

ACC 10000/145/85 20094/1/A RAVENNA - MAJOR REPORTS

DEC. 1944 - MAY 1945

VIENNA - MAJOR REPORTS

DEC. 1944 - MAY 1945

20094/1/MEFAA

RWCVUNA

MINUTE SHEET

①

80 MAR 1945

HEADQUARTERS

VENETIAN REGION

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

Division of Monuments Fine Arts and Archives

30 May 1945

D. O.

From Major M.F. Newton, AC

Dear Cecil:

We have just received the copy you forwarded of the excellent inquiry made by my old friends Savini-Bonini-Orselli of Ravenna regarding the material from the Biblioteca Classense and the Museo di Ravenna.

On 25 May we sent you a copy of letter 406 of 16 May written us by Supt Moschini of Venezia Suptoy of Galleries, in which he refers to 6 cases from the Biblioteca Classense and 11 from the Museo di Ravenna as being safely stored in the Palazzo Pisani a S. Stefano (Venezia). This is sent along just to make sure the information reaches you in precise form.

The whole question of restoring material to its original sources is, of course, a large one. We are studying ways and means. Meanwhile, it would help enormously if you could arrange to have the Ravenna material picked up with transport from your end, as suggested by Moschini.

My best wishes and congratulations to the gentlemen of the Committee, which you will recall my having set up last December! It is a source of no little pleasure to see this renewed evidence of their initiative and spirit, and particularly to be able thus to reassure them from up here.

Best regards from Basil, who says he keeps meeting friends of yours everywhere.

Dear

Cecil:

We have just received the copy you forwarded of the excellent inquiry made by my old friends Savini-Bonini-Orcelli of Ravenna regarding the material from the Biblioteca Classense and the Museo di Ravenna.

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Best regards from Basil, who says he keeps meeting friends of yours everywhere.

Yours

1186

To: Capt C. R. Pinson
Regional MPAA Officer
HQ Emilia Region, AMG.

Copy to SC, MPAA, NAAC

A. C. C.
MANUSCRIPTS, FINE ARTS & MINERALS
SUBMISSION
1 JUL 1945
FILE No <i>20094/12</i>

30 MAR 1945

14 MAG. 1945

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
HQ EMILIA REGION MAIN
Monuments and Fine Arts Office

14 May 45

Dear Ernst

At Ravenna this morning, Salvini, who in the absence of the Soprintendente Capezzuoli is looking after things in Ferrara Province with the approval of the PC and of Norman Newton, said that the restorer who was promised by the Lavagnino Commission to detach the frescoes at S. Maria in Porta Fuori has not arrived and is urgently needed.

Could you do something about this?

Yours

Cecil

Telephoned to Diandri-Bandinelli

<25 May 45>

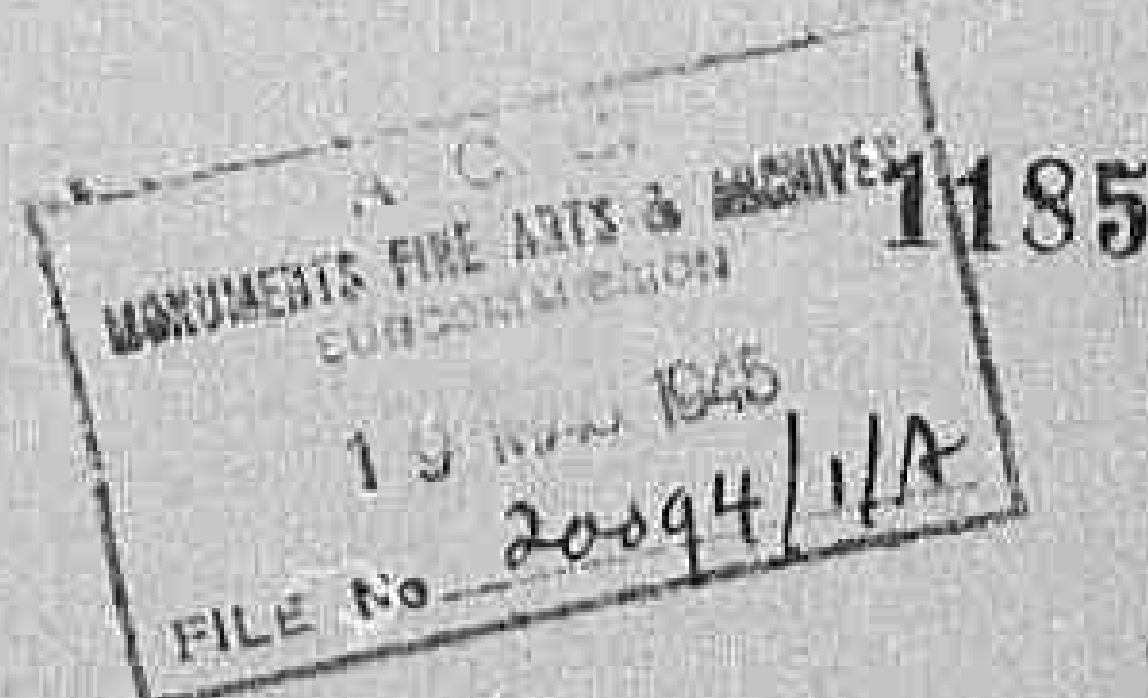
AMW

From

Capt. C.H. Pinsent

MFAA Office AMG

HQ Emilia Region



14 MAG. 1945

SOPRINTENDENZA AI COMUNI
Per la Provincia di Pervana - Ferrara e Forlì

(Copy sent by MIAA Officer,
Emilia Reg, Capt. C. R.
Pinsent).

AL COMISSARIO PROVINCIALE
GOVERNO MILITARE ALLEATO
R A V E N N A

Ai primi di luglio 1944, in seguito ad intenso intercambio tra il Podestà, il Sottintendente Monumenti di Ravenna e la Direzione Generale delle Arti, fu deciso di trasportare in località ritenute insicure da rischi di guerra alcune opere d'arte della città, allo scopo di sottrarle ai pericoli dei bombardamenti o dei saccheggi. Si indicarono allora come località designate per questo sfollamento le Isole Borromeo sul Lago Maggiore, Stra e Venezia, scegliendosi da parte delle autorità delle Belle Arti (allora residenti presso il Ministero dell'Amministrazione Nazionale con sede in Padova) che quasi certamente il materiale di Ravenna sarebbe stato concentrato a Stra o Venezia.

A Ravenna il materiale fu preso in consegna dal Soprintendente Dott. Renato Bartoccini della Direzione Generale delle Arti, il quale ritirò dodici casse appartenenti alla Biblioteca Classense. Le casse del Museo contenevano avori, stoffe, ceramiche, quadretti bizantini; erano di dimensioni varie e portavano la scritta in lavis blu: MUSEO DI RAVENNA; alcune erano chiuse con sigilli di piombo, altre avvitate. Le casse della Biblioteca contenevano codici, incunaboli, stampe antiche; erano di legno verniciato in grigio piombo con un coperchio chiuso da un lucchetto o da sigilli di piombo; avevano incollata una carta con la scritta: BIBLIOTHECA CLASSENSIS RAVENNENSIS; erano tutte d'identiche dimensioni: lunghezza esterna cm. 65, larghezza cm. 53, altezza cm. 51. Portavano i numeri: 1; 3; 2; 6; 10; 13.

18. Il Bartoccini partì in camion col materiale suddetto alla volta di Bologna e Padova. La ricevuta rilasciata dal Bartoccini porta la data dell'8 luglio 1944. In seguito doveva essere resa nota alla parte del Ministero la località precisa in cui detto materiale era stato concentrato; ma tale comunicazione non pervenne mai alla Soprintendenza di Ravenna, né al Comune, né alla Biblioteca Classense.

Per il ricupero di tale materiale occorrerà anzitutto indirizzare le ricerche a Padova dove era la sede del Ministero dell' Educazione Nazionale e Direzione Generale delle Arti. Presso quest'ultima dovrebbero esistere elenchi da cui poter dedurre il collocamento ed eventualmente i vari trasferimenti dello stesso di Ravenna. Certo, se possibile, il Dott. Bartocini, il quale risiedeva a Padova e s'interessò dei trasporti del materiale.

In secondo luogo occorre dirigere le ricerche presso le località che allora vennero indicate come sedi di concentramento dell'arte (Isola Borromea, Strà, Venezia). È presumibile che il materiale di Ravenna sia stato trasportato a Strà o a Venezia. Però si occorre preferibilmente fare indagini presso queste ultime località. A questo si può far caso per notizia delle sovrintendenze al

Si indicarono allora come localita' le Isole Borromeo sul lago Maggiore, Stra e Venezia, escludendosi da parte delle autorita' delle Belle Arti (allora residenti presso il Ministero dell' Educazione Nazionale con sede in Padova) che quasi certamente il materiale di Ravenna sarebbe stato concentrato a Stra e Venezia.

A Ravenna il materiale fu preso in consegna dal Soprintendente Dott. Renato Bartocchini della Direzione Generale delle Arti, il quale ritirò dodici casse appartenenti alla Biblioteca Classense. Le casse del Museo contenevano averi, stoffe, ceramiche, quadretti bizantini; erano di dimensioni varie e portavano la scritta in lapis blu: MUSEO DI RAVENNA; alcune erano chiuse con sigilli di piombo, alcune tre avvitate. Le casse della Biblioteca contenevano codici, incunabili, stampe antiche; erano di legno verniciato in grigio piombo con un coperchio chiuso da un lucchetto o da sigilli di piombo; avevano incollata una carta con la scritta: BIBLIOTHECA CLASSICA RAVENNA; erano tutte d'identiche dimensioni: lunghezza esterna cm. 55; larghezza cm. 53; altezza cm. 51. Portavano i numeri: 1; 3; 5; 6; 10; 18.

Il Bartocchini parlò in camion col materiale suddetto alla volta di Bologna e Padova. La ricevuta rilasciata dal Bartocchini porta la data dell'18 luglio 1944. In seguito doveva essere resa nota da parte del Ministero la localita' precisa in cui detto materiale era stato concentrato; ma tale comunicazione non pervenne mai alla Soprintendenza di Ravenna, né al Comune, né alla Biblioteca Classense. Per il recupero di tale materiale occorrerà anzitutto indirizzare la ricerca a Padova dove già la sede del Ministero dell' Educazione Nazionale e Direzione Generale delle Arti. Presso quest'ultima dovrebbero esistere elenchi da cui poter dedurre il collocamento ed eventualmente i vari trasferimenti delle casse di Ravenna. Certo, mentre sarebbe opportuno rintracciare, se possibile, il Dott. Bartocchini, il quale risiedeva a Padova e s'interessò dei trasporti del materiale.

In secondo luogo occorre dirigere la ricerca presso le localita' che allora vennero indicate come sedi di concentramento delle cose d'arte (Isole Borromeo, Stra, Venezia). E' presumibile che il materiale di Ravenna sia stato trasportato a Stra o a Venezia. Per ci) occorre preferibilmente fare indagini presso questo ultimo locale. A Venezia si può far capo per notizia alle Soprintendenze ai Monumenti e alle Gallerie, alla Biblioteca Marciana, al Seminario Patriarcale.

In caso vi siano incertezze per l'identificazione sarà bene fare intervenire personale del Museo e della Biblioteca.

Di quanto sopra furono a suo tempo rese edotte le Autorità Alleate, e precisamente il Maggiore Norton e il Maggiore Bell.

Ravenna, 12 Maggio 1945

La Commissione della Soprintendenza,

(firmato)

Teodoro Orselli
Alfredo Bernini
Arrigo Savini

DOCUMENTS FINE ARTS & MONUMENTS
SURVIVANCE DIVISION

(Copies have been sent to MFAA Officers, Piemonte and Venezia Regions.)

25 MAR 1945

FILE No 2009411A

12 MAG. 1945

Ref. No: 93

HEADQUARTERS
ARMED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
CIGUENI ARMY

17-4 APR. 1945

SUBJECT : Battistaro degli Ariani, RAVENNA

04/232

11 Apr 45

TO : PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER, RAVENNA

1. This will confirm today's conversation between Major Luzzani and Major Newton.

2. The Battistaro degli Ariani, one of Ravenna's most distinguished monuments, an unimpressive brick exterior with a rich interior of 5th-century mosaics, has suffered from the jarring caused by demolition of the nearby Hotel San Marco. It is imperative that attention be given to it at once by Sig. Arrigo SAVINI, Assistant to the Royal Superintendency of Monuments of Ferrara, Ravenna and Forlì Romagna. His office is at Via San Vitale 11, Ravenna.

3. The urgency of the case will not permit awaiting approval of a project. Funds to the extent of about 15,000 lire remain in the Superintendency's normal budget account for maintenance. Savini has been directed to begin work at once, using these funds for examination and repair.

4. If the amount now in this account should not suffice, favorable consideration should be given to any application by Savini for further extraordinary allowance, and the commitment of funds now should not prejudice the reallocation of funds to the maintenance account of the Superintendency budget for the period ending June 1945.

Copies to :
EC Emilia Region
(attn: REPA Officer),
Subc REPA, liq AG, -
Major Newton,
File 04/32.
CPO Ravenna

Major,
for Air Commodore,
Officer Commanding,
AND EIGHTH ARMY.

1.33

RECEIVED
16 APR 1945

1. This will confirm today's conversation between Major Lawrence and Major Newton.

2. The Battistero degli Ariani, one of Ravenna's most distinguished monuments, an impressive brick exterior with a rich interior of 5th-century mosaics, has suffered from the jarring caused by demolition of the nearby Hotel San Marco. It is imperative that attention be given to it at once by Sig. Arrigo Savini, Assistant to the Royal Superintendency of Monuments of Ferrara, Ravenna and Perla Frattinosa. His office is at Via San Vitale 11, Ravenna.

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Copies to:
 R) Emilia Region
 (attn: MPLA Officer),
 Subo MPA, 114 AG,
 Major Newton,
 File 04/132,
 CPO Ravenna

hxm
 Major,
 for Air Commander,
 Officer Commanding,
 THE WIGGERS ARMY.

1933

RECEIVED
 16 APR 1945

MONUMENTS 1586 ARMS & ARMED
 17 APR 1945
 FILE No. 2079/1/17

11 APR 1945

COPY

ALLIED FORCES HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
UNIT NO. 1410 MAG 1945
Confidential

March 10th. 1945

To: The Chief Civil Affairs Officer.
A.M.G.RAVENNA

Sir,

I am enclosing letter from the Podesta' of Ravenna to the Superintendent of Monuments in Ravenna dated Nov. 17th. 1944, regarding a proposal to declare Ravenna an open city in order to save its artistic treasures from destruction.

On March 8th. I found this letter lying on the floor of the office on the left hand side of the apse in the church of San Vitale. I was visiting the church, and having missed my way to the upper gallery found myself in this office. While looking at 6th. century carving on a stone altar (?) I noticed the letter, and my eye caught the name "Langsdorff". Langsdorff is well known to this office. He is SS. Standartenführer and Ministerialrat, the head of that branch of the Militärverwaltungstab (Military Administration) responsible for the protection of Ancient Monuments in German-occupied Italy. He was once a colleague of Sir Leonard Woolley as a palaeontologist at Ur. He returned to Germany to join the SS. in 1935, and was appointed to his present post after the Italian Armistice. The letter was of considerable interest to us in showing first, that Langsdorff was in office at least until mid-Oct. 1944, and secondly that there had been negotiations between him and the Italian Ministry of Education to declare Ravenna an open city. This office is engaged in a study of German controls in N. Italy and this type of information is most useful.

I had meant to bring you this letter personally before leaving the town, but it was late and there were others with me who had urgent work to do. I hope you will overlook the fact that it should be coming to you in this way. I think it may be of some interest to the Fine Arts Dept. of A.M.G..

Yours truly,

/s/ W.H.C. Friend
German Intelligence

Copy to Lt.Col. H. Ward Perkins. A.C. Rome.

1182

20094/1/A
10 MAG. 1945

COPIACOMUNE DI RAVENNA

Ufficio Segreteria

N. 1488 di prot.
arr. 22/11/1944 cl. 407

N. 7646 P.C.

OGGETTO:

Dichiarazione di città aperta.

addi 17 Novembre 1944

All'Intendenza dei Monumenti

RAVENNA

Per opportuna norma si trasmette copia della nota n. 13463 del
5 Ottobre u/s. della Direzione Generale Arti presso il Ministero dell'Educa-
zione Nazionale in merito all'oggetto.

Il Podestà.

Posta Civile 332-5.10.44.

Ministero Educazione Nazionale

Posta Civile 332

Direzione Generale Arti
N.. 13463Sig. Podesta'
RAVENNA

Oggetto: Ravenna - Dichiarazione di citta' aperta.

In riscontro alla Vostra in data 14 u/s. vi trasmettiamo nel suo testo originale la lettera inviata a questo Ministero dal Capo dell'Ufficio per la protezione dell'Arte presso il Comando Superiore Germanico.

"Egregio Collega,
Ringraziandovi accuso ricevuta del vostro scritto del 25/ /44 con il piano della citta' di Ravenna e vi comunico che noi immediatamente lo abbiamo inviato al competente posto militare di servizio con viva preghiera di risparmiare Ravenna per quanto possibile e per quanto lo permettano le esigenze militari. Anche la preghiera dello sgombero della caserma Gorizia presso S. Vitale e' stata in questa occasione rinnovata.

Con i migliori saluti vostro f/to Langsdorff.

Si confida che tale intervento possa avere gia' dato concreti risultati per ogni evenienza si era gia' tornati e si torna ad insistere, con il voto che il vostro appello in favore di Ravenna e dei suoi tesori artistici, che sono nel cuore di tutti gli Italiani, venga al piu' presto accolto favorevolmente dai Comandi Militari Tedeschi.

Bart/ZA

Il Ministro.
f/to Boggelli.

REPORTS OF A COMMISSION OF ITALIAN EXPERTS
ON A VISIT OF INSPECTION TO RIMINI AND RAVENNA
MARCH 1945

Report A. By Prof. Dr. E. Lavagnino, Inspector General for
Fine Arts

Report B. By Prof. Dr. G. De Angelis, Inspector General for
Monuments

Report C. By Dr. M. Cagliano De Azevedo, Technician of the Istituto
Centrale del Restauro.

1179

2009471/A

TEMPIO MALATESTIANO DI RIMINIRELAZIONE

Il giorno 23 marzo 1945 i sottoscritti hanno potuto compiere un sopralluogo al Tempio Malatestiano di RIMINI. Il prof. Carlo Roccatelli, della Commissione Consultiva per le antichità e belle arti, non intervenne perchè impossibilitato a muoversi da ROMA in conseguenza di un incidente stradale occorsogli. Erano invece presenti il Maggiore Newton ed il Capitano Croft Murray della Sottocommissione Allesta per i monumenti e belle arti; il Dott. M. Cagiano de Azevedo dell'Istituto centrale del restauro ed il prof. Ravaioli, locale Ispettore Onorario.

Come è noto, il Tempio Malatestiano di RIMINI venne gravemente danneggiato dai bombardamenti aerei del 28 dicembre 1943 e del 29 gennaio 1944. Quali siano le parti colpite ed in quale stato si presenti il monumento risulta dalla diffusa relazione redatta, in data 11 novembre 1944, dal prof. Lavagnino, che si recò sopralluogo, subito dopo la liberazione di RIMINI.

Non ripeteremo, pertanto, la descrizione dello stato in cui è ridotta la celebre chiesa. Riferiamo invece che, nel frattempo, si è provveduto a cure dell'Amministrazione Allesta, a rinuovare le macerie che ingombravano il Tempio, ad assicurarne lo scolo delle pluviali dal pavimento della Chiesa, ad apporre un cancello all'ingresso principale. Aggiungiamo altresì che, essendo ora possibile penetrare all'interno della Cappella delle Reliquie, abbiamo veduto con maggior agio quanto nel novembre scorso era stato potuto scorgere dalla cappella contigua di S. Sigismondo attraverso la finestra o inferriata. Abbiamo constatato che le caratteristiche del distacco dell'affresco di Piero della Francesca vennero allora esattamente illustrate; trovano così conferma i dubbi espressi sulla perfetta riuscita dell'operazione. Inoltre da informazioni fornite dall'assistente Savini della Sovrintendenza di RAVENNA ci è ora possibile precisare come il restauratore che eseguì il distacco fosse di MANTOVA; pensiamo quindi che si tratti del Maffaldini.

