gesù a Roma: contributi inediti
Lydia Salviucci Insolera

Jacques Courtois, or “il Borgognone”, is generally known for his battle paintings: in fact, many of his works feature knights in combat and artistic studies of this type. On the other hand, his work as a religious artist, which he began in 1658 after he entered the Society of Jesus in Rome, is little known. The essay examines in depth a number of paintings relating to the Jesuits which have never been properly considered by historical critics. The works in question hang in the Casa Professa in Rome, in the corridor in front of the rooms where St. Ignatius of Loyola lived and died, and consist of a series of scenes portraying the life of the saint.

Ernesto Monaci nei carteggi con gli amici letterati
Amedeo Benedetti

The essay recreates the life and works of the philologist Ernesto Monaci (b. Soriano nel Cimino, 1844 – d. Rome, 1918), who for forty years held the post of lecturer in Romance Literature and
Languages at the University of Rome, founded a number of philology journals, was a member of the Accademia dei Lincei and the author of important monographs. The study is carried out through the wealth of unpublished correspondence that Monaci exchanged with scholars and literary historians (G. I. Ascoli, D. Comparetti, V. Crescini, F. D’Ovidio, A. D’Ancona, D. Gnoli, A. Graf, V. Imbriani, S. Morpurgo, E. G. Parodi, P. Rajna, F. Zambrini, and others).

Per una storia dell’anticlericalismo a Roma dopo l’Unità d’Italia: relazioni, testimonianze e interpretazioni sull’assalto alla salma di Pio IX nella notte del 13 luglio 1881

Mario Casella

On the night of 13 July 1881 grave events took place in Rome as the mortal remains of Pius IX were being transferred from St. Peter’s (where the body had been kept temporarily since his death on 7 February 1878) to the basilica of San’ Lorenzo at the Verano cemetery, where the pope had wished to be interred. The published documents provide a well-constructed image of the actual events of that night and help to reconstruct the political and religious climate in Rome after 20 September 1870 in a way that allows us to identify the roles, attitudes and responsibilities of the religious and political bodies of the era. The documents fall into two parts: unpublished (held in the Vatican Secret Archives, the Central State Archives and the Roman State Archives), and published (collected in the Acts of Parliament, the Italian Diplomatic Documents published by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, and in journals, brochures and books which appeared at the time or later). The collection also includes testimony from leading figures in the affair and historiographical analyses from nearer our own time.

La «fascistizzazione» della Provincia di Roma (1923-1926)

Vicenzo Pacifici

The article traces the process of transforming the Province of Rome from a liberal to an authoritarian administration. The starting point is represented by the Royal Decree of 3 May 1923, which, after proclaiming the dissolution of the elective assembly, puts control of the administration into the hands of a special commission composed of 9 members appointed by the government. The essay reconstructs the period of activity from November 1870, then analyses the life and activities of the new body and its appointed leaders. The commission, extended from year to year, had to face the crucial moment of the break-up of the Province. The delay in handing over tasks and responsibilities in the local councils of Frosinone, Rieti and Viterbo, instituted in 1927, is the reason why Rome was the last province in Italy to continue using the Rettorato, the collective administration introduced in 1929.