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THIS FOLDER
CONTAINS PAPERS
FROM NOV 63
TO OCT 65
CATALOGUE

1 OTT 1945
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New

L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO

1-2 Ottobre 1945

**Chiesa sinistrata che si riapre
a Palermo**

PALERMO. I.
La prima chiesa che si è riaperta al culto restaurata dai danni prodotti dalla guerra è quella di S. Nicolò in via Maqueda. Si tratta di una costruzione artistica ornata di pregevoli opere, la cui origine risale ai primi del '600.

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1 OTT 1945

4 MAR 1945

L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO — 4 Marzo 1945

I DANNI DEI BOMBARDAMENTI alla Biblioteca di Palermo

PALERMO, marzo.
 (E. d. C.) — La vasta e magnifica sala di lettura della Biblioteca Nazionale, che ospitava più di cinquantamila volumi stampati nel Cinque, Sei e Settecento, è stata colpita in pieno da quattro bombardamenti dopo il 7 aprile 1943: molti libri sono andati completamente distrutti, altri gravemente danneggiati, altri scompaginati e i fogli dispersi, strisciati, bucati, lacerati dalle rebegge. Lo spostamento d'aria ha fatto saltare dalle finestre parecchi volumi, e la pioggia ha fatto il resto. Si sa di molti volumi sottratti dai malviventi, pronti sempre a profittare delle circostanze loro favorevoli, e venduti per carità da involgere. Pescivendoli, macellai, fruttivendoli utilizzarono per qualche tempo, per involgere la loro merce, i fogli dei libri appartenenti alla Biblioteca. Uno scempio durato fino a giorni fa si può dire, che molti, anche non appassionati ai libri, ricordano ancora con rammarico!

Risulta che da parte del personale, con l'aiuto di personale di fatica estraneo, si provvide sotto i bombardamenti a recuperare i libri rimasti sotto le macerie, per trasportarli in ambienti ritenuti meno esposti. Questo lavoro di salvataggio, che richiede occhio e mano amorosa e che può solo assolvere chi ha passione per il libro e comprensione della sua utilità, è stato fatto immediatamente dopo il primo bombardamento. Tuttavia per mettere in assetto le parecchie decine di migliaia di volumi i lavori non sono stati ancora iniziati perché la ricostruzione dei locali richiede tempo e danaro.

Mostly false - says the Sup. Bibli (Signora Danese) 120 of 45 BIMP

Possible confusion with the Archivio di Stato

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4 MAR 1945

11 DIC 1944

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UN ANTICO MONUMENTO SACRO DISTRUTTO

La bara di S. Agata

CATANIA, dicembre. Il 17 aprile 1943 un bombardamento distruggeva completamente il seminario di Catania, e le macerie rimanevano il famoso e prezioso capolavoro della « bara di S. Agata ».

Nella cronaca catanese del secolo XVII non si trova traccia di una bara di S. Agata. La Biblioteca Comunale ed Ursino Recupero in Catania, si legge: « Anno 1519. Item nota come in anno predicto de mense februarii die 17 obiit S. Agata, e vola a volta, tutte le principali strade della città si interrirono per dar luogo a una bara di S. Agata ». Sembra che si trattasse di una bara di S. Agata, e non di una bara di S. Agata. Sembra che si trattasse di una bara di S. Agata, e non di una bara di S. Agata.

La Basilica Vaticana ha accolto ieri un vero pellegrinaggio di cranti. L'atto della ripartizione ha avuto, nell'armonia dei fedeli, unanimità di sentimento, come indicano, già di per sé le voci nel canto, e fu limpido l'intento nobilissimo del convegno: dare una risposta pronta e intera all'appello del Pastore, col riaffermare unitaria di fede, saldezza di propositi, slancio di obnascione. Sembrano assai lontani — e lo sono realmente, risalendo oltre gli ultimi anni instaurati — i giorni fastosi delle insigni celebrazioni, quando le moltitudini si riversavano, da vicoli d'ogni sorta, in piazza di S. Pietro, e, volta a volta, tutte le principali strade della città si interrirono per dar luogo a una bara di S. Agata ».

La Chiesa

Monsignor Alberto Arponte Mella di Sant'Elia, Maestro di Camera, scortato dalla Guardia Nobile, preceduto e seguito dalla Guardia Svizzera, poco prima delle ore 15,15 giungeva nel tempio — gremito da una immensa moltitudine di fedeli — giunte, alla Cappella della Pietà, dall'Emmentissimo Signor Cardinale Federico Tedeschi, Arciprete della Basilica, con il Capitolo e il Clero Vaticano.

Sono intervenuti alla sacra Funzione gli Emi e Rev. mi Signori Cardinali: Gasparri, Salotti, Sibilla, Verde, Rossi, Fumasoni Biondi, Tedeschini, Marinaggi, Pizzardo, Garzia Dominoni, Canali, Jorio, Massimi e Mercalli. Formatosi il consueto corteo, il Santo Padre, per la navata centrale, lungo la quale era schierata la Guardia Palatina d'Onore, ha preceduto in sedia gestatoria sino alla Cappella del Coro, ove era solennemente esposto il

11 DIC 1944

L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO — 11-12 Dicembre 1944 — N. 290 (25.707) — p. 2

UN ANTICO MONUMENTO SACRO DISTRUTTO

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CATANIA, dicembre. Il 17 aprile 1943 un bombardamento distruggèva completamente il seminario di Catania, e fra le macerie rimaneva il famoso e prezioso capriavolo della « bara di S. Agata ».

Nella cronaca siciliana del secolo XVI del notaro Merlino che si conserva manoscritta nella Biblioteca Comunale ed Uffizio Recupero in Catania, si legge: « Anno 1519 - Item nota comu in lo anno predicto de mense februarii die quarto mensi, eisdem, lu jornu chi si noli tornari la Floribus Agatha nostra advocata, si tornau supra la vara nova incomensata di argento la quali havin circa anni chincio ch'era incomensata, di modo che in dicto anno, si trovaro facti li così infrascripti, videlicet li colomni; la cuba et parti di li landi sueta la cuba, per passatu si tornava supra una vara di lignami a la moderna tueta deorata, la quale tuca temporis fu venduta a la universitati di Larcara per conduchiri lu corpo di Sancto Nicola Laruro noviter ritrovato in una spelunca fora di la terra et miraculose calupniccato per sedem apostolicam, la quali vara di argento incomensau mastro Vincenneso Archifel nostro catanisi ».

Il Merlino precisa che l'Archifel, al quale si deve forse il disegno della nova bara, cominciò a lavorarla nel 1514, terminando nel 1519 il colomni a capitelli corintii, che nel terzo infattore son ricche di arabeschi, la cuba, di stile quasi orientale, tutto a scaglie di argento sellato; parti di li landi sueta la cuba, parte della volta, divisa in due lacunari a superficie concava, ornata di numerosi fregi.

Cadde quindi in errore lo storico catanese Giambattista De Grossis scrivendo nella sua *Catania Sacra* (1886) che l'insigne fercolo d'argento tanto rinomato in tutto il mondo venne costruito con denaro proprio del vescovo catanese Niccolò Maria Caracciolo (1537-1568); che *proprio excoctum, insigne prae ceteris est Thronorum illud argenteum toto orbe celeberrimum, Baram vulgus appellat*.

E' chiaro che maestro Vincenzo Archifel, « arginteri notorissimo », come lo chiama lo stesso Merlino a proposito di altra bara con certi iscritti d'oro da lui incominciata nel 1520 e che si conduce il Santissimo Corpo do Cristo », lasciò incompiuta la nova bara di S. Agata per la quale poi il detto vescovo Caracciolo fece costruire da Paolo Aversa, altro valoroso artista catanese, alcune altre parti (e non la colonna, come scrisse il De Grossis) con la fusione di due candelabri di argento massiccio. Il nome dello Aversa fu riscontrato da coloro che hanno scritto del prezioso monumento d'arte in molti quadri della base ed anche in altri pezzi.

Il fercolo ancora così incompiuto, fece annualmente, portato a spalla dai cittadini in canuce bianche, il giro esterno della città, uscendo dalla Porta di ferro e rientrando per quella dei Canali; ma nel 1592 i fedeli nel giorno della festa della Patrona constatarono che la bara era stata arricchita sulla trabecazione di statue di argento massiccio degli dodici apostoli con ciascuna di esse di libbre cinque, alte un palmo e mezzo. Era stato questo un dono — come scrive il Privitera nell' *Annale Catanese* — del Vescovo Giovanni Corrienero.

Nel 1810 Mons. Ruffano

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colonne, come scrisse il De Grossi) con la fu-
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hanno scritto del prezioso monumento d'arte
in molti quadri della base ed anche in altri
pezzi.

Il fercolo ancora essi incompleto, fece an-
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tremo bianco, il giro esterno delle città, uscen-
do dalla Porta di ferro e rientrando per quella
dei Canali; ma nel 1592 i fedeli nel giorno del-
la festa della Patrona constatarono che la bara
era stata arricchita sulla trabeazione di statuet-
te di argento massiccio delli dodici apostoli con
la di Cristo vale a dire di tredici statuette,
ciascuna di esse di libbre cinque, alta un palmo
e mezzo. Era stato questo un dono — come
scrive il Privitera nell'Annuaire Catanae — dal
Vescovo Giovanni Corriero.

Nel 1610 Mons. Patriarca Bonaventura Secu-
sto, vescovo di Catania, a sue spese fece co-
struire e collocare negli infercolummi venti lam-
pade e festoni di finissimo argento.

Verso il 1639, dopo centoventi anni che la
bara era stata cominciata dallo Archifel, il Se-
nato catanese decoravane la parte bassa con
ventidue piastre, a mezzo rilievo, ove vi si
descrive con piccoli personaggi il martirio e
la traslazione della Santa. Ciascuna piastra por-
ta il nome del donatore fra i quali si notano:
Francesco Tudisco, barone - Giuseppe Tabbuso
canonico della Cattedrale - D'Alvaro Paternò
patrizio - Bartolo Cordaro - D. Vincenzo Pa-
ternò - Francesco Tudisco Toscano - Camillo
Paternò Michele e D. Francesco padre e figlio.
Il costo di ciascuna piastra — scrive il citato
Privitera — fu di onze 30, che in tutto am-
montarono onze seicentossanta.

In una ragnuzione fatta di tutti i pezzi dell'a
bara nell'anno 1735 le dette piastre nel martirio
pesarono totale 24, oncie 12 e due quarta.

L'avvenimento ebbe luogo, rinnovandosi il
maestro d'opera piccola eretta nella chiesa cat-
tedrale come si legge in un documento inedito
da me trovato agli atti dello Archivio Capito-
lare. Il Regio Conte De Guglielmo Scammacca
ed Arizzi si fece portare la suddetta bara nella
sua propria casa, ed alla sua presenza e di
Giuseppe Maraviglia maestro notaro, Intraia
scavalcare da Ottavio Manduca e Bartolomeo
Berlotta, arginieri di ca. suda città, fece
pesare delli riferiti Manduca Bartolotta tutto
l'argento di d. bara, quale si è trovato essere
di peso in tutto cantara due, rotola ottanta-
quattro, oncie ventidue e quarti tre. Segue il
peso dei vari pezzi di cui si compone la bara,
tra i quali non trovai quello con il riflettere
alla statuetta di Cristo donata dal Privitera
e di fornata anche da mons. Romio nella vita
di S. Agata.