Attualmente non sussiste alcun serio pericolo di crollo nelle parti monumentali. Tra le strutture murarie, minaccia di cadere soltanto l'arco dell'ultima cappella a destra, di tarda epoca, mentre nelle altre parti del monumento solo pietre isolate possono considerarsi in precarie condizioni di stabilità.

La facciata, come è nota, si è distaccata dal prospetto, tra-

in conseguenza di un incidente che presentò il Maggiore Newton ed il Capitano Croft Murray della Sottocommissione Alleata per i monumenti e belle arti, il Dott. M. Cagiano de Azevedo dell'Istituto centrale del restauro ed il Prof. Ravaioli, locale Ispettore Onorario.

Come è noto, il Tempio Malatestiano di RIMINI venne gravemente danneggiato dai bombardamenti aerei del 28 dicembre 1943 e del 29 gennaio 1944. Quali siano le parti colpite ed in quale stato si presentò il monumento risulta dalla diffusa relazione redatta, in data 11 novembre 1944, dal prof. Lavagnino, che si recò sopralluogo, subito dopo la liberazione di RIMINI.

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La facciata, come è noto, si è distaccata dal prospetto, trascinando nella rotazione parte delle murature dei fianchi. Il massiccio murario si è comportato, per il buon incastro degli spigoli, in modo quasi solidale, malgrado la diversità delle strutture che lo compongono (infatti il rivestimento albertiano in pietra d'Istria venne a sovrapporsi alle murature della Chiesa francese e, sui lati, anche alle strutture delle cappelle di Matteo dei Fasti). La facciata manifestata, solo all'interno, importanti lesioni in corrispondenza delle suture fra i muri di diverse età, non sufficientemente collegati fra di loro. Nel fianco destro la lesione maggiore si apre in corrispondenza della chiave della seconda arcata a partire dal prospetto, una lesione secondaria ta-

glia l'arco a successivo. Nel fianco sinistro la lesione principale si apre egualmente in corrispondenza della seconda arcata, mentre l'altra, detta di consenso, si nota sulla chiave della quarta arcata. Sui due fianchi anche il basamento del Tempio risulta naturalmente spezzato e fuori piombo, iniziandosi da esso le lesioni che, allargandosi verso la sommità della facciata, percorrono la curva tipica di simili strappi murari.

Lo spigolo S.G. della facciata presenta uno strapiombo apprezzabile, che nella nostra breve visita non ci è stato possibile misurare nel suo valore assoluto.

Abbiamo invece potuto osservare come lo strapiombo non sia soltanto normale al prospetto, ma abbia anche una componente verso il fianco destro. La misura sommaria che abbiamo potuto eseguire fornisce una pendenza di circa il 2,5% normalmente al prospetto e di circa il 0,7% verso il fianco.

Riteniamo che lo strappo murario sia avvenuto essenzialmente per effetto dello spostamento d'aria, determinato soprattutto dalla bomba di grande potenza caduta nel sagrato della Chiesa verso il fianco destro. E che la causa delle lesioni debba vedersi in questo fenomeno, più che in un cedimento del terreno per effetto del proiettile stesso, è dimostrato dal parziale ed altrimenti inspiegabile rigonfiamento del terreno tra la facciata ed il cratere formato dalle bombe sul sagrato e, inoltre, dal comportamento delle colonnette che limitano il sagrato stesso. Deve essere stata pertanto l'onda negativa dell'esplosione a determinare - forse in concomitanza ed altri fenomeni di soffio esplosivo dovuti a proiettili vicini - l'imponente perturbamento murario.

In corrispondenza della lesione migliore - quella sul fianco destro - che apparentemente raggiunge circa 20 cent. di larghezza venne eseguita, poco dopo il disastro, una puntellatura provvisoria per sorreggere i conci dell'arco stesso. Appare chiaro che, susseguentemente a questa operazione, la lesione aumentò di gravità, ma non ci è stato possibile appurare se l'aggravamento delle condizioni si determinò - come è probabile - poco dopo, in conseguenza di altri bombardamenti, o se invece il fenomeno si è lentamente protratto in seguito. A dirimere ogni eventuale dubbio, abbiamo consigliato ai porre, specie all'interno del monumento, opportune biffe o spie, in modo da sorvegliare l'equilibrio della massa muraria distaccata dal resto della costruzione. Conseguentemente potranno essere studiati gli eventuali provvedimenti per arrestare il fenomeno di rotazione, qualora questo, come non crediamo, tendesse visibilmente a persistere.

Allora sarà necessario rendersi esattamente conto se il ter-

cioè: quelli che riguardano le necessarie opere di soccorso immediato e di salvaguardia degli elementi deteriorabili o gli altri che si riferiscono al restauro propriamente detto, e carattere definitivo.

Mentre i criteri del restauro permanente potranno venire discussi ed adottati con congrua ponderazione, in vista dei svariati problemi tecnici ed artistici che essi coinvolgono, anche per il carattere stesso del monumento rimasto incompiuto, si manifesta invece l'urgenza di completare i provvedimenti di primo intervento a favore del celebre monumento. Questi sono già stati in gran parte attuati, come si è detto, mediante l'avvenuto sgombero delle macerie, l'allontanamento dell'acque piovane e la chiusura dello ingresso. Rimarrebbe quindi soltanto il compito di assicurare la protezione degli stucchi che decorano le pareti della navata (angoli portastemi e girali decorativi sopra l'ingresso delle cappelle). Riteniamo che la sistemazione maggiormente pratica e risolutiva sia quella di porre lungo le pareti stesse una perizia le copertura provvisoria per tutta la lunghezza della navata e per una larghezza di qualche metro. Tale copertura dovrebbe essere poggiata sulle capriate ancora esistenti ed eseguite con materiale leggero da ancorarsi alle travature superstiti. Sarebbe inoltre necessario che tale tettoia venisse prolungata sino alla gronda esterna, in modo da proteggere da infiltrazioni la sommità dei muri che dovranno ancora rimanere esposti all'azione disgregante degli agenti atmosferici.

Abbiamo già detto che il restauro definitivo deve esser deferito, anche perchè ora non sussistono le pratiche condizioni necessarie alla sua realizzazione. Non si può tuttavia non accennare ai principali problemi connessivi.

Per quanto concerne la massa muraria distaccata e strapiombante è chiaro che essa dovrà venir ricollocata al suo sito originale. E ciò soprattutto per ragioni estetiche. Il limpido ritmo dell'architettura elbertina non tollera interruzioni e deformazioni, anche se queste possono documentare la storia dell'edificio. Le proporzioni musicali delle membrature rivivranno solo nella ricomposta unità dell'insieme, risorgente da un compatto zoccolo basamentale.

Riteniamo che ciò, data la gran massa muraria e la pluralità delle fratture, non potrà avvenire se non attraverso le smontaggio ed il conseguente ricollocamento delle parti superstiti. Se questa operazione potrà esser limitata quasi al solo rivestimento in pietra da taglio o dovrà, come è più probabile, estendersi a tutta o gran parte della struttura lesionata è ora prematuro affermarlo.

In ogni modo, un siffatto lavoro ci darà la possibilità di

maeria, l'allontanamento dell'acque piovane e la chiusura dello ingresso. Rimarrebbe quindi soltanto il compito di assicurare la protezione degli stucchi che decorano le pareti della navata (angoli portastemmi e girali decorativi sopra l'ingresso delle cappelle). Riteniamo che la sistemazione maggiormente pratica e risolutiva sia quella di porre lungo le pareti stesse una parzialità di copertura provvisoria per tutta la lunghezza della navata e per una larghezza di qualche metro. Tale copertura dovrebbe essere poggiata sulle capriate ancora esistenti ed eseguite con materiale leggero da ancorarsi alle travature superstiti. Sarebbe inoltre necessario che tale tettoia venisse prolungata sino alla gronda esterna, in modo da proteggere da infiltrazioni la sommità dei muri che dovranno ancora rimanere esposti all'azione disgregante degli agenti atmosferici.

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In ogni modo, un siffatto lavoro ci darà la possibilità di indagare la struttura interna, di renderci conto delle varianti adottate nelle nicchie del prospetto e, soprattutto, di esaminare le superfici delle pietre impiegate nel rivestimento, le quali - per provenire da RAVENNA e da altri centri artistici - riveleranno la loro primitiva essenza; sarà così possibile portare un nuovo contributo agli studi epigrafici ed antiquari. E la messa - in questo campo - non sarà scorsa, a giudicare dalle epigrafi già lette sulla facciata e dal fatto che il capitello di una lesena sulla parte interna del prospetto, rotolato in basso, ha rivelato di esser statoscolpito su un antico e ben modellato capitello romano.

Per ciò che si riferisce alla futura e definitiva sistemazione del monumento, si deve osservare che questa dipende dall'uso che se ne vorrà fare. Se - come sembra - il Tempio dovrà continuare ad essere il Duomo della città, si dovrà pensare ad un completamento nella parte absidale, che potrà essere simile al preesistente o di poco variato, per meglio rispondere alle esigenze liturgiche.

Ci sembra, in ogni modo, che l'idea affacciata di un completamento "in stile", mediante la costruzione di un abside dalla pianta quadrata e dall'ingresso archiacuto, debba venire senza altro respinta.

Un altro problema, infine, si riferisce alla copertura. Il ripristino del tetto, esattamente come era prima, non sembra possa attuarsi a cuor leggero, perchè le capriate in vista, dipinte di chiaro, contrastavano con il solito aspetto della ricca e raffinata decorazione interna.

D'altra parte, realizzare una qualsiasi nuova copertura sulla base di induzioni e di suggerimenti desunti da quel poco che conosciamo sui progetti di L.B. Alberti e di Matteo dei Pasti, sarebbe troppo ardito, per non dire inammissibile, anche se studi o restauri grafici su tale tema potranno riuscire utili per la comprensione del monumento.

Si tratterà, forse, di trovare una soluzione intermedia, attraverso la progettazione di un semplice soffitto, che si adegui il più possibile al tetto preesistente ed ai reali dati di fatto della costruzione e che riesca a conciliare le esigenze del decoro dell'aula monumentale con le possibilità di una buona illuminazione dell'interno.

Fto: EMILIO LAVAGNINO

DR ANGELIS D'OSSAT

Un altro problema, infine, si ripresenta alla copertura. Il ripristino del tetto, esattamente come era prima, non sembra possa attuarsi a buon leggero, perchè le capriate in vista, dipinte di chiaro, contrastavano con il solito aspetto della ricca e raffinata decorazione interna.

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Fto: EMILIO LAVAGNINO

DE ANGELIS D'OSSAT

Nella visita compiuta dai sottoscritti a Rimini e Ravenna nei giorni 23 e 24 del corrente mese di marzo, unitamente al Sig. Magg. Newton e al Sig. Cap. Greff Murray, sono stati visitati alcuni degli edifici monumentali di quella città che hanno subito danni in seguito alle recenti operazioni belliche.

A Rimini sono stati visitati con cura particolare:

a) il Tempio Malatestiano; b) l'Arco di Augusto, c) la chiesa di S. Maria della Colonnella, d) la chiesa di S. Fortunato, e) la chiesa di S. Maria delle Grazie.

Circa le condizioni e la particolari provvidenze già adottate e che si ritiene opportune adottate a preposito del Tempio Malatestiano, viene allegata alla presente una particolareggiata relazione.

L'Arco di Augusto, che in seguito alle esplosioni verificatesi nelle immediate vicinanze, appariva in parte sconnesso nelle strutture della sua spalla verso est, destando qualche preoccupazione per le sue condizioni statiche, è stato, per ordine del Magg. Newton, opportunamente sorretto con una opera in muratura. Così se ne è garantita la stabilità. E' questo un lavoro che per quanto non possa considerarsi definitivo consente attendere tempi migliori per un razionale restauro del monumento.

Per la Chiesa di S. Maria della Colonnella, demolita in vasta parte dell'abside, della parete esterna di destra e completamente scoperschiata, sarà opportuno, appena possibile, ricostruire i tratti di muro abbattuti e procedere alla copertura dell'edificio?

La Chiesa di S. Fortunato sul Colle di Covignano ha avuto l'abside in più punti sfondata da cannonate. Anche il tetto e il soffitto dell'edificio sono stati parzialmente sfondati. Il parroco, fin'ora,

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Quanto prima per l'interessamento del Magg. Newton e del Cap. Orloff Murray sarà possibile ottenere il materiale necessario alle riparazioni più urgenti della zona presbiteriale.

2)

Nella Chiesa di S. Maria delle Grazie si è già provveduto alla copertura della navata di sinistra, pregevole soprattutto per il soffitto quattrocentesco. Altri lavori si spesa possono presto attuarsi anche per la copertura della navata di destra, malgrado il fatto che i Padri del Convento annesso per la fretta di avere una parte almeno della loro chiesa in grado di accogliere i fedeli abbiano creato un tetto indipendente nella zona della loro chiesa che è stata coperta.

Presso la sede dell'A.M.G. abbiamo, altresì, potuto prendere visione dello schema di piano regolatore della città di Rimini, che gli architetti Plinio Marconi e Ernesto La Padula stanno attualmente redigendo. Questo piano - oltre a comprendere nuove vaste zone di ampliamento urbano - prevede la sistemazione e la ricostruzione dell'attuale agglomerato edilizio, quale centro della futura grande città, vagheggiata dai riminesi.

È stato possibile notare, nella parte del progetto relativa al vecchio abitato, che tutti i notevoli edifici monumentali rimangono rispettati, mentre per alcuni di essi si è creduto di migliorare le visuali, come per l'ex convento di S. Agostino e per il retroprospettivo del Palazzo del Podestà. Risulterebbero invece condannati alla demolizione gli interessanti resti della medioevale Chiesa di S. Nicolò al Porto (campanile e zona absidale con affreschi sulla volta a crociera).

Pur non entrando nel merito di tale piano - che del resto non ha ancora assunto una stesura definitiva - si deve rilevare che i temi proposti per l'apertura di nuove arterie appaiono modesti e largamente giustificabili; potremo invece osservare che il numero delle rettifiche di prospetto e degli arretramenti proposti nel disegno esige per la necessità di non alterare troppo

re chiesa in grado di accogliere.

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3)

Dietro esplicito invito degli ufficiali dell'A.M.G., abbiamo preso diretto contatto, dopo il nostro ritorno a Roma, con i progettisti. Possiamo perciò riferire che questà - per quanto concerne la Chiesa di S. Niccolò - hanno accettato in piano la nostra proposta di salvarne i resti monumentali, prevedendo perciò di congregarli in nuovo edificio sacro - necessario nella zona del Porto - il quale costituirebbe adatto fondale a quell'arteria che invece minacciava di travolgerli.

Così pure i progettisti hanno convenuto sull'opportunità di limitare le rettifiche e gli arretramenti allo stretto necessario. Si rinunzierà perciò anche all'ampliamento della piazzetta del Tempio Malatestiano, allo scopo di non variare le condizioni dell'ambiente monumentale; dallo stesso ordine di idee discende un'altra nostra raccomandazione - pure accettata dagli architetti - di non dilatare la conformazione degli spazi e di non mutare l'aspetto pittoresco intorno al Ponte di Tiberio specie nella zona verso il mare.

O O O

A Ravenna sono stati visitati i seguenti monumenti:

a) Basilica di S. Vitale, b) Mausoleo di Galla Placidia, c) Basilica di S. Apollinare Nuovo, d) Battistero degli Ariani, e) Basilica di S. Apollinare in Classe, f) Basilica di S. Maria in Porto Fuori, g) Basilica di S. Francesco, h) Basilica di S. Giovanni, i) Loggetta Lombardesca, l) S. Maria in Porto.

I primi quattro dei suddetti edifici, per quanto abbiano subito qualche rottura di vetri e qualche sbracciatura per le esplosioni vicine, nel complesso non hanno sofferto danni alle strutture.

La Basilica di S. Apollinare in Classe è stata invece raggiunta da can-

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La Basilica di S. Apollinare in Classe è stata invece raggiunta da cannoneate tanto nelle navate quanto nella facciata e nel campanile. L'edificio ha subito lo sfondamento di alcune mura, la rimozione e la sconnessione di qualche tratto delle coperture, l'abbattimento di alcune colonnine del nartece e delle finestre del campanile e molte inevitabili rotture di vetri ed infissi.

Tuttavia per le provvidenze sollecitamente adottate dal Magg. Newton

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4)

e per i lavori in corso che comprendono essenzialmente il risarcimento delle mura e la sistemazione delle coperture, ci si avvia ad un restauro dell'edificio che nei tratti riparatì sarà definitivo.

Infatti qui come in altri casi, per ordine del Magg. Newton, quando la differenza della spesa necessaria per un lavoro definitivo non appariva molto sensibile rispetto a quella necessaria per un lavoro provvisorio di primo intervento, si è ritenuto opportuno di fare senz'altro il lavoro definitivo.

A S. Maria in Porto Fuori la situazione è purtroppo molto diversa. La chiesa infatti può considerarsi perduta. Non rimangono in piedi che pochi tratti delle mura del presbiterio con lacerti frammenti di affresco che sarà necessario per ora proteggere sul posto e appena possibile rimuovere. (vedi in proposito relazione a parte).

A S. Giovanni le esplosioni delle bombe hanno provocato il crollo della facciata della chiesa, l'abbattimento delle prime due campate e di un gran tratto della zona absidale.

Per ora non v'è nulla da fare. Il campanile appare visibilmente inclinato, ma anche qui al momento non è possibile prendere alcun provvedimento che valga a derimere con sicurezza il pericolo di un crollo.

La restauratissima Basilica di S. Francesco ha subito lo sfondamento di una vasta zona nella navata di sinistra. Quanto prima si metterà mano ai lavori di copertura definitiva di quel tratto della chiesa.

Anche il tetto di S. Maria in Porto è stato riparatò in quel breve tratto soprastante il presbiterio che era stato sfondato.

E' in qualche modo più complessa, e può destare qualche preoccupazione, se non si provvederà ai più urgenti lavori prima dell'inverno venturo, la situazione della "loggetta lombardesca".

Qui le strutture della zona più delicata dell'edificio appaiono sconnes-

va molto sensibile rispetto a quella necessaria per un lavoro provvisorio di primo intervento, si è ritenuto opportuno di fare senz'altro il lavoro definitivo.

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Qui le strutture della zona più delicata dell'edificio appaiono sconnesse; alcune volte in parte crollate non hanno sufficiente base di appoggio e se bene molto opportunamente sia già stata rimossa gran quantità del materiale crollato che esercitava una pericolosa pressione su colonne e pilastri del primo ordine dell'edificio, sarà bene applicare puntelle e catene in legname nei punti più sollecitati, allo scopo di impedire l'ulteriore danneggiamento e distacco delle strutture sconnesse.

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5)

Nel complesso dunque la situazione a Ravenna, a parte la dolorosa perdita di S. Maria in Porto Fuori, può considerarsi soddisfacente.

Per quanto si riferisce ai mosaici che sono il vanto e la ricchezza maggiore di Ravenna nessun tratto ne è andato perduto e l'assistente Savini, intelligente operoso interprete delle disposizioni del Magg. Newton e ottimo conoscitore dei monumenti ravennati, ha già esaminato con gran cura tutti i mosaici della città ed ha provveduto a prendere nota di quei rigonfiamenti di intonaco e sollevamenti di tessere che in prossimo domani dovranno essere eliminati.

Sarebbe forse opportuno che il nostro Ministero facesse pervenire all'assistente Savini che si è prodigato mirabilmente, in condizioni veramente eccezionali e disagiate, per la difesa del patrimonio artistico ravennate, una sua parola di encomio.

Eto: Emilio Lavagnino

G. De Angelis d'Ossat

M. Daglano De Azevedo

e ottimo conoscitore dei monumenti ravennati, ha già esaminato con gran cura tutti i mosaici della città ed ha provveduto a prendere nota di quei rigonfiamenti di intonaco e sollevamenti di tessere che in prossimo domani dovranno essere eliminati.

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Itto: Emilio Lavagnino

G. De Angelis d'Ossat

M. Ceginno De Azevedo

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STATO DEGLI AFFRESCHI DANNEGGIATI DALLA GUERRA A RIMINI E RAVENNA E PROVVISORI
DIMENTI CONSERVATIVI PRESI E DA PRENDERE

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RIMINI
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Chiesa di S. Nicolò alla marina

Gli affreschi della volta dell'antica cappella maggiore (cfr. C. Brandi, la pittura riminese del trecento, p. 174 e figg. 77-79) non hanno sofferto in modo alcuno per le esplosioni e le distruzioni avvenute tutto intorno.

Museo Civico

Affresco nella sala capitolare con Madonna e Santi. Non ne rimane più che la parte superiore, esposta alle intemperie poiché tutto l'edificio è crollato. L'intonaco è quasi completamente staccato.

