

Protecting the Personal Narrative:

Archival Practice in Personal Digital Archiving

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“Collecting may somehow extend from our desires to survive, connected to the hunting of other essential necessities for sustaining life.”

-Richard Cox, 2008

COLLECTION IS NATURAL

“As one becomes conscious of one’s self, one becomes a conscious collector of identity, projecting one’s being onto the objects one chooses to live with.”

-John Elsner & Roger Cardinal, 1994

COLLECTION IS IDENTITY



Then

Photo courtesy of Flickr user whistlepunch



Now



PERSONAL NARRATIVE

Nature

VS.

NURTURE

NURTURE

STRATEGIES

STRATEGIES

1. Snapshots

STRATEGIES

2. Post-custodial

STRATEGIES

3. Retired media

STRATEGIES

4. *Archive service*

STRATEGIES

1. *Snapshots*

3. *Retired media*



PERSONAL NARRATIVE



PERSONAL
NARRATIVE

PERSONAL

(+ARCHIVES)

NARRATIVE



IDENTITY
IDENTITY
IDENTITY

VALUE

Incentive

Roles & Responsibilities

~~VALUE~~

Incentive

Roles & Responsibilities

~~VALUE~~

~~*Incentive*~~

Roles & Responsibilities

~~VALUE~~

~~*Incentive*~~

~~Roles & Responsibilities~~

Nature

VS.

NURTURE

Nature



PERSONAL NARRATIVE

PRESERVATION

equals

PERSONAL

NARRATIVE

~~VALUE~~

~~*Incentive*~~

~~Roles & Responsibilities~~

VALUE

~~*Incentive*~~

~~ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES~~

VALUE

Incentive

~~Roles & Responsibilities~~

VALUE

Incentive

Roles & Responsibilities

“At some point in the future the burden of too many assets, or undocumented assets, of half-cared for assets, or un-reformatted assets will have to be dealt with. And at that point the costs will be greater and the options will be fewer. That is not what we should be saving for the future.”

– Josh Ranger, 2013

what should we

DO?

*What
Next?*



*What
Next?*

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