

Archiv und Wirtschaft

Zeitschrift für das Archivwesen der Wirtschaft

55. Jahrgang · 2022 · Heft 2



Herausgegeben von der
VEREINIGUNG der
WIRTSCHAFTSARCHIVARINNEN und
WIRTSCHAFTSARCHIVARE e. V.
(VdW)

To provide a complete overview of French banking archives and of French archival practice in this field requires an analysis of the French banking system and how it has developed, as well as a review of the structure of the archives function. There was no question of reviewing the work already done in the 1990s and 2000s on the subject. Based on the example of BNP Paribas, the objective was to re-trace the development of banks and their documentary production and finally to identify some major developments which are now transforming the work of bank archivists. Digital transformation is at the heart of banking archives, which, in addition to collecting digital archives, should make it possible to make better use of physical historical archives for a wider public and to enable researchers to have new data to exploit.

As a first step, we will present an overview of the types of French banks and early archiving policies implemented since the 19th century. Secondly, we will consider the place of banking archives in the research community and their potential exploitation. Finally, based on the example of BNP Paribas, we will outline the first transformations of current and future archiving policies as part of the increased digitalisation of processes and the growing use of digital technology.

1. An historical overview: historical typology of French banks

The French banking industry is relatively concentrated today and is one of the economic sectors that is relatively healthy and well positioned internationally.

Previously, and especially since the end of the First World War, the French banking sector was like a French formal garden – in other words, very compartmentalised and ordered, with the French state having special provisions to create institutions for each need rather than using existing structures. It is important to know this organisation as these entities historically produce different categories of archives:

- The Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations, created in 1816 after the Napoleonic Wars to prevent the State (the Treasury) from using the sums deposi-

ted for its own benefit, played an important role in financing the French regions and housing and, progressively, in investing in strategic holdings.

- The “Haute Banque”, inherited from banking houses since the 18th century: family banks, sometimes foreign, often originally distinguished by religion (Neufville-Schlumberger-Mallet founded in 1667, Hottinguer in 1786, Seillière in 1798, Laffitte in 1806, Rothschild in 1808, Fould, etc.), active in the financing of railways.
- Deposit banks or large credit institutions, founded in the form of limited companies with branches dating back to the 1850s: these banks are still present in the French financial landscape (BNP, CIC, Crédit Lyonnais/LCL, Société Générale, and HSBC France).
- Merchant banks such as Paribas or the Banque de l’Union Parisienne were developed during the same period from family relationships of the type of the “Haute Banque”, but as more powerful limited companies to sponsor companies or to set up operations for the issuance of government bonds or company shares.
- A cooperative, decentralised sector, inspired by foreign models such as Crédit Agricole and Crédit Mutuel (Raiffeisen) or Banques Populaires (Schulze-Delitzsch, Luzatti, Rayneri). This sector was slow to take off in the 19th century and, with the exception of Crédit Mutuel, benefited from strong support from the State in the form of subsidies and tax exemptions. It should be noted that the French savings banks are not comparable to the German Sparkassen because, until the 1980s, they did not grant credit.
- Specialised institutions created alongside Crédit Agricole to meet specific needs: Chèques Postaux (to spread the use of cheques, 1917), Crédit National (for medium-term credit, 1919), Banque française pour le Commerce extérieur (for exports, 1947), Crédit hôtelier (for the hotel sector), etc.
- Local and regional banks, often very old, but many of which disappeared in the face of competition from deposit banks with branches, particularly during the crisis of the 1930s, or were integrated into these groups.

Now	In the past	Creation date
BNP Paribas	Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris	1848
	Comptoir National d'escompte de Mulhouse	1848
	Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas (Paribas)	1872
Société Générale	Société Générale	1863
	Crédit du Nord	1848
	Banque de l'Union Parisienne	1904
Crédit Agricole	Crédit Agricole	1894
	LCL (Crédit Lyonnais)	1863
	Indosuez	1875
Crédit Mutuel	Crédit Mutuel	1893
	Crédit Industriel et Commercial (CIC)	1859
BPCE (Banques Populaires Caisses d'Épargne)	Caisses d'Épargne	1816
	Banques Populaires	1917
	Crédit National	1919
	Crédit Foncier	1852
	Banque Française du Commerce Extérieur	1947
Banque Postale	Comptes Chèques Postaux	1917

Key

Deposit Bank
 Cooperative Bank
 Regional Bank
 Public Institution
 Merchant Bank

The banking sector has developed new activities since the 1960s, such as consumer credit, insurance, leasing, asset management and real estate, which led to new types of companies.