E' quindi consigliabile lo strappo, il quale non presenta difficoltà di sorta. Il locale Ispettore Onorario esprime di avere persona adatta alla bisogna.

Tempio Malatestiano

L' affresco di Piero della Francesca rappresentante Sigismondo Malatesta e S. Sigismondo fu staccato per ordine e a cura delle autorità fasciste. Lo strappo non è riuscito. Dalla figura di S. Sigismondo resta in situ tutta la sinopia con chiaroscuro e una ristretta zona di colore lungo il bordo del mantello. Nel lato opposto invece lo strappo ha esportato anche l'ariccio.

L'ineguaglianza di questo distacco si deve con ogni probabilità attribuire ad un ineguale o solo parziale asciugamento della colla.

L'affresco così maleamente distaccato fu anche errotolato e quindi portato in località ignota.

L'affresco di Francesco Battaglini da Imole, Madonna con Bambino e San-

Chiesa di S. Nicolò alla marina

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E' quindi consigliabile lo strappo, il quale non presenta difficoltà di sorta. Il locale Ispettore Onorario assierisce di avere persona adatta alla bisogna.

Tempio Malatestiano

L' affresco di Piero della Francesca rappresentante Sigismondo Malatesta e S. Sigismondo fu staccato per ordine e a cura delle autorità fasciste. Lo strappo non è riuscito. Della figura di S. Sigismondo resta in situ tutta la sinopia con chieroscuo e una ristretta zona di colore lungo il bordo del mantello. Nel lato opposto invece lo strappo ha esportato anche l'ariccio. L'ineguaglianza di questo distacco si deve con ogni probabilità attribuire ad un ineguale o solo parziale asciugamento della colla.

L'affresco così malamente distaccato fu anche arrotoletto e quindi portato in località ignota.

L'affresco di Francesco Battaglini da Imola, Madonna con Bambino e Santi, è caduto quasi completamente. Di esso è stato disposto il recupero dei frammenti rimasti ancora sul luogo in numero notevole. Se dell'esame di questi, una volta raccolti, apparirà possibile la ricomposizione, se non distutto almeno di larghe parti dell'affresco, occorrerà procedere al distacco delle piccole zone rimaste aderenti alla parete.

RAVENNA
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1169

Chiesa di S. Francesco

Il grande affresco di scuola trecentesca riminese è andato in gran parte

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- 2 -

distrutto e non è stato possibile di raccoglierne i frammenti caduti fra le macerie del crollo del tetto. Quello che rimane è stato fissato con impasto diluito di cemento e sabbia. Tale impasto, di forte potere adesivo, anche se diluito, rende arduo un eventuale distacco, il quale tuttavia non è consigliabile poichè l'affresco è in luogo coperto ed asciutto.

Chiesa di S. Giovanni Evangelista

Gli affreschi nella cappella della navata sinistra hanno molto sofferto per il bombardamento che ha danneggiato la chiesa. Sono stati raccolti a cura della Soprintendenza locale i frammenti caduti e si è provveduto al fissaggio dei bordi con il predetto impasto di sabbia e cemento. Non vi è alcun provvedimento immediato da prendere, poichè la cappella è coperta e le intemperie non possono danneggiare i superstiti dipinti.

Chiesa di S. Maria in porto fuori

Questa chiesa è andata completamente distrutta e le superstiti pareti delle absidi crolleranno a breve scadenza. Le macerie sono state sconvolte e rovistate per estrarre i cadaveri dei periti nei bombardamenti. Anche gli affreschi (cfr. Brandi; op. cit. fig. 112 e ss.) sono quasi completamente distrutti.

Nell'abside di sinistra restano una figura di/santo nel fondo (m. 1x1,20) e nella parete di destra tre immagini di santi in una edicola (m. 2 x 1,20) e una parte (m. 2 x 1) dell'affresco con Giovanni I avanti a Teodorico. Sul pilastro terminale di questa parete si conserva in parte la figura di S. Apollinare e così altre due figure sotto si vedono della volta nella parete di fondo (il tutto per m. 3 x 2) Nella parete destra dell'abside centrale si conserva una piccola zona (m. 2,60 x 1,60) dell'affresco con la strage degli innocenti. Nell'abside di destra, parete di sinistra, vi è ancora una parte dell'affresco con la prediche di S. Giovanni Evangelista (m. 2,70 x 2) e nel

Gli affreschi nella cappella della navata sinistra hanno molto sofferto per il bombardamento che ha danneggiato la chiesa. Sono stati raccolti a cura della Soprintendenza locale i frammenti caduti e si è provveduto al fissaggio dei bordi con il predetto impasto di sabbia e cemento. Non vi è alcun provvedimento immediato da prendere, poichè la cappella è coperta e le intemperie non possono danneggiare i superstiti dipinti.

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Nell'abside di sinistra restano una figura di/santo nel fondo (m. 1,11, 20) e nella parete di destra tre immagini di santi in una edicola (m. 2 x 1,20) e una parte (m. 2 x 1) dell'affresco con Giovanni I avanti a Teodorico. Sul pilastro terminale di questa parete si conserva in parte la figura di S. Apollinare e così altre due figure sotto ai peducci della volta nella parete di fondo (il tutto per m. 3 x 2). Nella parete destra dell'abside centrale si conserva una piccola zona (m. 2,60 x 1,50) dell'affresco con la strage degli innocenti. Nell'abside di destra, parete di sinistra, vi è ancora una parte dell'affresco con la predicazione di S. Giovanni Evangelista (m. 2,70 x 2) e nei pilastri parte da tre figure di angeli o di santi (m. 3 x 2 complessivamente). Nell'affresco della predica di S. Giovanni il crollo dell'intonaco dipinto ha rilevato sull'aricolo uno schizzo eseguito a pennello che è quasi certamente uno studio per il gruppo della folla nell'affresco stesso. Di questo, dovrà eseguirsi una fotografia.

1168

L'intonaco si presenta quasi da per tutto completamente staccato, con larghe crepe. I frammenti caduti non furono potuti raccogliere perchè comisti e tutto il materiale crollato. Si potranno invece raccogliere i frammenti che si vanno ulteriormente staccando.

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= 3 =

Di questi affreschi si impone il distacco poichè essi si vanno progressivamente ed ulteriormente staccando dalla parete e successivamente si sminuzzano cadendo al suolo. In ogni modo è urgente il consolidamento provvisorio, non con l'impasto di cemento e sabbia che precluderebbe il distacco, ma mediante ponticelli di gesso con una scheggia di laterizio e la copertura provvisoria mediante un piccolo spiovente. In tale senso furono date disposizioni all'Assistente della Soprintendenza, al quale inoltre fu fornito un certo quantitativo di gesso a cura dell'Istituto Centrale del Restauro. Occorrerà poi inviare un capace restauratore da Roma per provvedere al distacco. Le Autorità Militari Alleate della VIII Armata hanno promesso il loro appoggio per i necessari permessi. Occorrerà concordare le modalità dell'invio anche con la Sottocommissione Alleata per le Belle Arti.

Da quanto sopra risulta chiaro che i provvedimenti conservativi più urgenti e necessari furono presi con lodevole sollecitudine della Soprintendenza con l'appoggio delle Autorità Alleate, e che gli altri interventi ancora necessari saranno effettuati entro brevissimo tempo, così da potere poi attendere con minore urgenza al restauri definitivi, collegati con i piani di ricostruzione o di restauro dei relativi monumenti architettonici.

Resta solo urgentissimo il distacco degli affreschi di S. Maria in porto fuori, prima che il crollo delle pareti travolga gli ultimi resti dell'importante ciclo pittorico, unica testimonianza di una chiesa totalmente scomparsa.

voto

illegato tale distacco

il distacco, la copertura provvisoria mediante un piccolo spiovente. In tale
zio e la copertura provvisoria mediante un piccolo spiovente. In tale
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dell'importante ciclo pittorico, unica testimonianza di una chiesa to-
talmente scomparsa.

Si esprime pertanto il voto che possa essere realizzato tale distacco
da persona specializzata che dovrebbe recarsi sul posto al più presto
gli ufficiali della Sottocommissione per i Monumenti hanno promesso di
facilitare il viaggio del restauratore che sarà prescelto per l'opera-
zione di distacco.

Yto: Emilio Lavagnino

G. De Angelis d'Ossat

M. Cagliano De Azevedo

14 MAR 1945

C O P Y

BIBLIOTECA CLASSENSE RAVENNA

Ravenna 14 marzo 1945

Prot.n. 32

Oggetto: Ricognizione alle casse
di preziosi murate nel
corridoio della Sagrestia.

A.S.E. IL GOVERNATORE ALLIATO
R A V E N N A

AL SIG. SINDACO
R A V E N N A

Oggi 14 marzo alle ore 9 a seguito invito delle Autorità Alleate e con l'autorizzazione del Sindaco ho proceduto alla ricognizione delle 62 casse di preziosi, murate nel corridoio della Sagrestia sottostante alla Classense.

Fin dal momento che il primo spiraglio di luce ha investito la sagrestia si è potuto constatare che tutto era salvo.

Portata a termine l'apertura del muro si sono estratte le casse ritenute in posizione meno favorevole, si sono aperte alla presenza mia e dell'ingegner Manuzzi, che ha presenziato i lavori, e si è potuto constatare con soddisfazione che lo stato di conservazione delle silografie (cassa n.3) delle stampe aldine (cassa n.4) dei codici (cassa n.13) e delle opere a stampa di pregio era ottimo: nessun indizio di umidità al tocco, nè di macchie all'interno, nè di ingobbiture. Insomma lo stato generale di conservazione del prezioso materiale si è potuto definire eccellente, grazie alle precauzioni e alle cure usate nel disporre i volumi nelle casse e le casse nel corridoio che le custodiva.

Ho disposto di riportare in Biblioteca la cassa n.68 contenente monografie a epuscoli del compianto prof. Muratori murata per errore.

Nella medesima giornata di oggi, portata a termine con ogni cautela la ricognizione e rimesso nello stesso ordine le casse in numero di 61, si è proceduto alla regolare chiusura e intonacatura del muro.

Alle ore 16 l'operazione era terminata.

A.S.E. II. GOVERNATORE ALLIATO
R A V E N N A

AL SIG. SINDACO
R A V E N N A

Oggi 14 marzo alle ore 9 a seguito invito della Autorità Alleate e con l'autorizzazione del Sindaco ho proceduto alla ricognizione delle 62 casse di preziosi, murate nel corridoio della Sagrestia sottostante alla Classense.

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Alle ore 16 l'operazione era terminata.

IL DIRETTORE
f.to B. NEDIANI
1166

14 MAR 1945

6 MAR 1945

COPY

HQ. AMG Eighth Army
6 March 1945

OA/132

SUBJECT: Report of Maj Bell on Archives, Provs Forli' and Ravenna.
To : SCAO, AMG Eighth Army.

1. Attached hereto, for notation and file OA/132, is the excellent comprehensive report 31/MFAA/2.11 of 22 Feb 45, by Major H. B. Bell, on archives of liberated portions of Forli' and Ravenna Provinces. Copies have been sent, as requested, to RC Emilia Region (attn MFAA Officer) and to S/C MFAA, H. AC. The third copy is being retained for working purposes by MFAA Officer AMG 8 Army, who appends the following commentaries on Major Bell's recommendations, following numeration of original:

(1) RIMINI: Archivio Storico Comunale.

- (a) Will be obtained as soon as possible by Capt Groft Murray.
- (b) Has been discussed with Dr Campana; brick blocking to be removed and guards provided by Comune pending completion of reordering and final securing of entryway.

RIMINI: Archivio Capitolare.

- (a) Has been done.
- (b) Will be done as soon as possible.

(2) SANT'ARCANGELO: Archivio Comunale.

- (a) Has been discussed with Lt Lessa, who will give all necessary aid to Dr Campana.

SANT'ARCANGELO: Archivio Notarile.

- (a) Action being taken, as indicated in report, by Lt Lessa.

(4) FORLI': Sezione Archivio dello Stato.

- (a) Has been discussed with Director Servolini, who has authority to proceed according to his best judgement, with assurances of such AMG aid as he may need.
- (b) This also will be up to Servolini.

FORLI': Local Taxation Records, etc.

- (a) This, as indicated in report, is in hands of RC Forli', as a matter of governmental administration.

(5) RAVENNA: Archivio Storico Comunale.

- (a) Dr Sanoretti is proceeding as indicated.
- (b) Will be carried out when and as possible.

RAVENNA: Archivio Notarile.

who appends the following commentaries on Major Bell's recommendations, following numeration of original:

- (1) RIMINI: Archivio Storico Comunale.
 (a) Will be obtained as soon as possible by Capt Croft Murray.
 (b) Has been discussed with Dr Campana; brick blocking to be removed and guards provided by Comune pending completion of reordering and final securing of entryway.
- RIMINI: Archivio Capitolare.
 (a) Has been done.
 (b) Will be done as soon as possible.
- (2) SANT'ARCANGELO: Archivio Comunale.
 (a) Has been discussed with Lt Lesse, who will give all necessary aid to Dr Campana.
- SANT'ARCANGELO: Archivio Notarile.
 (a) Action being taken, as indicated in report, by Lt Lesse.
- (4) FORLI': Sezione Archivio dello Stato.
 (a) Has been discussed with Director Servolini, who has authority to proceed according to his best judgement, with assurances of such AMG aid as he may need.
 (b) This also will be up to Servolini.
- FORLI': Local Taxation Records, etc.
 (a) This, as indicated in report, is in hands of PC Forli' as a matter of governmental administration.
- (5) RAVENNA: Archivio Storico Comunale.
 (a) Dr Saporetti is proceeding as indicated.
 (b) Will be carried out when and as possible. 1165
- RAVENNA: Archivio Notarile.
 (a) Has been referred to Legal Officer, Lt Col Levit, as a matter of administration.
- (6) FANZA: Archivio Comunale (Modern Admin Archives).
 (a) Has been discussed with Major Pallotti; will be carried out as soon as possible.
- FANZA: Archivio Vescovile.
 (a) Excavation, as noted, will be carried out as soon as possible. This will have to be in line with priority of operations locally.

2009 4/1/A
 6 MAR 1945

YANZAI: Archivio Zauli-Naldi.
(a) Ononico Rossini will be allowed access on request.

2. Further reports of progress, as developments require, will be included in normal supplementary reports of undersigned.

/s/ Norman T. Newton

/c/ NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps
MFAA Officer, AMG 3 Army.

Copies to:

RC, Emilia Region (attn

MFAA Officer)

Subcom MFAA, HQAC

Major Bell (c/o MFAA Office,

Toscana Region)

Inclosure: 31/MFAA/2.11 of 22 Feb 45

/s/ Norman T. Newton

/s/ NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps
MFAA Officer, AMO & Army.

Copies to:

MO, Manila Region (attn
MFAA Officer)
Subcom MFAA, HQAC
Major Bell (c/o MFAA Office,
Toscano Region)

Inclosure: 31/MFAA/2.11 of 22 Feb 45

1164

HEADQUARTERS
TOSCANA REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

31/MPAA/2.11

22 February 1945

Subject: Archives of Liberated Province of Emilia.

To : M.G.A.O., 8th Army (attention Major Norman Newton,
EMAA Officer).

With the kind consent of Regional Commissioner, Emilia Region, and of S.O.I., 8th Army A.M.O., Lt. Col. Benton Jones), from 12th to 20th February the undersigned made a tour of inspection of archives in Emilia. The following notes on archives visited are now submitted in quadruplicate, and it is requested that distributed on of copies may be made as thought necessary; it is suggested that, if agreeable, this distribution includes copies to Regional Commissioner, Emilia Region, and Director, M.G.A.O. Sub-Commission, H.Q., AC.

(1) RIMINI.

The Archivio Storico Comunale and the manuscript collection of the Biblioteca Gambalunga are united on the ground-floor of one wing of the Library. Together they form an archive collection of first-rate importance, used in the past to great effect by Cardinal Garimpi. The Director of the Library, Prof. Carlo Lucchesi, is resident at Torricella, where he has taken, and is said to keep in safety, the more important documents of this collection; no list of documents to be transferred is available in the Library.

The bulk of the archives, which remain at the Library, have had a rather chequered career. One of the two rooms in which they are housed was used by the Germans to stable horses. Subsequently the archivio is said to have been entered by Canadian troops. The only door into it was bricked up some months ago, and entry can at present only be effected through a small hole in the ceiling.

Through the courtesy of C.A.O. Rimini, the undersigned was able to obtain a ladder and descend into the archivio. Documents in two parts of the room first entered were found to be in very bad condition, due to rain water seeping in from the first floor. These included 19th century Atti Criminali in shelving on the right-hand side of the room and, more important, miscellaneous medieval manuscripts in the central shelving. The worst affected documents were brought up and handed over to Dr. Augusto Caspano, Regente of the Library, for drying and preservation in other parts of the Library building. Others were removed to dry portions of the archivio. The second room contained traces of excrement; but whether human or animal could not, at this stage, be determined. Both rooms contained some loose records on the floor, but not enough to suggest considerable disturbance of the archivio as a whole.

20th February the undersigned had a tour of inspection in Emilia. The following notes on archives visited are now submitted in quadruplicate, and it is requested that distribution of copies may be made as thought necessary; it is suggested that, if agreeable, this distribution includes copies to Regional Commissioner, Emilia Region, and Director, M.F.A.A. Sub-Commission, R.C., AC.

(1) EMILIA.

The Archivio Storico Centrale and the manuscript collection of the Biblioteca Casanatense are united on the ground-floor of one wing of the Library. Together they form an archive collection of first-rate importance, used in the past to great effect by Cardinal Garibaldi. The Director of the Library, Prof. Carlo Lucchesi, is resident at Torricella, where he has taken, and is said to keep in safety, the more important documents of this collection; no list of documents so transferred is available in the library.

The bulk of the archives, which remain at the Library, have had a rather chequered career. One of the two rooms in which they are housed was used by the Germans to stable horses. Subsequently the Archivio is said to have been entered by Canadian troops. The only door into it was bricked up some months ago, and entry can at present only be effected through a small hole in the ceiling.

Through the courtesy of C.A.A. Maini, the undersigned was able to obtain a ladder and descend into the Archivio. Documents in two parts of the room first entered were found to be in very bad condition, due to rain water seeping in from the first floor. These included 19th century Atti Criminali in shelving on the right-hand side of the room and, more important, miscellaneous medieval manuscripts in the central shelving. The worst affected documents were brought up and handed over to Dr. Augusto Campano, Regente of the Library, for drying and preservation in other parts of the Library building. Others were removed to dry portions of the Archivio.

The second room contained traces of excrement; but whether human or animal could not, at this stage, be determined. Both rooms contained some loose records on the floor, but not enough to suggest considerable disturbance of the Archivio as a whole.

RECOMMENDED.

(a) That a list of documents held at Torricella by Prof. Lucchesi be obtained.

(b) That the Archivio be thoroughly cleaned and re-ordered under the supervision of Dr. Campano; in particular those portions of the shelving affected by damp should be entirely emptied of records. Undersigned is inclined to think that, in view of the difficulty of entry through the ceiling, the Archivio might now be unlocked. Dr. Campano, however, is opposed to this and, so long as he and cleaning personnel of small girth are prepared to make the descent, the opening of the door is perhaps not essen-

RESTRICTED

tial. Attention to the archivio, however, is most urgently necessary. Dr. Campana who lives at Sant'Arcangelo but comes into the library two or three days a week, is qualified to give this attention.

The Archivio Notarile, dating from the 14th century, is housed in another portion of the Library and is safe. The administrative Archives of the Comune have suffered considerable losses. Except for records in day-to-day use, they were transferred at the end of 1943 to the Casino Municipale (Mursale), where they remain; dispersion and disturbance are said to have taken place, however, subsequent to the use of parts of this building by allied troops. The Archivio Capitolare was housed in a room near the society in the building immediately to the left of the Tempio Malatestiano. Unfortunately undamaged was unable to contact Canonico Gerasolmi, via IX Sept. 57, who is in charge of the archive; but present information is that these parts that have been saved are in the Cappella de' Caduti of the Tempio Malatestiano and in the Old Seminary. This is an important archivio, which includes documents from 194; it is worth making every effort to save as much as may be possible of its contents.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (a) That the documents in the Cappella de' Caduti be moved to a more suitable location.
- (b) That the rubble in the Tempio be excavated for further documents.

The Archivio Vescovile is evacuated to Serravalle (except for documents in current use) An official in the Bishop's Cancellaria reports it safe.

