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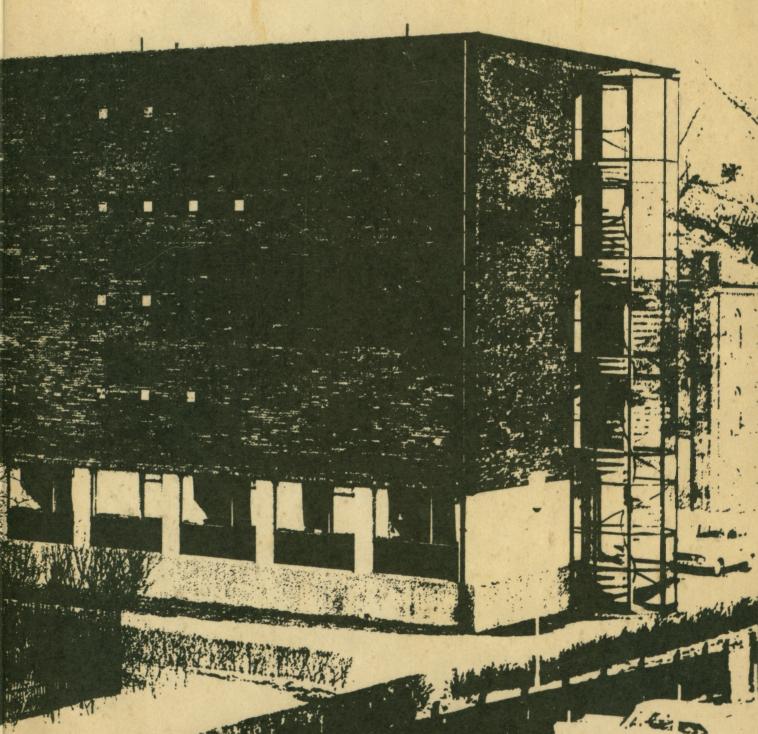
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THE NEW DANISH ARCHIVES



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RIGSARKIVET 1970 This book has been set in 10 point Times and printed by Andelsbogtrykkeriet, Odense. The blocks are from Fyns Klichéfabrik. The photographs are taken by the photographers of the archives, the National Museum (p. 3) and the firm of Sonnenburg (p. 14). Published by the Director of the Archives.

Denne bog er sat med 10 punkt Times og trykt hos Andelsbogtrykkeriet i Odense. Klichéerne fra Fyns Klichéfabrik. Fotografierne er taget af arkivernes fotografer, Nationalmuseet (s. 3) og firmaet Sonnenburg (s. 14). Udgivet ved Rigsarkivaren.

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Preface

Apart from the Provincial Archives at Aabenraa from 1933, no archives were built in Denmark since the beginning of the 1890's, when the 3 Provincial Archives were erected. In the 1960's two new archival buildings were built, at Viborg and in Copenhagen, and a third one at Aabenraa has been projected in detail. Just as the older buildings the two new Provincial Archives have been designed by the best architects of our time, the newest technology has been used here, rational depots and good working conditions for the staff having been created. It is our belief that with these new buildings the Danish archives will place themselves in such a way in the international archival world that it will be natural to tell others about the buildings and about the archival ideas which formed the basis of the wishes which the archivists expressed to architects and engineers. This booklet is in a way a continuation of the account of the new Provincial Archives which A. D. Jørgensen, the Director of the Archives, published in 1893. It is published in English in order to enable not only Danes to get to know the buildings.

I thank the Ministry of Cultural Affairs for the grant which made publication possible.

Thanks are also offered to the two co-authors, the keepers Jens Holmgaard and Harald Jørgensen, D. Phil. and to cand. mag. Mogens Møller, who has translated the text into English.

The National Archives, March 18, 1970.

Johan Hvidtfeldt.

Danish Archives

In the Middle Ages the archives of the Danish kings were kept in the two principal castles, Vordingborg and Kalundborg. After Copenhagen Castle from 1417 onward was permanently in the hands of the king, His Most Gracious Majesty was mostly living here, and as time went on, Royal archives grew up here too. The archives from Vordingborg and Kalundborg were 1582 removed to the capital, subsequently nearly all Royal archives were gathered in Copenhagen Castle.

In 1663 Peder Schumacher, later ennobled under the name of Griffenfeld, became King's Librarian and Archivist. The Royal Archivist Frederik Rostgaard was a great collector of literature and an efficient civil servant. During his term of office the Royal Archives in 1720 got their own building, beside the large Chancery building, still the heart of Danish central administration, which is chiefly housed on the small island, Slotsholmen, where Christiansborg Castle, the successor of the old Copenhagen Castle, the Royal Library and 'Tøjhusmuseet', the museum of arms and uniforms, are situated. The National Museum is just across the canal surrounding Slotsholmen.

The building of the Royal Archives still is one of the four different buildings forming the National Archives. It consists of three large vaults, one of which holds the essential part of the medieval archives. Here they are placed in large oak cabinets, some of which are dating back to the 17th century. The bottom vault houses the more recent Archives of the Royal House, going as far as 1947, the year in which Christian X, the father of the present king, died. Besides the private archives proper, such as diaries, letters etc., these archives also comprise the legal documents concerning the Royalties, e.g. birth and marriage certificates. The latest document is the birth certificate of Prince Joachim, born 1969 as son of Princess Margrethe, successor to the Throne, and her consort.

A long line of Royal Archivists have throughout the ages been in charge of the Danish archives. Nearly all of them were gifted historians, often the most eminent of the realm. The last Royal Archivist of the old school was C. F. Wegener, an erudite historian. He merits the gratitude of the archives for having in 1852 started the publication of reports on the work of the archives still continuing. The latest volume of reports on the National and Provincial Archives, Meddelelser om Rigsarkivet og Landsarkiverne, includes 1965. Wegener, at one time a librarian, was in possession of the greatest Danish private book collection of any time. It was outside his world of ideas that records might be arranged in another way than the books of the libraries, i.e. in accordance with criteria regarding contents only. Generally speaking, it always had been done like that, and in that way one did it in the archives of major countries.

In the time of Wegener the Royal Archives almost only comprised records up to the year 1750. More recent archives still were in the offices of the central administration, the more important of them being under the supervision of special archivists. In 1861 the urgent reform was effected that the archives of the more important Boards, now Ministries, were united in one place, the Archives of the Kingdom. The archives in question consisted of a huge number of records, and it soon became obvious that it would be impossible to file them on the principles used in the Royal Archives, on the contrary the arrangement had to be according to the offices in which the records had come into being. Empirically one here at an early date arrived at a definite perception of the principle of provenance and the necessity of carrying it into practice.

The precepts for the application of the principle of provenance had been elaborated by Johan Grundtvig, the son of the great poet N. F. S. Grundtvig. One of his pupils was A. D. Jørgensen, a young Schleswiger, who gradually came to occupy a central position as a historical scholar and historian. When the eightyyear-old C. F. Wegener at the end of the year 1882 tendered his resignation, A. D. Jørgensen was appointed head of both archives. In 1888 he proposed a reform of the archives to the Ministry, and on the basis of this a Bill was worked out in detail and with a few amendments was promulgated an Act March 30, 1889. By this the then existing two archives were merged into the National Archives, comprising the archives of the central administration and the Royal House, and three Regional Archives – from 1907 Provincial Archives – were established in Copenhagen, Odense og Viborg, to which the archives of the local administration are delivered. The act explicitly laid down that the Provincial Archives can also take delivery of archives of municipalities and manors, and the vast majority of the archives of Danish towns and county boroughs as well as manors has actually been delivered to them.

In 1933 the Provincial Archives in Aabenraa were built to receive the records of the part of North Schleswig which in 1920 came to Denmark. The Act of 1889 provides that the Director of the National Archives shall not only be the head of these but of the archives in general. In Sweden, Norway and Finland one has a corresponding organization, the archives in the four Northern countries thus being of a uniform pattern.

The Act of 1889 made a unity of the Danish archives. Actually there was one exception only. Already in 1889 there were special archives comprising the files of army detachments and continuing as the Army Archives, today including the archives of the air arm. The Army Archivist is not subordinate to the Director of the Archives, except that the latter shall sanction all discardings. The archives of the naval defence, however, form part of the National Archives, in which the older archives of the military central management are also kept. In 1948 special Trades and Industries Archives were established, comprising the archives of the great trade organizations and the separate firms. Archives of State or municipal provenance do not form part of the Trade and Industries Archives. By the Act of June 16, 1962 they were taken over by the State, without becoming an integral part of the general Danish archives, even if the Director of the Archives is exofficio member of the governing body. The premises of these archives are a building in Aarhus which formerly housed the large State Library, which is the central library of the Danish public libraries and university library of the University of Aarhus.

In 1891 the Provincial Archives of Viborg were inaugurated, and 1893 the Provincial Archives in Copenhagen and Odense were finished. Some of the most eminent architects in this country were in charge of the building. Professor Martin Nyrop, who built the Copenhagen Archives, is most famous for his imposing Copenhagen Town Hall, and Royal surveyor Hack Kampmann, the master of the Viborg Archives, for decades left his stamp on a great number of buildings, especially in North Jutland and

Copenhagen. Incidentally, he has also designed the present building of the Trade and Industries Archives. The architect of the Odense Archives was Martin Borch. All three Provincial Archives are architecture of a very high standard, both aesthetically as well as regarding workmanship, and they may probably be said to satisfy the demands on safety which at that time were made on depots. The newest of the four Provincial Archives, built in Aabenraa 1933, are of inferior aesthetic and craftsmanlike standard to the three older buildings, nor satisfactory from the aspect of archives technics. The architect and the archives executive share the responsibility for this.

It soon became obvious that the buildings were too small from the very start. This especially applies to Viborg, where the question of a new building was raised already in 1897. A Bill relating to this was introduced into the Folketing in 1901, but owing to the political situation it was never passed.

In the National Archives in Copenhagen one also had to struggle with an alarming lack of space. The conditions of both records and archivists were scandalous, but when the Royal Library moved to a new building on the other side of the beautiful garden which was once the naval port of Copenhagen, the Act of May 27, 1908 provided that the National Archives were to take over the former buildings of the library. A complete rebuilding was then carried through, by which the big library hall, one of the finest rooms of the capital with marble floor and a gallery carried by 66 columns, was destroyed. The moving into the new buildings started in 1910, and when it had been finished in 1912, the National Archives had got good store rooms, complying with the demands on safety which at that time might be made. Reading room conditions were on the whole satisfactory. On the other hand one had not by the rebuilding provided sufficient workrooms for the staff.

The National Archives after this time disposed of the following buildings: The old Royal Archives, built 1720, the former Royal Library, built 1673, the annex of the library, the so-called Harsdorff building from 1785 with fine gallery halls, and part of the Victualling Yard of Christian IV from 1603. Their total capacity was about 27.000 running metres. Since that time the National Archives have not extended their premises, but in 1936 part of Søkvæsthuset at Christianshavn, the former military hospital, was taken over. This building dates back to 1781 and is without any fire protection. During the war a small depot in the mediaeval convent of Esrom in North Sealand was acquired. During recent years the Na-



The building of the Royal Archives to the left and the then Royal Library, now the main building of the National Archives. Painting 1749 by J. Rach and H. Eegberg.

tional Archives have further got store rooms in the new depots in Viborg and Copenhagen. Today's total capacity is about 70.000 running metres, 35.000 metres of which in the buildings on Slotsholmen and 13.000 metres in the Provincial Archives in Viborg and Copenhagen.

The decades after 1920 were hard times for Denmark, financial crises, threatening war and occupation followed each other. During those years schemes never got beyond the blueprint stages, with the exception of the absolutely necessary Provincial Archives in Aabenraa. About one thing, however, all agreed. The Provincial Archives in Viborg should have a new building before any other archives. In the next place the Provincial Archives in Copenhagen were to come. The many talks with the Royal surveyor and the Ministry and the half-hearted promises given made it difficult to find the right line of procedure. When the architect Leopold Teschl in 1953 had become Royal surveyor of part of North Jutland, Johan Hvidtfeldt, keeper of the archives, took the bull by the horns, requesting the architect to sketch a quite new project. Shortly afterwards this project was available, and after a great many, often very difficult negotiations the Ministry of Education asked for an appropriation towards detailed projecting in the budget for 1957/58, and in August 1957 the building committee started working. There was a time lag of three years, caused by the politicoeconomical planning, until building finally started on January 28, 1961. By then a sketch project had also been worked out for the Provincial Archives in Copenhagen, where Gunnar Olsen, D. Phil., was keeper. On his premature death in January 1962 he was succeeded by Harald Jørgensen, D. Phil. and until then head of the secretariate of the National Archives. Building started here in January 1964.

In a way, the appropriation in the Budget for 1957/58 marks a turning point in the modern history of Danish archives. It signified that the vague plans and intricate negotiations were things of the past, that one had got out of the deadlock in which

one had been for several decades. As the appropriation for the Provincial Archives of Sealand showed, following shortly afterwards, the ice had been broken, from the rather theoretical world of reflections one was on the way to the realization of ideas.

When Johan Hvidtfeldt in 1945 succeeded Svend Aakjær as keeper of the archives of North Jutland, it was evident that he would get principal responsibility for the building in Viborg which had to come at an early date. This certainty was an inspiration to travel about, to procure information from archives and libraries in the other Northern countries, in Western Europe and in the United States about the numerous problems obviously arising, when such a special building as new archives is on the tapis. At that time no architect or structural engineer in Denmark from personal experience knew anything about the myriads of questions of details in connection with the practical building of archives.

There had indeed been plenty of time not only to study and gather experience but also to make up one's mind, which demands of a more general nature must be made on the new building. We had to attach great importance to precautionary measures. The war damages had inevitably made a deep impression on the one coming from almost intact Denmark to the dismal heaps of ruins in Western Germany. A visit to Kiel 1948 remains ineradicably fixed in the archivist's memory, since it had proved impossible in the debris composing the former Karlstrasse to locate the building being once the Prussian State Archives, which held so many documents of importance to Danish history.

When the detailed projecting was to start, a building committee was set up according to Danish administrative practice, the chairman being Mr. T. F. Gimsing, chief of section in the Ministry of Education, Mr. B. C. Aabo acting as his secretary. The other members were Mr. Häuser-Hansen, chief architect from the Ministry of Housing, Svend Aakjær, D. Phil. Director of the Archives and the chief of the archives of Viborg, Johan Hvidtfeldt. Harald Jørgensen, D. Phil. head of the secretariate of the National Archives, attended all committee meetings. For a number of years he had taken an interest in the buildings of the archives, during his many travels becoming thoroughly acquainted with the archives which during late years had been built abroad.

On the part of the archives it was beyond doubt taken as granted that the archivists should take part in the planning from the very outset. At both new buildings close, even friendly teamwork between architects and engineers on one hand and the heads of the archives on the other was brought about at once. Not only the general lines of building but all relevant details were discussed both before and after the designs had been committed to paper. The close co-operation never gave rise to difficulties of any kind. No doubt this is a model method of work, and many foreign archives of recent date would have presented fewer problems, if the archivists had from the very first taken part in the planning and been able to inspire architects and technicians.

