

**European Association for Banking History e.V.**

EUROPEAN COLLOQUIUM ON BANK ARCHIVES



VOL.3

PRIORITIES IN BANK ARCHIVES

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## FOREWORD/PREFACE

With the publication of this volume, the results of a European Colloquium on Bank Archives are now available in print for the third time. The European Association has managed to convene the archivists of major European banks each year since 1991. As early as six months after being founded in 1990, the EABH held its first colloquium on archives. This was to show right from the beginning that the bank archives and their staff form the basis of our association. The aim of these colloquia is to provide a forum for exchanging experiences beyond the national level, discussing problems facing archives and finding solutions to new problems, for example in data processing. Last but not least we wish to provide an opportunity for making contacts, exchanging ideas and motivating one another. In other areas as well the European Association for Banking History has meanwhile achieved a large measure of its goals and objectives. As part of the academic programme, colloquia took place in Amsterdam and Zurich, and after two and a half years of preparation Cambridge University Press published the first issue of the journal "Financial History Review" in April. The "Handbook on the History of European Banks", the first historical reference book on banking in Europe, has come out at Edward Elgar Publishing this autumn. In addition to surveys on the banking history of the individual European countries, it contains information on these countries' major banks previously not available in this compiled and condensed form. In addition the second issue of our journal "Perspectives" will also be finished in course of the year.

The members of the EABH have decided that slight changes should be introduced to future publications of the conference papers. In the present volume we have already chosen not to print the discussions and in the following books we intend to combine papers of several meetings in one volume. Despite the shortage of funds available in all areas, we want to continue to make the results of our meetings available to a wider audience. Bank archives make important contributions to shaping the corporate culture and improving the image of their respective institutions which leads us to hope that through our joint efforts we will make good progress towards our goal of finding professionally managed archives at all banks.

The colloquium in 1993 took place in Luxembourg at the invitation of Deutsche Bank Luxembourg S.A. I would like to express my sincerest thanks to Dr. Ekkehard Storck for the invitation and to his staff for all their willing and competent support. I also thank the staff of the EABH for all their assistance in organizing the colloquium and producing this book.

Frankfurt / Main, July 1994

Manfred Pohl