

“Speaking Materials” – a conference to be held on the occasion of the European research network *Archives of European Archaeology* (AREA) meeting at Freiburg University – will be devoted to the concept and nature of the historical source. Archaeologists doing research into the history of archaeology have to employ historical methods and are indeed working as interdisciplinary historians, rather than as archaeologists.

Excavating and collecting, as well as reading, writing and drawing have been recognized as scientific practices. They contributed to the establishment of collections (which may have survived in their original state), and also produced a variety of written, printed and pictorial sources that make it possible to draw conclusions concerning the history of archaeology. Such sources, whether they date from the 20th or the 15th century, can be very elusive, and locating and investigating them requires specific skills. Moreover, precise questions have to be formulated before analyzing this kind of historical evidence.

The conference will additionally focus on the use of primary sources in the history of archaeology, addressing problems which come up when working with them: What textual or material evidence has survived (including excavated artefacts from historical collections and photographs)? In which social and cultural contexts was it created? What was the process of transmission and the history of its provenance? Can access to the sources be made easier by providing full texts and digital images?

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Culture 2000



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Figure overleaf: Iron Age ceramic vessel, excavated in 1733 in See near Görlitz, Lusatia. It became labeled and came into the possession of the mayor of the city of Görlitz, Johann Wilhelm Gehler, in 1742 (Courtesy of Landesamt für Archäologie Sachsen, Dresden. Photo: J. Lipták).

Friday 27 July 2007

14:00 Coffee

14:30 Opening

Sebastian Brather / Christoph Huth (Institut für Ur- und Frühgeschichte und Archäologie des Mittelalters, Universität Freiburg D)

15:00 Sources for the history of archaeology

Dietrich Hakelberg (Institut für Ur- und Frühgeschichte und Archäologie des Mittelalters, Universität Freiburg D)

The scope of the present conference ranges from early modern antiquaries to modern archaeologists. It focuses on the textual, pictorial, material and even oral evidence of the scientific activities that scholars, while researching into the material relics of the past, have left behind in the historical record. The introductory paper attempts to feature the concept and special nature of the sources in the history of archaeology but also tries to put them in their respective historical contexts. It will be argued that any research in the history of archaeology cannot get close enough to the primary sources. One aim is to demonstrate why any historical evidence produced in the course of archaeological research is as much a part of our cultural heritage as the archaeological objects themselves.

TEXTS AND IMAGES

Chair: Marc-Antoine Kaeser, Institut d'histoire, Université de Neuchâtel CH

15:30 Storing histories: formation and use of archaeological archives in Sweden

Åsa Gillberg / Ola Jensen (Institutionen för arkeologi och antikens kultur, University of Göteborg S)

The aim of our paper is to discuss archive material as sources for the history of archaeology. Archive formation, selection, ordering and re-ordering is discussed using Swedish archives in general and the Antiquarian Topographical Archive, at the National Heritage Board in Stockholm, in particular. We argue that a thorough knowledge of the archive formation will make different interpretations of the material possible. If the history of Swedish archaeology was to be based on archive material alone, it would be a new and "revolutionary" narrative.

16:00 Coffee

16:30 Photograph collections as source of archaeological knowledge

Sudeshna Guha (South Asian History at the Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Cambridge UK)

Recognising photographs as material beings that are socially salient allows us to explore a variety of ways in which archaeological knowledge is created, consumed and nurtured. By shifting our focus beyond the image

content, i.e. the indexical, to the substance that is a photograph, we find ourselves attributing vastly different meanings to the inscriptive image, and begin to understand why accumulative histories of photographic objects are crucial for knowledge formation. We perceive shifts within observational rhetoric and institutional paradigms, as well as the immanent materiality of vision when we conceptually open 'archaeological' photographic collections. For, such collections alert us to the ways in which the circulation and consumption of photographs as objects of reference frequently blur and conflate the canonical categories they are meant to establish and represent. This paper, which draws from my curation of photographic collections at the Victoria and Albert Museum and the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (Cambridge), will focus on the ways in which both photographs and their archiving into discrete collections have structured disciplinary epistemologies on the archaeological, and of the negotiations involved in what has often been valued as immutable unearthed evidence of the past.

17:00 Media and the function of images in the history of archaeology
Stefanie Klamm (Max Planck Institut for the History of Science, Berlin D)

In the mid-nineteenth century when classical archaeology began to emerge as an academic institution, also the new photographic technology became a practicable means for the representation of scientific objects. However, other instruments of replication and reproduction were both proven and available at the same time; drawings, prints and plaster casts were used until the 20th century. Obviously, the choice of and preference for certain illustrative techniques did not only depend on the status of the technical development but had specific epistemological reasons.

The paper is part of a research project that analyses the direct and indirect consequences of this 'rivalry' of media for the formation of knowledge in the archaeological discipline. As a case study I will present material from one of the biggest excavations in nineteenth century Germany: From 1875 to 1881 German archaeologists dug at the ancient site of Olympia in Greece.