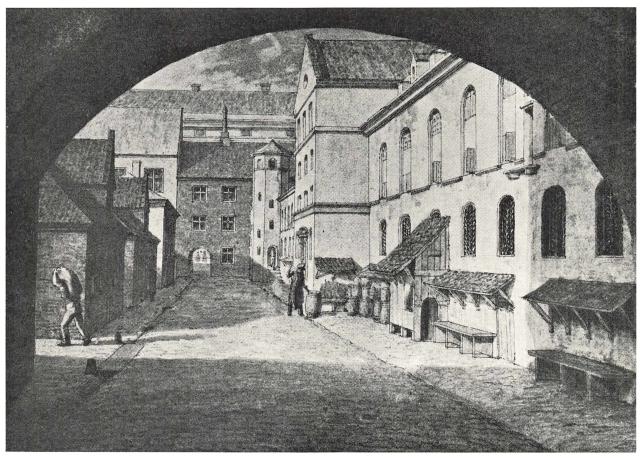
The Requirements of Safety

At the beginning of general debates in Viborg it was brought up for discussion, if the archives for safety's sake should be moved out of town. It was not, however, considered necessary, and both here and later in Copenhagen it was decided to erect the new buildings in connection with the existing ones. The advantages of this are self-evident.

During World War II considerable evacuations had been made from all archives, and during the Korean War this question had been made the subject of renewed deliberations and investigations. It had proved extremely difficult to find even tolerably suitable premises for evacuation, and it must also be regarded as a matter of doubt whether the vehicles necessary for evacuation would be available in a critical situation. Consequently it lay near at hand to solve this problem in connexion with the new building, planning the buildings in such a way that an evacuation might be carried out within their own walls. In Viborg only one underground storey had originally been contemplated, but already in 1954 the Keeper of the Provincial Archives with a view to safety proposed that two storeys should be under ground, a proposal which was accepted by the Ministry of Housing. In the building in Copenhagen two storeys have likewise been built under ground, and the same will apply to the coming archival buildings in Aabenraa.

As an important part of the demands for safety it was requested that the two underground storeys should be built as a shelter and that the horizontal divisions between these and the storeys above ground were to be very strong. Moreover the remaining horizontal divisions should also be of strongly reinforced concrete. There was general agreement that these divisions were to be scheduled to carry Compactus shelves.

The following demands for safety were also made:



The Victualling Yard, in which victuals for the ships of the Navy were originally stored, is seen to the right. The National Archives have now taken over part of it, at the small tower, fitting it up as a depot. The building of the Royal Archives is the three-storied house with the gate. It has later been heightened by one storey. From a tinted photo on a shade in the National Archives. By Chr. Hetsch about 1860.

All depot storeys shall be divided into smaller rooms, separated by fire walls.

All stairs and lifts shall be placed so that they can be isolated from the store rooms by means of fire walls and self-closing steel doors.

Reading room and offices shall be concentrated on one storey or placed in the stairs and lift section, which is separated from the store rooms, if one cannot place these rooms in a special building apart from the depot, as has on the whole been done in Copenhagen and will be in Aabenraa.

All outside doors as well as those between the various rooms on the depot storeys shall be of steel and insulated against fire. They shall be self-closing at a certain temperature.

All rooms shall be provided with smoke or other detectors, and there shall be direct alarm to the fire station.

A sprinkler equipment is not wanted, but water pipes are to be laid on to all storeys so that hydrants can be installed. In that case there shall also be drains from all storeys.

Fire-fighting appliances shall be placed everywhere, going to be used at once in case of lesser fires. The electric current shall be switched off at a master switch, when the building is left in the evening.

The Store Rooms

It was of course essential to the archivists that the floorage could be turned to the most effective account, placing the greatest possible number of records in the new store rooms. From the outset it had been intended to use Compactus shelves, because careful calculations clearly showed that the new system in new buildings made it possible to accomodate twice as many records as when traditional shelves were used. In addition to this Compactus shelves must also from the point of view of safety be preferred to traditional steel shelves. The Compactus shelves were expensive, and detailed calculations were made of the relation between the additional expenditure on shelves and the expenses for depots saved by these means. These estimates became of great importance during the protracted negotiations with the firm producing Compactus shelves.

In Copenhagen all shelves in the new depot are Compactus shelves, whereas it in Viborg was decided to use traditional shelves too, i. a. for the placing of the frequently consulted church registers. In the two underground storeys in Viborg there are traditional shelves, and the passages between the shelves may here be used to evacuate part of the records which are placed on the other storeys. In Copenhagen space in the bottom underground storey has been kept for such evacuation.

For decades – in fact for centuries – Danish archivists and other employees have in many places had to possess a talent for veritable balancing stunts, when the files were to be taken out for use from the very high shelves. In the new store rooms the height everywhere permits reaching all records without using a ladder. The passages are only 90 centimetres broad, the central corridors being however somewhat broader. The use of radiators has been avoided thus saving space, and the electricals are of a design allowing the shelves to stretch almost to the ceiling. Each square centimetre floorage has been utilized.

Records are of course to be used, and at the planning great importance was attached to serving the reading room as efficiently and quickly as possible. In Copenhagen - as well as in Viborg - the reading room is situated between the new depot and the old one. In Viborg it proved necessary to place the reading room in the new building itself. The records most often used are also placed here. From all storeys a book lift leads to the reading room, and a single man, placed on the storey where the records most often used have been stored, is in the vast majority of cases able to dispatch the requisitions from the reading room. As all files here have been provided with numbers - an archives number and a serial number – the assistant does not need any special training. A card index at once tells him, on which storey, on which shelves and in which compartment the archives in question are placed.

Offices and Workrooms

When the new buildings were planned after the passing of the Archives Act of 1889 slight account only was paid to the employees of the archives themselves. In Viborg and in Copenhagen there was thus a single room only for all members of the archives staff and the visitors of the reading room. It is true that a slight change for the better gradually took place, but the working conditions of the staff of Danish archives nevertheless continued to be very bad, until the new buildings began to be used. At the planning of the two buildings it was therefore at once laid down that each archivist should have his own office and that the other employees were also to have workrooms, in each of which no more than two persons should be placed. It is to be hoped that this principle will before long be followed in all Danish archives.

Great importance has been attached to making the rooms of the staff as practical as possible. There are not only shelves for books, cabinets for papers etc. but also tables for the sorting of records. In both new buildings there is of course a canteen with adjoining kitchen.

Reading Room and Conference Rooms

The archives are the places where the archives of the State, the municipalities and private persons are collected. Here the vast majority of the historical sources are kept which historians need for descriptions of Danish history from the Middle Ages up to the present. Consequently Danish archives have always had a very large number of visitors to the reading rooms, and in the new buildings great weight has been attached to giving the visitors the best possible working conditions. There are suitable seats and desks, the lighting is effective, and a very large reference library as well as a number of archives aids are available. To the reading rooms in the two new buildings some researcher's rooms have been annexed, in which historians applying themselves to especially extensive tasks may work in complete peace.

The archives are temples of research, but Danish archivists of today agree that the archives have also other functions in the sphere of cultural life of the country – and the region. Historical courses and seminars are to be arranged here, both for wide and narrow circles, there shall be free scope for meetings and debates on subjects bearing on historical research. The archives also have pedagogical tasks, every year they are visited by university students, by senior and other schools, societies and study circles. For that reason the two new buildings have a large exhibition room each, which may be used for both permanent and changing exhibitions and at the same time for lectures to a wider circle, here are also rooms for meetings and courses for a narrow circle.



Recent photo of the building of the Royal Archives and part of the Victualling Yard.

Technical Equipment

Until 1963 there was only one bindery for all five archives, placed in the Provincial Archives of Sealand. Until 1955 it was also restoration workshop for all archives, but in that year restoration work was transferred to the National Archives, where a special restoration workshop was established, all archives having it in common. It has long been evident that such an arrangement is completely unsatisfactory, and at the planning it was at once laid down that the new archives should have binderies of their own, being also restoration establishment, so that the workshop in the National Archives shall only deal with very complicated work for the other archives, as for example the preservation of seals.

Photographic technique has now for good entered the Danish Provincial Archives. In both new buildings studios and darkroom have been fitted up, and up-to-date equipment for microphotographing, enlargement and special photographing, for instance of



Part of the museum of the National Archives. The hall has been preserved in its original state from about 1780, when it was fitted up for the use of the Royal Library.

seals, is installed. During recent years all archives have furthermore got Xerox units, thus printing is now taking place quickly and cheaply. There is of course also the necessary number of microfilm readers for the use of employees and visitors.

Architectural Style and Art

When the three new Provincial Archives came into being in the 1890s, great importance was attached to their getting such a form that the buildings might stand as monuments showing what Danish architecture could at that time achieve. The best architects of the day created these buildings. The two Royal surveyors, Leopold Teschl and Nils Koppel, also rank among the élite of Danish architects of to-day. They have – just as the two building committees – attached great weight to the erection of buildings which are characterized by the present architectural style and in future ages will be a proof that Danish architecture in the 1960s was at an artistically high level. It was no easy task, in as much as the new buildings in the modern style should be in keeping with the Neo-Renaissance buildings from the 1890s. In both places the task has been accomplished in a way which among experts has evoked admiration – among very conservative people maybe astonishment. Contemporary art which blazes a new trail will perforce challenge those who take only a traditional look at the works created by the artists. And the two buildings are not at all traditional.

On the part of the archives executive great importance was attached to providing for embellishment too. In Viborg the Keeper for archival reasons as well as reasons of safety had desired that there should be no windows in the store rooms. To avoid the great expense for an air-conditioning plant, a compromise solution was found, i. e. very small windows solving the ventilation problem. When embellishment was discussed, the architect put forward the proposal bearing the hallmark of genius to place ceramic decorations in the small embrasures. The State Fund for the Endowment of the Arts approved the idea and granted the money.

The depot of the Provincial Archives of Sealand is almost windowless. Here a grant has been given towards a sculpture to be placed in the back garden, which is the centre of the entire design. It has not been erected yet. In both archives great weight has also been attached to the decoration of all offices and the canteen, the walls here are adorned with modern engravings, created by the best Danish artists of to-day.

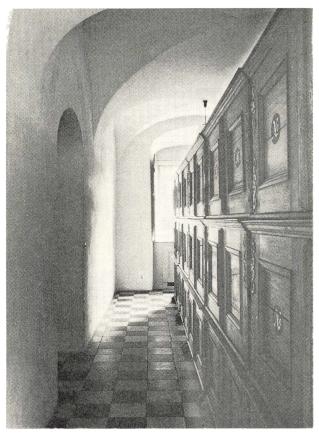
Much has been said about the ideas which the archivists have had. But when they led to such a good result, as we believe it to be, this is of course especially owing to the eminent architects who have not only given the buildings their beautiful outward form but have also had creative imagination, will and ability to solve the numerous problems which without pause arose during the elaboration of the interior design of such distinctive edifices. In either case it was fortunate that two efficient engineering firms, Studstrup and Østgaard in Aalborg, Folmer Andersen in Copenhagen, in an excellent way solved the numerous technical problems which modern archives naturally present.

The archives are under a great obligation to architects and engineers, both for the work which has been performed and for the unremitting co-operativeness which has been shown by architects and engineers from first to last. In the two building committees there has also been excellent co-operation, and the Ministry in every possible way backed the project. Presumably this close co-operation is after all the essential prerequisite of the result being that which it is.

The Future

Detailed projecting of the third archival building, the North Schleswig Archives in Aabenraa, is progressing favorably, and building operations may begin some time in the financial year 1970/71. Jørgen Stærmose, Royal surveyor, is the architect here. The two previous "clients" Johan Hvidtfeldt, Director of the Archives, and Harald Jørgensen, Keeper of the Provincial Archives of Sealand, are both sitting on the committee together with Peter Kr. Iversen, Keeper of the Provincial Archives in Aabenraa. It is obvious that one here to the greatest possible extent builds upon the experience of the two previous buildings.

The fourth rebuilding, the one of the Provincial Archives of Odense in the island of Funen, has been



One af the old vaults of the National Archives. The oak cabinets, made in the 17th century, were intended for the keeping of records and are still used to hold the parchment collection of the National Archives.

planned to commence about 1974. Deliberations with the Royal surveyor and the municipality of Odense concerning technical problems and the floor space ratio in accordance with the existing legislation are however already afoot.

The greatest problem of the future now is a new building for the National Archives. The buildings on Slotsholmen are unsatisfactory from the point of view of safety, and the placing here in the heart of the big city with the Parliament building and the most important Government offices as next-door neighbours may indeed make the responsible head of the archives pass restless nights. Investigations have shown that there is no possibility of building depots on Slotsholmen which afford protection to the records of the past. Consequently it is the intention to place the greater part of the records in a new building some twenty or twenty-five kilometres out of town, so that quite new records only, which are constantly used in the offices of the central administration, as well as some records photographed as a precaution are to remain on Slotsholmen. In the new building

there shall besides storage space for about 70.000 running metres be a small reading room, whereas the main reading rooms are still to be in the present buildings which are going to be rebuilt to comprise the necessary offices for the staff, library, various facilities for the researchers, studio, reprographic department etc. Here are also going to be lecture rooms, conference rooms and accomodation for historical institutions which on account of their work with materials of the National Archives have a close connection with the archives.

The new National Archives shall not only as at present be a temple of historians and historical research, but also a good place of work for the employees, a place where cultural and pedagogic work on a generous scale is housed.

The Provincial Archives of Sealand, Lolland-Falster and Bornholm

The Provincial Archives of Sealand, Lolland-Falster and Bornholm were founded according to the act of March 30, 1889. From the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural High School the new institution acquired an area at Jagtvejen which is to-day enclosed by Rantzausgade, Florsgade, Hiort Lorenzensgade and Jagtvejen. At the time of acquirement the surroundings were only thinly built on, but to-day the area is completely surrounded by blocks of flats. During the years 1891–93 the necessary archives buildings were erected here by Martin Nyrop, the architect who later built the Copenhagen Town Hall.

The buildings erected by Nyrop consisted of a storage-wing of three storeys, separated by floor gratings and furnished with fixed wooden shelves with broad passages. Being placed along Nordvestvej, now Rantzausgade, this building could hold about 8 000 running metres of records and was only intended as a depot. From the storage-wing a communicating passage at first-floor height led to a villa-like building, containing the official residence of the keeper, a small binding department and a reading room accomodating 16 persons. There were no offices proper, thus the staff had to sit in the reading room. The public entrance to the reading room was a stone spiral staircase in a special stair turret. In the course of time beautiful gardens grew up around the buildings, being separated from the streets by a tall red paling, the bearing poles of which were embellished with the cross of the Danish flag. The main entrance, flanked by carved granite columns, fronted on Jagtvejen.

The Provincial Archives were opened to the public in the summer of 1893. In the subsequent years the number of visitors increased steadily, and the depot was filled with deliveries from various public offices. About 1920 the depot was brimful, and the reading room taxed to breaking point, so that an extension had to be considered.

At first the extension concentrated on the reading room. As Martin Nyrop was still alive, he was asked to work out the necessary plans. According to these, an extension to the villa facing Jagtvejen was erected in 1920. The ground floor of this extension consisted of a new flat for an attendant and boiler man and a somewhat larger binding department, further a new reading room with accomodation for about 30 persons was placed in the first floor. The old reading room was turned into a public cloakroom, a hall to the reading room, an office for the keeper and a very small canteen. There was no question of extending the depot.

