

# **Photo Archives VI: The Place of Photography**

**APRIL 20-21, 2017**

Department of History of Art, University of Oxford

**Conference Venue: Christ Church, Oxford**

This conference investigates photographs and photographic archives in relation to notions of place. In this context, place is used to explore both the physical location of a photograph or archive, as well as the place of photography as a discursive practice with regard to its value or significance as a method of viewing and conceiving the world. Photographs are mobile objects that can change their location over time, transported to diverse commercial, artistic, social, academic and scientific locations. The photograph's physical location thus has an impact upon its value, function and significance; these topics are explored at the conference through a range of archives and across disciplines. How might the mobility of photographs open up thinking about archives and, in turn, classificatory structures in disciplines such as Art History, Archaeology and Anthropology, or in the Sciences? The conference also addresses questions of digital space, which renders the image more readily accessible, but complicates issues relating to location. What is the place, or value, of the photographic archive in the digital age?

The conference features internationally-renowned speakers, with a keynote lecture by Geoffrey Batchen and a final discussion led by Elizabeth Edwards. Site visits to Oxford's outstanding photographic collections are also planned, including to the Bodleian Library's Talbot Archive, the Pitt Rivers Museum, the Museum of the History of Science, the Griffith Institute's archives of archaeological expeditions, the Middle East Centre Archive, Christ Church Library, and the History of Art Department's Visual Resources Centre.

The conference is convened by Geraldine Johnson (University of Oxford), Deborah Schultz (Regent's University London), and Costanza Caraffa (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz—Max-Planck-Institut). It is sponsored by the Kress Foundation, the John Fell Fund and History Faculty's Sanderson Fund at the University of Oxford, and Christ Church, Oxford. It is the sixth conference in the *Photo Archives* series.

**[www.hoa.ox.ac.uk/events/photo](http://www.hoa.ox.ac.uk/events/photo)    email: [photo.conference@hoa.ox.ac.uk](mailto:photo.conference@hoa.ox.ac.uk)**

## **CONFERENCE PROGRAMME**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2017**

9:00-9:20: REGISTRATION IN CHRIST CHURCH (BLUE BOAR LECTURE THEATRE)

9:20-9:45: **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

Geraldine Johnson (University of Oxford) and Deborah Schultz (Regent's University London)

9:45-11:15: **SESSION I: ARCHIVAL PROCESSES**

Chair: Costanza Caraffa (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz—Max-Planck-Institut)

**Joan M. Schwartz** (Queen's University, Ontario)

*Photographs and Archives: of place, as place, in place*

**Frederick N. Bohrer** (Hood College)

*Transports of Vision: Frederic Edwin Church's Photographic Collection of the Mediterranean and Middle East*

**Katarína Mašterová** (Institute of Art History, The Czech Academy of Sciences)

*The Archive in Transition: Reframing Josef Sudek's Photographic Reproductions of Art*

11:15-11:45: TEA/COFFEE BREAK

11:45-1:15: **SESSION II: FROM ARCHIVES TO ALBUMS**

Chair: Deborah Schultz (Regent's University London)

**Christopher Morton** (University of Oxford)

*The Relational Album: Photographic Networks, Anthropology, and the Learned Society*

**Christina Riggs** (University of East Anglia)

*Sticking points: Photographic albums and the forgetful archives of Egyptian archaeology*

**Shireen Walton** (University College London)

*Out of place, in cyberspace: Living digital archives in contemporary pasts*

1:15-2:00: LUNCH IN CHRIST CHURCH (THE HALL)

2:15-3:15: **SITE VISIT 1** (see below for details)

4:00-5:30: **SESSION III: DISCIPLINARY STRUCTURES**

Chair: Martin Kemp (University of Oxford)

**Luke Gartlan** (University of St Andrews)

*Vision in Doubt: Arctic Photography, Victorian Geology, and its Anglo-American Debates*

**Chitra Ramalingam** (Yale University)

*The laboratory as photo archive*

**Kelley Wilder** (De Montfort University)

*Photography as Protocol*

5:30-6:15: DRINKS RECEPTION IN CHRIST CHURCH (UPPER LIBRARY)

6:15-7:30: **KEYNOTE LECTURE**

Introduced by Geraldine Johnson (University of Oxford)

**Geoffrey Batchen** (Victoria University of Wellington)

*Apparitions: The Placeless Image*

7:45: DINNER IN CHRIST CHURCH (LEE BUILDING) (optional [extra charge]—dinner to finish by 9:30pm)

**FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 2017**

10:00-11:00: **SITE VISIT 2** (see details below)

11:25-11:30: **WELCOME** CHRIST CHURCH (BLUE BOAR LECTURE THEATRE)

Costanza Caraffa (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz—Max-Planck-Institut)

11:30-1:00: **SESSION IV: PRODUCTION, REPRODUCTION AND VALUE**

Chair: Joan M. Schwartz (Queen's University, Ontario)

**Lucie Ryzova** (University of Birmingham)

*Sites of Enchantment: Photography, Modernity, History*

**Estelle Blaschke** (University of Lausanne)

*Saving Space, Mediating Place: Photography and the Reproduction of Collections and Archives*

**Catherine E. Clark** (MIT)

*From 'Trash to Treasure': Loss, Value, and the Photo Archive*

1:00-1:45: LUNCH IN CHRIST CHURCH (McKENNA ROOM & BLUE BOAR EXHIBITION SPACE)

1:45-3:15: **SESSION V: FORMS OF MATERIALIZATION**

Chair: Geraldine Johnson (University of Oxford)

**Pascal Griener** (University of Neuchâtel)

*Archiving Royal Heirlooms: The publication of the Crown treasures of the Galerie d'Apollon (Louvre) and its materiality*

**Shamoon Zamir** (New York University Abu Dhabi)

*Archive, Exhibition, Book: "The Family of Man" Reconstituted*

**Nina Lager Vestberg** (Norwegian University of Science and Technology)

*The Place of Photography and the Phases of Digitisation*

3:15-3:45: TEA/COFFEE BREAK

3:45-4:30: **CLOSING REMARKS AND FINAL DISCUSSION**

Introduced by Deborah Schultz (Regent's University London)

**Elizabeth Edwards** (V. & A. Research Institute /De Montfort University)

## **SITE VISITS**

Conference participants will be able to attend two site visits from amongst the following options, with visits taking place on Thursday, April 20, at 2:15pm and on Friday, April 21, at 10am:

- **Bodleian Library** – William Henry Fox Talbot Archive  
Hosted by Geoffrey Batchen (Victoria University of Wellington) and Brian Liddy (Bodleian Library)
- **Christ Church Library and Archive** – albums associated with Charles Dodgson/Lewis Carroll  
Hosted by Patrizia Di Bello (Birkbeck College) and Steven Archer (Christ Church Library)
- **Griffith Institute** – archives of archaeological expeditions to Egypt  
Hosted by Christina Riggs (University of East Anglia)
- **Museum of the History of Science** – early scientific photographic collections  
Hosted by Kelley Wilder (De Montfort University) and Lee Macdonald (Museum of the History of Science)
- **Middle East Centre Archive** – photographic materials from the mid-19th century to the present day  
Hosted by Debbie Usher (Middle East Centre Archive at St Antony's College)
- **Pitt Rivers Museum** – anthropological photographic collections  
Hosted by Christopher Morton (Pitt Rivers Museum) and Philip Grover (Pitt Rivers Museum)
- **Visual Resources Centre** – image collections of the Department of History of Art  
Hosted by Deborah Schultz (Regent's University London) and Francesca Issatt (University of Oxford)