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Nell'1610 Mons. Patriarca Bonaventura Secu-

sio, vescovo di Catania, a sue spese fece costruire e collocare negli intercolunni venti lampade e festoni di finissimo argento.

Verso il 1630, dopo centoventi anni che la bara era stata cominciata dallo Archiefel, il senato catanese decoravane la parte bassa con ventidue piastre, a mezzo rilievi, ove vi si descrive con piccoli personaggi il martirio e la traslazione della Santa. Ciascuna piastra porta il nome del donatore fra i quali si notano: Francesco Tudisco, barone - Giuseppe Tabbuso canonico della Cattedrale - D'Alvaro Paternò patriarca - Bartolo Cordaro - D. Vincenzo Paternò - Francesco Tudisco Toscano - Camillo Paternò Michele e D. Francesco padre e figlio.

Il costo di ciascuna piastra - scilicet il cinto Privilegi - fu di onze 30, che in tutto ammontarono onze seicentocessanta.

In una rogazione fatta di tutti i pezzi della bara nell'anno 1733, si dette piancie nel martirio pesarono rotola 24, oncie 12 e due quarti.

L'avvenimento ebbe luogo, rinnovandosi il maestro d'opera piccola eretta nella chiesa cattedrale, come si legge in un documento inedito da me trovato agli atti dello Archivio Capitolare: Il Regio Conte De Guglielmo Scarnaccia ed Arizzi si fece portare la suddetta bara nella sua propria casa ed alla sua presenza e di Giuseppe Maravigna, maestro notaro, fattala svasicare da Ottavio Manduca e Bartolomeo Bertolotta, argentieri di quella città, fece pesare dalli riferiti Manduca Bartolotta tutto l'argento di d. bara, quale si è trovato essere di peso in tutto cantara due rotola ottantaquattro, oncie ventidue e quarti tre. Segue il peso dei vari pezzi di cui si compone la bara, ma non son trovati, quello che si riferisce alla statuetta di Cristo connessa dal Privilegi e conformati anche da mons. Romas nella vita di S. Agata.

A titolo di curiosità riferiamo, che l'argento delle basi delle sei colonne, delle colonnette stesse e dei capitelli manufatturati dallo Archiefel pesò rotoli 60, oncie 4 e 3 quarti e che i manoscritti della cubbola furono contati 4264 ed i pampinelli in 112.

Nel 1743 mons. De Giochis nella regia visita fatta per ordine di Re Carlo III, fece verificare il peso dello argento del ferro, e il risultato eguale a quello riscontrato dal Capitano D. Guglielmo Scarnaccia, vi compare quello del quadro che è sul fronte del sepolcro con le sigle della tavolotta del sepolcro: M. S. S. H. D. E. P. L. (memoria, scilicet, mortuorum, hororem, deo, et patriam, liberationem) e l'altro quadro sulla facciata posteriore con le sigle: N. O. P. A. Q. U. I. E. (Nulli offendere pariam, Agnoscite quis alius insularum est).

Il Cordaro Clarenza scrive che nel 1790 furono fatte alla bara degli accenti per cui bisognarono 14 rotoli e mezzo di argento che fu recato in parte dal Comune di Catania ed in parte dal Duca di Cascaj Paternò Castello, allora Patrizio.

Non poche sono le descrizioni che si hanno sulla bara di S. Agata, in prosa ed in versi, da scrittori nostri e forestieri, delle quali ci piace di riportare quella di D. Giovanni Thomaso Lombardo, il reconto della festa di S. Agata, scritta nel seicento, quando il fercolo era già quasi compiuto:

«D'effigato argento un alto tronco - Sovra eccelsa colonne fabbricato - È puro argento le colonne sono - Di lampadi di argento intorno ornato. - Dirò poi nel suo pregio, al bel lavoro - Qual vinca, o l'artificio, o l'gran lavoro». «L'artificio lavoro, scrive il Carrara, lungo palmi undici e largo palmi cinque e mezzo è fornito dall'uno e dall'altro fianco di bracciali ai quali si suppongono all'ignedi per condur quella sacra macchina».

La bara quantunque di ingente valore anche per il suo pregio artistico, durante i secoli è stata sempre conservata in un comune magazzino vicino alla Cattedrale, mentre lo scricchiolio e la statua della santa sono state poste nel santuario, il quale si ferma con quattro chiavi - scrive il Carrara - sito in luogo sicuro.

È avvenuto quindi che in diversi tempi sono stati commessi dei furti sacrileghi: di uno si ha cenno nella vita della gloriosissima vergine e martire S. Agata, poema in 12 canti scritto nome dal autore, ipotizzato ed anno, ma del come, che del poema si desume, che esso fu stampato al principio del settentesimo sotto il Vescovo Gal-

vani.

A titolo di curiosità ricordiamo che l'effigie delle basi delle sei colonne, delle colonne stesse e dei capitelli manufacturedo dall'Architetto stesso il peso dell'argento del ferro il cui peso totale è di 60 oncie 51 e 5 quarti e che i manoscritti della cubola furono contati 4264 ed i pampinelli in 112.

Nel 1743 mons. De Gioochis nella reale visita fatta per ordine di Re Carlo III fece verificare il peso dello argento del ferro il cui risultato eguale a quello riscontrato dal Cavaliere D. Guglielmo Scammacca. Vi compariò quello del quadro che è sul fronte del secolo con la sigla della tavoletta del sepolcro: M. S. S. H. D. E. P. L. (mentem, sextam, spem, stum, honorem, deo, c. patriar. liberationem) e l'altro quadro sulla facca posteriore con la sigla: N. O. P. A. Q. V. I. E. (Noli offendere parvam Ayahae quis altri intoriarum est).

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Napoleone sono le descrizioni che si hanno sulla bara di S. Agata, in prosa ed in versi, da scrittori nostri e forestieri, delle quali ci piace di riportare quella di D. Giovanni Tommaso Longobardo (il primo della festa di S. Agata) scritta nel successo, quando il fercolo era già quasi compiuto:

«D'effigato argento un alto trono — Sovra eccelse colonne fabbricato — E puro argento le colonne sono — Di lampadi di argento intorno ornato. — Dirò noi nel suo pregio, al bel lavoro — Quel vinca, o l'artificio o l'gran tesoro». «L'artificioso lavoro, scrive il Carrara, lungo palmi undici e largo palmi cinque e mezzo è fornito dall'uno e dall'altro fianco di braccioli ai quali si suppongono gli ignudi per condur quella sacra macchina».

La bara quantunque di insente valore anche per il suo pregio artistico, durante i secoli è stata sempre conservata in un comune magazzino sito vicino alla Cattedrale, mentre lo scrinio e la statua della santa sono state poste nel sacro, il quale si serba con quattro chiavi — scrive il Carrara — fito in luogo sicuro.

È avvenuto quindi che in diversi tempi sono stati commessi dei furti sacrileghi, di uno si ha cenno nella Vita della gloriosissima vergine e martire S. Agata, poema in 12 canti senza nome dell'autore, tipografato ed anno ma del contenuto del poema si desume che esso fu stampato al principio del settecento sotto il Vescovo Galati.

L'anonimo autore scrive: «Questa bara però venne rapita — Da molti ladri un di con destrezza ardita. — L'apostoli, e lo scritto a lei rubati — Furon pochi anni in poi dal fier tremoto. — Nel furore però di que malvagi — Atroce recorsa die la terra, e molo: — Per onde dal timor sendo vessati. — Son veloci a fuggir con volto ignoto. — Ma colui nel campo ebbero a dare — Nelle galere il fio, girando il mare».

Prima di allora nel 1643 erano stati rubati due lampadari di argento posti innanzi il sacro della Santa. Il ladro denunciato dalla moglie fu arrestato e scortato nelle galere il giorno delitto. Il Carrara che dà notizia del fatto scrive: «Lacerati i malvagi uomini per l'avvenire si guarderanno di incorrere nell'ira della Santa, e i virtuosi si avvanteranno di afferire in riverbia».

Ma purtroppo i malvagi uomini nel 1881 spogliarono il fercolo delle statue degli apostoli, delle due tabelle delle lampade, dei festoni d'oro, regnando le colonne, i capitelli ed altri pezzi, che poi furono rifatti dopo il processo e la esemplare condanna dei numerosi colpevoli.

GIUGLIEMMO POLICARDO

COPY

From: Lt.Col. Sir Leonard Woolley,
WAR OFFICE,
Hotel Victoria,
Northumberland Avenue,
LONDON, W.C. 2.

Your ref: 20560/MFAA, 24 Sept 44.

C.A. 20(b)
44/11/10

7th November, 1944

Dear Ward-Perkins,

After very careful investigation we have been able to trace the following regarding the matter of valuable manuscripts being used as wrapping paper in Sicily.

The attached cutting is all that the Manchester Guardian printed.

I imagine that the Rome Radio's account was taken from some other ^{paper} and mis-quoted the original by saying "sold by" instead of "sold to" American soldiers. I know that some paper did speak of American soldiers buying documents and thereby getting on the track of the missing archives.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Leonard Woolley,

Lt.-Col.,
Archaeological Adviser. 2633

Major J.B. Ward Perkins,
H.Q., A.C.C.,
M.F.A.A. Sub-Commission,
A.P.O. 394.

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AFHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

R.M. Report No. 176, 23 Apr 44.

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 710 KCS 14:00 APRIL 22

NEWS FROM INVADED ITALY

The "Manchester Guardian" reports from Palermo that collections of valuable books and manuscripts, removed from the National Library, were sold by American soldiers or used as packing-paper.

Copies to:

2652

Extract from the "Manchester Guardian"

dated Wednesday,

19th April, 1944.

RARE DOCUMENTS USED AS WRAPPING PAPER

Valuable documents missing from the archives in the bomb-rained National Library at Palermo, capital of Sicily, were discovered being used for wrapping paper in local shops. The bulk of them were recovered by the Allied sub-commission for monuments, fine arts and archives at work in Sicily and saved. The library and archives of the Palermo Conservatory of Music had been looted.



2631
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L'opera degli Alleati per il restauro dei monumenti danneggiati

Giornale di Sicilia

15 or 16 Aug 44

Le Autorità alleate, come abbiamo già scritto, si sono preoccupate dei monumenti italiani danneggiati e 66 loro restauri. Per ciò che riguarda la Sicilia Occidentale sono state eseguite riparazioni al Duomo di Caltanissetta, famoso per gli affreschi del Bevrmanus, alcuni dei quali sono andati distrutti, ad Agrigento si sta riparendo il monumento di Santo Spirito, molto danneggiato, mentre la volta in ferro dipinta della Cattedrale è stata restaurata. Ancora ad Agrigento il Museo Comunale è stato allestito per una prossima riapertura.