Since the 1980s, there has been a concentration and reduction in specialisation that has led to the creation of a few large groups that may combine several business cultures. The simplified table above shows the composition of the main groups.

2. An early organisation of archives

From the end of the 19th century, an industrial organisation accompanied the development of the large deposit and business banks as the number of banking transactions increased. In this context, the problems of archiving were taken very seriously.¹

Some particular features of this history of banking archives deserve to be highlighted:

- The issue of archives was dealt with quickly after the creation of banking institutions: Banque de France, created in 1800, hired an archivist in 1809; Société Générale, set up in 1864, organised its archive centre in 1869 and Crédit Lyonnais, created in 1863, built a first archive centre in Lyon in 1874 and a second one in Paris in 1891.
- Archival matters were addressed at board of directors level, which is no longer the case today:
 - Henri Germain (1824–1905), founder of Crédit Lyonnais, personally followed the development of the archives and documentation of industrial studies. He willingly worked in the department's documentation room and never failed to show it to visitors of the head office.
 - At Société Générale, the construction of a new archive building was discussed at the board meeting on 3 March 1896.

- The archives were handled professionally, both in terms of repositories and method:
 - The banks always built tailored archive centres, taking into account the buildings' use: security against theft and fire, use of freight elevators and even rails and wagons for handling. These buildings were sufficiently elaborate to be published in architectural or public works magazines, including the “new” *Crédit Lyonnais* archive building in Paris in 1891² and the *Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas* archive building in 1929–30.³ Famous architects could be employed for these works, such as Gustave Rives (1858–1926), who built the *Crédit Lyonnais* repository in 1891.⁴
 - As in public administrations, banks used sorting methods: we have copies of 19th century circulars sent to branches and administrative departments indicating the main retention periods for documents.
 - As for banking works and especially accounting, banks have constantly modernised archive processing techniques: for instance, the use of microfilm for the archives was reported to the board of directors of the *Banque Nationale pour le Commerce et l'Industrie/BNCI* (a forerunner of *BNP Paribas*) on 24 November 1943. It was the first bank to introduce it in France in 1939.⁵

It is interesting to note in the context of this paper that this archival organisation interested German observers, in particular Otto Waldau (1891), Eugen Kaufmann (1914) and Georges Obst (1929).⁶

3. Banking archives as a source of economic and financial history

3.1. An overview on available sources

Although historians have had access to French banking sources since the 1950s, banks only started to creating specialist historical archive departments in the 1990s.⁷ The most important collections are concentrated in just a few of these: *BNP Paribas*, *Crédit Agricole* and *Société Générale*. As already discussed, these large private groups hold several archive collections resulting from mergers and acquisitions during the 1990s and 2000s. In the

banking sector, mergers have not had a negative impact on the integrity of the archive collections, but have made it possible to pool resources and ensure the long-term preservation and communication of historical archives.

The *Banque de France* also maintains public collections specific to its activity, notably reports on the economic state of the cities where it was established or on monetary policy. *The Archives nationales du monde du Travail* (Centre for business records in Roubaix) also hold collections deposited or donated by certain companies, including Rothschild, the leading “Haute Banque”, *Crédit Foncier*, etc.

