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Individual Projects

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The archives will handle by mail (usually within three weeks) inquiries that are well-defined in such terms as tribe, place, person, culture feature, event, and date. Telephone inquiries are discouraged, but inquiries by FAX will be processed along with other inquiries in the order of their receipt, and generally answered by regular mail. Charges for reproduction must be paid in advance in checks or money orders payable in US dollars; delivery may take as long as two or three months from the initial inquiry.

The archives urges anthropologists to make arrangements for the preservation of their professional material, preferably not separated, but kept intact in one repository. Although this would normally be one with which they have institutional ties, the NAA welcomes offers of donations from those without such connection, and may provide assistance in shipping material. Although donations may be made with reasonable restrictions as to use, donors may virtually be guaranteed that their accumulated documents will eventually be used by the thousands of anthropologists, other scholars, American Indians, government officials, artists, and publishers who use the National Anthropological Archives each year.

[excerpted and edited from a communication by James Glenn]

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS:

I. Individual projects

Ramachandra Guha (Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin) is working on an intellectual biography of Verrier Elwin, pioneering ethnographer and spokesman of India's tribal people, which will be entitled Outsider Within.

Jean Kadel (Department of History, Northern Illinois) has begun doctoral research on the theoretical development and public role of Robert Redfield, relating his interest in the transformation of peasant peoples to the events of the 1940s and 1950s (world piece, academic freedom, "multiculturalism," etc.)

Robert Launay (Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University) is beginning a project on the "prehistory" of anthropological theory from the fourteenth to the nineteenth centuries, which will situate anthropology within a broader comparative tradition, one by which Europeans have attempted to define themselves not only with reference to non-Europeans, but also to their own past, specifically classical antiquity.

Lynette Russell (Classics and Archaeology, University of Melbourne) is doing research for a comparative history of the cultural context of archeology in Australia and America, with reference to settler colonialism.

W.F. Veit (German Studies, Monash University) is pursuing research on the intellectual conditions of the construction of Australian Aboriginal culture by German missionaries and scientists.