



# Do Archives Have Value?

Michael Moss, David Thomas

List price £69.95

Product Details

Format: Paperback

ISBN: 9781783303328

Published: 1st Aug 2019

Publisher: Facet Publishing

Dimensions: 234mm x 156mmmm

## Description

This book will explore ways of establishing value and measuring in the archives and specials collections.

There is a vast literature about ways of measuring value for cultural heritage assets as a whole, particularly museums and visitor attractions, but archives and special collections in libraries have largely been overlooked. They have been very poor at garnering statistical data and devising ways of measuring the impact of what they do, unlike museums and visitor attractions with their much heavier footfall.

*Do Archives Have Value?* discusses the various valuation methods available, including contingent valuation, willingness to pay and value chain, and assesses their suitability for use by archives and special collections. The book also assesses the impact of the transition to the digital in archival holdings, which will transform their character and will almost certainly cost more. The discussion will be set in the context of changing societal expectations of the archive in the wake of numerous scandals where records to address grievances must be kept irrespective of cost.

Value is explored in a range of different cultural and organizational contexts with case studies from a range of countries, including Australia, China, Japan, Malawi, Kenya, Russia and Thailand. There are contributions from Nancy Bell, Head of Conservation at The National Archives, Louise Craven, one of the leading UK archival scholars, Paul Lihoma, National Archivist of Malawi, Helen Morgan from the University of Melbourne, Pak Te Lee of the University of Hong Kong and Richard Wato from the National Archives of Kenya.

## Contents

### Contents

#### About the contributors

#### Introduction

*David Thomas and Michael Moss*

1 Valuing oral and written texts in Malawi

*Paul Lihoma*

2 Building an evidenced based culture for documentary heritage collections

*Nancy Bell, Michael Moss and David Thomas*

3 Value in fragments: an Australian perspective on re-contextualisation

*Helen Morgan, Cate O'Neill, Nikki Henningham, Gavan McCarthy and Annelie De Villiers*

4 Trusting the records: the Hillsborough football disaster 1989 and the work of the Independent Panel 2010–12

*Sarah Tyacke*

5 Sharing history: coupling the archives and history compilation in Japan

*Sachiko Morimoto*

6 Memories of the future: archives in India

*Swapan Chakravorty*

7 Business archives in Hong Kong: an overview

*Pui-Tak Lee*

8 The search for Ithaca? The value of personal memory in the archive of the digital age

*Louise Craven*

9 The commercialisation of archives: the impact of online family history sites in the UK

*David Thomas and Michael Moss*

10 A search for truthiness: archival research in a post-truth world

*Daniel German*

Index

#### Author

**Michael Moss** is Professor of Archival Science at the University of Northumbria. Previously, he was research professor in archival studies in the Humanities Advanced Technology and Information Institute at the University of Glasgow, where he directed the Information Management and Preservation MSc programme. He is a non-executive director of the National Records of Scotland and until 2014 a member of the Lord Chancellor's Advisory Council on National Archives and Records. In 2015 he was Miegunyah distinguished fellow at the University of Melbourne.

**David Thomas** is a Visiting Professor at the University of Northumbria. Previously, he worked at the National Archives where he was Director of Technology and was responsible for digital preservation and for providing access to digital material.