(2) SANT'ARCANGELO.

The Archivio Comunale is in fair shape. Modern administrative records are well preserved. There have probably been some losses amongst more ancient archives, consequent upon occupation by German and allied troops of the room in which they are kept.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

That Dr. Campana be given facilities to re-order the older records of this archive.

The Archivio Notarile has good series from the 14th century (the earliest document noted by undersigned was dated 1369). Losses do not appear to have been considerable. The room in which this archivio is housed is at present in use as an office of the Polizia Municipale, but the C.A.O. (Lt. Lessa) kindly offered to find alternative accommodation for this office.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

That the archivio, which is in any case

to contact Canonico Cafatoni, Via del Sept. 57, who is in charge of the archive; but present information is that those parts that have been saved are in the Cappella de' Caduti of the Tempio Malatestiano and in the Old Seminary. This is an important archive, which includes documents from 994; it is worth making every effort to save as much as may be possible of its contents.

RECOMMENDED

- (a) That the documents in the Cappella de' Caduti be moved to a more suitable location.
- (b) That the rubble in the Tempio be excavated for further documents.

The Archivio Vescoville is evacuated to Serravalle (except for documents in current use). An official in the Bishop's Cancelleria reports it safe.

(2) PARMA ARCHIVIO.

The Archivio Comunale is in fair shape. Modern administrative records are well preserved. There have probably been some losses amongst more ancient archives, consequent upon occupation by German and Allied troops of the room in which they are kept.

RECOMMENDED

- That Dr. Campana be given facilities to re-order the older records of this archive.

The Archivio Notarile has good series from the 14th century (the earliest document noted by undersigned was dated 1369). Losses do not appear to have been considerable. The room in which this archive is housed is at present in use as an office of the Polizia Municipale, but the C.A.C. (Lt. Jussa) kindly offered to find alternative accommodation for this office.

RECOMMENDED

- That the room housing the archive, which is in any case very small, should not be used for other purposes.

(3) CASINA.

The Archivio Storico Comunale was inspected in the Biblioteca Malatestiana where physical conditions are satisfactory. Undersigned failed to get in touch with the Director of the Library and present no information as to what losses the archive has suffered.

The Archivio Notarile has rather a domestic interior, since a notary Dr. Eugenio Peroni, is in residence in the building, his own house having been requisitioned. Some of the notary's books and charts are stored in the actual archives, but most of the documents are in good cupboards, and no harm is coming to them.

The Archivio Capitolare and the Archivio Vescoville are both reported by the Bishop to be safe. Some damage by damp occurred in the early stages, but roofs are now repaired. Periodical records are said by the Bishop to have suffered heavily.

(4) FORLÌ.

The Sezione of the Archivio di Stato occupied rooms on the top floor of the Pinacoteca Civica. Since these were directly under the roof, from November 1942 onwards records were evacuated - the more valuable series (including the archives of the Pubblico Magistrato and of the Corporazioni) to Villa Sisa, and others (archives of the Prefecture, Tribunal and Comune) to the parish church of Vecchiavanzano. Later, the archives at Villa Sisa were brought back to the Palazzo della Biblioteca, but it is understood that there are now three deposits - Villa Sisa, Vecchiavanzano and San Giorgio - the second of which, only has been inspected by the undersigned, who found some of the documents there suffering from the effects of damp. In addition, a considerable quantity of records is stored in a small room on the first floor of the Pinacoteca.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

- (a) That, if military conditions are felt to justify it, the records at Vecchiavanzano are brought back to Forlì, and housed in the Archivio, which appears dry. If the danger of air-raids is held to be too great to justify this transfer, the records at Vecchiavanzano should be re-stacked, particularly those now standing against the chancel walls of the church, which are suffering much from damp.
- (b) That the more valuable records, first evacuated be left in deposit for the time being. These are understood to be packed in cases and satisfactorily housed.

The Archivio Notarile is, for the most part, safe. Certain records, some from the older part of the archive, are alleged to have been burnt by British troops. The Custode also said that the catalogue of the ancient part of the Archivio had been burnt. The Conservatore, Dr. Carlo Panzi, did not seem to be worried by this; but the loss, if it has really taken place, must be regarded as serious. Room adjacent to the archive are now occupied by U.N.P.A. Comando Provinciale; Out of Bounds signs are posted, and the door of the partition wall is locked.

Local Taxation Records in the Ufficio Statelli were located in rooms now used for troops sleeping quarters. Part of the old Catasto Napoleonico was moved to the Intendenza, but the greater part of modern Catasto records now lies in a cellar of the Ufficio Statelli. Apart from the unsuitability of this room as a record repository, it is impossible to re-order the records there and they are not available for consultation. The office concerned desires to move the records into alternative premises at Via delle Torri 7, and the undersigned requested Provincial Commissioner Forlì to do what he could to help. Part of the records of the Ufficio Distrettuale 4011 Imposte Dirette have been moved, but part remain on the second floor of the

only has been inspected by the undersigned, no room was at the moment there suffering from the effects of damp. In addition, a considerable quantity of records is stored in a small room on the first floor of the Pinacoteca.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

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RECOMMENDATIONS.

That all archives be moved from the Uffici Statali; it is especially necessary that suitable accommodation for the Catasto archives be found.

The Archivio del Conte dell'Asti-Brandolini was in part entrusted to the care of Prof. Servolini, Director of the Pinacoteca and Reggente of the Sezione of the Archivio di Stato. Prof. Servolini is now desirous to take over the remainder of this archive, which he believed to be in danger owing to the damaged condition of the Palazzo Asti-Brandolini, where it is kept.

This is a matter for negotiation between Prof. Servolini and the proprietor and the undersigned, who inspected the archive, did not think its physical condition sufficiently jeopardized to warrant our intervention.

(5) RAVENNA.

The Archivio Storico Comunale is located in the Biblioteca Classica. The archive as a whole is safe and damage by damp, when the library roof was leaking, has not been serious. The oldest and most precious archives, however, have now been walled up in the library for many months, and while it may be premature to replace them on the shelves of the archive, some anxiety must be felt for their condition. The undersigned therefore recommended to the Vice-Director, Dr. Saffi, that sufficient of the walling be temporarily removed to make tents for damp. If the records are dry, they can be put back into their frames; if there are signs of damp, they should be extracted and dried.

Cedices and Incunabula were evacuated from the library to an uncertain destination in North Italy (possibly Venezia, Stia or Lago Maggiore.) The Vice-Director has promised to supply a detailed list of these, which will be useful for identification purposes should any of them turn up as the archive advances.

RECOMMENDED.

- (a) That the Vice-Director be encouraged to carry out the tests for damp mentioned above.
- (b) That the library be used as a clearing-house for such archives as may be excavated from rubble in the city--- viz: it is worth mentioning that Capt. Croft-Hurrey discovered some fragmentary 16th and 17 century records of the Hospital in the rubble at S. Giovanni; parts of the little archive of the Chapel of S. Mary were found in rubble in the Duomo. Both sites would repay excavation.

The Archivio Notarile is, for the great part, safe. The Custode says that it was entered at Christmastime by Canadian troops; the archive was disturbed a little, but no damage done.

The Conservatore took certain documents with him to Fusignano. According to Dr. Beltrami, one of the four notaries practicing in Ravenna, these probably included copies of testaments and of attestamenti; the Impiegato also believes some ancient documents were taken, but he does not know what as he was absent on military service at the time.

This Archivio presents one rather difficult problem. According to Dr. Beltrami, the absence of the Conservatore, and the fact that the Impiegato is only able to attend irregularly to his duties as he lives at Bagnacavallo, is causing some administrative inconvenience. Italian law gives the President of the Tribunal the right to appoint a deputy to carry out the Conservatore's duties.

RECOMMENDED.

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RECOMMENDATIONS.

That Lt. Colonel Lavitt, Regional Legal Officer, be consulted on the above.

The Archivio del Conte Guido Passolini Ball'Once, with important documents for the history of the Visconti, was evacuated to two properties of the Count further north. One of these has been liberated but the building containing the records was mined by the Germans - the Count has picked up the pieces; the fate of the record line-out is not yet known, and the Count did not appear anxious to disclose its whereabouts.

(6) FAENZA.

The Archivio Storico Comunale is understood to be safe in the Gassa di Risparmio, but has not yet been seen by the undersigned.

Modern Administrative Archives of the Comune are stored in the Library, a building that has been pretty thoroughly shot up, but that still miraculously offers some protection to these records-and also to those of the Comune of Brisighella and Mediolana. Some few of the archives of the Comune however, remain in the part of the Palazzo del Municipio now occupied by Polish Military Police. C.A.O. Faenza (Major Paletti) hopes to secure this building for the use of the Comune.

RECOMMENDED.
That, if the Comune does re-enter the Palazzo del Municipio, that the archives be moved back there, and that, if this building can also house those of Brisighella and Mediolana, so much the better. Their present repository is very much at fresco.

The Archivio Notarile is safe and located in a little gem of a room that remains unharmed on the first floor of the Library. It is a good archive, dating from the 14th century, and listed by Canonico Giuseppe Rossini.

The Archivio Capitolare is important, containing parchment, baptismal records, acts of the Chapter from 1300, and an interesting musical archive connected with the bones of St. Peter Damian. It is safe under the Cathedral, along with the bones of its custodian, Canonico Rossini to rate too high the conduct of its custodian; it contained the Archivio Vecovile was of less significance; every effort

The Archivio Vecovile from the 15th century. Nevertheless, every effort acts of the Curia from the 15th century. t that may remain under the rubble should be made to recover any part of t that may remain under the rubble.

RECOMMENDED.

That, if possible, excavation of the rubble is undertaken at an early date.

The Archivio Zauli-Naldi in the Palazzo Zauli-Naldi, now occupied by P. . . . has apparently been partially evacuated. The custode was out, and undesignated therefore lacks definite information, documents, mainly of the 18th and 19th centuries remain, and an interesting library.

RECOMMENDED.

That Canonico Rossini, or some other competent person, be allowed access to this library and archive to make a check of the contents, which appear of considerable value. It should then be sealed off from the remainder of the Palazzo.

RECOMMENDED. That, if the Comune does re-enter the Palazzo dei Rucellai, the archives be moved back there, and that, if this building can also house those of Brischella and Modigliana, so much the better. Their present repository is very much at fresco.

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The Archivio Capitolare is important, containing pergamens, baptismal records, acts of the Chapter from 1300, and an interesting musical archive connected with Palestrina. It is safe under the Cathedral, along with the bones of St. Peter Panian. It is difficult to rate too high the conduct of its custodian, Canonico Rossini.

The Archivio Vecchio was of less significance; it contained acts of the Curia from the 15th century. Nevertheless, every effort should be made to recover any part of it that may remain under the rubble.

RECOMMENDED. That, if possible, excavation of the rubble is undertaken at an early date.

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1159

Undersigned wishes to express his thanks for permission to make this tour and for the co-operation of A.M.G. Officers in all places mentioned in the present report.

/s/ H.E. Bell Major

/c/ Major H.E. Bell,
A.M.G., Archives
Officer.

3 MAR 1945

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
EIGHTH ARMY

3 March 1945

CA/132

SUBJECT: Supplementary Report, Monuments of
FORLI, RAVENNA, and COCCOLIA.

To : SCAO, AMG Eighth Army.

1. Herewith summary report on monuments of Forli and Ravenna, supplementing latest report CA/132 of 10 Jan 45, and initial report on churches near Coccolia.

FORLI

2. San Biagio. Capt Croft-Murray was informed by Director SERVOLINI all fragments of tomb of Barbara Manfredi had been successfully recovered from debris of church. They are in custody of clergy, who also have some fragments of Pal-
mezzano fresco.

3. Palazzo delle Raccolte Cittadine. Requisitioned on authority of Corps Commander for use as WO's' and Sergeants' Club. Director Servolini was consulted regarding alterations, which are being done not only for serviceability but also to block access from Club to quarters reserved for continued use of Servolini and his staff. Program going very satisfactorily when inspected 27 Feb by undersigned. Library was not involved and may soon be opened for civilian student use with consent of military authorities. All Museum items have been removed from Club quarters; protective covering has been built over sculptures on main entrance stairway. Repairs are being completed by Comune to damaged roof over Museo Etnografico. Relations between Servolini and military seem excellent.

4. S. Mercuriale. Two 14th-century frescoes at base of campanile, in rear, are to receive protective covering. Servolini is in touch with Ufficio Tecnico and CAO (Major Steel) will ensure attention by Sindaco.

5. Archives. Special inspection was made in February by Major Bell, Archives Officer. As previously reported (CA/132 of 10 Jan 45), Director Servolini has authority to bring back material from church at Vecchiavazzo. If, in his judgment, occupation of Palazzo delle Raccolte (Museum) prohibits such transfer, he has been assured of assistance (on application to PG or CAO) in restocking material in deposit. PG will also do whatever is possible toward moving administrative archives from present poor storage in building of Uffici Statali. This was discussed with Major Patrick by Major Bell.

RAVENNA

6. General. Visited for three days in Feb by Capt Croft-Murray, during absence of AFM Officer, AMG 8 Army. Checked by letter on 2 March. Work proceeding, although slowly because of shortage of labor and materials. Assistente SAVINI of Superintendency has been doing a careful job and wisely prefers to use experienced workmen instead of employing available unskilled labor. Inghiere S. PORETTI, of

1. Herewith summary report on monuments of Porzi and Savenna, supplementing latest report 04/132 of 10 Jan 45, and initial report on churches near Coccocchia.

FORLI

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7. S. Apollinare Nuovo. Temporary work on nave completed; work on apse awaits necessary lime. Savini has made careful survey of mosaics (difficult because of poor light) and has made minor repairs.

8. S. Apollinare in Classe fuori. Most serious holes in roof of nave have been repaired; work continues on other parts of roofs. Tiles are being obtained by stripping damaged corner of exterior porch, where weather can do no harm. Carved fragments from campanile and from church exterior have been carefully preserved. Parroco expresses great satisfaction with work.

9. Mausoleo di Galla Placidia. Work completed.

22094/1A

3 MAR 1945

- 2 -

10. San Vitale. Water in church has gone down appreciably as the flood-control project lowers water level of surrounding country. No apparent damage has been caused in church. Resumption of electricity in Ravenna has not provided sufficient power to operate church's pumps.

11. S. Maria in Porto Fuori. Savini is experimenting with a local restorer, PLAZZA, to determine practicability of removing remaining fragments of fresco. No attempt will be made unless experiment (on unimportant surface) conclusively demonstrates Piazza's competence. Protective signs, provided by military, are in place.

12. S. Giovanni Evangelista. Owing to mis-understanding, several truckloads of brick rubble were removed in February by Italian and allied units. Stone fragments from portal had been gathered and stored in side chapel. Rubble lost fortu-nately happens to be not too serious; stout barbed wire fence and prohibition of new Out of Bounds signs, both now in place, should prevent further mishaps. Otherwise building is as reported 10 Jan 45.

11. Duomo. Work completed on Cappella del Sacramento.

12. Loretta Lombardese. Work not yet begun. Genio Civile has been authorized to include temporary roof repairs in adjacent cloister of S. Maria in Porto.

13. Archivio Notarile (Palazzo Sperti). Work completed, administrative question as to serviceability, raised by Major Bell, has been referred to Legal Officer, Emilia Region.

14. Biblioteca Classense. Work completed on roof over library quarters, which are in excellent condition. New director, Prof Bruno MEDINI, has been nominated by Comune to fill vacancy reported 6 Dec 44. Vice-Director SAPPARENTI is proceeding with check of storage vaults for damp, as recommended by Major Bell. Ufficio Tecnico has been directed to erect barrier to replace broken temporary and between library corridor and adjacent school occupied by troops.

15. S. Francesco. Work not yet begun.

16. S. Maria in Porto Citta. Work not yet begun, but temporary setting of south transept, for service purposes, has been started by Piazza. Fragments of choir-stalls carefully collected and stored within 10 p.m.

17. Museo Nazionale. Savini will prepare preliminary estimates for major repair project. First-aid work completed.

18. Battistaro. Temporary repairs of roof completed.

19. Battistaro degli Ariani. Temporary repairs completed.

20. Spirito Santo. Main repair work is to be started soon by Genio Civile whose family is closely connected with history of this church.

1157

12. S. Giovanni Evangelista. Ceiling to north transept, several fragments of brick rubble were removed in February by Italian and allied units. Stone fragments from portal had been gathered and stored in side chapel. Rubble lost fortuitously happens to be not too serious; stout barbed wire fence and confusion of roof out of Bouria's signs, both now in place, should prevent further mishaps. Otherwise building is as reported 10 Jan 45.

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17. Museo Nazionale. Savini will prepare preliminary estimates for major repair project. First-aid work completed.

18. Zattistaro. Temporary repair of roof completed.

19. Battistero degli Ariani. Temporary repairs completed.

20. Spirito Santo. Some repair work is to be started soon by Genio Civile, whose family is closely connected with history of this church.

OSCOLO

21. S. Pietro in Trento. Small brick Romanesque church, with parts of earliest structure, much restored in 1927. Serravallo and raised campanile to ground, with loss of base and rear end of nave. Crypt under apse uninjured; front portion of nave, including facade, unharmed except for bad shaking of all walls. Parroco Anacleto MILDREI, with aid of local engineer, has braced damaged walls and constructed temporary closure across rear of nave. No further present action required, but reconstruction at a later period should be considered seriously.

22. S. Pietro in Vincoli. Small brick Romanesque church. Campanile, mined by Germans, is about half gone, but church does not appear to have suffered otherwise except possibly from shaking of blast.

NORMAN I. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
Senior Officer, AGO 6 Army.

1157

ATTN: AS.
 HQ AMG Eighth Army,
 19 January 1945.
 OA/L32

SUBJECT: Deposits in Palazzo Rasponi-Murat, RAVENNA.

TO : Director, Subcommittee for Monuments, Fine Arts, and
 Archives, HQ Allied Commission, APO 394.

1. Ref RAV/L/7 of 22 Dec 44 from MFAA Officer Emilia Region to SCAO
 AMG Eighth Army, attention of the undersigned, received 9 Jan 45.

2. Deposits referred to in Palazzo Rasponi-Murat have been checked by
 the undersigned with the three custodi of the Palazzo and with the Contessa
 Pasolini, and have been discussed with CAO and Town Major of Ravenna.

3. Two of the deposits are intact in the Empire Apartment, which has
 been Out of Bounds since Allied occupation. It was agreed that the deposits
 should be left as they are, in charge of the custodians of that part of the
 Palazzo.

4. The third deposit is intact in the quarters protectively occupied
 by the custodian of the front part of the Palazzo. This portion of the
 building, except for the rooms of the custode, was approved for occupancy
 by responsible military units (see report OA/L32 of 18 Dec 44) and has been
 so occupied without harm. It is at present reserved by a Corps HQ but is
 actually occupied only by the Military Police of that HQ. It was agreed
 that the deposit should remain untouched, and Town Major has promised to
 ensure custodian's permission to remain in residence.

5. In each case all concerned, including the custodians, believed the
 deposits to be far more secure where they are than they would be in any
 other place to which they could be removed.

6. In view of the nature of the information involved, this reply is
 not being given as wide distribution as original unclassified reference
 letter.

Copy to
 MFAA Officer, Emilia Region

Norman T. Newton
 NORMAN T. NEWTON,
 Major, Air Corps,
 MFAA Officer, AMG 8 Army.

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Norman T. Newton

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
LTAA Officer, AMG 8 Army.

Copy to
LTAA Officer, Emilia Region

1156

INSTRUMENTS FILE	23 GEN 1945
FILE NO	20906/9

20094/11A

Tel. Ext: 93

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
EIGHTH ARMY

SUBJECT: Supplementary Report,
Monuments of FORLI and RAVENNA

HQ AMG Eighth Army,

10 January 1945.

OA/132

To: SCAO, AMG Eighth Army

1. Herewith report of developments relating to monuments of FORLI and RAVENNA, supplementing latest reports of 7 Dec 44 and 18 Dec 44, respectively.

FORLI

2. San Biagio. In the continued German shelling and bombing of Forli since latest previous report, only Church of San Biagio has suffered. On 10 Dec 44 it was completely destroyed by direct bomb hit.