Se Palermo, come città, ebbe a soffrire i più gravi danni ai suoi monumenti, la Sicilia Orientale fu più gravemente colpita come campo di guerra e luogo di passaggio delle truppe. La metodica organizzazione spiegata dal dott. Dillon, Sicilia Orientale, e la locale iniziativa dimostrata dai vescovi e dal clero portarono un grande contributo alla soluzione dei vari problemi, specialmente per la provincia di Catania. Trema erano le chiese monasticali di Catania danneggiate, e quasi tutte sono state restaurate e riparatte a spese proprie e con contributi dell'AMGOI. In Agrigento stesso sono state riparatte alcune chiese come state riparatte a Agrigento S. Maria della Catena, dove il zelo del parroco ha conseguito il restauro a spese locali del tetto e delle volte e la protezione della Madonna con Bambino in marmo di Antonello Gagini. Lo stesso si dice delle tre chiese di Agrigento: San Sebastiano, il Suffragio ed il Duomo, tutte ben conosciute per gli affreschi di Pier Paolo Vasta. In Randazzo la chiesa di S. Maria ha un nuovo tetto e labiride e in via di restauro. Nella chiesa rovinata di S. Nicolò, la famosa statua del Sant'opera di Antonello Gagini, è stata salvata e coperta, ed il gotico fonte battesimale è stato ripulito.

Nella provincia di Messina, la città di Messina, che fu danneggiata da qualunque altra città della Sicilia, ha pochi monumenti a cui si è dato un restauro. La chiesa del 1808. La Cattedrale è una rovina, ma il prof. Miraglia, che ha assistito nella sua città navata a entrambi i disastri, ha curato con entusiasmo e pazienza una minuziosa classificazione dei pezzi architettonici, che sono stati tutti scrupolosamente raccolti nelle rispettive cappelle. Specialisti locali attendono a mettere insieme i frammenti ed a classificare tutti i resti, secondo i colori. Nell'unico chiesa gotica della città, Sant'Andrea, è stata chiusa l'apertura prodotta nell'abside sud, e si è iniziata l'impalcatura per riparare la cupola. Terminata le riparazioni la chiesa di S. Tommaso il Vecchio sarà ridata al culto.

In Taormina il Duomo è stato restaurato per iniziativa dell'Archiprete ed a spese locali con contributo del Governo Aliciano. Il San Domenico è una rovina completa, ma il Cav. Vasta ha avuto l'incarico di restaurare gli archivi, i piani e

medievale. Tutto questo lavoro si fa sotto la direzione del Dott. Dillon, soprattutto aiutato dal signor De-nea, il locale ispettore onorario. Essi hanno iniziato le riparazioni al medievale Palazzo del Duca di Siracusa, che, malamente scosso dalle bombe, si è potuto appena salvare dal crollo totale. La piccola chiesa gotica di S. Antonio è stata restaurata.

A Siracusa il Dott. Dillon ha organizzato con aiuti locali, la riparazione della famosa Cattedrale del Colonnaio e del Palazzo Basso. In provincia di Enna, la Chiesa Matrice di Assoro aveva subito gravi danni al transetto nord, all'arcata centrale della navata, al tetto ed alle anatre. Questa chiesa normanna-gotica, con tetto rinascimentale in legno e decorazioni barocche, è famosa per uno scultore Agate in marmo opera di Antonello Gagini, che scolpì anche le tombe marmoree del Vescovo di Malta e del fratello di questi, il Principe di Valguarnera. Ora urgente riparazione è stata fatta per salvare la chiesa, ed a spese ed iniziativa locali si è provveduto all'opera specializzata di portare l'interno all'aspetto che aveva prima della guerra. In una delle sue visite ad Assoro, il Commissario Provinciale trovò, in un villaggio, una Madonna, cioè ed un abito, della scuola di Gagini, abbentante sul terreno come se vi fosse un'esplosione di bombe. Le statue si possono ora vedere nella Matrice.

Fortunatamente i centri della civiltà greca, per cui la Sicilia è famosa, soffrono poco o nessun danno, ma i Musei che ospitano le collezioni furono malamente colpiti. Le collezioni erano state poste in salvo. A Palermo si sono fatte parecchie riparazioni al Museo Nazionale e ad Inera è stata costruita una siepe protettiva di filo spinato. Tutto ciò è stato eseguito sotto l'abile direzione della Signora dott. Marconi Boyo, Soprintendente alle Antichità per Palermo e Trapani. Ad Agrigento, il nostro amico dr. Grifo, soprintendente alle Antichità per Agrigento e Caltanissetta, ha iniziato lavori al tempio di Ercole. Dr. Bernabè Brea ha restituito il Museo Archeologico, che era stato malamente danneggiato. Il dr. Bernabè Brea ha anche restituito il tempio di Apollo in Siracusa in un bel giardino e, con lo aiuto del Municipio, ha organizzato la ricostruzione di un muro protettivo. Non si devono dimenticare la riparazione delle Catacombe di Siracusa, di cui la popolazione sarà serena, di cui la popolazione sarà serena, di cui la popolazione sarà serena.

Importanti lavori di costruzione a Palazzo Acreide. Lavori di riparazioni si stanno ora facendo nel Giunoneo Romano, di cui è stato assai danneggiato ed esposto ai vandali. La casa del custode sarà riparata e il danneggiato muro romano restaurato con l'antica mitria. Sottinteso avevano luogo a Siracusa gli archivi, i piani e

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...mediante Palazzo dei Duchi di San-
to Stefano, che, malgrado scosso
dalle bombe, si è potuto appena sal-
vare dal crollo totale. La piccola
chiesa gotica di S. Antonio è stata
restaurata.

A Siracusa il Dott. Dillon ha os-
servato, con aiuti locali, la ripa-
razione della famosa Cattedrale del
Colonnaio e del Palazzo Busco.

In provincia di Enna, in Chiesa
Matrice di Assoro aveva subito gra-
vi danni al transetto nord, all'arcata
centrale della navata, al tetto ed
alle finestre. Questa chiesa romanica
no-gotica, con tetto rinascimentale
in legno è decorata in botteghe e
fianca per uno laico. Altre in
marmo opera di Antonello Gagini,
che scolò anche le tombe marmoree
del vescovo di Malta e del fratello
di questi il Principe di Valguarnera.

Ogni urgente riparazione è stata
fatta per salvare la chiesa, ed il
veduto all'opera specialzata di ri-
parare l'inverno all'aspetto che ave-
va prima della guerra. In uno delle
sue visite ad Assoro, il Commis-
sario Provinciale trovò, in un villa
danneggiata fuori del paese, due
statue una Madonna col'ed ed un an-
gelo, della scuola di Gagini, aban-
donate sul terreno come se vi fos-
sero state gettate dalle truppe o da
un'esplosione di bombe. Le statue
si possono ora vedere nella Matrice.

Fortunatamente i centri della ci-
viltà greca, per cui la Sicilia è fa-
mosa, soffriranno poco o nessun dan-
no; ma i Musei che ospitano le
collezioni furono malamente colpiti.
Le collezioni erano state poste in
salvo. A Palermo si sono fatte pa-
rechie riparazioni al Museo Natio-
nale e ad Imera è stata costruita
una sede protettiva di filo spinato.

Tutto ciò è stato eseguito sotto la
direzione della Signora dott.
Marconi Bova, Soprintendente alle
Antichità per Palermo e Trapani.
Ad Agrigento, il nostro amico dr.
Griffo, Soprintendente alle Antichità
per Agrigento, e Chianiga, ha
iniziato lavori al tempio di Ercole,
ed a Siracusa l'ingegner Scopinaro,
direttore Dr. Bernabò Brea ha ris-
citato il Museo Archeologico, che
era stato malamente danneggiato.

Il dr. Bernabò Brea ha anche tra-
sformato il tempio di Apollo in Sir-
acusa in un bel giardino e, con lo
aiuto del Municipio, ha organizzato
la costruzione di un muro protet-
tivo. Né si devono dimenticare le
riparazioni delle Catacombe di Sir-
acusa, di cui la popolazione s'era ser-
vita come di ricovero antichero, e
importanti lavori di costruzione a
Palazzo Arcide. Lavori di ripa-
razioni si stanno ora facendo nel
Ginnasio Romano, che è stato assai
danneggiato ed esposto al vandali-
smo. La casa del custode sarà ri-
parata e il danneggiato muro ro-
mano restaurato con l'antica ma-
teratura.

Settembralmente avevano luogo a
Palermo delle amichevoli riunioni
dei Soprintendenti e Capi degli Ar-
chivi e Biblioteche di Palermo, du-
rante le quali venivano discussi ar-
somati amministrativi. Ad una
riunione finale intervennero tutti
i Soprintendenti dell'Isola. Queste
riunioni contribuirono grandemente
a facilitare il compito del Consigie-
ro ed a stabilire la perfetta collabo-
razione a cui abbiamo già accen-
tato.

Il municipio è stato distrutto. I
fondi antichità per il suo rifac-
imento saranno spesi per il medie-
vale Palazzo Corvaja che diverrà
il nuovo municipio ed il futuro co-
llegio del Taranto. L'interno, che era
stato distrutto dagli affari, lo-
cali, tornerà ad avere il suo aspetto
fatisco.

...tutti in Sicilia Occidentale.
stare eseguire riparazioni al Duomo
di Calanasseta, famoso per gli af-
freschi del Borremans, alcuni dei
quali sono andati distrutti, ed Agri-
gento si sta riparando il monastero
gotico di Santo Spirito, molto dan-
negrato, mentre la volta in legno
dipinta della Cattedrale è stata re-
staurata. Ancora ad Agrigento, il
Museo Comunale è stato allestito
per una prossima ristrutturazione.

Se Palermo, come città, ebbe a
soffrire i più gravi danni, ai suoi
monumenti, la Sicilia Orientale ha
più gravemente colpita come campo
di guerra e luogo di passaggio del-
le truppe. La metodica organizza-
zione spiegata dal dott. Dillon, So-
pntendente ai monumenti per la
Sicilia Orientale, e la locale iniziati-
va dimostrata dai vescovi e dai
clero portarono un grande contributo
alla soluzione dei vari problemi.

specialmente per la provincia di Ca-
tania. Trenta erano le chiese me-
diocanali di Catania danneggiate,
e quasi tutte sono state restaurate
o riparate a spese proprie e con con-
tributi dell'AM.G.O.T. In Agrigento
otto chiese sono state riparate allo
scorso modo, e tra esse è da anco-
nare S. Maria della Catena, dove
lo zolo del parroco ha conseguito
il restauro a spese locali dei teti
e delle volte e la protezione della
Madonna con Bambino in marmo
di Antonello Gagini. Lo stesso si
dice della tre chiese di Acireale:
San Sebastiano, il Suffragio ed il
Duomo, tutte ben conservate per gli
affreschi di Pier Paolo Vasile. In
Randazzo la chiesa di S. Maria ha
un nuovo tetto, e l'abside è in via
di restauro. Nella chiesa rinviata di
S. Nicolò, la famosa statua del San-
to, opera di Antonello Gagini, è
stata salvata e coperta, ed il gotico
fontane battesimale è stato riparato.

