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Trends in Archive Archaeology. Current Research on Archival Material from Fieldwork and its Implications for Archaeological Practice

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Commentaire : Summary Archive archaeology has, in recent years, become increasingly acknowledged as an important component of archaeological research. However, the vast amounts of empirical data contained in such archives - among them fieldwork diaries, working notebooks, finds sheets, and photographs - together with a sense that the field is often skewed towards 'one's own data', have made it difficult to develop a clear methodological approach that fits all eventualities. The result is that archive archaeology is still not always recognized for what it can bring to the discipline of archaeology, as a field of study that focuses on the contexts within which humanity developed. This volume draws together contributions from scholars who work with archives in a variety of capacities: as fieldwork directors of decades-long excavations; as archivists interested in the history of collections; as specialists focusing on certain object groups or regions; and as researchers broadly interested in what archival material brings to the table in terms of new knowledge about archaeological situations. In showcasing contributions of work in progress, the chapters published here bring to the fore knowledge about archives that has long been overlooked, and examine how archival archaeology should be shaped in the future so that it can become more firmly integrated within archaeological practice.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Trends in Archive Archaeology: An Introduction
Jon M. Frey and Rubina Raja

What's In a Name? The Role of Digital Gazetteers for Post-Colonial Legacy Archaeology
Anne Hunnell Chen

Digitization as Interpretation: Cautions for Archival Archaeology from Artifact Photography
Elizabeth Knott

Archives and Curatorial Work at the Davis Museum
Nicole Berlin

Photocorinthia: The Contingency of Archaeological Photography in the Corinth Excavation Archives
Peter Anthony Thompson

Archive Archaeology and Critical Disciplinary Histories: A Case Study on the Origins of the University of Cincinnati Expedition to the Troad (1932-1938)
Jacob M. Engstrom

Old Digs, Unfinished Business, Digitization, and New Data. The Committee for the Investigation of Antioch-on-the-Orontes (CIAO)
Andrea De Giorgi, Stephen Batiuk, A. Asa Eger, Julia Gearhart, Kirstin Ohrt, and Alan Stahl

The Archival Archaeology of Archaeologists: The West Cemetery at Isthmia, 1967-1990
Ulrike Krotscheck and Jon M. Frey

Futures for Archive Archaeology: Struggles, Successes, and Methodologies
Emilia Oddo

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