

= Palazzo Rusticucci @-@ Accoramboni =

The Palazzo Rusticucci @-@ Accoramboni ( also known as Palazzo Rusticucci or Palazzo Accoramboni ) is a reconstructed late Renaissance palace in Rome . Erected by the will of Cardinal Girolamo Rusticucci , it was designed by Domenico Fontana and Carlo Maderno joining together several buildings already existing . Due to that , the building was not considered a good example of architectureOriginally lying along the north side of the Borgo Nuovo street , after 1667 the building faced the north side of the large new square located west of the new Saint Peter 's Square , designed in those years by Gian Lorenzo Bernini . The square , named after the palace Piazza Rusticucci , was demolished in 1937 @-@ 40 because of the erection of the new Via della Conciliazione . In 1940 the palace was demolished and rebuilt with a different footprint along the north side of the new avenue , constructed between 1936 and 1950 , which links St Peter 's Basilica and the Vatican City to the center of Rome .

= = Location = =

The palace is located in the Borgo rione of Rome along the north side of Via della Conciliazione avenue , its main facade facing south . It belongs to the same block as the Palazzo dei Convertendi , another Renaissance building demolished in the late 1930s and reconstructed in the 1940s east of it . To the west Via Rusticucci separates it from the north Propylaea delimiting the square Piazza Pio XII ( which roughly occupies the same area as the old Piazza Rusticucci ) and facing Saint Peter 's Square . The north side of the building borders two other reconstructed Renaissance edifices of Borgo : the Palazzo Jacopo da Brescia and the house of the physician of Paul III .

= = History = =

= = = Renaissance and baroque = = =

Girolamo Rusticucci , secretary of Pope Pius V ( r . 1566 ? 72 ) , who in 1570 appointed him Cardinal of Santa Susanna , bought a palace lying almost at the end of the Via Alessandrina ( the road later named Borgo Nuovo ) in Borgo on 31 March 1572 . This building , once owned by Roberto Strozzi ( exponent of the banker family from Florence ) , had been sold in 1567 to Pope Pius V , who donated it immediately to his nephew Paolo Ghislieri . Ghislieri sold it to the Cardinal five years later with the accordance of the pope . In order to enlarge his building , Rusticucci also bought several nearby houses . Selling negotiation not always finished successfully : an old woman refused to sell her home , forcing the architect to engulf it in the enlarged palace . However , the woman and her heirs could live there until they sold it to the owner of the " Caffè San Pietro " , one of the oldest coffee shops in the city . The strong @-@ willed opposition of another owner forced the cardinal to renounce to extend the building to the east until Borgo Sant 'Angelo , although the works had already commenced . A powerful angular rustication erected at the corner between Borgo Sant 'Angelo and Borgo Nuovo testified until 1937 about the Rusticucci 's intention . Several years went by after the acquisition of Ghislieri 's palace , until in 1584 Rusticucci gave the task to design a larger palace to architect Domenico Fontana . After Fontana 's transferral to Naples who , after the death of Sixtus V ( r . 1585 ? 90 ) and the brief intermezzo of Innocent IX ( r . Oct.-Dec. 1591 ) , could not win the favor of Pope Clement VIII ( r . 1592 ? 1605 ) , the task was finished by his nephew Carlo Maderno . It is also worth noticing that in the early 16th century one of the houses which predated the palace hosted an osteria . In the late 1510s Raphael , at that time painting the Vatican loggias , often had lunch together with his aides in a rear room of that eatery . The artists often discussed work problems during lunch , sketching different solutions on the walls of the room . When the palace was built , the osteria remained in place , and the owners always took care of the walls of that room throughout the years .

Around 1630 the palace housed for a brief time the Collegio Nazareno , one of the oldest schools in

Rome , founded in those years by Joseph Calasanz , and presently in Via del Bufalo , in Trevi rione

After that , the Rusticucci 's heirs sold the building to Mario Accoramboni , member of a family of lesser nobility which had emigrated from the umbrian town of Gubbio to Rome . Exponents of the family acquired a high rank in the church and in the city : Ottavio was bishop of Fossombrone and Urbino , Roberto vicelegato at Ferrara , and during the epidemic of 1657 , the owner of the palace , Roberto Accoramboni , received the task ( personally given by Pope Alexander VII ) of defending Borgo from the plague . In 1667 , the erection of the Colonnades of St. Peter 's square by Gian Lorenzo Bernini made it necessary to demolish the last block of houses ( " isola " ) in front of the new square , situated between the roads of Borgo Vecchio and Borgo Nuovo : this block was named " isola del Priorato " , since one of its buildings hosted the Priory of the knights of Rhodes . The demolition created a large new square , which was delimited on the north side by Palazzo Rusticucci . This square , representing the vestibule of Saint Peter 's Square , took its name from the building . In 1775 in a shop at the ground floor was founded the " Caffè San Pietro " , one of the oldest Coffee Houses in Rome .

= = = Modern age = = =

On 4 March 1902 the palace became the seat of the Belgian Historical Institute , and after a short time was acquired by the Congregation of Propaganda Fide . In 1940 , because of the construction of the Via della Conciliazione , it was demolished and partially rebuilt in the same year with design by Clemente Busiri Vici , exponent of a Roman dynasty of architects .

Through the expropriation decrees , the commercial activities in the palace are known : in 1937 two shops were active along Piazza Rusticucci selling religious articles : moreover , the ground floor of the building hosted a tobacconist , a bakery , a pastry shop and a restaurant .

The bakery was originally the aforementioned osteria where Raphael had painted his sketches . Towards the mid 19th century a Papal Zouave was killed in that eatery , which was shut down by the authorities as a result . When the shop was reopened several years after the capture of Rome on 20 September 1870 , hosting first a pizzeria , then the aforementioned bakery , the rooms were renovated , and all the sketches were lost .

= = Description = =

The original building had a harmonious and unadorned prospect , known through Rome 's plan by Antonio Tempesta published in 1593 , published when the palace was just finished , with seventeen windows and three floors . The facade along Via Alessandrina resembles those of coeval buildings , like Palazzo Ruspoli , built in Via del Corso by Bartolomeo Ammannati . Resulting from the union of several small houses , the edifice was very long , especially after the addition of another wing at the west end , along Via del Mascherino , sixty years after the death of Rusticucci in 1603 . After this addition , the palace was unanimously described by the coeval city 's guides as " lacking grace " . Its main front had a monotonous and modest appearance : it was 83 @ 35 metres ( 273 @ 5 ft ) long , with three floors and a mezzanine , twenty @ two windows and a rusticated portal . Its area covered 2 @ 700 square metres ( 29 @ 000 sq ft ) . To the right of the entrance lay a rectangular yard with three orders , doric , ionic and corinthian . On the opposite side lay a smaller square yard , surrounded by a portico with serliana .

The reconstructed building is shorter , having only 13 windows along its façade , which shows exposed bricks . The two yards have been rebuilt , while the cornices of the windows and the portal come from the original edifice . The palace as of today ( 2016 ) still hosts the " Caffè San Pietro " , which has its seat here since its establishment .

A fountain erected in the palace 's yard has been moved to the garden lying between the church of S. Alessio and that of Santa Sabina on the Aventine Hill .