Nella provincia di Messina, la cit-
tà di Messina, che fu danneggiata
più di qualunque altra città della
isola, ha pochi monumenti, a cau-
sa del terremoto del 1908. La cat-
edrale è una rovina, ma il prof.
Miraglia, che ha assistito nella sua
curia navata a entrambi i disastri,
ha curato con entusiasmo e pazien-
za una minuziosa classificazione dei
pezzi architettonici che sono stati
risparati e, opportunamente raccolti nelle
rispettive cappelle. Specialisti locali
affidano a lui, e a classificare tutti i
frammenti, ed a classificare tutti i
mossari secondo i colori. Nell'unico
chiesa solida della città, San An-
tonio, è stata chiusa l'apertura
prodotta nell'abside sud, e si è
iniziata l'impalcatura per riparare
la cupola. Terminare le riparazioni
in chiesa di S. Tommaso il Vecchio
sarà ridata al culto.

In Taormina, il Duomo è stato
restaurato per iniziativa dell'Archi-
diocesi ed a spese locali, con con-
senso del Governo Alicato. Il San-
to Spirito è una rovina completa.
Domenico è una rovina completa.
ma il Cav. Vercellotti ha fatto labo-
rante a raccogliere dalle macerie
tutti i pezzi degli stali corali del
tempio, che sono ora ordinati
con cura nella sagrestia, pronti per
essere ricomposti.

Il municipio è stato distrutto. I
fondi antichità per il suo rifac-
imento saranno spesi per il medie-
vale Palazzo Corvaja che diverrà
il nuovo municipio ed il futuro co-
llegio del Taranto. L'interno, che era
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fatisco.

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il nuovo municipio ed il futuro co-
llegio del Taranto. L'interno, che era
stato distrutto dagli affari, lo-
cali, tornerà ad avere il suo aspetto
fatisco.

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... tutti lavori urgenti come stucchi, gesso, zolfo, murature, mentre sono stati pressanti per la futura ricostruzione dei materiali recuperati dallo sgombero delle macerie, come le tramezzature del grande tetto e i frangenti architettonici del loggiato. Inoltre, il lavoro scalfaburo si avvia con il materiale di recupero sono state costruite nelle sale dell'ex-liceo nelle quali verranno ordinati anche i libri del salone tuttora ammassati, mentre è prevista l'apertura d'una sala di lettura alla sede centrale.

L'iniziativa è l'opera svolta dalle biblioteche e dal loro collaboratore, il bibliotecario, non solo per aver assicurato la continuità di funzionamento dell'istituto nelle presenze di difficoltà, ma anche per l'acquisto di 23 che prevede la possibilità di un ritorno alla vecchia sede e al grande salone e la ricostruzione del grande salone.

... il 30 giugno 1958, distressero la sala di lettura ed il loggiato, danneggiato e in parte di materiali recuperati dallo sgombero delle macerie, come le tramezzature del grande tetto e i frangenti architettonici del loggiato. Inoltre, il lavoro scalfaburo si avvia con il materiale di recupero sono state costruite nelle sale dell'ex-liceo nelle quali verranno ordinati anche i libri del salone tuttora ammassati, mentre è prevista l'apertura d'una sala di lettura alla sede centrale.

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Le ultime forze giapponesi scacciate dall'Assam

CEYLON, 30

Un comunicato del Comando dell'Asia sud orientale annuncia che le ultime forze giapponesi sono state scacciate dall'Assam nell'India nord orientale. Sulla strada Kohima-Diphai prosegue l'avanzata alleata. I giapponesi ritirati a nord est di Imphal sono stati intrasagliati da aerei della R.A.F. I giapponesi si ritirano a sud ed a est.

... come di armamenti. La quasi completa assenza della aviazione tedesca dalla battaglia, che lascia le truppe tedesche ad essere bersagliate da una superiorità aerea altrettanto grande di quella che accompagnò la loro sconfitta marcia attraverso la Francia quattro anni fa, indica l'intera situazione. La Germania è mancante di uomini di mestiere prima di una efficiente produzione industriale, di armi, già prodotta all'orlo del precipizio in cui i nazisti sono ancora fermamente decisi a gettarla se non saranno arrestati in tempo. Questo è il risultato della lunga lotta megajica dagli Alleati.

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A1, PWS, 1803, Unit. No 6 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 199 - 21 MAY 1944

RAVENS FROM IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 Nos 2100 MAY 20Early PressAllied Looting of Art Treasures

The "Provincia Repubblicana" has published an interesting article on the so-called protection afforded by the British and American Government to artistic monuments in occupied countries. We all know that all that has so far been removed under cover of "protection" has been taken over by the rapacious Jews. Shortly before Christmas, hundreds of high-ranking personalities in Britain and in the United States received cards announcing the sale of art treasures taken from southern Italy. Some neutral countries learned of this through the "Times" and expressed their astonishment. They had to come to the conclusion that Italy was indeed robbed of her treasures. Some Stockholm newspapers reported that large quantities of Italian works of art are for sale in New York. In one day alone objects were sold for a total value of thirty million dollars, and on another day for the sum of forty eight million dollars.

The "New York Herald-Tribune" wrote that a Jew lay his hands on the portals of the Cathedral in Palermo and shipped them to the United States. Other treasures were shipped at the same time which had been taken from the Chapel of Santa Rosalia, the Patron Saint of Palermo.

Not only American Jews are guilty. British Jews had their fair share of the spoils. Some London papers announced that the treasure of Santa Agata had been taken with great skill from an antique dealer of New York. Week after week, month after month, the Jewish hyenas, the same who even before the war, looted Germany, go on robbing and looting. All this, while the Allied authorities talk of protection of the art treasures of the south.

The "Italia Repubblicana", the organ of the Republican Party of Venezia Giulia, published an appeal in its first edition. "Do not forget the tragic days that followed 9 September: General chaos, the dismemberment of the army, disorder everywhere. All seemed to be lost: country, honor, faith. An ominous menace threatened the peninsula; it seemed that soon all the country would be in the hands of the enemy. Today things have improved; but the danger is still there.

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COPY

April 44

Extract from the "Manchester Guardian"
dated Wednesday,
19th April. 1944

RARE DOCUMENTS USED AS WRAPPING PAPER

Valuable documents missing from the archives in the bomb-ruined National Library at Palermo, capital of Sicily, were discovered being used for wrapping paper in local shops. The bulk of them were recovered by the Allied sub-commission for monuments, fine arts and archives at work in Sicily and salvaged. The library and archives of the Palermo Conservatory of Music had been looted.

Auszug aus "Südfront"
vom 25. April 1944

Seit einiger Zeit wurden aus der Nationalbibliothek von Palermo, wie "Manchester Guardian" mitteilt, wertvolle alte Dokumente vermisst. Jetzt habe man entdeckt, dass diese nach dem Einmarsch der Anglo-Amerikaner als Altpapier verkauft und in Läden zum einwickeln der Ware verwandt wurden.

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

20381/MFAA

R. M. Report No. 176, 23 Apr 44.

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 710 KOS 14:00 APRIL 22

NEWS FROM INVADED ITALY

The "Manchester Guardian" reports from Palermo that collections of valuable books and manuscripts, removed from the National Library, were sold by American soldiers or used as packing-paper.

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20384/AFSA

AFHQ, PWB, HSE, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512
R. H. Report No. 176, 25 Apr 44.

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RADIO HOME IN ITALY TO ITALY 710 EGS 14300 APRIL 22

NEWS FROM INVADIED ITALY

The "Manchester Guardian" reports from Palermo that collections of valuable books and manuscripts, removed from the National Library, were sold by American soldiers or used as packing-paper.

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20381/371A

APO, PAB, HAS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

R. H. Report No. 176, 23 Apr 44.

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RADIO NEWS BY ITALIAN TO ITALY 710 EGS 14:00 APRIL 22

NEWS FROM INVADED ITALY

The "Manchester Guardian" reports from Palermo that collections of valuable books and manuscripts, removed from the National Library, were sold by American soldiers or used as packing-paper.

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LONDON TIMES 19 APRIL 1944

RESTORATION IN SICILY

FIRST AID FOR ART TREASURES

An official statement issued by the Ministry of Information gives details of the work done in Sicily by the Allied Subcommission for Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives.

Not the least important of the Sub-commission's tasks, the statement says, is the protection of war-damaged buildings and the application of first-aid measures to prevent their suffering further damage from exposure to the weather. In general, this can only be done after the tide of war has swept forward. Even then it takes time; however slight the repairs, they require labour, which to be collected, and material, which may be hard to find.

The money for the work comes from very different sources. Where a damaged church belongs to one of the religious orders, the money may come from that source. If a building is scheduled as a national monument, the municipality may vote the money. Sometimes a parish priest may get it by appealing to his parishioners. In most cases, however, there are no such sources of aid, and, on the recommendation of the sub-commission, the Allied Financial Agency makes the funds available. The money thus provided is a liability on the Italian Government, which will ultimately have to repay it.

In the city of Palermo, by the end of December, 1943, all necessary protection had been given to six churches and two oratories. In January work was still in progress on 10 churches, an oratory, three palaces, and one museum, and nearly 40 other churches were scheduled for minor first-aid measures. In Syracuse repairs had been completed at five churches, five palaces, and at the museum.

WALLS AND ROOF

In this work there is no question of restoration - that must be carried out by the Italians after the war - but protection has to be interpreted in a liberal sense. Occasionally, it may mean the demolition of dangerous walls, as in the case of Santa Maria degli Angeli and the Palazzo Nara at Syracuse. Often it is a matter of mending a damaged roof. Thus in Palermo only minor patching was required to safeguard the seventeenth-century stucco reliefs of New Testament history and of the battle of Lepanto in the Oratory of Santa Zita, and those other masterpieces of the same artist, Serpotta, in the oratory of San Lorenzo.

Full repairs, even to a roof, may sometimes be beyond the sub-commission's scope, as in the case of the church of San Giuseppe del Teatini, where neither material nor scaffolding was available to mend the stone vault of the main aisle. It was possible, however, to repair and to make waterproof the light upper roof, and to mend all the little cupolas which covered the sections of the side aisles. Nothing could be done for the cupola and north transept of the Olivella Church, which was almost wholly destroyed; but it was possible to wall off the nave, nearly intact, in order to protect it from the weather. The elaborate stucco decorations above the altar were shielded with cloth.

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STONE BY STONE

An instance of more elaborate repair is that done at the quay-side church of Sta Maria della Catena. The lovely Renaissance porch is unharmed, but two bays of the north wall were blown out by blast. All the stones were carefully numbered and the wall is being rebuilt with the original material.

The National Library at Palermo was ruined by bombs, and part of the medieval monastery, La Gancia, which housed the national archives, was also destroyed. Now the Palazzo Mazarino has been fitted to take the National Library's books. The sorting and repairing of the La Gancia archives, collected from the ruins, is in progress. Some documents of the Reale Archivio were found in shops where they were being used as wrapping paper.