In order to find place for new deliveries, it was necessary to put up shelves all over the depot, wherever it was in any way possible, and when all shelfspace had been occupied, even the floor and window sills had to be used. About 1930 it was in fact necessary to stop receiving new deliveries. As many public offices were just as hard pressed as the Provincial Archives with regard to storage-space, extra store rooms outside the precincts of the Provincial Archives had to be used in order to meet the most urgent demands. From 1936 onward premises in the depot of the National Archives in Søkvæsthuset at Christianshavn became available, later some rooms in the historic Vartov-building in the centre of Copenhagen were leased, and from 1961 onward a share was had in the extra depot of the National Archives in a former cheese ripening room at Sydhavnen. The records of the Provincial Archives were consequently scattered at four different places, a fact causing much trouble in daily administration; still it was possible to receive limited deliveries again, and such ones took place. The term of lease at Sydhavnen was, however, limited to five years, and before 1966 it was necessary to have disposal of new premises.

The extension of the reading room which was carried out in 1920 was only sufficient for a few years. In the mid-thirties there was again much difficulty in finding room for all visitors on the great days. This was partly due to the fact that there were no offices proper at the disposal of the staff, which was still obliged to work in the reading room. A certain alleviation occured in 1961, when the Provincial Archives, in connection with the change of keepers, got permission to abolish the keeper's official residence and convert it into offices. In this way some seats in the reading room were set free, but it goes without saying that this measure could only be regarded as a temporary expedient.

For several years work on various plans for an extension of the Provincial Archives had been in progress. The desiderata were a considerable extension of storage-space, the providing of a larger reading room and modern offices, an extension of the binding department and the creation of a special restoration workshop and a photographer's studio. A lecture and exhibition room was also on the list of wishes. Various sketch plans were worked out without getting further than the drawing table. The prospect did not get brighter until the summer of 1960, when an application from the National Archives to Nils Koppel, Royal surveyor, resulted in a sketch plan of an extension of the Provincial Archives. In the autumn of 1960 this plan was submitted to the authorities empowered to make grants, it was approved, and the necessary grant for the working out of the final project was obtained. In March 1963 the architect submitted his detailed project, in which total expenditure was estimated at about 9,3 million kroner. In the course of the summer the project was approved by the Ministry of Housing, and in September the Finance Committee assented to the application for an appropriation. It was now possible to invite tenders, and about New Year 1963/64 everything was ready to start building.

It formed part of the architect's proposal that the villa was to be demolished to make room for the new building. A temporary flat for the use of the attendant was leased in a modern block of flats near by, and the bookbinding department also moved to leased premises in town. Along Jagtvejen a wood-built house was erected for the daily work of the Provincial Archives during the period of building. By kindness of the National Archives a special reading room for visitors wanting to use parish registers was provided in their premises.

In January 1964 the building of the new depot started with the excavation of the site. At the same time the old villa was demolished. In May 1965 the roof tree was put up on the depot, and in the autumn of 1965 the taking over of the lower storeys began. In November 1965 the attendant moved into his new flat, and in February 1966 the bookbinding department began using its new workshop. The erection of the administrative building and the reconditioning of the old depot commenced simultaneously. In the summer of 1966 this work was so far advanced that Nyrop's depot could again be used, and after moving into the administrative building this was opened to the public on September 9, 1966. In the course of the winter of 1966/67 some remaining works were completed, and then the surroundings were put in order. The temporary office hut was taken away, and on April 5, 1967 the official inauguration of the Sealand Provincial Archives' new buildings took place.

The only original building left is Nyrop's depot, but the architect has followed Nyrop's plan of the site by placing the new depot parallel to the old one and connecting the two separate depots by an office block. Thus the Provincial Archives consist of three separate, characteristic buildings, which will be treated in detail below.

The New Depot

The new depot is placed along Hiort Lorenzensgade, being 62,86 metres long, 15 metres broad and from street level to cornice edge about 12 metres high. The building has two underground storeys and four storeys above the ground, the part of it containing store rooms being windowless.

In its outward appearance the huge building, to be sure, stands out massively but by no means heavily. The outer walls taper a little, thus making a lighter impression. Because it is provided with a flat roof, it looks smaller than Nyrop's old depot, which with its tall roof is still the predominant part of the group of buildings. The architect has had in view that the new buildings should not crush Nyrop's fine building, and this has been fully achieved. The front of the new building has been faced with dark slates, which help making the massive building lighter and brighter. The large, serene spaces also form an excellent contrast to the wealth of detail of Nyrop's building in neo-renaissance.

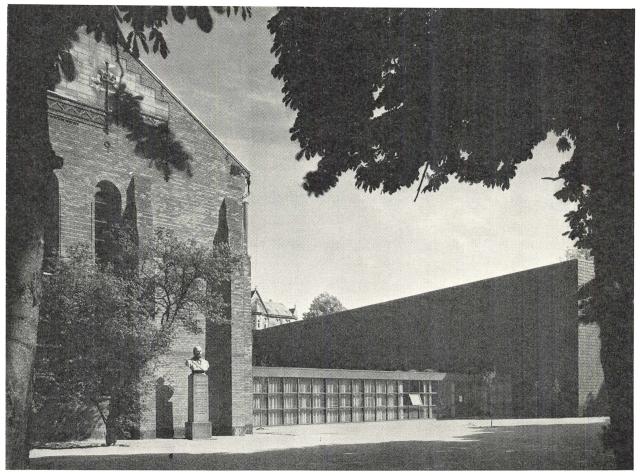
As the building is primarily to be used as a depot, it has been made as strong and resistant against all external influences as possible. The two underground storeys have been completely built of reinforced concrete, and the dimensions of the foundation and the walls should, in connection with the quality of the concrete, make the percolation of water impossible. The building rests on a foundation that at the bottom has a 20 centimetre layer of reinforced concrete, then a 25 centimetre layer of shingle and finally a 12 centimetre layer of reinforced concrete. The outer walls of both basements have been built of reinforced concrete with a thickness of 25 centimetres. Against all outer walls the lower basement has in addition an



The Provincial Archives of Sealand in the original state. By a bridge the depot was connected with the building housing reading room, office and residence of the keeper. Both the reading room building and the bridge were demolished in connexion with the rebuilding

11 centimetre moler wall, which by a 10 centimetre cavity is separated from the concrete wall. From this cavity there is a drain, in case water should, contrary to expectation, percolate through the concrete wall. The upper basement is also provided with a moler wall, but here there is no interspace between this wall and the outer one. At the outside the walls of the basement are furthermore covered with coke insulating mats. Below the foundation and along the sides of the basement an extensive draining system, connected with an electric pumping plant, has been installed. During the excavation a very hard stratum of clay, without any underground water veins of importance, was encountered at a depth of 1,5 metres. Thus there is only slight prospect of water percolating into the basement.

The part of the building being above the ground is also to a great extent built of reinforced concrete. This above all applies to the storey partitions. The thickness of the two basement ceilings is 24 centimetres, whereas the ceilings of the other storeys measure 23 centimetres. The flat roof consists of a 15 centimetre cover of reinforced concrete, then a layer of Leca broken stones follows, measuring about 30 centimetres in the middle and about 15 centimetres at the edges, and finally a screed coat and 3 layers of roofing felt have been used. The storey partitions as well as both end walls and all traversing partitions are made of reinforced concrete, whereas the side walls are built of moler bricks. Between the outer walls of the building and the slate front there is a cavity, which is broadest at the surface of the ground and tapers upwards. Among other things the drain pipes from the roof have been installed in this cavity. The slabs of slate themselves are carried by a timber construction, which on the inner side is covered with rock-wool mats, being 10 centimetres thick and partly insulating, partly fire-retardant.



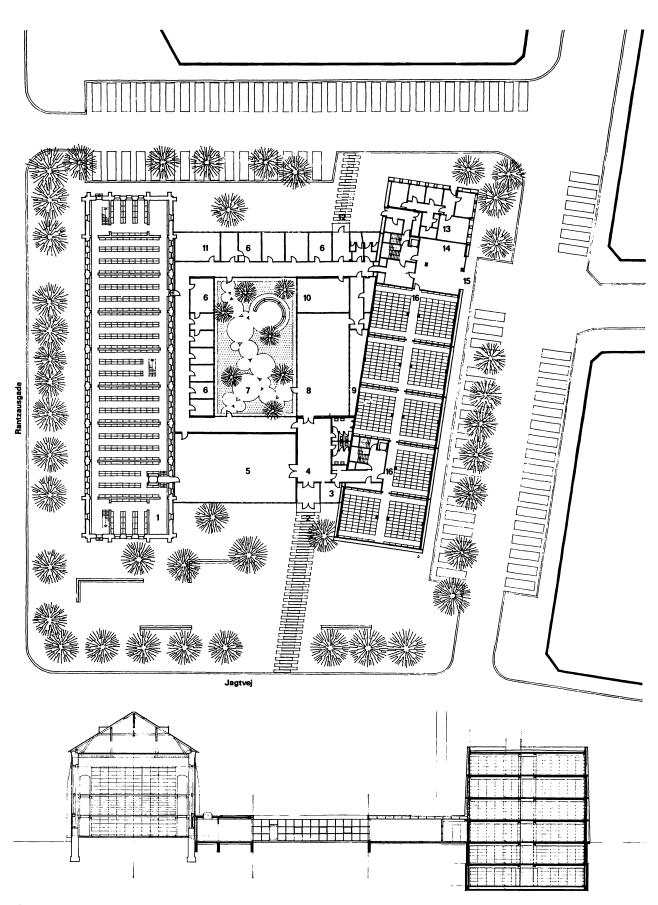
The Provincial Archives of Sealand after the rebuilding, seen from Jagtvejen. The old depot has been connected with the new depot by means of low buildings surrounding a court with garden.

Store rooms are found in all 6 storeys, the access being through fireproof doors provided with automatic door closers. There is a broad central corridor (1,5 metres) through all store rooms. Each storey is further divided into 6 sections by partitions of reinforced concrete, the access from a section to the next one being through a heavy steel fire door. These fireproof doors are suspended in such a way that they automatically close, as soon as a mounted soluble plug burns through. If the depot should, contrary to expectation, catch fire, the fire will at once be confined to a single section. In the ceilings of all central corridors flat circular illuminators have been installed, being controlled from both entrance doors by means of two-way switches, so that all lamps of a central corridor are switched on and off at a time.

All depot-storeys have been provided with semiautomatic Compactus shelves (system Ingold). In each storey there are 10 self-contained Compactus systems (in the ground floor, however, only 9 systems). Each system has fixed double shelves at the supporting pillars of the room, fixed shelves at all end walls, as well as 10 sliding double shelves. The shelves are 6 metres long and divided into 6 compartments, which are 2,15 metres high, each of them having 5 shelves which are dimensioned for a maximum load of 70 kilogrammes and adjustable, so that the height may be varied for every 12,5 millimetres. The shelves are 27,5 centimetres deep and the average height between them about 40 centimetres. This makes about 7 000 running metres on each storey and a total of about 42 000 metres in the whole building.

The motors operating the system are manoeuvred by a practical pushbutton mounted on the supporting pillar. The switches for the lighting in the shelf-corridors are beside the motorbutton, the installation making it possible to have light in the corridors without the motors working. The shelf-corridors are lit by fluorescent tubes at each end. This placing gives an even, sufficient light on all shelves, including the bottom ones.

For the orientation in the depot-storeys conspi-



Plan end section, 1:600. 1. Old depot (Nyrop). 2. Public entrance. 3. Information desk. 4. Vestibule. 5. Reading room.
6. Offices. 7. Atrium. 8. Lecture and display room. 9. Showcases. 10. Canteen. 11. Conference room. 12. Staff entrance.
13. Attendant's flat. 14. Unpacking room. 15. Deliveries. 16. New depot with Compactus shelves.

cuous section-signs have been placed in the central corridors. In each storey the sections are numbered from 0 to 9, and a figure ahead indicates the storey. All sections in the bottom basement are designated by the figure one ahead, the upper basement by a two and so on. Inside the separate sections the shelves are numbered from 1 to 24 and provided with end-signatures with a detailed text, specifying above all the various files of records and, if necessary, the chief subgroups. The one who is conversant with the region covered by the Provincial Archives and its administrative structure in past and present times will have no difficulties in finding the way in the depot.

For the use of the staff working in the depot, two tables with an underlying shelf and mounted with castors have been placed in each storey. They have their normal place at the two storey entrances but may be taken along, also in between the shelves, if the necessity should arise. There is also a telephone on each storey.

The depot has two stairways in which either a through-going staircase or a combined passenger and goods lift may be used. The two stairways have entrances to all storeys. The stairs are poured in concrete, provided with metal railings and faced with asphalt. The two lifts, also serving all storeys, have self-opening doors, so that the user without hindrance may move in and out, even if he is carrying files. The lifts are self-regulating, being equipped with photocells. Their capacity is 6 persons or a load of 750 kilogrammes. The lift cage has such dimensions that the trolleys used in the Archives can easily be transported by lift.

Having direct access from the western stairway, separate store rooms for the special collections of the Provincial Archives are placed in the three upper storeys. All these rooms have a floor space of about 24 square metres. The Provincial Archives' collection of parchment letters is placed in the room on the first floor. For their keeping a number of suspension file cabinets have been procured, containing 4 drawers above each other. The parchment letters are placed standing, one in each suspension file, suspension files with firm bottoms being used when seals are appended to the parchments. For large-sized parchments two map cabinets with 12 drawers above each other have been purchased.

The corresponding room on the second floor is used for the Provincial Archives' collection of maps and drawings. For their keeping 12 modern map cabinets with 12 drawers above each other have been purchased, being placed two above each other on low plinths. The maps are placed in the drawers in specially made cardboard portfolios, which inside measure 127 centimetres by 93. The drawers are constructed so as to involve no risk of the contents getting jammed.

On the third floor the Provincial Archives' expanding collection of films is placed. The reels are going to be kept in cardboard boxes, which to the number of 9 will be placed in special trays. The room is furnished with wall shelves as well as detached ones, which will hold a considerable number of microfilms.

The fitting up of a suitable room for the unpacking of delivered documents also formed part of the planning of the new depot. This room is on the ground floor, fronting Hiort Lorenzensgade, and placed within easy reach of the lift in direct continuation of the ground floor store room. Unfortunately the street level involved the disadvantage of making it impossible to construct an unloading platform or a sunken entrance drive. A detachable metal unloading ramp was therefore procured, it is normally hanging under the ceiling, but by means of a hand winch it can be lowered and placed on the truck body in such a way that the arriving files can be transported by trolleys from lorry to the room in which they are unpacked.

This room has a floorage of about 63 square metres, tables and shelves having been mounted along the walls. The taking in is through a broad sliding door, and the room has been dimensioned to receive deliveries up to about 100 running metres at a time. It is further possible to let the documents undergo a first treatment, clean them and make a primary sorting before transporting them to their final place in the depot.