3. Palazzo delle Raccolte Cittadine. With considerable effort, occupation by troops has been avoided. Damaged roof over Ethnographic Museum is being repaired. Because of German shelling, Director SERVOLINI postponed bringing back pictures from deposits at San Giorgio and Fieve Acquedotto, but is now preparing to bring them in and to systematize the collections in next few weeks. Deposits have been checked; all items are intact except those taken by Germans from San Giorgio (see report of 7 Dec 44). Temporary repairs were completed at Biblioteca-Archivio deposit in Chiesa Nuova of Vecchiavazzo, and Director has begun bringing material back to Forli. IFAA Officer arranged with Provincial Finance Officer to have long-due payment made to Prof Servolini as Acting Director of Forli Section, Archivio dello Stato; Servolini had been meeting expenses from his own pocket. Funds have been provided by Comune for Servolini's activities as Director of Pinacoteca, Biblioteca Comunale, and Museo Civico.

RAVENNA

4. General. Working collaboratively, Genio Civile and Committee on Monuments have made considerable progress despite difficulties of labor, material, and transport. Roof repairs have been impeded by icy conditions.

5. S. Apollinare Nuovo. Roof of apse and nave has been repaired; entire church has been cleaned of debris.

To: SOAO, APC Light Army

1. Herewith report of developments relating to monuments of FORLI and RAVENNA, supplementing latest reports of 7 Dec 44 and 18 Dec 44, respectively.

FORLI

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4. General. Working collaboratively, Genio Civile and Committee on Monuments have made considerable progress despite difficulties of labor, material, and transport. Roof repairs have been impeded by icy conditions.
5. S. Apollinare Nuovo. Roof of apse and nave has been repaired; side aisles now being done. Entire church has been cleared of debris. 1155
6. S. Apollinare in Classe Thori. Survey completed by Genio Civile. Work to start as soon as transport is available for laborers. Debris has been cleared from church. Group of patriots were of material assistance here.
7. Mausoleo di Galla Placidia. Minor repairs needed on roof have been completed by Assistente SAVINI.
8. S. Vitale. Flooding continues, but without apparent damage. No ice has formed inside church.

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8 BEN 1948

20081/MPAA
8 Jan 45

REPORT ON TOUR OF INSPECTION OF MONUMENTS IN THE

PROVINCES OF TUSCANY AND EMILIA, December 4-16, 1944

Places visited: SISNA, FLORENCE, AREZZO, CORTONA, GASTIGLIONE,
MONTETINO, PRATO, PISTOIA, S. CASCIANO, STAGGIA,
POGGIBONSI, ALTOPASCIO, PESOIA, SAVOLI, LUCCA,
PISA, RIMINI and RAVENNA.

1. The inspection tour was begun on December 4 by the Director of MPAA in company with Major Paul Gardner who took photographs of the damage to buildings inspected during the tour.

2. December 5 was spent visiting the offices of the MPAA officers of Toscana Region and of 5 Army AMG. Inspecting officers reported to Executive Officer 5 Army AMG and paid courtesy call to SCAG 5 Army AMG.

3. Accompanied by Lieut. Hartt, MPAA officer of Toscana Region, the Director and Major Gardner spent the day of Dec. 6 at AREZZO. Meeting the Italian officer in charge of monuments at the Casa Vasari, a tour of the principal monuments of that city was undertaken. It was with emotion that the famous frescoes of Piero della Francesca were seen to be safe in the church of S. Francesco. As previously reported most of the important churches in AREZZO have suffered only minor roof damage. Repairs are in progress in these cases such as at the church of S. Maria della pieve and at S. Domenico. The cloister of the Badia has been very badly damaged. Although the work of clearance and repair is progressing much water was seeping into the halls adjacent during this very wet spell. The famous huge painting of the "Descent of Assuerus" by Vasari, which took up the whole side of one of the rooms was removed recently to the museum by the enterprising young Italian official in charge of the repair-works at AREZZO. The Museum in the Palazzo Pretorio which had been hit was visited and the salvaged pictures viewed. The fragments of the primitives which had been damaged by the hit have since been sent to the laboratory of the Uffizi at Florence for assembly and attention.

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The evening was spent at the villa of Prof. Mario Salmi at STOPPEDARCO in which there is a deposit of art treasures from AREZZO.

4. On December 7, the director and Lieut. Hartt met with Prof. Prosseri, of the Uffizi gallery in FLORENCE, at CORTONA in order to examine the condition of two famous 15th century altarpieces, - the one painted by Fra Angelico, the other by Sassetta, - which had been walled up in the damp church of S. Domenico and to which access had not previously been given to MFAA officers in spite of inquiries made as long ago as last July. When the vault was opened and the pictures brought out they were found to be in a very precarious condition with heavy mould all over the painted surface. Their condition was photographed by Lt. Hartt. (A few days later they were taken to the laboratory of the Uffizi gallery in FLORENCE for attention and repair.) A visit to the museum in the Gersh showed the Angelicos and Signorellis under expert care and in good condition. The only building in CORTONA which was seriously damaged was the palazzo Pretorio, part of which was destroyed by a German mine. The work of restoration was inspected in the presence of the sindaco of the town.

At CASTIGLION FIORENTINO the churches of S. Maria della Consolazione, S. Francesco, S. Lazo and San Giuliano were inspected. Repairs are necessary to the roof of S. Francesco, and steps must be taken to protect the 14th cent. frescoes of the small church of S. Lazo which has been unroofed. In the substructure of S. Giuliano the deposit of pictures from the local gallery, including the great Assenti by Segna di Monastero, was inspected and found in good condition.

5. On December 8 PRATO and PISTOIA were visited. At PRATO the most important work has been accomplished in the restoration of the frescoed tabernacle of the Madonna originally painted by Filippino Lippi. This fresco had been broken into bits as the result of a bomb-hit, the bits gathered together by the restorer, and with much care and labor reassembled like a gigantic picture-puzzle and reset in plaster with astonishing results. The cathedral at PRATO is undamaged as are most of the other important churches there. The church of S. Bartolomeo, however, is demolished as to its interior.

At PISTOIA the two most badly damaged churches, S. Domenico

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At PISTOIA the two most badly damaged churches, S. Domenico and S. Giovanni Fuocivite, were visited. Here too the greatest damage is to the roof and interior. The facade sculptures had been protected and the pulpit and holy-water stoup in the latter church also escaped damage by being walled up. On the facade of the Duomo in the lunette over the main portal there is now visible a fine 12-13th century Panteonator, previously unknown, which came to light when the Della Robbia lunette was removed to safety, which normally occupied the space.

5. On the way to SIENNA on Dec. 9, stopped off at SAN CASCIANO to inspect the Simone Martini Crucifix and the Ugolino Madonna and saints which the provveditore of the town had stored in his house for safety. The Pollaiuolo altarpiece in S. Maria Egiziaca at STAGGIA was inspected and is intact. The monastery-church of S. Lucchese outside POMPONCI was visited. The entire roof of the church was destroyed by fire during an air-raid and an altarpiece of the school of Orcagna and a wooden Madonna of the Gothic period completely burned up. The remaining frescoes still are in need of protective covering against the elements. At SIENNA the Gallery was visited where a great exhibition of Sienese painting of the 13th century on is preparation. It will open on December 18 under the patronage of Field Marshall Alexander.

7. On December 10 the inspection party left for LUCCA but was unable to reach it because of the flooded roads. Instead an excursion was made to ALTOPASCIO to inspect the romanesque tower and the facade of the old romanesque church there. The latter has been slightly damaged by shrapnel but the important early inset sculptural plaques are in perfect condition. At PESCIA the church of S. Francesco was made the object of a special visit. The famous 13th century panel by Berlinghieri depicting S. Francis and scenes from his life was found to be intact.

8. On December 11 LUCCA was approached from the south bank of the Arno via Pisa. En route the damaged churches at SPOLTO were visited, the Collegiata and S. Agostino. In the former from which the famous Mesolino Pietà had been removed to safety the remarkable 15th century marble baptismal font which had recently been uncovered from the debris and found to be safe was inspected. In S. Agostino the frescoes are in good condition. In LUCCA there has been little damage. The Germans had shelled the town after they had evacuated it and one shell had hit and penetrated the vault of the right aisle above the chapel of the Volto Santo. S. Pradano, S. Maria Forisportam, and S. Michele also visited and found in good condition.

At PISA, the excellent work of the PBO engineers on the Campo Santo in building the temporary protective roof over the frescoes was inspected. That work is now completed. The job of cleaning the lead from the sculptures is progressing as is the difficult job of attaching loose bits of fresco. A portion

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At PISA, the excellent work of the PBS engineers on the Campo Santo in building the temporary protective roof over the frescoes was inspected. That work is now completed. The job of cleaning the lead from the sculptures is progressing as is the difficult job of attaching loose bits of fresco. A portion of the fresco of the Hermits in the Desert had recently fallen from the walls. Along both banks of the Arno and particularly along the south side the destruction of PISA is terrific. Most of the important churches are badly damaged. S. Maria della Spina, however, which stands practically on the edge of the south bank has escaped any damage whatsoever. One Gothic pinnacle was cracked and is leaning! In the case of other churches such as S. Michele in Borgo, S. Matteo, and S. Paolo a Ripa d'Arno where the interiors are very badly damaged the facades stand practically intact.

9. On December 12, a visit was paid to the Uffizi in FLORENCE where considerable damage to the roofs had been caused by the explosions in the mined areas along the Arno. Due to the very rainy weather at the time of the visit the water was streaming through the damaged roofs on to the floors of the apartments on the top floor. Measures have been taken to secure tiles and plans for proper repairs but both repairs and procurement of materials for repairs have been slow. The laboratory of the museum in which works of art are repaired and restored was also visited. Experts were at work on the fragments of the Della Robbia brought in from the ruined church of the IMPRUNETA and on the repair of the Angelico and Sassetti triptychs from CORTONA mentioned in para 4. The fragments of the primitives salvaged from the bombed rooms of the museum at AREZZO (para. 3) were assembled in another room. The work of Prof. Prossoci of the Uffizi in caring for these damaged works of art is to be highly commended.

10. When the news of the liberation of RAVENNA was received, permission was requested and granted from SCAG Army ANG to visit that city which was still within range of enemy fire. On the way to RAVENNA on Dec 13 the Tempio Malatestiano at RIMINI was inspected. As previous reports had indicated this building has been very badly damaged. Although the eastern end is demolished and the roof is gone over the entire nave, the important sculptural decoration by Agostino di Duccio is almost miraculously safe. After the first air-bombardment of RIMINI protective brick walls had been built about the decorated piers. Many of the reliefs elsewhere in the church had been similarly protected. But in the case of others which had not been protected and in the case of the 22 small statues along the clerestory walls (some of which are stucco restorations) there has been very slight damage. The head of one of the putti in the relief in the last chapel on the right has been damaged by shrapnel, and the head of one of the statues and the face of another have been knocked off.

11. RAVENNA itself was visited on Dec. 14, Major Newton, who had been in the city since its liberation, was located while having a meeting with three citizens of the town to organize proper measures for the protection and examination of the buildings of RAVENNA. This committee consisted of Prof. A. Benini, 14540.

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S. Vitale: although a bomb had demolished the adjacent building and damaged the cloister used as an outdoor museum the church itself and the mosaics are intact. The apse-dome mosaic of Christ on the Globe of the world and the lower mosaics portraying Justinian and Theodora with their attendants were covered with

cloth protection. There was much water covering the floor of the church, more than is usual even at this time of the year and will have to be pumped out.

The Mausoleum of Galla Placidia: is apparently intact in spite of enemy claims that it was destroyed by Allied bombardments. The mosaics appeared completely intact, and the great sarcophagus within the chapel is undamaged. Protective walls had been erected outside the entrance doors against the blast of explosions.

S. Apollinare Nuovo: the house across the street from the church has been demolished, the house right up against the round campanile has also collapsed around the foot of the campanile, but the campanile is intact. Inside the church, the stucco vaults of the right aisle, which were built in the 18th century, have collapsed in part as the result of blast damage. The apse, which is also a 18th century reconstruction, has been cracked in spots, and the last two rows of coffers of the wooden ceiling nearest the apse are damaged, letting in light and rain, but the columns of the nave and the entire clerestory with its priceless mosaics are completely intact. The clerestory windows are walled up with brick, and brick supporting piers had been placed beneath every second arch of the nave-arcade.

The Duomo: although there is a hole in the roof the damage is not great and none of the monuments of importance are damaged.

The Orthodox Baptistery: one of the corners of the exterior octagon has been nicked by shrapnel as have some of the tiles on the roof. Inside there is a small bit of the mosaic, about the size of a fist, which has been damaged above the entrance door. The fallen cubes were taken as souvenirs by German soldiers. There were also a few cracks in this lower portion of the vault mosaics. These have been mostly repaired. The great mosaic and the famous relief figures between the windows are intact.

The Archbishop's Palace: is intact with its chapel decorated with 6th century mosaics. The sculptural fragments from early church furnishings are also safe. The famous ivory throne of the Bishop Maximianus is walled up on one of the lower floors.

The Arian Baptistery: there have been many hits all around on buildings close to the baptistry. The small church of S. Spirito nearby has blast damage, but the baptistry and its mosaic is intact. At present the entrance has been bricked up to

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S. Apollinare in Classe: as there was much fighting in the vicinity the church and the campanile had received a number of artillery hits. There is one rather large hole on the right side of the campanile but it is repairable and does not endanger the tower. There are also holes at the second window and between the sixth seventh windows of the left aisle of the church. There are ten holes in the roof, one right above the entrance into the apse. The apse and its mosaic had been protected by a heavy beam-scaffold inside and a heavy cotton-wool curtain hung in front of the apse. Consequently the mosaic itself has had very little

damage. There are four shrapnel holes in it, two in the blue field of the cross (at the right), and two in the lower border (one between the 1st and 2nd lambs at the left, and the other below the fourth lamb at the right). There is no damage to any of the representations in the mosaic. The glass is of course blown out from all the windows and was lying all over the floor together with the debris of roof-tiles. The sarcophagi along the side aisles are all intact except for the second one in the left aisle which has a crack running through the lamb at the left. The sculptured tabernacle at the end of the left aisle is intact. The area in front of the church was still mined at the time of the visit.

S. Maria in Porto Fuori: could not be visited, of the water and the mines. It has, however, been severely damaged.

S. Francesco: the roof at the upper end of the left aisle is gone. There is a hole in the right wall of the chapel in which the tracento frescoes are, and the stone slab with the crusader inscription is cracked but otherwise safe.

The tomb of Dante which is in the building to the left of Francesco is intact.

S. Giovanni Evangelista: has been badly damaged. Most of the roof is gone and the first two bays and the entire facade except for the entrance portal. The mosaic floor-pavement set up along the lower wall of the left aisle are for the most part in good condition. Those nearest the facade end are covered by the debris, and one in particular which is right below the entrance-path into the ruins is cracked across the right upper corner. Recommendations for their removal to safety were made to the WFAA officer in charge. In the chapel in the left aisle there is roof damage and a large portion of the giottoesque frescoes have collapsed. It was recommended that these fragments be removed to safety for possible later restoration.

Ernest T. DeWald

ERNEST T. DE WALD
Lt. Col. Spec. Res.
Director

1944

22 DIC

EMILIA REGION

Monuments and Fine Arts Section

Ref: RAV/1/7

22 Dec 44

SUBJECT: The Palazzo Rasponi-Murat, Via Cassino d'Azeglio, 11 Ravenna.

TO : S.C.A.C., A.M.G., VIII Army (for attention of Major Norman Newton, M.F.A. Officer).

1. Information as to the contents of the above palace, on List of Protected Monuments, No. 6, p. 38, was given me on 21:VII:44 by the owner, the Conte Spalletti Rasponi, now living at the Villa Luciani, Quarata, Tiziana, Pistoia.
2. The following are amongst the most important items of the Collection (a) Pictures and Sculpture: Portrait of Joachim Murat, by Gerard Portrait of Caroline Murat, by Gerard Equestrian Portrait of Joachim Murat, unsigned. Portrait of Caroline Murat, unsigned Portrait of Pauline Borghese, by Barton (name unidentified). Portrait Bust of Joachim Murat, by Canova. (b) Other Works of Art, etc: Decorations and other Relics of Murat and Bonaparte Family- Several important pieces of Empire Furniture. Library of Caroline Murat. Important Archivio of documents relating to Murat and Bonaparte Family. (c) Library and Archives: ^{the} All the above are stored on the premises, and entrances to the deposits walled up and concealed by being plastered over. The furniture 2(b), the Library (in wooden packing cases) and the Archivio (c), are all in a space near the kitchen on the mezzanine, between the ground floor and the piano nobile. The pictures are in a space at the end of the corridor on the piano nobile, the entrance being masked by a cupboard with shelves filled with rubbish. The Murat Relics 2(b) are in the Apartment of the Contessa Eugenia Rasponi, who lives on the premises.
4. It is understood that the piano nobile has handsome decorations of the Empire period.
5. The Contessa Rasponi, Piazza dell'Aquila, Ravenna, knows the exact date when the various contents of the Palazzo Rasponi were deposited.

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- (a) Pictures and Sculpture: Portrait of Joachim Murat, by Gerard
Portrait of Caroline Murat, by Gerard
Equestrian Portrait of Joachim Murat, by
unassigned.
Portrait of Caroline Murat, unassigned
Portrait of Pauline Borghese, by Barten
(name unidentified).
Portrait Bust of Joachim Murat, by
Canova.
- (b) Other works of art, etc: Decorations and other Relics of Murat
and Bonaparte Family-- Several important
pieces of Empire Furniture.
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5. The Contessa Pasolini, Tiasa dell'Aquila, Ravenna, knows the exact
spots where the various contents of the Palazzo Rasponi is deposited,
and there is a custode, by name Capucci, who lives in the Palace.

Distribution:

Reg. Commissioner, Emilia
Prov. Commissioner, Ravenna
C.A.C., A.M.O., Villarey, Ravenna
Town Major, Ravenna
Director, M.P.A. Sub-Comm. A.C. Rome
Capt. Humphrey Brooke, Archives Section,
File RAV/V/

Edward Craft Murray
Edward Craft-Murray

Capt.
MYAAJ Officer
Emilia Region

Region IV, A.C.

27 DEC 1944
FILE NO 20087

20094/114
20087

SUBJECT :- Supplementary Report, Monuments
of RAVENNA.

HQ AMG Eighth Army

18 December 1944

OA/132

TO: SCAO AMG Eighth Army.

1. Herewith report of developments relating to monuments of Ravenna, supplementing preliminary report of 6 December.
2. Organization of Work. In the absence of the Superintendent of Monuments, Corrado CAPEZZUOLI (reported to be blocked at SOLAROLO), a voluntary civilian Committee on Monuments was appointed by the Prefect to fulfill temporarily the functions of the Superintendency of Monuments in collaboration with the Genio Civile. Membership: Teodoro ORSELLI, painter and Member Giunta Comunale; Alieto BENINI, Professor of Art History and Preside del Liceo e Ginnasio; Arrigo SAVINI, Assistente alla Soprintendenza ai Monumenti. Numerous conferences have been held with the Committee and the Genio Civile to discuss emergency first-aid projects recommended to Provincial Commissioner on 13 December. Despite critical shortages of material, labor, and transport, work on these urgent repairs has been begun. It is believed that all concerned, both military and civil, understand the exceptional position of Ravenna's monuments and will concentrate on their conservation. Emergency first-aid projects are here reported in paras 3 to 15 in order of their priority.

3. S. Apollinare Nuovo. Roof to be examined and repaired where necessary; damage very light except in right aisle. Brick blocking of clerestory windows is almost completely intact; breaks will be repaired at once. Broken windows of right aisle will be temporarily closed. Repairs to sacristy and cloister will be needed later on.

4. S. Apollinare in Classe Fuori. Despite penetration by numerous shells, only the slightest damage has occurred to mosaics, columns, and sarcofagi. Protective covering of apse still in place. Roof to be examined for leaks and repaired where necessary to prevent infiltration over mosaics; holes and broken windows to be blocked; structural stability of church and campanile to be checked and ensured. More extensive general repairs will be required in a later period.

5. Mausoleo di Galla Placidia. Roof has been checked by Savini; minor cracks are being repaired. No further action needed.

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5. Mausoleo di Galla Placidia. Roof has been checked by Savini. Minor cracks are being repaired. No further action needed.

6. S. Vitale. Roof has been checked by Savini; minor cracks are being repaired. Vigili del Fuoco began pumping water out of church with auxiliary gasoline pump. No hooding could be made against seepage because of high water-table created by flooded plains of region. Only immediate danger involved is from ice in case of freezing; Savini will watch for this and break any ice that forms. When electric energy is available, undamaged pumps now in place can be operated normally. In absence of power, gasoline pump should be allocated to San Vitale, if and when possible. At 1000 liters per minute, 36 hours of pumping would be needed to empty present volume, followed by 3 to 6 hours of pumping daily to prevent refilling.

