

The Rothschild Archive

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The Rothschild Research Forum: a major new resource for art history

The Rothschild Archive, run by a charitable trust set up in 1999, holds over two million items drawn together from the history of the Rothschild banks and family. At the core of the Archive lie the records of the firm of NM Rothschild & Sons, the London branch of the banking dynasty, supplemented by a growing range of acquisitions of papers from members of the Rothschild family. The Archive represents possibly the most detailed surviving record of an international banking operation in the 19th and early 20th centuries and of a family with artistic, charitable and scientific interests at the heart of European society.

The Rothschilds were a family of collectors, building some of the most magnificent 19th century private collections of painting, furniture, decorative art, manuscripts and books. The Archive holds a number of resources to assist art historians including catalogues, sales catalogues, inventories, wills and photographs. Guides to many of these resources can be found in the Research Forum. Waddesdon Manor, the house built by the great collector Ferdinand de Rothschild and now owned by the National Trust, is a major contributor to the Rothschild Research Forum.

In order to make this unique collection more available to researchers from around the world, the Rothschild Archive in partnership with Waddesdon Manor has launched its free online Rothschild Research Forum. Registered members will have access to articles, finding aids, transcripts and virtual exhibitions, and have the opportunity to communicate with other researchers through the Forum's message board.

For further information please visit the Rothschild Archive web site at <http://www.rothschildarchive.org> or email info@rothschildarchive.org

Reference:

ANN: The Rothschild Archive. In: ArtHist.net, Jun 3, 2003 (accessed Dec 15, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/25688>>.