

Filibert established his court there, and during his reign it gradually grew, until by 1580 it numbered perhaps 120 persons, far more than under the Savoyard princes in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. Under his successors it would grow bigger still. The function of the court was threefold: it served as the duke's residence, as a ceremonial center where he enacted the rituals of state, and as the headquarters of his government. His ministers were also leading members of the court; the duke deliberated with them there, and there he received foreign ambassadors and dignitaries. The residential departments of the court catering to the duke's personal needs – the household, the bedchamber, and the stables –

Map 3.

Turin in 1572.