7. S. Maria in Porto Fuori. Destroyed except for parts of walls, with a few remaining areas of fresco. Bodies still being removed from debris. Parroco says Germans had occupied church and OP in Campanile for some two months. Local people were cautioned against trampling fallen fragments of fresco. Temporary barrier is to be erected by Genio Civili and measures improvised to retain remains of fresco until such time as expert can attempt detaching them from walls.

8. S. Giovanni Evangelista. More remains than appeared on first inspection. Rear half of nave seems relatively stable. Roof of left chapel to be repaired to protect remains of Giottoesque frescos; fallen fragments of fresco have been removed to Museo Nazionale; gates to chapel are now chained and locked. Broken parts of framed floor-mosaics in left aisle have been removed to Museo; others will be removed by Superintendent along with fragments of stone portal. Protective signs were placed about ruins; barbed-wire fence is to be erected, with aid of Canadians, to prevent removal of debris until it can be done with care under supervision of Superintendentcy of Monuments.

9. Duomo. Roof over Chapel of the Sacrament is to be repaired to protect decorations by Guido Reni. Repair of main body of church must be deferred.

10. Loggetta Lombardesca. (Loggia del Giardino). Damaged roof-framing to be stabilized by Genio Civile to prevent collapse; new covering for roof must come later. Fragments of stone have been gathered and stored inside building.

11. Archivio Natarile. In top floor of Palazzo Sperti. Posted at of Bounds. Very little damage from leaks in roof. These breaks will be repaired immediately. Custode Cesare VIGNUZZI has already blocked off windows where rain might enter.

12. Biblioteca Classense. Posted Out of Bounds. Roof to be checked by Genio Civile and repaired if necessary to prevent seepage; broken windows to be blocked wherever hooks or Archivio are endangered.

13. S. Francesco. Roof to be checked and repaired against seepage; windows and broken front portal to be blocked; temporary roof to be built over left aisle; general stability to be ensured. Further permanent repairs will be needed later. Water is to be pumped from crypt when and are available.

14. S. Maria in Porto Città. General stability of space and

8. S. Giovanni Evangelista. More remains than appeared on first inspection. Rear half of nave seems relatively stable. Roof of left chapel to be repaired to protect remains of Giotto's frescoes; fallen fragments of fresco have been removed to Museo Nazionale; gates to chapel are now chained and locked. Broken parts of framed floor-mosaics in left aisle have been removed to Museo; others will be removed by Superintendent along with fragments of stone portal. Protective signs were placed about ruins; barbed-wire fence is to be erected, with aid of Canadians, to prevent removal of debris until it can be done with care under supervision of Superintendent of Monuments.

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11. Archivio Notarile. In top floor of Palazzo Spreti. Posted out of Bounds. Very little damage from leaks in roof. These breaks will be repaired immediately. Custode Cesare VIGNUZZI has already blocked off windows where rain might enter.

12. Biblioteca Classense. Posted Out of Bounds. Roof to be checked by Genio Civile and repaired if necessary to prevent seepage; broken windows to be blocked wherever backs or Archivio are endangered.

13. S. Francesco. Roof to be checked and repaired against seepage; windows and broken front portal to be blocked; temporary roof to be built over left aisle; general stability to be ensured. Further permanent repairs will be needed later. Water is to be pumped from crypt when it is available.

14. S. Maria in Porto Città. General stability of apse and cupola to be checked and ensured; roof to be repaired where needed to prevent seepage; shell-hole in apse to be blocked to deter further damage to carved wood choir-stalls; windows to be blocked, especially lunettes over altars in left-aisle chapels. Adjoining ex-monastery will need considerable repair in later period (see also para 10).

15. Museo Nazionale. Posted Out of Bounds; broken doorways in rear toward Caserma are now blocked up. Structural stability to be ensured by Genio Civile. In time considerable permanent reconstruction will be needed, as well as systematic removal of debris to recover buried sound material.

-- 3 --

16. Battistaro. Roof being checked by Superintendent to guarantee absence of leaks.
17. Battistaro degli Ariani. Roof already checked by Superintendent and minor repairs in progress. Doorway has been blocked pending repair of broken doors. Damaged portion of adjacent wall of Casa di Dredone may require partial removal to avoid imperiling roof of Baptistery.
18. Palazzo Comunale. Preliminary report omitted reference to damage of extreme east end adjoining Prefettura. No immediate action needed.
19. Palazzo dell'Archivescovado. As previously reported, this is intact with all its contents. Not posted Out of Bounds, but Town Major has agreed not to requisition. Archivio Archivesville, according to archivist Don Mario LAZZOTTI, is intact; some of most important items were wall-mounted locally and will shortly be restored to normal location in Archivio.
20. Rocca Brancalona. Hit repeatedly by bombs but not seriously damaged. No action needed.
21. Accademia di Belle Arti. Posted Out of Bounds. Custode has repaired broken windows. No further action needed.
22. Palazzo Rasponi delle Teste. Examined with representative of Divisional HQ. Occupied by troops with no danger to mediocre interiors. Considerable damage from concussion; repairs will ultimately be needed.
23. Palazzo Rasponi Murat. Approved for occupancy by responsible troops except Empire Warrent, which is posted Out of Bounds at all entrances. Minor damage from concussion and from a few small-caliber hits. Collection of Murat mementoes had been removed by owners prior to occupancy by Germans. Letter are said by Custode to have taken considerable furniture of secondary value after forced agreement with owners.
24. Casa di Dredone. Consists only of brick wall between Spirito Santo and Battistaro degli Ariani. Holes and weakened by near-miss.
25. Casa Diedi. Handsome brick facade intact, Via Romolo/Cassini 18. Occupancy could not involve monumental values.
26. Casa Ghigi. House completely modernized; of no monumental

18. Palazzo Comunale. Preliminary report omitted reference to damage of extreme east end adjoining Prefettura. No immediate action needed.
19. Palazzo dell'Archivescovo. As previously reported, this is intact with all its contents. Not posted Out of Bounds, but Town Major has agreed not to requisition. Archivio Arcivescovile, according to archivist Don Mario MAZZOTTI, is intact; some of most important items were well kept up legally and will shortly be restored to normal location in Archivio.
20. Dozza Brancalona. Hit repeatedly by bombs but not seriously damaged. No action needed.
21. Accademia di Belle Arti. Posted Out of Bounds. Custode has repaired broken windows. No further action needed.
22. Palazzo Rasponi delle Teste. Examined with representative of Divisional HQ. Occupied by troops with no danger to mediocre interiors. Considerable damage from concussion; repairs will ultimately be needed.
23. Palazzo Rasponi Murat. Approved for occupancy by responsive troops except Empire Apartment, which is posted Out of Bounds at all entrances. Minor damage from concussion and from a few small-caliber hits. Collection of Murat mementoes had been removed by owners prior to occupancy by Germans. Latter are said by Custode to have taken considerable furniture of secondary value after forced agreement with owners.
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25. Casa Diedi. Handsome brick facade intact, Via Romolo/Cassini 18. Occupancy could not involve monumental values.
26. Casa Ghigi. House completely modernized; of no monumental importance.
27. Casa Minzoni. Facade alone of value, Via Cairoli 25. No damage. Occupancy could not involve monumental values.
28. Casa Polentani. In poor repair; no occupancy problems.
29. Casa Stenmehellini. Only facade, at Via Paolo Costa 8, is of importance. Interiors of no value. Some damage to roof from concussion.
30. Casa Traversari. Restored building, Via San Vitale 12, occupied by private Biblioteca Reva. Locked; access not obtainable. Posted Out of Bounds.

- 4 -

31. Tomb of Theodorico. Undamaged but surrounded by water leading to German flooding of lands.
32. Casa Manghini. Non-monumental house of Avv. Antonio Serena MANGHINI, at Via Roma (Corso Garibaldi) 73. Owner's apartment contains built-in fragments of Roman mosaic pavements from Palace of Theodorico and other excavations. No damage to monumental values. Apartment placed out of bounds, occupied by owners.
33. General Protection. Places posted out of bounds are so noted above. On every listed monument was placed a Protected Monument poster, reading as follows: over the name of the Army Commander: "This is a protected Monument of historical importance. It is to be respected by all Allied personnel. No part of it, its contents, or material placed to protect it, whether damaged or undamaged, is to be removed." The spirit of this poster has been meticulously observed by troops. The cooperation of the Town Mayor, Major Wallace-King, has been notably fine. In every way the presence of Eighth Army in Ravenna has thus far been one of the brightest chapters in the experience of this MFAA Officer.

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFAA Officer, 1st Army.

Distribution:

SCAO AMG 8 Army (2)
RC, Region Emilia (2)
PC, Ravenna Province (2)
ALG LO, 8th Corps (2)
CAG, Ravenna (2)
Subc MFAA, HQ AG (10)
MFAA Officer, Region Emilia (o/o PG Bologna) (5)
Major Newton (2)

12 DIC 1944

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LAZIO-UMBRIA REGION
MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES DIVISION
A.F.O. 394

12 December 1944

Subject: Inspection of Archives and Libraries in Emilia and Marche.

To : Executive Officer, Lazio-Umbria Region, A.M.G.

Copy to: Director, Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives Subcommission, A.G.

1. FORLÌ (Visited December 1, 3 and 7)
Archivio di Stato.
A recently formed 'sezione' containing the Archives of the Comune and situated in the Palazzo dei Musei. The same building contains the Communal Library and Picture Gallery, all under the Direction of Professor Servolini. The best of the Archives and a large proportion of the books (about 15,000 volumes) were moved to the Chiesa Nuova, Vecchiavane, about 3 km. from Forlì. The Museum and its remaining contents are intact.
2. The Chiesa Nuova has been damaged by shell fire and though its contents have not as yet suffered they are in a precarious condition. There is a hole in the roof and a side wall and all the windows are blown out. There is a good custode in charge and 'out of bounds' signs had been posted. The Fine Arts Officer, A.M.G. 8th Army, wrote at once to the Provincial Commissioner Forlì and the Genio Civile have been told to take immediate steps to make the building weather proof.
3. Servolini has secured the use of a truck from the Comune and will gradually bring back the contents of the church, but this will be a long job. Meanwhile attempts to requisition the Library for billeting purposes are being resisted through the C.A.G. Forlì (Capt. Barwell) and the Town Major.
4. Archivio Notarile. In Via Maroncelli. The repository has been occupied by the 142 Regt. R.A.C. but most of the documents have been stored separately under the supervision of the staff and no damage by the troops was noted. The 2nd I/C of the Regt. (Major Fox) and the Adjutant were very cooperative and undertook to see that every precaution would be taken not to disturb the contents. The 8th Army notice **1145** against damage or removal was posted on the building.
5. The undersigned reported to the Fine Arts Officer A.M.G. 8th Army and at his request took the matter up with the C.A.G., Forlì. He recommended that as soon as the present emergency may permit the building should be cleared of troops and that in the meantime any subsequent unit occupying the place should be warned by the Town Major of their responsibility for the safety of the Archives: the civilian staff should also have access to the documents if necessary.

20094/1/A 6. ROMA (December, 2)

The Gambalunga Library, l'Archivio Storico Comunale and the Archivio Fotografico are all housed in one building and are safe. Reports of the Fine Arts Officer, A.M.C. 8th Army, cover the repair work already effected at his instigation and of the occupation of a part of the premises by the civilian post office. One room of the library contains books that are still damp and mildewed; prompt attention would preserve these from serious damage.

7. CHATEAU (December 3)
Minor repairs have already been effected to the building containing the magnificent Biblioteca Malatestiana. A temporary home has been found here for the Archivio Storico Comunale which was in adjacent building damaged by bombs.

8. PERUGIA (December 4)
Notarial Archives in Via Berignani intact.

9. Cathedral Archives, reported by Bishop's secretary to be intact.

10. Biblioteca Oliveriana and Archivio Comunale are housed in the Palazzo Alberici, Via Mazza. Minor repairs have already been effected and in the absence of the Director a Comissario has been appointed, Professor Bonini. He is 81 years old but most active and intelligent and the work of drying out damaged books is well in hand. He reported that he had not been able to visit any of the 'deposits' and doubted whether the Fine Arts Officer knew of the whereabouts of these.

11. The custody of this important library and of the large collection of the Archives which includes an extensive series of local records the 'Archivio Metastene della Provincia' is obviously too large a task for one man and a female assistant. A solution might be the creation of a new 'sezione' of the Archivio di Stato, with a Director of its own, to include the Comunal Archives and the Notarial Archives. This plan was recently under consideration by the Ministry of Interior but is a matter for local authorities and the Comissario for State Archives to decide. Professor Bonini appeared to favour the idea and thought that there would be adequate accommodation in the Piazza Alberici. (see also Report of Fine Arts Officer, Region 5, dated 13 November 44).

12. FANO (December 4)
In the absence of the Director it was impossible to inspect the Federiciens Library and the Archivio Comunale, but Count Borghesani who is the local authority on all such matters stated that everything was in good order. The loss to archives is confined to those of the Cathedral which as previously reported by the Fine Arts Officer, 8th Army, are under German demolition by the Germans.

13. RAVENNA (December 6)
Archivio Comunale and Biblioteca Classense.

contents are safe.

1144

Notaries are all housed in one building and are safe. Reports of the Fine Arts Officer, A.M.O. 8th Army, cover the repair work already effected at his instigation and of the occupation of a part of the premises by the civilian Post Office. One room of the Library contains books that are still damp and mildewed; prompt attention would preserve these from serious damage.

7. CASERTA (December 3)

Minor repairs have already been effected to the building containing the magnificent Biblioteca Malatestiana. A temporary home has been found here for the Archivio Storico Comunale which was in adjacent building damaged by bombs.

8. PESARO (December 4)
Notarial Archives in Via Benignani intact.

9. Cathedral Archives, reported by Bishop's secretary to be intact.

10. Biblioteca Oliveriana and Archivio Comunale are housed in the Palazzo Almerici, Via Magna. Minor repairs have already been effected and in the absence of the Director a Comissario has been appointed, Professor Bonini. He is 21 years old but most active and intelligent and the work of drying out damaged books is well in hand. He reported that he had not been able to visit any of the 'depositi' and doubted whether the Fine Arts Officer knew of the whereabouts of these.

11. The custody of this important library and of the large collection of the Archives which includes an extensive series of local records the 'Archivio Meturense della Provincia' is obviously too large a task for one man and a female assistant. A solution might be the creation of a new 'sezione' of the Archivio di Stato, with a Director of its own, to include the Comunal Archives and the Notarial Archives. This plan was recently under consideration by the Ministry of Interior but is a matter for local authorities and the Comissario for State Archives to decide. Professor Bonini appeared to favour the idea and thought that there would be adequate accommodation in the Palazzo Almerici. (see also Report of Fine Arts Officer, Region 5, dated 13 November 44).

12. PANO (December 4)

In the absence of the Director it was impossible to inspect the Federician Library and the Archivio Comunale, but Count Borgheselli who is the local authority on all such matters stated that everything was in good order. The loss to Archives is confined to those of the Cathedral, which as previously reported by the Fine Arts Officer, 8th Army, are under German demolition by the Germans.

13. RAVENNA (December 6)

Archivio Comunale and Biblioteca Classense.

The building has suffered minor bomb damage but the contents are safe. A small number of the Incunabule (about 60 out of over 700) were sent to Veneto, but the remainder are walled up in the premises. The Archives and Manuscripts are said to be all 'in situ'. The Director died recently but several members of the staff were on duty.

14. Archivio Notariale. On the top floor of the undamaged Palazzo Sperti. Some of the documents were moved to Fusignano, Via Roma 9, and the Director is with them. This place is still in German occupation. A report on this has been sent to the Fine Arts Officer 6th Army and he has also been asked to protect the premises of the Archivio from requisition.

15. Cattedrale archives. The Archbishop's archivist could not be found but a priest reported that both the 'Archivio Arcivescovile' and 'Archivio Capitolare' were safe; the best of them valued up in a basement.

/s/ T.H. Brooke, Capt.

/t/ T.H. BROOKE, Capt. A.M.S.
Archives Officer, Division
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives
Lazio-Umbria Region, A.M.S.

Divisione II

N. 875

TELESPRESSO URGENTISSIMO

da consegnare a mano con ricevuta

ALL'ON. SOTTOCOMMISSIONE ALLEATA
PER LE BELLE ARTI E I MONUMENTIVia VenetoC I T T A'

Sarò oltre modo grato a codesta On. Sottocommissione se con la più cortese sollecitudine vorrà favorirmi esatte informazioni circa le condizioni artistiche di Ravenna liberata e diramare al più presto per mezzo della Stampa un comunicato, che mi auguro possa riuscire a calmare la giustificata, angosciata attesa della parte più eletta del popolo italiano, trepidante per le sorti della Sua amata illustre città.

IL MINISTERO

1142

IL CORRIERE DI ROMA

Venerdì 8 Dicembre 1944

Le precise condizioni

dei monumenti di Ravenna

ALL'ON. SOTTOCOMMISSIONE ALLEATA
PER LE BELLE ARTI E I MONUMENTI

Via Veneto

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IL CORRIERE DI ROMA

Venerdì, 8 Dicembre 1944

Le precise condizioni dei monumenti di Ravenna

Da un'ispezione preliminare, effettuata a Ravenna dagli Ufficiali della Sottocommissione per i Monumenti e le Belle Arti, della Commissione Alleata, è risultato quanto segue:
Sono illesi i seguenti monumenti: S. Vitale, Mausoleo di Galla Placidia, Battistero Greco-Ortodossico, Battistero di Teodorico, Tomba di Dante.
Sono leggermente danneggiati: S. Apollinare Nuova (mosaici intagliati), Cattedrale, S. Agata, S. Francesco, S. Maria in Porto, Spirito Santo, Museo.
Si può ricordare che la proprietà della radio tedesca aveva deciso che sarebbero stati distrutti il Mausoleo di Galla Placidia, la Cattedrale, San Francesco e San Domenico mentre la Tomba di Dante avrebbe subito gravi danni.

Copy of release
Haines to
4

De Angelis

Janp

20094/11A

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives

7 December 1944

20094/L/A/EF44

Subject: Damage to Monuments at RAVENNA.

To : Public Relations Branch, HQ. Allied Commission.

1. Preliminary inspection by officers of the Monuments and Fine Arts Subcommission, Allied Commission, reveals the following damage to monuments in RAVENNA:

2. Monuments Undamaged:

S. Vitale
Mausoleum of Galla Placidia
Orthodox Baptistery
Arian Baptistery
Palace of Theodoric
Tomb of Dante

3. Monuments Slightly Damaged:

S. Apollinare Nuovo (mosaics intact)
Cathedral
S. Agata
S. Francesco
S. Maria in Porto
Santo Spirito
Museum

4. The church of S. Apollinare in Classe hit by several shells, but detailed inspection not yet complete because of mines.

5. The church of S. Giovanni Evangelista, near the railway, largely destroyed.

6. Picture Gallery, Biblioteca Classense and all Archives safe or stored elsewhere for safe custody.

7. Note: The above is a preliminary estimate and does not exclude the possibility of damage requiring repairs to roofs etc. In general however it may be said that all the important monuments of RAVENNA are, in their essentials, intact.

Monuments and Archives had claimed the following build-

1141

real-ly

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7. Note: The above is a preliminary estimate and does not exclude the possibility of damage requiring repairs to roofs etc. In general however it may be said that all the important monuments of RAVENNA are, in their essentials, intact. -17

8. Enemy radio propaganda had claimed the following buildings as destroyed:

Mausoleum of Galla Placidia S. Francesco
The Cathedral S. Domenico

and heavy damage to Dante's grave.
On 12 Sept 44 the German radio said: "All the historic buildings and cultural monuments in the famous city of Ravenna have been destroyed by an Anglo-American bombardment."

J.E. WARD PERKINS
Major, R.A.
Deputy Director.

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

JERP/bmp

200941/1/107AA

7 December 1944

Subject: Damage to Monuments at RAVENNA.

To : G-5 Section, AFHQ.

1. The following is a preliminary report by Major Newton and Captain Brooke of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Subcommittee on damage to monuments in RAVENNA.

2. Monuments
Reported
Intact:

S. Vitale
Mausoleum of Galla Placidia
Orthodox Baptistery
Arian Baptistery
Palace of Theodorico
Tomb of Dante

3. Monuments
Reported
Slightly
Damaged:

S. Apollinare Nuovo (mosaics intact)
Cathedral
S. Agata
S. Francesco
S. Maria in Porto
Spirito Santo
Museum

4. Monuments Reported
Practically Demolished:

S. Giovanni Evangelista

5. S. Apollinare in Classe: Several shell-holes, not yet clear of mines.

6. Pinacoteca, Biblioteca Classense and all listed Archives: intact or accounted for (i.e., presumably, removed to safe-custody).