The library and archives of the Palermo Conservatory of Music had been stolen. They were traced to the town of Alcamo, where the bulk of them were recovered. The salvaged items included a large and important collection of eighteenth-century manuscript music.

Copies to;
20380
★ Reg.1 (MELA) file
gath-2

20013

25.1

RESTORATION IN SICILY

First Aid for Art Treasures
(London Times, 19 April, 1944)

An official statement issued by the Ministry of Information gives details of the work done in Sicily by the Allied Sub-Commission for Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives.

Not the least important of the sub-commission's tasks, the statement says, is the protection of war-damaged buildings and the application of first-aid measures to prevent their suffering further damage from exposure to the weather. In general, this can only be done after the tide of war has swept forward. Even then it takes time; however slight the repairs, they require labour, which has to be collected, and material, which may be hard to find.

The money for the work comes from very different sources. Where a damaged church belongs to one of the religious orders, the money may come from that source. If a building is scheduled as a national monument, the municipality may vote the money. Sometimes a parish priest may get it by appealing to his parishioners. In most cases, however, there are no such sources of aid, and, on the recommendation of the sub-commission, the Allied Financial Agency makes the funds available. The money thus provided is a liability on the Italian Government, which will ultimately have to repay it.

In the city of Palermo, by the end of December, 1943, all necessary protection had been given to six churches and two oratories. In January work was still in progress on 10 churches and oratories, three palaces, and one museum, and nearly 40 other churches were scheduled for minor first-aid measures. In Syracuse repairs had been completed at five churches, five palaces, and at a museum.

Walls and roofs

In this work there is no question of restoration - that must be carried out by the Italians after the war - but protection has to be interpreted in a liberal sense. Occasionally, it may mean the demolition of dangerous wall, as in the case of Santa Maria degli Angeli and the Palazzo Nera at Syracuse. Often it is a matter of mending a damaged roof. Thus in Palermo only minor patching was required to safeguard the seventeenth-century stucco reliefs of New Testament history and of the battle of Lepanto in the oratory of Santa Zita, and those other masterpieces of the same artist, Serpotta, in the oratory of San Lorenzo.

Full repairs, even to a roof, may sometimes be beyond the sub-commission's scope, as in the case of the church of San Giuseppe del Testini, where neither material nor scaffolding was available to mend the stone vault of the main aisle. It was possible, however, to repair and to make weatherproof the light

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Full repairs, even to a roof, may sometimes be beyond the sub-commission's scope, as in the case of the church of San Giuseppe del Teatini, where neither material nor scaffolding was available to mend the stone vault of the main aisle, it was possible, however, to repair and to make weatherproof the light upper roof, and to mend all the little cupolas, which covered the sections of the side aisles. Nothing could be done for the cupola and north transept of the Clivella church, which was almost wholly destroyed; but it was possible to wall off the nave, nearly intact, in order to protect it from the weather. The elaborate stucco decorations above the altar were shielded with cloth.

Stone by Stone

An instance of more elaborate repair is that done at the quay-side church of Sta. Maria della Catena. The lovely Renaissance porch is unharmed, but two bays of the north wall were blown out by blast. All the stones were carefully numbered and the wall

II

is being rebuilt with the original material.

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66-9

DNB, 16.3.44, reports from Milan:
Some time ago the (Badoglio) Government sold a considerable number of
unique art treasures from Sicilian Galleries to a group of Brazilian
art dealers.

News Digest 1398 18 Mar 43

~~20011~~ 20013

2001

Notes on Certain Lists of Monuments etc. Sicily 5

1. The lists A, B, C mentioned in letter Z ^{attached} (Col. L. M. Taylor, of the War Office, 4 Nov 43) are in the Reg. I files (8264: Sicily Documents).
2. An independent ^{clean} typing of list B (Inventory of Churches in Sicily) is hereto attached.
3. The material in list B was further systematized by Capt. Capt Murray on cards, now with Reg. I, where in the REMARKS column results of inspection are indicated. What amounts to a copy of these "remarks" was made 23 Jan 44 by Major Baillie Reynolds and is to be filed with the Sub-Commission.
4. Likewise with the Sub-Commission are a set of cards (like those ~~made~~ mentioned in para. 3 above) prepared by Capt Capt Murray for certain treasures in Reg. II. The source of the entries there is probably the list mentioned in letter Y attached (copy), which list (I write with our files ~~out of reach~~) is, I believe, in Sub-Comm. files 20021 or 20023.

Bernard M. Peebles of Staff
Clerk, MFAA Sub-Comm.

25 Jan 44.

Original of X and the sheets attached copies from which Y and Z were made are in Reg. I files. B.M. Pickett, 4 Sgt Clerk, AFSA, 5th Comm.

COPY

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Military Government Section

13 November 1943.

MIS-619.3

SUBJECT: Enclosed lists of monuments and art treasures in Sicily and Calabria
TO : Headquarters AMG (Attention Sub-Commission of Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives)

1. Attached lists together with covering letter from Col. L.M. Taylor of the War Office to Colonel Maxwell, Deputy Chief Military Government Section are transmitted herewith for appropriate action.

/s/ Henry Parkman Jr.
/t/ HENRY PARKMAN JR.
Lt Col G.S.C.

Incls: A s above.

12
12 November 1943.

TO: Col. L.M. Taylor,
The War Office

Many thanks for your letters of the 4th and 8th of November, enclosing a short list of monuments and of movable objects in churches at or near Cosenza etc.
We are making a great effort to supply you with the maximum amount of material on Fine Arts, etc. as I know how much attention is paid to the matter in London.

A.T. MAXWELL
Colonel.

4th November 1943

Dear Colonel,

I am sending you three further lists (A, B, & C), of monuments and objects of art in Sicily. These I am advised are pretty highly specialized and are intended not for general use, but for officers of the Fine Arts sub-section.

- (A) Is of buildings principally, and merely supplements the lists already sent.
- (B) Is of Church treasures which are both intrinsically valuable and portable. If it is feasible, it might be a good thing to have the places visited and the existence or non-existence there of the listed objects known the results of

It Col G.S.C.

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17 November 1943.

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(A) Is of buildings principally, and merely supplements the lists already sent.

(B) Is of Church treasures which are both intrinsically valuable and portable. If it is feasible, it might be a good thing to have the places visited and the existence or non-existence there of the listed objects certified. We should be glad to know the results of such a check.

(C) Is a list of prehistoric sites. This is perhaps the least practical, but if officers in the neighborhood knew of their existence they might be able to prevent detrimental action, e.g. by refugees using them as dwellings or as cattle sheds etc.

As there are no published lists corresponding to B and C, I think they may prove of considerable value.

We have received the report on ancient monuments for Augusta and are glad to know that monthly reports of this sort may be expected.

Col. L.M. Taylor.

Y

Z

SICILY.

TREASURES OF CHURCHES IN SICILY

ALCARA LI FUSI

PARISH CHURCH - Ostensorio in silver-gilt, similar to that at Caltanissetta (see below) in the Cathedral.

ASSORO

PARISH CHURCH - Silver Cross by Vincenzo Archifel XV Cent.

CALTAGIRONE

S. GIACOMO - Fine Reliquary in silver with six scenes from the life of St. James (end of XVI Cent. Perhaps by one of the Gagini)

CALTANISSETTA

S. MARIA NUOVA - Very fine silver Ostensorio. XVI Cent. with figures of the B.V.M. and two martyrs, the Donor praying (Joene Rabiolo) and his coat of arms, and above a Dove on a field of gold. Other little figures above - SS. Sebastian, Rocco, Agatha, Biagio Paolino, Giacomo and figures of the Apostles, others round the disc which holds the Host. Above all, the Risen Christ under a baldacchino (Catanian, XVI Cent.)

CATHEDRAL - Silver Ostensorio (XV Cent.)

CASTELBUONO

PARISH CHURCH - Ostensorio by Bartolomeo Tantillo in silver, on stand with two Angels holding the disc for the Host (XVI Cent.)

MATRICE NUOVA - Chalice in silver by Bartolomeo Tantillo (1531).

CATANIA

CATHEDRAL - TREASURY OF S. AGATA

Crown of gold with precious stones- emeralds, sapphires, amethysts and crosses of gold and other devices. It is in 13 pieces. The front is a ring with a very fine diamond. At sides enamels. This crown is said to be the gift to the shrine of S. Agatha of Richard Coeur de Lion in 1191.

Silver bust of S. Agatha 1.03 metres high, the base being 22 cent. A work by Giovanni di Bartolo of Siena (XIV Cent) The bust is just under life size. The base is much later work Silver casket (XV Cent) with silver statuettes in relief by

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Silver casket (XV Cent) with silver statuettes in relief by Vincenzo Archifel. The cover is late XVI Cent.

Reliquary Case of S. Agatha late XVI Cent. Large, the silver heavy.

Gold girdle with an image of the B.V.M. adorned with pearls.

Note: Wonderful lace Vestments in presses (XVII Cent.)

COLLESANO

PARISH CHURCH - Ostensorio, with figures of Christ in Triumph and two Angels (XVI Cent.) silver gilt.

CUSTOMACI (near Trapani)

- PARISH CHURCH - Picture of the Madonna covered with gold bands and jewels. Round the nimbus is a varied band of gold set with 12 diamond stars. A large diamond earring hangs in the ear that is visible. Three large diamond rings are on the fingers and an immense quantity of jewellery is suspended on the skirt.
- The frame of the picture is covered with silver plates in the form of a Renaissance doorway and is hung with ear-rings, chains, necklaces, etc. etc.
- A large chest contains a vast quantity of jewellery.

ENNA (Castrogiovanni)

- PARISH CHURCH - Crown of Black Madonna of pure gold 8 inches high, covered with precious stones, and itself one of the finer jewels of Sicily. Enamelled figures in the medallion illustrating the Life of Christ (XVI Cent.)
- Gold Ostensorio (XVI Cent.)
- Ten Silver Sanctuary Lamps
- Several Silver Incense Boats
- Silver Altar frontal with the Miracle of Cana.

GERACI

- COLLEGIATA - Ostensorio by Finfo di San Martino (A Pisan artist). Silver.
- PARISH CHURCH - A fine silver Chalice, XV Cent.

Small Reliquary Case. Base fretted with design of thorns; the double funnelled stem is covered with leaves and on the little hexagonal base are twisted columns with Ionic capitals. A Pieta is between 2 Angels. Silver. XVIII Cent.

GIRGENTI

- CATHEDRAL TREASURY - Two Byzantine Silver Reliquaries with enamels.
- An Ivory Pastoral Staff - the staff covered with Bible scenes.
- Other silversmith's work.
- A Madonna cut in single piece of Amber.
- The famous autograph letter written by the Devil on a parchment.
- Many fine vestments and tapestries.

MARSALA

- PARISH CHURCH - 8 Flemish Tapestries (XVI Cent.)

