

Résumé of the 2nd issue:

Studies of this issue cover two main themes, conservation and digitisation. In connection with the latter, the reader can learn about the work of the Archives of the Archdiocese and Cathedral Chapter of Veszprém, by Balázs Karlinszky as well as the joint digitization project of the Austrian State Archives and the National Archives of Hungary, by András Oross. The periodical also published studies on conservation, such as how to restore ink milling by Dorottya Szlabey, and mass disinfection and de-acidification procedures by P. Holl Adrien. In addition, the Archival Review contains a study of Győző Ember's research on the 18th century in Vienna, written by Krisztina Kulcsár and a paper on the finding of blueprints for one of the first art nouveau apartment houses, by Attila Brunner. From the study that covered the February 1972 meeting between János Kádár and Erich Honecker, one can learn about the results of a research based on party documents in the State Archives of the National Archives of Hungary and the Bundesarchiv, by Balázs Wencz. The Chronicle, compiled from the first half of archival life, can also be found in this journal.

Balázs Karlinszky: The nature of catching up – Digitization in the Archives of the Archdiocese and Cathedral Chapter of Veszprém

The Archives of the Archdiocese and Cathedral Chapter of Veszprém appeared online in 2016 with its online service, but in preparation for this, independent digitisation activities started as soon as 2013. At the start, the available digitized archival material included primarily vital records, church visitation records and the so called soul-conscriptions. At first, the permanently growing service package provided only archival resources, but from 2019 onwards, e-library services were added. Although the service was made subject to a fee in Veszprém, like other Church archives, experience in Veszprém shows that the proceeds of the service are disproportionate to their costs, and in the longer term it is questionable whether it is worth operating in this way. Since 2018, in Veszprém, the colleagues have been involved in the construction of databases in addition to digitisation. In this context, the systematic exploration of historical directories for the diocese has begun. Like several Hungarian archival leaders, the author of the study sees whether it is digitisation or database building, the future is institutional cooperation.

Attila Brunner: Found design sheets – Data for the work of Géza Márkus, builder, creator of the Cifrapalota (Ornamented Palace) in Kecskemét

Sometimes it takes some luck to maintain a particular archival source. Due to such a lucky coincidence, two design sheets were found, which relates to the construction of the apartment building at 19 Péterfy Sándor Street, Budapest (in the present year). The building was built by Géza Márkus, the architect best known for the design of the Cifrapalota (Ornamented Palace) in Kecskemét, presumably based on his own plans. According to the drawings, Márkus, one of the first in Hungary, was already under the

influence of the unfolding Viennese Art Nouveau architecture, and as a result this building could be one of the first art nouveau-style apartment buildings in Budapest. The study not only presents the history of the building, and not only provides new data to the architecture of Géza Márkus, but also gives an insight into the architect's financial plans and stumbles at the end of the 19th century.

Dorottya Szlabey: Will the writing be preserved? – Ink milling phenomenon and how to restore it

For the longest time in centuries of handwriting, there has been one type of ink in Europe, iron-gallus, or iron gall ink. It is almost inconceivable that the ink itself will destroy the medium and make the writing illegible. Yet this ink has already become the cause of damage for many archival records. The stability of the carrier is the key to the long-term preservation of the writing and records. The most harmful damage to the documents is catalytic hydrolysis, which affects any record at risk of ink milling. The composition of the ink changed a lot from centuries of manual production to the ink produced, but despite all the better intentions, its components became devastating on the record itself in many cases with the help of internal or external effects. This chemical process takes place in both paper and parchment, only its duration is different. The aim of the study is to present this writing material used for centuries, well known by many people, which plays a major role not only in the transmission of information, but in the same time, becoming illegible. However, it is now possible to save archival material that have suffered such damage.

Adrien P. Holl: Mass de-acidification Budapest City Archives

Archival records written on acidic paper have a significantly shorter lifespan. The acidification of the substrate is influenced by two factors: the production technology of the paper, as well as external environmental influences. Due to the production technology, only acidic papers were produced between 1860 and 1970, so it is especially important for these carriers to compensate for harmful processes by de-acidification. However, due to the huge amount of files involved, only mass proceedings can be considered as a truly effective solution. Budapest City Archives has been using two technologies (Bückerburg procedure and Bookkeeper technology) in parallel since 2017 to carry out mass de-acidification. As a result, around 50 000 pages of records are extended by an average of 200 years, per year. In addition to the theory of acidification and mass de-acidification of papers, the study also describes in detail, step-by-step, the practice used in the Budapest City Archives.

Adrien P. Holl: National and international practice of mass disinfection technologies

Micro-organisms adhesion to the surface pose a serious threat to records kept in the archives. It is absolutely necessary to take action against them and preventive measures are the first step in this. Archival storages must have adequate humidity and temperature

to prevent such infections. It is equally important to check the records received in order to prevent the source of infection from getting into archival storages from the outside. Currently, there are only few possibilities for mass disinfection of infected documents in Hungary. One of these is the disinfection with formaldehyde, but in recent years there have also been promising experiments in the field of disinfection with plant essential oils.

Krisztina Kulcsár: Győző Ember's research on the 18th century in Vienna

Between fall of 1933 and summer of 1934, Győző Ember received a research scholarship in Vienna. His study trip and the results of it affected his entire career as a historian. In the Austrian capital, he studied primarily who had the most influence in the decisions of the Monarch on Hungarian affairs in the second half of the 18th century. His last study on this field was published in the late 1950s, after a long silence. Although he planned to release a major source publication of the Hungarian-related documents of the Austrian State Council, the completed manuscript was never published. This was not the case, even though a significant part of the file of the Austrian State Council was destroyed in 1945, so the information contained in it could have made it a niche publication. According to the author, the question today is not whether Győző Ember's manuscript is worth publishing, but rather whether it would not be advisable to process the original research papers and make them available online, in order to help the researchers of the field.

Balázs Wencz: Meeting of János Kádár and Erich Honecker in February 1972 – Party documents in the State Archives of the National Archives of Hungary and the Bundesarchiv

The aim of this study is to provide a comprehensive overview of the negotiations between János Kádár, General Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, and Erich Honecker, leader of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, in early February 1972. Following the change of leadership of the State Party of the German Democratic Republic in May 1971, Erich Honecker visited Hungary for the first time as party leader and held consultations with the head of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, János Kádár. During the two-day series of negotiations, the internal situation of the two countries was discussed and bilateral – economic and political – cooperation was subsequently discussed. At the close of the discussions, party leaders also discussed the actualities of the international situation. Overall, the negotiations were considered successful, as both sides took the view that the meeting opened a new phase of further development of the parties' and interstate relations.

András Oross: Austro-Hungarian joint digitisation project

One of the important tasks of the Hungarian archival delegation at the Austrian States Archives (Haus-, Hof- und Staatsarchiv) in Vienna is to make copies of documents with Hungarian relevance and to send them to the National Archives of Hungary. Between 1959 and 2007, this work took place through microfilming, and as a result, the holdings of

the National Archives of Hungary was enriched with 3.5 million microfilm shots. For financial reasons, the process started to temporarily stall, but from 2018, financial resources were secured again, and a joint digitization project was launched between the Austrian State Archives and the National Archives of Hungary, building on new technological developments. As a first step in the project, the finding aids of the shared offices' was explored to make them available online as soon as possible. For the time being, the work carried out has focused primarily on the inventories of the Court Chamber, but in the near future the systematic processing of the Aulic War Council's finding aids will also be launched.