The paper focuses on different forms of visual material, in combination with texts, which remained from this excavation. In order to get a more precise idea of the practice of excavating, the study will not only take the published results into account but will also examine archival sources which are mainly housed in the archive of the Museum of Antiquities in Berlin. The material ranges from sketches in notebooks, diaries and official reports to actual drawings, photographs and master copies preserved. The process of transforming objects into images is of particular interest. In my paper I thus intend to trace the relationship between drawing and photography and changes of this relationship during the different stages of the archaeological working-process, from the digging to the printed publication.

17:30 Break

18:15 Ruins between memory and oblivion

Alain Schnapp (Université de Paris I Panthéon – Sorbonne, Paris F)

We tend to regard the past as a broad landscape that embraces the region in which our Western understanding of history has spread the most. Even if a famous book by Momigliano has directed our attention to the “alien wisdom”, we pay little attention to the antiquarians who are concerned with non-European regions and we seldom seriously ask about the differing practices of antiquarian views in various societies. To find an answer to this question, we first have to ask what the antiquarian viewpoint is. In his persuasive definition, Momigliano contrasts the historian and the antiquarian. Both are involved in gathering information and both try to understand the distant past, but their curiosity differs in kind. For, he says, the historian investigates history in its problematic and adheres thereby to chronology. The antiquarian, by contrast, is interested in every kind of trace, provided it comes from old times: their form, their typology, the technique of their production are fascinating problems that arouse the curiosity of the antiquarian. Paul Petau, a 17th-century precursor of the antiquarian thirst for knowledge, underscores proudly: “nihil peto sine antiqua, I strive only for the ancient”. If I turn to the material side of this striving for knowledge of the past, i.e., to the objects and monuments, then I am quite aware that the concept of the monument has a different meaning in each different culture and that with my question I necessarily place the cultures that possess a form of writing in the foreground. But it seems to me that my ideas, which follow, fulfill the demands of a comparative viewpoint when I try to discover how the various traditions in the Orient and Occident, each in its own way, assign a special place to the dialog and rivalry between text and monument. It remains to define what is meant by Western tradition: the inhabitants of Egypt and Mesopotamia made a tremendous contribution to the practice of preserving memory, toward which the Greeks, the Romans, and the precursors of the Renaissance could orient themselves. If we posit that the Western study of antiquity, which preceded archaeology in today's sense of the term, is one endpoint on a long scale of researching the past and that the tradition of the Chinese is the other end of the scale, then this leaves much space to classify the means the ancient Egyptians and Mesopotamians and many others used to discover the past.

Saturday 28 July 2007

PERSONS AND LIVES

Chair: Alexandra Alexandri, Greek Ministry of Culture, Athens GR

9:30 On some sources for Martin Opitz' lost “Dacia Antiqua”

Harald Bollbuck (Herzog August Bibliothek, Wolfenbüttel D)

In 1622, the German poet Martin Opitz (1597-1639) went to Transsylvania for having been appointed a teacher at the newly founded academy in Alba Julia. Being a good humanist, he observed and discovered Roman

antiquities while he was walking along the countryside. He collected some 60 inscriptions and made copies, which are now stored in the library of Leiden University and the BNF in Paris. For Opitz, it was the starting point of his later scholar's career. Back in Silesia, he told his friends of his new profession: composing a comprehensive "Dacia Antiqua" which should deal with the history from antiquity up to the present time. His correspondence is full of questions about the conditions of writing down ancient history of a country, which literal tradition is based only on small groundings. Therefore, he implied, one needs to use more material traditions. Unfortunately, there is no trace of his "Dacia Antiqua" left.

The lecture will reconstruct Opitz's work for this "Dacia Antiqua" as far as it is possible, focusing on his inscriptions's copies, on remarks about this subject in the correspondence, and on evidence of his antiquarian activities in other works. It will analyse the antiquarian's practices and the functions of dealing with antiquity in this time, just as well as the interpretations of Opitz's scholarly activities made by previous German studies of literature.

10:00 Creating the "archive" of a precursor: The case of Juan Vilanova y Piera

Oscar Moro Abadía (Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. Johns CAN)

The word "archive" has been traditionally used to define both the physical place in which historical documents are kept, catalogued and studied and the set of documents and records relating to the activity of a person, organization, association, community or nation. In both cases, the idea of "archive" has been linked to the physical space where historians study and examine archived objects. In this paper I discuss the concept of "archive" with reference to the case of Spanish geologist Juan de Vilanova, one of the first scientists to accept the authenticity of the Altamira paintings. Given that there is no sole location devoted to the compilation of Vilanova's works, I seek to "create" his archive to explore his life and works. In this paper I suggest ways in which an archive can be "created" beyond the narrow idea of a physical space.

10:30 Coffee

11:00 Biography and the writing of the history of science: the management of personal archives

Marc-Antoine Kaeser (Institut d'histoire, Université de Neuchâtel CH)

Considering the present trend of biographical studies, and their academic recognition within the discipline of history, it may be useful to reflect about their specific role in the writing of the history of science — and especially, for the history of archaeology.