Heating Plant

Six sevenths of the depot are occupied by store rooms with adjoining stairways, rooms for the special collections and unpacking room. The remaining part, making up the eastern end of the building, has been reserved for other purposes. It was therefore needless to give this part of the building such strong dimensions as the greater part of it, and for this reason it has also got windows.

When the new depot was planned, hopes had been set on getting connection with the municipal district heating system. A number of years will however pass, before pipes are laid on to the neighbourhood of the Provincial Archives. It was therefore necessary to install a special boiler plant in the Archives, plac-



Part of the reading room in the Provincial Archives of Sealand, seen from the counter.

ing it in the two basements of this part of the building. The boiler plant supplies the Provincial Archives with heating and hot water. In the store rooms of the new building heating is by means of hot air which is blown into the storeys, whereas it in the other part of the building is by means of radiators, just as in Nyrop's depot. A large and a smaller boiler are both heated with oil. A flue leads from the underground basement to a metal chimmey, which is placed beside the depot and about 30 metres high.

Because the store rooms in the new building are windowless, it was necessary to install a special ventilating plant, which is fully automatically operated, having connection with the central heating plant. The hot air heating the store rooms in the new building also provides a suitable humidity of the atmosphere. It is intended to keep a temperature of about 18 degrees centigrade and a relative humidity of about 60 degrees. The ventilating plant likewise ventilates the lecture room, the lavatories and the workshops, it is installed in the basement just as the fully automatic telephone exchange and some store rooms.

On the ground floor, above the boiler and ventilat-

ing plant, a residence is provided for the boiler man and attendant of the Provincial Archives. Its windows face Florsgade as well as Hiort Lorenzensgade, the entrance being from Florsgade. The flat consists of a living-room, a bedroom and two small-sized rooms, besides a large kitchen-dining room with an electric cooker and in addition a guests' lavatory, a bathroom with bath tub, wash basin, lavatory and automatic washing machine. The drying of the washing takes place in a heating closet. The flat, with a total floorage of about 112 square metres, further has a spacious hall with built-in cupboards and a rather large corridor, but cellar and loft could not be placed at disposal.

Workshops

On the first floor there are 4 spacious, bright offices with a floorage of 20–22 square metres. A common interior anteroom about the same size, store room, cloakroom and lavatory belong to these offices, to which there is easy access from the eastern stairway and lift.

In the corresponding part of the second floor the photographic studio and restoration workshop are placed, together with a special cloakroom, lavatory and cleaning room with a slop sink. The access to the two workshops is through a common corridor. The room for the actual taking of photos has a floorage of about 20 square metres. In this studio one finds a microfilm camera MB 2 L BW (archives model) and a Linhof Tecnica camera, complete with projectors mounted on rails in the ceiling. The equipment permits photographing of large-sized maps and sketches. Moreover, there is a large worktable in front of the windows as well as a number of practical shelves for the putting away of things. Behind the studio two darkrooms (dry and wet respectively) are equipped with a Hansen developing unit, Kindermann-sinks etc.

The restoration workship measures about 80 square metres. It is especially intended for the restoration of maps, drawings and other large sizes and is therefore furnished with 3 tables measuring 2,5 metres by 1,5. For soaking and rinsing purposes 3 capacious stainless steel sinks have been put up. In front of the windows broad fixed worktables with underlying shelves have been mounted, so that up to 5 persons may without difficulty work in this room. The workshop is also equipped with the necessary cardboard cutters, presses, portable shelves with wire-baskets etc. The bindery is placed on the third floor. The workshop itself has the same size as the restoration workshop and is fitted up according to the same principles. The windows here also face both streets, and in front of the windows broad fixed worktables have been mounted. Each bookbinder has further a special table with a shelf below, placed at right angles to the worktable. The ceiling illumination here, as everywhere in this part of the depot, consists of luminous tubes as well as separate lighting at each place of work. The bindery has been equipped with the necessary tools and machines, including a scarfing and a stamping machine, complete with founts. There is also a considerable number of shelves, variously sized according to the material to be put there (books, registers, boards etc.), as well as tables with fixed cabinets and sliding doors.

A special office for the master bookbinder, having been partitioned off by a glass wall, belongs to the bindery as well as a spacious, practically furnished store room with direct access from the workshop. This floor has a cloakroom, lavatory and cleaning room too. The floors of all workshops have been covered with linoleum flags.

Nyrop's Storage-Wing

Nyrop's storage-wing is the only part of the original buildings still preserved. It was erected in 1891-93 and to-day fronts Rantzausgade. The base of the building is a little smaller than that of the new depot, viz. 59,4 metres by 14,86; the building is however higher, being about 17,5 metres from street level to lower edge of the roof and having a slate roof rising a further 5,5 metres. Thus it is the predominant part of the whole group of buildings. It has no basement but rests on a foundation made of brick. From a base of hewn granite ashlars the red brick walls rise, broken by smaller windows on the ground floor and by narrow embrasures going through both upper storeys. All windows have sandstone sills and inside iron shutters. A special ornamentation with gilt crowns and sandstone surfaces let into the gables has been used, and brick butresses protrude from the gables as well as from the long sides.

The building is divided into 7 middle bays and 2 house end bays, separated by brick partitions. When it was taken into possession in 1893, there were no doors in these partitions, so that the building was a single large room, and in the event of fire it would be difficult, not to say impossible, to limit a fire once broken out. At the rebuilding, taking place in connection with the erection of the new depot, automatically closing, fireproof steel doors have been mounted in all passages, transforming the single large room into 9 separate bays.

It is further divided into 3 storeys by means of two floor gratings, only the 4 corner rooms having ceilings of iron girders with casings between. The ceilings of the 7 middle bays on the top storey are in the shape of brick barrel vaults, without use of iron. In the 7 middle and two house end bays fixed wooden shelves have been placed. Each bay has two single shelves placed against the brick partition as well as 2 detached double shelves. Being placed transversely, they are normally 10 metres long, having in the two bottom storeys 5 shelves and in the top storey 7 shelves above each other. These are 40 centimetres deep and spaced about 45 centimetres apart, thus permitting an easy placing of most older sizes. The depot will hold a total of about 8.000 running metres of files.

The storeys are connected by stairs. A stairway leading from the ground floor to the third one is placed in the south part of the middle bay, and stairs leading from the ground floor to the loft are in the two northern corner rooms. As part of the rebuilding



Part of the exhibition and conference room in the Provincial Archives of Sealand. There are both detached vitrines and wall showcases for exhibiting the records.

a combined passenger and goods lift has been installed at the entrance of the reading room, giving access to all three depot-storeys but not to the loft. In order not to break the barrel vault a hydraulic lift (oil pressure) was chosen. This modern lift replaces the former, very primitive goods lift driven by water power.

Whereas the two southern corner rooms on the ground floor are still being used as store rooms, the corresponding rooms on the second and third floor are used by secretaries or for sorting. As store room temperature normally does not exceed 15 degrees centigrade, the corner rooms have been insulated from the store rooms by reconditioned doors, and electric radiators have been installed in order to get room temperature. Whereas the two rooms on the second floor have been furnished with modern office furniture, Nyrop's original furniture is used in the corresponding rooms on the third floor. The service room has been placed on the second floor, nearest to Jagtvejen. Here the pneumatic tube from the inspection counter in the reading room ends, bringing the requisition forms to the attending archives-messengers in Nyrop's depot. The two old entrance doors in the house ends have been preserved, in order that documents may still be delivered that way.

In connection with the rebuilding, all shelves that in the course of time had been placed in the staircases and at the outer walls to get more space were removed. The building was restored to its original state of bare walls made of pale flamed bricks with ordinary mortar joints. The vaulted roof has been whitewashed, and the shelves, shutters etc. have been repainted in the original colours. Nyrop's old end-signatures have also been re-established, likewise the painted ornaments over the doorways and at the stairs.

As part of the fire protection the whole electric installation has been replaced. It was comparatively new (from 1950), but for reasons of economy the wires and switches had been laid direct on the wooden shelves. This has now been altered, at the same time the lighting effect was greatly increased. By means of a sufficient number of modern luminous tubes a saticfactory and even light has been attained, even on the bottom shelves. Because there is direct access from the reading room to Nyrop's old depot, those groups of documents (church registers, estate-administrators' books, registers of deeds and mortgages, conscription registers etc.) which are most often used in the reading room have been placed in this depot. This makes a quick, easy service possible, which is of importance both to the reading room visitors and to the attending staff. Nyrop's charming old depot is therefore still completely performing its mission, owing to the minor modernizations having been made.

The Administrative Building

The administrative building is a one-storied house with four wings, placed between the two depots and having direct access to them. Whereas there is the same building level in the administrative building and the new depot, the ground floor of Nyrop's depot lies about 45 centimetres higher. It is therefore necessary to ascend some steps to get into Nyrop's depot. Being separated from Nyrop's depot by a facing, the administrative building hides part of the bottom storey of this depot but lets the rest of its long side free. This was formerly broken by the building originally connecting the depot and the villa-like building, both of them now demolished. From an aesthetic point of view this is an appreciable gain. The new administrative building could moreover be designed independently of the two depots, thus these premises could be freely shaped, according to the use to be made of them.

Only the wing fronting Jagtvejen has a basement. At the demand of the authorities air raid shelters have been built, partly for the staff of the Archives, partly for the residents of the district. The public shelter is in case of need to hold about 500 people, access to it being by a broad flight of steps in front of the building. In times of peace it is closed and not to be seen from outside. Access to the shelter for the staff of the archives is from the upper basement in the new depot. The engine room of the hydraulic lift in Nyrop's depot has been placed in continuation of the public shelter, and by means of this lift it is possible to come down into the shelter from Nyrop's building. In times of peace the Provincial Archives have the disposal of all shelters, but these rooms are of limited practical use, as there is no heating.

The administrative building surrounds a back garden, measuring 14 metres by 24 and being elaborately paved in an ingenious, circular pattern. Between the paving stones low trees, bushes and bulbous plants have been planted. The State Fund for the Endowment of the Arts has offered to erect a sculpture in this garden, which is provided with garden seats. All four wings of the administrative building overlook the back garden.

The building itself has been erected in light materials. All outer walls present themselves as woodframed glass walls, consisting of three square panes above each other. Only the windows overlooking Florsgade have low window backs, whereas the other panes reach from floor to ceiling. The window frames have been painted inside and outside with a warm red colour (Italian red), which nicely suits both the venerable walls of Nyrop's building and the modern black slate building. Copper barge boards likewise contribute to the integration of the separate buildings.

All partitions in the administrative building have been made of brick, and these, together with the slender steel pillars in the outer walls, carry the weight of the flat roof, which has only been concreted towards Nyrop's building but elsewhere consists of lighter materials. The inside walls, the bricks of which protrude sharply, have been painted a broken white, the perforated plates of the ceilings white with black borders, and all woodwork has been kept a pale grey. The linoleum on the floors is also grey, whereas all pieces of furniture are made of blond wood. In all offices and in the reading room floor-length draw curtains, likewise grey, are hung, awnings having been put up at all windows facing south.

The main entrance of the administrative building is in the wing fronting Jagtvejen, thus the address of the Provincial Archives is still Jagtvej 10. This entrance is reserved for frequenters and all strangers who perform errands to the Provincial Archives. Through a glass door one comes into a small porch and from this into the vestibule proper through glass folding doors.

The vestibule is chiefly intended for visitors of the reading room, who have here a possibility of relaxing from their work in the reading room. Comfortable seats with small tables have been placed along one side wall. From the vestibule, in which smoking is allowed, there is easy access to the special public cloakroom and lavatories. To the right of the entrance of the vestibule there is an information service, where visitors may get initial indispensable guidance. The switchboard of the fully automatic telephone exchange has been installed in the information service, and from here all mail dispatch also takes place.



Glimpse of one of the long corridors in the Nyrop building of the Provincial Archives of Sealand. In connexion with the rebuilding fire doors were put up between the various sections.

On the architect's part much has been made of the vestibule as the face which the Archives present to the world. The large, bright room has wainscots of blond wood and a flooring of Norwegian Alta stones. Daylight shines through a number of skylights. On gloomy days a row of bracket lamps on the wall above the seats is switched on, and other illuminators have been installed in the ceiling. On the 4 screens hiding the cloakroom large-sized photocopies of select documents and maps have been mounted, so that they may be exchanged according to requirement.

To the left of the main entrance one has access to the reading room, which throughout its length fronts Jagtvejen. It is the largest room of the Provincial Archives, measuring 11,5 metres by 20,5. Full up the room holds 60 visitors, who are placed at 10 six-person tables, which have been fastened to the floor. At an approximate estimate, no more than 40 seats will normally be needed, but as the reading room is furnished with nesting chairs (Arne Jacobsen model), it is possible to fetch additional chairs from the depot very quickly and increase the number af seats by 20 to 60. When the seats are full up, each visitor has a table space measuring 1,5 metres by 0,7 at his disposal, which should make the easy handling of even large volumes possible. There is separate lighting at each seat, and each table is fitted with a shelf and a hook under the table for the placing of briefcases, bags etc. The tabletop itself is covered with pale green linoleum, and the forms for ordering documents have been placed in special stands. At some of the tables plug outlets have been installed, so that visitors may easily use microfilm readers or other electrically operated instruments.

For the staff in charge of the reading room a special counter has been made close to the entrance. It has been raised above general floor level to enable a good view of the room. The inside of this counter has been mounted with drawers and shelves, among other things for the inventories, forms and other material which one does not wish to have standing at free disposal about the reading room. There are two permanent seats behind the counter, and from here the two pneumatic tubes issue which carry the requisition forms to the service rooms in the new depot and in Nyrop's building.

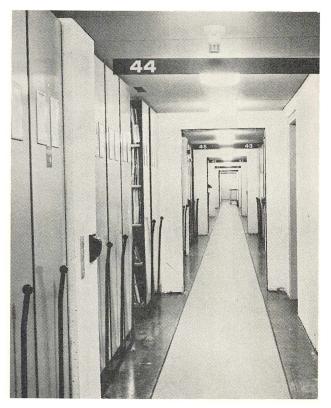
All inner walls of the reading room have been mounted with Reska bookshelves holding the reference library and bound inventories. By a special system of shelf illumination book titles can clearly be seen, even on the bottom shelves. The shelves will hold about 135 running metres of books. On the wall to the vestibule special sliding frames have been mounted, showing the maps of parish and jurisdictional boundaries which have been prepared by the Provincial Archives for visitors' use. Below these frames the main catalogue of the total book stock of the Provincial Archives has been placed.

The reading room gets daylight through the large glass wall fronting Jagtvejen. Besides there is a number of skylights in the ceiling along the back wall. Normally only the illumination at the tables and shelves is used, but in order to facilitate the daily cleaning a number of circular white illuminators, which are used in all offices too, have been mounted in the ceiling.

From the back of the reading room there is direct access to Nyrop's depot through a steel door, and for the use of the staff a door leads to the office corridor along Nyrop's depot. For the time being ventilation of the reading room is intended to be by airing through the windows. If it in future should prove necessary to establish a more extensive ventilating system, the building management has taken the necessary structural measures for an easy installation of artificial ventilation.