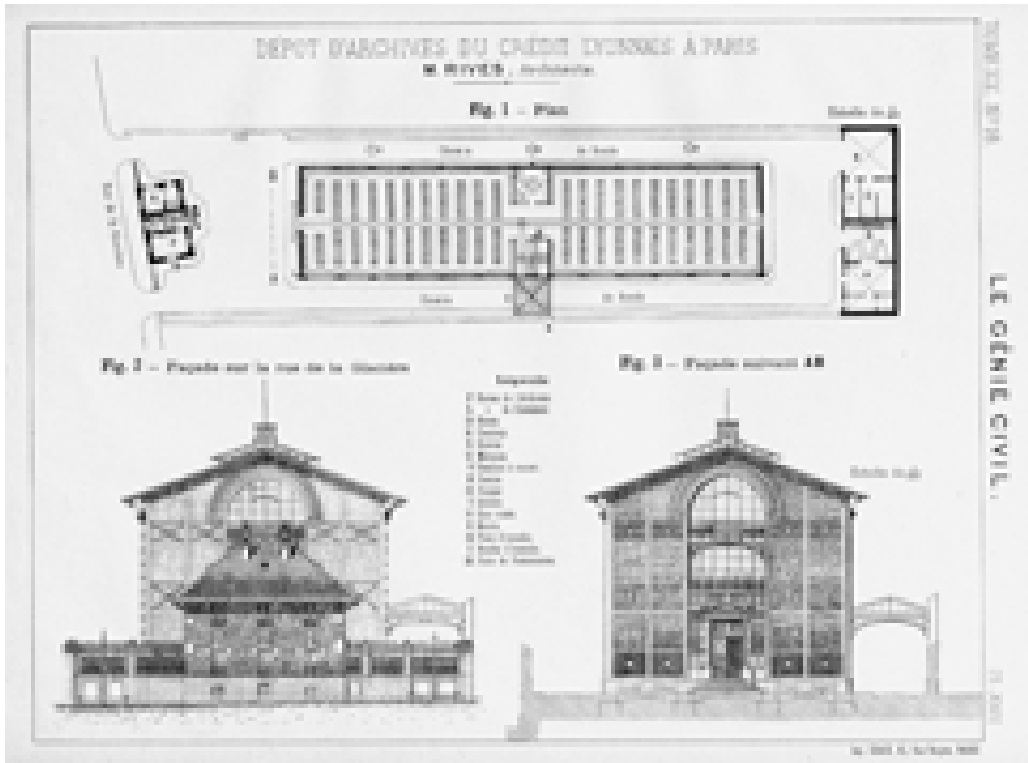
Like all companies, banks have classic categories of archives: board of directors and management committees, accounting records (balance sheets, profit and loss accounts, ledgers, etc.), human resources (policy and personal files) and real estate (branches and head offices).

They also hold categories of documents specific to banking which may be of interest to historians far beyond the banking and financial sectors. The share, bond and loan issue files offer a great deal of information on governments (Russian loans, for example) and on companies. These archives have already been used to write leading PhD theses on the history of international relations. They show real international cooperation (and competition) based on the creation of financial syndicates for the issuance of securities.

This is also the case for project financing files. We know the importance of works like, for example, the Suez, Corinth and Panama canals, the railroad from Beijing to Hankow (now Wuhan) or the Berlin-Baghdad railway, the Metro in Cairo or Mexico. We can also quote the files for the financing of plants in several parts of the world: mines, oil complexes, steelworks, nuclear and thermal power stations, etc.

Studies on countries, economic sectors or companies by the specialist economic research departments are very useful to historians.

These are just a few examples of the wealth of bank archives. We have to note one drawback, however: there is little information about Germany in the archives of French banks because of the



The Crédit Lyonnais' archives building in 1891 (from *Le génie civil* journal, tome XIX, 1891)

limited presence of French banks in countries with a developed banking system (except London, the international financial centre) and because of the diplomatic context that prevailed for a long time between the two countries.

3.2. The use of banking archives in French universities: the example of the Paris School of Economics (PSL) and the economic and banking archives

In France, the exploitation of economic, financial and banking archives has been promoted in recent years by university initiatives such as that run by the Paris School of Economics. Professor Pierre-Cyrille Hautcœur and Professor Angelo Riva wish to develop the possibilities of using the data contained in archives on a wider scale in order to analyse more accurately financial flows since the end of the 18th century. For more than 10 years,

they have been carrying out a unique project called *Data for Financial History* (DFIH)⁸, which aims to build high-quality historical economic and financial databases, particularly based on the digitalisation and OCR processing of archives kept by the French Ministry of Finance⁹ and certain French banks, including BNP Paribas which signed up to the project in 2020. Supported by both Europe and the “Agence nationale de la recherche” (ANR-French National Research Agency), the project uses Big Data technologies and aims to improve both OCR and machine learning technologies.

