

SUMMARY

The Arxiu Fotogràfic de l'Arxiu Històric de la Ciutat de Barcelona (Photographic Archive of the Historical Archive of the City of Barcelona) was founded in 1931, though the idea arose in 1917. The purpose of the collection was to collect, preserve, organise, describe and share historical photographic resources that relate to the activities of the City Council, together with other resources and photographic collections of a non-municipal (public or private) nature, relating to the history of the city and the history of photography. Historical evolution defines the content of the archives, converting them into a rich source of resources. The Arxiu Fotogràfic is home to approximately two million photographs, spanning many types, media, format, procedure, content and author, from the early days of photography to the present day. The archive is organised into four major blocks: entry, archiving and documenting, conservation, and public exhibition. Every year, each block concentrates on organising specific programmes of activity. The museum is located on the second floor of the Sant Agustí Convent, and covers a surface area of 1,589 m². The space is equipped with facilities that guarantee the preservation and protection of the city's photographic heritage, and open it up to the public.

This interesting, unique and magnificent set of photographs housed in the Arxiu Fotogràfic offer us a way of reconstructing and tracing the evolution of the history of the city and the history of Catalan photography, and represents a fundamental tool for any analysis we might make of the construction of the future.