From the vestibule there is also direct access to the lecture room, which has been placed along the new depot. It is a large, bright room too, measuring 8,5 metres by 18, its long side overlooking the back garden. The room is intended as a combined lecture and exhibition room. At lectures it will be possible to admit about 100 people, who are seated on nesting chairs of the same type as those of the reading room. At the back of the room there is a specially constructed rostrum with electric light on top and a microphone. It is not difficult to make oneself heard in this room, as its acoustics are in order, nevertheless, a loudspeaker has been installed. Various types of slide projectors as well as a sound projecting plant are available. From the rostrum it is possible to direct the lighting of the room and the various projectors.

The room is also furnished as showroom. For



One of the corridors in the new depot of the Provincial Archives of Sealand.

exhibition purposes 15 vitrines with luminous tubes have been placed on the back wall, which consists of wainscoting. The inside measurements of the vitrines are 85 centimetres by 97, they are mounted from the store room behind. When the exhibition is not on view, the vitrines are covered by flaps, which are turned up and hold on by means of magnetic locks. Besides those on the walls, there are 6 double vitrines standing on the floor, also with light installed. When an exhibition is to be mounted, one of the sidepieces is opened and the bottom plate of the vitrine pulled out. Being in use, the vitrines are locked.

The rest of the administrative building is chiefly taken up by offices, and normally the public is not admitted to this part of the building. From Florsgade there is a special entrance for the staff, by which one first enters a porch, where the main switch of the whole building has been installed. Here is also a board of guidance for the fire brigade in the event of fire having broken out. From this porch one gets into the office corridor looking out on the back garden. To the left of the entrance special staff cloakrooms and lavatories have been placed, the 5 offices of the archivists are fronting Florsgade. 4 of these offices measure 4 metres by 5, the last one 3 metres by 5. All offices have been amply furnished with tables and shelves with plenty of room for putting away things.

Special account has been taken of the tasks which naturally rest with archivists. In continuation of their offices a special conference room, measuring 7,5 metres by 5, has been furnished to seat 16 people in comfortable chairs around the conference table. If necessary, some further chairs may be added. In this room a special reference library for the staff of the Archives has also been placed, to avoid removing handbooks from the reading room. In the conference room, some offices and the canteen tinted drawings by young artists, namely Poul Janus Ipsen, Ole Finding and Ole Bach Sørensen, have been hung up.

In the office wing the administrative section of the Provincial Archives has been placed towards Nyrop's depot. All these offices overlook the back garden. The keeper's office is situated here, measuring 4 metres by 6, whereas the other offices measure 4 metres by 3. In connection with the keeper's office one finds the anteroom and the bookkeeper's office, such communication between these offices having been made that it is not necessary using the office corridor, as one can go direct from one office into the next one. In this wing a special delivery office has also been fitted up, in which correspondence with all authorities obliged to deliver records to the Provincial Archives has been collected. The keeper of the journal and the registrar are also placed in this wing. Finally two researcher's rooms are situated next to the reading room. They are meant to be placed at the disposal of visitors going to have a more privileged place of work than the reading room. The researcher's rooms may, if necessary, be used for 4 visitors each.

A special canteen has been made behind the lecture room. There is a view of the garden from the canteen, its entrance being in the office corridor along Florsgade. It is primarily intended for the staff but is also open to visitors wanting to use it. The canteen will seat 32 people, being furnished in French fashion with fixed sofas along the walls, small tables in front and detached chairs on the other side of the tables. All seats command a view of the back garden. At the end of the room one has the equipment necessary for making tea or coffee, washing up etc. and a large refrigerator.

On account of the form which the new buildings of the Provincial Archives have got, there was no avoiding the arising of rather great distances, thus it can be difficult getting into contact with employees working round about the various storeys and buildings. It therefore proved necessary to establish a call system. On arrival in the morning each employee provides himself with a small microphone with his call number, which he carries on him during working hours. It is then possible to call everybody over the ordinary telephone, wherever he is within the precincts of the Provincial Archives. When the call number of the person concerned is dialled, the microphone whistles, and he who is wanted only has to go the nearest telephone and dial a certain number to get into contact at once with the person wanting him on the telephone. Between those who are daily most in need of quickly getting into contact with each other a direct intercommunication system has furthermore been installed. The Provincial Archives have a fully modern, automatic telephone exchange. The exchange itself has been placed in the bottom basement, whereas the switchboard is in the information service. 4 calls out of house and 4 inter-office calls can be put through at a time. Only incoming calls must pass the switchboard, all outgoing and interoffice calls are put through direct without charging the switchboard.

For internal transport of records the Provincial Archives dispose of various types of trolleys, which can be conveniently taken along in all lifts. For the visitors of the reading room requiring a considerable number of volumes, special trolleys with a shelf have been purchased, which do not take up much room and permit the user an easy access to the volumes. These trolleys are also widely used by the staff for sorting etc.

With the construction of the new buildings the plot at Jagtvejen has been built-up. If the matter of extension should in future arise, no extension can take place here. There is then much to be said for dividing the Provincial Archives and perhaps building a new Provincial Archives in Næstved for Lolland-Falster and the south part of Sealand region. If this happens, A. D. Jørgensen's original plan of the distribution of Provincial Archives, dating 1888, has been taken up again.

The rebuilding made it necessary to demolish the old gardens. It has, however, been possible to preserve most of the old trees bounding the gardens, and new trees have been planted towards Jagtvejen and Florsgade. According to plans worked out by Ole Nørgård, landscape architect, it has been tried to give the Provincial Archives the finest possible surroundings. An open space in front of the buildings, facing Jagtvejen, has been paved with setts. There is no parking, garden seats for the general public having been placed here. Along Hiort Lorenzensgade there is likewise a broad pavement of setts preventing parking cars from getting too near the building. Facing Florsgade there is a smaller space where kerb parking is allowed, whereas it is not possible to park along Nyrop's depot facing Rantzausgade. Broad paths of heavy border stones are leading from Jagtvejen to the main entrance and from Florsgade to the staff entrance, pleasantly breaking the large expanse of setts. Generally speaking, the broad border of unhewn stones which now surrounds the whole block of building contributes to bind the separate buildings to each other, creating a beautiful and natural unity.

The total expenditure of the rebuilding, including purchase of equipment and Compactus shelves amounted to about 9 million kroner. During the period in which building was in progress, some price rises took place which were beyond the control of the building management. The actual over-expenditure is rather moderate, being about 2 % of the building appropriation.

Staff and Public

With the considerable extension of storage space owing to the new building the Provincial Archives should be able to receive normal deliveries until about the year 2000. It is to be hoped that the increase of the reading room seating capacity from about 30 places of work to 60 places will be sufficient for a number of years. The number of visitors is, however, increasing rapidly during recent years, and it is difficult to advance a definite opinion about the reading room being large enough in the long run. 8 reserve seats are, however, available in the researcher's rooms specially fitted up. In connection with the new building the offices and workshops were extended, and at the planning it was presumed that the permanent staff of the Provincial Archives would amount to about 40 persons. Further a large combined lecture and exhibition room as well as a smaller conference room for about 16 persons were made available. During the years since the new building began to be used, these premises have been in great demand for the holding of a great variety of meetings and conferences, both national and international. Lecture and conference rooms are also frequently used for the arrangement of lectures, courses and exhibitions.

When the Provincial Archives started activities in

1893 the staff consisted of a keeper, an archivist, a messenger and a bookbinder. Concurrently with the widening of the sphere of activity the permanent staff was enlarged and in 1960 disposed of the following employees: 1 keeper, 2 archivists, 1 registrar, 1 clerk, 1 bookbinder and 2 journeymen, 1 attendant and 2 messengers. Generally the Provincial Archives could also dispose of a third archivist, because archivists of the National Archives by rotation were obliged to serve one or two years in the Provincial Archives. Finally 2–3 occasional assistants now and then were at disposal.

The taking over of the new building made it necessary to enlarge the permanent staff, and a plan was worked out, which one hoped to implement during a period of five years. Certain difficulties, however, supervened as regards obtaining the necessary appropriations. Some new posts have been created, but the Provincial Archives has not yet the permanent staff that is indispensable for a rational utilization of the opportunities offered by the new building and for the accomplishment of the tasks which one should preferably start on now. At the end of 1968 the Provincial Archives dispose of the following permanent staff: 1 keeper, 4 archivists, 1 registrar, 7 fulltime and 2 part-time clerks who are partly employed in the administration of the Provincial Archives, partly assisting the archivists with various ordering and registration tasks, 1 bookbinder as well as 4 male and 4 female employees in the restoration workshop and bindery, only one female employee of which is a full-timer, 1 photographer, 1 attendant and 5 messengers. It is still possible to employ an archivist seconded from the National Archives, and there are also certain possibilities of employment of temporary labour. The establishing of further permanent posts for 1 archivist, 4 clerks and 2 messengers is still on the want list. Not until these posts have been granted, the new plan of organization of the Provincial Archives may in its full extent be put into force. This plan was worked out in connection with the taking over of the new buildings and consists in dividing the Provincial Archives administratively into one secretariate and 6 archives sections.

At present there is a considerable arrival of records from the various public offices obliged to deliver these to the Provincial Archives. Exercising a certain caution the extent of these files may to-day be estimated at about 18 000 running metres. As the Provincial Archives for the time being dispose of considerable reserves of space and within the next years are not going to need these, the National Ar-



The entrance hall with cloakroom in the Provincial Archives of Sealand. In the background the exhibition and conference room.

chives have so far got disposal of two depot storeys with a shelf capacity of about 8 000 running metres, most of it being already used.

From the opening of the Archives in 1893 until 1925–26 the yearly number of visits increased rather gradually from about 2000 to 3000 yearly visits to the Archives. From the end of the 1930's and during the German occupation 1940–45 the number of visits reached unprecedented heights, partly in connection with the German Aryan legislation. During the occupation a yearly number of visits of about 8 000 was thus reached. After 1945 the number went down rather sharply and in 1960 reached its lowest point with about 4 500 yearly visits. Since 1960 there is again an upward curve of visits, and after the new reading room of the Provincial Archives began to be used, visits have further increased and are now rapidly approaching the number of visits during the years of

occupation. 6 700 visits were recorded in 1967, and the number of visits in 1968 amounted to about 8000. Time will show if it is a point of a permanent increase of the number of visits or the result of exceptional circumstances. In this connection it must be mentioned that the majority of the people using the reading room is of course still genealogists and local historians. During recent years, however, an increasing number of visits from students and young scholars has been noticed, and there is no reason to believe that their number is going to decline. Quite the reverse is more likely to be the case. The increased number of visits from students during recent years is among other things due to the fact that various courses in the use of archives are now arranged for students of history and that the participants sooner or later return as ordinary frequenters of the reading room of the Provincial Archives.

Among the three Provincial Archives, which were to be founded according to the Archives Act of March 30, 1889, the North Jutland Archives were built first, during the years 1890-91, and began to be used in August 1891. There had been some difference of opinion about the placing. The originator of the Archives Act, A. D. Jørgensen, Director of the Archives, for practical, especially traffic reasons wanted these Archives to be situated in Aarhus, which was - and is - the biggest town of this province, and already in 1888 - before the passing of the Bill - confidential negotiations for the purchase of a site here had taken place. Other Jutland towns, among other Randers, had been in consideration, but after an animated debate in the Rigsdag the mainly historically founded point of view prevailed that Viborg, the old capital and geographic centre of Jutland, would be the right place to locate the central archives of the province and that this town with its rich, historic past would be the natural centre of the historical research which the Provincial Archives would bring about. On the part of Viborg too efforts were made to become the preferred place, the town offering to present the necessary area to the State. The offer was accepted, and the North Jutland Provincial Archives were built on a site of about 7.400 square metres at the then northwestern outskirts of the town, at the corner of Lille Sct. Hansgade and the later Rødevej.

Viborg, which at the erection of the Provincial Archives had about 8000 inhabitants, to-day is a medium size provincial town, according to Danish standards, with about 25.000 inhabitants. It is a cathedral city, having besides Vestre Landsret (High Court), the successor of the old landsting, a number of other larger or smaller public institutions, both civil and military ones, a circumstance wich especially in former times stamped the town with a character of its own.

The debate about the placing of the Archives did not stop with the passing of the Archives Act. On several later occasions there has been talk of a removal to Aarhus, especially after this town in the 1920's became the domicile of the Jutland University, which incidentally one had endeavoured to get placed in Viborg too. After the erection of a large new archives building in Viborg and the securing of continued possibilities of expansion, the idea of removal may presumably be regarded as definitely abandoned.

The Old Buildings

The architect Hack Kampmann (1856-1920), who at that time was only thirty-three years old, was entrusted with the erection of the North Jutland Provincial Archives, which was the turning-point in his career. A better choice could hardly have been made. Although Kampmann later as Royal surveyor and professor at the school of architecture made a reputation for himself in the history of Danish architecture, the Provincial Archives in Viborg are still regarded as one of his best works. The red Archives in Italian Renaissance style, in form influenced by the archives in Weimar, decorated with brilliantly coloured ceramics showing the arms of the North Jutland towns, are a both architectonically very succesful and in craftsmanship extremely genuine building, with many artistic details inside and outside. The depot, being 52 metres long and 17 metres broad and having a high slate roof, has been placed in north to south direction on the west part of the site facing Rødevej but standing rather far back from the street alignment. The interior consisted of one large store room with 9 bays and 2 smaller end rooms, all divided at half height by a floor grating. 4 stone corner stairs and iron front stairs in the centre of the building connected the two half storeys. From the centre of the east front there was a communicating passage to the reading room, which was also the office of the keeper and the rest of the staff, being placed in the western end of the official residence situated in the centre of the site and having a common entrance with it. The buildings were on all sides surrounded by a large garden, which could partly be laid out around existing trees. The gardens were bounded by a red paling, which towards Lille



The Provincial Archives of North Jutland before rebuilding. To the left the depot, to the right the residence of the keeper with the then reading room.

Sct. Hansgade was furnished with a stately entrance gate. The total initial expenditure amounted to 150.620 kroner. It must, however, in this connection be pointed out firstly that the municipality of Viborg, as mentioned above, had given the site, secondly that the building was without any technical installations. Central heating and electric light was not installed until as late as the fifties.

Yet Kampmann's building had one drawback, the architect is not, however, to blame on that account. From the very beginning the building was far too small with its 5.125 running metres. The appropriation had been somewhat mismanaged, on account of different conceptions of which region the Archives should cover. The southern part of Jutland, the counties of Ribe and Vejle, originally were to belong under the Provincial Archives of Funen in Odense. At the final reading of the bill, however, it was decided that the Archives in Viborg were to include all Jutland, without the appropriation being increased proportionately. Furthermore the extent of records to be delivered had on one hand been underestimated, on the other hand the possibilities of elimination had been overestimated. The result was that the building was already filled in 1896 and that new deliveries to a noticeable extent could not be received until more room had been made.

