

EABH Financial and Monetary History Summer School Madrid, July 8th to 11th 2014. Session in Banco de España

The third session of the EABH Summer School 2014, was held in Madrid, in Banco de España headquarter, in Alcalá Street, 48.

The participants had their classes in one of the most beautiful yards belonging to the first phase of the building construction, designed in the end of the XIX Century by the architect Eduardo de Adaro and decorated with rich plaster sculpture.

Melanie Aspey, from de Rothschild Archive, talked in the first place with the conference "Thinking about archives: sources and strategies". Her conference was very interesting for young participant because she talked about how the researches and the archivist must interact in order to specify in the best possible way what the Archives keep and what the researchers can find.

The attendees had the opportunity to visit one of the most beautiful buildings of the Spanish architecture of the end of the XIX century, and enjoy the works of art commissioned or purchased by the Bank during more than 230 years of history: tables, lamps, rugs, paintings... They could see the imperial stairs with the beautiful stained glasses made by the Mayer Company, from Germany, the old Shareholder Room, the Board Room where the Board meets and makes decisions, the portraits of several Kings and Governors whose role in the history of the Bank was decisive. Besides, they could see the five Director's portraits painted by Francisco de Goya between 1784 and 1788, and other three interesting painting made by Goya too: Carlos III, Conde de Floridablanca –State Minister- and Miguel Múzquiz y Goyeneche –Financial Minister.

Next, they had lunch in the Bank dining room, and they were joined by the boss of the Division of Transparency and Corporative Record Management, the boss of the Archive and the archivists who work in the Historical Archive. It was a nice lunch and we could exchange points of view and opinions about many subjects, specially the important role of the Banking Historical Archives, such as the Bank of Spain one, in the historian works and the importance of the relationship between researchers and archivists.