

Declassified per Executive Order 12958, Section 3.5
NND Project Number: NND 750168 By: NND Date: 1975

17.

Central Italy
CITTÀ DEL VATICANO
(VATICAN CITY)

Note. The monuments, museums, libraries etc. of the Vatican are not included in the lists for Rome, since the Papacy is a neutral power. They are, however, so intimately connected with Rome that they are given in a separate list below.

A. Mediaeval and Later Monuments & Buildings

- *** San Pietro in Vaticano (St. Peters):
Founded by Emperor Constantine, over grave of St. Peter. Present church designed by Michelangelo, with important variations by Maderna and Bernini. The largest, and the most famous Christian church. Beneath, Sacre Grotte Vaticane (Crypts) burial place of popes and the notabilities. Nearby, Museo Petriano, with antiquities and objects relating to St. Peters.
- *** Palazzo Vaticano (The Vatican).
Residence of the Pope, and centre of Papal Administration. Present buildings largely date from 15th Cent.; with 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th Century additions.
World famous are: Appartamento Borgia, decorated by Pinturicchio;
Stanze and Logge, decorated by Raphael and assistants;
Cappella di Niccolò V (chapel of Nicholas V) decorated by Fra Angelico;
Sistine Chapel, with frescoes by leading 15th Century painters; ceiling and Last Judgment by Michelangelo.

B. Museums and Picture Galleries. These include:

- ** 1) Museo Egiziano (Egyptian Museum)
- *** 2) Museo Pio-Clementino - Greek and Roman sculpture; mosaics etc.
- *** 3) Museo Chiaramonti - Greek and Roman sculpture
- *** 4) Museo Etrusco (Etruscan Museum)
- *** 5) Sala delle Nozze Aldobrandini (famous Roman painting)
- ** 6) Galleria del Candelabri, etc.
- 7) Picture Gallery - mediaeval, renaissance and baroque
- 8) Original tapestries woven from cartoons by Raphael