Already in 1901 the Ministry of Ecclesiastical Affairs and Public Instruction under which the archives at that time belonged, put forward a proposal to build a new depot to the authorities empowered to make grants, but the matter was not proceeded with. After the reunion of North Slesvig with Denmark in 1920 it was again proposed to remove the two southern North Jutland counties, Ribe and Vejle, this time with the intention of placing them under the planned new Provincial Archives of North Slesvig. This proposal was met by the then keeper of the North Jutland Provincial Archives, Georg Saxild, with the counterproposal of placing North Slesvig under extended Provincial Archives in Viborg. The final result was neither but special Provincial Archives of North Slesvig and unchanged boundaries of the North Jutland Archives. There was, however, no question of solving the ever more urgent space requirement. In 1931 the then keeper, Svend Aakjær, again raised the extension question, only achieving a new reading room instead of the original one, which was so cramped on account of the rapidly rising number of visitors that the

limits of the defensible had long ago been passed. The new reading room was fitted up west of the old one by extending part of the communicating passage to the depot. When it began to be used in 1936, the old reading room was converted into offices, a smaller one for the keeper and a larger one for the rest of the staff. Thus the problem of accomodation of the staff and visitors of the Archives was solved fairly tolerably for some time, but the store room problem remained unsolved, becoming increasingly acute as time went by and the records accumulated at the public offices, often under extremely bad conditions. The Provincial Archives were quite unable to receive deliveries according to the rules laid down in the Archives Act. Room was only made for imperative deliveries by cramming the records on the shelves, heigtening the bookshelves right to the vaulted roof, storing less valuable records in the loft and on the whole utilizing all corners of the store rooms to the utmost, all this resulting in rendering the comprehensive view and service highly difficult. Some space was gained by depositing less used files on a loft in the building of the western High Court in Viborg and in the depots of the National Archives in the convent of Esrom in North Sealand and in Søkvæsthuset in Copenhagen. When elimination at long last started in the twenties, it also contributed to the gaining of new space, although by far not becoming as extensive as had originally been imagined. During the Second World War there seemed to be prospects of starting building a new depot. An Appropriation was provided for in the Budget for 1942/43, with the stipulation, however, that work should not start until "circumstances as regards employment and materials call for it". At the end of the war it was hoped that this condition would be fulfilled, and Ejnar Packness (1879-1952), Royal surveyor of North Jutland, in 1945 worked out a sketch plan. It was however shelved, a new plan suffering the same fate in 1950.

When Leopold Teschl, architect, in 1953 was appointed Royal surveyor as successor to Packness, the matter was taken up again by the then keeper Johan Hvidtfeldt, and in January 1954 a new sketch plan was available, presuppossing the erection of an unconventional, ferro-concrete building with one subterranean storey and five storeys above ground, partly equipped with Compactus shelves. This project, with certain alterations, i. a. the addition of one more subterranean storey, was the basis of the final solution, which, however, still only made slow progress. In the Appropriation Act of 1957/58 72.500 kroner were granted for detailed projecting, a building committee being set up in August 1957. Study tours to Stockholm in October and to Holland, France and Germany in November 1957 resulted in some further alterations in the project, which in its final form was available in September 1958. The economic secretariate of the Government put the work on the State construction programme for 1961, and on January 18 that year public examination of tenders was held, whereupon work could at long last begin on January 28, 1961.

Having got to this point, the new North Jutland Provincial Archives rapidly rose. On April 16, 1962 the roof tree was put up, the offices began to be used already in October 1962, and on 1st November the transfer of records from the old depot began. At the same time the old reading room from 1936 was closed and pulled down together with the communicating building in order to have access to the new building. January 21, 1963 the new reading room was opened for public use. Thus the new depot was being fully used. Immediately afterwards the extensive deliveries from public offices began arriving, having been carefully prepared. The new building was officially inaugurated April 6, 1964 by Julius Bomholt, Minister of Cultural Affairs. Thus the building matter of the New Jutland Provincial Archives had at last been brought to a conclusion, having been on the tapis for two generations. The only thing remaining was a long desired rebuilding and fire protection of Kampmann's old depot. This was as mentioned later on realised in 1964/65.

The New Depot

Leopold Teschl's new depot has been placed in east to west direction and joins Kampmann's depot, having direct connection with the north eastern corner of the latter by means of a low intermediate building with basement. Architectonically it has been no easy task to make a new building go well with Kampmann's old, red building, the inspiration of which is from Italian Renaissance. From the outset an imitation was out of the question, both because it was desired to erect a building which posterity might regard as a valid expression af the architecture of our time, and because the demands on security, fitting up and concentrated capacity which have to be made on modern archives ruled out a building of the same kind as the existing one. Among other things the archives management demanded that the building - apart from the reading room and office storey - should be without any windows proper, partly in order not to expose the records to constant daylight, more especially as a precaution. The architect's starting-point was that the new building neither by its dimensions nor by its facing should dwarf the old one. The first problem was solved by providing the new building with an almost flat roof, so that its total height did not surpass that of the old building. The second problem was solved by a deliberate, carefully harmonized contrasting effect, greyish black bricks with a rich play of shades being chosen as facing of the new building. For technical reasons, and emphasizing the transition between the two buildings, they have been connected by the intermediate building already mentioned, which besides a zigzag communicating passage consists of two smaller researcher's rooms and a public call box for the visitors of the Archives. Apart from the ground floor, no windows were, as already mentioned, wanted in the new building. As on the other hand an airconditioning plant in the whole building was considered too costly, both in construction and in working, all store rooms above ground were provided with about 200 ventholes, measuring about 30 centimetres by 30. By screening these at the outside with polychrome tiles made by the artist Arne L. Hansen and baked in the Kähler pottery at Næstved, the monotony of the large, dark fronts has been broken in a very fine way, at the same time a counterpart has been formed to the old building's ceramic town arms, which formerly were also made by the firm of Kähler. The tiles in their play of colours and stylized symbols express the march of time, on the south side that of day and night and on the north side that of the year. They contribute highly to bring out the specific character of the building and inspired an art critic to characterize the new depot very tellingly as a jewel box, a description which of course also plays on the historic treasures contained in it. The architectonic solution of a third technical problem has also contributed to throw the distinctive character of the building into relief. The demand for a special fire escape was complied with in the form of an external stair turret at the eastern end, built as a light steel and glass structure in which the concrete spiral staircase itself with great decorative effect stands out as wings issuing from a round centre column. The very low, almost flat roof of the building has been roofed with copper. Barge boards, eaves, downpipes, sills etc. have also been made of copper. All in all the result is an architectonically fine and harmonious edifice, in which old and new not only respect but even set off each other and honestly reflect the best of the architectural styles of two different epochs.

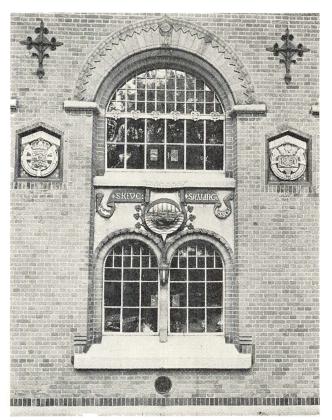
As the existing garden was partly greatly effected by the reconstruction and partly, on account of its whole character, would harmonize less well with the changed group of buildings, a thorough reshaping was made according to a plan by Erik Mygind, landscape architect. Some old trees in the north part of the site had to fall to make room for the new building. The old fencing with Kampmann's big entrance portal was pulled down, the whole area thus getting a more open and parklike character. To the north the fencing was replaced by a stone dike with rockery plants and to the three other sides by Ribes and privet hedges. The walks and a parking place north of the new building are paved with dark concrete slabs, whereas the rest of the area is chiefly laid out as large continous lawns.

The new depot is about 39 metres long and about 13 metres broad. Its height from the surface of the earth to the frontage top edge is about 15 metres. On account of its slight rise the roof ridge is invisible from below. The corresponding interior measures are 37,7 and 12,2 metres. The total interior gross area of the depot is about 3220 square metres or about 460 square metres per storey. In the ground floor, containing reading room, offices, a delivery and unpacking room, lavatories, cloakrooms and a canteen with kitchenette, the floor-to-ceiling height is 2,60 metres, whereas it is only 2,19 metres in the six storeys with store rooms, the shelves not having been wanted higher in order that all files are within reach without using step ladders.

Great weight has been attached to the erection of a building which both by its construction, lay-out and technical equipment in every respect forms the best possible framework of security for its irreplaceable contents. A skeleton of strong pillars and longitudinal and transverse girders of heavy ferro-concrete forms the bearing construction, which is furthermore strengthened by the four traversing concrete walls which from top to bottom divide all storeys into 5 sections. The outer walls of the basement storeys consist of 45 centimetre concrete walls. The storey partitions have been constructed as 18 centimetre ferro-concrete layers, to which come 3 centimetres Leca concrete and a 2,5 centimetre wearing surface. As the basement storeys are to serve as shelters, in case of war or immediate danger of war, the layer between the top basement and the ground floor has been made somewhat stronger. On the top layer

under the roof a 30 centimetre layer of sand has been placed. The sections between the ferro-concrete skeleton of the fronts and house ends of the depot storeys above the ground have on the inside been filled in with yellow masonry, which together with the facing of greyish black bricks enclosing the whole outside building above ground floor height forms a 35 centimetre thick cavity wall. It was considered building the outer wall of concrete but a closer study of the experiences acquired during the Second World War showed that a certain elasticity of the wall sections would be desirable in order to catch and reduce the effects of air pressure and air suction caused by hits near the building. The total strength of the building would therefore increase when reinforced brick sections were used instead of compact concrete walls.

At the projection attention has of course also been paid to protection against humidity, to insulation and to ventilation in general. Under and round about the building a network of drains and sewers has been installed, protecting against percolation of ground and surface water. An automatic pumping plant protects against the effects of a rise of the groundwater level, if it should contrary to expectation and calculation take place. The Provincial Archives are situated on rather high ground, and investigations before and during excavation have shown that the strata of earth on which they are standing are not water-bearing. Special insulation under the building has therefore been unnecessary. The basement walls are asphalted on the outside and heat insulated on the inside, so that both percolation of water from the outside and condensing of water inside should be out of question. Besides, an automatic airconditioning and moistening plant ensures the right degree of moisture and the necessary ventilation in the basements. This plant is, just as the other plants pertinent to security, attached to the electric system in such a way that power supply continues even if connection to the other installations is cut off. In case of outside failure these plants are automatically attached to a battery unit. In the storey with the reading room and the offices ventilation is partly through the windows, partly by means of electric ventilators. In the depot storeys above the ground necessary ventilation is through the about 200 small peepholes mentioned above, which are inside provided with adjustable, frosted glass panes and outside covered with the tiles also mentioned, which do not shut tight to the gaps in the wall but let the air pass through a slit, about 2 centimetres broad on all four sides. Special



Detail of window ornaments in the old building of the Provincial Archives of North Jutland. The arms are made of ceramics.

possibilities of regulating the moisture of the atmosphere in the storeys above ground thus do not exist, being scarcely of essential importance. Insulation of the part of the building lying above ground has been made with rock-wool mats, placed on the outside of the interior wall. Towards the roof rockwool mats in asphalt paper have been placed as insulation over the layer of sand. Besides, all concrete structures of the external walls are insulated with foam rubber plates (Flamingo). All windows in the reading room and office storey have double panes (Thermopane), those facing south are screened against the sun with canvas awnings worked from within, white draw curtains having also been placed at all windows. For the safeguarding of the reading room and offices in case of military operations specially made iron shutters are stored in a detached shelter on the site of the Archives, in a critical situation they are to be mounted by means of special hardware embedded in the window piers. The shutters consist of two plates in an iron sash, one of which may be pushed aside so that daylight passes through one half of each window.

Heating is supplied by the district heating station

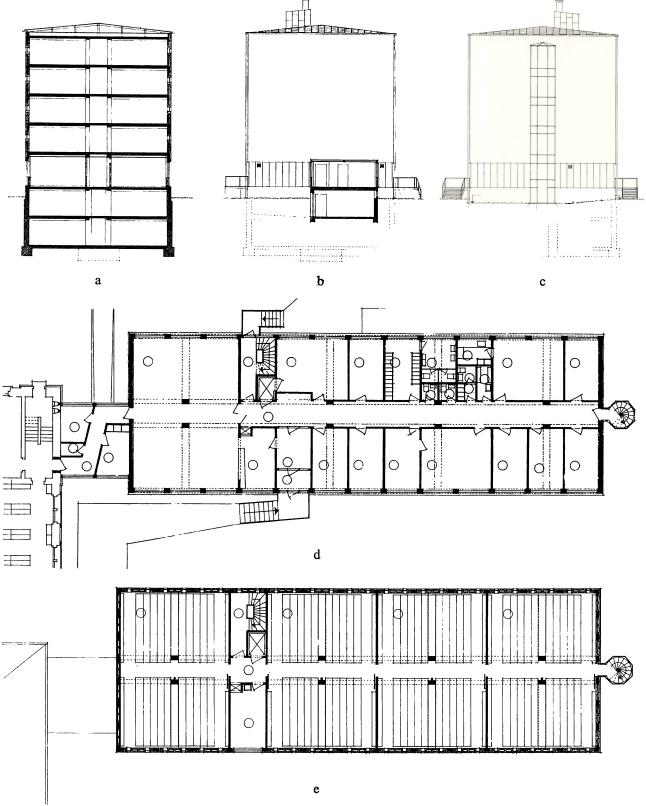


The Provincial Archives of North Jutland seen from the entrance. To the left the old depot, to the right the former reading room and in the background the new depot.

of the town, regulation and distribution to the various buildings taking place in a control room in the basement of the keeper's official residence, which is standing in its own grounds. In the reading room, offices etc. ordinary, ribbed radiators with thermostatically controlled valves have been installed, whereas the store rooms are heated by means of heating pipes, also thermostatically controlled. In order to save space these pipes have been laid down in open conduits in the floors along the outer walls.

Very great importance has been attached to fire protection. By means of the above mentioned, concrete partition walls all storeys have been divided into 5 sections, one of which holding the front stairs, lifts and various special-purpose rooms, whereas the other four rooms – apart from the ground floor – in general are fitted up as store rooms. Between the sections heavy steel fire doors have been mounted, which automatically close, when a soluble plug is subjected to a temperature of about 70 degrees centigrade. A fire thus should not spread from the one of the total of 24 store sections in which it might break out. All over the house fire detectors have been installed which are connected to an alarm system with direct wire to the fire station. The detectors on the office storey only react to generation of heat (therefore smoking is allowed here), whereas the rest of the building if fitted with ION-detectors, which react to smoke formation. A control board near the main entrance of the Archives indicates, from the detectors of which room a possible alarm is given. On each storey a number of carbon dioxide extinguishers have been put at places easy of access, there are also two hydrants complete with fire hoses and nozzles. Water from a possible fire extinguishing is drained off by special waste-pipes from each store room section. When nobody is in the building, the electric system is centrally switched off with the exception of the above mentioned part concerning the safety devices.

