

# The Library



The Observatory library originated with the bequest of books from the private collection of Giuseppe Piazzi, first observatory director. Among the over 350 works making the original nucleus of the library, are some rare editions from XVI and XVII centuries, and periodicals of international resonance such as the *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London* and *L'Histoire de l'Académie Royale des Sciences de Paris*.

Throughout time, the library collections have grown thanks to the exchange of astronomical and meteorological serials and publications with Observatories from all over the world, particularly at the turn of the XX century.

The library is astronomy and astrophysics oriented, and consists of an historical and a modern section. Together they include over 20,000 monographs and 1,100 periodicals.

The public can refer to the collections upon previous appointment.

Guided tours of the library can be organised on request. For information contact:

- Modern library: Dott.ssa F. Martines, tel. 091/233 244
- Historical library and archives: Dott.ssa D. Randazzo, tel. 091/233 243

## The Historical Archives

They embrace the whole OAPa documentary legacy, built up throughout over two centuries of scientific and administrative activity. It ranges from registers of astronomical and meteorological observation, to inventories of books, instruments and furnishings, including drafts of letters and notes, accounts and outlay notes, dispatches and telegrams, the private mail of the astronomers, their diplomas and certifications. Unfortunately, most of the oldest items, including Piazzi's correspondence, has gone lost.

The rearrangement works, begun in the 90s and converged into INAF Specola 2000 National Project, culminated in the realization of the archives inventory, an essential reference tool for searching through the documents.

[www.astropa.inaf.it/biblioteca/archivos.html](http://www.astropa.inaf.it/biblioteca/archivos.html)

Maggio 1791.						
Giorni	Orari	Barra	Summa	Compendio	Unità	Stato del Cielo.
del	del	meteo	Intensio.	Intensio.		
1	AM	29,460	66,0	65,0	Notte	Meteo. sereno.
2	M	29,450	63,5	61,5	Ciur.	Ciuro. sereno.
3	PM	29,400	65,0	59,0	Ciur.	Ciuro. de minaccia pioggia.
4	AM	29,200	61,5	58,5	Ind. Cusp.	Cusp. del minaccia pioggia.
5	M	29,200	61,0	61,0	Notte	Bello.
6	P	29,200	61,5	59,0	Notte	Meteo. de minaccia pioggia.
7	AM	29,400	61,0	58,0	Notte	Ciuro con pioggia serena.
8	M	29,500	62,0	60,0	Notte	Meteo con pioggia interabile.
9	✓	29,500	60,0	59,0	Notte	Meteo.
10	AM	29,600	61,0	60,5	Notte	Meteo. sereno.
11	M	29,600	61,7	65,0	Notte	Meteo. sereno.
12	P	29,500	62,0	61,5	Ind. Cusp.	Cusp. con pioggia.
13	AM	29,200	61,5	60,6	Ind. Cusp.	Cusp. con pioggia in parte.
14	M	29,500	61,0	60,5	Notte	Ciuro.
15	✓	29,200	60,7	59,5	Notte	Bello.
Summa		440,200	969,3	918,8		

## PUBLIC ACTIVITIES