This fruitful collaboration between archivists and economists demonstrates the potential of using digital technologies to deepen knowledge of financial systems at European level. This is encouraged by the Ministry of Culture, as can be seen from the presentation of the project conducted by the French Ministry of Finance and the research team of Ange-

lo Riva on 11 December 2019¹⁰ to the High Council of the French Archives.

A new phase of the project focuses on company archives, including those of banks. There are many lines of inquiry and its success is partly due to the fact that the objectives of the research team at PSL align with the knowledge needs of the respective archives. The Archives and History Department of BNP Paribas is part of this process and, in the next few years, will carry out specific digitalisation and OCR processing work to make data sets available to researchers, helping to improve knowledge of financial flows at European and French level, especially BNP circulars and internal memos. The procedure for financing large infrastructure projects abroad are also of interest to research teams, enabling them to better understand international financial flows.

4. New challenges for Bank Archives: the example of BNP Paribas

This development in scientific research procedures, fostered by the development of digital humanities and the new possibilities of AI, demonstrates the consistency and relevance of the archival policy pursued by the BNP Paribas Group since the 1930s.

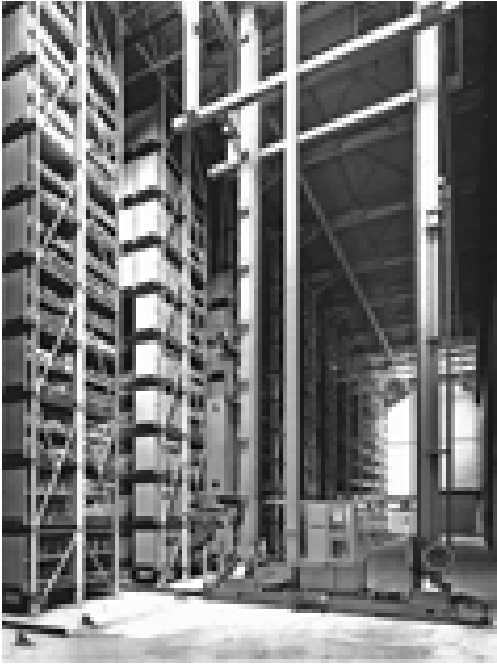
The aim is not to provide a precise history of the whole archiving policy pursued by the forerunner banks of the BNP Paribas Group, but to highlight certain characteristic aspects in order to understand how BNP Paribas is now building its policy of preserving the Group's digital heritage.

4.1. Historical archiving policy: 90 years of archival development

In the 1920s, the Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas conducted a study to learn from the existing practices of other French banks, particularly in terms of conservation. Crédit Lyonnais and Société Générale are two major players, of course, since they have been pursuing a concerted policy of records management and historical archiving since the 19th century. The general comparative report on practices, particularly with regard to the accessibility of archives, is quite revealing:¹¹ "In summary, the storage time of items is the same

as that of Société Générale." The inspiration for archival practices between French banks did not stop in the 1920s. The rapid construction of dedicated conservation centres for the Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas, in Rueil-Malmaison in the Paris suburbs, demonstrates the exemplary will to build state-of-the-art facilities.¹² Questioning the various suppliers, particularly for the storage and storage shelves for cartons, demonstrates the thoroughness of the project.