The main entrance of the new building is on its south side. From Lille Sct. Hansgade a broad flagged path leads northward along the east front of the old building to the low flight of steps. By this one through a porch, in which a board shows the placing of the offices etc., gets into a small anteroom with some seats, a wall decoration executed by Arne L. Hansen and a small vitrine for changing exhibitions. From



Drawings of the Viborg Archives. a. Section of the building. b. West end wall with section of intermediate building. c. East end wall with fire escape. d. Ground floor. e. Top floor complete with Compactus.

here a glass door leads into the ground floor central corridor, which is about two metres broad. At its western end (to the left of the entrance) a double glass door leads to the reading room, which takes up the whole western section of the ground floor, offices etc. having been placed on both sides of the eastern



The new depot of the Provincial Archives of North Jutland with the stair turret.

part of the central corridor. A secondary entrance to the north is primarily intended for the staff but may also be used by visitors coming by car and parking on the parking ground between the new building and a blind alley bounding the site of the Archives northwards. Both entrances are in the section - number 2 from the west - which is reserved for the transport of persons and records up and down the building. Here is both a stone staircase through the whole building with access to all storeys and a combined passenger and goods lift. There is also a smaller book lift transporting records between the reading room and all storeys. At the eastern house end an extra communication between all storeys is by the exterior fire escape, which besides steeldoors to the storeys has direct exit to the open. In the south part of the stairs section a number of special-purpose rooms have been fitted up on all storeys. In the basements these rooms are used for technical installations (air-conditioning plant, telephone exchange, bathroom etc.), on the first floor as dispatch offices, on the second floor as photographer's studio and on the two top floors as packing rooms.

Apart from the above mentioned rooms in the stairs section, a special room for the keeping of maps on the first floor and a darkroom on the second floor in communication with the photographer's studio, all 6 depot storeys are compactly filled with shelves - all steel ones. The total store room capacity is about 25.500 running metres. One third of the store rooms have been equipped with stationary shelves, two thirds with semiautomatic Compactus shelves (system Ingold). As there are twice as many shelves in the sections with compactus as in those with stationary shelves, the ratio of the two shelf types is 4 to 1. On the two upper floors all four depot sections are equipped with Compactus, on the second floor three af the sections. On the first floor stationary shelves solely are found, because this storey, being nearest to the reading room, is used for the files consulted most frequently. Of the underground storeys the top one has three sections with Compactus and one with stationary shelves, whereas the bottom one has two sections of each kind. The distribution of shelves in the top storeys is principally due to reasons of service, whereas reasons of security are

behind the placing of stationary shelves in the basements. As mentioned above, the subterranean part of the building has therefore been very strongly built, the intention being to find room in the corridors here for the most valuable documents from the upper stories, if occasion should arise.

Each depot storey is throughout the length of the building divided by a central corridor, which is 120 centimetres broad and in the middle of each of the four depot sections flanked by two of the supporting pillars. On each side of the central corridor the sections that are equipped with Compactus have two fixed single shelves against the end walls, fixed double shelves behind the centre pillar and two Compactus units, consisting of 5 double shelves each, which are worked by an electromotor, being installed under the fixed double shelves separating the two units. When open there is a breadth of corridor of about 90 centimetres between two Compactus shelves. In the other sections there are correspondingly on each side of the central corridor two single shelves and 5 stationary double shelves, the breadth of corridor between all of them being 92 centimetres. The shelves are 556 centimetres long, 215 centimetres high and divided into 5 compartments having a net length of 27 centimetres deep. Normally 5 shelves per compartment are used, the height of space thus being 37,5 centimetres. All files are standing on their short edges, thus shelfspace is very effectively utilized.

Towards the central corridor the sides of the shelves have been provided with metal-framed showcards stating their number and contents. Starting from below the stories of the depot are numbered from 1 to 7. Correspondingly the separate rooms within the stories are provided with numbers, thus a three-figure number designating each room in the building immediately indicates its position. On every depot storey the bookshelves are numbered in succession, beginning with number 1 at the north-western corner of the building and ending with the last number at the south-western corner. The combination of room number and shelves number makes it easy to find one's bearings everywhere.

The store rooms are lit by luminous tubes in the ceiling. Central lighting of the illumination of the central corridor is from the stairs section of each storey. The tubes over the bookshelves have been placed longitudinally in the building, at right angles to the bookshelves, so that all shelves are well and equally lit up, no matter where the Compactus units are opened. These tubes are switched on and off for

each half of a section separately by means of switches fitted on the pillars. At the same time as the light is switched on, the motor of the Compactus unit in question automatically starts. When the light in the central corridor is switched off, the shelves illumination and motors are synchronously switched off, thus there is no risk of motors working, when one leaves the storey, even if one should have forgotten to break the current of the section concerned. For vacuum cleaning and the use of other electric apparatuses plugs have been fitted in every room.

In all store rooms folding tables to serve as worktables have been mounted on the pillars mentioned above and at the western end of the central corridor. Further a number of light collapsible chairs are suspended at the pillars.

Reading Room and Offices

As already mentioned the ground floor of the depot is used as reading room, offices, canteen etc. The reading room takes up the whole western section, measuring 12,2 metres by 8,6 and having windows both to the south and the north, thus turning daylight to maximum account. There is no separate lighting at the seats, but a large number of round ceiling lights with white plastic screens ensures a uniformly distributed light in the whole room. The visitors are seated at 12 detached tables, each of which is intended for 2 persons. The tables have flaps, each of which when raised accomodating one more person, thus the total seating capacity will be 36 persons. It is however possible to seat some more, as a rare exeption, during peak load. In that case the available table space per visitor will be rather limited. The reading room is aired partly by means of two electric ventilators at the end wall and partly through the windows, here, as everywhere, consisting of large thermal panes in teak windows frames. From the reading room access to the old depot is to the west through the intermediate building. The western wall is besides covered with bookshelves containing the most often consulted part of the reference library of the Archives. The other part of it has been placed in a store room on the first floor, from which the books may be ordered on the basis of an alphabetic or a classified card index. The northern half of the eastern wall of the reading room is taken up by a small number of book shelves and by a very large number of cardindex trays, which hold the book indexes and the major part of the indexes of names of church registers, books kept by administrators of estates, deeds



Part of the reading room in the Provincial Archives of North Jutland.

of tenure, registers of deeds and mortgages, trade licence inventories etc. which the Provincial Archives in the course of years have compiled, further registers of the chief part of the files of the Archives as well as a number of special aids for guidance on it, all of them freely available to visitors. The staff on duty has got a special room behind the southeast corner of the reading room, divided from the latter by only a counter. Those registers and lists of deliveries that are not directly accessible to the public have been placed in this room, the records which visitors wish reserved for later use are also kept here. The requisition forms, which with carbon are completed in duplicate, are sent by pneumatic post from here to the room situated just above on the first floor, where the employees are staying who fetch the records ordered and put them back again after use. Owing to a thorough numbering of the files and the numbering of store rooms and shelves mentioned above, this manual dispatch can be performed promptly and with reasonable security against mistakes by staff without any specialist training.

In the office corridor there is a cloakroom for visitors facing the main entrance. To the north of the corridor is a delivery and packing room of about 28 square metres, fitted with tables and shelves. From the north side of the building access to it is through an overhead door at an unloading platform, which is at the height of the rear and of a removal van when driving up to it, thus permitting trolleys getting straight into the van and without reloading to be taken up or down the building by way of the main lift. Besides this room and offices, the ground floor contains separate cloakrooms and lavatories for the male and female staff, visitors' lavatories, a store room for cleaning materials and a canteen of 28 square metres with adjoining kitchenette and refrigerator. The canteen is chiefly intended for the staff but may at certain hours of the day also be used by visitors. The rooms mentioned have been placed to the north and concentrated at one place on account of some common installations, especially water pipes, waste pipes and ventilation.

The offices are - apart from two fronting north -

placed on the south side of the office corridor. There are 8 offices in all measuring 4.92 metres by 2,82 and one office twice the size for the Regional Keeper. Their inside finish varies somewhat according to purpose and if one or two persons is to be accomodated, the latter for the present being an exception. All offices are well equipped with large desks, bookshelves and roll-front cabinets. Great importance has been attached to making the work rooms as pleasant as possible by means af well-matched wall colours varying from room to room - and decoration with good engravings. The Archives have got a modern combined external and internal telephone system with switching from each apparatus. The system at present consists of 25 apparatuses, placed in all offices, work rooms and depot storeys, but it has been dimensioned for futher extension. From the central switchboard, the reading room and the keeper's office the various members of the staff, all of them having a special call signal, may be summoned by buzzers, if they are not at their telephone.

Photographer's Studio and Binding Department

On the second floor of the new depot a photographer's studio with adjoining darkroom has, as mentioned above, been fitted up. The studio is equipped with the necessary modern equipment for microphotography, development and enlargement as well as with Leica equipment for special-purpose photography, i. a. of seals. There are apparatuses for ordinary contact printing, and in 1968 a Xerox printing apparatus was mounted, so that the public may quickly get good cheap copies in the full size of the records. For the use of microfilms the Provincial Archives can dispose of two microfilm readers, one of older and one of newer design. The latter one is at the visitor's disposal in one of the researcher's rooms in the intermediate building, close to the reading room.

In connection with the erection of the new depot a bright, spacious bindery and preservation workshop (about 6,6 metres by 10,2) was in 1963 placed in the south end of the old depot. For the present it is staffed with one conservator and one bookbinder (extension being however possible) and well-supplied with equipment both for ordinary bookbinder's work and for preservation of binding and leaves etc. The main part of the work is rebinding and preservation of the Archives' own records, but in very urgent cases also to a modest extent repairs of damaged journals still being at the offices and institutions obliged to deliver their records are carried out.

Exhibition

During recent years the Provincial Archives have had a considerable and steadily increasing number of visits from associations and schools and have in general attached great importance to the display of pedagogic activity in the form of conducted tours, the arrangement of lectures and the holding of courses. The construction of the new depot has greatly improved the possibilities for this. To be sure, it was impossible to find room for an exhibition room in the new building, but the considerable increase of storage space made it possible to transform the south end room on the top floor of the old depot into a permanent exhibition. The room, which is about 67 square metres, has been furnished with 4 vitrines. On the walls, which have been plated with perforated fibreboards (masonite), it is possible by means of hooks stuck into the perforations to suspend a large number of showcases in different sizes, adapted to the documents which they are to contain. These wall showcases are lit up by a number of screened fluorescent tubes, hanging at a height of 2,25 metres above the floor and about half a metre from the walls. The contents of the vitrines are illuminated by means of built-in fluorescent tubes, which are screened upwards and connected to sockets built into the floor to avoid loose wires. The Archives have compiled a guide to the exhibition, which besides some particularly interesting and exceptionally beautiful documents displays a representative selection of the collections of the Archives. The exhibition, to which spectators have admittance through a door in the south end of the building, is open once a week from April till September, but particularly interested groups, chiefly classes, may be conducted round at other times, if previously arranged. Besides for exhibitions, the room may be used for lectures to groups up to 40-50 persons. The Provincial Archives for this purpose dispose of equipment for showing lantern slides (diapositives).

For smaller seminars, e. g. instructional courses for the staff of offices delivering their records to the Provincial Archives, the former offices in the official residence have been turned into a small lecture room, accommodating about 25 persons.

The Old Depot

Concurrently with the projecting of the new depot a thorough indoor rebuilding and fire protection of

Kampmann's old depot from 1891 was planned. The wish for this had its background in the experiences of the Second World War, which especially in Germany revealed, how vulnerable the old archives and libraries with large undivided store rooms and floor gratings between the storeys are, when fire spreads.

Already in connection with the building of the new depot the end rooms of the old depot were rebuilt, the floor gratings being replaced by a horizontal division of ferro-concrete. Of the resulting four rooms the two south ones have, as mentioned above, been made into bindery and preservation workshop and exhibition room respectively. The two north ones serve as sorting rooms and are also used for various other functions. Part of the bottom north room has provisionally been turned into a studio for the use of the microphotographing of genealogical records which for the time being is carried out by The Genealogical Society in Salt Lake City, Utah. Besides, one of the north end rooms, situated near the communicating passage, is intended to serve as an extra reading room, if the number of visitors in the years to come rises to such an extent that the seating capacity of the new reading room is not sufficient.

The rebuilding of the main room in Kampmann's building could not take place until its contents had been transferred to the store rooms in the new building. A grant was provided for in the Budget of 1964/65, and work commenced December 1, 1964, finishing in the summer af 1965. The floor grating was removed, being replaced by a ferro-concrete floor that is 21 centimetres thick and constructed in such a way that Compactus shelves may later be mounted on both storeys, thus doubling the storage space. The cast-iron columns, formerly carrying the floor gratings and the vaulted ceiling, have been provided with new concrete foundations and cast round with reinforced concrete to strong pillars, which together with heavy ferro-concrete girders lenghtwise and crosswise form the load-bearing construction, so that the external walls will not be more strongly loaded than up to now, even if Compactus shelves are eventually mounted. Each storey has been divided into three rooms by fire walls of red bricks. The original sole room has thus been divided into six rooms, and if fire should, contrary to expectation, break out, it will in all probability be confined to one sixth of the building, the grand catastrophe thus being prevented. Both the old end walls and the new fire walls have been provided with self-closing fire-doors of the same type as that being used in the new building. As extra safeguarding ION-detectors have been installed everywhere - including the end rooms and the loft - and connected with the alarm system in the new building. On both storeys water pipes have further been laid on. From a total of 6 hydrants with corresponding fire hoses and nozzles it is possible to concentrate on an arising fire everywhere in the building. Carbon dioxide extinguishers are further placed in all rooms.

Whereas both storeys were formerly heated by radiators in the bottom one, it has on account of the replacement of the floor grating by a firm floor been necessary to install radiators in the top floor too. All windows which in the event of fire within or without the Archives may involve a risk have been provided with inside iron shutters. Communication between the two storeys is still by means of the flights of stone steps in each of the four corners of the building. In substitution for the front stairs in the centre of the building a hydraulic lift at the southeast end of the main room is installed near the door through which the delivery of records for the old building takes place. The former lighting has been replaced by fluorescent tubes, which ensure a good and evenly distributed light everywhere.

As the old building besides store rooms now also holds both the exhibition room and workroom, lavatories have been installed under the southwest and northwest corner stairs.

After the rebuilding the original wooden bookshelves with fixed shelves were replaced, between and below the windows where radiators and other installations did not make it impossible. Both the use of the end rooms for other purpose and the rebuilding of the main room resulted in reducing the shelves capacity of the building somewhat. There is hardly any denying that there has also been some aesthetic deterioration of the very fine Archives interior which Kampmann had created. It was however attempted and the attempt was successful - to make the necessary alterations as gently as by any means possible. These disadvantages are counterbalanced not only by the fire-protection obtained but also by the advantage of having got the previously badly missed special-purpose rooms and by the possibility of installing Compactus shelves if it should prove necessary, thus gaining about 5.000 running metres.

As the Provincial Archives so far dispose of considerable reserves of space, about two thirds of the shelves space of the old building have for the time being been placed at the disposal of the National Archives and the Provincial Archives in Odense and Aabenraa as depots.

Future Possibilities of Expansion

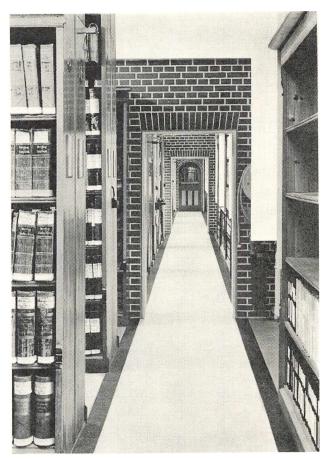
The total initial expenditure on the new Archives has been reckoned at 3.509.973 kroner or 29.035 kroner less than granted. To this amount must be added the costs of the rebuilding of the old Archives, which at present are not finally worked out, 384.500 kroner having, however, been granted. For these amounts totalling about 3.895.000 kroner, the North Jutland region has got modern, up-to-date and well protected Provincial Archives, which on about 30.000 running metres can hold accessions of more than 60 years, besides being able to hold the addition for a future number of years – how long will depend on how much the production of records in public offices is going to swell in the years to come.