7. Attached for information (Appendix I) is a report prepared prior to the occupation covering:

- a. Enemy propaganda-claims in respect of Allied bomb-damage to RAVENNA;
- b. Damage in RAVENNA estimated from air-photographs up to 10 Nov 44.

The latter estimate appears to have been unduly gloomy. It almost certainly indicates however that even the buildings reported intact will require at least superficial attention to make them weather-

1140

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S. Apollinare Nuovo (mosaics intact)
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Spirito Santo
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The latter estimate appears to have been unduly gloomy. It almost certainly indicates however that even the buildings reported intact will require at least superficial attention to make them weather-proof, and may well indicate damage to mosaics, stuccoes etc. not immediately visible behind their protective covering. In this respect the preliminary reports must be treated with reserve.

8. May a copy of this report and of Appendix I please be sent to each of the following:

Civil Affairs Branch, War Office, London
Attn. Advisor on Monuments and Fine Arts

Civil Affairs Division, War Department, Washington
(For transmission to the Roberts Commission, Mr. Huntington Cairns, Secy.)

For the CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

for G.S. PARMEON, Brigadier
A/VP C. Sec
A/D.C.O.C.

RESTRICTED

1140

S. MFAA, HQ AC
13 DIC 1944
AMF - HQs Ravenna Province
13 December 1944.

Subject:- First Aid to Monuments.
To:- Provincial Commissioner, Ravenna Province.

1. It is urgently recommended that the Genio Civile be directed to proceed at once with the following emergency projects of first aid to Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives, with a view to preventing further damage from the elements. It is understood that the Genio Civile shall in all cases collaborate with the Civilian Committee on Monuments appointed by you for this express purpose. As closely as possible the items are here listed in order of priority:-

a- S. Apollinare Nuovo. Examine roofs of central and side naves, repairing as needed to prevent seepage of water over mosaics; examine and ensure stability of walls and roofs; close with emergency materials all broken window openings above mosaics.

b- S. Apollinare in Classe. Examine, and repair as needed, roof of apse and east end of nave, to prevent seepage of water over mosaics; examine and ensure stability of walls of campanile and church including erection of temporary bracing in wall where broken between windows; block window openings.

c- Mausoleo di Galla Placidia and Church of San Vitale. Examine roofs for breaks in tiles and repair as needed to prevent seepage over mosaics; block broken window openings.

d- S. Maria in Porto Fuori. Erect temporary barrier to prevent unauthorized access to ruins; protect and save remaining fragments of frescoes from further destruction by elements.

e- S. Giovanni Evangelista. Repair roof over frescoed left chapel and treat plaster surface to save, if possible, remaining fragments of fresco.

f- Luomo. Repair roof over Cappella del Sacramento and treat ceiling, if necessary, to save paintings by Guido Reni.

g- Loggetta Lombardesca. Repair or stabilize trusses of roof to prevent collapse; new cover for roof is of secondary priority.

h- Palazzo Spreti (Archivio Motorile). Repair roof to prevent seepage of rain into rooms of Archivio Motorile on top floor.

i- Biblioteca Classense. Examine roof and repair if needed to prevent seepage into library; block window openings against rain wherever roofs are endangered.

j- S. Francesco. Examine roof and repair as needed to prevent seepage; determine stability of walls; replace broken front door with emergency blocking; construct temporary roof over left aisle; block window openings. 13

k- S. Maria in Porto Citta'. Examine and repair roof to prevent seepage; examine vaults of apse and cupola for stability; block shell hole and window openings; construct temporary roof over left aisle.

Committee on Monuments appointed by you for this express purpose. As closely as possible the items are here listed in order of priority:-

- a- S. Apollinare Nuovo. Examine roofs of central and side naves, repairing as needed to prevent seepage of water over mosaics; examine and ensure stability of walls and roofs; close with emergency materials all broken window openings above mosaics.
- b- S. Apollinare in Classe. Examine, and repair as needed, roof of apse and east end of nave, to prevent seepage of water over mosaics; examine and ensure stability of walls of campanile and church including erection of temporary bracing in wall where broken between windows; block window openings.
- c- Mausoleo di Galla Placidia and Church of San Vitale. Examine roofs for breaks in tiles and repair as needed to prevent seepage over mosaics; block broken window openings.
- d- S. Maria in Porto Fuori. Erect temporary barrier to prevent unauthorized access to ruins; protect and save remaining fragments of frescoes from further destruction by elements.
- e- S. Giovanni Evangelista. Repair roof over frescoed left chapel and treat plaster surface to save, if possible, remaining fragments of fresco.
- f- Duomo. Repair roof over Cappella del Sacramento and treat ceiling, if necessary, to save paintings by Guido Reni.
- g- Loggetta Lombardesca. Repair or stabilize trusses of roof to prevent collapse; new cover for roof in of secondary priority.
- h- Palazzo Sperti (Archivio Notarile). Repair roof to prevent seepage of rain into rooms of Archivio Notarile on top floor.
- i- Biblioteca Classense. Examine roof and repair if needed to prevent seepage into library; block window openings against rain wherever books are endangered.
- j- S. Francesco. Examine roof and repair as needed to prevent seepage; determine stability of walls; replace broken front door with emergency blocking; construct temporary roof over left aisle; block window openings.
- k- S. Maria in Porto Citta'. Examine and repair roof to prevent seepage; examine vaults of apse and cupola for stability; block small hole and window openings, especially lunettes in chapel of left aisle.
- l- Museo Nazionale. In consultation with Sig. Savini, of the Soprintendenza examine cloister for structural safety and apply bracing if required beyond what is now in place.

2. It is believed that the measures listed above will take care of emergencies now confronting the monuments of Ravenna. For further repairs of a more permanent nature, the Genio Civile and/or the Superintendency should prepare detailed advance estimates, with appropriate requests for extraordinary funds. Such projects will of necessity be deferred until more nearly normal conditions prevail.

MONUMENTS FIRE ARMS & ARCHIVES

18 DEC 1944

FILE No

20094/118

3. If in the meantime, during absence of the MFAA Officer, any truly emergent situation should arise, it is recommended that every consideration be given to the advice of the Civilian Committee on Monuments, followed by such action as the urgency of the circumstances may warrant.

18m

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFAA Officer, AMG 8 Army.

Copies to:-

SCAG, AMG 8 Army.
Sub-C MFAA, HQ AC.
CAO Ravenna.
Committee on Monuments, Ravenna.
File, MFAA Officer.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

AO 394

Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 489081, ext. 442 & 664; 478480)

20094/1/1/AF/AF

7 December 1944

Subject: Report on Bomb-Damage at Ravenna as Revealed
by Air-Photographs up to 10 Nov 44.

To : Director, MEAA Subcommission.

1. General.

a. The following report is based on interpretation of air-photographs of 13 Sep 44 (after the first series of Allied raids) and of 10 Nov 44 (after the latest officially published raid), controlled by air-photographs of 16 May 44.

b. While affording an interesting check on enemy-propaganda (the usual mixture of truth and falsehood), it should also serve to clarify early ground-reports in some particulars, notably where previous protective-measures make an immediate evaluation of possible damage difficult (See para 2).

c. In general it may be said that while no one of the really great monuments within the city of Ravenna has received a direct hit, all have had narrow escapes, all are probably in varying degrees suffering from blast, and in at least 3 cases (S. Apollinare Nuovo, and the two baptistries) early and energetic action will probably be needed if serious damage is not to result. Of the monuments directly hit, the most serious loss is the church of S. Giovanni Evangelista, which is a monument of second rank only by virtue of comparison with the other great Byzantine buildings.

2. Protective-measures previously undertaken by Italian authorities.

a. The official Italian Government publication (La Protezione del Patrimonio artistico nazionale dalle offese della guerra aerea, Florence 1942) records elaborate protective sealings filled with sand-bags to protect the great series of early mosaics in the following buildings:

S. Vitale

S. Apollinare Nuovo

Orthodox Baptisty

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S. Vitale

S. Apollinare Nuovo

Orthodox Baptistery

Arian Baptistery

Mausoleum of Galla Placidia

A brick blast-wall was built round the tomb of Dante. Protective-work is also illustrated but not described in the National Museum and around two Venetian columns, and was presumably also applied to various individual items of which no record is available.

b. The effect of the more elaborate protective schemes is that damage to structure, and consequently to mosaic or stucco-ornament, as a result of blast is not in all cases likely to be at once apparent on inspection. Early reports from inspection on the ground may need qualification in this respect.

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3. Summary of damage claimed by enemy radio.

Enemy radio-propaganda has ranged from relatively modest claims of damage to sweeping generalizations that all the monuments of Ravenna have been destroyed. On 13 September Transocean in English stated that 'All of the historic buildings and cultural monuments in the famous city of Ravenna on the Adriatic coast have been destroyed by an Anglo-American bombardment, according to Italian press reports.' Specific claims cover only the following monuments:-

<u>Santa Agata</u>	badly damaged	Report of 20 Aug
<u>Santa Maria in Porto</u>	a direct hit	Report of 20 Aug
<u>S. Francesco</u>	heavily damaged	Report of 20 Aug
<u>Sancti's Grave</u>	damaged	Report of 20 Aug
<u>Cathedral</u>	(severely damaged)	Report of 30 Aug
<u>S. Domenico</u>	(demolished)	Report of 31 Aug
<u>Mausoleum of Galla Placidia</u>	destroyed	Report of 4 Sep
	destroyed	Report of 4 Sep

A curious feature is that no claim has been made for S. Apollinare Nuovo or the two baptistries, none of which can have escaped at least superficial damage.

4. Damage revealed by air-photographs.

- a. S. Apollinare Nuovo (built by Theodorico o. A.D. 500; the finest of all surviving Byzantine basilicas with its unique mosaic series) and the Palace of Theodorico.

A large number of bombs have fallen in the immediate vicinity (over a dozen within 75 yards of the basilica). Neither the basilica itself nor the Palace of Theodorico appears to have received a direct hit (up to 10 Nov) but almost the entire range of buildings between the two has been demolished right up to the Campanile, which is standing. There appears to have been a hit some 15 yards to the south of the apse. See attached sketch-plan A.

Estimated damage. Severe blast and fragmentation damage which must surely at least have loosened some of the mosaics. Roof probably in bad condition.

- b. S. Vitale (A.D. 521-547; covered with magnificent 6th century mosaics) the so-called "Mausoleum of Galla Placidia" (mid 5th century; fine 5th century mosaics), and the National Museum.

A bomb (or bombs) have fallen in the immediate vicinity between 13 Sep 44 and 10 Nov 44.

<u>Santa Maria In Porto</u>	A direct hit	Report of 20 Aug.
<u>S. Francesco</u>	heavily damaged	Report of 20 Aug.
<u>Ponte's Grave</u>	damaged	Report of 20 Aug.
<u>Cathedral</u>	(severely damaged)	Report of 20 Aug.
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Detested damage. Severe blast and fragmentation damage which must surely at least have loosened some of the masonry. Roof probably in bad condition.

b. S. Vitale (A.D. 521-547 : covered with magnificent 6th century mosaics) the so-called "Mausoleum of Galla Placidia" (mid 5th century; fine 5th century mosaics) and the National Museum. 1136

A bomb (or bombs) have fallen in the immediate vicinity between 13 Sep 44 and 16 Nov 44.

- (1) damaging one wing of the Museum-building adjacent to S. Vitsle to the west and within 25 yards of it;
- (2) ?? damaging the Muscoloum of Gella Placidia.

On 13 Sep 44 (8 days after enemy claims of its destruction) the Mauzoleum appears to be completely intact with no signs of nearby bomb-damage. On 10 Nov 44 the available photograph does not clearly indicate the condition. It seems on balance probable that the apparent disappearance of two arms of the cruciform chapel is due to a trick of shadow and not to bomb-damage. See attached Sketched-plan E.

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Estimated damage.

S. Vitale. Presumed blast-effect, but probably not very serious.

Mausoleum. Uncertain, but probably nil.

Museum. One direct hit.

- c. Cathedral (18th century, but containing many fittings from earlier church, 6th-9th centuries; 10th century campanile).
Archbishop's Palace (important collection of sculpture, mosaics, ivories etc; and very fine early archives).
Orthodox Baptistery (completed A.D. 456, magnificent series of contemporary mosaics, stucco, and intersia ornament).

Four bombs have fallen within the area:

- (1) destroying part of one wing of the Archbishop's Palace
- (2) in the centre of the Piazza Arcivescovile
- (3) within ten yards of the Orthodox Baptistery
- (4) in the piazza opposite the facade of the cathedral

See attached Sketch-plan C.

Estimated damage.

Cathedral. Blast or splinter effect only. No detailed plan of location of contents available.

Archbishop's Palace. Severe blast effect, with possible damage to structure and almost certain damage to internal ornament.

Orthodox Baptistery.

- d. Arian Baptistery (S. Maria in Cosmedin: A.D. 430-520 with important contemporary mosaics) and S. Spirito (16th century, but retains many earlier fittings).

A number of bombs have fallen in the immediate neighbourhood almost completely destroying the block of buildings across the Via Paolo Costa from S. Spirito and the block of buildings facing onto the Via Farini some 30 yards to the south of the Baptistery and of S. Spirito. One bomb has partially demolished the wing of this latter building which abuts immediately onto the baptistry within a yard or two of the baptistry itself. See attached Sketch-plan D.

Estimated damage.

S. Spirito. Blast effect only, not likely to have harmed seriously the more important fittings.

Arian Baptistery. Can hardly have escaped damage, possibly serious, to both structure and mosaics.

- e. S. Apollinare in Classe (very fine 6th century basilica, cone with mosaics and 9th century campanile).

Four bombs have fallen within the area:

- (1) destroying part of one wing of the Archbishop's Palace
- (2) in the centre of the Piazza Arcivescovile
- (3) within ten yards of the Orthodox Baptistery
- (4) in the piazza opposite the facade of the cathedral

See attached Sketch-plan C.

Estimated damage.

Cathedral. Blast or splinter effect only. No detailed plan or location of contents available.

Archbishop's Palace. Severe blast effect, with possible damage to structure and almost certain damage to internal ornament.

Orthodox Baptistery.

- d. Arian Baptistery (S. Maria in Cosmedin: A.D. 490-520 with important contemporary mosaics) and S. Spirito (16th century, but retaining many earlier fittings).

A number of bombs have fallen in the immediate neighbourhood almost completely destroying the block of buildings across the Via Paolo Costa from S. Spirito and the block of buildings facing onto the Via Farini some 30 yards to the south of the Baptistery and of S. Spirito. One bomb has partially demolished the wing of this latter building which abuts immediately onto the baptistry within a yard or two of the baptistry itself. See attached Sketch-plan D.

Estimated damage.

S. Spirito. Blast effect only, not likely to have harmed seriously the more important fittings.

Arian Baptistery. Can hardly have escaped damage, possibly serious, to both structure and mosaics.

- e. S. Apollinare in Classe (very fine 6th century basilica, consecrated A.D. 549, with mosaics and 9th century campanile).

About 5 km. south of Ravenna by the main-road. No air-cover available.

- f. Mausoleum of Theodoric (tomb of the great Gothic emperor, died A.D. 526).

In a very vulnerable position near the marshalling-yards, and is surrounded by bomb-craters, the nearest within 30 yards. From the nature of the building however it is not liable to severe damage short of a direct hit.

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G. Other buildings claimed damaged by enemy radio.

S. Francesco ("half destroyed"). Two bomb-craters immediately outside the apse, no doubt causing blast and splinter-damage, but no other signs.

Tomb of Dante, on north side of S. Francesco. Slight damage by splinters possible from damaged buildings up the street. Has been well protected by blast walls.

S. Agata ("badly damaged"). Two bombs in open ground not far from apse, and one on the building on the north side of the small piazza in front of the facade. Blast damage only.

S. Domenico, medieval but almost entirely rebuilt in early 18th century. Roof of nave has received a direct hit destroying nearly half.

S. Giovanni Evangelista, a fifth-century church, heavily restored later but retaining original framework. Stands near railway and has been badly damaged, the entire west end being demolished and many bombs in immediate vicinity.

S. Maria in Porto ("direct hit"). Two near-misses, one immediately outside apse in open ground, one damaging cloister-block immediately adjacent to south transept.

J. B. Ward Perkins
J.B. WARD PERKINS
Major, R.A.
Deputy Director.

4 Incls -
Sketch-plans (A,B,C,D) of
Monuments in RAVENNA

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S. Agata (badly damaged). Two bombs in open ground not far from apse, and one on the building on the north side of the small piazza in front of the facade. Blast damage only.

S. Domenico, mediaeval but almost entirely rebuilt in early 15th century. Roof of nave has received a direct hit destroying nearly half.

S. Giovanni Evangelista, a fifth-century church, heavily restored later but retaining original framework. Stands near railway and has been badly damaged, the entire west end being demolished and many bombs in immediate vicinity.

S. Maria in Porto ("direct hit"). Two naves, one immediately outside apse in open ground, one damaging cloister-block immediately adjacent to south transept.

4 Incls -

Sketch-plans (A,B,C,D) of
Monuments in RAVENNA

Davidson
J.B. WARD PARKING
Major, R.A.
Deputy Director.

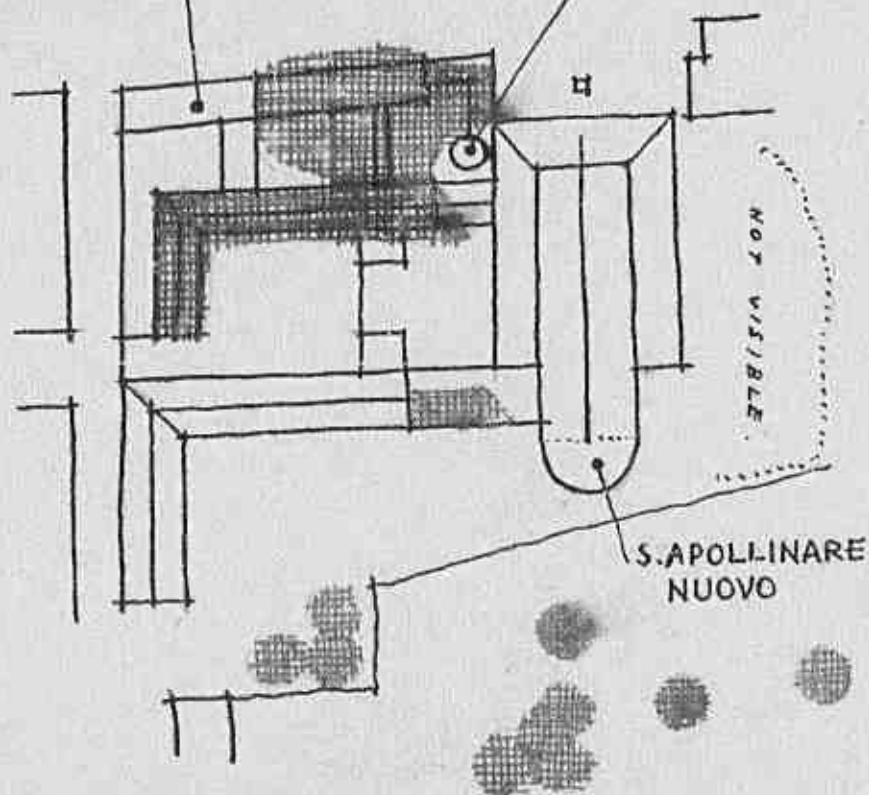
1133
1134

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RESTRICTED

APALACE OF
THEODORIC

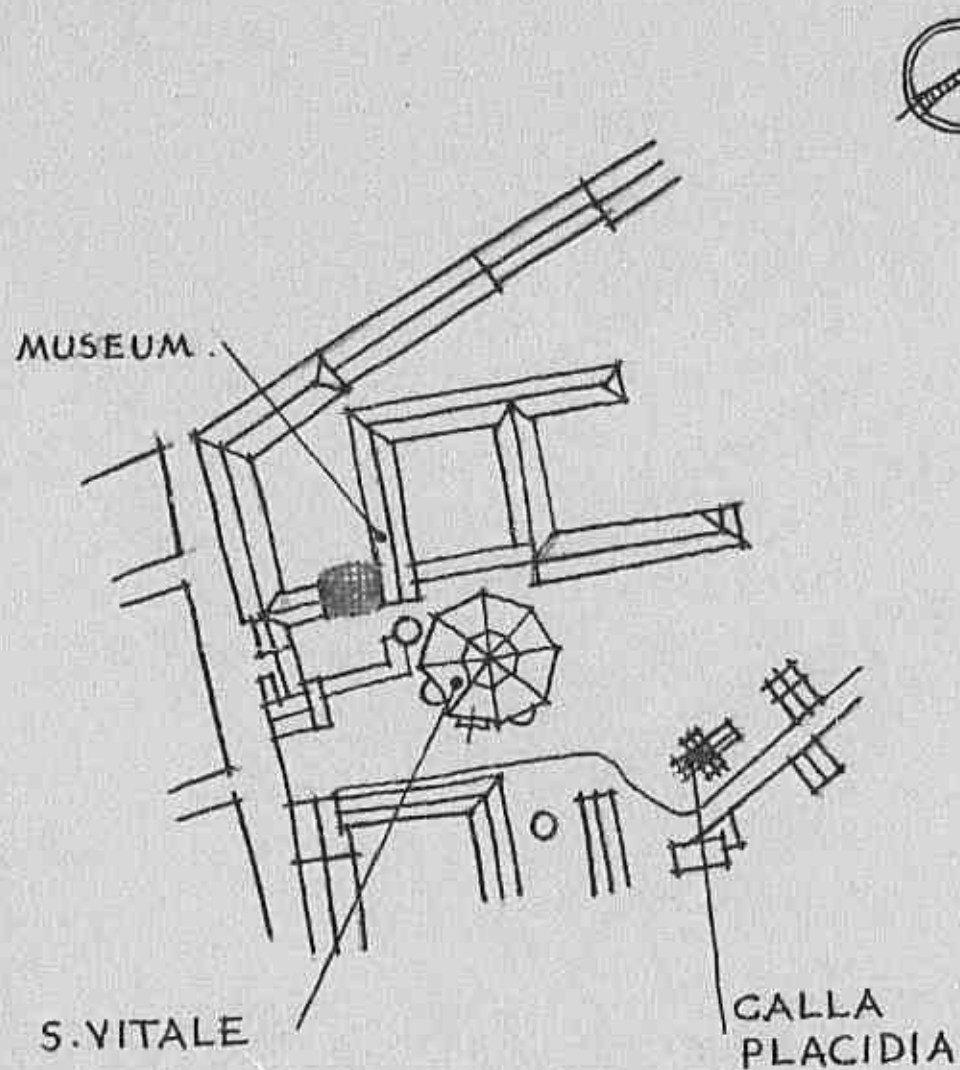
CAMPANILE

S. APOLLINARE
NUOVO

S. APOLLINARE NUOVO & PALACE OF THEODORIC

APPROX SCALE : 1.1500
0 25 50 75 M.