Centralised management in conservation buildings at the disposal of the producer services is also demonstrated by the work carried out by the Banque nationale du Commerce et de l'Industrie (BNCI) in the 1950s. Archive centres exist in French overseas territories¹³, but with a centralised policy. One example is the Senegal archive in Thiaroye, Dakar. Each "Overseas Centre" sends all transfer catalogues to the General Archives Service in Paris.¹⁴ Consequently, the international dimension of archival production is a constant factor. This question underlies the working group¹⁵ set up in 1983 by Jean Favier, then Director-General of the Archives of France, and the French Banking Association. In March 1984, the minutes of a meeting of this working group¹⁶ refer to a 1978 circular from the French Association of Banks laying down rules for the conservation of intermediate archives which are ill-adapted to the preservation of historical archives. This working group enabled French bank archivists to participate in the burgeoning thinking of the public archivists network. Jean Favier also offered them training in the French archives network and invited them to take part in the Ministry of Culture's International Technical Course on Archives (Stage Technique International des Archives – STIA) between January and March 1984.¹⁷ The increasing professionalisation of bank archivists became necessary as digital preservation issues emerged. The working group was also international in character and keen to follow the British example of the creation of the Business Archives Council in 1934, although that initial ambition did not materialise. With a predominantly public banking sector at the beginning of the 1980s, following nationalizations, the fear of too direct an intervention by the administration meant that the



The BNP's archives center, the „Cathedral“, in Saran, 1971 (Photo Archives du Loiret)

banks nevertheless maintained a distance from the Archives de France.¹⁸

At Paribas, the professionalisation was achieved in particular through the creation of an Archives Department in 1990, headed by Pierre de Longue-mar.¹⁹ As part of events to mark the Group's 120-year anniversary, and with the support of its management, the archives were opened to researchers such as Eric Bussière, who would write the first history of Paribas in 1992.²⁰ This approach to opening up the archives was quite new in French companies. The work of Jean Bouvier, Bertrand Gille and Maurice Hamon for the Saint-Gobain group was beginning to bear fruit, with French banks in the lead.

In 1999, 70 years after the creation of Paribas' first records management service, BNP created a historical archives department, in particular to conduct the official investigation into the looting of Jewish assets during the Second World War; in 2010, the momentum was revived and BNP Paribas created the Archives and History Department,

which aims to strengthen the Group's archival coordination by focusing strongly on the need to conserve the Group's historical heritage in France and abroad. The recruitment of a professional bank archivist and former heritage curator, Roger Nougaret, reinforced this necessary professionalisation of the sector within the Group. This was increasingly important as digital technology became more and more predominant and required specialised expertise in terms of collection, archival support, history correspondents and heritage enhancement.

In addition to the Group policy on archiving, a new Group Archives and History policy was drafted, stressing operational, image and reputation risks.²¹ This directive is updated every three years along with implementation guidance. In 2020, the fourth version of the directive²² embraced the digital dimension by advocating the centralisation of the Group's digital historical archives within a single system managed by the Archives and History Department. This pragmatic move also reaffirmed the relevance of a centralised model that already existed at BNCI in the 1950s. Finally, it significantly increases compliance with European legislation, particularly the *General Data Protection Regulation* (GDPR)²³. The collection of personal data involves daily collaboration with the teams responsible for GDPR compliance, in particular to ensure that the Group's historical archives are not anonymised.

4.2. Preservation of historical archives rethought in the digital age

Beyond this concerted archival policy, from its first records management service in rue Laugier in Paris to Rueil-Malmaison, the other fundamental step for the BNP archives is the construction of a dedicated archives site on the Saran site (near Orléans) in 1971, "the cathedral", with a capacity of nearly 380 linear kilometres and also a computer archives management system. It is worth mentioning, too, the specialized centre built in Combs-la-Ville (in the outskirts of Paris) in 1982 by the Compagnie Bancaire (known for its consumer credit unit Cetelem) which merged with Paribas in 1998.

The historical archives kept in Paribas or BNP centres were gathered in the Combs-la-Ville repository in 2010, before joining a refurbished site in



BNP Paribas' archives center in Dinan

Dinan²⁴ in Brittany at the end of 2020. Fitted out in a former securities depository, the new centre aims to preserve 7 linear kilometres of historical archives, nearly 3000 museum objects and the Group's historical library. An archive information system deployed in 2013 makes collections easier to manage. A policy of active digitalisation, in particular of iconographic archives and internal publications, completes the system.