Not only the immediate problem of space has been solved, a contract of December 2, 1958 with the municipality of Viborg secured the possibility of having disposal of areas of such an extent east and north of the Provincial Archives' present site that further considerable extensions may be made according to requirement. Without moving-out the Provincial Archives' total capacity may thus presumably be enlarged to at least 100.000 running metres.

Staff and Public

Coincident with the structural extension of the North Jutland Provincial Archives an appreciable and much-needed increase of staff has taken place. The Archives started activities in 1891 with a staff of only 3 persons, viz. the keeper, an assistant and a messenger. By slow degrees only, and by no means concurrently with the increase in tasks, the number increased in the subsequent period up to 1961, when the permanent staff, besides the keeper, was made up of 2 archivists, 2 registrars, 1 messenger, 1 clerk and 1 general labourer. In 1968 the keeper, 5 scientifically trained archivists, 3 registrars, 1 attendant (who besides acts as photographer), 2 messengers, 4 assistants (clerks), 1 conservator, 1 bookbinder and 1 general labourer made up the permanent staff. Besides the permanent staff, the Archives have in the course of time had some extra help at disposal. Since 1963 the Provincial Archives have, in accordance with the Rehabilitation Act, been approved as as sheltered place of work for 5 rehabilitees. Besides taking care of the manual dispatch to the reading room, they perform a number of rather routine tasks such as repacking, writing showcards etc.

The reading room of the Provincial Archives is now open on week-days (Saturdays included) from



One of the corridors in the old depot of the Provincial Archives of North Jutland after the rebuilding.

9 till 5. From an exceedingly humble start in 1891 the number of visitors as well as the frequency of use has increased considerably. From the opening in August 1891 till the end of the year the Archives had 14 visits by a total of 8 persons. In 1892 37 persons paid 290 visits, and the year after the number of visits was only 263. During the following 10-12 years the numbers were still small though rather fluctuating. 1898 shows the absolute minimum with only 238 visits. From about 1905 a fairly constant but somewhat uneven increase is perceptible. That year the number was 558, till then the highest one. In 1910 a new record peak was hit with 904 visits, but not until 1921 one thousand visits were exceeded. Subsequently the increase gathered momentum. 1934 the number of 2000 was passed, 1943 3000, 1959 4000, 1963 5000 and 1964 6000. In 1965 there were 6734 visits and 49.751 volumes were studied in the reading room, but in 1966 the number of visits went down a little to 6470, the number of units used on the other hand rising to 50.857. In 1967 the number of both visits and units used soared to 7265 and 60.189 respectively. During 1968 the rise continued.



One of the corridors in the new depot of the Provincial Archives of North Jutland.

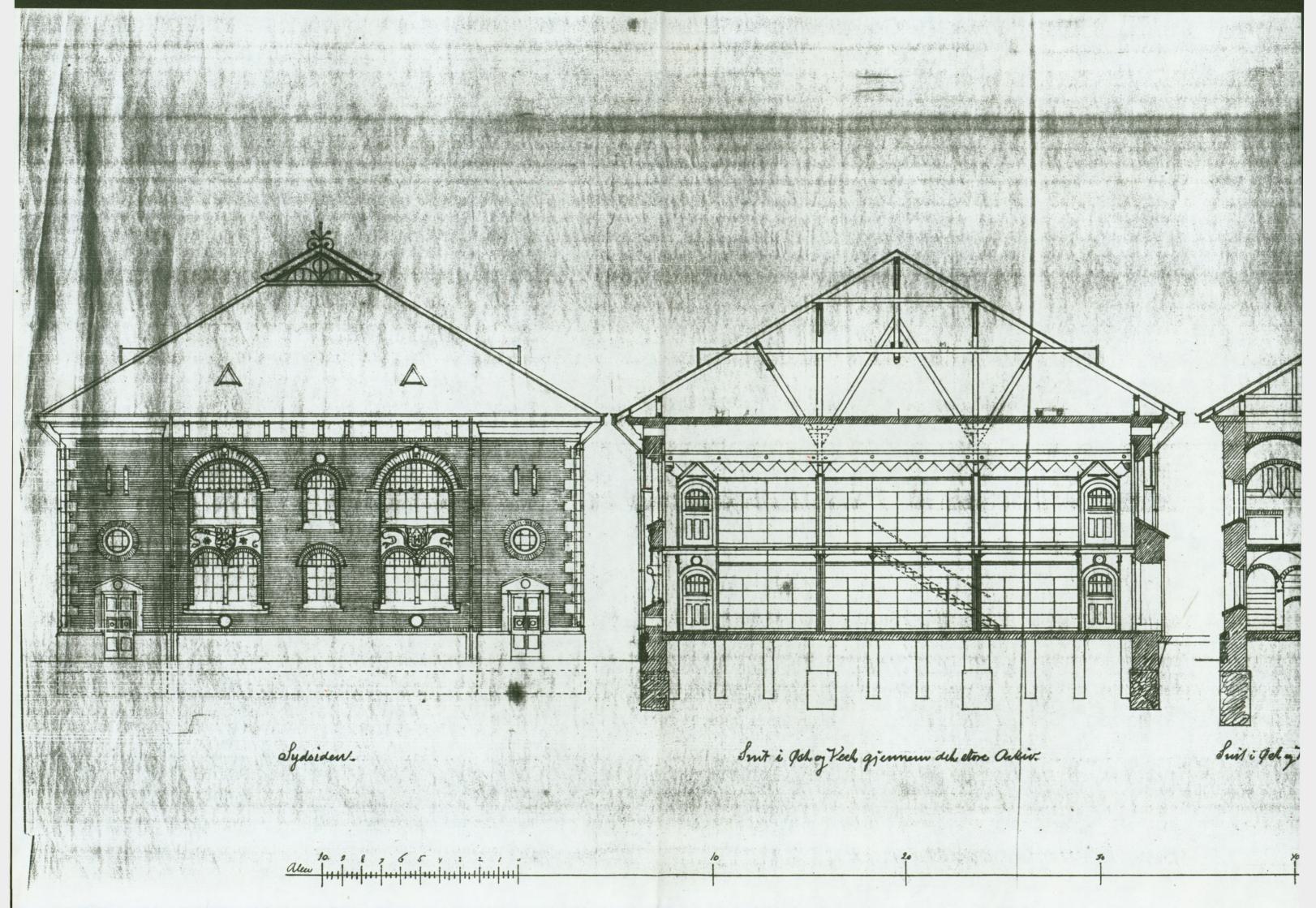
In terms of averages of periods of five years the number of visits has increased as follows:

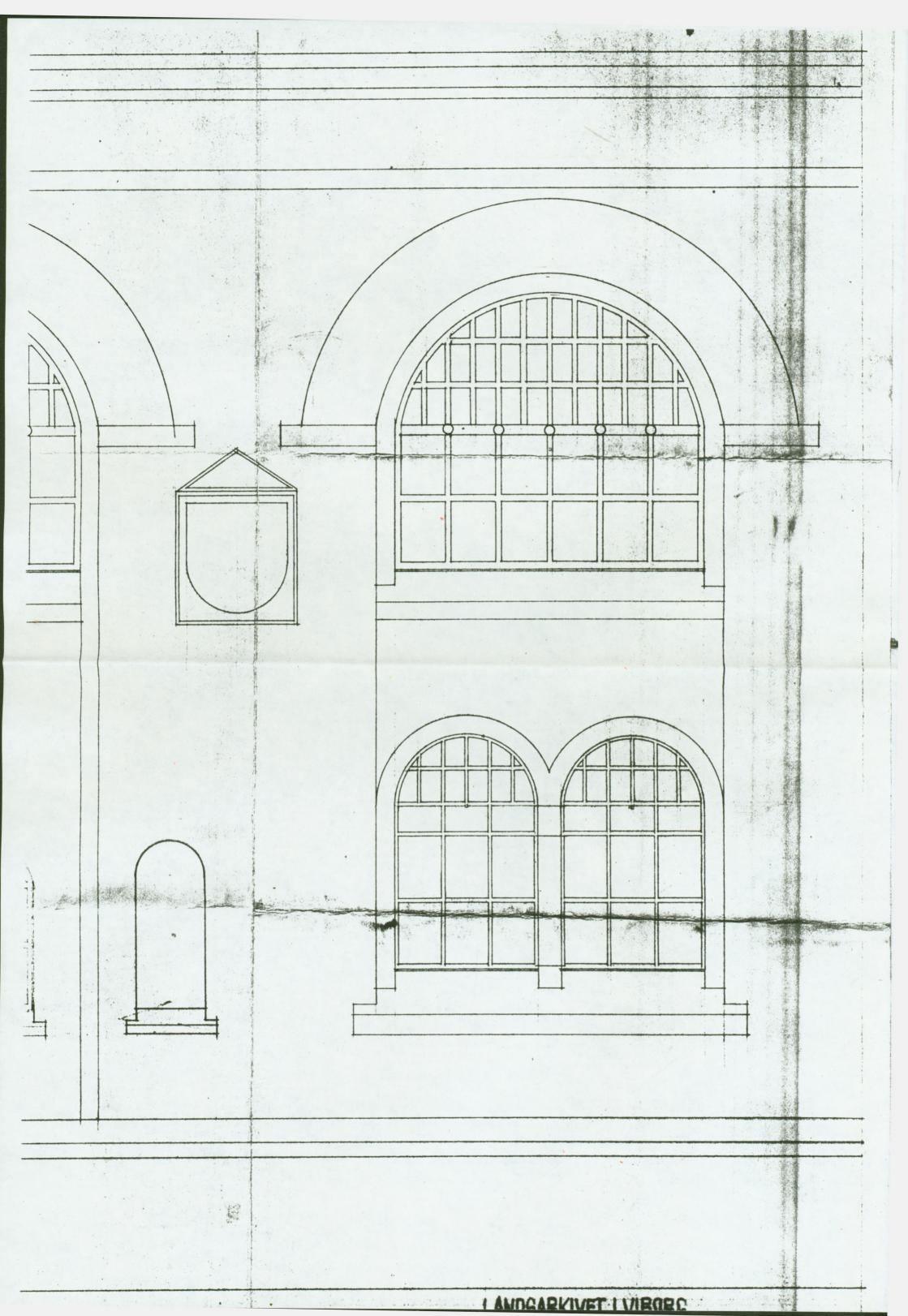
1891	14	1926-30	1201
1892–95	370	1931-35	1673
1896–1900	269	1936-40	2486
1901–05	384	1941-45	2673
1906–10	582	1946–50	3195
1911–15	706	1951–55	3315
1916–20	866	1956-60	3756
1921–25	1016	1961–65	5472

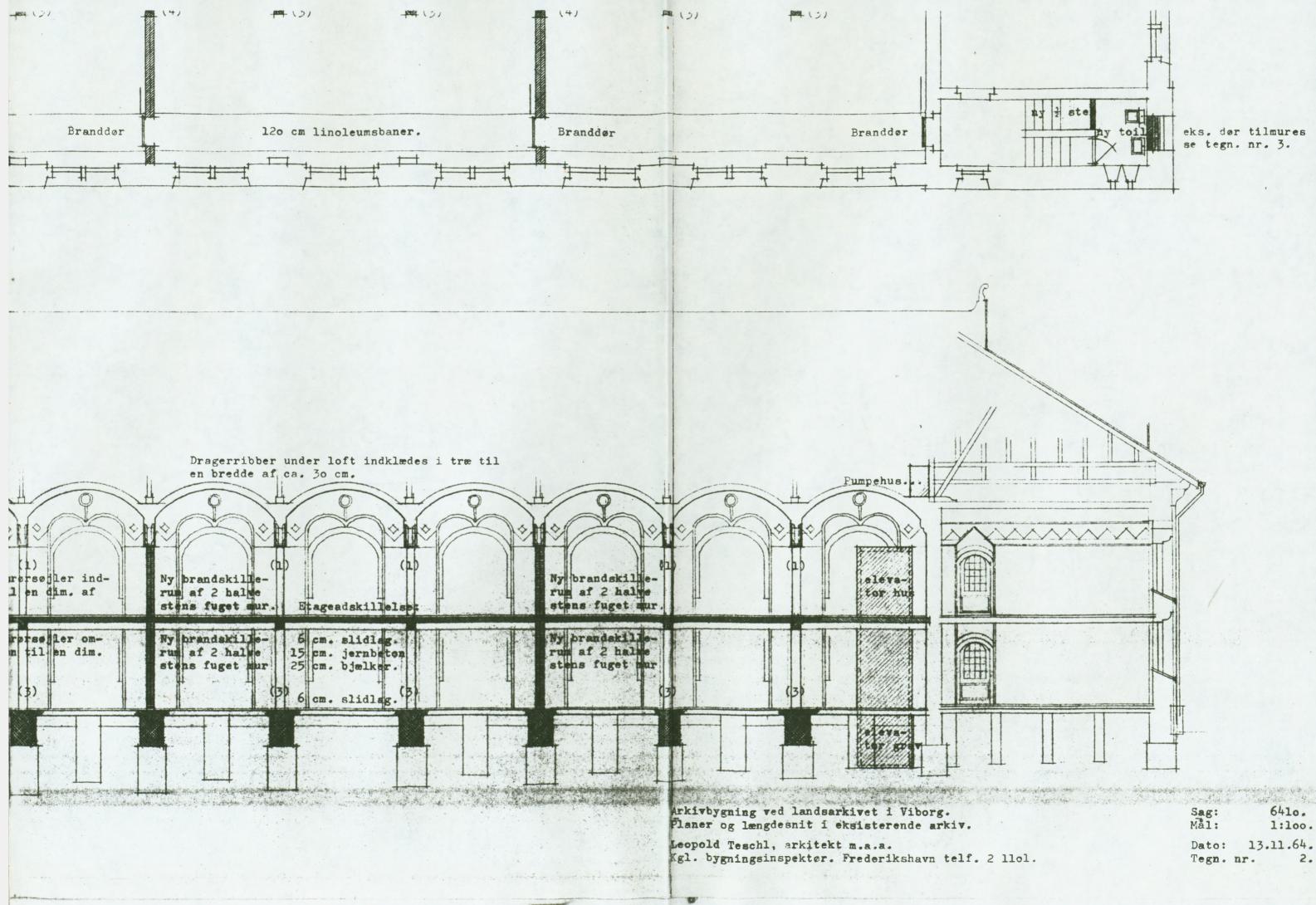
Since the opening of the Archives a total of about

13.000 persons have paid about 150.000 visits to the Archives, using much more than one million volumes. The increase since 1963, when the new building with the new spacious reading room was opened for public use, manifests itself pointedly and presumably indicates that the extension has not only solved an urgent task with regard to the Provincial Archives' obligations towards the administration but has as well met a strong latent demand on the part of historical research.









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