



CONFLICT TEXTILES AS LIVE AND ARCHIVAL LANGUAGE

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Definitions of Records through Time



1898

“**Written** documents, drawings, and printed matter, officially received by an **administrative body** or one of its **officials.**”

1977

“Despite the recent development of oral history, **the written word still dominates, and this tends to emphasize the top layers, the most literate elements in the population.**”

2005

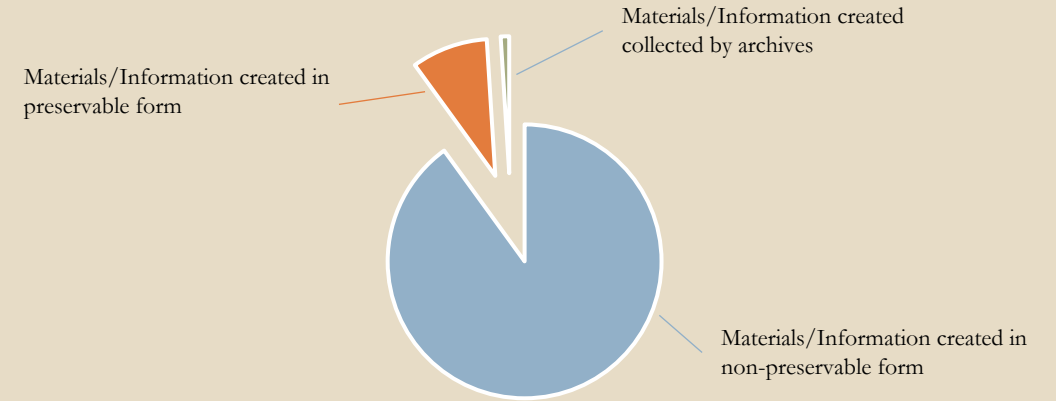
“The meanings behind the use of the terms record, archive and archives are **as many and varied as the discourses in which they appear**”

2007

“**A persistent representation of activities created by participants or observers of those activities, or by their authorized proxies.**”

Archival Silences

- Sliver of a Sliver – Verne Harris (2002)
- Tacit Narratives of Power and Knowledge – Eric Ketelaar (2001)
 - These silences aren't an accidental occurrence within a neutral system, but rather an active byproduct of the privileging of different ways of knowing and recording with in the archive.
- The acknowledgement of textiles as a form of memory keeping and evidence pushes back on these silences and highlights the legitimacy of forms of record creation that question the “norm”



*References available in the appendix.





September 11,
1973

Arpillera

Creator: Norma Torres

1990

Photograph by: Martin
Melaugh

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APPENDIX

Timeline References

“An archival collection is the whole of the written documents, drawings, and printed matter, officially received by an administrative body or one of its officials.”

-S. Muller, J.A. Feith, R. Fruin *Manual for the Arrangement and Description of Archives: Drawn up by Direction of the Netherlands Association of Archivists /*, Translation of the 2nd ed. (Chicago, IL :, c2003.): 13.

“Despite the recent development of oral history, **the written word still dominates, and this tends to emphasize the top layers, the most literate elements in the population.**”

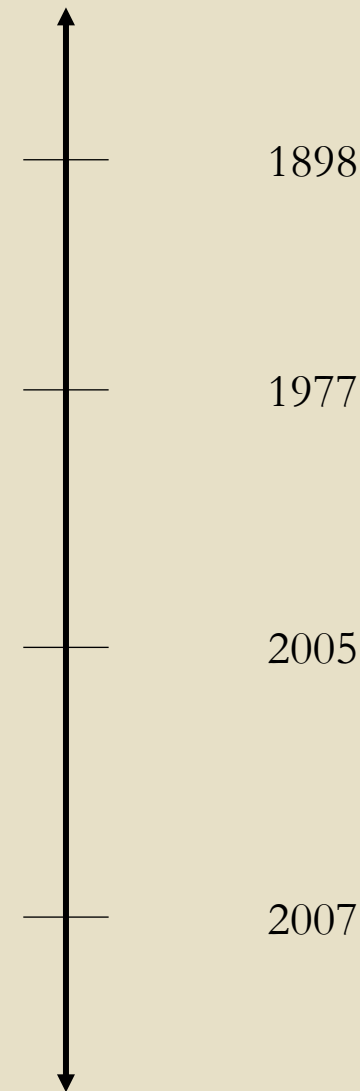
Zinn, Howard, “Secrecy, Archives, and the Public Interest.” *The Midwestern Archivist* 2, no.2 (1977): 21.

“**The meanings behind the use of the terms record, archive and archives are as many and varied as the discourses in which they appear** – from the very broadest sense of the word archive encompassing oral and written records, literature, landscape, dance, art, the built environment, and artefacts to the more precise and applied meanings used by record keeping professional communities.”

-Sue McKemmish, “Traces: Document, Record, Archive, Archives,” in *Archives: Recordkeeping in Society* (Wagga Wagga, N.S.W.: Centre for Information Studies, Charles Sturt University, 2005): 3.

“**A persistent representation of activities created by participants or observers of those activities, or by their authorized proxies.**”

-Geoffrey Yeo, “Concepts of Record (1): Evidence, Information, and Persistent Representations,” *The American Archivist* 70, no. 2 (2007): 337.



Archival Silences References

- Harris, Verne. "The Archival Sliver: Power, Memory, and Archives in South Africa." *Archives & Museum Informatics* 2, no. 1-2 (2002): 63-86.
- Ketelaar, Eric. "Tacit Narratives: The Meanings of Archives." *Archives & Museum Informatics* 1, no. 2 (2001): 131-41.