

3. G Rolan, 'Agency in the archive: a model for participatory recordkeeping' *Archival Science*, 2016, pp. 1–31.
4. T Nesmith, 'Reopening Archives: Bringing New Contextualities into Archival Theory and Practice,' *Archivaria*, vol. 60, Fall 2005, pp. 259–74.

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Research in the Archival Multiverse, edited by Anne J Gilliland, Sue McKemmish and Andrew J Lau, Monash University Publishing, Clayton, Victoria, 2017, 1064 pp., AUD\$/USD\$99.95 (paperback), ISBN 978 1 876924 67 6 ISBN (e-book) 978 1 876924 70 6

Research in archival science has grown, matured and diversified as demonstrated in this book, which has been inspired in part by the annual Archival Education and Research Institutes (AERI). This book reflects the diversity and the appetite for a rigorous approach to exploring and evaluating an ever-widening range of research methods applicable in archival research that have been nurtured through AERI.

The 'archival multiverse' is defined in part one as 'the pluralism of evidentiary texts, memory-keeping practices and institutions, bureaucratic and personal motivations, community perspectives and needs, and cultural and legal constructs with which archival professionals and academics must be prepared, through graduate education, to engage'.¹ Looking for other uses of the term 'multiverse' I found Andrei Linde's definition from astronomy and physics – 'the entire ensemble of innumerable regions of disconnected space-time'² appropriate to the challenges facing research and publication in archival science. These undertakings are inevitably limited by the language, culture and legislative frameworks in which researchers are situated, their own awareness of and ability to address these limitations, and the vehicles available to them for publishing. However, in chapter six, Frank Upward traces the concept to a coining by the American philosopher William James in 1895 and thence forward through science and philosophy, finally drawing on the idea of eddies in spacetime as a metaphor for exploring the influences, connections and divergences affecting northern and southern archival practice and theorising.

Part two, 'Archival Intellectual Context and Theoretical Frameworks', traces the development of ideas and methods from European, Chinese, North American and Australian perspectives, as well as exploring aspects of memory research, race, sexuality, colonial archives and the silences within them, the materiality of records in networked communication, and the archival turn.

In part three, each chapter provides an overview of the application of research methods in a particular area of interest. These include the use of modelling as a tool for conceptualising research problems, theory building, testing and validating concepts; exploring the diversity of methodological approaches to researching use of archival mediation systems and information retrieval approaches; and analysing archival concepts using speech act theory and much more.

Part four, 'Research Case Studies', is the most innovative. Here, authors go beyond a straightforward account of their research project to reflect upon and write about the development and implementation of their research design and methods, giving an account of their choice of research tools and their research processes. Just a few examples include Leisa Gibbons's employment of continuum theory to develop a Research Design Model, then using the model to plan and capture the research process, as well as developing a five-dimensional mediated 'Recordkeeping: Culture-as-Evidence' continuum model as a result of her research. Karen Gracy's use of ethnographic fieldwork and grounded theory research tools foregrounds a sociocultural perspective, recognising archival work as inherently subjective. Sarah Ramdeen and Alex Poole also use grounded theory and, together with Jenny Bunn's chapter in part two, provide multiple insights into this popular and yet much-contested approach to research. Kirsten Thorpe's research design is community centred, wherein research is conducted *with* the community rather than *about* the community. Kimberly Anderson explores the possibilities of extending bibliometric research to trace the development of ideas.

This book is a landmark publication on research in archival science, tracing the development of ideas in the discipline in part one, then exploring possibilities and pathways in the following chapters. It is essential reading on the evolution and progression of the discipline, particularly for every Masters and PhD student in archival science, whether looking for a deeper understanding of archival theory or inspiration on research design and process. It will be invaluable to all archival educators, but particularly to supervisors of research students.

It has been impossible to do justice to all contributors in the short space of this review. If the publisher added a contents page to the blurb on their website it would certainly help to sell the book, given the wide range of topics and the interest prompted by the chapter titles. It is also a pity the book lacks an index, which would make the many threads interwoven across the chapters much easier to follow and connect. It is still excellent value for money, priced at a bit less than 10 cents a page.

Endnotes

1. Archival Education and Research Institute (AERI) Pluralizing the Archival Curriculum Group (PACG), 'Educating for the Archival Multiverse', *American Archivist*, Spring–Summer 2011, p. 73, quoted in A Gilliland, 'Archival and Recordkeeping Traditions in the Multiverse and their Importance for Researching Situations and Situating Research', in Anne J Gilliland, Sue McKemmish and Andrew J Lau (eds), *Research in the Archival Multiverse*, Monash University Publishing, Clayton, Victoria, 2017, p. 50.
2. For a summary of hypotheses and debate about multiple universes in physics and cosmology, see RL Kuhn, 'Confronting the Multiverse: What "Infinite Universes" Would Mean', available at <<http://www.space.com/31465-is-our-universe-just-one-of-many-in-a-multiverse.html>>, accessed 9 May 2017.

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Linked Data for Cultural Heritage (an ALCTS Monograph) is a UK reprint of an Association of Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) publication. The volume aims to serve as