ARCHIVING PRACTICE

Terra Fluxus
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Paper-based archives

- Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation Archives
  - 1 million original items
    - drawings, correspondence, manuscripts, photography, time-based media, models
  - 40 thousand surrogate items to date
    - analog-to-digital content
Imperial Hotel, Tokyo c. 1922
(demolished 1968)
Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY. 1943-56; 1959
Crescent Opera Civic Auditorium
Garden of Eden, Plan for Greater Baghdad (Project)
Baghdad, Iraq. 1957
Hybrid archives

- Frederic Schwartz Architects | THINK Team

- Analog materials:
  - drawings, manuscripts, publications, correspondence, photography

- Digital files:
  - drawings, manuscripts, publications, correspondence, photography
Digital archives

- The Living: David Benjamin, architect
Digital content: creation & capture
Four Frames
Four frames conceptual model

- Symbolic (temples): meaning
- HR (families): relationships
- Structural (factories): technology
- Political (jungles): alliances
Symbolic: value & meaning

- What survives the current moment?
- What is the evidence of design practice?
- Should the merely PERSISTENT survive rather than an intentionally PERMANENT record?
- How does our capacity limit our commitment to permanence?
HR: collecting with intention

- Historical framework
  - Maintaining continuity with the past

- What should be archived?
  - Selective but complete projects
  - Watershed moments
  - Intentional objects
  - Iterative files revealing process

- Role of the architect -- Role of the archivist
  - Informing ‘the record’
Structural: technological concerns

- Technology
  - Non-standard technical platforms
  - Design imperative > disrupt and innovate!

- Scale & Scope
  - File size, file types

- Context
  - Native file systems
  - Archival arrangement as ‘mind map’
  - Metadata constructs

- Duration
  - Capacity to store & retrieve
Political: communities of practice

- Setting standards
- Rights & Risks
  - Cultural relevance today means sharing
  - If we see it can we use it?
- Access & Use:
  - Represent
  - Reference
  - Replicate
  - Revise (iterate)