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Conference or Workshop Item

Title: Why are archives important?

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http://nectar.northampton.ac.uk/4362/
Why are archives important?

George Watley
Brief history of NBHA and University of Northampton helping to create archives

- Oral History Roadshow
- Research: Consumer behaviour of Northampton Caribbeans c.1955-1985
- Black British History module at University of Northampton
Inspiration through and by archival discovery

It sounds preposterous, but I learned that it exists!

Having it accessible ... it’s inspiring!

It would encourage them to share some of their own stories.
Understood importance of experiencing archives

To hear the voices playing back and listening to ...
Because as much as you would learn from a book ...
You get deeper answers and responses ...

Now that’s recorded, it means someone else may understand more.
Sharing archives with others: seeing the importance of ‘your’ history

Something like this makes you realise how it fits in and hopefully then it can be transferred to wider (audiences).

They’ll find out that they’ve missed a lot of the cultural narrative of their own country.
Archival created with view towards their accessibility and portability

It doesn’t occur to (people) to investigate ... So it’s nice that it’s been brought (to audiences) to nip down at lunchtime to listen ...

Often (archives) are in museums.

Photographs really add to their voices as well.
Why are archives important?

- Recognition of the importance of your organisation
- Others will understand the importance of your work
- Sharing archives will help others understand the depth of your experiences
- Discovering archives will inspire some to learn more and possibly participate in your work