MESSINA

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MESSINA

CATHEDRAL - Chalice in silver by Giovanni da Firenze.
Ostensorio in silver (XVI Cent.)
Censer in silver-gilt.

Note: The Palioetto di San Gregorio (XVI Cent.) is perhaps the finest piece of needlework in Sicily. It is preserved in the Cathedral Treasury.

MONREALE

MONREALE

CATHEDRAL TREASURY

- Byzantine Reliquary of silver with Angels' heads, enamelled.
- Six Reliquaries in silver of XVI Cent, by Andrea de Peri.
- Reliquary in silver (XIII Cent.) the gift of Philip III of France.
- A Pyx (XII Cent.) in silver, eight-sided with stem and base surmounted by Cross studded with gems.
- Several Pastoral Staves of silver and ivory.
- Vestments of gold net elaborately embroidered with pure gold sequins varying in size (XVIII Cent.)
- Others of white brocade with arabesques of gold threaf with flowers of natural size. (XVII Cent)

Note: There is a fine Tapestry of the XVIII Cent. in the Treasury at Monreale.

MONTE SAN GIULIANO

- PARISH CHURCH - Processional Cross with figures of Virgin and Child, God, the Father above and three other half figures (Tuscan). In silver.

NOTO

- CATHEDRAL - Reliquary in silver.

PALERMO

- CATHEDRAL - The crown of Constance of Aragon, wife of Frederick II (XIII Cent.) in gold.
Reliquary in silver (XV Cent.)
Pyx in silver with decorations in the manner of Jacobo Sansovino (The Pieta in the middle is later.)
A Codex with miniatures (XV Cent.)
Altar frontal (XVI Cent.) probably Spanish in silk with corals and pearls and enamels - the enamels are earlier.
A mitre (XVI Cent.)

- CATHEDRAL CHAPEL OF SANTA ROSALIA -
Silver Shrine of S. Rosalia.

- CAPELLA PALATINA (In Palazzo Reale) -
A Cassetta Byzantine (X Cent.)
A Cassetta (Arabo-Siculo XII Cent.)
A Coffin inlaid (XIII Cent.)
Many parchments, among them the diploma (1140) of the Capella Palatina.

and base surmounted by Cross studded with gems.
Several Pastoral Staves of silver and ivory.
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A Cassetta Byzantine (X Cent.)

A Cassetta (Arabo-Siculo XII Cent.)

A Coffer inlaid (XIII Cent.)

Many parchments, among them the diploma (1140) of the
Capella Palatina.

S. GIOVANNI DECOLLATO -

Patten of enamelled copper with Head of Christ
(? or St. John Baptist)

PIAZZA AMERINA

CATHEDRAL -

Reliquary in silver (XV Cent.)

Reliquary in silver by Giovanni d' Anversa 1405

Fine cope (XVI Cent.)

RANDAZZO

S. NICCOLO -

Silver gilt Ostensorio
Processional Cross (1494) by Michele Gambino
(Silver-gilt Venetian)

S. MARIA -

Chalice of Pietro II (Spanish) very fine.

SALEMI

PARISH CHURCH -

Processional Cross in Silver, by Giovanni dei Cioni -
a Tuscan.

SAN MICHELE DELLE SCALE (near Monreale)

ABBEY -

Reliquary Cross by Pietro di Spagna.
At the extremities of the arms translucent enamels,
very rare examples of Sicilian enamel work. The Cross
is silver gilt signed Pietro di Spagna (XV Cent.)
Reliquary with two Angels beneath. This is the Reliquario
di San Gregorio. The Base is starshaped with spirally
curved leaves with enamels. The two angels full length
hold a Crown of Thorns around a gothic building.
Signed Pietro di Spagna (XV Cent.)

SCIACCA

PARISH CHURCH -

Chalice - silver gilt (Spanish.)

SCUTERA (par. Catt., near Monreale)

PARISH CHURCH -

Reliquary Case of S. Paolino with scene of Crowning of
S. Paolino and other figures. In silver.

SYRACUSE

CATHEDRAL -

Silver Cross by Vincenzo Arcanifel (XV Cent.)
Silver Pyx like one in S. Lucia (see below)
Silver Reliquary (XV Cent.)
Chalice of Amber with scenes of the Passion Carco
(Hellenistic II or III Cent. B.C.)

Note: Two Copes. XVI Cent.

SANTA LUCIA -

Silver statue of S. Lucia.
Reliquary of silver gilt (XV Cent.)
Pyx of silver, signed and dated 1506.
Reliquary of silver in form of a rigged ship (1705)
Various strings of pearls and Cameos.

Note: The Pyx (1506) is like one in the Cathedral. This
Pyx and the Reliquary of 1705 are from the great
Monastery of S. Benedetto.

1932

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016



Scale: 1: 1,350,000

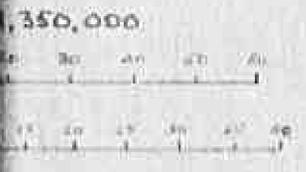
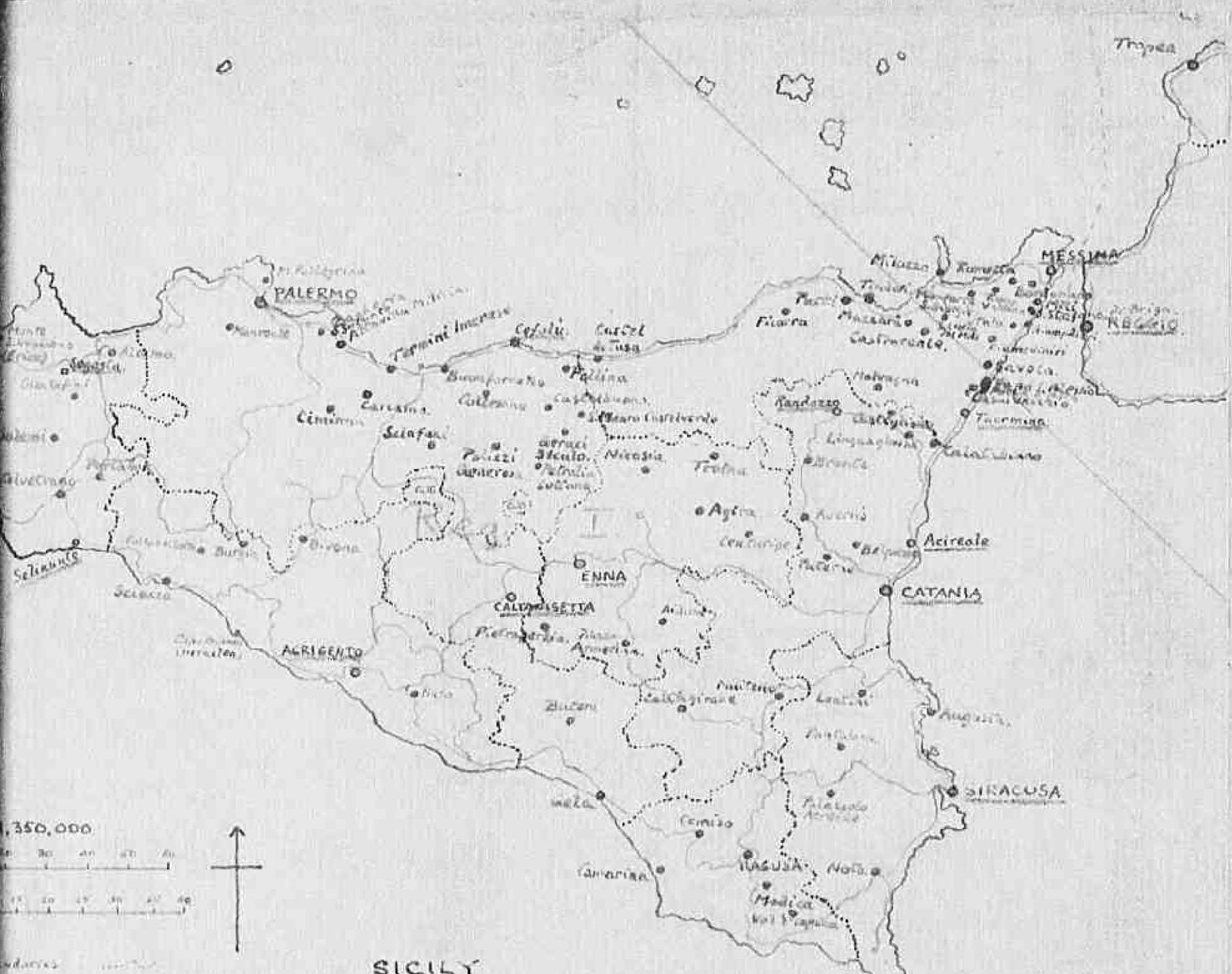


Provincial boundaries. *—*
 Capitals of Provinces. SIRACUSA. *●*
 Antiquities etc. Red. *●*
 Plans here underlined in Green. *—*
 Railways. *—*
 M.G. Region boundaries. *- - - -*

SICILY
 MONUMENTS ETC
 SHOWN IN THE
 HARVARD LIST.

1933

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016



1:350,000
 0 10 20 30 40 50
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 Kilometers
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SICILY
 MONUMENTS ETC
 SHOWN IN THE
 HARVARD LIST.

Made by
 Major P. R. Baillie Reesdale

20013

SICILY.

CATANZARUZZO.

Museo Nazionale.

Museo Nazionale.

After the earthquake of December 28, 1908 Professor Salinas dug out the contents of the Museum which had been destroyed and buried them in a huge barrack in the garden of San Gregorio. The museum then came under the control of Dr. Enrico Maucori and was enriched with many objects from the Messina and especially from its churches. All this was deposited in a building near the church of S. Francesco di Paola in Viale Principe Amedeo.

The objects of the museum buried in the earthquake of 1908 are not only numerous nor out-standing - Greek inscriptions as well as Latin in Arab, two Egyptian stele in granite, two sarcophagi, one of which is Hellenistic with centaurs and centaurettes, the other is Byzantine.

The pictures, however, are of considerable importance, especially the fragments of a large polyptych by Antonello da Messina, though these have been restored by Gavagnoli. They consist of the Virgin and Child enthroned, fragments of an Annunciation, two panels of St. Gregory and St. Benedict. There are also some Byzantine panels. Other pictures are:-

- Catena; Madonna and Child
- Tortido; Presentation in the Temple
- Stefano Giordano; Triptych (1540)
- Gavagnoli; Madonna
- A. Garracoli; S. Lucia

There are also some foreign works. Among them are:

- Dutch School XVI cent. S. John Baptist
- Flemish School Deposition.

Among the sculptures should be noted:

- Francesco Laurana; Madonna
- A. Cagini; A relief.

Here too is preserved the Triton of the XVII cent. which once stood in the Piazza Garibaldi.

A number of silver objects and vestments from the destroyed churches are also preserved here. Noteworthy is a palotto in silver and a fine collection of medals and coins.

Museo Nazionale.

PALERMO.

(Raschler (1930) gives the best printed account of the contents of this Museum.)