In addition, a first historical digital archiving system called "HISTORAGE" was deployed in 2017. Today, almost 2 GB of digital archives²⁵ have been collected. This trend is accelerating as the digitalisation of procedures continues within the Group. Since 2012, there has been a drop of almost 46 percent in the collection of paper archives. The next step in the urbanisation of the archival information system is the merging of the two existing information systems to provide a single computer system for the coordinated management of historical paper and digital archives. This project, launched in 2020, will be completed in 2023. This new information system will greatly enhance the capacity of the Archives and History department to preserve digital archives. This ambition is also being pursued by several archives collection projects around the world which aim to preserve the Group's memory (40th anniversary of the BNP Paribas Foundation, archives linked to COVID-19 crisis).

In general, it takes into account exchanges with other banking archivists, notably within the framework of the European Association for Banking History (EABH)²⁶ and former bankers, volunteers and researchers who are part of the BNP Paribas Group History Association.²⁷

The aim is to promote and preserve the Group's digital heritage in the 21st century in a way that contributes to the 200-year history.

4.3. Promoting historical archives among a wider public

The promotion of economic, financial, and banking records is

undoubtedly affected by the arrival of digital tools that allow a much wider audience than usual.

Since 2010, the main project for winning new audiences has been through a dual-language "Well of History" website²⁸ and public interaction on social networks (Twitter and LinkedIn). This website was evolved in the autumn of 2021 to incorporate new video and podcasts²⁹ and thereby interact with a younger audience which is not always familiar with the banking world. The aim is also to improve site referencing by working specifically on SEO issues. Moreover, since September 2021, the Group's established corporate account on Instagram has included historical stories compiled with the Archives and History Department from the archives. The other means used is virtual reality via VR tools and the "14 Bergère Experience" application.³⁰ Deployed at the end of 2020, it allows the virtual visit of one of the Group's flagship buildings at 14 Rue Bergère in Paris, where guided tours are no longer allowed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. To sum up, digital technology increases the possibilities of making the bank's archives and heritage available, not only to researchers but also to a wider public that can use it in its own way.

In addition to its own arrangements in the Archives and History department, since 2010, BNP Paribas has been strongly committed to promoting scientific research in economic history. Since

then, in partnership with the Association Française d'Histoire Economique (AFHE)³¹, the bank has been sponsoring the thesis award in economic history, which is awarded every two years to French-language theses. This comes from the highest level of the Group, since the committee is chaired by the Group's Chairman, Jean Lemierre. In 2022, this system will be reinforced by partnerships to promote exploitation of the BNP Paribas Group archives, including EHESS (Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales) and the Paris School of Economics (PSL), to help master and doctoral students to use the Group's archives for their ongoing work. There are also plans for the Archives and History department to increase its knowledge of the archival resources and to make new resources available to researchers.

Furthermore, since 2018, the Archives and History department has been involved in another field, aimed more broadly at the promotion of history and historical mediation, through sponsorship of the History YouTube award³², which rewards the best French-speaking Youtubers promoting youth and encourages the creation of historical content and research into public history. The aim is to encourage young people to take a critical view of history by gaining a better understanding of the importance of archives and their exploitation, in connection with academic programmes. Carried out with the "Histoire de Lire" association, this programme has been a great success, travelling beyond French borders to Canada. In view of the success of the first editions, the Versailles book fair has even set up a one-off Youtubers book fair.

Finally, it is interesting to note the cooperation of bank archivists to make their heritage better known; initiated at the time of the investigation into the spoliations of Jewish assets in 1998, continued by the publication of guidelines for the conservation of historical archives, this cooperation has seen two recent initiatives of valorisation meet with a fairly large public. The first initiative was an exhibition on banks during the 1914–1918 war, on the occasion of the centenary of the war in 2014; the second initiative was a digital exhibition (website, twitter account) on women in banking, both as clients and employees. Called "Des femmes qui comptent"

(Women who count), this exhibition met an even wider audience in 2017–2018.³³

More than ever, the archivists and their teams in the banks must master a wide variety of skills: knowledge of international standards and best practices to ensure the sustainability of the solutions implemented, ability to market the archives internally in order to get the necessary visibility and means, ease in the digital world to face the challenges of managing electronic archives, practice of social media to reach the widest audience, intimate knowledge of the academic and research community to inscribe their action in the current research trends. It is a vast program and a challenge, for which bank archivists seem to be armed, thanks beyond their personal value to the good health of the banking sector and the cooperation established between the stakeholders.

