

Archive Fever 2

Date : August 2, 2008

Building Material and Virtual Archives: Collections in the Making

One-day symposium organised by the Constance Howard Resource and Research Centre in Textiles, Goldsmiths, University of London, UK

The term archive “a collection of documents such as letters, official papers, photographs, or recorded material, kept for their historical interest” is derived from the Greek word for town hall. In Archive Fever Derrida argues that even though archives are a depository of civic record and public social history, they are stocked with personal, intimate traces of private lives But how does a collection start in the first place?

The symposium is interested in addressing the following questions:

- > What are the tensions between public and private and the innate human inclination to collect?
- > What and how do we collect things and why?
- > Do we create fictional archives?
- > Can a collection or an archive ever be fully completed?
- > What is the role of collaborative partnerships in the collecting and archiving process?
- > Are there issues around knowledge transfer between what we collect, how knowledge of the collection and what happens when it is transferred to an archive?

For registration and details> <http://www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/constance-howard/events-news/archivefever.php>