The present Museum - the first was established in Palermo in 1739 in the Collegio Massimo - is the most interesting and valuable in the island and if only for its Greek objects, one of the most interesting in Italy. The arrangements in an unimpeachable building always left much to be desired and yet even the confusion had its fascination. It is impossible here to give more than a brief survey of its contents.

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Catena; Madonna and Child

Tortido; Presentation in the Temple

Stefano Giordano; Trinity (1540)

Caravaggio; Ecce Homo

A. Carracci; S. Lucia

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Among the sculptures should be noted:

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A. Gagini; A relief.

Here too is preserved the Triton of the XVII cent, which once stood in the Piazza Genaro.

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PALESTINE

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(Readecker (1930) gives the best printed account of the contents of this Museum.)

The present Museum - the first was established in Palermo in 1730 in the Collegio Massimo - is the most interesting and valuable in the Island and if only for its Greek objects, one of the most interesting in Italy. The arrangements in an unsuitable building always left much to be desired and yet even the confusion had its fascination. It is impossible here to give more than a brief review of its contents.

Archaeological Objects: On the ground floor, apart from the Egyptian Museum with antiquities from China, there are to be noted numerous archaic ²⁶⁴ ~~265~~ ²⁶⁶ ~~267~~ ²⁶⁸ ~~269~~ ²⁷⁰ ~~271~~ ²⁷² ~~273~~ ²⁷⁴ ~~275~~ ²⁷⁶ ~~277~~ ²⁷⁸ ~~279~~ ²⁸⁰ ~~281~~ ²⁸² ~~283~~ ²⁸⁴ ~~285~~ ²⁸⁶ ~~287~~ ²⁸⁸ ~~289~~ ²⁹⁰ ~~291~~ ²⁹² ~~293~~ ²⁹⁴ ~~295~~ ²⁹⁶ ~~297~~ ²⁹⁸ ~~299~~ ³⁰⁰ ~~301~~ ³⁰² ~~303~~ ³⁰⁴ ~~305~~ ³⁰⁶ ~~307~~ ³⁰⁸ ~~309~~ ³¹⁰ ~~311~~ ³¹² ~~313~~ ³¹⁴ ~~315~~ ³¹⁶ ~~317~~ ³¹⁸ ~~319~~ ³²⁰ ~~321~~ ³²² ~~323~~ ³²⁴ ~~325~~ ³²⁶ ~~327~~ ³²⁸ ~~329~~ ³³⁰ ~~331~~ ³³² ~~333~~ ³³⁴ ~~335~~ ³³⁶ ~~337~~ ³³⁸ ~~339~~ ³⁴⁰ ~~341~~ ³⁴² ~~343~~ ³⁴⁴ ~~345~~ ³⁴⁶ ~~347~~ ³⁴⁸ ~~349~~ ³⁵⁰ ~~351~~ ³⁵² ~~353~~ ³⁵⁴ ~~355~~ ³⁵⁶ ~~357~~ ³⁵⁸ ~~359~~ ³⁶⁰ ~~361~~ ³⁶² ~~363~~ ³⁶⁴ ~~365~~ ³⁶⁶ ~~367~~ ³⁶⁸ ~~369~~ ³⁷⁰ ~~371~~ ³⁷² ~~373~~ ³⁷⁴ ~~375~~ ³⁷⁶ ~~377~~ ³⁷⁸ ~~379~~ ³⁸⁰ ~~381~~ ³⁸² ~~383~~ ³⁸⁴ ~~385~~ ³⁸⁶ ~~387~~ ³⁸⁸ ~~389~~ ³⁹⁰ ~~391~~ ³⁹² ~~393~~ ³⁹⁴ ~~395~~ ³⁹⁶ ~~397~~ ³⁹⁸ ~~399~~ ⁴⁰⁰ ~~401~~ ⁴⁰² ~~403~~ ⁴⁰⁴ ~~405~~ ⁴⁰⁶ 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(Aphrodite).

In the Sala di Selimonte, the walls were lined with the famous *Metopes* from Temples C, B and F of Selinus. These are in tufo and are of the VI cent. B.C. Three of these were discovered by two Englishmen, Harris and Angel in 1822.

Noteworthy also are: the two large Roman mosaics discovered in 1866 in Palermo; both date from the first century A.D.; the lovely Fawn of Torre di Greco; the Ficta di Palermo with its important inscription and the two Phoenician sarcophagi found near Solunto.

On the first floor beside a small Egyptian Collection, are a number of Greek bronzes and ceramics. Among the bronzes is the famous Ban from Syracuse and the Heracles and the Carynean Stag found at Pampel in 1805; the large Greek vase from Gela with red figures of the Battle of the Arsons; the figurine in terracotta from Selimonte (IV and III cent. B.C.); a considerable collection of pre-hellenic vases from Naro and a collection of Sicilian monies and medals.

Medieval Objects: On the ground floor in the Cortile del Tritone and the Sala del S. Giorgio are a large number of sculptures and architectural remains of the Middle Age and Renaissance together with some works by Antonello pagini; among these is an altar with a figure of St. George (1526)

On the first floor is the Sala Araba with its original antiquities and copies of Arabian Art besides many fine examples of sculpture in wood, bronzes, inscriptions and so forth, among other objects is the magnificent iridescent majolica vase from Marsara. Here too is the collection given by the Duchessa di Serradifalco containing pictures by Mainardi and Pietro Novello, majolica of Urbino, a codex of the XV cent., and some sculptures.

In other rooms are some magnificent stucchi by Giacomo Serpotta, Sicilian majolica, sculptures in wood, arms, bronzes, medals, keys and Byzantine enamel and especially to be noted in the Faroque Chapel and its altarpiece with silver decoration.

On the second floor besides some terracotta, stuccos, majolica and drawings is the inacrosti with a lovely little triptych by Mabuse and above all the so-called Annunziata by Antonello da Messina. Here too are many works by Pietro Novello, Antonello da Saliba, Bartolomeo di Camillo, Tommaso di Vigilia, Luca Giordano, Vincenzo Peria, Cesare d'Arpino and a bust of great beauty by Francesco Laurana of Eleonora di Aragona.

Biblioteca Comunale.

There is a large collection here of portraits of illustrious Sicilians. More important perhaps is a collection of Arabo-Sicilian coins (about 900 pieces).

Museo Diocesano (in the Archbishopal Palace).

Here are some fine statues and sculptures by the Gagini.

of Greek bronzes and ceramics. Among the bronzes in the famous Eum in 1803; the large Greek vase from Sala with red figures of the Battle of the Amazons; the figurine in terracotta from Selinunte (IV and III cent. B.C.); a considerable collection of pre-hellenic vases from Hiero and a collection of Sicilian medals and medals.

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Biblioteca Comunale.

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Museo Bicesseana (in the Archiepiscopal Palace).

Here are some fine statues and sculptures by the Gagini.

Museo Archeologico Nazionale.

The most interesting collections of the Archeological Museum of Syracuse were perhaps the Prehistoric Collection, which Paolo Orsi during thirty years of research has assembled, to exhibit the various phases and periods of the civilization of south-eastern Sicily and its relations with the Aegean and with Asia Minor.

SYRACUSE.

1957
Greek sculpture, Hellenistic and Roman. The tall, slender, and slender
must be mentioned the famous sculptures from the Villa Ludovica, a magnificent
Hellenistic work so praised by Guy de Maupassant. Then there was the Apollo of
and the beautiful head of Isis.

Byzantine and early Christian art from the catacombs of San Giovanni were
also represented here. The finest object was perhaps the sarcophagus of
Valerius and Gelfia (IV-V Cent.)

Museo Mediceo (Palazzo Mediceo).

By far the finest thing preserved here is the picture of the Annunciation by
Antonio da Sassima (1474). It comes from Palermo and was transferred from
its damaged panel to canvas by Cavenaghi. All the more it was still of the
highest beauty.

2614

SICILYLESSER MUSEUMSACIREALE

Museo Della R. Accademia Zelantea in the PALAZZO MUNICIPALE.

This is a small local collection of 104 pictures left to the Academy by Paolo Leonardi in 1848. There are paintings by Mattia Preti, and Pietro Novelli and other paintings of the sixteenth and seventeenth, mostly Sicilian and specially Acireale. There is also a small archaeological collection.

CALTAGIRONE

Museo Civico. (Via degli Studi, 6)

In 1910 the Municipio on the basis of two small collections one archaeological given by Emanuele Faranto to the Comune in 1842, and the other a collection of pictures, instituted a Museo Civico, acquiring various objects in terracotta and thus setting up a local museum, which was duly inaugurated in 1914. The most interesting objects are pre-hellenic ceramics and bronzes, Greek vases (one fine) local maiolica (Caltagirone was the Faenza of Sicily)

CALTANISSETTA

Museo Civico (Palazzo del Municipio)

The museum was recently established (1920) with the object of assembling objects of local interest and importance. There are pictures by Paladino, by Cristoforo, by Lo Zoppo, and Borromeo, and other Sicilian artists, certain sculptures and an archaeological section containing Greek vases, inscriptions, and a small collection of coins and medals.

CASTROGIOVANNI

(ENNA). Museo della Madonna. (in Casa Canonica)

The Fabbricera of the Chiesa Madre, in 1860 acquired this small collection made by the Rev. Canon Alessi to which a few objects have been added. The principal objects consist of a collection of Greco-Sicilian and Roman coins, some of which are good; of small figurini in bronze and terracotta, of vases, lamps, etc. The pictures are mostly copies.

CATANIA

Museo Civico Comunale
(in the ex-Convent of the Benedictines, close to S. Niccolo)

This collection was founded in 1700 by the celebrated Abbot Vito Amico, and Don Placido Scamassa, and their successor added to it. In 1866 it was ceded to the Comune which added the pictures in its possession.

Among the pictures are outstanding:-

Madonna and Child, by Antonello da Saliba (1497)
Christ Mocked, attributed to Gerardo delle Notti.
St. Christopher by Pietro Novelli.

Our Lady with St. Anne and St. Joachim by Pietro Novelli.

Deposition by Caravaggio.

Tobiolo healing his father - German school.

The Epiphany by Simon de Webrekt. (1585)

In 1920 the Municipio on the basis of two small collections one archaeological given by Emanuele Turanto to the Comune in 1842, and the other a collection of pictures, instituted a Museo Civico, acquiring various objects in terracotta and thus setting up a local museum, which was duly inaugurated in 1914. The most interesting objects are pre-hellenic ceramics and bronzes, Greek vases (one fine) local maiolica (Caltagirone was the Faenza of Sicily)

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There are also some Byzantine objects, among them enamels a crucifixion and a Christ; the ruins of a fine silver Pastoral Staff, a bas relief of the XV century, and remains of and other early medieval objects. Among the archaeological collections are many painted vases and other terracottas. Especially to be noted is a statue of Inessa beady veatured, small bronzes and sculptures, a statuette of Geres and a Venus in porphyry; bas relief (Hercules on Mount Oeta, Andromeda, and the initiation of a neophyte into the Dionysiac mysteries, the Rape of Europe, Amphion etc.) Many of these are not Sicilian. In a case in the centre of first room are preserved certain letter of Bellini, the musician, the autograph of I. Puritani, Nonnan and Aragonese.

