

Archives Nationales (site de Pierrefitte-sur-Seine)

The Archives Nationales' centre at Pierrefitte-sur-Seine is a purpose-built, modern and spacious archive which opened in January 2013. It stores documents from 1789 onwards, along with private archives.



Address 59 rue Guynemer, 93380 Pierrefitte-sur-Seine

Website <http://www.archives-nationales.culture.gouv.fr/>

Travel Although situated the other side of Saint-Denis, the archives are easy to get to via métro. The building is less than a five-minute walk from Métro Saint-Denis Université on line 13 (the eastern-branch). This is the cheapest and easiest way to get to the archives, as the tariff is the same as central Paris.

Material The site de Pierrefitte-sur-Seine now houses post-1789 material, along with private archives. Full details of archives contents can be found on the online catalogue, the *Salle des inventaires virtuelle* (SIV): www.archives-nationales.culture.gouv.fr/siv/. This website is also used to pre-order documents and request access (e.g. for private archives).

Registration is carried out in the bureau des inscriptions, which is directly opposite the main entrance. Photographic ID is required for registration, as well as proof of student status (where applicable). Currently, the archives are offering a

year's free subscription to all three sites. Pre-registration is advised – this can be done using the SIV website listed above. Readers are issued with a pass which contains a moneo chip: you can transfer money onto this card and use it in the café.

Opening hours

The archives are open from 9 – 16:45, Monday – Saturday. Documents can be requested 9 – 15:00, Monday – Friday. The archives have a number of closures during the year, notably the first two weeks of August (see <http://www.archives-nationales.culture.gouv.fr/sia/web/guest/fermeture> for full details).

Access

Upon arrival at the archives, you stop at security for a bag check. Once you have passed through security, proceed to the lockers, directly opposite the entrance. The lockers are all electronic, no money is required. Leave all your possessions in the locker (any locker can be used by any researcher), except the things you need to take into the reading room (notebook, pencils, maybe a laptop/digital camera), which should be placed in the transparent satchel provided by the archives. Proceed through the double set of doors (while admiring Anthony Gormley's sculpture *Cloud Chain*). The *Salle des inventaires* is directly on the right. Your archives card opens the gates to the main reading room – the contents of your satchel will be checked on the way in and out of the room (tip: they are very strict on this). When you arrive in the *Salle de lecture* you will be assigned a seat number at the document collection point. You will also need your archive card to collect documents.

Photography is permitted except when using documents subject to special permissions.

Documents

can be requested in advance and online via the SIV. Certain material, particularly that subject to special permissions, cannot be requested via this system and should be requested via a contact at the archives.

Please note that it is not possible to request new documents on a Saturday, so you must place requests the day before.

Refreshments

There is a small café selling sandwiches, snacks and coffee in the archives, with an indoor and outdoor picnic area. Bottles of water are not permitted in the *Salle de lecture*, but you can easily leave the room to access refreshments (dehydration is bad for concentration!).