In this respect, we ought to consider the peculiarities of private archives, in their thematic contents as well as in their material shape. Obviously, such archival materials do not allow any type of inquiry. In our views (and although this might seem paradoxical at a first glance), they are particularly suited for stressing the relationships of all kinds (social,

political, intellectual, epistemological, etc.) within the construction of archaeological knowledge.

From this point of view, beyond common historical source-criticism, our contribution will discuss some methodological precautions which appear to be necessary — while stressing that the constitutive diversity of private archives forms an indisputable asset in this process.

11:30 Oral history and the history of archaeology

Martijn Eickhoff (Faculteit der Letteren, Afdeling Geschiedenis, Radboud Universiteit, Nijmegen NL)

In present society, many aspects of personal memory are considered to be 'heritage' and, as such, they are collected in oral history projects. However, within the history of archaeology these projects are still exceptional. There have been some initiatives - often motivated with the 'now or never'-phrase - but a central body of theoretical or research questions has not been developed yet.

In the Netherlands the first oral history project related to archaeological practice was started in the early 1970s, in preparation of the 25th anniversary of the *Rijksdienst voor het Oudheidkundig Bodemonderzoek* (ROB). The prehistorian Herbert Sarfatij interviewed archaeologists and civil servants who had been involved in the establishment of this archaeological state department. In this paper the Sarfatij-tapes will be analysed and compared with the interviews done by the speaker in the mid 1990s as part of his dissertation on Dutch archaeology and national socialism. By discussing issues such as collective memory, competing stories, and the diverting interests attached to historiography the importance of oral history for the history of archaeology is reconsidered.

12:00 Oral-historical evidence in historical reconstruction of archaeological lives

Pamela J. Smith (Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge UK)

According to the pre-eminent historian, Quentin Skinner, historical analysis should recover intention, reconstruct convention and restore context. Used properly, oral-historical evidence greatly enhances our ability to do this. With oral material, we can re-create past motivations and social attitudes. Oral recordings capture the tone, volume, silence, emotion and personal meaning of old events. Material collected through interviews adds colour and depth to the stories we tell. No more elegant tool exists.

Methodologies for using oral evidence will be briefly discussed. Two cases studies will then be described. I first detail my work on the development of the British academic archaeology during the 1920s and 1930s. At that time, the typewriter was hardly regarded as the proper mode of communication between gentlemen. I listened to numberless people discussing their archaeological lives before noticing how important tea was. My research on tea-rooms and the history of archaeological thought will be briefly presented.

The oral-historical panels which I have established at the University of Cambridge will then be used as a second case study. A DVD of last year's

panel of discussants will be available and will be analysed. Those panelists remembered the 1960s and the beginnings of processualism in archaeology. Conclusions as to the importance of oral and visual sources will then be offered.

12:30 Lunch

THINGS AND COLLECTIONS

Chair: Nathan Schlanger, Institut national de recherches archéologiques preventives INRAP, Paris F

14:00 Coffee

14:30 Sources for the history of archaeological collecting during the 19th century in Germany

Frauke Kreienbrink (Historisches Seminar, Professur für Ur- und Frühgeschichte, Universität Leipzig D)

Collections of excavated objects were already an essential element of antiquarian and archaeological practice before archaeology became institutionalised as a science. However, except for some rare examples, the collections themselves did not survive untouched until today. Even if several artefacts of a collection are still existent, they have normally been taken out of their original context and instead became integrated into a new museum concept. Antiquarians and archaeologists brought not only together the collections themselves, but also produced a variety of written documents and images about these collections and the objects that they contained. These sources are indispensable for reconstructing the original composition, concept and development of a collection and can shed light on various problems in the history of collecting. The chances for the collections themselves being preserved and the preservation of the associated documentary record can be very different. On the basis of some examples from 19th-century Southwest Germany this paper presents some of the problems and processes in the transmission of archaeological private collections and their documentation on the one hand and of institutionalised and state collections on the other.

15:00 Three-dimensional archives, the Augier models of the Musée Borély (Marseille, France)

Béatrice Vigié / Noël Coye (Institut National du Patrimoine, Galerie Colbert, Paris F)

During the last third of the 19th Century, a man called Hippolyte Augier made a series of 79 scale models of archaeological sites and monuments. Augier worked in the Musée Borély in Marseilles, that was funded in 1863 (i.e. one year after the French Museum of National Antiquities in Saint-Germain-en-Laye) as the Museum of Mediterranean Archaeology. This collection shows us sites and monuments from prehistoric times to the 16th Century and from the South of France and the whole Mediterranean area (Italy, Greece, Egypt, Lybia ...). The Borély Museum preserves several of

these models, but also photographs, archaeological artefacts, and a few hand-written and typed archives related to them.

Our paper will deal with the cultural context of the creation of these models (in relation with the concept of Mediterranean archaeology), the process of their transmission and the part they can take in the study of history of archaeology.

15:30 Final discussion and concluding remarks