**Greco-Roman and Japanese Ancient Archives on the Web**

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**Introduction**

Foundation: Archives are foundation of democracy. We can find it even in Ancient Athens, the cradle democracy. Innovation: Online resources on ancient archives are tremendously increased. Widely welcomed Classics is good reason for grants. Here I introduce some online resources to clarify my hypothesis about importance of Boule(Council)’s archives and its function. Some Japanese ancient archival materials on the web are also introduced.

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**Ancient Greek Archives**

**Αρχείον** (archeion) properly means any public place belonging to the magistrates, whether among barbarians (Hdt., 4.67) or Greeks (Xen. Hell., 5.4.58 (Dem.) p. 145.53). At Athens the name was more particularly applied to the archive office, where the decrees of the people and other state documents were preserved. This office is sometimes called merely τὸ ἀρχεῖον (Dem., p. 145.53). At Athens the name was more particularly applied to the archive office, where the decrees of the people and other state documents were preserved. This office is called τὸ ἀρχεῖον at Athens. At Athens the name was more particularly applied to the archive office, where the decrees of the people and other state documents were preserved. This office is sometimes called merely τὸ ἀρχεῖον (Dem., p. 145.53). At Athens the name was more particularly applied to the archive office, where the decrees of the people and other state documents were preserved. This office is sometimes called merely τὸ ἀρχεῖον (Dem., p. 145.53).

**Aerarium** is the public treasury at Rome and later Senate’s archives to keep money and laws and degrees and etc. After the fire, the Tabularium was constructed in 78 BCE and used for the conservation of the bronze tabulae containing the laws and the official deeds of the Roman State. Michaelangelo Buonarroti designed the Roman City Hall upon it. Now we can visit as the Capitoline Museums.

Old Bouleuterion ⇒ Demosion ⇒ Metroon

From Athenian Agora Excavation

The records and decrees of Athens were stored in the Old Bouleuterion where the Boule met during the 5th century B.C. Toward the end of the 5th century, the senate (Council) moved to the New Bouleuterion, but the archives stayed behind in the Old Bouleuterion, and the building became known by a new name, the Metroon, Mother of the Gods, whose cult was also housed in the building.

Demosion held laws and degrees as well as related items for the roles of the Boule like the Key and Seal for the treasury, lists of citizens or young soldiers, and standards. If Metroon was Boule’s archives, Athens might have other repositories; Parthenon Temple was the records’ repository of Delian league and diplomatic records as well as ritual records. Prytaneion was the office of Eponymous Archon. It was located at the old Agora. It might hold the tribal, religious, and hospitable records.

Olympian Bouleuterion, or Council House, had two wings where the official Elean archives of the names of all the Olympic victors might be kept. Delphi also had the Bouleuterion next to the Omphalos, so it might hold the oracles.

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**Ancient Roman Archives**

Aerarium = archivum in Latin

**Code of Justinian** was stated both in Greek and Latin. Justinian Code 1-4-30-2

2. We ordain that if the appointment of guardians and curators is made before the defender, in the presence of the bishop of the city, the record thereof shall be deposited among the archives of the holy church, so that the knowledge thereof may be perpetually preserved, and the protection therefrom of those placed under a guardian or curator may not perish. In this great city, however, guardians and curators shall be appointed by the honorable praetor, according to provisions hereetofore made. Given at Constantinople, July 29 (531).

**merchant**

**Shosoin Repository** is located within the grounds of the Todaiji temple in Nara built in Nara period, 8th century. Shosoin holds a lot of treasures. Among them there are Shosoin Documents. Both sides of paper were used.


Midokampakuki in Heian period, the original hand-written diary of Fujiwara no Michinaga was registered in Memory of the World.

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**Discussions**

- Origin of ancient archives indicates the importance of legislative archives. In 2009 Japanese public records management act was enacted and enforced in April of 2011, just after the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster.
- Not only administrative records but some judicial records are transferred into the National Archives of Japan. However, the Diet documents are still in the Diet without finding aids. National Archives of Japan is expected to be independent and serve people for preservation and utilization public records including legislative records. It is the right of people to know the process of decision making.
- Frozen Data: Most of academic databases were constructed with temporal grants. Therefore, some of them stopped updating, and even the servers were lost. NDL and NII try to salvage and reuse these frozen data.