Address: Marie Laperdrix and Roger Nougaret,
BNP Paribas, Archives and History Group,
35 rue de la Gare, 75019 Paris/France,
E-Mail: marie.laperdrix@bnpparibas.com /
roger.nougaret@sfr.fr

Notes

- * Revised version of a lecture given at the 56th VdW's annual conference at May 3, 2021.
- 1 See *Marie-Hélène Chazelle*, *Conserver les archives bancaires: le cas des sociétés de crédit, d'une banque d'affaires et de la Banque de France (1875–1935)*, in: *Livraisons d'Histoire de l'Architecture*, 2005-10, p. 19–31.
- 2 *Les archives des grands établissements financiers*, in: *Le Génie Civil*, tome XIX, n° 16, 15 August 1891, p. 250–251.
- 3 *Bâtiment d'archives pour une banque*, architecte Henri Bard, D.P.L.G., in: *La Technique des Travaux*, November 1931, p. 687–694.
- 4 Among others, Gustave Rives built the magnificent and enormous department store Dufayel in Paris, which closed in the 1930s and where the bank BNCL set up its back office after the Second World War.
- 5 BNP Paribas Historical Archives, 69 AH 334.
- 6 *Otto Waldau*, *Das Archiv-Gebäude des Crédit Lyonnais in Paris*, in: *Deutsche Bauzeitung*, 21 October 1891; *Eugen Kaufmann*, *La Banque en France* (Paris, 1914); *Georg Obst*, *Bankarchiv*, in: *Bankwissenschaft*, 1929–1930 (thanks to Dr Martin Müller for bringing our attention to this paper by Obst).

