The Historical Archive of Notarial Records of Madrid safeguards the notarial records of the notaries in the districts of the town of Madrid and its province from 1504 to 1918.

Notarial Records that are one hundred years old are received on a yearly basis, coming from the General Archive of the Notarial College of Madrid and the different notarial districts of the Region of Madrid.

The Archive also keeps the Registers of the Spanish Consulates abroad (29 countries), dated between 1763 and 1918, and the Records of Mortgage Accounting of several judicial districts of the province of Madrid, from 1745 to 1870.

These archives represent a total of 47,425 volumes, which mean 6,269 linear metres of safeguarded documents.
The Pragmatic Decree of the Catholic Monarchs of 7 June 1503 obliged public notaries to safeguard the public deeds they authorized in their offices, sorted by years and bound in volumes, which can be considered as the origin of notarial records. In 1765, the Archive of Public Notarial Records was created, a precedent of the current one, gathering in it the notarial records that were dispersed in the offices of different notaries.

In 1886, the Ministry of Grace and Justice built the first headquarters of the Archive in the street Alberto Bosch. At that time, this building was very innovative and was designed architecturally for the specific use as an archive. As of 1931, as a consequence of the Decree of 12th November, notarial records of more than one hundred years old will be recognized as a source for history, being placed at the service of the citizen and entrusting their custody to the professionals of the Corps of Archivists, Librarians and Archaeologists (attached to the Ministry of Public Instruction and Fine Arts), while records of less than one hundred years are kept by the Notarial College of Madrid in its General Archive.

From 1938, the Ministry of Education was responsible for the archives until the creation of the Ministry of Culture in 1977. By Royal Decree 680/1985 of 19th April, the management of the Archive was transferred to the Autonomous Region of Madrid and, at present, is managed by the General Subdirector of Archives and Records Management, under the Department of Culture and Tourism of the Regional Government.

The Archive remained in its original headquarters of the street Alberto Bosch until 2015, when it was provisionally transferred to the complex “El Agulla”, where it is currently located.

**ARCHIVE COLLECTION**

**NOTARIAL RECORDS OF THE MADRID NOTARIAL DISTRICT**
1504 - 1918

**NOTARIAL RECORDS FROM OTHER NOTARIAL DISTRICTS**
1529 - 1918

**REGISTERS OF SPANISH CONSULATES ABROAD**
1763 - 1918

**MORTGAGE ACCOUNTING RECORDS**
1745 - 1870

**RECOGNIZED BY THE SCIENTIFIC WORLD**

The Historical Archive of Notarial Records of Madrid has the recognition of the scientific world, which considers it a basic source for the reconstruction of the History of Madrid and Spain, given the role of this city as the seat of the Court and capital of the country.

The value and interest of these archives is incalculable, not only as a documentary source for global or specific studies on the activity of people and institutions of past times, but also and, above all, as testimony and guarantee of the rights of citizens.

Public notaries intervened in many more legal acts than current notaries, so they used to deal with any important issue in cities or rural areas and had to give documentary form to a wide range of legal situations and businesses, hence the wide variety of documents found in notarial records.