For the Museo Biscani see list of PRIVATE COLLECTIONS. For the Cathedral Treasury see separate list.

Museo Madralisca.CEPALY

This museum instituted by the will of Barone Madralisca, is established in the Liceo. It is for the most part composed of antiquities found in the islands of Lipari. But among the pictures is a small portrait of a Man by Antonello da Messina, and two pictures attributed to Guardi.

Raccolta Comunale.CENTURIPES

There used to exist at the Municipio a fine collection of the excellent Hellenistic terracottas for which Centuripe is famous. No trace of this collection remains. The Municipio today possesses a large sarcophagus with Doric decorations which was discovered years ago by Professor Orsi; two-marble heads of which one is colossal.

Museo Civico Comunale.GIRGENTI

The Museum of Girgenti is established in a room on the ground floor of the ex-Convent of S. Domenico near the Piazza del Municipio. It was founded in 1875 under the name of Gabinetto Archeologico Agrigentino by the Comune.

The principal objects consist of sculptures, prehistoric and Greek vases, terracottas, bronzes, sarcophagi, epigraphic or architectural remains, paintings, coins and medals. Among the sculptures is to be noted an archaic Greek statue of Apollo, an interesting, but fragmentary, Aphrodite, the sarcophagus, so-called, of Hannibal discovered in 1885. Colossal Head from the Temple of Zeus.

For the TREASURY of the Cathedral see special list.

Museo Civico Comunale.MARSALE

Situated by the Biblioteca del Comune in the ex-Convent of the Jesuits. The collections chiefly consist of the antiquities of the ancient Lilybaea. Among them are cinerary urns in terracotta and in lead, and one in Parian marble with ornamental bas-reliefs. There are vases of various forms, among them a cantharus with red figures on a black background. Many objects from Motya, rings and ornaments of women, archaic statuettes and inscribed stones, altars and sarcophagi. There is a mosaic with Latin inscription from the lower Empire.

The Museum also contains many medieval objects, such as architectural remains, sculptures, statuettes in ivory, among these a Madonna of the XVI century and a S. Sebastian of the XVII century.

There is a numerous collection of coins and medals among which are some Byzantine gold pieces.

The Pinacoteca consists of some twenty pictures; among them are a Flemish Triptych of the XVI century, the Birth of St. John Baptist and a self portrait by Pietro Novelli, The Madonna of the Rosary by Carregh and a San Lorenzo attributed to Guido Reni.

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For the Museum of MODICA see under PRIVATE COLLECTIONS.

Raccolta del R. Istituto Tecnico

MODICA

Modica is in the close neighbourhood of the Cava d'Ispica, one of the most astonishing prehistoric necropoli of rock tombs in Sicily. The above museum is full of objects found in thesetombs and among them are some very fine pieces.

Museo Civico

MENIS SAN GIULIANO

The museum is situated in a room in the Biblioteca and its principal treasure is the picture of the Amareciantion by Antonello Gagini (1525)

/NOTO

NETO

Raccolta Comunale

This collection is established in the Biblioteca Civica founded in 1817 it contains remains of sculptures from Noto Vecchio, among which is the large inscription of the "Gimnasio Termitano" together with vases, bronzes and coins and a gallery of portraits of local celebrities.

RACUSA ILLYRIENSIS

Pinacoteca Civica

This Pinacoteca was founded in 1873 with pictures taken from old churches and enriched later with pictures from the Church of the Cappuccini and St. Agata. Among these pictures is a Nativity dated 1549 and three works by Pietro Novelli - the Assumption; St. Lucia; and St. Peter Visiting St. Agatha. Other works are of the Neapolitan School of the XVII century.

TERMITI ILLYRIENSIS

Museo Civico

The Museum is established in a building which in part dates from the XIV century. In 1872 the Comune devoted it to the collections of Niccolo Palmieri and Baldassarre Romano and it is now the depository of a considerable part of the remains of antiquity found in the Gulph of Imera. It also possesses a rich epigraphic collection. It includes besides, sculptures, vases, coins, altars, columns, capitals, tubes of lead of terracotta, together with pictures of Sicilian masters and tapestries from the ex-Convent of St. Antonino. Here is also the veilin of Gotlib (1693). There is especially a fine figure of a veiled woman, a foot with ornate sandals from a colossal statue together with prehistoric antiquities, two Arab inscriptions and a bilingual (Latin and Greek) fragment of the time of King Roger.

TERRANOVA DI SICILIA

Museo Comunale

Twice the Comune has tried to establish a Museum. It succeeded in 1900, following the Government excavations at Berge. The collection consists for the better part of architectural terracotta that Professor Orsi was always anxious to include in the Museum at Syracuse.

TRAPANI

Museo Popoli Comunale

The Museo Popoli is established in the mansueta exconvent of the Annunziata, a grandiose building of the XVIII century by Giovanni Amico. The convent was suppressed in 1870 and passed to the Comune, which in 1906 established there its museum.

The Museum consists principally of two important collections, the old Pinacoteca Fardella and the fine collection of Custo Agostino Popoli, but to these must be added pictures of the Trapanese master, Giuseppe Errante and other works given to the Comune and of works gathered from suppressed churches and convents.

The large cloister is occupied by sculptures and epigraphs of the cinque and seicento and the saloni on the ground floor by medieval inscriptions and marbles of the Renaissance by Giuliano Mancino and the statue of S. Giacomo by Antonello Crimi and of St.

School of the XVII century.

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The pictures are on the first floor. There are four groups of these. The pinacoteca Fardelli; the Popoli collection; Sicilian pictures from suppressed churches; the Errante cabinet.

In the Fardella Pinacoteca are: S. Januarius by Andrea da Salorno, Annunciation by Simone Cantarini, Assumption by Solimena, Madonna and Child by Luca Giordano, A Sybil by Domenicochino, Sacrific of Meah by Garollino, Madonna and Child of the Flemish school of

/the

TERMINI IGPASSINI

TERMINO DI SCILLA

TRAPANI

the (IV century. Madonna and Child - German XVI century.

In the Popoli collection among such rubbish is a fine fourteenth century picture of the Sienese School, the only fourteenth work in the museum, and a polyptych a Tuscan work of the XV century. Here too is a portrait of a man in the manner of van Dyck.

The pictures from the suppressed churches are all Sicilian works of the sei sotto cento.

The Errante collection consists of works by that painter.

The sculptures inward should be noted, among them a reliquary of the XIV century and a portal of the XVI century together with numerous presses, stalls and other furniture of the XVII and XVIII centuries. Note the press from the sacristy of the Convent of S. Anna. Here too is a bronze reading desk of the XVI century and an XVIII century silver altar frontal. The dondo by or attributed to Andrea della Robbia of the Nativity should also be noted, as well as a fairly numerous collection of silversmiths work from the suppressed churches, some corals, some iveries, and some caskets.

The archeological collection is not notable, though there are some terracotta and other fragments from Selinunte.

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SICILY - WORKS OF ART

Because of its importance in the history of the Mediterranean, there are numerous ancient and medieval monuments of art in Sicily. Hence, it is only natural that its museums are more noted for archaeological collections than for modern paintings. In Sicily (as in Italy proper) religion and art have been very closely associated.

For these reasons the monuments of art in Sicily fall largely into three classifications: (1) ancient ruins, (2) cathedrals (largely medieval) and (3) archaeological museums. Although the National Museum at Palermo, the Archaeological Museum in Syracuse and a number of the cathedrals contain important paintings, the cities of Sicily do not compare to those of Italy proper in this respect.

The following monuments of art are classified by geographic areas:

Agrigento

- Archaeological Museum.
- Cathedral of Agrigento.
- Tomb of Theron.

Near Agrigento is the "Valley of Temples", where are located many famous ruins of temples, including the following:

- Rock sanctuary of Demeter.
- Temple of Demeter.
- Temple of the Olympian Zeus.
- Temple of Juno.
- Temple of Concord.
- Temple of Castor and Pollux.
- Temple of Vulcan.
- Temple of Aesculapius.
- Temple of Hera

Palermo

- National museum.
- Ethnographical museum.
- "Diocesano" museum.
- Gallery of modern art.
- National library.

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Palermo (cont'd.)

Communal library.

Cathedral of Palermo.

Church of the Martorana (contains much Byzantine art)

Church of San Giovanni degli Eremiti (surrounded by garden)

Cappella Palatina (contains treasures of inestimable value)

Church of Sant'Agostino.

Cathedral of Monreale (Norman - built by William II. Inlaid marbles and mosaics).

Convent of Santa Rosalia.

San Cataldo.

Santo Spirito del Vespro.

Santa Maria dell'Ammiraglio.

Santa Maria della Catena.

Palazzo Addetelli.

Palazzo Aiutuni Cristo

Palazzo Bellomo

Palazzo Chiaramonte.

Palazzo La Zisa (Norman).

Palazzo of Rodger II.

Palazzo of William I.

Palazzo Sclafani

Syracuse

National archaeological museum.

Medieval museum.

"Alagoniana" Library.

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Syracuse (cont'd.)

- Theatre, Greek.
- Theatre, Roman.
- Cathedral of Syracuse (formerly Temple of Athena).
- Temple of Zeus.
- Temple of Athena.
- San Giovanni Church.
- Temple of Apollo.
- Temple of Minerva.
- Altar of Hieron II.
- Fountain of Arethusa.
- Castle of Euryalus.
- Maniace Castle.
- Bellomo Palace.
- Montalto Palace.
- Lanza Palace.
- Bosco Palace.
- Town Hall.

Taormina

- Greek Temple.
- Church of San Pietro.
- Church of San Pancrazio.
- Church of Santa Caterina.
- Cathedral dedicated to St. Nicholas.
- Church of the Addolorata di Varó.

Taormina (cont'd.)

Church of Sant'Antonio.

Palazzo Corvaia.

Palazzo del Duce di Santo Stefano.

Torre Civica.

Torre della Badia.

In addition to the concentrations of monuments listed above, there are ancient ruins of note to be found at: Enna, Gela, Himari, Monte San Giuliano, Palazzolo Acreide, Pantalica, Segesta, Selinunte, Solunto, and Tindari. Of these the Selinunte ruins are especially important and extensive. The cathedrals at Cefalù, Nicosia, and Randazzo are worthy of mention. Museums at Catania, Marsala, Messina, Termini Imerese, and Trapani should also be listed.

Traditional ceremonies and festivals (generally religious in character) are closely associated with some of the items listed above. Among these are (1) The Feast of the Pardon (for seven centuries commemorated in the Church of St. Francis in Assisi), (2) The Feast of Santa Rosalia held in Palermo on July 15, (3) The Palio celebrated on the 2nd of July in Siena and (4) The "Voto" (vow), a religious ceremony celebrated in Assisi on the last Sunday in June. Large crowds generally take part in such ceremonies. A recognition of the traditional and sentimental significance of cathedrals and other monuments of art may be useful in obtaining the confidence and cooperation of local populations.