1133

B

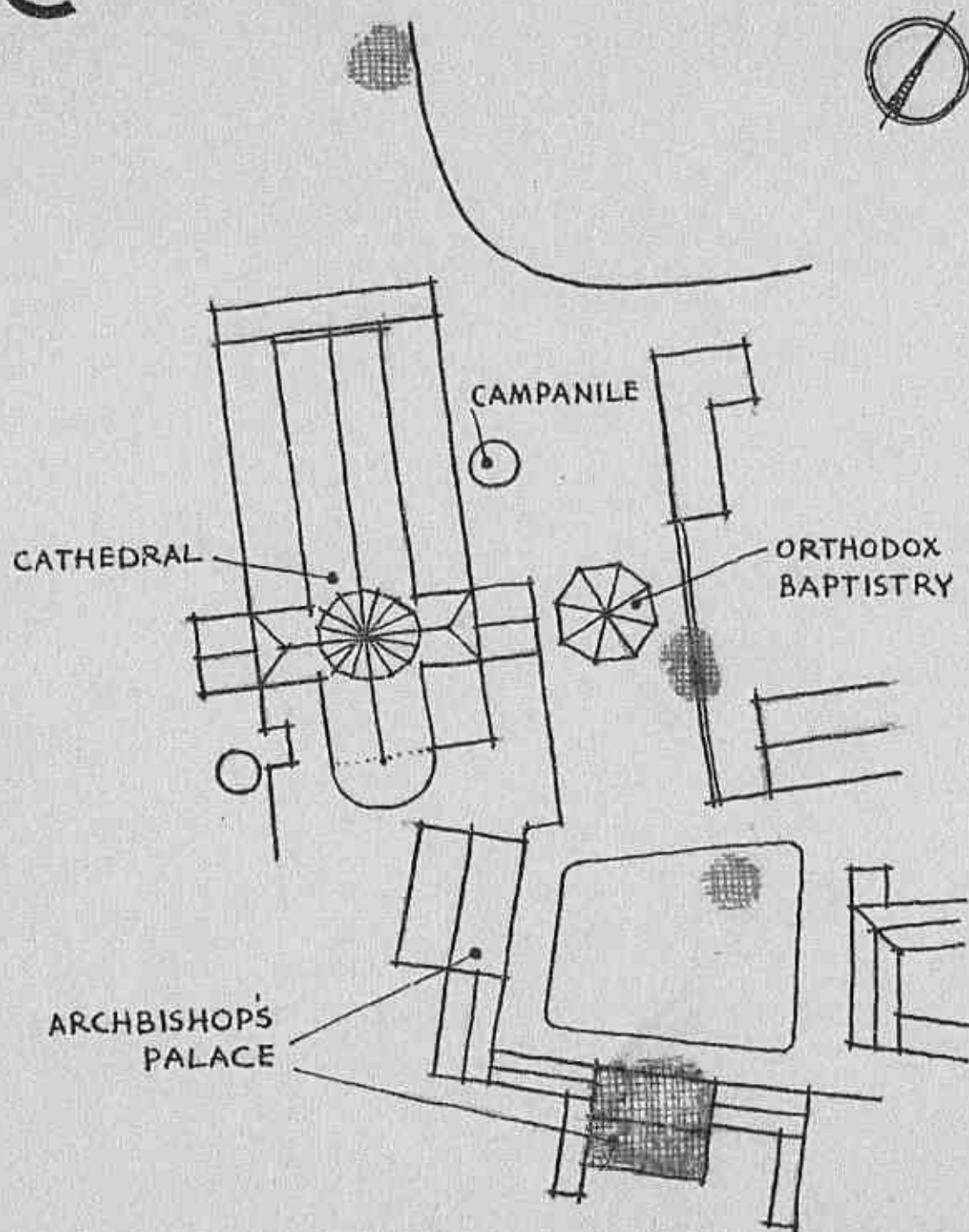
S. VITALE & MAUSOLEUM OF GALLA PLACIDIA

APPROX SCALE: 1:2400

0 50 100 150 M.

1132

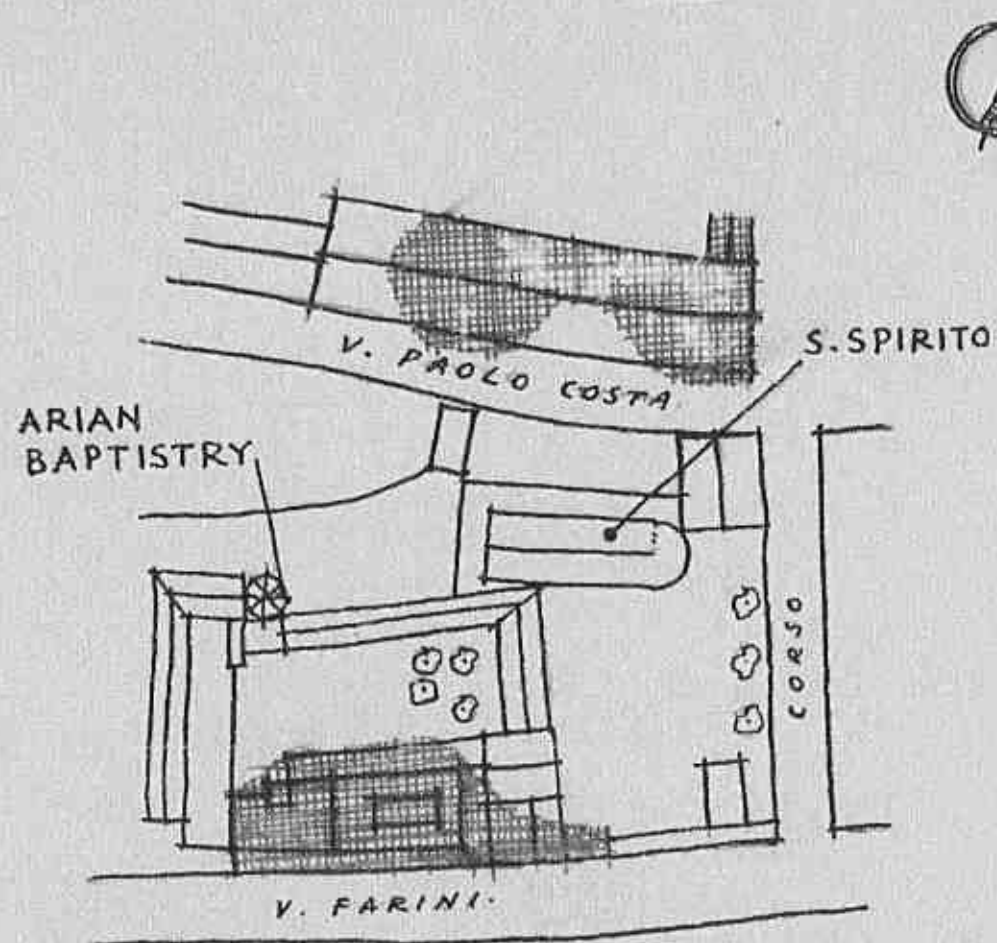
C



1131
CATHEDRAL, ARCHBISHOP'S PALACE & ORTHODOX BAPTISTRY

APPROX SCALE: 1/1200
0 25 50 75 M.

D



ARIAN BAPTISTRY & S. SPIRITO

APPROX SCALE: 1:1200

0 25 50 75 M

1130

SUBJECT :- Inspection of Monuments, Ravenna.

HQ AMG Eighth Army

6 December 1944.

16 DEC 1944 4:01/132

MONUMENTS FIRE ARTS & ARCHIVES
A C
16 DEC 1944
FILE No 200 94/111/H

TO : SOAO, AMG Eighth Army.

1. Herewith summary report of preliminary inspection of monuments and archives of Ravenna, made today by LTJLA Officer and Capt Brooke, Archives Officer from HQ AC.

2. General. Although Ravenna has suffered from bombing and shelling, none of the mosaics appear to have been injured and total damage to important monuments is remarkably light. Germans did less widespread demolition than usual, but left mines and booby-traps that were being cleared today. No evidence was seen of looting or damage by troops.

3. Cathedral. Direct bomb-hit in centre of nave; roof badly damaged; interior marred by fragments. Modern chapel, with painting by Guido Reni, is undamaged. Stone pulpit in nave is slightly pitted but in no danger.

4. Battistero. Undamaged; struck by one shell, which did not penetrate. Mosaics uncovered but intact.

5. S. Agata Maggiore. Roof of apse slightly damaged months ago and now repaired. Otherwise unharmed.

6. S. Apollinare Nuovo. Scaffolding reported removed from 14-29 since some time ago to lessen fire danger; windows still bricked and arch-supports in place. Near-miss shook plaster from ceiling of right aisle. No damage to mosaics; entire interior appears quite intact.

7. S. Apollinare in Classe Fuori. Only exterior examined; mines still to be cleared from approaches. Several shell holes in roofs of nave and aisles. Superintendency of Monuments reports all interior scaffolding and protection was left in place. Campanile struck several times but in no apparent danger.

8. Battistero degli Ariani. Still in its protective covering and without signs of damage. Could not be entered.

9. S. Francesco. Hit in roof of left aisle, without appreciable damage to interior. One hit (apparently bomb) in each of two corners; corner masonry not serious. Grotto.

1. Reference Summary Report of preliminary inspection of monuments and archives of Ravenna, made today by MIA Officer and Capt Brocko, Archives Officer from HQ AC.
2. General. Although Ravenna has suffered from bombing and shelling, none of the mosaics appear to have been injured and total damage to important monuments is remarkably light. Germans did less widespread demolition than usual, but left mines and booby-traps that were being cleared today. No visible sign of looting or damage by troops.
3. Cathedral. Direct bomb-hit in centre of nave; roof badly damaged; interior marred by fragments. Modern chapel, with painting by Guido Reni, is undamaged. Stone pulpit in nave is slightly pitted but in no danger.
4. Battistore. Undamaged; struck by one shell, which did not penetrate. Mosaics uncovered but intact.
5. S. Agata Maggiore. Roof of apse slightly damaged months ago and now repaired. Otherwise unharmed.
6. S. Apollinare Nuovo. Scaffolding reported removed from ~~14-29~~ ¹⁴⁻²⁹ since some time ago to lessen fire danger; windows still bricked and arch-supports in place. Near-miss shook plaster from ceiling of right aisle. No damage to mosaics; entire interior appears quite intact.
7. S. Apollinare in Classe Fuori. Only exterior examined; mines still to be cleared from approaches. Several shell holes in roofs of nave and aisles. Superintendent of Monuments reports all interior scaffolding and protection was left in place. Campanile struck several times but in no apparent danger.
8. Battistore degli Agnani. Still in its protective covering and without signs of damage. Could not be entered.
9. S. Francesco. No hit in roof of left aisle, without appreciable damage to interior. One hit (apparently bomb) in each of two cloisters of former monastery; not serious. Gothic
10. S. Giovanni Evangelista. Destroyed except for part of apse, pointed-arch portal, and campanile. Gothic frescoes are gone.
11. S. Maria in Porto. No damage in forward portion. Bombs in rear badly damaged loggia del giardino of former monastery.
12. S. Maria in Porto Fuori. Could not be reached on this inspection. Local reports declare it virtually destroyed.
13. Mausoleo di Galla Placidia. No damage. Mosaics uncovered but intact.
14. Shrine Santa. Left aisle, reportedly a later addition, almost completely destroyed. No other damage either apparent or reported locally.

20094/1/A-

- 2 -

15. S. Vitale. Intact, but sunken floor is covered by a foot of water, owing to lack of electric power for pumps that normally keep out underground water. There is no water around exterior of church. Materials uncovered but intact.

16. Palazzo Comunale. Undamaged; in use by AMG and municipal offices.

17. Palazzo dell'Ingegnere. Undamaged. Local clergy say Archivio Vescovile and Museo del Duomo are intact.

18. Seminario Arcivescovo. Undamaged.

19. Rocca Francolona. To be inspected later.

20. Luogo Regionale d'Antichità. Bomb hit in cloister has caused undetermined amount of damage. No other harm evident or reported by anyone who is on duty. Director (absent; see para 31) is Superintendent CAPEZZUOLI.

21. Accademia dello Spirito Santo. Bomb in cloister of adjoining Biblioteca (see para 22) damaged mosaic laboratory and some modern mosaics being worked upon therein. No other damage. Most of material from Pinacoteca is safe in vaults of building. Material formerly stored in Villa La Monaldina at MONTECATINI was brought back some months ago. At S. ALBERTO (probably M5352) are seven cases: two in house of Parroco and five in Municipio. All of above is reported by Custode and Vice-secretary, Attilio BUFFA, who is in residence. Director Ettore BOCCINI is said to be blocked at Fusignano behind German lines.

22. Biblioteca Classense. Bomb hits in street and in cloister caused no damage to Biblioteca. Almost all material of library securely stored in vaults of building or in place. A few important volumes were transferred months ago to a deposit in the Veneto; precise data will be obtained. Archivio Comunale, housed with library, is intact in place. Above information is from one of staff, Lorenzo MINICHETTI. Former Director died recently; new appointment has not been made.

23. Archivio Notarile. In top floor of Palazzo Sireti. No damage; archives appear intact. Lower floors now used by Italian Patriots, without harm to Archivio. Director of Archivio is reported to have with him at FUSIGNANO (Via Romana 9) a small number of most important archives.

24. Palazzo Rastrelli, Calle Teste. Near Misa in piazza jarred some applied ornament from facade. No damage except shaking by concussion.

25. Palazzo Rastrelli Murat. Closed. No damage except possible jarring by concussion.

18. Seminario Tevese. Unharmed.
19. Rocca Brancaleone. To be inspected later.
20. Museo Nazionale di Antichità. Bomb hit in cloister has caused undetermined amount of damage. No other harm evident or reported by custodian who is on duty. Director (absent; see para 31) is Superintendent CAPEZZUOLI.
21. Accademia delle Belle Arti. Bomb in cloister of adjoining Biblioteca (see para 23) damaged Museo Laboratorio and some modern mosaics being worked upon therein. No other damage. Most of material from Pinacoteca is safe in vaults of building. Material formerly stored in Villa la Monaldina at MONCALIERI was brought back some months ago. At S. ALBERTO (probably 15351) are seven cases: two in house of Terroco and five in Municipio. All of above is reported by Custode and Vice-secretary, Attilio BUFFA, who is in residence. Director Ettore BOCCARDI is said to be blocked at Fagnano behind German lines.
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24. Palazzo Rasponi delle Teste. Near miss in piazza jarred some applied ornament from facade. No damage except shaking by concussion.
25. Palazzo Rasponi Murat. Closed. No damage except possible jarving by concussion.
26. Calchi. The so-called "Palace of Theodorico". No damage to structure on street. Excavation space to east has numerous bomb hits.
27. Tomb of Theodorico. Could not be reached today; local reports state Tomb is intact.
28. Tomb of Dante. Unharmed. Protective brick walls still in place.
29. Tomb of Francesco. No damage; superstructure and tombs intact.
30. Venetian Columns. Intact in Piazza; protective brick covering of bases is still in place.

- 3 -

31. Superintendency of Monuments. Superintendent CAPEZZUOLI is reported to be blocked behind German lines. Exact location and reason for leaving are not now determinable. His assistant, Arrigo SAVINI, is on duty, together with uniformed custode of Museo Nazionale (see para 20). Superintendent is said to be also Director of Museum. Savini states quarters of Superintendency are uninjured.

32. RECOMMENDATIONS. Detailed recommendations for priority of emergency repairs will be made after resumed survey. Problem of possible harm from troop occupation does not appear serious; full recommendations will follow detailed survey. The following premises should certainly be permanently reserved against any requisition except in case of the most urgent and compelling necessity: Museo Nazionale di Antichità and offices of Superintendent; City of Monuments; Biblioteca Classense; Accademia delle Belle Arti; Arcivescovado; Seminario; Archivio Notarile (top floor of Palazzo Spreti).

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
ITAA Officer, AMF 8 Army.

Copies to :

RC, Region Emilia (2)
PC, Ravenna Province (2)
AMG IC San Corps (2)
CAC Ravenna (2)
Subc ITAA, HQ 13 (10)
ITAA Officer, Region Emilia (a/o PC Bologna) (5)
Major Newton (2)

1128

RESTRICTED
INCOMING MESSAGE
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

M F A - A

Originator's Reference: M707
Date/Time of Origin: DEC 061915A

Message Centre No: C/3064
Date Time Recd: DEC 070830A
Precedence: IMPORTANT

FROM: AMO MAIN 8 ARMY
TO: HQ AC FOR SUBCOMMISSION MFAA

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ACTION

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RAVENNA inspected today by NEWTON and BROOKE. Intact are SAN VITALE, GALLA FLACIDIA, Baptistry of Duomo, Baptistry of Ariani, Calchisone Tomb of Dante and many lesser monuments. Slight damage to SANTAPOLLINARENUOVO but mosaics intact. SANTAPILLINARE in classe has several shell holes but not yet clear of mines. Slightly damaged are cathedral, St Agata, San Francesco, Ste Maria in Porto, Spirito Santo, Museum of Antiquities. San Giovanni Evangelista practically demolished. Pinacoteca, Biblioteca Classense and all listed archives intact or accounted for. BROOKE expects arrive ROME Friday.

Follows SECRET
Signal M703
DCC 051245A

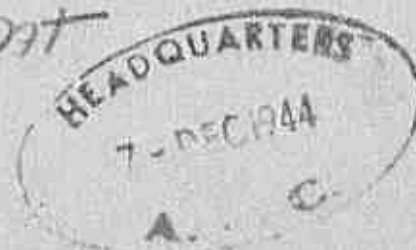
with only 6 words on
mons. Our copy
destroyed.
AMR



DIST

Act: M.F.A.A. ②
19. Chief Commission
P.A. Sec. 1127
File ②
Flot

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