- 7 Paribas and Crédit Agricole in 1990, Crédit Lyonnais in 1991, Société Générale in 1995, BNP and CCF (HSBC France) in 1999.
- 8 For more information, please consult the project website: <https://dfih.fr/> [cited 19/08/2021].
- 9 *Pascal Gallien and Angelo Riva*, De la poésie des vieux papiers à la prose des nouveaux digits. La valorisation des archives des ministères économiques et financiers au sein de l'équipement d'excellence données financières historiques, in: *Entreprises et Histoire*, 2019, No. 95, pp. 123–130. Also of interest is the speech by Angelo Riva on the second day of the French Ministry of Finance's archives correspondents, „Le big data au service de l'histoire économique et financière“, 2018: <https://www.bercynumerique.finances.gouv.fr/vivre-le-numerique-a-bercy/le-big-data-au-service-de-l-histoire-economique-et-financiere> [cited 19/08/2021].
- 10 *Marie Laperdrix and Angelo Riva*, The Big Data Exploitation of the Archives of the Agents de Change de Paris, guest conference of the Ministry of Culture, Conseil Supérieur des Archives, Paris, 11 December 2019.
- 11 BNP Paribas Historical Archives, 8 AH 098: Comparative report on the functioning of the Archives of Société Générale and Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas, 23 July 1923, p.5: „En résumé, le temps de conservation des pièces est le même que celui de la Société générale“.
- 12 BNP Paribas Historical Archives, 8 AH 103: Note assessing the equipment needs of the future Historical Archives Conservation Building of the Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas, 26 July 1928, 4 p. For more information: *Chazelle*, *Conserver les archives bancaires* (note 1), p. 29.
- 13 Banque Nationale pour le Commerce et l'Industrie, in: *Journal d'Entreprise de la BNCI*, July 1954, n° 86, p. 225.
- 14 *Ibid.*, p. 224: „le secrétariat (...) a pour rôle essentiel de tenir et mettre à jour tous les bordereaux de dépôt des documents confiés aux centres d'archives- ce qui lui permet, afin de pouvoir répondre à toute demande, de connaître immédiatement à l'aide des numéros d'entrée affectés à chaque bordereau, le centre dépositaire et, aussi, de savoir si les paquets ont été détruits ou microfilmés ; d'autre part, il établit annuellement les bordereaux de destruction pour toutes les archives dont le délai de conservation est expiré“.
- 15 BNP Paribas Historical Archives, 252 AH 6: file on the Historical Archives Working Group led by the French Archives and the French Banking Association, 1983–1984.
- 16 BNP Paribas Historical Archives, 252 AH 6: AFB. minutes of the meeting of the Historical Archives Working Group on 2 March 1984, p. 2.
- 17 BNP Paribas Historical Archives, 252 AH 6: STIA program from 5 January to 29 March 1984, 5 p. The conference on business archives was held by Mr Hamon at the Pont-à-Mousson archives. As part of this program, several bank archivists visited the public archives, including the revolutionary building of the Hauts-de-Seine Departmental Archives. See *Georges Weill and Patrick Chamouard*, *Les Archives Départementales des Hauts-de-Seine*, Conseil Général des Hauts-de-Seine, 1987.
- 18 *Roger Nougaret*, Retour sur un sauvetage archivistique: les archives de la Banque Nationale de Crédit, in: *Bon- due* (Didier, ed.), *L'entreprise et sa mémoire. Mélanges en l'honneur de Maurice Hamon*, Paris, PUPS, 2012, p. 35.
- 19 *Pierre De Longuemar*, Archive survey. Incorporating oral sources within an archives department: the Paribas experience, in: *Financial History Review*, No. 8, April 2001, pp. 85–88.
- 20 *Eric Bussière*, *Paribas, Europe and the world, 1872–1992*, Antwerp, 1992, 320 p.
- 21 BNP Paribas, *Politique Archives et Histoire Groupe*, 16 September 2011, 9 p.
- 22 BNP Paribas, *Politique Archives et Histoire Groupe*, 26 June 2020, 11 p.
- 23 Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation).
- 24 „Brussels, Dinan, Rome... A journey to the heart of the historical archives of BNP Paribas“, available on the BNP Paribas Group history website: <https://histoire.bnpparibas/dossier/bruxelles-dinan-rome-voyage-au-coeur-des-coulisses-des-archives-historiques-de-bnp-paribas-video/> [accessed 19/08/2021].
- 25 This figure does not take into account the Group's audiovisual archives, which have been managed with the National Audiovisual Institute in a separate information system under a specific partnership since 2016.
- 26 „European Association for Banking History, the BNP Paribas Archives. A Conversation with Carmen Hoffman and Marie Laperdrix“, Podcast, May 2021: <https://anchor.fm/carmen-hofmann/episodes/The-BNP-Paribas-Archive-e12evie/a-a5qv8a> [accessed 19/08/2021].
- 27 Website of the Association for the History of the BNP Paribas Group: <https://assohistoire-bnpparibas.com/> [accessed 19/08/2021].
- 28 <https://histoire.bnpparibas/> [accessed 19/08/2021].
- 29 The BNP Paribas Group's new history podcast, called ATM stories („Always telling more stories“), was launched on European Heritage Days 2021. Its purpose is to tell a short, little-known story about the bank. These podcasts are available in French and some in English depending on the historical themes chosen.
- 30 The 14 Bergère Experience app can be downloaded from all iOS and Android platforms. It is available in English and French. See *Flora Da Silveira*, 14 Bergère Experiment: une preuve de concept (POC) pour rendre accessible au grand public un joyau architecturale, in: *Archivistes*, No. 137, June 2021, p. 34.
- 31 To find out more about the AFHE-BNP Paribas Economic History thesis award: <https://afhe.hypotheses.org/category/prix-de-lafhe-bnp-paribas> [accessed 19/08/2021].
- 32 To learn more about the History Youtube Award: <https://www.histoiredelire.fr/prix-youtubeur-2/> [accessed 19/08/2021].
- 33 <https://www.desfemmesquicomptent.com/> [accessed 20/10/2021].